

Welcome to the Highlands United Methodist Church

A joyous welcome to you!
We are glad each of you has come to worship the Lord.

The 9:09 Bluegrass Service

- Welcome
- Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle Bruce & Ginger Bunnell
- Music "Away in a Manger" "O Little Town of Bethlehem"
- A Time to Share our Concerns at the Cross
- Prayer / The Lord's Prayer
- Joys
- A Time to Offer our Gifts to God
- Music Mary Did You Know 9:09 Band
- Scripture Luke 1:39-45a
- A Word of Faith Leaping for Joy
- Music "Silent Night"
- Sending Forth
- Closing Music "I'll Fly Away"



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 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

Here is our Christmas Eve schedule for this year -

- 5pm - Family-friendly candlelight service (Sanctuary) (This year's traditional Christmas Eve service will feature a pageant recorded by our after-school children) approximately 40 - 45 minutes
- 7pm - Cokesbury Christmas Carols (Faith and Fellowship Center) (Something new - come and sing some of your favorite Christmas Carols from the Cokesbury hymnal in the Faith and Fellowship Center) approximately 30-40 minutes
- 9pm - 10pm Christmas Eve Prayers (Sanctuary) (Something new - enter the church sanctuary for a time of prayer, contemplation and rest with music provided by Patty Campbell)
- 11:45pm - Midnight Eucharist (Sanctuary) (Join us we enter Christmas Day at the Lord's Table) approximately 15 minutes



Church Happenings:

Blood Drive - Tuesday, January 4th from 11:00-4:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. To make an appointment call Kristy at 526-3376, ext. 107 or call 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter HighlandsUMC

Wednesday Night Supper

There will be no Wednesday Night Supper thru December. January's schedule will be announced soon.

Ministry Bags

Each month we collect items for different ministries. For the month of December we're collecting personal items: soaps, deodorant, toothpaste, razors, shampoo, etc. for the Emergency Council.

Upper Rooms - Physical copies of the January / February Upper Rooms are here. Pick up your copy across from the church office or in the F&FC.

Giving

Here is an accounting of giving for December 12th:

General - \$22,053.10

Restricted Accounts -

Pastor's Fund - \$2,316.67

IFC/Food Pantry - \$1,666.66

Gordon Center - \$1,666.67

You may 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.

Current Studies and Small Groups

Seekers Sunday School Class

The class is currently studying the book of Isaiah. They meet in person on Sundays at 9:45am. Contact - Steve Bruner at stevebruner@gmail.com.

Bob Hood's Sunday School Class

The class is starting a new book by Max Lucado "3:16 The Numbers of Hope". Sundays at 11:00am by Zoom. Contact - Bob Hood at bobhood3@gmail.com.

Home Lectionary Study Group

A weekly study around the upcoming week lectionary readings. Meeting time - Tuesdays at 7:00pm. Contact - Fred Motz at bigbearpen@gmail.com

Men's Tuesday Breakfast

This group meets for breakfast at the Blue Bike on Tuesday mornings at 8:00am. They are currently studying the book, "What's So Amazing About Grace" by Philip Yancey.

Women's Tuesday Night Bible Study

The group is doing a book study on "What's So Amazing About Grace" by Philip Yancey. The class meets at 7:00pm on Tuesdays. Contact - Debbie Brock at debbiedharris@gmail.com or Sara Mayer at scmayer@nctv.com.

Adjustment to COVID-19 Protocols

In consultation with our In-Person Worship Discernment Team and the Church Council, HUMC has moved to a masking-optional protocol for all indoor gatherings. Masks are available if you need one. At this time there is no change in our temporary suspension of indoor meals.

We encourage you to continue frequent hand-washing, and to maintain appropriate distancing when possible. Hand sanitizing dispensers are available at several locations inside the church building. And of course, please avoid gatherings if you are feeling sick. We continue to provide live-streaming of both our 9:09 and 10:50 services.

The 10:50am Traditional Worship Service

Fourth 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.

Prelude

Welcome

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle Mike and Jessica Robinson

Centering Music

Opening Prayer

†Hymn of Praise **"O Come, All Ye Faithful"** UMH #234

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

Pastoral Prayer / The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who 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.

Joys

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *And His Name Shall Be Called Wonderful* -Sally DeFord

†Doxology **Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow** UMH #94

†Offering Prayer

Anthem *No Wind at the Window* -John Bell

Scripture **Luke 1:39-45a**

Sermon **Leaping for Joy**

†Hymn of Faith **"Star-Child"** TFWS #2095

Dismissal with Blessing **"Let There Be Peace on on Earth"**

Postlude

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

Happy Birthday to (December 19) LaDonna Keener; (December 20) Ethan Tate, Meridith Watson; (December 22) Grace Crowe, Doug Holder, Elaine Reynolds; (December 23) Alexandra Clark

Happy Anniversary to (December 19) Mike & Becki Bryson, Ben & Amanda Griffith; (December 20) Jeff & Melanie Carter; (December 21) Kevin & Gretchen Beck, Wayne & Barbara Clark; (December 22) Harry & Lisa Gottwals, Jim & Virginia Nix

Have a Prayer Need?

To put someone on the Prayer List please call the church office (526-3376) or Joy Still (526-8097). Please provide an address of the person(s) for whom you are requesting prayer so we may send a card to let them know we are praying for them.

We will keep names on the **Short Term** list two weeks & the **Long Term** list four weeks. At the end of two or four weeks your loved one will be removed from the list. Please contact the church office again for your loved one if you wish for them to be put back on the list. This way we can be sure our list is kept up to date.

Prayer List

Short Term: Nancy Abner, John McKey, Fred Motz, Alana Page, Bill Williams

Long Term: Clarence Bauknight, John Crowe, Kenneth Crowe, Ronnie Crowe, Joann Dale, Ty & Betty Ann Emmert, Sidney Futch, Gloria Glenn, Dan Gordon, Paula Gordon, Harry Gottwals, Mary Green, Trent Haines, John & Gisele Hall, Michael Hebert, Mary Heffington, Bob & Sammie Houston, Virginia Huff, Kendra Hughes, Jeff James, Cheryl Jenkins, Kelli Lampkin, Jill Olecki, Judy Pendergrass, Logan Petrone, Anne Prince, Dana Edwards Reker, Lisa Richards, Rossie Spell, Catherine Taylor, David Valin

Join Our Prayer Circle

We welcome you to join our Prayer Circle to lift up those who are in need of prayer. Prayer requests are emailed to the Prayer Circle as they come in. Please email Sonja at highlandsumc@icloud.com to be a part of this ministry.

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Parsonage (828) 526-2465 ~ e-mail addresses: Church:

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finsec13@gmail.com, Kristy Martin: kkltarheel@yahoo.com CCLI # 1455665

Church Staff: Rev. Dr. 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 & Susan Clearman, Pianists; Marlene & Gary Nix, Sextons; Kristy Martin, Food Services Director



LOVE God. Offer CHRIST to All.

Highlands United
Methodist Church

December 19, 2021