

Highlands United Methodist Church News

May 19 - May 25, 2026



A Big Weekend Ahead

Happy Pentecost, Aldersgate Day and Memorial Day

This Sunday is Pentecost Sunday, the birthday of the Church when we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the followers of Jesus on the Day of Pentecost, and the birth of the Church. And since Pentecost falls on May 24th this year, Sunday is also Aldersgate Day, the date of John Wesley's heartwarming experience in 1738, an event which greatly impacted the Wesleyan revival in England and America. And Monday is Memorial Day, when a grateful nation remembers the fallen heroes who gave their lives in defense of freedom's cause.

American Legion Post 370 Memorial Day Observances

In honor of Memorial Day, you're invited to join our local American Legion Post in marking this special time of remembrance.

Friday, May 22nd -

Placing American Flags on Veteran's graves at Highlands Cemetery,
5:30pm

Saturday, May 23rd -

Poppy Day sale from 9am - 12noon at Bryson's Food Store and
Founders Park.

Memorial Day Monday, May 25th -

Ceremony at the Veterans Brick Walk at the Police Department,
10:00am

Church Office Closed Memorial Day

Please note that the church office will be closed on Monday, May 25th in observance of Memorial Day.

Popcorn and Pitstop



Our first "Popcorn and Pitstop" of the season will be held on the front lawn this Saturday, May 23rd from 2pm - 4pm. Drop by for some popcorn and a soft drink or just hang out and enjoy the fun.

Congratulations Claire!

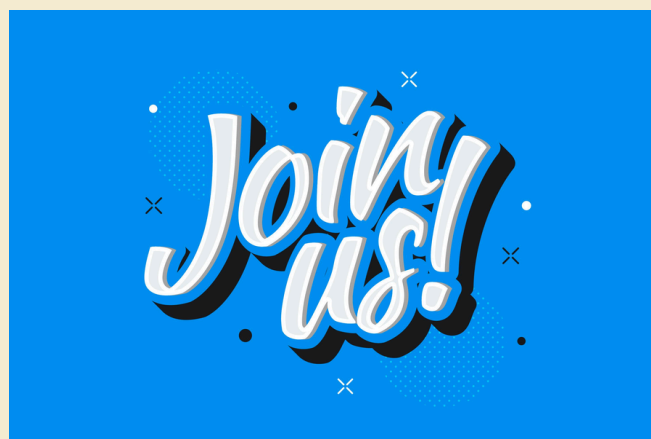
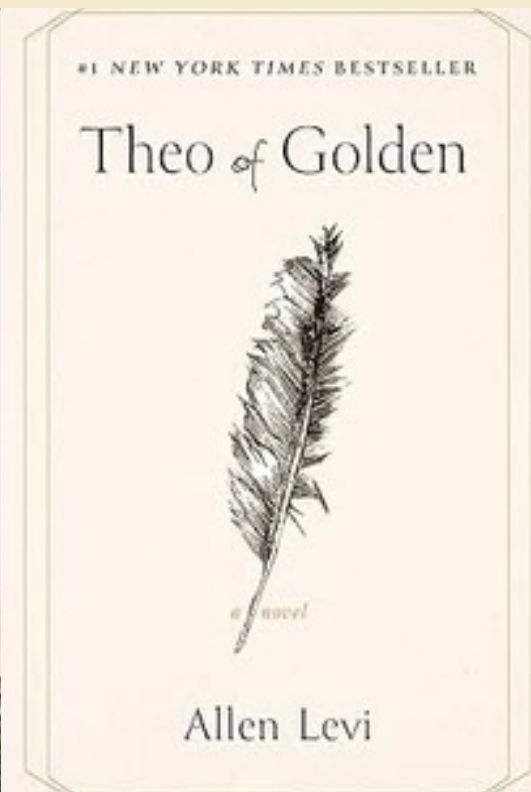
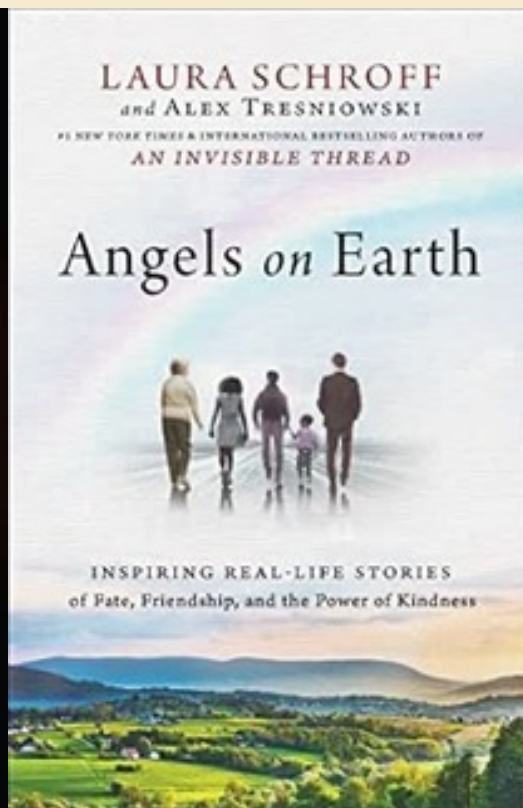
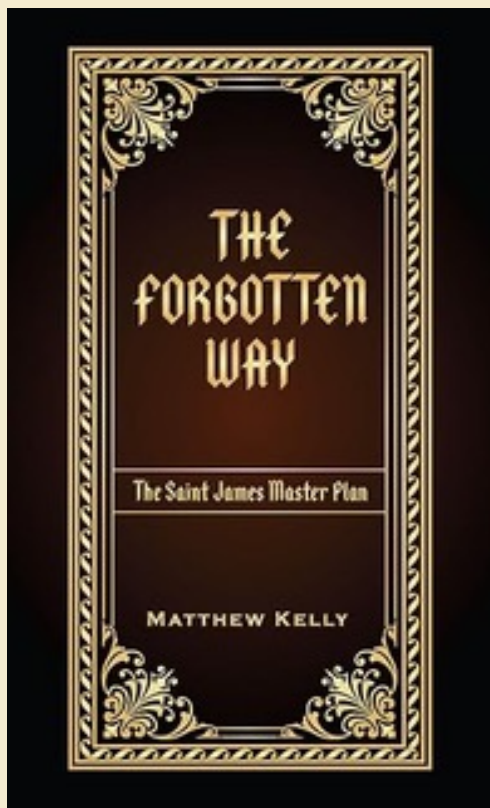
Claire Worley was chosen as this year's recipient of the Ran Shaffner Scholarship from the Highlands Historical Society. To the right is a photo of Claire and two HHS representatives - Price Kloess (President) and Karen Price (Board Member).



