

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 Advent Wreath	The Moore Family
Music	“Angels We Have Heard on High” “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
A Time to Share our Concerns at the Cross	
Prayer / The Lord’s Prayer	
Joys	
A Time to Offer our Gifts to God	
Music	“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”
Scripture	Isaiah 35:1-10
A Word of Faith	Making The Case For Joy
Music	“Joy to the World”
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, rice boxes, & canned meats for the Emergency Council.

Attendance on December 4th 909 - 103 11:00 - 42

Poems from the Park Bench - Pastor Randy’s book of poetry has now been published and is available online at Amazon, Barnes and Noble and Parsons Porch Books (\$18.95 + S&H). Cover art by Jeanie Edwards-Jones. A limited number of books are available at the HUMC Office, \$15.00 / copy (\$20.00 by mail). If you would like a signed copy, please contact Pastor Randy at randyhumc@icloud.com.

Wednesday Night Supper at 5:15pm

Chicken Divan Casserole over Rice, Glazed Carrots, Rolls and Dessert. No program. This will be our final Wednesday night meal before the holidays. Children and youth meet at 6:00pm.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

December 11th - Christmas Foyers at the home of Darrell and Joey Schwartz, 5:30pm. For information, please contact Fred Motz - bigbearpen@gmail.com

Senior lunch - December 16th at the Highlands Rec Park - **12 noon**

Wreaths Across America Ceremony and Wreath Laying - December 17th at the Highlands Community Building - **12 noon**. Shuttle to the cemetery provided.

Poinsettia Sunday - December 18th - Poinsettias will adorn our Church Sanctuary. If you’d like to order a poinsettia for our **11am** Worship Service, please see the insert in this Sunday’s bulletin.

Children’s Christmas Pageant - Luke Osteen and Tricia Smith are directing our Christmas Eve Children’s Christmas Pageant for our Family-Oriented Candlelight Worship Service at **5:00pm**. Join us as the children tell the story of the birth of Jesus!

Christmas Eve Services -
5pm - Family-Oriented Candlelight Service, featuring our Children’s Christmas Pageant
7pm - Christmas Eve Eucharist Service (Church Sanctuary)
8pm - Christmas Carol Singing with Les (Faith and Fellowship Center)

Christmas Day - December 25th -
8:45am - Christmas Eucharist (Church Sanctuary)
9:15am - Christmas Breakfast (Faith and Fellowship Center)
10:00am - Christmas Combined Worship Service (Church Sanctuary)

Wesleyan Covenant Service and Holy Communion -
On **January 1st** join us as we ring in the New Year in this special combined worship service. **No breakfast** this morning (coffee and juice will be available)
10:00am - Combined Worship (Faith and Fellowship Center)



Ministry Opportunities:

- * **Winter Clothing Drive** - A box has been set up in the lobby of the Faith and Fellowship Center for donations of gently used or new winter coats, rain coats, gloves, scarves and hats. A box for monetary donations can be located at the donation station. Thanks for supporting this valuable ministry to our community.
- * **Toys for Tots** - Boxes are ready for donations! Accepting new, unwrapped toys for boys and girls of all ages.

Thank you to everyone who Adopted a Family this Christmas Season.

Giving

We will report on **December 4th** giving in next week’s bulletin
Year-to-date Report, through October 31st
Income - \$470,748.34
Expenses - \$541,499.20 (-\$70,750.86))

Current Studies and Small Groups

Seekers Sunday School Class

The class is currently studying the book of Matthew with an emphasis on the Beatitudes. Meeting time - **Sundays at 10:00am** in the financial secretary’s office. Contact - Steve Bruner - stevebruner@gmail.com.

Bob Hood's Sunday School Class

The class is beginning a new study. “What does it mean to be Chosen?” by Amanda Jenkins on **Sundays at 10:00am** in the former Scout room. 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 **8:30am**. They are currently studying *The Guarantee - A Trail Lawyer Examines Salvation* by HUMC Seasonal Member Lewis Collins.

Women's Tuesday Night Bible Study

The class is beginning a new 7-week study on October 25th of *Elijah* as presented on DVD by Priscilla Shirer. They meet at **7:00pm on Tuesdays**. Contact - Debbie Brock at debbieharris@gmail.com or Sara Mayer at scmayer@nctv.com.

Jesus in the Gospels

A second generation Disciple Bible Study led by Jan Potts and Meridith Watson. Meeting time - **Sundays at 7pm** in the old fellowship hall. Contact Jan or Meridith - janpotts5@gmail.com, merwats61@yahoo.com.

Church Happenings:

Staff Lunch - Wednesday, December 13th from 11:30-1:00pm

Joy Group ~ Our JOY Group (Just Older Youth) meets for lunch and fellowship on **Thursdays at 11:30am** in the F&FC.

Children & Youth meet on Wednesdays - All children and youth (elementary - high school) are invited to join us after supper on Wednesdays for fun and fellowship.

Blood Drive ~ Monday, January 23rd, from 11:00-3:00pm in the old 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.

The 11:00am 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.

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Wilma Gordon Family

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

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 *Celtic Christmas Air* -trad. Galician

†Doxology **Christmas Doxology**

†Offering Prayer

Christmas Cantata *Tapestry of Light* -Joseph Martin

Dismissal with Blessing **"Star Child"**

Instrumentalists:

Susan Clearman - piano
Liz Dinwiddie - violin
Mario Gaetano - percussion
Sabrina Kumar - flute, recorder
Jim Lestock - cello



Happy Birthday to (December 13) Jack Mayer; (December 15) Nin Bond; (December 16) Sherry Buner, Miranda Dotson

Altar Flowers - The Altar Guild of HUMC welcomes the gift of flowers for our 11:00 worship service. Flowers may be given to remember or honor loved ones, to give thanks, or to celebrate a special event. The cost for altar arrangements is \$60. Please fill out one of the forms beneath the calendar, outside Randy's office, and place in Sonja's box across from the church office.

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 **Paul Andry** and family on the death of his wife, Dee. Cards of sympathy may be sent to 3889 Forsythe Drive, Lexington, KY 40515 and to **Mary Eliza McMillan** and family on the death of her husband Howard. Cards of sympathy may be sent to 1200 Meadowbrook Road, #34, Jackson, MI 39206

Prayer List

Short Term: Paul McLarty, The McMillan Family, Ellie Morrow, Charles Owens, Karen Potts, Jack Smith, Bob Sutton

Long Term: Nancy Anderson, Laura Brown, Dort Casey, Judy Gooding, Rich Grove, Dick Hall, John & Gisele Hall, Mary Heffington, Marge Heim, Colleen Holt, Bob and Sammie Houston, Jeff James, Mary Keener, Bonnie Lunceford, Sharon Peek, Judy Pendergrass, Michelle Pendergrass, Anne Prince, Dana Recker, Jessica Robinson, Carol Sutton, Olan Vinson, Willow Wright, Kenny Youmans, King & Janet Young

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.

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, Les Scott:

les.h.scott@gmail.com, Keith Crawford: 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; 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 11, 2022