

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 “When We All Get to Heaven”
“Put Your Hand in the Hand”

A Time to Share our Concerns at the Cross

Prayer / The Lord’s Prayer

Joys

A Time to Offer our Gifts to God

Music “I Know Who Holds Tomorrow” 909 Band

Scripture Acts 7:55-60

A Word of Faith The Stoning of Stephen

Music “Amazing Grace”

Sending Forth

Closing Music “I’ll Fly Away”

Bishops Carter and Willimon
to preach at HUMC in June

We have a unique opportunity to hear from two of the leading voices in The United Methodist Church in the coming weeks, as we welcome the resident bishop of the Western North Carolina Conference, Bishop Kenneth Carter, and retired bishop of the Alabama - West Florida Conference and current Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program at Duke Divinity School, Bishop Will Willimon.

May Book Study - You’re invited to join Pastor Randy for a conversation in May around Bishop Kenneth Carter’s latest book, *Unrelenting Grace - A United Methodist Way of Life*. Copies of the book will be provided. Please contact Pastor Randy if you are interested - randyhumc@icloud.com. Bishop Carter will be preaching at HUMC on **June 11th**.

June Book Study - You’re invited to join Pastor Randy in June for a conversation Bishop Will Willimon’s latest book, *Don’t Look Back - Methodist Hope for What Comes Next*. Copies of the book will be provided. Please contact Pastor Randy if you’re interested. Bishop Willimon will be preaching at HUMC on **June 25th**.

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** - The next Methodist Men’s Breakfast will be **Saturday, May 13th @ 8:30am**. Our own Don Germano will discuss “The Ascension of Jesus”. Come join us for great fellowship and food. All are welcome. Bring a friend!
- Blood Drive ~ Monday, May 22nd**, from **10:00-2:00pm** 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.
- Vacation Bible School ~ June 19-22 - 5:15-8:00 pm** (Dinner Included) - Ages 3-Rising 6th Grade Contact Elizabeth Gordon with any questions at elizabethrobyn244@gmail.com or 828-200-0805.
- Author's Tea ~ Saturday, July 22nd** - We're looking for volunteers. Please call Barb Recktenwald at (612) 730-8776 or email at bjarstudios@gmail.com or Gay Kattel at 526-2746.

Denominational Conversations With Pastor Randy - In addition to meeting one-on-one with anyone with questions or concerns about the current season of The United Methodist Church, along with providing weekly links to “Ask the UMC - Is the United Methodist Church Really?....” Pastor Randy is offering periodic opportunities for group conversations around denominational questions. The next “Denominational Conversation with Pastor Randy” will be **Thursday, May 11th at 5:30pm**. We will meet in the Old Fellowship Hall.

- The altar flowers** in the church this morning are given in honor of our mother, Barbara James' birthday by Leigh, Allan, Jeff, Cindy, & Melanie.
- Membership Class** - Pastor Randy is offering a membership class to anyone who would like to explore Professing, Affiliate or Associate Membership at HUMC. If you’re interested, please contact Pastor Randy by **Sunday, May 14th** - randyhumc@icloud.com.

Ministry Bags

Each month we collect items for different ministries.
For the month of **May** we're collecting we're collecting dog & cat food, treats, toys, and bedding for the Humane Society.

Wednesday Night Supper & Program

Join us for Supper at 5:15pm in the F&FC for a prepared meal.

Meet the Cast of “Night Watch” -

Plan to stay for the Wednesday night program, as we meet the cast of the latest production of the Highlands Cashiers Players. “Night Watch” opens at the Martin Lipscomb Theatre at the Performing Arts Center on Thursday, May 18th.

From the Ministry Team - Do you enjoy doing jigsaw puzzles? Do you have a closet full of puzzles in good shape? We’d love to start a puzzle exchange in our newly expanded library (which looks great thanks to Jan and Pamela Potts)! Please place any donated puzzles on top of either donation station. Once we get them logged in, please feel free to take any home to work on at anytime!

Giving

- Here is a report of giving and income during the month of April -
- General Operating Fund**
 - April 2nd - \$24,140.44
 - April 9th - \$8,140.10
 - April 16th - \$22,609.10
 - April 23rd - \$7,534.00
 - April 30th - \$3,356.10
- Internal Restricted Accounts**
 - Trustees, Property Care - \$5,457.38
 - Pastor’s Fund - \$2,845.00
 - Highlands Emergency Council - \$500.00
 - Food Pantry - \$290.00
 - Library - \$200.00
 - UMCOR / Ukraine - \$120.00
 - Youth Discretionary Fund - \$120.00
- Our 2023 year-to-date financial report through March -**
 - Income** - \$93,979
 - Expenses** - \$155,757 (- \$61,778)

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 doing a new study, “Blessed. A study of Revelation” 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 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.

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

The 11:00am Traditional Worship Service

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

†Processional Hymn "From All That Dwell Below the Skies UMH #101

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 River Flows in You -Yiruma

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

†Offering Prayer

Anthem Take My Life and Let It Be -Hal H. Hopson

Scripture Acts 7:55-60

Sermon The Stoning of Stephen

†Hymn of Faith "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" UMH #103

Dismissal with Blessing

Choral Acclamation Alleluia. Christ is Risen. Crowe

Postlude A Mighty Fortress is Our God -Martin Luther

Happy Birthday to (May 8) Wyn Shoptaw; (May 9) Bill Getzen; (May 10) Gayle Cummings; (May 11) Niki Bloedow, Susan Clarkson, Nancy Ostema; (May 12) Cecile Watson

Happy Anniversary to (May 7) Jim & Susan Kay; (May 13) Jack & Sara Mayer

Attendance on April 30th 909 - 112 11:00 - 46

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.

Our prayers and sympathies go out to Ruby Shaheen on the death of her husband "Pops". Cards of sympathy may be sent to Ruby PO Box 192, Scaly Mountain, NC 28775

Prayer List

Short Term: Michael Callahan, Dan Gordon, Jon Michaels, Jeff Miller, David Nettles, Dr. Selby

Long Term: Marvin, The Alsum family, Lisa Bullard, Phil Caldwell, Dort Casey, Dan Chapman, John & Gisele Hall, Judy Gooding, Joyce Griffin, Lauren Harrel, Bob and Sammie Houston, Jeff James, Carol King, Nancy LaCoe, Marie Lacoucere, Trent Lehrkamp, Dana Martin, Karen Miglionico, Verlin Morton, David Neely, JC Norris, Judy Pendergrass, Michelle Pendergrass, Anne Prince, The Pyles Family, Karen Stauf, Carol Sutton, Nancy Sutton, Erika Taylor, Mike Thompson, Olan Vinson, 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, 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

"While they were stoning him,

Stephen prayed,

"Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

"Lord, do not hold this sin
against them."

Acts 7:59-60

Highlands United
Methodist Church

May 7, 2023