

Highlands United Methodist Church News

September 29- October 5 , 2026



Our Annual Craft Bazaar This Saturday, October 3rd!

Our annual craft bazaar will be held on **Saturday, October 3rd**. The Bazaar will run from **10am-2pm**, and there will be a hot dog lunch from **11am-1pm**. **In the Old Fellowship Hall.**

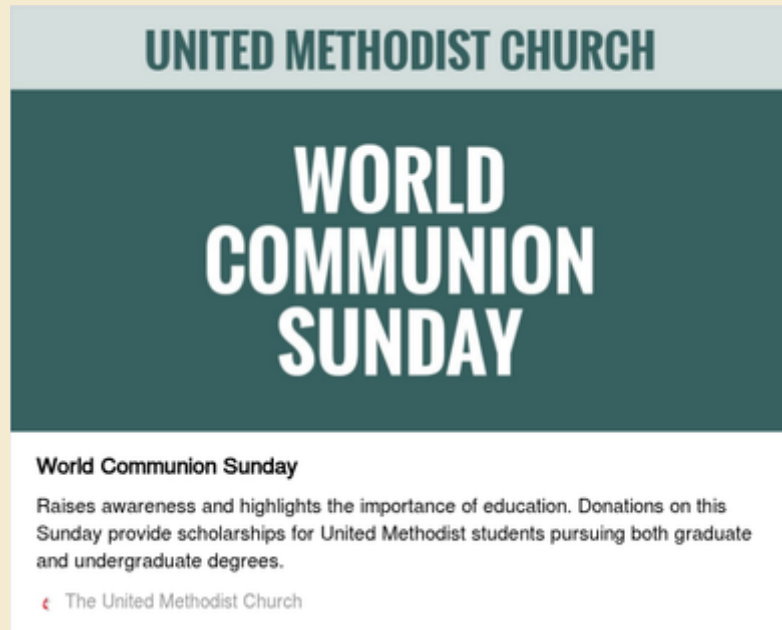
Come shop for homemade jellies, jams, and breads, homemade crafts, a silent auction with gift baskets, and much more! **Cone join us for this annual church tradition!**



World Communion Sunday

October 4th

This Sunday we will celebrate Holy Communion with Christians all across the globe. This is also one of the Six Special Offering Sundays in The United Methodist Church. Donations during this special offering support scholarships and leadership training for underrepresented communities. You can learn more and donate to the World Communion Sunday offering at the following link:



<https://www.umc.org/en/how-we-serve/umcgiving/special-sundays/churchwide-special-sundays/world-communion-sunday-ministry-article>



Homecoming - October 11th

Combined Worship at 10am



Rev. Dr. Tom Steagald

Our annual Homecoming is Sunday, October 11th. We'll have a combined worship service at 10am followed by a covered dish potluck brunch in the Faith and Fellowship Center.

Our 2026 Homecoming Preacher will be Rev. Dr. Tom Steagald, who served as HUMC Pastor from 1988 to 1993. Please make plans to join us for this special time of worship, celebration and memory together.

More information on Dr. Steagald:

Tom Steagald is father to Bethany and Jacob, who spent five years of their childhood in Highlands (1988-1993). He is grandfather to Eleanor and Rosie, Bethany's daughters, and recently moved into a small hay barn in their backyard between the goats, chickens and ducks. He retired to Spartanburg in 2022 after more than four decades of service to the church, five of them here. One highlight of his Highlands ministry was helping to revive, complete and pay for a moribund building and renovation program.

Tom has written eight books, published dozens of articles and commentaries, and posts weekly essays to **"I Saved You a Place at the Table" on Substack (tomsteagald.substack.com)**. He also composes silly-to-serious poetry, watercolors and golfs.

He is a regular and popular instructor at Wofford's College of Lifelong Learning, and discourages couples from getting married on fall Saturdays--flatly refusing to answer the phone, texts or the door when Tennessee is playing on TV. He has long counted his ministry in Highlands as one of the greatest blessings of his life and work, and is honored to be here for Homecoming.

More News for You:

Homecoming Potluck Brunch



Please bring your covered dishes for the Potluck Brunch to Kristy by **9:30am** on October 11am, so that we can get set up for Brunch at **11am**. No need to RSVP.

In Search of Part-time Choir Director

We continue 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.

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.

Ministry

Ministry Bag for September!



Benefiting

**Highlands-Cashiers
Humane Society**

Leashes

New
Towels

Bring us
treats, pretty
please?

Toys

Bedding



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

Community Event

Highlands Historical Society's

Walk in the Park

Saturday, October 3rd, 1:00 - 3:00

Sunday, October 4th, 2:00

JOIN US FOR A
WALK THROUGH
TIME AND HEAR
STORIES FROM
HIGHLANDS'
REMARKABLE
HISTORY



FEATURING THE
GHOSTS OF:

MARY CHAPIN SMITH

UNCLE BILLY POTTS

ANNIE WHIP

BENNIE ROGERS

FRED ALLEN

JUDGE FELIX ALLEY

Saturday's Performances will be held in Memorial Park with Reserved Shuttle Times from the Highlands Community Building Parking Lot
Sunday's Performance will be held at the Highlands Community Building

Tickets: Adults \$25, Children under 12 Free

Purchase Tickets and Reserve Times at:

highlandshistory.com

Community Events



Rotary
Club of Highlands
Chartered 1945



\$1.00 per card
15 games in all
Final game is SUPER Bingo
Fun for the Whole Family

This event is also sponsored by the Rotary Club of Highlands
and is licensed by the State of North Carolina.



