

Highlands United Methodist Church News

June 23 - June 29, 2026



Celebrating 70 Years of Women in Ministry

In 1956, the General Conference of The Methodist Church granted full clergy rights to women, a historic recognition of the Holy Spirit's call upon women to preach, teach, serve and lead Christ's Church.



Please join us in celebrating the ministry of Rev. Christine Murphy among us. In addition to her duties as the Assistant Pastor of HUMC, Pastor Christine also serves as the Director of the Gordon Center for Children. With a primary focus on Children's Ministry, HUMC and the Gordon Center are blessed by her leadership. Thank you Pastor Christine!

Summer Eucharist Resumes this Sunday, June 28th



You're invited to join Pastor Christine for a brief service of Holy Communion this Sunday, June 28th at 8:30am in the church sanctuary.

Annual Conference

Over 600 clergy and 700 lay members gathered at Lake Junaluska for 4 days of holy conferencing last week. Together we worshipped, prayed and sang. Reports were given and votes were cast. We honored our retirees, celebrated the lives of deceased clergy and spouses and witnessed the licensing, commissioning and ordination of candidates for ministry. In addition to Pastors Randy and Christine, HUMC was represented by Patti Moschouris and Elizabeth Gordon, while Mike Murphy served as an At-Large Delegate from the Smoky Mountain District.



At the close of Sunday's worship by the Lake, clergy appointments for the 2026 / 2027 Conference year were officially fixed. You can find the full list of clergy appointments and read more about this year's Annual Conference at the link below

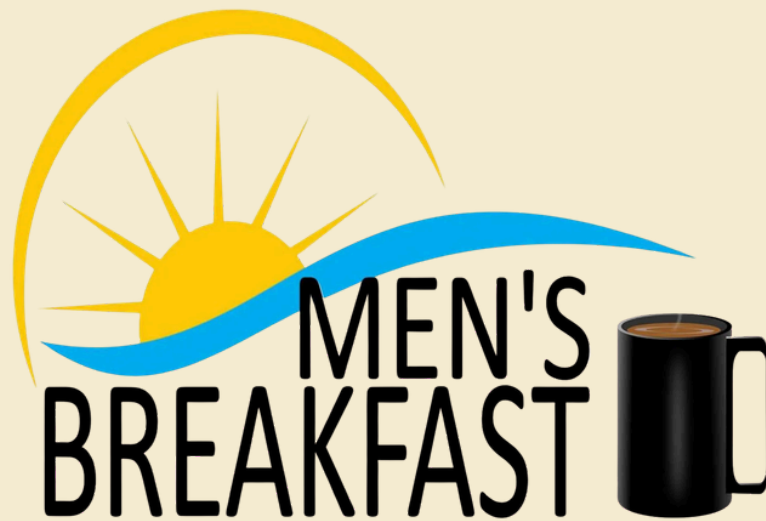
<https://www.wnccumc.org>

Outdoor Worship in Town Square Sunday, July 5th

We're grateful once again to John Lupoli of Lupoli Construction for allowing us to take our 909 worship on the road to Town Square. Please join us for this unique worship experience on Sunday, July 5th in Town Square (weather permitting of course). And this year the good folks at Kilwins Ice Cream will provide coffee for the service. A big thank you to Kilwins We can always use some help setting up for our outdoor worship. If you can help, please come and join the fun. We plan to get started around 7:30am.



Methodist Men's Breakfast



Methodist Men's breakfast will be Saturday July 11th @ 8:30.

This month's guest speaker will be Colonel John Campell Ret. US Army. John is a highly decorated veteran. The Colonel will tell us about his 9-month unaccompanied tour in Iran as an advisor to Iranian military units. Considering the current events in Iran this should be a very interesting and informative presentation. Come join us as John talks about his interaction with the Iranian military and civilians of Iran.

Please join us. Saturday July 11th @ 8:30.

Bring a friend!

All are welcome!

Community Table

COMMUNITY

TABLE

July 14th

You're invited to join your neighbors at the Community Building at **6pm** for our community meal. Enjoy the food and fellowship!