Pastor's Summer Sunday School Class

Once again this Summer Pastor Randy will offer a Sunday School Class during the summer months June - August. This year Pastor Randy has selected books from 3 different authors. In June, the class will read *The Forgotten Way - The Saint James Master Plan* by Matthew Kelly. In July, *Angels on Earth* by Laura Schroff and Alex Tresionowski and in August the class will read Allen Levi's popular book, *Theo of Golden*.

The class begins Sunday, June 7th and will meet in the sanctuary chapel. Books will be provided. If you're interested, please let Pastor Randy know by Sunday, May 31st - randyhumc@icloud.com.



“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.



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



Graduation

HIGHLANDS SCHOOL BACCALAUREATE 2026

SUNDAY, MAY 17TH



Gordon Center



Growing minds, hearts, & souls

BINGO NIGHT

Looking for an exciting way to spend your evening?

Join us for Bingo Night!

All proceeds to benefit the Gordon Center for Children!

\$15 for all 15 games

Come early and grab dinner!

**THURSDAY
JUNE 11, 2026**

6-8:30 PM

**HIGHLANDS
COMMUNITY
BUILDING**

Would you like to donate?

**Contact the GCC Office to be an event sponsor, table sponsor, dinner sponsor,
or just to donate!**

828-526-5084 or office@thegordoncenter.org

**BINGO IS SPONSORED BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF HIGHLANDS
AND IS LICENSED BY THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**



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!



Vacation Bible School

COMING SOON!!

A colorful poster for a Vacation Bible School (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 a skier is at the bottom. In the center is a purple shield-shaped logo with a mountain, sun, and snowflake. To the right, a cartoon seal character in a red jacket and green hat is speaking into a microphone. Text in green and white provides event details.

VBS 2026
@ HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FIND YOUR STRENGTH IN GOD!
— COKEBURY KIDS —
**SNOWBALL
MOUNTAIN**
CHALLENGE

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 May 10th:

Internal Restricted Funds:

Pastors Fund - \$100.00
Youth Discretionary - \$20.00
Children's Discretionary - \$5.00

General Operating Fund

\$13,356.14

(includes a \$100.00 Memorial for Hayden Fulp)

Our 2026 March year to date financial report

Income - \$154,665
Expenses - \$187,085 (-\$33,085)



Celebrate!

Happy Birthday to:

May

18 - John Crowe
20 - Colson Bloedow
- Alex Bronaugh
21 - Anne Tate
23 - Kyle Gabbard
24 - Amy Council
25 - Kenneth Crowe
- Nathan Petrone
27 - Deborah Scott
28 - Robby Roberts
29 - Paolo McRae
- Les Scott
31 - Gary Forrester

Happy Anniversary to:

May

18 - Julian and Anne Abbott
24 - King and Janet Young
26 - Art and Vicki Heller
29 - Jerry and Kay Moore
31 - Bob and Nancy Sutton

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, May 20th with our 5:15pm meal. This week's menu includes pulled pork BBQ, sides, and dessert. Then plan to stay for the second in the three-part series with David Hodgson, "The Friendship Factor."

