



Dear Highlands Family,

The Christmas season offers us a special time for giving, mirroring God's greatest gift to humanity—His Son, Jesus Christ. We've been blessed with His gift of salvation, and now, it's our opportunity to bless others.

For over two decades, I have encouraged all of us to give to the needs of our communities and share the love of Jesus through our annual Legacy Offering. We call it "Legacy" because we're convinced that when we unite together, combining our resources to do for others what they can't do for themselves, we leave a legacy that makes a profound impact for all eternity.

In this past year alone, we've witnessed **30,636 people** receive the gift of Jesus Christ through salvation at Church of the Highlands. That is an incredible **60% increase** from 2022. The number of visitors who have come to Highlands has also grown by **more than 60%** year-over-year.

Because of your generosity, this year has also seen the opening of two new campuses, and the completion of the Alabaster Campus building and The Lodge at Grant Mill—all debt free. We've also secured land for the Shoals, Opelika, and Oxford campuses, with construction already underway in Huntsville and the Shoals.

While we celebrate these monumental milestones, there's so much more on the horizon. With so many lives saved and transformed, and an increasing hunger for the Gospel, we know that there's never been a more opportune time to invest in the world around us. Now let me be clear: the purpose of the Legacy Offering isn't for things we are already doing. Your consistent and generous giving has fully funded our budget, salaries, missions giving—even the building projects we are in right now have been paid for completely. This offering is specifically for new opportunities that God has given us. Here are just a few areas of eternal impact we can make together.

Holiday Outreaches: Your gift will immediately spring into action as we reach out to our local communities through our annual Holiday Outreach initiatives. Together, we will spread the joy and hope of the holiday season to our neighbors in need. Most importantly, these efforts have the potential to be someone's first step to discovering the light of Jesus.

Local Ministry Partnerships: We are excited to join in the amazing work of our local ministry partnerships who are already meeting needs in our community. These amazing ministries offer essential services such as providing food, housing, foster care, medical care, Christian education, and more. We continue to be committed to partnering with organizations that go beyond physical and social needs to nurturing spiritual needs as well.

Pastors Christmas Blessings: Every year, we have the opportunity to extend a Christmas gift to pastors and families in need. Many of them tell us that they would literally have had no Christmas if not for this gift. This gift not only conveys our gratitude for their spiritual leadership, but it also recognizes their sacrifices and expresses our appreciation for their unwavering service.

Israel and the Middle East: Together, we can strengthen strategic, Gospel-focused ministries in this spiritually significant region. Even before the onset of the war, God placed it in our hearts to invest in this part of the world—and God is blessing it. Scores of people are giving their lives to Jesus Christ as real revival is springing up all across the Middle East.

Highlands College: In Luke 10:2, Jesus identifies a significant need, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.” Highlands College exists to meet this need. Through exceptional education, intentional mentoring, and a community of dedicated experts, Highlands College students graduate equipped for a life of eternal impact. With your investments, we are building America’s Ministry Leadership University, where students are called, transformed, and sent.

Highlands Vision: With Jesus as our cornerstone, Church of the Highlands remains the starting point for everything mentioned above. As we continue to grow and strengthen, so will our vision for spreading the Gospel, seeing lives transformed, and helping our communities thrive.

On Sunday, December 10, I invite you to bring a special offering that will contribute to all of these projects. It’s not about the specific dollar amount; what matters most is allowing God to guide your heart in stewardship of His gifts to you.

On that day, you can bring your offering to give in-person during a service or give online at **churchofthehighlands.com/give**.

If you prefer using our secure Text-to-Give option, text the word “Highlands” plus the amount to 77977. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact us at legacy@churchofthehighlands.com.

As we celebrate God’s generosity and faithfulness to us this season through the gift of His Son, my prayer is that our church’s legacy will be one of generosity and faithfulness as well.

Tammy and I are honored to serve alongside you, and we eagerly anticipate witnessing how God will continue to work through our Highlands Family to bless others near and far.

I love being your pastor!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a trailing flourish.

Pastor Chris