

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 "This Is the Day"
"Let Us Break Bread Together"

A Time to Share our Concerns at the Cross

Prayer / The Lord's Prayer

Joys

A Time to Offer our Gifts to God

Music "Where No One Stands Alone" Darren & Jennifer

Scripture John 3:1-17

A Word of Faith Sermon Series: Encounters with Jesus
Sermon #1: An Undercover Visit

Holy Communion

Music "I Shall Not Be Moved"

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.



Poems from the Park Bench - Pastor Randy's book of poetry 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.

Church Happenings:

Lenten Sermon Series - Pastor Randy and Dr. Mike will be combining on a four-part sermon series in March entitled "Encounters with Jesus." This Sunday we will remember Nicodemus' encounter with Jesus (John 3:1-17).

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 - The next Methodist Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, March 11th @ 8:30am**. This month guest speaker will be Charles Womack representing Gideon of the "Famed Gideon's Bible." What began in 1908 as an Association of Christian businessmen placing Bibles in hotel rooms has evolved into an expanding mission to provide Scriptures to all people in nearly every facet of life. The Gideon's have taken more than 2 billion Scriptures in more than 95 languages to 200 countries, territories, and possessions across the globe. Come join us. All are welcome. Bring a friend!

Blood Drive ~ **Monday, March 27th**, from **11:00-2:00pm** 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.

Community Table is Back! - Please join us on the **first Tuesday** of every month at the Highlands Community Building at **6pm** for a great time of food and fellowship!

Ministry Bags

Each month we collect items for different ministries.
For the month of **March** we're collecting lotion, chapstick, tissue, socks, and small items residents may enjoy at the Fidelia Eckerd Center.

Wednesday Night Supper

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper at **5:15pm** in the Faith and Fellowship Center for a prepared meal followed by a program at **6pm**, our first in a series of programs focusing on "Spiritual Disciplines for Lent."

Food Pantry Needs Egg Cartons - Please consider saving your egg cartons for the Food Pantry. You may place them in the Food Pantry bin in the Donations Stations in the F&FC and office wing. Thanks!

The altar flowers this morning are given in memory of Syndee Rose by her mother, Ann Rose and her family; "Gone but never forgotten."

Welcome Literacy Council After School Program - HUMC is the site of the Literacy Council After-school program while repairs are being made on their building caused by water damage. Children, staff and volunteers meet during the week in the old fellowship hall from 3:00pm - 5:00pm. The Literacy Council and Learning Center is looking for good volunteers. If you'd like to make a positive difference in the life of a child, please contact the Literacy Council Program Manager Caroline Cox - ccox@theliteracyandlearningcenter.org.

Attendance on February 26th 909 - 87 11:00 - 54

Giving

Here is a report of your faithful giving
on **February 19th** -

General Operating Fund
\$9,806.20

Internal Restricted Accounts
Highlands Emergency Council - \$100.00
Pastor's Fund - \$50.00
Food Pantry - \$20.00

Our 2023 year-to-date financial report through January.

Income - \$25,771.49

Expenses - \$53,671.84 (-&27,900.35)

2022 Income - \$727,350.39

2022 Expenses - \$678,016.07 (+ \$49,334.32)

Current Studies and Small Groups

Seekers Sunday School Class

The class is currently studying the book of Romans. 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 group is doing a new study where they watch and discuss Season 1 of the Chosen. They meet on **Tuesdays at 7:00pm** in the Parlor. . 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 - 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

Second Sunday in Lent

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

Opening Prayer *The Old Rugged Cross* arr. Jerry Ray

† **Hymn of Praise** *"Lift High the Cross"* UMH #159

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 *The Power of the Cross* arr. Carol Tornquist

† **Doxology** *"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"* UMH #94
(Sung to the tune of "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross")

† Offering Prayer

Anthem *For God So Loved the World* -Marty Haugen

Scripture **John 3:1-17**

Sermon **Sermon Series: Encounters with Jesus**
Sermon #1: An Undercover Visit

A Service of Word and Table II UMH p.12

† **Hymn of Faith** *"Blessed Assurance"* UMH #369

Dismissal with Blessing *Choral Amen*

Postlude *Musical Instruments* arr. Carol Tornquist

Happy Birthday to (March 5) Coby Bloedow; (March 7) Teresa Williams; (March 8) Kathy Smith; (March 10) Robin Auston, Dr. John Baumrucker, Tay Bronaugh; (March 11) John Gordon

Happy Anniversary to (March 5) Griffin & Glenda Bell

Altar Flowers - The Altar Guild of HUMC welcomes the gift of flowers for our worship services. 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: Roger, The McMillan Family, Charles Owens, Will Reynolds, Jack Smith, Dauer Stackpole, Daisy Stockpole

Long Term: middle school child, Marvin, Mark, & Sharon Alsum, Laura Brown, Lisa Bullard, Phil Caldwell, Dort Casey, Dan Chapman, Judy Gooding, Chuck Cooper, Kathy Crawford, Wilma Gordon, John & Gisele Hall, Marge Heim, Sarah Hibbits, Colleen Holt, Bob and Sammie Houston, Jeff James, Junior Kelley, Carol King, Nancy Lowe, Bonnie Lunceford, Dana Martin, Verlin Morton, David Neely, JC Norris, Sharon Peek, Judy Pendergrass, Michelle Pendergrass, Anne Prince, The Pyles Family, Dana Recker, Jessica Robinson, Karen Stauf, Carol Sutton, Nancy Sutton, Erika Taylor, Nisha Turner, Sherwood Turner, Olan Vinson, Willow Wright, 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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Parsonage (828) 526-2465 ~ e-mail addresses: Church:
highlandsumc@icloud.com, Randy: randyhumc@icloud.com, Keith Crawford:
finsec13@gmail.com, Kristy Martin: kkltarheel@yahoo.com CCLI # 1455665

Church Staff: Rev. Dr. Randy Lucas, Senior Pastor; Sonja DeFoor, Office Manager; Keith Crawford, Financial Secretary; Sherry Bruner & Susan Clearman, Pianists; Marlene & Gary Nix, Sextons; Kristy Martin, Food Services Director; Michael Crowe, Interim Volunteer Choir Director

Second Sunday in Lent



LOVE **G**od. Offer **C**HRIST to All.

**Highlands United
Methodist Church**

March 5, 2023