

Highlands United Methodist Church News

October 6-12 , 2026



*******Please Don't Forget *******

Combined Worship this Sunday, October 11th

10am in the Faith and Fellowship Center

Potluck Brunch to follow

(please bring covered dish items to the F&FC at 9:30am)

Homecoming - This Sunday 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.

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.

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.

Church Bazaar Recap

Thank you to everyone involved in the Craft Bazaar this past weekend! We've raised almost \$7k for the Christmas camels and HUMC ministries.

We still have some items left that will be on display **through October 23rd**. Feel free to come shop Monday through Thursday 10-3! See Craig in the Church Office for questions or to make a purchase.



Mahjong Monday Returns

Thank you all for the great participation in our first Mah Jong Monday. We will be holding our next session on Monday, **October 26th from 5:15pm to 7:15pm** in the Faith and Fellowship Center. Please RSVP to Craig in the Church office to secure your place!

Halloween is Coming



Candy Needed!

Once again, candy is requested to pass out to our trick or treaters on Halloween Night. Halloween is always very special in Highlands as the streets close down and businesses pass out treats to the kids!

PLEASE remember, individual sized and wrapped candy only that is safe for trick or treaters! Please bring to Craig in the church office.

Pizza Party

Come to our church Halloween Pizza Party, **Saturday October 31 at 5:15 pm.** Please dress in your halloween costumes and enjoy the food and fellowship.

Interested in passing out candy on Main Street? Please contact Fred Motz at bigbearpen@gmail.com



Ministry

Our **MINISTRY BAGS** for the Month for October are warm clothing to support our annual coat drive. This includes new and gently used coats, scarves, gloves, and hats for men, women and children.



**Coats may be dropped
off in the F&FC.
A box is by the front doors.**



Community Events



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**

\$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.



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

POTLUCK at 5:15 PM

Join us for good food and fellowship this Wednesday, October 7th at 5:15pm. And it's Potluck this week. Please bring your favorite dish to share. There is no program this week.

Upcoming Programs

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 8th 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 27th:

Internal Restricted:

Library - \$100.00

Pastor's Fund - \$25.00

Operating Fund:

\$7,528.00

Our 2026 August year to date financial report

Income - \$474,658.95

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



Celebrate!

Happy Birthday to:

October

- 4 - Jane Lineberger
 - Charlotte Solomon
- 7 - Ken Knight
- 10 - Stephanie Gordon
- 14 - Cindy Lou Batson
 - Paul McLarty
- 15 - Josh Bryson
 - Larry Ray
- 16 - Anne Newhouse
- 17 - Ginger Bunnell
- 21 - Mary Ann Ray
- 22 - Alyson Baumrucker
 - Melinda Spring
 - Patti Wheeler
- 23 - Nancy Butler
 - Bob Gregory
- 24 - Taylor Nicholson
- 25 - Dabs Potts

Happy Anniversary to:

October

- 8 - Ken and Sharon Giddens
- 9 - Michael and Heather Felder
- 14 - Ken and Beth Bowser
- 21 - Del and Joanne Oliver
- 23 - Scott and Becky Baker

**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 October 6th - 12th.

Tuesday, October 6th - Men's Breakfast at Blue Bike - **8:15am**
- Community Table (Community Building) - **6pm**
- Lectionary Home Group at the home of Fred and Elizabeth Motz - **7pm**

Wednesday, October 7th - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) - **4pm**
- Wed Night **POTLUCK** Meal (F&FC) - **5:15pm**

Thursday, October 8th - JOY (Just Older Youth) Group (F&FC) - **11:30am**
- Bingo (Community Building) - **6:30pm to 8:30pm**
(proceeds go to Wreaths Across America)

Sunday, October 11th - **Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost (Homecoming)**
Pastor Appreciation Day
- Combined Service (F&FC) - **10am**
- **POTLUCK Brunch** (F&FC) - **11am**

Coming Soon...

Wednesday, October 14th - *Pink Partini (Town Hall Restaurant) - 5-7pm*
(supporting Breast Cancer Awareness Month)

Saturday, October 17th - *American Legion Breakfast (F&FC) - 9am*

Tuesday, October 20th - *New Women's Bible Study Begins - 6pm*

Monday, October 26th - *Mah Jong Monday (F&FC) - 5:15pm - 7:15pm*

Tuesday, October 27th - *Trustees Meeting (Old Fellowship Hall) - 5:30pm*

Saturday, October 31st - *Halloween Pizza Party (F&FC) - 5:15pm*

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 – NEW!

.On October 20, the Tuesday women's study group will begin a new book. "Common Ground" by Amberly Neese explores how the Scriptures teach us how to live in happiness and peace even in times of conflict. Please join us on the 20th, 6:30-8pm in the parlor.

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

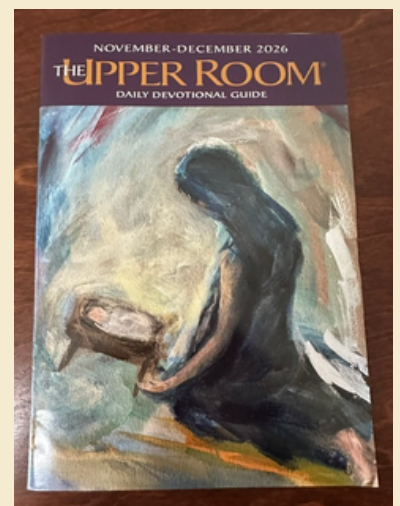
The HUMC News is emailed every Tuesday. It is also placed on our website. Let us know if you'd like to be on the email distribution.

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

**November/December
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>

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.”

Philippians 4:4