

Highlands United Methodist Church News

April 28 - May 4, 2026



Announcement Sunday

April 26th was 'Announcement Sunday' across the Western North Carolina Conference when we learned the appointments for our clergy from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.

Lora Speed-Beegle was present at both our 9:09am and 11:00am services to announce that Pastor Randy will be returning for his 11th year as Senior Pastor, and Pastor Christine will be returning for her 4th year as Assistant Pastor.

HUMC is blessed to have this talented twosome leading us!



“Door Keepers in the House of God”

Thanks to a great idea from Mike Murphy and inspired by Psalm 84:10, we're looking for volunteers who will sit in the sanctuary for a couple of hours on a Saturday in the coming months so we can open wide our sanctuary doors in order that passersby can enjoy a few moments of quiet in that sacred space. If you'd be interested in helping with this, please contact Pastor Randy - randyhumc@icloud.com.



“Respite for All”

A support ministry for individuals and families impacted by dementia.

We are currently in the process of exploring a new ministry at HUMC which will provide a respite for caregivers and fellowship for family members navigating the challenges of dementia. If you would like to be involved or would simply like to learn more, please contact Pastor Randy - randyhumc@icloud.com.

Residents' Addresses Requested

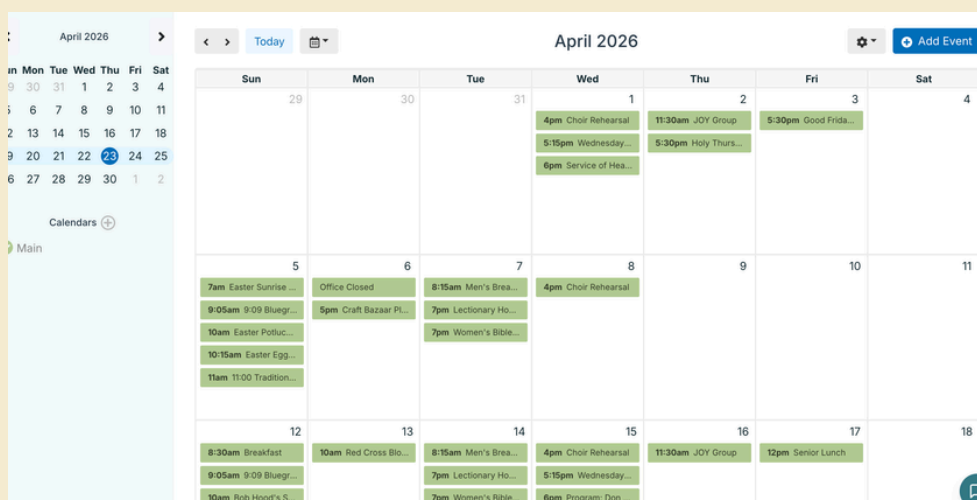
If you know of any of our HUMC family that currently resides in assisted living or care facilities, please let Craig know in the Church office. We'd like to make sure we are staying in touch with these folks!

Weekly Website Point of Interest

We are thrilled to announce our new website is LIVE!!!!

Please go to www.highlandsmethodist.org.

The new website has a full calendar, where we will be listing all of our events. Please let us know if you would like to add something. These calendars are also great to print out and put on your frig!



“Blithe Spirit” coming soon



The next play from the Highlands-Cashiers Players is Noel Coward’s “Blithe Spirit,” directed by Michael Lanzilotta, which will play at the Martin Liscomb Theater May 14-17 and May 21-24 (Thursday - Friday at 7PM, Saturday at 5PM and Sunday at 2PM).

Tickets may be purchased at:

<https://prod5.agileticketing.net/websales/pages/list.aspx?epguid=84825558-44fe-4e80-9e6b-820f930d9630&>