Ministry

June Ministry Bags

Reach of Macon County

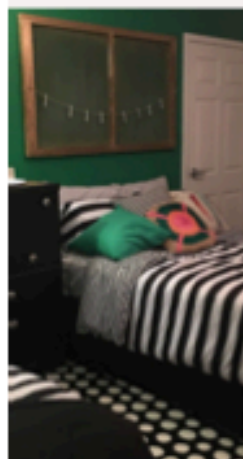


The Mission of REACH of Macon County is to eradicate domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking crimes in Macon County, through prevention, intervention, and educational services.

NEEDS

- Full-sized toiletries
- Feminine hygiene products
- Diapers
- Wipes
- Laundry pods
- Dish pods

REACH provides shelter to individuals, non-offending family members and children who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and/or human trafficking. If you or someone that you know is needing emergency shelter, please call 828-369-5544 to speak with an advocate.



Food Pantry



ICE CREAM DONATED BY
JUANITIOS IN FRANKLIN AND
ISMAEL PALACIOS &
GABY MONTERO



Celebrate National Ice Cream Day

Sunday, July 19
Time 12-2



HIGHLANDS FOOD PANTRY
350 Spring Street-Lower
level of the Methodist
Church




Highlands
Food Pantry

See You There!



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 June 14th:

Internal Restricted:

Summer Camp - \$500.00
Youth Discretionary - \$50.00
Children's Discretionary - \$20.00

Operating Fund:

\$7,814.76

Our 2026 May year to date financial report

Income - \$244,370
Expenses - \$300,658 (-\$56,288)



Celebrate!

Happy Birthday to:

June

24 - Coral Williams
25 - Kandyss Cordle
27 - Lynn Kleifgen
28 - Kathy Lucas
 - Ashlynn Wilson
30 - Ryan Bryson
 - Helen McGaughy

Happy Anniversary to:

June

28 - John and Anne Tate

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 Family Meal and Program

Wednesday

NIGHT
SUPPER

5:15 PM

Join us for a special time of food, fellowship and fun this Wednesday, June 24th. This week's supper at 5:15pm will be provided by Ken Knight and crew. Ken and his team will be grilling out for summer! Plus all the yummy sides and dessert. Then please plan to stay for our program at 6pm, "Tonight's Special Guest - WHLC's Steve Day."

By the way, here's a ministry opportunity. Dishwashers are needed for Wednesday Night Supper from 5:15pm - 6:30pm. Please see Kristy for the schedule. Thank you!

Upcoming Programs

June 24 - "Tonight's Special Guest" - WHLC's Steve Day

July 1 - "Trivia Night with Mike" - 250th Fourth of July Edition

July 8 - No Wednesday Night Meal or Program

JOY GROUP

Join us for our weekly gathering of Just Older Youth, this Thursday June 24th at 11:30am.



“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.





This Week at HUMC



Week of June 23 - June 29

Tuesday, June 23rd - Men's Breakfast at Blue Bike - **8:15am**

- Trustee Meeting - **5:30pm**

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

Wednesday, June 24th - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) - **4pm**

- Wed Night Family Meal and Program (F&FC) - **5:15pm**

Thursday, June 25th - JOY (Just Older Youth) Group Lunch (F&FC) - **11:30am**

- Stephen Ministry Training - **4pm - 6pm**

Sunday, June 28th - **Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

- Summer Eucharist (Sanctuary) - **8:30am**

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

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

- Sunday School (Various Locations) - **10am**

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

Coming Soon...

Sunday, July 5th - **9:09 Outdoor Worship in Town Square**

Saturday, July 11th - Methodist Men's Breakfast - **8:30am**

Tuesday, July 14th - Community Table - **6pm**

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**.

Pastor Randy's Summer Sunday School Class

During June the class is reading *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 Books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. 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!

**Please share stories of how prayer works with Craig in the church
office.**

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

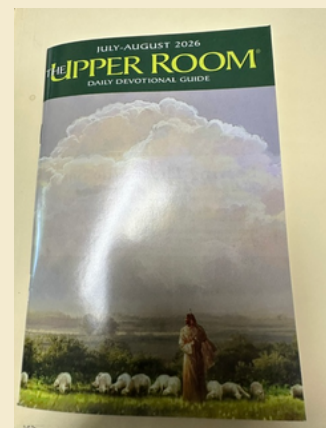
The HUMC News is emailed every Tuesday. It is also placed on our website. Let us know if you'd like to be on the email distribution.

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

**July /August
Upper Room
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 (Jesus) saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.'"

Matthew 9:36-38