



Highlands News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | HIGHLANDS CHURCH
FEBRUARY 2020 – VOLUME 24 — ISSUE 2



Revised

Highlights of Lent

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE, February 26, 6:00 pm

This first day of Lent is the time of reflection and penitence leading up to Easter Sunday. Pastor Robert will remind us “For dust you are and to dust you shall return” (Genesis 3:19) as ashes are imposed on the forehead.

BIBLE STUDIES—Please see pages 4 and 6

PALM SUNDAY—Celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on April 5 at 9:30 am for our Traditional Service or at 11:15 am for our Gathering Service. There will be a Palm Parade for children at the 9:30 am Traditional service.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 9, 6:00 pm

“Colors of Grace” will be sung by the Chancel Choir. Each anthem portrays a lesson to be learned from the example of Christ and is visually represented by a colored cloth and appropriate symbol. Our drama group will join the choir in this presentation.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 6:00 pm

The Stations of the Cross Service is a powerful way to contemplate, and enter into, the mystery of Jesus’ gift of Himself to us. The service involves our senses and our emotions as we experience the love of Jesus in a new and deep way. The Stations Service will be in the Sanctuary and does not require walking.

EASTER WEEKEND SERVICES: The Entire Church will be celebrating Easter together on Sunday morning, April 12, at 9:30 and 11:15 am; therefore, there will be no Saturday Service April 11.

Serving Us in February

Saturday Host/Hostesses

2/1—Mark & Ruth Richardson
2/8—Ted & Julie Lasher
2/15—Steve & Amy Terry
2/22—Jan Lasar
2/29—Bill & Claudia Williams

Sunday Guest Table

2/2—Beth Williams
2/9—Beth Williams
2/16—Geri Moeller
2/23—Debbie Newman

Liturgists

2/2—Nancy Johnson
2/9—Dave Hagaman
2/16—Dick Steck
2/23—Claudia Williams

CPR/AED

2/2—Sue LaHood
2/9—Earl Lehman
2/16—Mel Snyder
2/23—Angie Hansen

Safety & Security:

Ron Blackwelder

Usher Captain:

Robert & Suzanne Evans

Trustee for the Month:

Lynn Stone

Pastor's Pen



Lent always seems to provide me with a spiritual boost and over the years, I have noticed that other people seem to have the same need to experience Lent that I do. After all, there is a certain beauty in the season because while reflection on Christ's death is so heavy, the anticipation of resurrection helps us bear that weight. This heaviness of the death of Christ, with the lifting up of our souls and the hope of resurrection, seems to create this very workable tension. It is almost as though Lent, for a period of time, redefines the law of gravity and makes a very fertile ground for spiritual growth.

Several months ago, I used the term "thin places". This is an idea in Celtic Christianity that there are places and events in life where Heaven and earth do not seem so separated, where you can sort of reach through earth to Heaven. Lent, at least for me, always seems to be a season of thin places. The cost of finding those thin places is reflection on the death of Christ, and the impermanence of earthly life. In essence, one of our greatest opportunities for spiritual growth and joy comes cloaked in suffering. On Ash Wednesday we are hit with reminders of our own suffering and potential suffering, our death, and the death of those we love. Many people run from Ash Wednesday and Lent altogether, because this holy time takes no prisoners. It is a season of reflection that demands that we come face to face with the things we do not want to come face to face with. Yet, when you look into the suffering and death of Christ you do not find gloom; you find hope. Because in Christ, His glory is forever linked with His suffering. He has forever changed suffering and death by His own suffering and death. So, to look into His suffering is to look into the face of hope, to look into His death is to look into everlasting life.

We have the obligation to, as is stated in our Book of Worship, "keep a holy Lent." Keeping a holy Lent means fasting from something, taking on a spiritual discipline, and the giving of alms. My pastoral advice is to fast from something that actually matters, something that actually makes you reflect on the seriousness of the season and draws you back to that "thin place." I have heard people say things like "oh giving up chocolate is not enough." I believe it is though. Why? Because if you are giving up something you enjoy for Lent you are forced to think about Lent whenever you abstain from it. It is not the size of the sacrifice in the eyes of someone else that matters, it is whether or not that sacrifice is drawing your attention back to the season and ultimately to Christ. For spiritual disciplines I always think anything you can do that marks the times of day is wonderful. An example of that being, if you are in HUMMERS, then read your chapter of the Bible from the reading plan in the morning and read a devotional at night. Morning prayers and evening prayers have traditionally been the way that prayers have been set for Protestants over the last several centuries so finding something to read or pray about in the morning and evening is perfect.

One last request: put our church at the top of your prayer list during Lent, not because there is something wrong, but because there is something right. Pray that we would remember what a refuge this church has been for us and pray that we would have many chances to bring people in from the storms of life to the refuge Christ has given us in these beautiful hills in His Church.

