

Highlands *news*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | HIGHLANDS CHURCH
NOVEMBER 2019 – VOLUME 23– ISSUE 11



2020 WILL BE AN AWESOME YEAR AT HIGHLANDS CHURCH!

“Awesome” is a popular adjective these days. It covers a wide spectrum of meanings: incredible, extraordinary, phenomenal, rare, sensational, spectacular. When we use it to describe 2020 at Highlands Church, what are we envisioning? What are our expectations?

As we begin a new decade, what is our 2020 Vision? Do you want to grow in your faith? Do you want to experience God as a strong, abiding presence in your daily life? Do you want to feel God present with us as we worship? Do you want to enjoy the fellowship of other believers? Do you want to volunteer your time to help those in need? Do you want to help supply the needs of children in our community? What is your Vision for 2020?

A good way to work toward our Vision for 2020 is to begin by renewing our membership vows to support Highlands Church with our presence, gifts and service, and witness. Let’s renew our commitment to gather and worship as God has called us to do, not to burden us, but to bless us. Being a part of a Christian community and worshipping God together is powerful. We grow more together than alone.

The next step toward our Vision for 2020 is renewing the “gifts” portion of our membership vow. As United Methodists, we usually “pledge our gifts” to the Operating Budget of the church. The Finance Committee and Ad Council have worked together to determine and approve the budget of \$548,606 for the New Year. The revenue that supports this budget comes from member pledges and special donations, as well as non-member giving. Expenses support pastoral and staff salaries, our 10% tithes to the United Methodist Conference to support the greater church, mortgage payments, utilities, insurance, administration, technology, Bible study, Fellowship and supplies.

Our goal is to have monthly revenue equal/exceed monthly expenses for the upcoming year rather than a monthly seesaw variation which sometimes makes it difficult to pay large bills and keep the accounts balanced. This can be accomplished with more church members using the automatic payment method of having payments deducted directly from your bank account, or by making payments online through the church website.

Lastly, we promised our “service” in those membership vows. The Bible says everyone is called to serve God by *servicing others*. Ushering, singing in the choir, making coffee, folding bulletins, VBS worker, committee member—there’s something for everyone to do. Remember to “pray” daily for our church and “witness,” tell others about Christ and the good things happening here. Invite them to worship and serve God with us.

During November you will receive your pledge card for 2020 and your “Go Serve” catalog. Prayerfully consider your gift for 2020 and be prepared to bring your pledge card and service catalog to the altar to present it to God on November 16-17. Let’s all have 2020 Vision at Highlands Church!

SERVING US IN OCTOBER

Saturday Host/Hostesses

11/2 Jan Lasar
11/9 Robin Woodward
11/16 Jane Krumm
11/23 Ted & Julie Lasher
11/30 Virginia Wood

Sunday Guest Table

11/3 Mel Snyder
11/10 Mel Snyder
11/17 Mel Snyder
11/24 Mel Snyder

Liturgists

11/3 Kim Hale
11/10 Dick Steck
11/17 Susan Couto
11/24 Claudia Williams

CPR/AED

11/3 Ron Blackwelder
11/10 Sue LaHood
11/17 Joan Pehosh
11/24 Linda Virgili

Safety & Security:

Bob Johnson

Usher Captain:

Jim & Gerri Moeller

Trustee for the Month:

Jerry Foster

PRAYER CHAIN & MEMBER CARE

If you know someone in need of prayer, ill or hospitalized, please contact the church office and let Lori or Amey know. Please do not assume Robert or the Compassionate Disciples already know.

ANGEL TREE

The Angel Tree will be in the Gathering Area Saturday, December 7. The ANGELS will go on the tree at the close of the Cookie Walk. This year we will be helping six families. These families are chosen by a committee with the Bright Futures Gravette board. Questions, call Anne Mairet. 855-4277

NEW CONTACT INFORMATION

New home phone number:
Sande Sederburg & Tom Allen
(479) 696-6230

CONDOLENCES

Our heartfelt sympathy to:

Van & Donna VanderSchaaf, for the loss of Donna's Mom.
Marlys Ledin, for the loss of her husband, Al Ledin.
Darleen Olsen, for the loss of her sister, Esther Graf.
Robert Prazak, for the loss of his wife, Sarah Prazak.
Marilou Edwards, for the loss of her husband, John Edwards.

