

The Highline eConnection

July 2017

Touched by Jesus to Touch Other's Lives...
Experience God's T.O.U.C.H.



Scholarships are STILL Available to Take Your Family to Family Camp!

There are still a few spots open for Family Camp at Pleasant Valley Christian Camp July 23-28! It is a great week of fellowship, food, family, and fun. There are classes for all ages. They have a speaker and worship times. The afternoons leave time for you as a family to hang out and explore the woods, go swimming, and just enjoy being together.

If you are interested in receiving a scholarship, please contact the church office 206-243-4333 or office@highlinechristian.org. ★



Young Life
Camp
Fill the Bus
Results

You raised over \$6,185 for the campers!
Over \$2000 more than last year. ★

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Update on the App!

There are over **1264** people that have downloaded and are using our **HIGHLINE CHRISTIAN CHURCH APP!!** We are so pleased that so many of you are benefiting from all the great features of the App. The top five features that are the most used right now are the sermon notes, calendar, find a group, listen & Bible (tied for number 4), & check-in. If you have yet to use these features, please check them out.

For those of you with a QR reader on your phone, simply scan the QR code and it will take you directly to our app to download it. You can also click on this link <https://a3a.me/highline>



If you would rather download the app from the App Store or the Google Play Store then type in Highline Christian Church in your search bar and you should see it.



We also wanted to remind you that you can give to our campaign “Pay Off the Mortgage” by clicking on the campaign tile in the App and then following the instructions. We are excited to see how many have already given to the campaign. If you want to know how the campaign is going, there is a bar graph that shows the amount given on the left-hand side with the goal we are reaching for on the right-hand side.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need help. There are so many things you can do through the app, so please explore it and use whatever you like. ★



Seniors, Let's Do Lunch

The date is Wednesday, July 5. The restaurant is Olive Garden, South Center. Meet at the RESTAURANT at 11:45am, or call Dianne Barnes if you need a ride from the church building. Time to meet for a ride from the church building is 11:30. PLEASE sign up in the Atrium or reply by email, so we can advise the restaurant of our seating needs. See you around the pasta!



SAVE THE DATES for the upcoming Senior Events:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| August 2 Wednesday | Summer picnic at the home of Bob and Chris Simmons |
| September 6 Wednesday | Submarine Museum and ferry ride |
| September 7-9 Thur – Sat | SENIOR SAINTS CAMP at Pleasant Valley Christian Camp |
| October 4 Wednesday | Progressive Lunch at various places |
| November 4 Saturday | Annual Thanksgiving Dinner at Angle Lake Apartments social area, hosted by Esther Wangumo. ★ |



Welcome to Highline!

Transfer

Tracy Krueger
Bobee Marrapodi
Charlene Sorrell

Baptism

Baylee Louvier
Abigail Easterling





World Outreach News

Featuring: Jason & Amy Beagle & Family



Touching the World
with Hope

It started with a short term mission trip with Northwest Christian Church. As a result Jason and Amy Beagle fell in love with Africa. But more than that they fell in love with the orphan children of Kenya. God had big plans for them and as He does so well, He touched their hearts and worked with them individually so that they came to the same conclusion.

God wanted them to answer His call and go as missionaries to Kitale, Kenya, and work with the orphans at Kitale Church of Christ Children's Home. They stepped out in faith and began an incredible adventure.

For the next 3+ years they gave encouragement and guidance to the children of KCCCH so that they would have hope and success in life. They showed them the love of God and used different methods to help the children to express themselves and deal with abuse, loss and abandonment. Art projects are one of the useful tools for this. Programs that teach budgeting, first aid, and job seeking are invaluable in preparing these children to enter the world with



tools that will help them find successful independence and not end up in the streets.

The years serving at Kitale have been filled with innumerable blessings as well as some tears. But the love and discipleship that Jason and Amy have poured into the lives of the children of Kitale Children's home will not return void. As they finished their commitment to the mission in Kitale, God showed them that they were still needed in Africa.

Jason and Amy began working at Rift Valley Academy, a boarding school in Central Kenya that serves about 500 missionary children representing 30

nationalities and 80 mission organizations and churches. Jason and Amy have spent the last several years in Africa investing in the next generation of missionaries and gospel-bearers.

