

Welcome to the Highlands United Methodist Church

A joyous welcome to you! We are glad each of you has come to worship the Lord. We are a hearing looped church. Ask an usher if you need help with your hearing device.

The 9:09 Bluegrass Service

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Jim & Diane Riddle

Music

"Sweet By and By"
"I Shall Not Be Moved"

Special Announcements\Joy Time

A Time to Offer our Gifts to God

A Time to Share our Concerns at the Cross

Music *"What A Difference You've Made in my Life"*

Scripture

Mark 13:24-37

A Word of Faith

Music *"When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder"*

Sending Forth

Closing Music *"I'll Fly Away"*

Ministry Bags

For the month of **December** we're collecting: canned tuna, chicken, & salmon, spaghetti sauce, dry pasta, macaroni & cheese, canned green beans, and canned corn for the **Emergency Council**.

Facebook Live ~ Can't make it to church on a Sunday? You can now watch our worship services each Sunday on Facebook. Any questions just call the church office.

Happy Anniversary to (December 9) John & Marjorie Crowe

Check out the Information Stations ~ In the narthex, office hall wing, and chapel for information about what's going on in the life of the church.

Birthday Wishes to (December 3) Cynthia Codespoti, Sidney Futch, Lorraine Talley; (December 4) Richard Wilson; (December 5) Dori Moschouris; (December 6) Stan Travis; (December 7) Mike Bryson; (December 8) Tom Stribling; (December 9) Jacob Brooks

2018 Disciple Bible Study ~ HUMC is offering two great opportunities to engage in meaningful Bible Study beginning in January. Disciple Bible Study I (Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study) and Disciple Bible Study II (Into the Word, Into the World). To sign up, or for more information, please email Pastor Randy at randyhumc@icloud.com by January 7th, 2018.

Family Night Supper on Wednesday this week will be a covered dish meal. Please bring a side dish or dessert. The meat will be provided by the church.

The Community Table is a weekly meal for everyone in the community. There is **NO cost** and **NO need** to make a reservation. Join us at **6pm each Tuesday** at the Highlands Community Building.

Adult Classes
Nursery
provided

Join us for Sunday School...

Buck's class meets at Buck's Coffee Shop and is led by Wiley & Sarah Sloan. (9:30am)

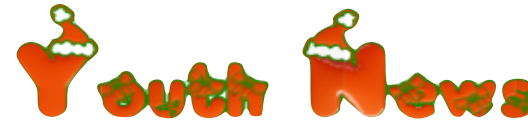
Seekers meet in the Conference Room and is led by Steve Bruner (9:45am) Studying the book of Hebrews.

Parent Community Class meets at Buck's. The class is group led. Topic varies weekly. (10:00am)

The 10:10 class meets in the Scout Room and is led by Bob Hood. (10:10am) They are studying "Desperate Women of the Bible".

HUMC Office Holiday Schedule

The church office will be closed December 22nd - 25th, January 1st and 2nd. December 26th - 29th, the church office will be open 10am - 2pm. Financial Secretary Keith Crawford will be in the office Tuesday, December 26th. **You can order a Poinsettia** for the 10:50 worship service on Sunday, December 17th on the church website, the kiosk, or pick up a form at one of the Information Stations or placed around the church.



Youth Sunday School!!!! from 10:00-10:45. Come Join us!!!!

The youth will meet each Wednesday night from 6-7 during the Fall semester. Everyone's invited to come to dinner before youth at 5:15!

Church Studies & Activities: Everyone is Invited!

Monday

Joy Group for Seniors from 11:30-1:30pm. For more info call Tricia Smith at 828-338-8167.

Tuesday

Men's Breakfast Club meets at the Sports Page from 8:30-9:30am.

Women's Emmaus Group meets at 11:00am in the church parlor.

Women's Bible Study ~ Join us at 7pm in the church parlor for a new 6 week study of the book "How Can I See the Light When It's So Dark? Journey to a Thankful Heart", by Linda Douty.