At this very difficult time, our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

THANK YOU

Dear Highlands Church,

Thanks to everyone at the church for all your efforts and compassion during our time of loss. We are so blessed to have such a caring church family taking care of Dad and us. On behalf of the entire family, please accept our sincerest thanks and appreciation.

Bob, Martin, Tamara, Ryan, & Kate Prazak, and Kelly Vroman

Dear Highlands Church,

Receiving birthday cards from members of Highland was very special. A big thank you to each and every one that sheared your love messages. While we miss Highlands we are very pleased with our move and new friends. Stop and visit on your way to Branson.

Bob & Charlene Marsh

Dear Highlands Church,

Thank you all so much for helping our Kids Ministry with Trunk or Treat. It was a success. To all of you who gave candy, decorated a trunk, or came to help out in costume, you are amazing! I can't thank you enough for helping our community have such a fun and safe event. I greatly appreciate each one of you.

Sarah Catherine Davis

PASTOR'S PEN

Thanksgiving is just around the corner and I find myself thinking about why gratitude can be so hard. There are those people that seem to always be grateful in all situations, but I think if we are being honest, the majority of us struggle to maintain an “attitude of gratitude.” I don’t believe that the struggle we have with gratitude is because we are spoiled, entitled, or bad. The struggle with gratitude comes from the same place a lot of our other struggles come from, being too busy. If you really stop and think about it, we are so busy in our trying to get everything done that we don’t have time or energy to think about how grateful we are for all that we have. To compound the problem, we are not just busy for a certain period of time in our life, we’re busy constantly until we build a habit of surviving and not thriving. The good news for us is being thankful on Thanksgiving proves we haven’t lost the ability to be grateful, we just need to prioritize it.

I am not trying to stir up guilt or make some amazing theological point by talking about gratitude and business. Rather, I’m trying to remind and/or convince us all that we deserve to have the happiness that gratitude gives us. We can probably all agree that life just feels better to be grateful. We can probably also think of people that we have dealt that never seem to show any gratitude. And finally, we can probably agree that those same people who can’t seem to show any gratitude are pretty miserable in their lives. It almost seems that gratitude is a major factor in our ability to be happy; that’s because it is.

I talked in a recent sermon about some of the Stoic advice the Apostle Paul gave Timothy. The Stoics were smart people because they recognized a simple fact: to be happy and live the best life you can. So the stoics zoomed in on gratitude and even developed exercises to make themselves more grateful. One of their famous exercises were camping out with only the clothes on their backs while refusing to eat for several days. Why? Because it reminded them to be grateful for even the smallest comforts in their lives.

I don’t think we have to starve ourselves for a week or sleep out in the cold in jeans and a t-shirt, but I do think we should regularly use our imagination to reflect on what our lives would be like without the people and things we hold dear. Most importantly I think we need to seriously reflect on what our lives would be without Jesus Christ. If you let your imagination really run wild contemplating life without Jesus, you will come face to face with a terrifying reality; which is not a bad thing. In so many cases we flat out take Jesus for granted. When the last time we honestly stopped to thank Jesus for what he did? When was the last time we stopped to thank Him for all that he prevented? My guess is it’s been awhile. If you feel stagnant in your spiritual walk, it probably does come down to a lack of gratitude somewhere. The good news is that once we can diagnose the problem, we can fix the problem. And when we fix that spiritual problem, we can have the joy of the Lord filling our hearts. If we work on developing gratitude for Jesus, I guarantee gratitude in all the other areas of life will work out and we will find ourselves in the midst of a greater freedom and delight than we have ever known.

Blessings,
Pastor Robert



HIGHLANDS CHURCH 2019 CRUISE-IN & CAR SHOW

Our 2nd annual car show took place on Saturday, September 28th and was bigger and better than the first. We had 69 cars entered in this year's show and nearly 400 people in attendance. The weather cooperated and thanks to the efforts of all the volunteers, the parking, show access and lunch service went much smoother than last year.

