

Highland Welcomes New Pastor

Dr. Shon Neyland, a charismatic religious leader who was raised in New Orleans and served as a military chaplain in Hawaii and a veteran of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan is the new senior pastor of the Highland Christian Center in northeast Portland, a historically black and diverse congregation that was most recently led by their beloved pastor Dr. W. G. Hardy Jr. who died last year.

Originally trained as an industrial engineer, Neyland served in the Air Force as a nuclear launch officer and as an aerospace flight commander in the Milstar Communications Satellite program. At the

same time, he and his wife of 34 years, Madeline, have served as devoted evangelicals, finding churches in communities from England to Abilene, Texas.

Neyland comes from a religious family. His dad was a church deacon and musician and his mom served as a worship leader and singer.

Highland church leaders say there is an atmosphere of joy and relief in having new leadership to fulfill the late Pastor Hardy's vision of a church founded on firm biblical principles and an active involvement in the community.

Neyland has authored four books. His latest "The



PHOTO BY JOHN LAMPKIN

Dr. Shon Neyland is the new pastor of the Highland Christian Center, a historically black and diverse congregation in northeast Portland.

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Courage to Stand: A New America" touches on the state of our society today, exploring race and religious stereotypes. He writes, "It is time to eliminate the antiquated race and color identification terms of "black" and "white" and begin a new nomenclature--we are Americans!"

He describes his philosophy of life as centered on unconditional love and a positive attitude, qualities that comes through his exuberant preaching style, a warm sense of humor and a dazzling smile.

Pastor Neyland and his wife have three adult children and one grandchild.

Democrats Defend Congresswomen

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but one of whom were born in the United States, should "go back" and try to fix the "crime infested places" they "originally came from" before telling the U.S. government how to handle its problems.

House Democrats introduced a resolution Monday condemning the president for the comments, and a black Democratic lawmaker from Texas, says he will again force a vote on articles of impeachment against the president by next week, citing him as a bigot.

Rep. Al Green said Trump's latest tweets were the impetus for his third effort to push through an impeachment vote. In 2017 and 2018, when the Republicans ran the House, he cited similar controversies, including Trump's comments about demonstrators in Charlottesville and his description of African nations as "shithole" countries.

About 60 of Green's colleagues joined him to support him in the previous impeachment votes, but the moves were easily defeated. His bill drew no support from Oregon's Congressional delegation.

Also on Monday, a Pulitzer Prize-winning historian said President Trump has joined Andrew Johnson as the most racist president in American history.

John Meacham said Trump has stoked racism with both his recent comments as well as his "birther" lies about former President Barack Obama.

He said that America has never been about the concept of birthright but rather the belief that "all men are created equal," as stated in the Declaration of Independence.