

# Highlands News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | HIGHLANDS CHURCH  
MARCH 2020 – VOLUME 24 — ISSUE 3



## Highlights of Holy Week

**PALM SUNDAY**, April 5, 9:30 and 11:15 am (Saturday, April 4, 5:30 pm)  
As we commemorate the last week of Jesus' earthly life, we celebrate his triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday weekend. Again this year we will wave palm branches during the congregational singing at each worship service. At the Sunday Traditional 9:30 am service, we begin with a Palm Parade led by the children. The celebratory music sung by the congregation and choir herald the arrival of Jesus, but gently foreshadow the events to come.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**, April 9, 6:00 pm  
This service honors the "Last Supper" of Jesus with a service of Holy Communion. The Chancel Choir will incorporate communion in their presentation of a new cantata by Joseph Martin entitled "The Colors of Grace." This soulful presentation depicts the events leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus, beginning with the Upper Room. Members of our Drama Ministry will aid the beautiful music using the "Colors of Grace."

**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.

Easter Continental Breakfast will be available before each service. Please sign up to bring muffins, pastries, sweet breads, or fruit. Sign up sheets are in the Gathering Area.

Bring a Flower for the Cross. Before the services, we will be adorning the cross near the Sanctuary entrance with live flowers as we experience the "Cross Coming to Life."

Join in the celebrations of Holy Week and bring a friend!!

## Serving Us in March

### Saturday Host/Hostesses

3/7—Joe & Virginia Wood  
3/14—Trevor & Jan Taylor  
3/21—Jan Lasar  
3/28—Bill & Claudia Williams

### Sunday Guest Table

3/1—Debbie Newman  
3/8—Debbie Newman  
3/15—Mel Snyder  
3/22—Mel Snyder  
3/29—Mel Snyder

### Liturgists

3/1—Joyce Sheldon  
3/8—Darleen Olson  
3/15—UMW Weekend  
3/22—Bonnie Bloom  
3/29—Claudia Williams

### CPR/AED

3/1—Ron Blackwelder  
3/8—Pat Lehman  
3/15—Joan Pehosh  
3/22—Linda Virgili  
3/29—Gene Maaske

### Safety & Security:

Joe Newman

### Usher Captains:

Steve & Sandy Larsen

### Trustee for the Month:

Ken Bloom

# Pastor's Pen

I love to research. It is one of my greatest passions in life because I have a deep desire to know things. I want to know the intricacies of the world and what makes people act the way they do. Something dawned on me recently in the midst of my current research during these ongoing political debates and the increasing polarization within society. That is the fact that it does not make much sense that most of us should not logically exist within the family trees we have. Think about the numerous wars over religion, politics, and power in the world over the centuries. Now think about the countries involved. Combine those two things with your own genealogy and you will most likely question how you even came to exist.



Pastor Robert Cloninger

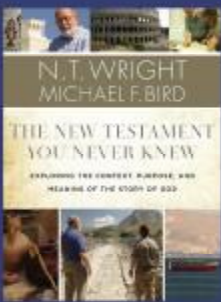
I look at my own family tree, which is pretty average for Americans of European descent. On one side of my family tree people came from strong Protestant countries that actively fought Catholicism, and yet there would be a marriage between a Catholic and Protestant, thus producing a distant family member of mine. In some cases, it was the exact opposite situation; but, here I am.

When our ancestors arrived on the shores of America, they continued to find reasons to dislike each other. They found reasons to fight and wage against each other; but once again, here we are. The big reason for this is that our great great-great-grandparents were unwilling to be controlled by passing trends and hatred. Grievances, discrimination, and hate were not going to completely rule their lives. Our ancestors knew something that we, as a nation, need to learn: at the end of the day, people are people.

I see Jesus and His hand in the middle of all the stories about love bringing us together and producing the people of today. I see Jesus giving courage for centuries to see others as they are, made in the image of God. And I see Jesus encouraging us to find that place again. We need to find a place where we can break away from the opinions of the media and the loud voices that seem to be everywhere. We need to find a place where we can be people again. We lose our humanity because of division by forgetting how connected we all are and how the vast majority of the time our differences are so minor.

