

Highlands United Methodist Church News

Week of March 2, 2026



Bishop Carter's March Pastoral Letter

Ken Carter, the resident bishop of the Western North Carolina Conference, is providing a monthly pastoral letter to United Methodists across the WNC Conference. You can read his March letter at the following link:



<https://www.wnccumc.org/newsdetail/bishop-mar-2026-pastoral-letter-19637724>

Daylight Savings Time Spring Forward!

It's that time again! Daylight Savings Time begins this weekend, which means we are getting closer to Spring.

Set your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday Night. We look forward to seeing you Sunday Morning!

Measurable Goals for 2026

Volunteers Welcomed!

At our annual leadership retreat recently, seven measurable goals were set for the coming year. Please join us in prayer for these goals, and if you feel called to provide leadership or support with any of these goals, please contact the church office. Thanks!

1. Explore and Implement "Respite for All" if feasible
2. Fully funded budget
3. Increase in active membership / attendance
4. Increase in-reach activities to current members
5. Develop and implement building security plan
6. Update Directory
7. Implement new visitor / member process

Bluegrass and BBQ! Reservation Needed

Join us Friday, March 13th at 5:30pm for our Bluegrass and BBQ event in the Faith and Fellowship Center! There will be Food, Fellowship, Music, and Dancing, featuring our 9:09 Band. The event is free to all, but PLEASE RSUP to Kristy so that we may have enough food prepared.

See you there for this wonderful evening!



Easter 2026 at HUMC

Palm/Passion Sunday ~ March 29th

Service of Healing ~ April 1st - 6pm in the F&FC

Holy Thursday Service ~ April 2nd at 5:30pm in Sanctuary

Good Friday Service ~ April 3rd at 5:30pm in Sanctuary

Easter Sunday ~ Sunday, April 5th

Sunrise Service at the Easter Cross on the front lawn at 7am

Easter Worship Services ~ 9:09 & 11:00am

Potluck Easter Brunch ~ 10:00am in the F&FC

Easter Egg Hunt ~ 10:15am on the front lawn



Easter Candy

We are gladly accepting donations of individually wrapped candy for use in our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Please bring them to the church office or leave in the donation bins across from the church office.

Easter Brunch

Our annual Easter brunch will be a POTLUCK. Please bring your favorite dish to share and enjoy the fellowship of Easter Sunday!

Please Let Kristy know what you will be bringing so she can plan.

Easter Lilies

We will be having Easter lillies this year at both the 9:09 and 11:00am services. If you'd like to reserve an Easter lily in honor or memory of someone, please contact Craig in the Church office.

You Got a Minute?

Pastor Randy's daily reflections during the Season of Lent are posted on HUMC's Facebook page!

The Mousetrap

Highlands Cahsiers Players are presenting Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap" at the Performing Arts Center on March 19-22 and 26-29. Many of your HUMC family are involved in the cast and crew! We hope to see you there!



Coat Drive Final Weeks!

Our Winter Coat Drive is from Now - March 15. Please drop off new or gently used coats, scarves, and hats in the F&FC Donation Box.

JOY GROUP

The JOY Group is our Just Older Youth! Come and join us for some good food and fellowship. Thursday at 11:15am.



Biblical Storytelling Guild

Would you like to begin learning biblical stories by heart, either for your personal devotion or to share during a worship service? If so, please contact Pastor Randy. A certified biblical storyteller with the Network of Biblical Storytellers since 2012, Pastor Randy is looking to start a biblical storytelling guild at HUMC. If you're interested, or if you have any questions please contact Pastor Randy - randyhumc@icloud.com.

March / April Upper Rooms

The current edition of The Upper Room Devotional is available now at HUMC in the F&FC and outside the church office.



March Ministry Bags

**For the
Fidelia Eckerd
Living Center!**



NEEDS:

Lotion, body wash, chapstick, men's and women's socks, puzzle books, devotionals, individual chocolates and candies



*Thank you for
being our friends!*

Financial Giving

Thank you for your continued support of our shared ministry through your tithes and offerings! Whether you bring your offering to an in-person worship service, send your financial support through the mail, or utilize the online giving option on our website, please know your gifts are deeply appreciated and vital to the ongoing life and ministry of HUMC.

The following link will take you directly to our online giving page -

<https://www.skgiving.com/App/Giving/humc>

Here is a report on your faithful giving for February 22nd:

Internal Restricted Funds:

Summer Camp - \$645.00

After School - \$250.00

Library - \$100.00

Gordon Center - \$5.00

General Operating Fund

\$10,395.00

Our 2026 January year to date financial report

Income - \$21,204.23

Expenses - \$60,246.49 (-\$39,052.26)



Celebrate!

