Highlands United Methodist Church News

October 27 - November 2, 2026



Set your clocks back Halloween Night!

It's time to "Fall Back". Set your clocks back one hour on Saturday, October 31st before you go to sleep - so you will be on time for our services on Sunday, November 1st!

Halloween 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.



All Saints Sunday November 1st

This coming Sunday November 1st, during both our worship services, we will be remembering members of our HUMC family who have died over the past year. Please join us for this meaningful time of remembrance and worship.

Welcome New Members



We are delighted to welcome Ginny and Beth Gamble as Professing Members of HUMC. They were both welcomed into full membership this past Sunday during the 909 Bluegrass Service. Welcome Beth and Ginny!



Coffee Chats with Pastor Randy Thursdays at 10am



Pastor Randy is enjoying 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.

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.

Upcoming Meetings

Trustees Meeting - Tuesday, October 27th at 5:30pm
Finance Committee Meeting - Monday, November 16th at 5:30pm
Church Council Meeting - Thursday, November 19th at 5:30pm.
Charge Conference Meeting - Sunday, November 22nd at 10am (between services). All are welcomed at the Charge Conference.

Thank you for your support!



Thanks to all who came out and supported “Dracula Double Feature” at the PAC. We had a wonderful time sharing this Halloween experience with you!

“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.

Now that it is Fall, we wil have a lot of visitors who are interested in seeing our beautiful Sanctuary. Recently, we opened our doors for 2 hours and had 18 people visit us!





Veterans’ Activities

Honoring Our Veterans, November 8: We will be honoring our Veterans at both services. If you did not share your military history details with Craig last year, or want to double check we have your information correct, please contact Craig in the Church Office.

On November 9th, there will be laying wreaths on Veteran’s Graves. Sponsored by Wreaths Across America.

Church office will be closed on **Wednesday, November 11th.**

Mah Jong Monday

Thanks to everyone who shared in Mah Jong Monday, and a special thanks to Jeanie Edwards-Jones and Ransom Bozeman for hosting the session! Our next Mah Jong Monday will be Monday, November 30th from 5:15 to 7:15pm.







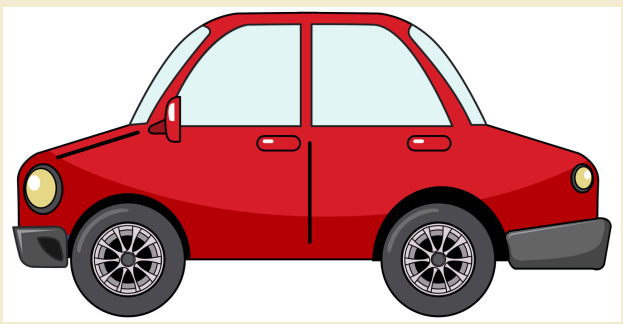


Ministry



Leaving Town for the Season?

Please remember **the Highlands Emergency Council and the Food Pantry** when cleaning out your pantries/freezers/homes as you get ready to depart Highlands for the season. Those in need will certainly be grateful you did!



Ministry

November Ministry Bags

Macon County Elves



Mission Statement

Macon County Elves is a volunteer-led organization dedicated to bringing holiday joy to children and families across Macon County, North Carolina.

We believe in the power of community, compassion, and local giving — ensuring that every donation, every toy, and every act of kindness stays right here at home.





Needs

UNWRAPPED new toys for local boys and girls of all ages!

Gordon Center

THE GORDON CENTER

Where little minds, hearts, and souls grow to be loving and faithful children of God!

October Envelope Challenge



Pick an envelope.
Fill it with the amount shown.
Every gift makes a difference.

Community Events



Join the Highlands Cashiers Players as they present this year's Holiday Show. The performance is **free of charge** and will take place at the Performing Arts Center in the Martin Lipscomb Theater. **Doors open at 6pm on Friday October 30th, and it will be first come first serve seating. The Performance begins at 7pm.**

Come hear the frightening 'War of the Worlds' radio broadcast as originally heard in 1938!

Community Events

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

First Presbyterian Church, Highlands United Methodist Church, and The Church of the Incarnation of Highlands invite you to join us for a Blessing of the Animals Service.



NOVEMBER 1ST AT 2:00PM IN FOUNDERS PARK

Join us at Founder's Park on November 1st at 2 p.m. for a blessing service to give thanks for Creation and reaffirm our stewardship of God's creatures. Ensure your pet can handle crowds, and if your pet prefers to stay home or has passed away, bring a photo for blessing.