Highline Christian Church has been honored to partner with the Beagles on their God adventure. Now they are returning to the



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World Outreach News

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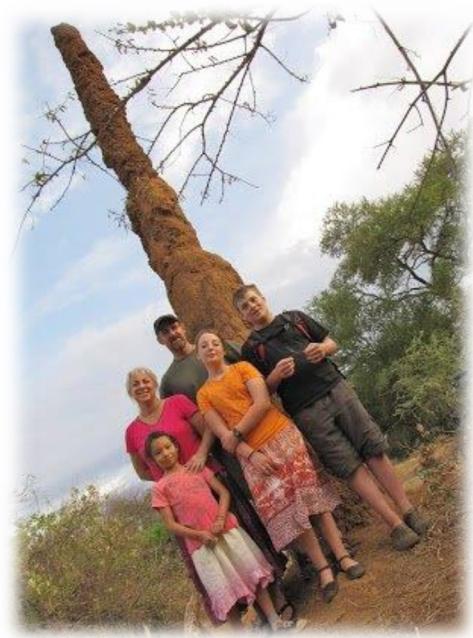


United States and will continue to serve God as He directs them. Please keep their family in prayer through this transition. When they first embarked on their journey, Amy had the following in her blog and I think it still is an appropriate thought as they return.

"We do not know God's specific plan for our family, and what of His work He will call us to join. We do, however, claim Paul's words in Ephesians 3:14-21: "When I think of the wisdom and scope of God's plan, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. I pray that from His glorious, unlimited resources, He will give you mighty inner strength through His Holy Spirit. And I pray that Christ

will be more and more at home in your hearts as you trust in Him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love. And may you have the power to understand, as all people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love really is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then you will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Now glory be to God! By His mighty power at work within us, He is able to accomplish infinitely more than we would ever dare to ask or hope. May He be given the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever through endless ages."

Amen! God bless you and thank you for your willing service to our Lord's Kingdom! ★





Reformed Reflections

By Brad Krantz Calvin and Sadoleto— A Reformation Debate

John Calvin (1509-1564) was unquestionably the single most influential theologian of the Reformation era. Born 26 years after Luther, he's considered a second-generation reformer. More than any other Reformation leader, Calvin is associated with the doctrine of predestination. For a number of nineteenth- and twentieth century theologians, the doctrine of predestination was regarded as the "central dogma" of Calvin's theology, the root from which all other doctrines were allegedly drawn.ⁱⁱ While not a correct general assumption, this and the *ever-contentious* Five-Points of Calvinism have been a wedge at the center of an ongoing debate for the past 500 years! It is of no surprise that there have been multitudes of volumes written on this topic, however it is not my intent to add anything to this aspect of Calvin or his theology. That is left for another time, perhaps. Instead, I want to share a peek at an often overlooked debate between John Calvin and his Catholic counterpart, Bishop Jacopo Sadoleto. While many of us have never heard of this debate, it takes place during the heat of the Reformation and the issues touch upon the heart of the matters at hand, the words

coming from two of its immediate antagonists.

Background: Some twenty-two years after Luther penned his 95 Theses, in March of 1539, Cardinal Jacopo Sadoleto, Bishop of Carpentras in southern France, addressed a letter to the magistrates and citizens of Geneva, Switzerland, beseeching them to return to the Catholic faith. Protestantism had already been established in Geneva, by the two prime reformers, Calvin and Guillaume

Farel. Some would say Sadoleto seized the opportunity afforded him by the 1538 expulsion of Calvin and his associate, Farel, from Geneva for refusing to abide by certain decisions of the municipal authorities concerning liturgy.ⁱⁱⁱ Suffice it to say, that given Sadoleto's letter, the Genevan Council decided that a response should be made, but could

find no one capable of making such a suitable reply. So, they reached out to Calvin, who was then in Bern, asking him to respond. Urged by his friends, Calvin did just that in August, penning his reply in six days^{iv}. It is almost twice the length of Sadoleto's initial letter.

The Debate: The contention of the debate, centers around two key doctrinal issues: the Authority of the Church and Scripture; and of Justification (of man before God) by faith.

