

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 Bob & Sandy Carlton

Music "The First Noel"
"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

Special Announcements\Joy Time

A Time to Offer our Gifts to God

A Time to Share our Concerns at the Cross
(During this time you may bring your Ministry Bag to the altar.)

Music "Let It Be Christmas" Lee Ladensack, solo

Scripture Matthew 11:2-15

A Word of Faith

Music "Blessed Assurance"

Sending Forth

Closing Music "I'll Fly Away"

Ministry Bags

Each month we collect items for different ministries. For the month of December we're collecting: pasta and sauces, canned milk, canned vegetables, and canned meat for The Emergency Council. Thank you to everyone who supports our monthly ministries.

Attendance on December 8th 9:09-124 10:50-90

Birthday Wishes to (December 15) Nin Bond; (December 16) Sherry Bruner, Miranda Dotson; (December 18) Leo Huckabee; (December 20) Ethan Tate, Meridith Watson

Now Hiring - Nursery Worker ~ 8:30am-12:00 every Sunday morning during worship services, Wednesday nights from 5:45 - 7:00pm, and various events. See Christine Murphy for more details.

Women's Brunch ~ Saturday, January 25th from 10:00-1:00pm. Featuring Lee Lyons-Master Story Teller. \$15 per person or \$120 per table of 8. All proceeds benefit the HUMC F&FC Fund. Contact Gwen Futch for reservations at 843-267-8559.

9:09 Potluck Breakfast ~ December 29th will be potluck at the 9:09. Bring your favorite breakfast dish to share by 8:30am.

Set up one-time or automatic giving for your tithes and offerings on the website: www.highlandsmethodist.org
You can also give on the kiosk in the Faith & Fellowship Center

Giving

Operating Fund ~ Year-to-Date - 10/31/19		
	Actual	Budget
Contributions	\$601,480	\$623,540
Expenses	\$598,290	\$644,720
Net Income (deficit)	\$3,190	(\$21,180)
Faith & Fellowship Center ~ Year-to-Date - 10/31/19		
Bank Loan Balance	\$1,135,630	
Unrestricted Capital Cash	\$338,990	
Balance Due	\$796,640	

Sunday School for All

Adult Sunday School Classes

The Apostles' class meets in the church parlor and is led by Wiley & Sarah Sloan. (9:30am)

Seekers meet in the Conference Room and is led by Steve Bruner (9:45am)



The 10:10 class meets in the scout room and is led by Bob Hood. (10:00am)

Crossroads meets between services ~ 20's -50's - Study-Social Activities-Service Projects

Children's Sunday School - Meet in the Children's Sunday School Room at 10:00am.

Youth Sunday Chats! - Meet in the Youth Center between services.



To receive Pastor Randy's daily email devotions, "Ruminations and Reflections", please email him at randyhumc@icloud.com

To receive church email updates and news please email Sonja at highlandsumc@icloud.com



Like us on Facebook ~ Can't make it to church on a Sunday? You can now watch our worship services each Sunday on Facebook. Look for the latest happenings and church news.

Scan the QR Code on your smart phone to go to the church website Find out about upcoming events, ministries, how to serve and much more.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

The Highlands Community Christian Chorale Today at 5:00pm at The Episcopal Church with a reception following the presentation.

Church-wide Caroling ~ Join us on Wednesday, December 16th 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!

The Mountain Top Ringers will present their annual Christmas concert on December 18th at 6:00pm - right after our regular church supper. This concert will feature Christmas songs, both sacred and secular, a few familiar sing-alongs, some special children's songs, and a surprise (shhhh) ending.

Blue Christmas Service/Longest Night Service Saturday, December 21st at 5:00pm - The holidays are often the loneliest time of the year for those who have experienced loss in their lives. These losses can be the death of a loved one, loss of a job, divorce, death of a dear pet, loss of health, or any of the other losses people deal experience. The Blue Christmas/Longest Night service allows us to grieve the losses, to acknowledge our pain, and to take comfort in God's abiding love and care for us. Everyone is welcome to attend this ministry of our local churches. This year the service will be held at the Presbyterian Church

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Tuesday, December 24

5:00pm ~ a Family-Oriented Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Come and bring the entire family for a festive celebration of Jesus' birth. This service will include our Paper Bag Pageant - a kid-friendly, interactive version of lessons and carols where all children present are invited and welcome to participate as we celebrate Jesus' birth. 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 service will provide the opportunity to greet Christmas Day at the Lord's Table. The approximate length of this service will be 15 - 20 minutes.



