

Highlands United Methodist Church News

July 7- July 13, 2026



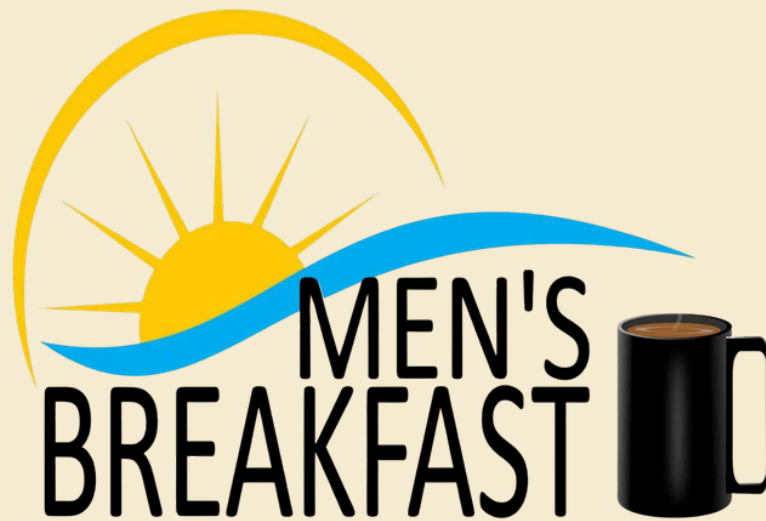
Another Great Outdoor Worship Service in Town Square this past Sunday, July 5th

Thanks to everyone who helped with setting up and taking down, thanks to John Lupoli of Lupoli Construction for allowing us to use Town Square for our outdoor worship service again this year, thanks to Clark of Kilwins for arranging the coffee and water and to Ed for setting it all up for us, and thanks to everyone who joined us for a very special time of worship, music, celebration and fellowship together on our Fourth of July Weekend as we celebrated the 250th Birthday of the USA.

It was another blessing in a long line of blessings! Thanks be to God!



Methodist Men's Breakfast



Methodist Men's breakfast will be Saturday July 11th @ 8:30.

This month's guest speaker will be Colonel John Campell Ret. US Army. John is a highly decorated veteran. The Colonel will tell us about his 9-month unaccompanied tour in Iran as an advisor to Iranian military units. Considering the current events in Iran this should be a very interesting and informative presentation. Come join us as John talks about his interaction with the Iranian military and civilians of Iran.

Please join us. Saturday July 11th @ 8:30.

Bring a friend!

All are welcome!

Community Table

COMMUNITY

TABLE

July 14th

You're invited to join your neighbors at the Community Building at **6pm** for our community meal. Enjoy the food and fellowship!

New Church Directory Planning Underway

Planning is underway for our new church directory!

The process will involve several steps:

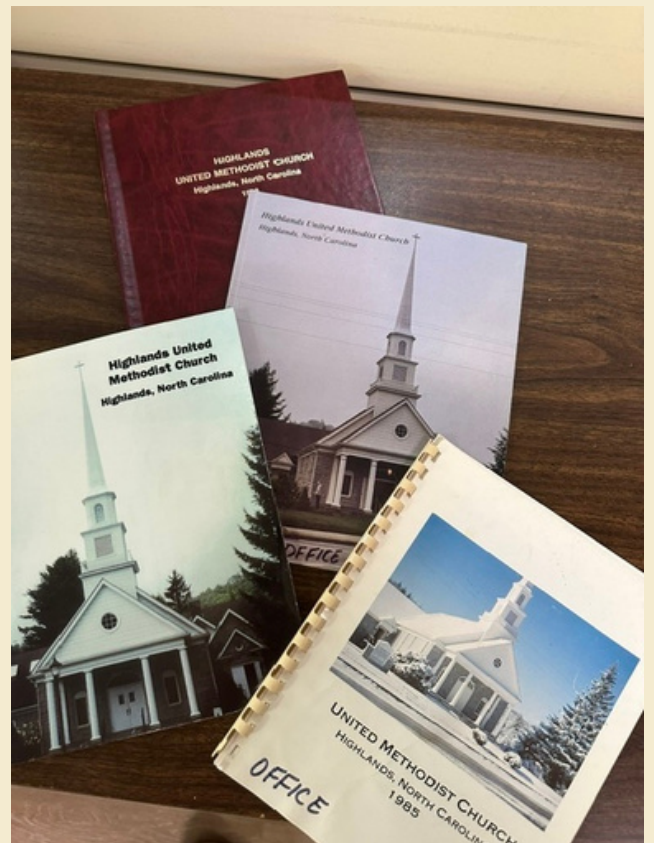
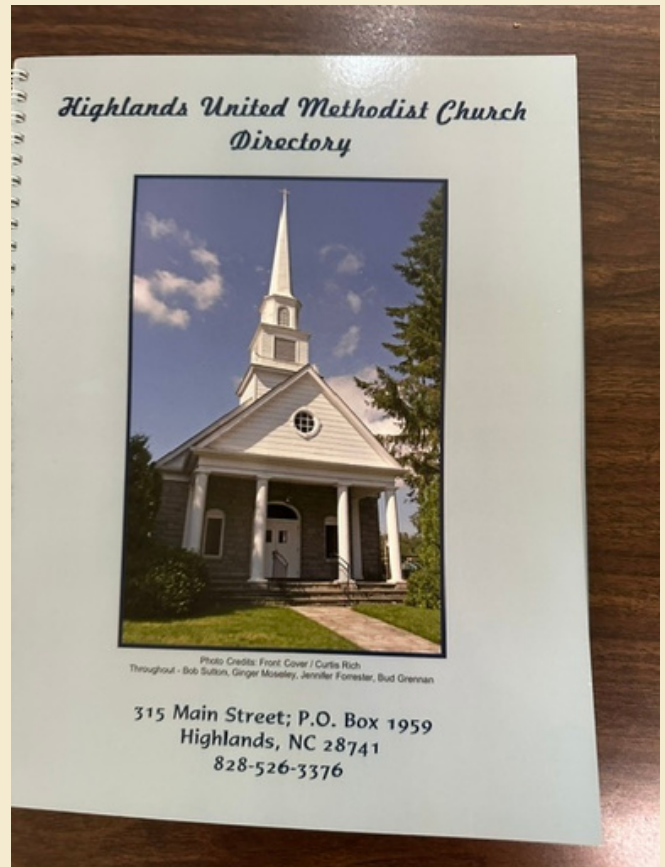
1) We will send you a form over email to fill out so we can update your contact information. The form allows you to opt in or out of appearing in the directory.