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*"...I want to share a peek
at an often overlooked
debate between John
Calvin and his Catholic
counterpart, Bishop
Jacopo Sadoleto."*



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Both Sadoleto and Calvin- at least initially attempt to bring a respectful tone to their addresses.

Sadoleto begins by addressing the Genevans; "*Very dear brethren in Christ, peace to you and with us, that is with the Catholic Church, the mother of all...*" He goes on in his plea that, "...you were formerly in true religion of one mind toward God, might by the same God looking more benignly upon us, return to the same cordial agreement..."

Yet, shortly after, he gets a bit snarky, "For after it was brought to my ears that certain crafty men, enemies of Christian unity and peace, had... cast among you, and in your city, the wicked seeds of discord, had turned the faithful people of Christ aside from the way of their fathers and ancestors, and from the perpetual sentiments of the Catholic Church, and filled all places with strife and sedition..."

To this Calvin responds;

"...you acted the part of a good pleader; for you endeavored to soothe them by abundance of flattery, in order that you might gain them over to your views. For were it not for the great credit you formerly acquired for candor, it is somewhat suspicious that a stranger, who never before had any intercourse with the Genevese, should now suddenly profess for them so great an affection."

The accusation of flattery by Calvin may have been warranted, however, it should also be

noted that Sadoleto takes a very serious, solemn approach in his concern for their salvation- at that time, not something to be given over lightly, for it was long held, that there was no salvation outside the Church.

[iv] He pleads;

"We all, therefore, (as I said) believe in Christ in order that we may find salvation for our souls, i.e., life for ourselves: than this there can be nothing more earnestly to be desired, no blessing more internal, more close and familiar to us. For in proportion to the love which each man bears to himself is his salvation dear to him; if it be neglected and cast away, what prize, pray, or equal value can possibly be acquired? He who has neglected and lost it will not be able to have any other good which he can enjoy, the very being who ought to enjoy it having already lost himself."

Church Authority: In regards to Church authority, Sadoleto has much to say;

"The point in dispute is whether is it more expedient for your salvation, and whether you think you will do what is more pleasing to God, by believing and following what the Catholic Church throughout the whole world, now for more than fifteen hundred years or for more than thirteen hundred years approves with general consent; or innovations introduced within these twenty-five years, by crafty or, as they think themselves, acute men; but men certainly who are not themselves the Catholic Church?"



Reformed Reflections (continued from page 10)

Then, directly from the Catholic Playbook; "*Having been instructed by my parents, who had learned it from their fathers and forefathers, that I should in all things, be obedient to the Catholic Church...*"

"Is it not certain that he who followed the Catholic Church will not be judged guilty of any error in this respect? First, because the Church errs not, and even cannot err, since the Holy Spirit constantly guides her public and universal decrees and Councils. Secondly, even if she did err, or could have erred (this however, it is impious to say or believe), no such error would be condemned in him who should, with a mind sincere and humble toward God, have followed the faith and authority of his ancestors."

In response, John Calvin agrees that unity is important, but questions those things which have distracted the Church's unity from the truth of Christ. The problem with the Catholic Church, in Calvin's view, is that it has become dependent on a fallible authorities and superstitious ceremonies and is no longer in accord with the Word and the Fathers.

"Although your letter has many windings, its whole purport substantially is to recover the Genevese to the power of the Roman Pontiff, or to what you call the faith and obedience of the Church."

"... the best rule for the due worship of God is that which is prescribed by the Church, and that, therefore, there is no salvation for those who have violated the unity of the Church unless they repent. But you next contend that

separation from your fellowship is manifest revolt from the Church, and then that the gospel which the Genevese received from us is nothing but a large farrago (confused mixture) of impious dogmas."

