

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 "Peace Like a River"

Scripture Matthew 3:13-17

A Word of Faith The Waters of Baptism

Remembering Our Baptism

Music "Victory in Jesus"

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 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.



Les Scott's Retirement - After serving on staff at HUMC for the past 15 years, Les Scott is retiring. His last Sunday as our Minister of Music will be February 5th. We will acknowledge his faithful and lengthy service to our congregation with a reception after worship on February 5th in the Faith and Fellowship Center. At that time we will present Les with a love offering from the church. If you would like to participate in that love offering, please include "love offering" on the memo line of your check. If giving online chose the "other" tab and write "love offering" in the "note" box. Donations should be received by Sunday, January 29th.

Church Happenings:

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

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

UMM Breakfast - Our next men's breakfast will be Saturday, January 14th at 8:30am. Our featured speaker this month will be Dr. Mike Cordle. A retired United Methodist Pastor and Affiliate Member of HUMC, along with his wife Kandyss (Professing Member) became part of our church family in 2022. Dr. Mike served The United Methodist Church during a long and distinguished career.

MLK Birthday Observance - January 16th - Church office closed

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.

Wednesday Night Supper

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper at 5:15pm in the Faith and Fellowship Center. Supper will be a prepared meal.

"Anxious About Anxiety" - Dave Hodgson, retired Counseling Psychologist (40 years) and Pilot HR Interviewer with Delta Air Lines will be offering a series of very helpful programs on cultivating good mental health in these gray and cold days of Winter. Join us on January 18th, 25th and February 1st from 6:00pm - 6:30pm.

Poems from the Park Bench - Pastor Randy's book of poetry has now been published and is available online at Amazon and Barnes and Noble book sellers (\$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.

Ministry Bags

Each month we collect items for different ministries. For the month of January we're collecting personal items, dried beans, canned goods, rice, oil, toilet paper, & toiletries for the Food Pantry.

Attendance on January 1st 10:00 combined service - 83

Giving

Here's a report of your faithful giving for December 18th and 25th -

Operating Fund
December 18th - 8,283.00
December 25th - \$15,758.10

Restricted Accounts
Pastor's Fund - \$3,416.68
Food Pantry - \$1,786.66
Gordon Center - \$1,666.66
Emergency Council - \$200.00
Music / Choir - \$200.00
UMCOR / Ukraine - \$20.00

Year-to-date Report, through November 30th
Income - \$521,327.44
Expenses - \$606,622.06 (-\$85,294.62)

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 They are currently studying the book, The Generosity Habit by Matthew Kelly.

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 debbiedharris@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.

Winter Clothing Drive - HUMC is once again partnering with the Highlands Mountaintop Rotary, the Highlands Emergency Council and other local churches. 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.

The 11:00am Traditional Worship Service

Baptism of the Lord

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

Centering Music *As the Deer* -Martin Nystrom

Opening Prayer

†Hymn of Praise *"Fairest Lord Jesus"* UMH #189

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 *More Precious Than Silver* -Lynn DeShazo

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

†Offering Prayer

Anthem *Down in the River to Pray* -traditional

Scripture **Matthew 3:13-17**

Sermon **The Waters of Baptism**

Congregational Reaffirmation of Baptism

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

Dismissal with Blessing *"Spirit Song"*

Postlude *Shine, Jesus, Shine* -Graham Kendrick

Happy Birthday to (January 9) Gayle Byrne, Don Germano, Jeff James, Lynn Long, Cindy Reed; (January 10) Elaine Carlton, Richard Dunn, Lora Seed-Beegle; (January 11) Travis Brooks, Tom Fussell; (January 12) Fred Motz; (January 13) Fred Smith

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.

Prayer List

Short Term: Colton Ledbetter, The McMillan Family, Charles Owens, Karen Potts, Jack Smith, Dauer Stackpole, Daisy Stockpole, Bob Sutton, Kiki Scaros, Dori Pappas, Grace Agnetti and the Moschouris family

Long Term: Cole, Dale Bowling, Laura Brown, Phil Caldwell, Dort Casey, Judy Gooding, Chuck Cooper, John & Gisele Hall, Colleen Holt, Bob and Sammie Houston, Nancy Lowe, Bonnie Lunceford, Verlin Morton, Sharon Peek, Judy Pendergrass, Michelle Pendergrass, Anne Prince, Dana Recker, Jessica Robinson, Carol Sutton, Erika Taylor, Nisha Turner, Sherwood Turner, 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.

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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**

January 8, 2023