2) We will ask you to include birthday and anniversary information so we can update our database.

3) Rather than hiring a photographer, we will ask you to send in a photo via email. This will allow you to pick out a photo of yourself that you particularly like!

4) We are working out any costs that may be incurred and will report on that shortly.

You should look forward to receiving any email in the next week or so with instructions!



Ministry

HIGHLANDS UMC

**back to
SCHOOL**

BACKPACK DRIVE

**PICK A GRADE LEVEL TAG (SEE BACK)
PURCHASE ALL ITEMS ON TAG
PLACE ALL SUPPLIES IN BACKPACK
CUT OUT & TIE TAG ONTO BACKPACK
RETURN BACKPACK TO HUMC**

**QUESTIONS?
CONTACT PASTOR CHRISTINE
526-3376
CHRISTINEHUMC[AT]ICLOUD.COM**



Ministry



Middle & High School

- 1 Backpack
- 1 Inch Binder
- 2 Packs College Rule Paper
- Notebook Dividers
- 2 Packs Pre-Sharpended Pencil
- 1 Packs of 4 Highlighters
- 1 Pack of Pens (black)
- Colored Pencils (12 count)
- 4 Spiral Notebooks (1 subject)



Elementary

- 1 Backpack
- Crayons (24 count)
- Markers (8 count)
- Binder - 1 inch
- Wide Rule Paper (2 packs)
- 2 Spiral Notebooks (1 subject)
- Child-Sized Scissors
- 5 Pocket Folders w/Brads
- Pre-Sharpended Pencils (2 packs)
- 2 Large Glue Sticks
- Colored Pencils (12 pack)
- 4 Highlighters
- Plastic Pencil Box

Food Pantry



ICE CREAM DONATED BY
JUANITIOS IN FRANKLIN AND
ISMAEL PALACIOS &
GABY MONTERO



Celebrate National Ice Cream Day

Sunday, July 19
Time 12-2



HIGHLANDS FOOD PANTRY
350 Spring Street-Lower
level of the Methodist
Church



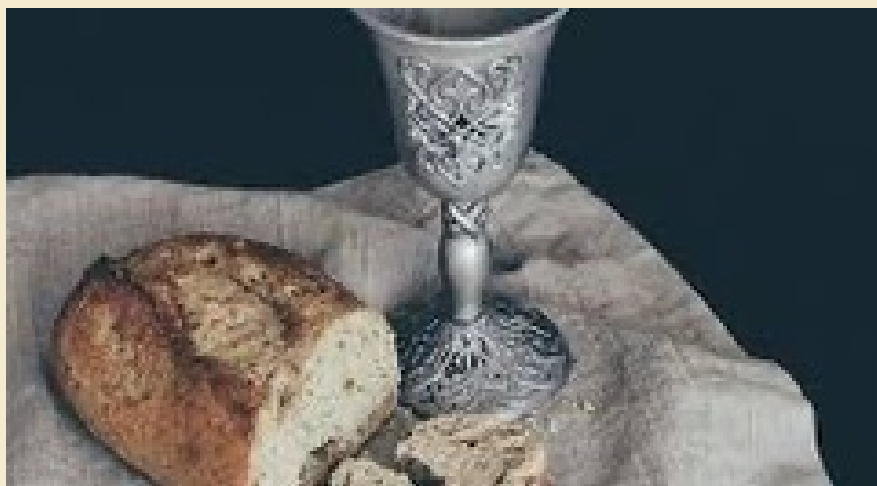

Highlands
Food Pantry

See You There!