In Christ,

Robert



HUMMERS



A CHRISTIAN BROTHERHOOD SERVING OUR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

The featured speaker of the Hummers meeting on February 4, 2020 will be Bella Vista's Mayor Peter Christie. Mayor Christie, from his unique position, will speak to, and field questions concerning the proposal of a 1% city tax increase and how it would affect the residents in the Highlands, changes in the management structure of Cooper Communities, other current issues, plans, and the direction of Bella Vista's near and long term future as he sees it.

Our business meeting's agenda will include our financial report, and the planning of current and future Hummers activities in 2020. Van VanderSchaaf will provide our meeting's devotional service.

The breakfast meeting will convene promptly at 7:45 am on February 4, 2020.

Please be sure to sign up on our Hummers Breakfast Signup Sheet on the counter in the Gathering Area so that we can plan for breakfast servings.



United Methodist Women

Faith • Hope • Love in Action



The American Heart Association will be our program at the **United Methodist Women's meeting** on Monday, February 10, at 9:30 am. The American Heart Association is a non-profit organization in the United States that funds cardiovascular medical research, educates consumers on healthy living and fosters appropriate cardiac care in an effort to reduce disability and deaths caused by cardiovascular disease and stroke. As usual we will have breakfast, devotion and fellowship. It's fun and informative, it just doesn't get any better than that! See you there!

Muffins for Missions

The United Methodist Women pray to put their faith, hope, and love in action to benefit women and children's needs in our community. Therefore, we find ways to use our skills to help raise funds to support our mission. On the weekend of February 15 and 16 at the Saturday service and between the two Sunday morning services we invite you to enjoy homemade muffins. Yes, you may take them to go! Please plan to stop at our table in Fellowship Hall and donate to MUFFINS FOR MISSIONS. Remember, they are perfect to share with your neighbors and friends with an invitation to church.

UMW DESSERT FOR A YEAR

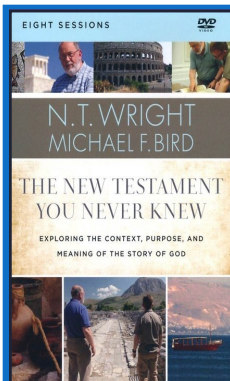
February and chocolates seem to go together most nicely! Joyce Sheldon will be sure her Chocolate Delight – will be a delight for Chris and Mike this month! Huge thanks to Julie Lasher for sharing her upside-down pecan cake last month to kick off a new year of desserts with Chris!

Please join the United Methodist Women's **Book Club** on Monday February 17, as we read WHICH WAY LORD? EXPLORING YOUR LIFE'S PURPOSE IN THE JOURNEYS OF PAUL ROB FUQUAY. As Christians, we hunger to live out God's purpose for our lives. But how do we know we are moving in the right direction? This study will help us understand God's desire for our lives by unpacking our experiences alongside those of the apostle Paul. We have a great time, will have coffee and cake or sweet breads and would love to have you join us! For questions, please call Sue LaHood 479/855-0937

AFTER HOURS

A WOMEN'S EVENING
RETREAT OF FELLOWSHIP,
SPIRITUAL GROWTH,
AND MISSION OUTREACH

Every Fourth Thursday
6:00 - 7:30 pm



The New Testament You Never Knew

An 8 week Lenten Study
• Starting February 24 •

The season of Lent provides an opportunity for our church to come together in an all church Bible study that will start the first week of Lent; the week of February 24 and will last 8 weeks.

Together, we will be studying "The New Testament You Never Knew". You will discover things you never knew about Jesus' baptism and journey into the wilderness, the meaning behind his parables and miracles, the significance of his death and resurrection, the incredible expansion of the early church into the Greco-Roman world, and how the transforming mission of Jesus can still turn the world upside down today.

A study guide and video provide exploration and reflection of the material. There are several small groups meeting weekly. Please sign up in the Gathering Area. Study guides are also available in the Gathering Area. We saw a slight price increase with the latest shipment, so the cost will be \$7.00 each. If you are interested in facilitating a class, please contact Julie Howe: jhowe@crisisprepandrecovery.com

Begins	Time	Facilitator	Location
Saturday Feb 22	10:00-11:30am CLASS IS FULL	Joyce Sheldon & Julie Howe	Concordia
Tuesday Feb 25	10:00-11:30am CLASS IS FULL	Rev Robert Cloninger	Peter Classroom
Tuesday Feb 25	2:00-3:30pm	Jack & Judy Schaible	Matthew Classroom
Wednesday Feb 26	9:00-9:30am	Jackie Warren & Linda Virgili	Mark Classroom
Wednesday Feb 26	2:00-3:30pm	Rev. Robert Cloninger	Mark Classroom
Thursday Feb 27	6:00-7:30pm CLASS IS FULL	Gary & Cynthia Marshall	Mark Classroom



Centered in Prayer

Grant, O God,
That we may never lose the way through our self-will,
and so end up in the far countries of the soul.
That we may never abandon the struggle,
but that we may endure to the end,
and be saved;
That we may never drop out of the race,
but that we may ever press forward
to the goal of our high calling;
That we may never choose the cheap and passing
things, and let go the precious things
that last forever;
That we may never take the easy way,
or leave the right way;
That we may never forget
that sweat is the price of all things,
and that without the cross, there cannot
be the crown.