And, with no beating around the bush states, "*But what arrogance, you say, to boast that the Church is with you alone, and to deny it to all the world besides."*

Justification by faith. The Catholic understanding of *justification by faith* is the point of contention here with Calvin and the Reformers. However, when it comes to justification by faith, Sadolet, chiding the Reformers view said; "*Moreover, we obtain this blessing of complete and perpetual salvation by faith alone in God and in Jesus Christ.*" So far, so good? He then plays his hand, "*When I say by faith alone, I do not mean, as those inventors of novelties do, a mere credulity and confidence in God, by which to the seclusion of charity and the other duties of a Christian mind, I am persuaded that in the cross and blood of Christ all my faults are unknown; this indeed is necessary, and forms the first access which we have to God, but is not enough.*" (emphasis added) "*For we must also bring a mind full of piety toward Almighty God, and desirous of performing whatever is agreeable to Him; in this especially, the power of the Holy Spirit resides.*"¹⁴

Calvin looks at the doctrine and its ramifications quite differently:

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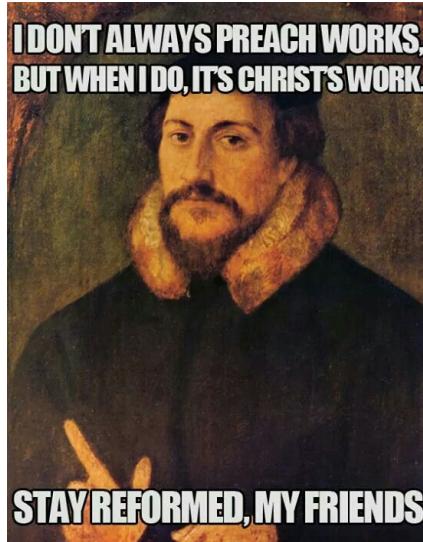


Reformed Reflections (continued from page 10)

"You, in the first place, touch upon justification by faith, the first and keenest subject of controversy between us. Is this a knotty and useless question? That doctrine, then, though of the highest moment, we maintain that you have nefariously effaced from the memory of men."

"As all mankind are, in the sight of God, lost sinners, we hold that Christ is their only righteousness, since, by His obedience, he has wiped off our transgressions... We maintain that in this way man is reconciled in Christ to God the Father, by no merit of his own, by no value of works, but by gratuitous mercy. When we embrace Christ by faith, and come, as it were, into communion with Him, this we term, after the manner of Scripture, the righteousness of faith." "Your ignorance of this doctrine leads you on to the error of teaching that sins are expiated by penances and satisfactions... if the blood of Christ alone is uniformly set forth as purchasing satisfaction, reconciliation, and ablution, how dare you presume to transfer so great an honor to your works?"

Doctrine of Scripture: Like Luther before him, Calvin denounced the usurpation of biblical authority by the Roman Catholic Church. The Catholic Church holds to a *dual authority*- that of both Tradition (of the Church) and Scripture- whereby scripture is in ultimate submission to what the Church-



through its tradition- says it means! John Eck, a Roman Catholic theologian and one of the most prominent polemicists against the Reformation stated; "*Scripture is not authentic without the authority of the church.*"⁴⁷ Protestants, by contrast, hold to Scripture Alone (*sola scriptura*), that scripture is the ultimate rule of faith and practice and the Church along with its' traditions are in submission to it.

It's Aftermath: Sadoleto never responded to Calvin. This would not be unexpected if we keep in mind, from the Catholic Church's standpoint the Reformers- and their views - were considered heresy. As they were the one, true Church, they didn't need to explain themselves to such "enemies of Christian unity and peace."

Who won the debate? If history is an indicator, then it has shown that, according to his own purposes for writing the letter, Sadoleto lost. Geneva embraced reform and invited Calvin home. Indeed, Calvin presents a clearer articulation of salvation and a much-needed corrective to the abuses and shortcomings of Church authority.

From the Catholic perspective, there was the Council of Trent, held in three phases from 1545-1563. In the Canons Concerning Justification, the Catholic Church officially



Reformed Reflections (continued from page 10)

declared in Canon 9:

"If anyone says that the sinner is justified by faith alone, meaning that nothing else is required to cooperate in order to obtain the grace of justification, and that it is not in any way necessary that he be prepared and disposed by the action of his own will, let him be anathema."^[vii]

The Canons have never been rescinded and are still the position of the Catholic Church, though they have been moderated to large degree by Vatican II and the more recent ecumenical effort on the part of the Catholic Church and the Lutheran church, resulting in the publication of *A Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification*.^[viii]

^[ii]Reformation Theology/Cornelius Venema: Predestination and Election/Crossway 2017, pg. 255

^[iii]A Reformation Debate, edited by John C. Olin, Harper & Row, 1966

^[iiii]Ibid

^[iv]This view of the exclusivity of the church for redemption, from the Early church appears to find its genesis in Cyprian- "there is no salvation out[side] of the church." [Cyprian, Letter 72.21, in ANF, 5:384.]

