

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 Sonya, Canty & Claire
- Music "Joy to the World"
"O Little Town of Bethlehem"
- Joys
- A Time to Offer our Gifts to God
- A Time to Share our Concerns at the Cross
- Prayer / The Lord's Prayer
- Music "Away in the Manger"
- Scripture Luke 1:39-56
- A Word of Faith Hope, Peace, Love, & Joy
- Music "O Come, All Ye Faithful"
- 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.



Christmas Eve Services

- All held in the Church Sanctuary
- 5:00pm - Family-Oriented Candlelight Service
- 7:00pm - Christmas Eve Eucharist (approx. 30 min.)
- 9:00pm - Lessons and Carols (approx. 30 min.)
- 11:45pm - Midnight Eucharist (approx. 15-20 min.)

Covenant Renewal Service

- On **December 31st** join us as we ring in the New Year with this special combined worship service.
- Coffee & pastries will be available.
- 10:00am - Combined Worship (F&FC)



Church Happenings

- JOY Group** ~ Our JOY Group (Just Older Youth) meets for lunch and fellowship on **Thursdays at 11:30am** in the F&FC. Will not meet on December 28th or January 4th.
- UMM Breakfast** ~ **UMM Breakfast** - Our next Methodist Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, January 13th @ 8:30am**. Come join us for great fellowship and food. All are welcome. Bring a friend!

Coat Drive - HUMC is partnering with the Highlands Mountain Top Rotary Club and other area churches to provide coats for children and adults this winter. Please bring your coat donations to the box provided in the lobby of the Faith and Fellowship Center. Thank you!

Church Membership - If you would like to explore Professing, Affiliate or Associate Membership at HUMC, please let Pastor Randy know - randyhumc@icloud.com

Community Table - The Community Table will resume in Spring.

Wednesday Night Supper

There will be no supper December 27th or January 3rd. Supper will resume on January 10th.

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 17th 909 - 98 11:00 - 54

WHLC Radio - Did you know Pastor Randy offers a weekly radio message on WHLC, 104.5FM in Highlands? It airs Sunday mornings at approximately **11:00am**.

Blood Drive ~ **Monday, January 29th - 10:00-2:00pm** in the F&FC. To make an appointment call Kristy at 526-3376, ext. 107 or 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter HighlandsUMC.

Report on your faithful giving on December 10th -



- General Operating Fund** - \$10,437.10
- Internal Restricted** - Highlands Emergency Council - \$375.00 Food Pantry - \$325.00 Gordon Center - \$200.00 Pastor's Fund - \$50.00 Choir Fund - \$20.00 Messy Church - \$20.00 Highlands Cashiers Humane Society - \$20.00
- Our 2023 year-to-date financial report through November** - **Income** - \$520,045.70 **Expenses** - 632,627.08 (-\$112,581.38)

Current Studies and Small Groups

Seekers Sunday School Class

The class is currently studying Genesis. Meeting time - **Sundays at 10:00am** in the financial secretary's old office. Contact - Steve Bruner - stevebruner@gmail.com.

Bob Hood's Sunday School Class

The class is studying "The Chosen" season 3 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 **8:15am**. They are currently studying They are currently studying the book, *A Visit from John Wesley* by our own Don Germano.

Women's Tuesday Night Bible Study

The group is taking a break until Spring. Contact - Debbie Brock at debbiedharris@gmail.com or Sara Mayer at scmayer@nctv.com.

Calling all Crafters - (or those who want to learn or just meet new people). Starting in **January** we will be having craft days and nights once a month. If you have craft ideas to share please contact Jodie Zoellner or Kristy Martin. We will be making crafts through the year for our 2024 Fall Bazaar on September 28.



The 11:00am Traditional Worship Service

Fourth 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 Dennis & Fran Leftwich

†Hymn "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" UMH #203

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

†Doxology "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH #95

†Offering Prayer

Anthem Ding Dong Merrily on High -French Carol

Scripture Luke 1:39-56

Sermon Hope, Peace, Love, & Joy

†Hymn of Faith "O Come, All Ye Faithful" UMH #234

Dismissal with Blessing

Postlude

Happy Birthday to (December 27) Steven Bloedow, Donnie Edwards; (December 29) Beth Bowser; (December 30) Valerie Long

Happy Anniversary to (December 27) Jason & Samantha Moore; (December 30) Greg & Susan Clarkson

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: Carolyn Bruce, family of Jean Cleaveland Holt, Jeanne Smith, Robert Terrio

Long Term: Kathi Kelley Atkins, Amy Henderson Brown, Phil Caldwell, Dan Chapman, Evie Crowe, Barry Franklin, Sara Mac Germano, Jeff & Edith Gordon, Chris Green, Bob Heim, Sarah Hibbits, Bob and Sammie Houston, Jeff James, Carol King, Jenny Lomax, Stewart Manning, Dana Martin, Rev. Peter McGuire, Ruth McLarty, Rhyne Michael, Mary Millard, Jan Morarity, Verlin Morton, Chris Mullins, JC Norris, Myrtle Page, Judy Pendergrass, Michelle Pendergrass, Lila Pollard, Anne Prince, Vangie Rich, the Sitton family, Erika Taylor, Elaine Tilson, Susan Valentine, Cile & Bob Vickory, Olan Vinson, Tubby Zachary

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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christinehumc@icloud.com; Keith Crawford: finsec13@gmail.com, Kristy Martin:
kkltarheel@yahoo.com CCLI # 1455665

Church Staff: Rev. Dr. Randy Lucas, Senior Pastor; Rev. Christine Murphy, Assistant Pastor; Sonja DeFoor, Office Manager; Keith Crawford, Financial Secretary; Sherry Bruner & Susan Clearman, Pianists; Marlene & Gary Nix, Sextons; Kristy Martin, Food Services Director; Marcia Franklin, Chancel Choir Director



LOVE God. Offer CHRIST to All.

Highlands United
Methodist Church

December 24, 2023