So keep us and strengthen us by your grace that no disobedience and no weakness and no failure may stop us from entering into the blessedness which awaits those who are faithful in all the changes and the chances of life down even to the gates of death; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

From *Prayers for the Christian Year* by William Barclay

SPECIAL EASTER GIVING—This year we will be receiving an Easter Offering to support the many ministries of Highlands Church. You are invited to give an extra gift during this Easter season as we remember the crucifixion and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Please note on your check "Easter Offering." We encourage you to look into our electronic giving program. It takes just a few minutes to set up a recurring giving plan. Visit the church website at www.humcbv.com and locate the GIVE link or complete a paper authorization form.

Family News

welcome our New Member

Lisa Pittman

10 Duart Lane,

BV, AR 72715

phil65@yahoo.com

She works in sales at Massco Dental and enjoys gardening and reading. She has 5 children.



New Phones & Addresses & emails:

Maxine Bushee, 479/268-6744

Mike Munson cell, 479/418-6143

Judy McClure, 479/925-0208

Jim Goodwin, goody0528@gmail.com

Helen Christy, 3434 N Crossover Rd, Room 127
Fayetteville, AR 72703

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

To Helen Christy and family upon the loss of her husband Dale Christy, December 26, 2019.

To Carl Holm and family upon the loss of his wife Kathie Holm, January 23, 2020.

To Linda and Lorna Pumphrey and families upon the recent loss of their mother Mary Pumphrey, January 5, 2020. A memorial service will be held on Tuesday, February 18, at 10:00 am in the Highlands Church Sanctuary.

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.

ANGEL TREE

"Our lives are not measured by the number of years we exist, but by what we accomplish while we live, and the good we may render to our fellow men." Henry Wells 1875

Thank you congregation!!! Every year we cover a Christmas tree with ANGELS and your response is phenomenal! We provided clothing, toys and food for six families, this included 26 children. You made all their Christmases very special!!

We wish each one of you could experience the surprise of these families as they receive your generous gifts. Some are speechless at what they are receiving, you can tell by their facial expressions. But to experience the gratitude of these families with the tears and hugs that were given!

Thank you to everyone who donated a gift, food and money. And a very big thank you to those who helped sort and deliver, as I could not do it without your help. It is the generosity of your giving that blessed these families.

We can't express enough how appreciative these families are of your generosity.

Anne Mairret, Angel Tree Coordinator

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND: John Edwards was a founding member of Bright Futures Gravette. He had a passion for the children of the district and served the district in many aspects. Work has begun on establishing a memorial scholarship in honor of John. The scholarship will go to a GHS graduating senior who plans to attend a trade school or community college and has financial need. To contribute financially, please send your contribution to: Bright Futures Gravette, 25881 Austin Rd, Gravette, AR 72736. For tax deductible contributions, please contact Anne Mairret at 855-4277.

Giving Envelopes: If you make your contribution to Highlands Church by cash/check and like to use the special envelopes provided by the church, they are available for pickup from the counter in the Gathering Area. We apologize for the delay in getting them to you. Special note—these envelopes are not numbered because our software no longer uses special numbers. Please be sure to write your name on the envelopes when giving cash.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

EVERY SUNDAY • 8:00 AM & 9:30 AM

8:00 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us on Sunday mornings at 8:00 in the Mark Classroom. Contact Donna VanderSchaaf at 479-715-6959 for further information.

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. Contact Gary Marshall at 479-866-2481 for further information.

Tax statements have been mailed. If you have not received your statement or if you have any questions about your statement, please contact the church office or Donna Hagaman, 479/855-1431



The Little Free Pantry
at Highlands Church

Please help 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 entries of Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary to drop off your items.

HIGHLANDS
kids

NURSERY

Childcare is available every Sunday morning during our 9:30 and 11:15 services for birth through 3 years old.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

All children ages 4 through sixth grade are invited to Children's Church on Sunday mornings during the 9:30 service. Children will worship with their parents and after the Children's time in worship will be taken to their classroom for fun, fellowship and learning more about Christ and His love for them.