Join us in celebrating the following upcoming birthdays and anniversaries.

Happy Birthday to:

March

- 1 - Susan Clearman
- 3 - Niko Moschouris
 - Marni Reynolds
 - Bob Sutton
 - Leila Wood
- 4 - George Miffleton
- 5 - Coby Bloedow
- 6 - Jim Spencer
- 8 - Beth Ham
 - Kathy Smith
- 10 - Robin Austin
 - John Baumrucker
 - Tay Bronaugh
- 11 - John Gordon
 - Bruce Ham
- 12 - Stephen Ham
 - Samuel Wheeler
- 15 - Ginger Moseley
 - Marcia Reed
- 16 - Carolyn Miffleton

Happy Anniversary to:

March

- 14 - John and Cyndi Gordon
 - Stephen and Beth Ham

Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday
NIGHT
SUPPER

5:15pm

Join us this **Wednesday, March 4th** for our weekly Family Night Meal and Program. This week is "**Potluck**," so please bring your favorite dish to share. Then plan to stay for a program on the Gordon Center for Children provided by Pastor Christine, who also serves as the Director of the Gordon Center.

Upcoming Programs

March 4th - Gordon Center Report, Rev. Christine Murphy

March 11th - "Meet the Cast of 'The Mousetrap'"

March 18th - An Interview with biblical characters - Don Germano and friends

March 25th - "The Gospel in the Spring Feasts of Israel" Mark Landrum

This Week at HUMC

Tuesday, March 3rd - Men's Breakfast at Blue Bike - **8:15am**

- Lectionary Home Group at the home of Fred and Elizabeth Motz - **7pm**

Wednesday, March 4th - Family Night **POTLUCK** Meal (F&FC) - **5:15pm**

Thursday, March 5th - Joy Group (F&FC) - **11:15am**

Sunday, March 8th - **Third Sunday in Lent**

- Breakfast (F&FC) - **8:30am**

- 909 Bluegrass Service (F&FC) - **9:09am**

- Traditional Service (Sanctuary) - **11am**

Coming Soon...

Friday, March 13th - Bluegrass and BBQ (F&FC) - **5:30pm**

Monday, March 16th - Finance Committee Meeting - **5:30pm**

Friday, March 20th - Senior Lunch at the Rec Park - **12 noon**

Thursday, March 26th - Church Council Meeting - **5:30pm**

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 Craig at
highlandsumc@icloud.com
to be a part of this ministry .

Have a Prayer Need?

If you have a prayer need you would like
to share with the HUMC Prayer Circle
please contact the church office
at 526-3376.

THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU!

Current Studies and Small Groups

Being part of a small group is a very helpful way of staying connected to our church family. Please take a look at the current opportunities available. If there is a group you'd be interested in joining, please reach out to the contact person.

Home Lectionary Study Group

A weekly study around the upcoming week's lectionary readings. Meeting time - **Tuesdays** at **7:00pm**. Contact - Fred Motz. bigbearpen@gmail.com

Men's Tuesday Breakfast

This group meets for breakfast and fellowship at the Blue Bike on **Tuesday** mornings at **8:15am**.

Seekers Sunday School Class

This class is currently studying the Books of Galatians, Ephesians, and Hebrews. Meeting time - **Sundays at 10am** in the former financial secretary's office. Contact - Steve Bruner.. stevebruner@gmail.com.

Bob Hood's Sunday School Class

Bob's class will take place **Sundays at 10am** in the parlor., and they will be discussing the Book of Acts - Contact - Bobhood3@gmail.com.

Our Services are Live Streamed!

via our **Facebook Page**, <https://www.facebook.com/highlandsunitedmethodist>, to be uploaded later on our **website** <https://www.highlandsmethodist.org> and **Youtube channel**, https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1_zqPcu78pLdiGdLbY1-IA

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



Know of someone who needs to receive the HUMC News by mail?

If you know of any HUMC family member who does not have access to our weekly email distribution who would like to receive a copy by mail, please let the church office know - highlandsumc@icloud.com.

Our mailing address is

PO Box 1959,
Highlands NC 28741.
(828) 526-3376

The following link will take you directly to our
online giving page -

<https://www.sksgiving.com/App/Giving/humc>

*"God is spirit and those who worship him must worship
in spirit and truth."*

John 4:24