Thursday, October 8, 2026
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Highlands Community Building
869 N 4th St
(next to the ballfield)



HOT DOG PLATES
AVAILABLE



Community Table

Come and join your neighbors
for our monthly community
fellowship meal at 6:00pm

Tuesday, October 6

Highlands Community Building.

Community Events

A Pink Partini

WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE DON'T KNOW



Wednesday, October 14
5 – 7 PM

Town Hall Restaurant
474 Main Street in Highlands

*In recognition of
Breast Cancer Awareness Month,*
this informal gathering invites
survivors, patients, caregivers,
and loved ones to share experiences,
ask questions, and connect with others
navigating the breast cancer journey.

Guests can enjoy light bites,
a cash bar featuring pink margaritas,
pink martinis, rosé, and mocktails.

*Bring your questions,
experiences, and someone you love.*
*Because we don't know what we don't know,
but together, we can learn.*



SPONSORED BY



DRACULA DOUBLE FEATURE



October 15 - 18 & 22 - 25

Almost the Bride of Dracula & Midlife Dracula
both by Dennis Snee ~ directed by Randy Lucas



Three easy ways to get your tickets:

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

Special Event -
One Night Only!

Orson Welles'

WAR OF THE WORLDS

The 1938 Radio Script

Directed by Randy Lucas

October 30, 2026
7 pm



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, September 30th at 5:15pm. This week's menu is Taco salads and all the fixings. Then please plan to stay for our program as we "Meet the Ghosts of Highlands Historical Society's 'Walk in the Park.'"

Upcoming Programs

September 30th - "Meet the Ghosts of Highlands Historical Society's 'Walk in the Park'"

October 7th - No program

October 14th - "Meet the Cast of HCP's "Almost the Bride of Dracula" and "Mid-Life Dracula."

JOY GROUP

Just Older Youth (JOY) Group will be held on Thursday, October 1st at 11:30am.



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 September 20th:

Internal Restricted:

Children's Discretionary - \$600.00

Library - \$100.00

Youth Discretionary - \$50.00

Pastor's Fund - \$50.00

Operating Fund:

\$10,944.00

Our 2026 August year to date financial report

Income - \$474,658.95

Expenses - \$467,608.88 (+7,050.07)



Celebrate!

Happy Birthday to:

September

28 - Sally Wheeler

29 - Nancy Anderson
- Caroline Eister

October

1 - Becky Ray

Happy Anniversary to:

October

2 - Neal and Marsha Little

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



This Week at HUMC



Week of September 29th - October 5th

Tuesday, September 29th - Men's Breakfast at Blue Bike - **8:15am**
- Women's Bible Study (Parlor) - **6:30pm - 8:30pm**
- Lectionary Home Group at the home of Fred and Elizabeth Motz - **7pm**

Wednesday, September 30th - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) - **4pm**
- Wed Night Meal and Program (F&FC) - **5:15pm**

Thursday, October 1st - JOY (Just Older Youth) Group (F&FC) - **11:30am**

Saturday, October 3rd - Annual Craft Bazaar (Old Fellowship Hall) - **10am-2pm**
- Hot Dog Lunch (Old Fellowship Hall) - **11am - 1pm**
- Historical Society Walk In the Park (Highlands Cemetery) - **1-3pm**

Sunday, October 4th - Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost (World Communion)
- Morning Breakfast (F&FC) - **8:30am**
- 909 Bluegrass Service (F&FC) - **9:09am**
- Sunday School (Various Locations) - **10am**
- Traditional Service (Sanctuary) - **11am**
- Historical Society Walk In the Park (Community Bldg) - **2pm**

Coming Soon...

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

Sunday, October 11th - Homecoming, Combined Worship (F&FC) - **10am**
Homecoming Brunch - **11am**

Sunday, November 1st - All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 22nd - Charge Conference (F&FC) - **10am**

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**.

Womens' Bible Study

Will be held Tuesday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:30pm in the Church Parlor. The group will be reading Kristi McClelland's: *The Names of God*.

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

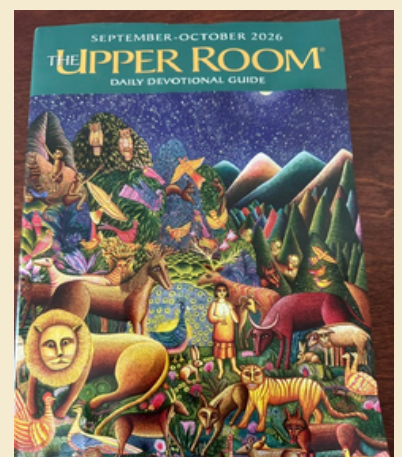
The HUMC News is emailed every Tuesday. It is also placed on our website. Let us know if you'd like to be on the email distribution.

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>

"Then God spoke all these words. I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me."

- Exodus 20: 1-3