February 2020

**1-Saturday**

5:30pm Celebrations Worship

2-Sunday

8:00am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Traditional Worship
9:30am Children's Church
11:15am Gathering Worship
7:00pm AA Meeting

3-Monday

7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
9:00am Men's Bible Study
9:30am UMW Board Meeting
12:00pm One Table Cards
1:00pm Mahjongg-FUSS
5:00pm Men's Emmaus
6:00pm Men's Bible Study

4-Tuesday

7:45am Hummers Meeting
1:00pm Growth Group-
McCauley
3:00pm Yoga
5:30pm Mexican Train-FUSS

5-Wednesday

7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
2:00pm Fellowship Committee
4:00pm Bells Rehearsal
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

6-Thursday

10:00am Men's Bible Study

7-Friday

7:00am Men's Emmaus
7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
9:30am Samba
10:30am Compassionate
Disciples

8-Saturday

5:30pm Celebrations Worship

9-Sunday

8:00am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Traditional Worship
9:30am Children's Church
11:15am Gathering Worship
7:00pm AA Meeting

10-Monday

7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
9:00am Men's Bible Study
9:30am UMW Meeting
12:00pm One Table Cards
1:00pm Mahjongg-FUSS
3:00pm Women's Emmaus
5:00pm Men's Emmaus
6:00pm Men's Bible Study

11-Tuesday

10:30am Duplicate Bridge
1:00pm Growth Group-
McCauley
3:00pm Yoga

12-Wednesday

7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
9:30am PEO—DH
11:30am Cookie Walk
Recap Meeting
1:00pm Staff Meeting
4:00pm Bells Rehearsal
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

13-Thursday

9:00am Kitchen cleanup
10:00am Men's Bible Study

14-Friday

7:00am Men's Emmaus
7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
9:30am Samba
9:30 am Marathon Bridge

15-Saturday

5:30pm Celebrations Worship

16-Sunday

8:00am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Traditional Worship
9:30am Children's Church
11:15am Gathering Worship
7:00pm AA Meeting

17-Monday

7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
9:00am Men's Bible Study
9:30am UMW Book Club
1:00pm Mahjongg-FUSS
5:00pm Men's Emmaus
6:00pm Men's Bible Study

18-Tuesday

10:00am Mary Pumphrey
Memorial Service
1:00pm Growth Group-
McCauley
3:00pm Yoga
6:00pm Ad Council Meeting

19-Wednesday

7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
4:00pm Bells Rehearsal
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

20-Thursday

10:00am Men's Bible Study
3:00pm Library Meeting
4:00pm Care Group Leaders

21-Friday

7:00am Men's Emmaus
7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
9:30am Samba

22-Saturday

10:00am Lenten Study—
Sheldon/Howe
1:00pm Scrapbooking
& Card Making
5:30pm Celebrations Worship

23-Sunday

8:00am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Traditional Worship
9:30am Children's Church
11:15am Gathering Worship
5:30pm ACE Event
7:00pm AA Meeting

24-Monday

7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
9:00am Men's Bible Study
12:00pm One Table Cards
1:00pm Mahjongg-FUSS
3:00pm Women's Emmaus
5:00pm Men's Emmaus
6:00pm Men's Bible Study

25-Tuesday

10:00am Lenten Study—
Cloninger
1:00pm Growth Group-
McCauley
2:00pm Lenten Study—
Schaible
3:00pm Yoga

26-Wednesday

7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
9:30am Lenten Study—
Warren/Virgili
1:00pm Stitchers
1:00pm Staff Meeting
2:00pm Lenten Study—
Cloninger
4:00pm Bells Rehearsal
6:00pm Ash Wednesday
Service
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

27-Thursday

9:00am Kitchen Cleanup
10:00am Men's Bible Study
6:00pm UMW After Hours
6:00pm Lenten Study—
Marshall

28-Friday

7:00am Men's Emmaus
7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
9:30am Samba

29-Saturday

9:30am PEO-DH Founders Day
Luncheon
10:00am Lenten Study—
Sheldon/Howe
5:30pm Celebrations Worship





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

JOHN MATTHEWS
Director of Music Ministries

JAMES HENDRIX
Contemporary Worship Leader

PAM MEYER
Celebration Worship Leader

JEANNINE WAGAR
Organist

JOYCE SHELTON
Chimes & Bells Director

LORI HEALD
Office Administrator

AMEY BURKETT
Administrative Assistant

DRU MATTHEWS
Bookkeeper /Treasurer

TBD
Children Ministries Coordinator

LAURIE PEARSON
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 March Newsletter is February 20 at noon. Please email items to **Dru Matthews** at dru@humcbv.com or place in the Newsletter mailbox in the hallway next to the church office.

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



Like our page on Facebook

facebook.com/humcbv

Highlands Church
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