

# Highlands United Methodist Church News

Week of December 22nd



## Merry Christmas!

May the light and hope of Christmas fill your heart and life as we prepare the Bethlehem of our hearts for Jesus to be born anew in us this Christmas.

## Christmas Eve Services

Once again this year, we will offer four worship opportunities on Christmas Eve. We've designed the schedule with the variety of family gatherings in mind, in hopes that you may be able to attend one or more services. Please make note of our schedule and approximate length of services below. All services will be held in the sanctuary.

**5pm - Family-oriented Christmas Eve Service  
(approximately 1 hour)**

**7pm - Christmas Eve Eucharist Service  
(approximately 30 minutes)**

**9pm - Service of Lessons and Carols  
(approximately 30 minutes)**

**11:45pm - Midnight Eucharist  
(approximately 15-20 minutes)**





## Coat Drive

**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

**On Holiday Break!**

**We'll resume on January 8<sup>th</sup>.**



## Called Charge Conference This Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup> at 10AM

**There will be a Called Charge Conference in the Faith and Fellowship Center this Sunday, December 28th, at 10am. There will be one item of business, to set the 2026 Clergy Compensation for Pastor Christine as her employment status with HUMC changes from full-time (40 hours) to half-time (20 hours). Voting members of Charge Conference are voting members of our Church Council. However, everyone is invited to attend.**

## January / February Upper Rooms

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

# AFTER-SCHOOL'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT





**LEGO CLUB**  
**HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**WEDNESDAY EVENINGS**  
**JANUARY 7<sup>TH</sup> - FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>**  
**DINNER 5:15PM: FAITH & FELLOWSHIP CENTER**  
**LEGO FUN 6-7PM: OLD FELLOWSHIP HALL**  
**FOR ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

**Coming  
Soon**  
in 2026



**HOLY IMAGINATION**  
**2nd, 3rd, & 4th Sunday Mornings**  
**@9:30am**  
**Ages 5 - 10 years old**  
**Starting January 18<sup>th</sup>**

# 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 December 14<sup>th</sup>

### Internal Restricted Accounts:

Pastor's Fund - \$2,150.00

Food Pantry- \$2,000.00

Gordon Center - \$2,000.00

Afterschool - \$100.00

Igniting Ministries - \$25.00

### General Operating Fund:

\$42,343.94

## Our 2025 Year-to-date financial report through November -

Income - \$620,897

Expenses - \$699,222 (-78,325)



# Celebrate!

Join us in celebrating  
the following upcoming  
birthdays and anniversaries.

## Happy Birthday to:

### December

- 25 - Laura Roberts
  - Oksana Shchelgachov
- 27 - Steven Bloedow
  - Donald Edwards
- 29 - Elizabeth Bowser
  - Vince Petrone
- 30 - Valerie Long
- 31 - Samantha Moore
  - Larry Westholm

### January

- 1 - Allison Bolt
- 7 - Jimmy Nix

## Happy Anniversary to:

### December

- 27 - Jason and Samantha Moore
- 30 - Greg and Susan Clarkson
- 31 - Dennis and Nancy Ostema

### January

- 1 - Tim and Ginger Moseley

# Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday  
NIGHT  
SUPPER

5:15pm

On holiday break.

We'll resume our weekly  
mid-week gatherings on  
January 7th.

## Upcoming Programs

- Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> - "Life Lessons for 2026" with David Hodgson (Part One)
- Jan 14<sup>th</sup> - "Life Lessons for 2026" with David Hodgson (Part Two)
- Jan 21<sup>st</sup> - "Life Lessons for 2026" with David Hodgson (Part Three)

## This Week at HUMC

**Tuesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Men's Breakfast at Blue Bike - **8:15am**

**Wednesday December 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve - Office Hours 9-2pm**  
- Family Oriented Service (Sanctuary) - **5pm**  
- Eucharist Service (Sanctuary) - **7pm**  
- Lessons and Carols (Sanctuary) - **9pm**  
- Midnight Eucharist (Sanctuary) - **11:45pm**

**Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>** - **Merry Christmas!** - Office Closed

**Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>** - **9:09** Bluegrass Worship Service (F&C)  
- Called Charge Conference - **10am**  
- Traditional Worship Service (Sanctuary) - **11am**

Coming Soon....

**Monday December 29<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday December 31<sup>st</sup> - Office Hours 9-2pm**

## **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 Craig at [highlandsumc@icloud.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:stevebruner@gmail.com).

### **Bob Hood's Sunday School Class**

Bob's class will take place at 10am in the Old Scout room., and they will be discussing Season 5 of 'The Chosen'. Contact - [Bobhood3@gmail.com](mailto:Bobhood3@gmail.com). PLEASE NOTE: **No meeting on December 28th.**

## 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](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](mailto: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](mailto: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>

*"And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth."*