^[v]This is clearly a reference to merits (condign and congruent) that I referred to in my article on Luther and his 95 Theses. He strongly condemned this notion of Aquinas. Luther's doctrine of justification undercut the merit system of the Roman Catholic Church. As Luther explained, " If the doctrine of justification is lost, the whole of Christian doctrine is lost."

^[vi]John Eck, Enchridion Locorum Communium (1525)

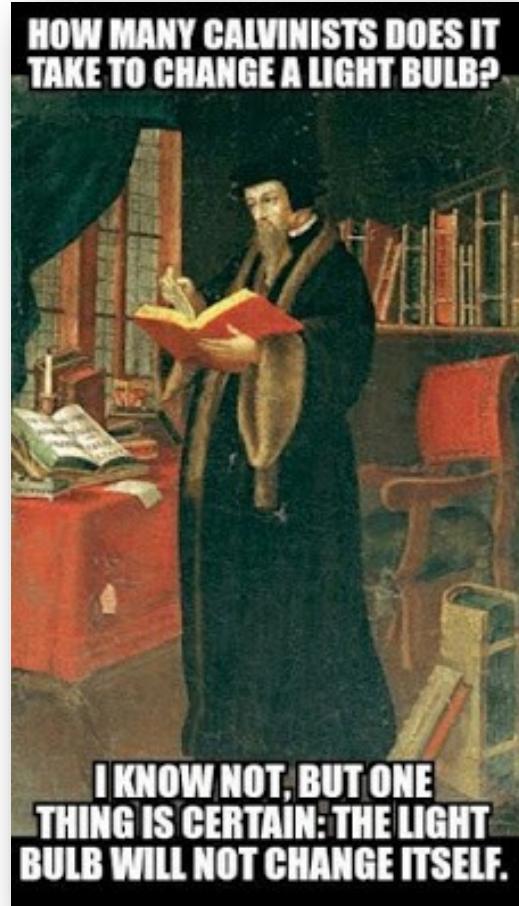
^[viii]A Reformation Debate, The Council of Trent

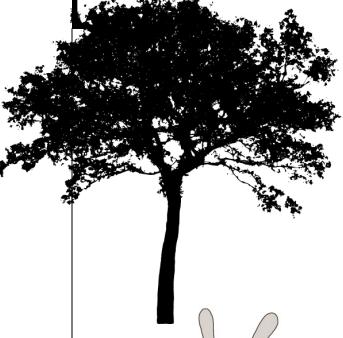
on Justification pg 132

^[viii]A product of years of study and dialog, the document was signed officially by members of the World Lutheran Federation and the Roman Catholic Church on October 31, 1999, the 482nd anniversary of the Reformation.

Memes: <https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/736x/28/f8/32f8329129078b44e3f5c8a4b4484e7a.jpg>
<http://the-end-time.blogspot.com/2015/07/steve-lawson-thug-life-calvinist-light.html> (How many Calvinists does it take to change a light bulb?)

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Preschool Park

Birth through Kindergarten



Thank you Highline!

Preschool VBS is finishing up this week!

*We are learning about how this world is messy, but we can follow Jesus.
Thank you staff for serving the children!*



Preschool VBS is a place for the little ones at Highline to grow closer to God through praying, playing, snacking, singing, and responding. All the activities are intentionally planned for young children. The staff members include children who are going into second grade all the way through grandparents! We work together to serve the children!



Katie Taylor

katie@highlinechristian.org



Worship Service Times

Saturdays—6:00 P.M.

Sundays—9:00 A.M.

& 10:40 A.M.