Summer Eucharist, Sundays at 8:30am

You're invited to join us for brief service of Holy Communion each Sunday during the summer in the church sanctuary.



Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Thanks to all who have contributed to the Pastor's Fund through the years. Thanks to your generosity, HUMC Pastors have been able to meet countless needs. During 2026 we have experienced a particularly large volume of requests for financial assistance to meet a wide variety of needs. Over \$21,000 dollars have been provided in assistance through the first six months of this year. Due to the high volume, currently our Pastor's Fund Balance is depleted. Monies from this fund are distributed at the pastor's discretion. While the biblical model of tithing is encouraged for the general ministry of the church, any offerings to the Pastor's Fund beyond that are always welcome and appreciated. Thank you!

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 June 28th:

Internal Restricted:

Library - \$100.00

Operating Fund:

\$17,732.08

Our 2026 May year to date financial report

Income - \$244,370

Expenses - \$300,658 (-\$56,288)



Celebrate!

Happy Birthday to:

July

- 13 - Bryan Jones
- 14 - Bailey Baker
- 16 - Harriet Bauknight
 - Larry Dale
 - Terri Kennedy
- 18 - Vivian Bryson-Kennedy
- 19 - Steve Chenoweth
- 20 - Tracy Foor
 - Gary Grimes
- 21 - Naomi Chastain
 - Elizabeth Motz
- 22 - Kenneth Bowser
- 25 - Jo Ann Chapman
 - Mike McGaughy
- 26 - James Moore
- 27 - Ty Emmert
- 28 - Lisa Carig
- 29 - Tamara Bronaugh

Happy Anniversary to:

July

- 12 - Tay and Tamara Bronaugh
- 20 - Mike and Christine Murphy
 - Tony and Terri Potts
- 23 - Dr. Mike and Kandyss Cordle
 - Jeff and April Getz
- 28 - Charles and Leila Wood

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

No Supper or Program this week

Please remember that we will not have our Wednesday night meal and program, nor our JOY Group on Thursday of this week. We'll resume our regular scheduling next week.



Congratulations to the winning table for the special July 1st Trivia Night with Mike!

By the way, here's a ministry opportunity. Dishwashers are needed for Wednesday Night Supper from 5:15pm - 6:30pm. Please see Kristy for the schedule. Thank you!

JOY GROUP

No JOY Group this Week.



“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.



Bishop Carter's Letter for July

Bishop Carter's letter for July includes a prayer for July 4th, as well as a look at his July Calendar. He also invites us to stay connected with him through his Saturday morning reflections. Find out more by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.wnccumc.org/newsdetail/bishop-july-2026-pastoral-letter-19896548>



This Week at HUMC



Week of July 7th - July 13th

Tuesday, July 7th - Men's Breakfast at Blue Bike - **8:15am**

- Lectionary Home Group at the home of Fred and Elizabeth Motz -**7pm**

Wednesday, July 8th - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) - **4pm**

- **NO Wed Night Family Meal and Program this week**

Thursday, July 9th - **NO JOY (Just Older Youth) Group Lunch this week**

Saturday, July 11th - Methodist Men's Breakfast (F&FC) - **8:30am**

Sunday, July 12th - **Seventh Sunday after Pentecost (Holy Communion)**

- 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**

- Stephen Ministry Class (F&FC) - **3-5pm**

Coming Soon...

Tuesday, July 14th - Community Table - **6pm**

Sunday, July 19th - Holy Imagination Resumes - **during 9:09 service**

Tuesday, July 21st - Finance Committee Meeting (Old Fellowship Hall) - **5:30pm**

Thursday, July 30th - Church Council Meeting (Old Fellowship Hall) - **5:30pm**

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 June the class is reading *The Forgotten Way - The Saint James Master Plan* by Matthew Kelly.

Seekers Sunday School Class

This class is currently studying the Books of Galatians, Ephesians, and Hebrews. 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.



SPECIAL NOTE - PLEASE READ

Short term prayer requests are posted for 2 weeks and long term
requests for 4 weeks.

PLEASE CONTACT CRAIG if you have a long term request that you
wish to stay on the list, or they will be removed this coming week.

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-IA

HUMC News

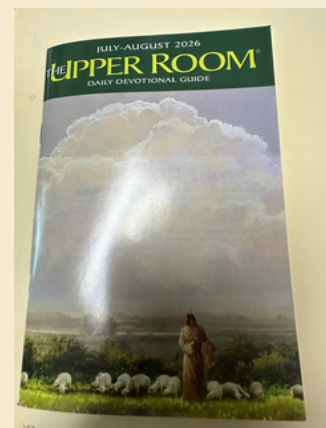
The HUMC News is emailed every Tuesday. It is also placed on our website. Let us know if you'd like to be on the email distribution.

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

**July /August
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>

"And the LORD said to her, 'Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger.'"

Genesis 25:23