

Highlands United Methodist Church News

August 25 - August 31, 2026



Welcome New Members

We were delighted this past Sunday to welcome John and Helen Witty as Associate Members of HUMC during the 909 Worship Service. Welcome Helen and John!



Coffee Chats with Pastor Randy Thursdays at 10am

Pastor Randy would enjoy having some one-on-one conversations over coffee on Thursdays at 10am. We can chat about faith, the Bible, or simply life in general, just conversations over coffee. If you'd be interested in scheduling a coffee chat with Pastor Randy, please contact Craig in the church office.

Christmas Card Ministry

Each year we send Christmas cards to those serving in the military. Cards and instructions are located on the Faith and Fellowship donation station.

“Considering Joy”

What is joy to you? Throughout the month of August we've engaged in a month-long conversation around our capacity for joy, even in the midst of life's challenging circumstances. In addition to a sermon series by Pastors Randy and Christine, we're encouraging the conversation in various ways. We're collecting quotable-quotes to use in the Sunday morning slide loop, as well as our website, Sunday bulletins and weekly HUMC News. Contact the church office if you'd like to help. "What is joy to you?"

“What Does Joy Mean to Me”

“Joy is having a purpose in life and enjoying myself.”

- Ron Leslie

Mah-Jong Monday - August 31

On August 31 from 5:15 to 7:15pm we will be hosting Man-Jong Monday in the Faith and Fellowship Center. All levels of play, including beginners, are welcome! Joining us for this night of fun and fellowship. Contact Craig or Jeanie for more information.

In Search of Part-time Choir Director

With Emily's impending departure, we're seeking a chancel choir director for our weekly Sunday traditional worship services at 11am. Choir rehearsals are Wednesdays at 4pm. If you know of anyone who may be interested in applying for this position, please have them contact Pastor Randy - randyhumc@icloud.com.

Methodist Men's Breakfast

The Methodist Men's breakfast will be on Saturday September 12th @ 8:30.

"September's speaker will be Steve Daniels. In high school, Steve was making a living doing renderings for architects, and then he took a year of drafting, receiving his diploma in mechanical drafting. Five days later, he joined the Air Force, and his background talents were quickly discovered as he was assigned to Langley Air Force Base as a staff artist for the Commanding General of Tactical Air Command. There, he created artist concepts for top-secret aircraft and advanced weapon systems. Please join us as he shares how his training, his time in the Air Force, and his faith all intersected throughout his career. He will even bring some of his designs."

Please join us. Saturday September 12th @ 8:30

Bring a friend! All are welcome!

Women's Bible Study

New ladies Bible Study Class has begun, and is Tuesday Nights from 6:30pm - 8:30pm. We will meet in the parlor.

This is an 8 week class called: **"The Names of God," by Kristi McLelland.** The class is led by Jan Potts and Meridith Watson.



Ministry

August Ministry Bag

Disaster Relief

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ"

Galatians 6:2

Disasters impact between 100-200 million people each year across the world. And recently, we have seen more and more impact locally, even as we still continue to recover from Hurricane Helene. Please help us fulfill the word of God by helping our neighbors and preparing for times of emergency.



NEEDS:

- Cleaning Products
- Lysol Wipes
- Diapers
- Garbage Bags
- Buckets
- Shovels
- Flashlights
- Batteries

Ministry

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CRAFT BAZAAR

Hot Dog Lunch
Homemade Jellies, Jams, & Breads
Homemade Crafts
Silent Auction & Gift Baskets
AND MUCH MORE!!



PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT
HUMC MINISTRIES
& CHRISTMAS PARADE CAMELS



OCTOBER
3
2026



10 AM-
2 PM



HUMC
315 MAIN ST
HIGHLANDS

www.highlandsmethodist.org

 **828-526-3376**

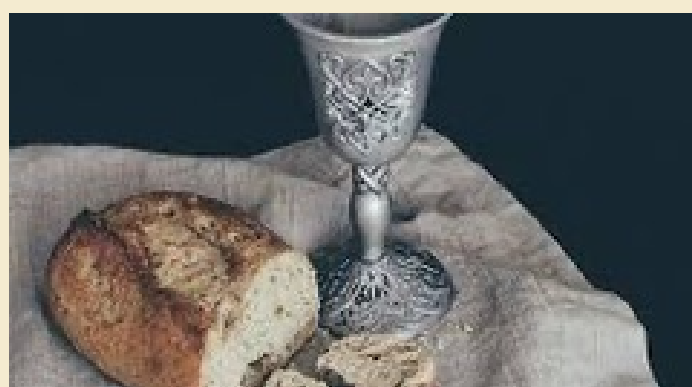
“Door Keepers in the House of God”

If you'd like to come sit in the sanctuary during our weekday office hours for an hour or two, please let Craig know. We'll open wide the doors and put out a sign of welcome. You can bring a book or just sit quietly and rest. What a gift to provide an opportunity for folks to spend sometime in this sacred space.