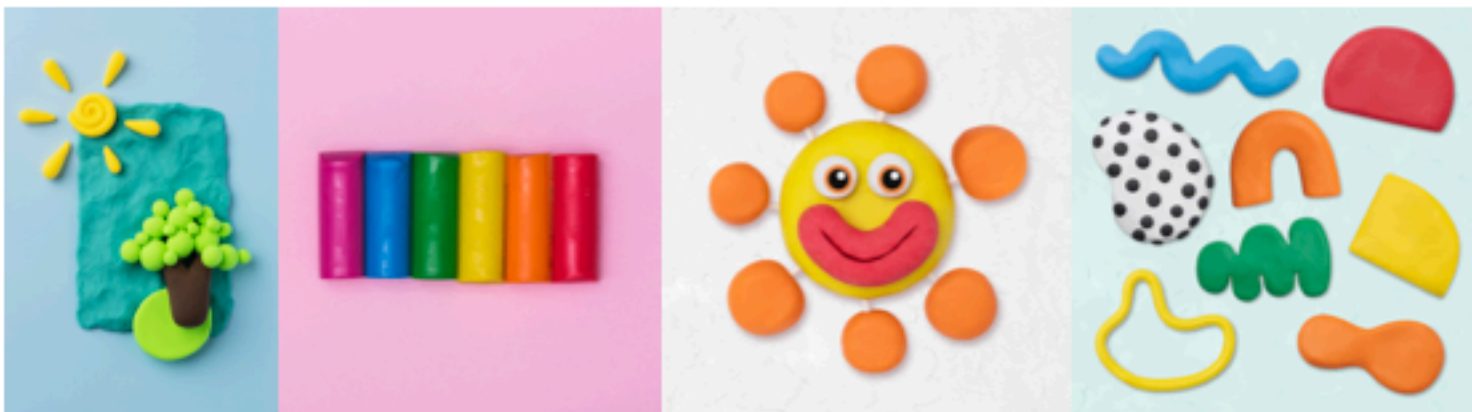
Ministry

May Ministry Bags



*A safe community for all children. Providing hope, healing and advocacy through coordinated services for children impacted by abuse and neglect. **NEEDS***

- Individual Snacks
- Juice Pouches
- Paper Products
- Hand Sanitizers
- Stickers
- Play-Doh



Camp Wesley

CAMP WESLEY NEEDS YOUR HELP!

WE ARE IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR
ACTIVITIES THROUGH OUT THE SUMMER!

Cardboard Egg Cartons

Toilet Paper Rolls

Empty 2 Liter Bottles

Donations may be dropped off at
Pastor Christine's office!

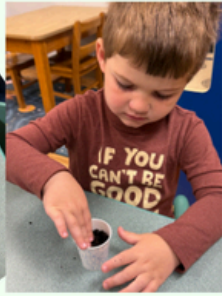


Gordon Center

Earth Day Fun

The GCC Transition Room celebrated Earth Day last week!
One fun project was planting seeds.
They are excited to watch them grow into beautiful flowers!

First the Soil



Then the Seeds



Then the Sunshine



After-school

SPRING FUN @ NATURE CENTER

It was a beautiful, spring day for the after-school kiddos to get up close and personal with some of the resident snakes and turtles at the Nature Center!



Coming Soon!

COMING
SOON!!

A colorful poster for a VBS event. The background is blue with white clouds and a white snow-covered mountain slope. On the left, a person is tubing down the slope, and below them, a person is skiing. In the center is a purple shield-shaped logo with a mountain scene and the text 'FIND YOUR STRENGTH IN GOD!', 'COKEBURY KIDS', 'SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE', and a snowflake. On the right, a cartoon dog wearing a red jacket and a green hat is holding a microphone. In the background, there are green pine trees.

VBS 2026
@ HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

June 8 - 11, 2026
9:30am - Noon
Ages: 4-10 years

Registration:
Contact Pastor Christine
christinehumc@icloud.com
828-526-3376 ext 103

"I CAN DO ALL THINGS
THROUGH HIM WHO
STRENGTHENS ME."
PHILIPPIAN 4:13

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.tinyurl.com/humc-giving>

Here is a report on your faithful giving for April 19th:

Internal Restricted Funds:
Pastor's Fund - \$2,000.00

General Operating Fund
\$14,346.00

Our 2026 March year to date financial report
Income - \$154,665
Expenses - \$187,085 (-\$33,085)



Celebrate!

Happy Birthday to:

April

28 - Dave Cashion
30 - Vicki Heller
- Ron Leslie

May

1 - Tom Brock
- Alan James
6 - Barbara James

Happy Anniversary to:

April

24 - Frank and Emily Buskirk
29 - Brandon and Leigh Ivy

May

2 - Donnie and Linda Edwards
3 - Wise and Betsy Batten
4 - Buzz and Mary Dotson

Altar Flowers

Celebrate your special event with Altar Flowers. Forms may be found outside the church office, or contact Craig at highlandsumc@icloud.com.