Most importantly, we brought in \$13,680 for the 3 charities - Bright Futures, Samaritan's Feet and Snack Packs for Kids. We had income of \$6,450 from area sponsors plus \$475 in gift certificates; \$7,980 from congregational ticket sales and \$1,397 from donations, 50/50 ticket sales, silent auctions and day of show ticket sales and free-will donations for a total income of \$15,827. We spent \$2,147 for food, advertising, copies, banners and signs.

Thank you to all who helped with our sponsor drive, event planning, selling tickets, working the day of the show, entering a vehicle or coming out to support the event.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Please join the ladies of Highlands United Methodist Church on Monday, November 11, at 9:30 a.m. Our presenter will be Dr. Clint Freeman. He will be talking about neuropathy, some causes and some ways to deal with it. As usual we will have breakfast, fellowship and fun! Please join us if you can. We always love to see you! Blessings.

DESSERT FOR A YEAR

Last month, Chris shared a sprinkled Pumpkin Spice Bundt Cake with her friends on a beautiful fall day. However, this month, letting go of the Sticky Pecan Rolls Gail Storm will be preparing for her may a challenge to do. Gail declares her rolls are sure to be a gooey-good treat for Chris and Mike!

HUMMERS MEETING

The next Hummers (Highlands United Methodist Men) meeting will be on Tuesday, November 5 at 7:45 am. Discussion will be about distribution of charitable donations and to determine next year's officers and programs. This will be an important meeting. If you plan to attend, please sign up in the Gathering Area so we are able to prepare the proper amount of food.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The Fellowship Committee presents: Highlands Church Christmas Luncheon on Sunday, December 15 immediately following the Cantata, or around 11:30. The cost will be \$15 per person. The meal will be catered by Catering Unlimited. Menu: Chicken Cordon Bleu with parmesan creme sauce, potatoes au gratin, fresh green beans, mixed greens salad with a choice of ranch dressing or champagne vinaigrette, assorted rolls, carrot cake, chocolate cake and gluten free yogurt shooters. Tickets will go on sale in the Gathering Area In late November.

VETERANS WALL

The wall of honor will up for viewing on November 7th. Then on Saturday and Sunday the 9th and 10th we will be serving cake and refreshments after all three services to honor our Veterans.

COOKIE WALK

We have an **urgent need** for 240 cup Folgers coffee cans! So far we have 208 coffee cans, but we need 300+ for the Cookie Walk. Empty Folgers cans can be dropped off in the white cabinets inside the entry of the Fellowship Hall.

31st ANNUAL HIGHLANDS CHURCH COOKIE WALK

It only about 30 days until we have our 31st Annual Cookie Walk and I hope you are psyching yourselves up to make your 20 dozen Decorated Christmas Cookies. I know I am trying to psych myself up for it! Great news this year...we have free foil pans that you can pick up at the church so NO MORE cookie flats to be covered in foil. (You are welcome – Sue LaHood)

There will be sign-up sheets in the Gathering Area for treats to bring besides the cookies. Help is needed in the following areas:

Coffee Shoppe – to serve cinnamon rolls, be cashier or sell coffee.

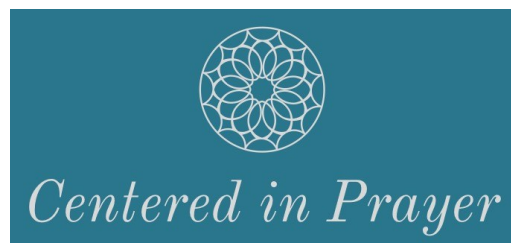
Sweet Shoppe – to sell peanut brittle, candies, jams, jellies. We need your help making items to sell in the Sweet Shoppe. Think candy and breads so please start looking for those favorite holiday recipes of breads, brittle, candy, jams or jellies. Cookie Walk customer favorites seem to be Peanut Brittle, Divinity, and Fudge but I have seen other new favorites that go out the door just as quick for Christmas gifts (or for yourself!) Please bring your Peanut Brittle to the church by November 19th everything else by December 5th so we can package them. Some easy recipes to make and more information are available in the Gathering Area.