Home Study Group meets at 7:00pm each Tuesday at the Motz's house. The Lectionary Texts for the week are discussed.

Wednesday

Men's Emmaus Group meets at 12:30pm.

Wednesday Night Activities 6:00pm - Childcare provided

December 6th – Lectionary Bible Study with Jennifer Forrester & Fred Motz

December 13th – Mountain Top Ringer's Christmas Program

Thursday

Joy Group for Seniors from 11:30-1:30pm.

Circle of Prayer Ministry ~ Meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 5:30pm.

Sunday

Disciple Bible Study meets at 7:00pm in the sanctuary.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 9th

Join us for a very special family tradition! Families are invited to gather at 8:30am for breakfast followed by a visit from Santa Claus! Reservations are requested as space is limited, so please call the church office at 526-3376 by Wednesday, December 6th. Suggested donation of \$10 per family

The Highlands Community Christian Chorale

Saturday, December 9th & Sunday, December 10th at 5:00pm at The Episcopal Church with a reception following Sunday's presentation.

The Mountain Top Ringers

will present their annual Christmas concert, *Ring Christmas Bells* on Wednesday, **December 13th at 6:00pm**. They will play a program of both sacred and secular Christmas favorites, will accompany a singalong set of Christmas pops songs, and will play a special set for the children in the audience. So come for supper at 5:15 and then hear some beautiful and memorable music afterwards. The Mountain Top Ringers will also be playing the sacred part of their program for worship on December 10th at 10:50.

Chancel Choir Cantata

Sunday, December 17th

during our 10:50 worship service. This year the Chancel Choir presents "The Tapestry of Light, a Celtic Christmas Celebration" by Joseph Martin

Church-wide Caroling

Join us on **Wednesday, December 20th**

as we spread Christmas cheer through song! Meet at HUMC at 3:30pm to carpool to Chestnut Hill, Fidelia Eckerd Nursing Home, & homes of our church family to participate in some good ole' Christmas caroling. Wear something festive!

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Sunday, December 24

5:00pm a Family-Friendly Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Come and bring the entire family for a festive celebration of Jesus' birth. This service will include a Children's Christmas Pageant, Holy Communion and candle lighting. The approximate length of this service will be 1 hour.

7:00pm Christmas Eve Eucharist Service

This 30 minute service of Holy Communion is offered with busy Christmas Eve Schedule's in mind, and will provide you with an opportunity to gather at the altar with your family, and to receive Communion in a quiet and intimate setting.

9:00pm a Christmas Eve Candlelight

Service of Lessons and Carols

This quiet service combines Scripture and congregational caroling. This half-hour service will end in candlelight.

11:45pm a Midnight Eucharist

This is a new addition to our Christmas Eve Schedule, and will provide the opportunity to greet Christmas Day at the Lord's Table. The approximate length of this service will be 15 - 20 minutes.

All Christmas Eve services will take place in the sanctuary.



The 10:50am Traditional Worship Service

First Sunday of Advent

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal; † Congregation standing
Please enter the sanctuary in a spirit of prayer and meditation
Large print copies of the hymnals and Bible are available in the narthex.

Gathering

Welcome/Passing of the Peace

Church Announcements

Opening Voluntary *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* -Lani Smith

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Naomi Chastain & Family

Opening Prayer

†Hymn of Praise *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* UMH #211

Scripture Reading **Isaiah 64:1-9** pew Bible, p.694

Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles' Creed* UMH p.881

Tithes and Offerings
Offertory *Still, Still, Still* arr. Tim Doran

†Doxology *“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”*
(sung to the tune of The First Noel)

†Offering Prayer

Sharing of Our Concerns

(If you would like your prayer request to be added to the prayer list in the bulletin please indicate on the prayer request card.)