Church Programs

Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday

NIGHT
SUPPER

5:15pm

This Week

Please join us this Wednesday, April 29th with our 5:15pm meal. This week's menu includes Hot dogs, baked beans, chips, potato salad, slaw, and dessert. Then plan to stay for our program at 6pm - "Tonight's Special Guest" - Police Chief Andrea "Sissy" Holland.

Upcoming Programs

- April 29th - "Tonight's Special Guest" - Police Chief Andrea "Sissy" Holland
- May 6th - "Meet the Cast" of HCP's next production - "Blithe Spirit"
- May 13th - "The Friendship Factor" - David Hodgson (Part 1)
- May 20th - "The Friendship Factor" - David Hodgson (Part 2)
- May 27th - End of School Play by After School Kids
- June 3rd - "The Friendship Factor" - David Hodgson (Part 3)

JOY GROUP

Please join us for a good time of food and fellowship this Thursday, April 30th at 11:30am.





This Week at HUMC

Week of April 28 - May 4

Tuesday, April 28th - Men's Breakfast at Blue Bike - **8:15am**
- Trustees meeting (Old Fellowship Hall) - **5:30pm**
- Lectionary Home Group at the home of Fred and Elizabeth Motz - **7pm**
- Women's Bible Study (Church Parlor) - **7pm**

Wednesday, April 29th - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) - **4pm**
- Family Night Meal (F&FC) - **5:15pm**

Thursday, April 30th - Joy Group (F&FC) - **11:30am**

Sunday, May 3rd - **Fifth Sunday after Easter**
- Morning Breakfast (F&FC) - **8:30am**
- 909 Bluegrass Service (F&FC) - **9:09am**
- Traditional Service (Sanctuary) - **11am**

Coming Soon...

Tuesday, May 5th - Community Table (Community Building) - **6pm**

Sunday, May 10th - **Mother's Day**

Sunday, May 17th - High School Baccalaureate Service (HUMC) - **4:30pm**

Monday, May 18th - Finance Committee Meeting - **5:30pm**

Sunday, May 24th - **Pentecost**

Thursday, May 28th - Church Council Meeting - **5:30pm**

Got something to add to the calendar? Please email highlandsumc@icloud.com

Small Groups and Studies

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**.

Women's Tuesday Night Bible Study: FINAL CLASS

Jan Potts and Meridith Watson will be leading the study based upon: Elijah: Fire and Faith by Priscilla Shirer. **Tuesday at 7PM** in the Parlor.

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.

Questions?

Contact Craig at highlandsumc@icloud.com

Prayers

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 , or to share a
prayer need.**

Prayers at the Cross

**During our 9:09 Service, we invite
you to bring your prayer
requests up and place them on
the Cross. The ministerial staff
prays over these requests each
week.**

Prayer Cards

**Prayer Cards are available at both the 9:09
and 11:00am Services. Names of those on the
prayer cards will be specifically mentioned at
the 11:00am service. Additionally, you are
able to specify if you would like someone
mentioned on the short or long term prayer
lists in our weekly bulletin. You may also
notify the Pastor if you would like a call.**



Prayer WORKS!

Craig would like to express his gratitude to all for prayers during his recent health challenge and stay at the hospital. He is back in the Church Office and loves being here!

Stay Connected!

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

HUMC News

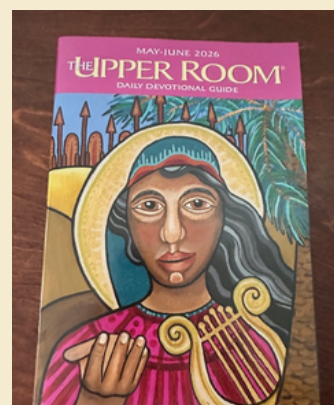
The HUMC News is emailed every Tuesday. It is also placed on our website. Let us know if you'd like to be on the email distribution.

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.

Daily Devotionals

To be a part of Pastor Randy's daily devotionals, entitled "Ruminations and Reflections," please contact Pastor Randy at randyhumc@icloud.com

**May /June
Upper Room
Now Available!**



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



Visitors

Whether you are visiting for one Sunday, or seasonally, you are most welcome! Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions!

Our mailing address is

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

Our physical address is

315 Main St.
Highlands NC 28741.
highlandsumc@icloud.com

The following link will take you directly to our
online giving page -
<https://www.tinyurl.com/humc-giving>

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me."

John 14: 1