Years ago, I had a horrible asthma attack. My airways started spasming, things got really bad and I was rushed to the hospital. Until that point, I had never felt vulnerability like that. When I was in the emergency room being worked on, I saw the faces of many compassionate nurses, two doctors, and a respiratory therapist. I remember thinking that I did not even know these people, but they were concerned about me and my life. The spiritual exercise that came to me after that experience was visualizing myself in a state of danger and going to people that I thought were, to some extent, not my biggest fans and asking them to help me. I reflected on what I really thought they would do. Would they let me be or would they help me? Of course, we can never truly know during that visualization, but I think if you'll try it out, what you will realize is that the vast majority of people you can imagine would help you.

At this point within the denomination, within the country, and within the world, it sure seems like a good idea to take a deep breath and remember that even these divisions we think are so major do not separate us fully from one another.



The New Testament  
You Never Knew

Lenten Study  
Continues

## 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](http://www.humcbv.com) and locate the donation link or complete a paper authorization form in the church office.

## ACE—All Church Event

March 22, 5:30 pm

SAVE THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR.

Watch the Weekly Email Digest for details.

**"FIFTH SUNDAY LOAN REDUCTION"** If you have only been at Highlands for a short time, you may wonder what this means. We have a long standing tradition of focusing on our Mortgage Debt on the fifth Sundays of the year and making an extra gift towards paying down the debt principal. The regular payment is made monthly through the operating budget. Any donation indicated for loan reduction goes toward additional principal payments. These payments reduce the life of the loan and save us many dollars in interest. We average paying an additional \$10,000 to \$15,000 each year. Join us in this effort on March 29. Many small gifts make a HUGE difference.



## Centered in Prayer

*"The Lord is near to brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit" (Ps.34:18)*

'Religion's for old people', my buddy declared as we drove through the countryside. I found his comment a little insulting: I was a churchgoer, age nineteen. Was that so wrong? I lost touch with him; now it's been twenty-five years since we've spoken. But he was on to something. At twenty, the road looks clear all the way to forever. We arrogantly waste time, try a hundred new jobs or relationships or ideologies, believe any fool thing. The heart is not yet broken, not in the way it is when time crashes down on it—soured dreams, career missteps, divorce, illness, the death of loved ones, the passing of so much we love. By old age the ghostly procession of the once-was can be unbearable.

My heroes include any elderly persons who keep the flame lit, who still feel the inspiration and outrage at ideas, current events, history, movies, books, national tragedies, spring flowers, the passing parade. Somehow they take it all in. Life enlarges their spirit, becomes fuel for the remaining journey, seasoned with humor not bitterness. They age with dignity. Part of the dignity is keeping the inevitable heartbreak framed by larger perspectives and by going deeper into the grief, not denying it.

From *A Turbulent Peace* by Ray Waddle

## WE'RE HIRING

Highlands Church is taking resumes for the position of Children's Ministry Coordinator. The job is part time (10 hours per week), and requires being present at the church on both Wednesdays and Sundays. Previous experience is preferred. Please send all resumes to Pastor Robert Cloninger by email :

[robert@humcbv.com](mailto:robert@humcbv.com)

## NURSERY

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



# HUMMERS



A CHRISTIAN BROTHERHOOD SERVING OUR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

Due to a scheduling conflict, the HUMMERS meeting for March 2020 will be a new date, time, format and content.

We will convene at 5:30 PM, Monday, March 2 ..... yes, Monday @ 5:30 PM

That's right, it's a dinner meeting. Chef Butch Lock and his gang will prepare a grilled hamburger, cole slaw, potato salad, etc., meal for us. A brief business meeting will follow the meal. We will move to the John Wesley Auditorium immediately after the business meeting for Devotion and Program.

Our Devotion will be directly linked to our Program which will be the recently released movie, Apollo 11. This film is NASA's record of Apollo 11's historic first manned Lunar landing in July, 1969. There are no actors..... only Astronauts Armstrong, Aldrin and Collins and Mission Control, with a brief voice over by Walter Cronkite. A great deal of this 93 minute documentary movie is never before released NASA footage. This is different. It's intended to offer an opportunity for those working, those late-sleeping, and everyone else to attend..... so, it's different. We hope you'll give it a try. Please be sure to sign up on the HUMMERS DINNER SHEET at the information station in the Gathering Area so that Chef Lock can plan for servings.