Call to Prayer *Lord, Hear Our Prayer*

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Anthem *Prepare Thyself, Zion* -J.S. Bach, arr. Hal Hopson

Scripture Reading **Mark 13:24-37** pew Bible, p.50

Sermon **Keep Awake**

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II UMH p. 12

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

†Hymn of Faith *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”* UMH #196

†Dismissal with Blessing *“Star-Child”*

Postlude *O Come, All Ye Faithful* arr. Tim Doran

Donation Station

Check out our Donation Station across from the church office.
Here we collect items for various missions including:

Food Pantry - Items most needed: shampoo, conditioner, shaving cream, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dishwashing liquid, canned fruit,. Anyone in need, either temporarily or regularly, may visit the Food Pantry on Mondays from 3:30 – 5:30pm. The Pantry is located behind HUMC on 3rd Street.

Homeless Outreach Sample size or hotel shampoos and soap. These are given to area homeless shelters.

Life Challenge - Life Challenge is a Christian Residential Center created to help people with life controlling issues. We support this program by providing gently-used clothing, household items, and small furniture for their Resale Shop in Dillsboro.

Printer Cartridges: Collected for Highlands School. Please bring in a Ziplock bag.

Eye Glasses - Glasses are for multiple mission projects

Can Tabs - collected for the Ronald McDonald House

Box Tops for Education - Collected for the Highlands School

Blank Note Cards - Used for special projects

Children's News

The Gordon Center's After School Program runs Monday - Wednesday. Stop by the church for a registration form.

3,4,5 Wednesday Gang ~ 3rd, 4th, & 5th Gang meet on Wednesday nights after supper from 6-7pm and are taught by Amanda Wasco. Bring your 3rd-5th graders for dynamic, biblically-based activities and instruction!

A Nursery is provided Sunday mornings for children birth- through 4 years of age starting at 9:00am downstairs. Please see an usher or greeter for help locating the nursery.

Fresh-Made Bread

Tommie Jackson (336.655.0665) is making sourdough bread and will gladly take your order. The proceeds of this endeavor will go towards the Building Fund. Please call and place your order today.

Church Staff: Rev. Randy Lucas, Senior Pastor; Rev. Jennifer Forrester, Assistant Pastor, Les Scott, Minister of Music; Sonja DeFoor, Office Manager; Keith Crawford, Financial Secretary; Sherry Bruner, Pianist; Marlene & Gary Nix, Sextons; Ann Rose, Food Services Director; Terri Kennedy, Nursery Attendant; Rev. Tommie Jackson, Pastoral Psychotherapist

Parsonage (828) 526-2465 ~ e-mail addresses: Church: highlandsumc@icloud.com, Randy: randyhumc@icloud.com, Jennifer: humcjennifer@gmail.com, Les: les.h.scott@gmail.com, Keith Crawford: finsec13@gmail.com CCLI # 1455665

The 9:09 Service: Sermon: Randy Lucas; Worship Leader: TBA; Greeter: Christine Murphy

The 9:09 Band: Lee Ladensack - Vocals & guitar; Dakota Waddell - Bass; Charles Wood - Banjo; Jim Yoder - Mandolin

10:50 Worship Leaders: Sermon: Randy Lucas; Liturgist: Jennifer Forrester; Minister of Music: Les Scott; Pianist: Sherry Bruner; Lay Reader: Paula Gordon; Communion Assistants: Tommie Jackson & Patsy Wilson

Serving our 10:50 Service: Ushers: Team 3: Team Leader: Kenneth Crowe; Team Members: Alan Marsh, Dave Cashion

First Sunday of Advent



LOVE God. Offer CHRIST to All.

Highlands United Methodist Church
Post Office Box 1959
Highlands, North Carolina 28741
website: www.highlandsmethodist.org
(828) 526-3376
December 3, 2017

Randy Lucas, Senior Pastor
Jennifer Forrester, Assistant Pastor
Les Scott, Minister of Music
Randy Harry, District Superintendent
Paul Leeland, Bishop

