Highlands United Methodist Church News

November 3-9, 2026



Election Day

If you have not already cast your ballot, please exercise your right to vote **today.**
Polls close at 7:30pm.

Honoring our Veterans

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 by **Wednesday, November 5th.**

On Monday, November 9th, we will be placing flags on the graves of veterans. Meet at the flagpole at Highlands Cemetary at 4pm.

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



Halloween 2026







With Halloween falling on Saturday, and with some great late October weather, we were treated to another delightful main street celebration of Halloween this year. Special thanks to all who donated and handed out candy for the trick-or-treaters, and for those who provided some neat pictures of the action.









Blessings of the Animals 2026

Pastors Christine and Randy joined with Pastors Kelley (First Presbyterian Church) and Skully (Episcopal Church of the Incarnation) for an ecumenical “Blessing of the Animals” this past Sunday at Founders Park. It was a great turn-out and a blessed experience for humans and animals alike.









Bingo Bingo Bingo!

Bingo will be held at the Highlands Community Building on Thursday, **November 12th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm** to support Shop For a Cop.

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 - Sunday, November 22nd at 10am (between services). All are welcomed at the Charge Conference.

Senior Lunch Resumes

Senior Lunches resume for the season at the Rec Park. Our first lunch will be **Friday, November 20th at 12noon.** Look forward to seeing you there!

American Legion

Meeting and Breakfast will be held in the Faith and Fellowship Center on **Saturday November 21st, at 9am.**

Mah Jong Monday

returns on Monday, **November 30th from 5:15pm to 7:15pm.** Please RSVP to Craig in the Church Office.

“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!





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.

Community Thanksgiving





An annual tradition! Join us at the Rec Park on Tuesday, November 24th at 6pm for a festive holiday meal and plenty of fellowship!

See Kristy to volunteer.





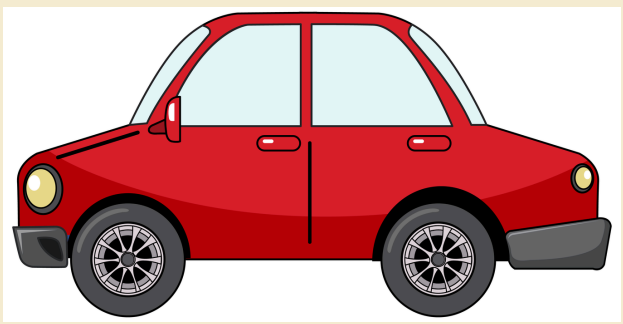


Ministry



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



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

POTLUCK Wednesday at 5:15 PM

Join us for good food and fellowship this Wednesday, October 28th at 5:15pm. And it's "Potluck" this week. Please bring your favorite dish to share. Then plan to stay for our program at 6pm, "Gratitude for Things We Take for Granted" with David Hodgson.

Also, please we aware the Church will be closed and there will be **NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11th.**



JOY GROUP

Just Older Youth (JOY) Group will be held on **Thursday, November 5th** at 11:30am.

There will be NO JOY GROUP on THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12th as we will have the carpets cleaned in the F&FC.

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 25th:

Internal Restricted:
Emerging Ministries / Bazaar - $210.00
Library - $100.00
Missions - $80.00
Children - $30.00
Pastor's Fund - $25.00

Pastor's Fund - $25.00

Operating Fund:
$13,382.50
(Includes $500.00 Memorial for Vangie Rich)

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

Celebrate!

Happy Birthday to:

November

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
15 - Patricia Allen
- James Hines
- Peggy Roberts
- Olan Vinson
16 - Sharon Willeford
19 - Megan James
- Marsha Little
- Tony Potts

Happy Anniversary to:

November

6 - Skip and LaDonna Keener
7 - Cathy and Steve Parnell
15 - Patty and Doug Campbell
- Barbara and Jim Recktenwald
21 - Hal and Verna Taylor

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 November 3rd – 9th .

Tuesday, November 3rd - **Election Day**, polls close at 7:30pm
- Men's Breakfast at Blue Bike **– 8:15am**
- Women's Bible Study (Parlor) – **6pm**
- Lectionary Home Group at the home of Fred and Elizabeth Motz –**7pm**

Wednesday, November 4th - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) – **4pm**
- Wed Night **POTLUCK** Meal and program – (F&FC) – **5:15pm**

Thursday, November 5th **–** JOY (Just Older Youth) Group (F&FC) – **11:30am**
- Stephen Ministry Training (F&FC) – **4:15pm – 5:30pm**

Sunday, November 8th – **Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost (Honoring Our Veterans)**
- Morning Breakfast (F&FC) – **8:30am**
- 909 Bluegrass Service (F&FC) – **9:09am**
- Sunday School (Various Locations) – **10am**
- Traditional Service (Sanctuary) – **11am**
- "Respite for All" Meeting (F&FC) – **3pm**

Monday, November 9th – ** Placing flags on Veterans' Graves (Cemetery) **– 4pm

Coming Soon…

Wednesday, November 11th – Veteran's Day (Office Closed)
Thursday, November 12th – *Bingo (Community Building) – 6:30 – 8:30pm*
Monday, November 16th *– Finance Committee Meeting –* ***5.30pm***
Thursday, November 19th *– Church Council Meeting –* ***5.30pm***
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)

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

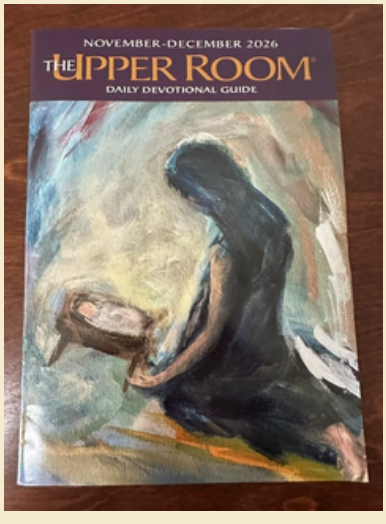
The HUMC News is emailed every Tuesday. It is also placed on our website. Let us know if you'd like to be on the email distribution.

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

"But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope."

I Thessalonians 4:13