Craft Shoppe —help man and sell crafts.

Cookie Walk area needs table attendants, kitchen workers and table runners. Help is also needed for setting up and distributing flyers and cards prior to the Cookie Walk.

Remember that the Cookie Walk is for everyone who calls Highlands Church their home. Bake your favorite 20 dozen Decorated Christmas Cookies then help on December 7th to make another successful event at Highlands Church. The Cookie Walk helps support many missions and ministries in the Northwest Arkansas Area. This is one event new members will not want to miss! Don't forget: no bar cookies please. See you and your cookies and candies soon!

Cookie Walk Chairs -- Sue LaHood 855-0937 or Jane Rowland 855-4607

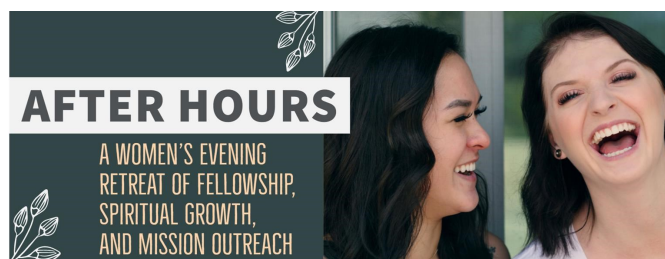


Prayer is the way to turn dry theological descriptions into warm, living, personal realities. When we live in constant communion with God, our needs are met, our faith increases and our love expands. We begin to feel God's peace in our hearts, and we spontaneously worship him. With the heavenly beings described in Revelation, we cry out, "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise! To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!" (5:12-13) I'm enjoying God more and more these days. He answers my prayers. He empowers me. He gives me insights from His Word. He guides my life. He gives me loving relationships. And what's more, he has wonderful things in store for me on the road ahead.

My life with God is a constant adventure, and it all begins with prayer. Regular prayer, early in the morning, alone with Him. Prayer that listens as well as speaks.

from TOO BUSY NOT TO PRAY by Bill Hybels

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace, as you trust in Him, so that you may over-flow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13



Join us for a time of
Bible Study & Fellowship
on
Tuesday, November 19
6:00—7:30 pm

HIGHLANDS
kids NURSERY

The nursery is available every Sunday morning during our 9:30 & 11:15 services for birth

through 3 years old.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

All children, ages 4 through 6th grade, are invited to Children's Church on Sunday mornings during the 9:30 and 11:15 service. Children will worship with their parents until Sarah Catherine takes them back for fun, fellowship and learning more about Christ and His love for them.



YOUTH GROUP

Equipping 7th—12th grade students to grow together on their journey to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ. Sundays 5:00—6:30 pm. For more information, contact Sarah Catherine Davis at (501) 733-3666.

LITTLE FREE PANTRY

Please help our Student Ministry fill the Little Free Pantry with nonperishable food items and toiletry donations. Getting into the habit of bringing one food or toiletry item to each worship service can go a long way in helping the needy in our community. There is a bin located in the entry to Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary to drop off your items.



8:15 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us on Sunday mornings at 8:15 in the Mark classroom. Our current study is the book of Romans. This is a learning and discussion class. All are welcome to come at any time. Questions, contact Donna VanderSchaaf at 715-6059.

9:30 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 in the Mark classroom. We are using the Standard Lessons Commentary. Each lesson will use scripture with verse by verse explanation of the text with detailed background followed by group discussion. Everyone is welcome.