Upcoming Programs

May 20th - "The Friendship Factor" - David Hodgson (Part 2)

May 27th - "The Friendship Factor" - David Hodgson (Part 3)

June 3rd - "Tonight's Special Guest" - Jan Moriarty

JOY GROUP

Please join us for a good time of food and fellowship this Thursday, May 21st at 11:30am.



Church Programs

Methodist Men's Breakfast Returns!

The Methodist Men's breakfast will resume on Saturday June 13th @ 8:30.

Our Guest Speaker will be Dick Newhouse. Dick served in Vietnam as a Hospital Corpsman USN with the 2nd Battalion, 26 Marine Regiment, 9th Amphibious Brigade in 1968. He participated in 10 Major Combat Operations and distinguished himself under enemy fire by performing medical treatment and recovery of wounded Marines. He will describe his encounters with the Indigenous People and other challenges he faced.

Please join us. Saturday June 13th @ 8:30.

Bring a friend! All are welcome!

Summer Eucharist

Pastor Randy will be offering a brief service (15-20 minutes) of Holy Communion at 8:30am in the church sanctuary June - August. Everyone is invited.



Red Cross Blood Drive

Our next Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for Monday, June 22nd from 10am - 2pm in the Faith and Fellowship Center. Please contact Kristy to make reservations.



This Week at HUMC



Week of May 19 - 25

Tuesday, May 19th - Men's Breakfast at Blue Bike - **8:15am**
- Lectionary Home Group at the home of Fred and Elizabeth Motz - **7pm**

Wednesday, May 20th - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) - **4pm**
- Family Night Meal (F&FC) - **5:15pm**

Thursday, May 21st - Joy Group (F&FC) - **11:30am**
- Gordon Center Preschool Program (Pre-School Room) - **6pm**

Friday, May 22nd - Placing flags on graves (Memorial Park) - **5:30pm**

Saturday, May 23rd - Popcorn and Pitstop (front lawn) - **2pm - 4pm**

Sunday, May 24th - **Pentecost Sunday**
- Morning Breakfast (F&FC) - **8:30am**
- 909 Bluegrass Service (F&FC) - **9:09am**
- Traditional Service (Sanctuary) - **11am**

Monday, May 25th - **Memorial Day**
- **Church Office Closed**
- American Legion Post 370 Memorial Day Ceremony
(Police Department) - **10am**

Coming Soon...

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

Sunday, May 31st - **Trinity Sunday**

Tuesday, June 2nd - Community Table (Community building) - **6pm**

Saturday, June 6th - Bagpipers on Front Lawn - **4:30 - 5:00pm**

Sunday, June 7th - Summer Eucharist Begins (Sanctuary) - **8:30am**
- Pastor Randy's Summer Sunday School begins - **10am**

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

Community Events

BLITHE SPIRIT

NOËL COWARD'S
GREATEST SUCCESS



May 14 - 17 and
21 - 24, 2026

Thursdays - Fridays:
7 pm
Saturdays:
5 pm
Sunday matinees:
2 pm



Three easy ways to get your tickets:

- PAC Box Office - 828.526.9047
- HighlandsCashiersPlayers.com
- Scan QR code

Highlands Performing
Arts Center
507 Chestnut Street
Highlands, NC



Highlands-Cashiers Players is presenting its 2nd show of the 30th season.
Don't miss this great show!

Volunteers are needed to help in the front of house. If you are interested,
please let Craig know in the Church Office.

Community Events

Highlands Historical Society presents our
**2026 Season Opening
Celebration**

Saturday, May 23 from 11:00 - 2:00



Live music from Laney & Bishop with Charles Wood

Join us for:

*Old-fashioned carnival games hosted by our local
nonprofit partners!*

*A live, dramatic reading of the Declaration of
Independence*

*Free Hot Dogs, Drinks, Popcorn, Ice-Cream, and Cotton
Candy while they last.*

Highlands Historical Village
520 North 4th Street

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**.

Pastor Randy's Summer Sunday School Class

This class is planned to begin **Sunday, June 7th at 10am**. For June, the class will read *The Forgotten Way - The Saint James Master Plan* by Matthew Kelly.

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!

Thanks and gratitude is expressed from Sarah Barry, sister of Kathy Smith, who has been on our long term prayer list. She has healed from her cancer surgery and recovered from the post op pneumonia. There is no further treatment scheduled at this time! Praise Be to God!

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-lA

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>

"When the Day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place, and suddenly..."

Acts 2:1-2a