Community Events



VETERANS DAY FLAGS

Monday November 9th at 4:00PM

Highlands Cemetery meet at the Flagpole

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Marking Graves with Surveyor Flags
Friday December 18 at 11:00AM
Highlands Cemetery meet at the Flagpole

Wreaths Across America Day
Saturday December 19
Meet at Highlands Community Building
At 11:30AM, Ceremony starts at 12 Noon

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, October 28th at 5:15pm. This week's menu is Brunswick Stew, Cornbread, Salad, and Dessert. Then plan to stay for our program at 6pm, "Campfire Ghost Stories."



JOY GROUP

Just Older Youth (JOY) Group will be held on Thursday, October 23rd at 11:30am.

JOY GROUP
JUST•OLDER•YOUTH

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 October 18th:

Internal Restricted:
Emerging Ministries / Bazaar - $1,152.00
Library - $100.00
Youth - $50.00
Pastor's Fund - $25.00

Operating Fund:
$11,477.00
(Includes $50.00 Memorial for Joy Still)

Our 2026 September year to date financial report
Income - $528,626.56
Expenses - $532,004.47 (-3,377.91)

Celebrate!

Happy Birthday to:

November

1 - Bob Hood
- Lee Lyons
- Margaret O'Donnell

2 - Cheryl Jenkins
- Ed Mawyer

3 - Fran Leftwich
- Delaine Mehder

4 - King Young
5 - Dick Chitty
6 - Paula Gordon
10 - Frank Buskirk
- Jeff Getz

12- Linda Edwards
13 - Kristin Edwards
- Marlene Viers

14 - Lee Byers
15 - Patricia Allen
- James Hines
- Peggy Roberts
- Olan Vinson

Happy Anniversary to:

November

6 - Skip and LaDonna Keener
15 - Patty and Doug Campbell
- Barbara and Jim Recktenwald

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 27th - November 2nd

Tuesday, October 27th - Men's Breakfast at Blue Bike **- 8:15am**
- Trustee's Meeting (Old Fellowship Hall) - **5:30pm**
- Women's Bible Study (Parlor) - **6pm**
- Lectionary Home Group at the home of Fred and Elizabeth Motz -**7pm**

Wednesday, October 28th - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) - **4pm**
- Wed Night Meal - (F&FC) - **5:15pm**

Thursday, October 29th - JOY (Just Older Youth) Group (F&FC) - **11:30am**

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

Sunday, November 1st - **Twenthy Third Sunday after Pentecost**
All Saints Sunday
- Morning Breakfast (F&FC) - **8:30am**
- 909 Bluegrass Service (F&FC) - **9:09am**
- Sunday School (Various Locations) - **10am**
- Traditional Service (Sanctuary) - **11am**
- Blessings of the Animals (Founder's Park) **- 2pm**

Coming Soon...

Sunday, November 8th - Honoring Our Veterans Sunday
Monday, November 9th - *Laying Wreaths at Graves (Cemetery) -* ***4pm***
Wednesday, November 11th - Veteran's Day (Office Closed)
Friday, November 20th - *Senior Lunch (Rec Park) -* ***2pm***
Saturday, November 21st - *American Legion Meeting (F&FC) -* ***9am***
Sunday, November 22nd - *Charge Conference (F&FC)* ***- 10am***
Monday, November 23rd - *Deck the Halls (F&FC) -* ***10am***
Tuesday, November 24th - *Community Thanksgiving (Rec Park) -* ***6pm***
Thursday, November 26th - Thanksgiving Day (Office Closed)

Got something to add to the calendar?

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

.Tuesday women's study group will be studying. "Common Ground" by Amberly Neese, which 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 Books of Philippians, Galatians, and Ephesians. 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

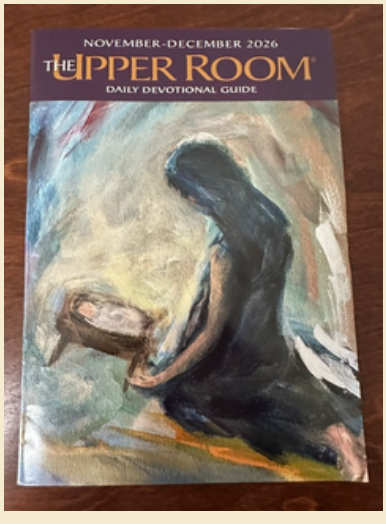
The HUMC News is emailed every Tuesday. It is also placed on our website. Let us know if you'd like to be on the email distribution.

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 visitng 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 physcial 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

"For all the saints, who from their labors rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed, thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia. Alleluia!"

William W. How
1864