

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

Music "Down By the Riverside"
"Shall We Gather at the River"

A Time to Share our Concerns at the Cross

Prayer / The Lord's Prayer

Joys

A Time to Offer our Gifts to God

Music "Give Thanks"

Scripture Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

A Word of Faith Remember, and Give Thanks

Remembering Our Baptism

Music "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart"

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.



HUMC 2.0(22)

A Prayerful Time of Dreaming, Visioning and Planning for our Post-Pandemic Church

We have entered into a season of prayerful discernment in preparation for the next chapter of our shared life and ministry in the post-pandemic world. As part of this process, Pastor Randy hosted a series of listening sessions, both in-person and via Zoom, in December. These conversations are designed to continue through the first quarter of 2022, informing a season of dreaming and visioning together as we consider the next chapter at HUMC. A vision for our post-pandemic church will be shared on **Easter Sunday, April 17th**.

These listening sessions will build on the following five foundational questions -

- 1 - What is the core identity of HUMC?
- 2 - What former or current practices are essential to the core identity of HUMC?
- 3 - What are the areas in need of refreshing, renewing, relinquishing or revisioning?
- 4 - What behaviors best contribute to the overall health and vitality of the church?
- 5 - What is the Holy Spirit leading us to do?

Pastor Randy is also happy to schedule one-on-one conversations. If you'd like to meet individually, or if you wish to receive a Zoom invitation, please email Pastor Randy at randyhumc@icloud.com. Thanks to everyone who participated in December's listening sessions. Here is the schedule of listening sessions in **January** -

- Tuesday, January 11th at 4pm** (In-Person)
- Wednesday, January 12th at 11am** (In-Person)
- Thursday, January 13th at 11am** (Zoom)
(email randyhumc@icloud.com for link)
- Tuesday, January 18th at 5:00pm** (In-Person)
- Wednesday, January 19th at 11am** (In-Person)
- Thursday, January 20th at 2pm** (Zoom)
(email randyhumc@icloud.com for link)

In person meetings will be held in the old Fellowship Hall.

Church Happenings:

Blood Drive - Tuesday, March 7th from **10:00-3:00pm** 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

COVID-19 Protocols

While masks remain optional for individuals attending indoor worship services at HUMC please be aware that, with the spread of the COVID omicron variant the CDC recommends face-coverings indoors. We will continue to have masks available to everyone who would like one. 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.

Giving

Here is an accounting of giving for December 26th & January 2nd:

General -

December 26th - \$133,532.00 *

* (includes a very generous \$100,000 grant from the Emily W. Scott Foundation)

January 2nd - \$55,831.03 **

** (includes \$51,831.03 in donations between 12/27-12/31)

Restricted Accounts -

Tornado Relief - \$7,082.00 (includes Christmas Eve Offering)

Food Pantry - \$5,000.00

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

On January 4th the group will begin a new DVD-based study from Discovery House Publishers with Mart De Haan. The title of this 8-week study is *Jewish Foundations: Sacrifice, Worship, and the Messiah*. No books accompany this study. The class meets at **7:00pm on Tuesdays**. Contact - Debbie Brock at debbiedharris@gmail.com or Sara Mayer at scmayer@nctv.com.

Wednesday Night Supper

January's schedule will be announced soon.

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.

Attendance January 2nd - 9:09 - 64 10:50 - 37

The 10:50am Traditional Worship Service

Baptism of the Lord Sunday

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 *Rock of My Salvation* arr. M. Hayes

Welcome

Centering Music *Pathétique/Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus* arr. S. Bruner

Opening Prayer

† Hymn of Praise *"I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"* TFWS #2051

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 *Like A River Glorious* arr L. Larson

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

† Offering Prayer

Anthem *Down in the River to Pray* traditional, arr. L. Scott

Scripture **Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

Sermon **Remember, and Give Thanks**

Congregational Reaffirmation of Baptism

† Hymn of Faith *"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"* UMH #500

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

Postlude *Shall We Gather at the River* arr. P. Drennan

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

Happy Birthday to (January 9) Gayle Byrne, Don Germano, Jeff James, David Long, Cindy Reed; (January 10) Elaine Carlton, Richard Dunn, Lora Speed-Beegle; (January 11) Travis Brooks, Tom Fussell; (January 12) Fred Motz, Loretta Picklesimer; (January 13) Fred Smith; (January 15) Janet Chitty, Ronnie Crowe

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.

Our prayers and sympathies go out to Gwen Futch on the death of her husband, Sidney and to Charlotte Solomon on the death of her husband, Rimson.

Prayer List

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

Long Term: Clarence Bauknight, Henry Brown, 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: kkitarheel@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

January 9, 2022