Contact Us At:

Phone: 206-243-4333

Website: highlinechristian.org

Email:

office@highlinechristian.org

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday

8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Friday

8:30 a.m.-Noon

**Next
eNewsletter
Deadline:
July 23**

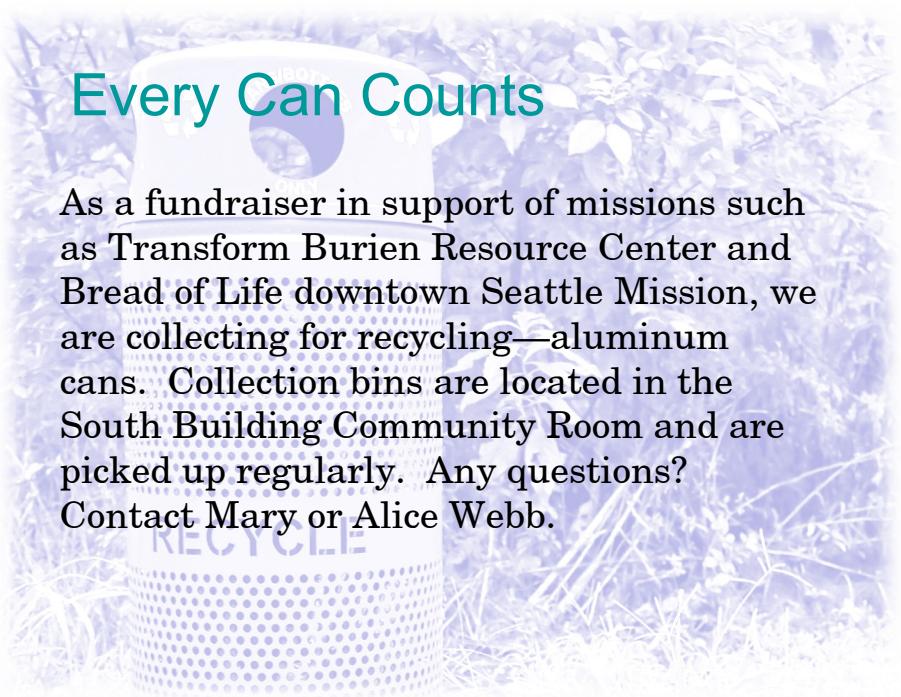


With Sympathy

We would like to offer sympathy to the family of Michael Joseph McGuinn who went home to be with the Lord on May 22, 2017. Please keep all of Michael's family in your prayers during this very difficult time.

Every Can Counts

As a fundraiser in support of missions such as Transform Burien Resource Center and Bread of Life downtown Seattle Mission, we are collecting for recycling—aluminum cans. Collection bins are located in the South Building Community Room and are picked up regularly. Any questions? Contact Mary or Alice Webb.



Mount St. Helens Trip

August 5 is the date for our day trip to Mount St Helens. This year we will visit the new permanent location, but have the same exciting presentation. The museum is now called Mount St. Helens Creation Center. Come see for yourself the work God has been doing since the eruption.



Our 2017-2018 Elders



Tim Crawford



Gregg Louvier



Sal Dena



Dave Rogge



Chuck Hansen



Dr. Tim Knight



Paul Smith



Jim Kemp



Konrad Lindblom



Bret Thorson



Church Staff



Senior Pastor
Tim@highlinechristian.org

**Dr. Tim
Knight**



Worship Director
Liesl@highlinechristian.org

Liesl Behm



Discipleship Pastor
Bret@highlinechristian.org

Bret Thorson



Worship Associate
Holly@highlinechristian.org

Holly Fader



Church Life Director
Jack@highlinechristian.org

Jack Fratangelo



Choir Accompanist
Office@highlinechristian.org

Julie Kemp



Ministry Support
Teresa@highlinechristian.org

Teresa Barnes



Church Staff



Katie Taylor

**Early Childhood
Director**
Katie@highlinechristian.org



Jane Knight

Office Manager
Jane@highlinechristian.org



Tyler Mosier

Children's Pastor
Tyler@highlinechristian.org



Charlene Crawford

**Office
Assistant**
Office@highlinechristian.org



Steve Brock

Youth Pastor
Steve@highlinechristian.org



Gregg Louvier

Facilities Manager
Office@highlinechristian.org



Marsha Louvier

Custodian
Office@highlinechristian.org