Final Summer Eucharist this Sunday

Our final Summer Eucharist Service for this year is this coming Sunday, August 30th. You're invited to join us for brief service of Holy Communion in the church sanctuary at 8:30am.



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 August 16th:

Internal Restricted:

Youth Discretionary - \$50.00

Operating Fund:

\$19,913.00

Our 2026 July year to date financial report

Income - \$382,150

Expenses - \$410,037 (-\$27,887)



Celebrate!

Happy Birthday to:

August

28 - Emily Gabbard
- Cecil Hines
- Luke Osteen
- Barbara Recktenwald
29 - Buz Dotson
30 - Ruthie Cole
- Christine Murphy
31 - Martha Schweitz

September

1 - April Getz
3 - Darren Nicholson
5 - Randy Newton

Happy Anniversary to:

August

28 - Fred and Elizabeth Motz

**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

Wednesday at 5:15 PM

Join us for good food and fellowship this Wednesday, August 26th at 5:15pm. This week's menu is roasted pork loin, mixed vegetables, mashed potatoes, and dessert. Then plan to stay for this week's program at 6pm. Lisa Youngblood will offer a program on the Boys and Girls Club of the Plateau.

Upcoming Programs

August 26th - Lisa Youngblood of "Boys and Girls Club of the Plateau."
September 2nd - "Trivia Night with Mike"

JOY GROUP

Just Older Youth (JOY) Group will be held on Thursday, August 27th at 11:30am.





This Week at HUMC



Week of August 25 - August 31.

Tuesday, August 25th - Men's Breakfast at Blue Bike - **8:15am**
- Trustee Meeting (Old Fellowship Hall) - **5:30pm**
- Women's Bible Study (Parlor) - **6:30pm - 8:30pm**
- Lectionary Home Group at the home of Fred and Elizabeth Motz - **7pm**

Wednesday, August 26th - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) - **4pm**
- Wed Night Family Meal and Program (F&FC) - **5:15pm**

Thursday, August 27th - JOY (Just Older Youth) Group (F&FC) - **11:30am**

Sunday, August 30th - **Fourteenth 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...

Tuesday, September 1 - Community Table (Community Building) - **6pm**

Thursday, September 3 - Stephen Ministry Class (F&FC) - **4pm - 6pm**

Saturday, September 5 - Pop Up Bagpipers (Front Lawn) - **4:30pm - 5pm**

Monday, September 7 - Labor Day, Church Office Closed

Saturday, September 12 - Methodist Men's Breakfast (F&FC) - **8:30am**

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 August, Pastor Randy's class is reading Allen Levi's popular *Theo of Golden*. Contact Pastor Randy for more information - randyhumc@icloud.com.

Seekers Sunday School Class

This class is currently studying the Book of Ecclesiastes for 12 weeks starting on August 2. 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.

PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY!

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 has worked in the lives of you
or your friends. Feel free to email Craig at
highlandsumc@icloud.com

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

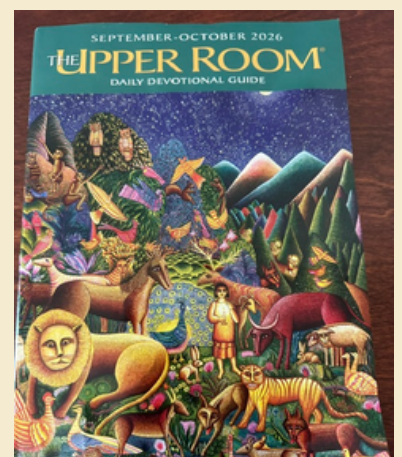
The HUMC News is emailed every Tuesday. It is also placed on our website. Let us know if you'd like to be on the email distribution.

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

**September/October
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>

"Joy can be easier and easier to experience. We just have to practice."

- Kate Bowler