OCTOBER 2019 CARE GROUP ACTIVITIES

CARE GROUP	ACTIVITY
Hagaman	Wooden Spoon
Steck/ Moeller	The Cave
Stone	Oktoberfest
Krumm/ Potter	Oktoberfest
Foster/Leonard/Jackson	Oktoberfest
Henkel	Oktoberfest
Lasher/Richardson	Potluck— Richardson's
O'Neil/Marshall	Brunch— O'Neil's
Balzer	Oktoberfest
Williams/ Hudec	Dinner- Shirley Hogg's
Manske/ Lehman	Oktoberfest



November 2019 Calendar

Recurring Events

Sundays

- 8:15 am Adult Sunday School
- 9:30 am Traditional Worship
- 9:30 am Adult Sunday School
- 9:30 am Children's Sunday School
- 11:15 am The Gathering Worship
- 11:15 am Children's Sunday School
- 12:15 pm Gathering Rehearsal
- 5:00 pm Student Ministry (7-12 grade)
- 7:00 pm AA Meeting

Mondays

- 7:30 am Flex N' Stretch
- 9:30 am UMW Board (1st Monday)
- 3:00 pm Women's Emmaus (2nd & 4th Mondays)
- 5:00 pm Men's Emmaus

Tuesdays

- 7:45 am Hummers Meeting (1st Tuesday)
- 3:00 pm Yoga

Wednesdays

- 7:30 am Flex N' Stretch
- 1:00 pm Staff Meeting (2nd & 4th Wednesdays)
- 1:00 pm Stitches (2nd & 4th Wednesdays)
- 2:00 pm Fellowship Committee (1st Wednesday)
- 4:00 pm Bells
- 6:30 pm Choir

Thursdays

- 9:00 am Kitchen Cleanup (2nd & 4th Thursday)
- 3:00 pm Library Meeting (3rd Thursday)
- 2:15 pm Sat Celeb Rehearsal
- 4:00 pm Care Group Leaders Meeting (3rd Thursday)

Fridays

- 7:00 am Men's Emmaus
- 7:30 Flex N' Stretch
- 10:30 am Compassionate Disciples (1st Friday)

Saturdays

- 1:00 pm Scrapbooking & Card Making (4th Saturday)
- 3:00 pm Sat Celebration Rehearsal
- 5:30 pm Saturday Celebration

Other Events and Meetings:

Wednesday, November 6, 2019

- 3:00 pm Veteran's Wall setup

Thursday, November 7, 2019

- 10:00 am Veteran's Wall picture setup

Friday, November 8, 2019

- 7:30 Flex N' Stretch Breakfast Party

Monday, November 11, 2019

- 9:30 am UMW Meeting

Thursday, November 14, 2019

- 1:00 pm Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

- 6:00 pm Admin Council Meeting
- 6:00 pm UMW After Hours

Thursday & Friday, November 28-29, 2019

- Office Closed- Holiday



HIGHLANDS CHURCH

A United Methodist Congregation

CELEBRATION SERVICE
SATURDAYS 5:30 PM

TRADITIONAL SERVICE
SUNDAYS 9:30 AM

THE GATHERING
SUNDAYS 11:15 AM

Church Staff

REV. ROBERT CLONINGER
Senior Pastor

LORI HEALD
Office Administrator

AMEY BURKETT
Administrative Assistant

DRU MATTHEWS
Bookkeeper

SARAH CATHERINE DAVIS
Children & Youth Ministries Coordinator

JOHN MATTHEWS
Director of Music Ministries

JAMES HENDRIX
Contemporary Worship Leader

PAM MEYER
Celebration Worship Leader

JEANNINE WAGAR
Organist

JOYCE SHELDON
Chimes & Bells Director

Nursery Worker

Giving Your Tithes & Offerings

You can give your tithes & offerings online by visiting our website, www.humcbv.com. Online giving is a safe and easy way to give to Highlands. Contact the church office if you have questions regarding online giving.

Deadline for the December Newsletter is **November 20 at noon**. Please email items to **Sarah Catherine Davis** at highlandschurchnews@gmail.com or place in the Newsletter mailbox in the hallway next to the church office.

If you have any comments or questions about the newsletter, please email or call Sarah Catherine Davis directly.

The Mission of Highlands Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ.



Like our page on Facebook
facebook.com/humcbv

Highlands Church
371 Glasgow Road
Bella Vista, AR 72715
(479) 855-2277
www.humcbv.com
highlandschurch@humcbv.com