Happy Anniversary to (December 19) Mike & Becki Bryson, Ben & Amanda Griffith; (December 20) Jeff & Melanie Carter; (December 21) Kevin & Gretchen Beck, Wayne & Barbara Clark

Wednesday Evening Activities for Youth

6:00-7:00pm ~ Meet in big preschool room.

The 10:50am Traditional Worship Service

Third 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

Carol Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Tricia Smith & Luke Osteen

Opening Carol "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

A Bidding Prayer

First Lesson Genesis 3:8-15

Adam and Eve rebel against God.

Carol God Walked in Eden's Garden Fair

Second Lesson Genesis 22:15-18

God promises to faithful Abraham that his descendants will be a blessing to all the nations of the earth.

Carol The God of Abr'am Praise

Third Lesson Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

Christ's birth and rule of peace and justice are foretold by Isaiah.

Carol Comfort, Comfort, O My People

Fourth Lesson Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

Carol Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offering

Doxology Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow UMH #94 (sung to the tune of The First Noel)

Fifth Lesson Luke 1:26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will be the mother of Jesus.

Carol There Is No Rose

Sixth Lesson Matthew 1:18-23

Saint Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus.

Carol Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Seventh Lesson Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds go to Bethlehem.

Carol "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Eighth Lesson Matthew 2:8-11

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

Carol From a Distant Home

Ninth Lesson John 1:1-14

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

Carol "Joy to the World"

Closing Prayers and Benediction

The Poinsettias in the Sanctuary this morning are given...



In memory of **Herbert James** by Barbara James.

In loving memory of **Janis Wilson** by Terry Wilson.

In the memory of and in honor of **family and friends that fill my life with love & joy** by Wilma Gordon.

In memory of **Chuck & Pat Sutton and Jim & Ann Mitchell** by Bob & Nancy Sutton.

In loving memory of **my mother, Marie Mawyer** by Ed Mawyer.

In loving memory of **my father, Clarence Mawyer** by Ed Mawyer.

In memory of **my husband, Charlie** by Carol Langford.

In memory of **Joe Sewell** by George & Karen Powell.

In memory of **John Mabbett** by Ann Mabbett.

In memory of **Richard Leigh Kattel** by Gay Kattel.

In memory of **Dottie Smith, Billie Taylor, Oscar Taylor, Tommy Taylor, & Tess Grant** by Hal & Verna Taylor.

In honor of **Leo Huckabee** by Dorothy & Jack Huckabee.

In honor of **Naomi Chastain** by Leo & Dorothy Huckabee.

In honor of **Mildred Z. Wilson** by Sheryl & Dennis Wilson.

In memory of **Curt E. Wilson** by Sheryl & Dennis Wilson.

In memory of **Judy Hall and Bob Gibson** by Janice & Keith Hall.

In memory of **Susie Montgomery** from the Montgomery Family.

In memory of **our loved ones** and in honor of **our sons and their families** by Wayne & Geri Crowe.

Birthdays & Anniversaries - If your birthday or anniversary is not listed in the bulletin please contact the church office with your dates!

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. Will not have a meal on December 24th & 31st or January 7th.

Post Office Box 1959, Highlands, North Carolina 28741 ~ (828) 526-3376
website: www.highlandsmethodist.org

Parsonage (828) 526-2465 ~ e-mail addresses: Church: highlandsumc@icloud.com, Randy: randyhumc@icloud.com, Christine Murphy: christinehumc@icloud.com:
Les: les.h.scott@gmail.com, Keith Crawford: finsec13@gmail.com, Kristy Lewis: kkltarheel@yahoo.com CCLI # 1455665

Church Staff: Rev. Randy Lucas, Senior Pastor; Les Scott, Minister of Music; Sonja DeFoor, Office Manager; Keith Crawford, Financial Secretary; Christine Murphy, Director of Children & Youth Ministries; Sherry Bruner, Pianist; Marlene & Gary Nix, Sextons; Kristy Lewis, Food Services Director; Terri Kennedy, Nursery Attendant

The 9:09 Service: Sermon: Randy Lucas; Worship Leader: Jeanie Edwards-Jones; Greeters: Team 5; Technologist: Jerry Moore

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

10:50 Worship Leaders: Sermon: Randy Lucas; Minister of Music: Les Scott; Accompanist: Susan Clearman; Percussion - Paula Gordon; Cello - Jim Lestock; Percussion - Luke Rathbone; Viola - Nancy Steffa; Violin - Anna Grace Strange; Violin - Sarah Beth Vogt

Serving our 10:50 Service: Ushers: Team 1: Team Leader: Nin Bond; Team Members: Richard Melvin, Ken Knight, Bob & Nancy Sutton



LOVE God. Offer CHRIST to All.

Highlands United Methodist Church

December 15, 2019