## United Methodist Women

Faith · Hope · Love in Action



Please join the United Methodist Women on Monday, March 9th, 9:30 am or fellowship, food and devotion. Our speaker will be Debbie Martin, Director of Havenwood. Havenwood offers transitional housing and many valuable services for mothers and their children to help them move from crisis to self-sufficiency. All women and guests of Highlands Church are invited and we would love for you to come and have fun with us! Sign up sheets are in the fellowship area. Hope to see you here!

### UMW Dessert for a Year

A taste of time, a sprinkle of love, and dash of kindness are just a few of the ingredients that have gone into the Desserts for a Year to Chris Pulhamus. Big thanks to Julie Lasher for her delicious delivery in January and thanks to Joyce Sheldon for a delightful chocolate dessert delivered on Valentine's Day. This month, Chris and Mike will receive a strawberry surprise from Suzanne Evans. Be sure to watch for ticket sales to begin in April as May starts a whole new yummy year for one of you!!

Please join the Highlands United Methodist Women's Book Club this month as we read Tilly and the Crazy Eights by Gray Smith, Monique. When Tilly receives an invitation to help drive eight elders on their ultimate bucket-list road trip, she impulsively says yes. Before she knows it, Tilly has said good-bye to her family and is on an adventure that will transform her in ways she could not predict, just as it will for the elders who soon dub themselves "the Crazy Eights."

We will meet on Monday, March 16, 9:30 am in the Matthew Room at church. We do have a lively discussion over coffee, water and treats. For any questions please call Sue LaHood at 855-0937.



## Family News

### WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS:

Joe & Virginia Wood,  
9 Huskins Circle, BV,  
AR 72715. Joe & Virginia moved to Bella Vista in 2002 from New Mexico where Joe served as a UM minister.



Larry & Pat Roe,  
700 Walnut Ridge  
Street, Centerton, AR  
72719. Larry & Pat are former members of Highlands who moved away and have moved back in retirement.

### NEW PHONES, ADDRESSES & EMAILS

Carolyn Standridge, 11745 Broadway St. #4302,  
Pearland, TX 77584. Phone 832-230-3030

Joe Newman new email: [jnewman1401@cox.net](mailto:jnewman1401@cox.net)

Jerry Leonard new email: [jknjr@cox.net](mailto:jknjr@cox.net)

### OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

To the family of Harold Sharp who passed February 2, in San Antonio, TX

To Butch and Alice Lock upon the recent loss of their daughter Angela Williamson, February 7.

A big "THANK YOU" going out to Highlands Church for all of the wonderful prayers, cards, visits, food, and transportation provided to me or Jim during my past two surgeries. Absolutely everything that was given or provided to us for the past 3-4 months is very appreciated. It has been a very long road to recovery, and there's a lot more road to cover before the original back pain goes away; but your prayers have been and will continue to support us to the end. Then, good ole Shingles show up which I'm still fighting. Who says that God doesn't have a sense of humor???? I'm thankful that the hardest part is over, and that the Lord has provided a wonderful & supportive church and community to us through this difficult time. Thank you so very much!!!! I am truly blessed!!!!

Susan Couto

### 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.

## 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. We are studying the book of Matthew. Study guides are available and Bibles should be brought to class. Contact Donna VanderSchaff 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.

## CAR SHOW—September 19

In order to continue our biggest fund raiser of the year, (Car Show) we need to fill the following leadership positions. These positions will put in around 40 hours of volunteer work prior to the show plus attend several meetings: Meal & Drinks, Advertising & Flyers, Parking & Handicap, Registration, Administration (printing, flyers, tickets etc.) and Sponsor Drive. Please contact Steve Terry (405 222 8727) [s\\_terry58@hotmail.com](mailto:s_terry58@hotmail.com) for more information and to volunteer. Also we will have sign up sheets on the table. We need to have these positions filled by March 15.

## SAMARITAN'S FEET

We can all agree *EVERY CHILD NEEDS SHOES* for their ever-growing feet! Therefore, Highlands Church through Missions Ministry will begin collecting NEW SHOES - sized 11 Toddler thru size 15 for Teenagers. A Collection Box will be standing up in the Gathering Area for an on-going collection. The collection will benefit the needs of Samaritan's Feet for Back-to-School events! For questions, contact Lori and Gary Pinkerton at 479-876-7465.



## Hummerettes

JOIN US! We always welcome new players! We play on Tuesdays, from April thru October. We have 5 tee times set up

through the golf office. