



# **GROWING WITH GOD:**

**HUMC FACILITIES EXPANSION CAMPAIGN**

**UPDATED AUGUST 2016**

**Highland United Methodist Church**

315 Main Street  
Highlands, NC 28741  
(828) 526-3376

# Growing with God:

## HUMC Facilities Expansion Campaign

August, 2016

Dear HUMC Family and Friends,

Highlands United Methodist Church (HUMC) has been privileged to serve the people of this community since 1909. We have been, and continue to be, committed to the faithful living out of our Mission Statement - "Love God, Offer Christ to All".

We give thanks to God for the many ways we have been empowered to be in mission and ministry, both here at home and across the globe. Through God's Spirit, and the tireless efforts of many compassionate, committed, gifted and generous followers of Jesus, we've seen firsthand the fruit of God's goodness revealed. Amazing things happen when the church serves as the hands and feet of Christ!

These are tremendously exciting days at HUMC! In recent years, our worship attendance has increased dramatically, and our ministry outreach has greatly expanded. After much prayerful discernment, visioning and planning, our *Growing with God* expansion is now underway. When completed, our updated and expanded facilities will greatly enhance the offering of ministry to our community.

Some of the key highlights of this project include:

- All spaces are multi-purpose to better utilize our facilities.
- New Faith and Fellowship Center provides space for 9:09 service, Wednesday night Dinners, dinners after funerals, community events, etc
- Expanded kitchen and storage.
- Increased number of adult Sunday school rooms (from 3 to 6).
- Multi-purpose space available for Youth Programs.
- Updated restrooms
- Improved space for the Music Program
- Improved handicap accessibility.

*We feel called to be a place and a people where faith begets dreams and visions of what is possible and where discipleship engages us in a needy world as the hands and feet of Christ.*

I invite you to review this informative brochure to learn more about HUMC, where we've been, where we are, and where we believe God is leading us. Please know that we covet your prayers, and we're grateful for your support.

Blessings,

Randy Lucas  
Senior Pastor  
Highlands UMC

## Where We Have Been

HUMC has been in its present location for over 100 years and is known for its hospitality and missions. Its ministries and outreach extend beyond the town of Highlands to include parts of both Macon and Jackson counties, and around the world.

We have grown from a small church that shared a pastor to a medium size church, now with over 400 members (plus our seasonal associates) and multiple staff. Church attendance increases substantially during the summer season, when the community population increases from 1,000 year-round residents to around 25,000 people. From Memorial Day through October, HUMC holds three Sunday morning services, with an average weekly attendance of 400 persons. This year our Easter attendance reached 500.

HUMC's ministries reach members, seasonal attendees and guests. Throughout the years we have positively impacted thousands of people. People come to Highlands to escape the summer heat or to enjoy the foliage, but as a result of God's outreach through HUMC, their lives are changed.

For several years, we have been actively preparing for our facilities expansion. We launched a capital campaign in 2011 that successfully raised funds to significantly reduce the mortgage for our land purchase. Since we had not agreed on a building design we did not proceed with a facilities expansion. In the interim, we obtained zoning changes that allowed all of our parcels of land to be consolidated to provide more usable land and which removed a road that divided our property. We refined our Space Needs List based on a thorough review of present programs and facilities.

*“Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.” Matthew 7:7 NRSV*

## Where We Are Going

In Ephesians 3:20, Paul writes to the Church at Ephesus, “with God's power working with us, God can do much, much more than anything we can ask or imagine.”

We want today's Gospel to outlive us; to ripple into the next generation and beyond. Our actions today establish the legacy of HUMC left for future generations. Today's sacrifices are the basis of the story we write—individually and as a church. Our investment in the future is worth sacrifice.

Some people in this generation have not personally experienced the grace of God. HUMC should be a place where they discover Christ and become filled with hope that reverberates for generations to come.

We continue to offer people Christ through powerful transforming ways:

- Intentional, systematic, and sustainable opportunities for individual and corporate study and reflection, worship, prayer, fellowship, and service
- Teachable moments available on God's time, the church's time, and the individual's time,
- A safe environment where persons reach out to God, allowing ongoing transformation to take place.

As we look to the future we believe that God's greatest plans are still ahead of us!

## Need for More Space:

Daily we see many examples of overcrowding and space limitations:

- 9:09 Service. This service has opened a new pathway for folks to worship at HUMC. Even during the winter months, our Fellowship Hall is filled to capacity at 9:09. In 2014 the 9:09 service hit peak attendance of 238 persons in a room authorized for 119. In 2015 the numbers continue to grow. While attendance within the United Methodist Church nationally is declining, attendance at HUMC is growing - at the 9:09 service and in other programs as well. Expanding the fellowship hall will support this growth.

“John” had not been in a church for more than 30 years, as he felt disconnected from a faith. He discovered the 9:09 service where he feels comfortable with the relaxed format of the service. He has now attended some bible studies and is excited about exploring his faith again.

- Wednesday Night Programs. Our current Wednesday night programs are vital for faith and fellowship that nurture us individually and as a church. We now exceed capacity throughout the year, which limits growth and connections.
- Music Program. The current Music program facilities are located throughout the building. There is no central music library where expensive music can be protected. The robe closets are outgrown. When our present facilities were built, HUMC did not have a Bell Choir. The children practice their music in the Pre-School area.
- Community Mission and Outreach. As a church, we are committed to providing outreach and supporting mission work. Our new Faith and Fellowship Center will provide space for more community groups and mission projects.

## Growing with God: Expansion Plans

We plan to expand our church facilities by almost 12,000 square feet and to renovate current space. We have strategically designed this space to maximize impact now and maintain flexibility for the future.

### New Faith and Fellowship Center

- New building will be located behind the current building and will include additional parking.
- Handicap accessible entrance from either 3<sup>rd</sup> Street or Spring Street via a covered portico.
- Large vestibule connecting F&FC to Sunday school level will improve traffic flow and ease of travel, connects to present elevator. New Dining Hall will include two folding walls for greater flexibility of the space, with capacity of 2 ½ times current space.
- Will support 9:09 service, Wednesday Night dinners and all of the many other gatherings currently offered by HUMC plus provides the space needed to grow our outreach with additional programs and events.

### Renovation of Present Fellowship Hall:

- Enlarged office for Senior Pastor, an office for Assistant Pastor, enlarged Sacristy.
- Workroom to house copiers, printers, and space for Visiting Clergy.
- Choir Assembly room, Robing and Music Folder storage, which can be used as meeting space or classrooms throughout the week.
- Present bathrooms will be renovated into a parlor/classroom which can be used for overflow seating from sanctuary and allows for expansion of the sanctuary in the future.
- Updated bathrooms in a more discrete location convenient to sanctuary.
- Additional Classroom/meeting room.
- Improved traffic flow via double doors where single doors exist today.

#### **Key Strategic Design Principles**

- Project maximizes impact now and maintains flexibility for future.
- All areas multi-purpose; flexible use
- Designed to meet capacity needs for the next 25 years.
- Preserves options for future sanctuary expansion if needed.
- Improved storage and classrooms throughout.
- Reconfigures offices and work areas for increased efficiency.
- Increased energy efficiency and updated technology.

## **Campaign Budget**

The cost for the expansion and renovation is \$3.5 million, with the budget detailed below.

<b>Line Items</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Construction of new F&FC	\$ 2,367,845.00
Renovations in current building	\$ 318,500.00
Furniture, equipment & interior	\$ 250,000.00
Professional Fees-Architect/ Engineers	\$ 245,000.00
Construction contingencies	\$ 353,500.00
<b>Total Estimated Construction Costs</b>	<b>\$ 3,534,845.00</b>
Campaign and marketing expenses	\$ 18,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,553,345.00</b>

## **Together We Can Transform Our Church by Growing with God!**

We know that the future offers great opportunities for us and our church. Let's embrace them now. God is blessing us daily by bring people to his kingdom through our ministries. We've enjoyed the facilities built by our ancestors. By updating our facilities now we meet God's call and we leave a legacy for future generations. Step out in faith today. Our expanded facilities will allow us to continue HUMC's beacon of hope and light for years to come.

Each of us is a partner in ministry at Highlands United Methodist Church and we each can make a difference.

The way we give—prayerfully, sacrificially and joyfully—sets a very positive example for our Church.

Together we can offer Christ to all!



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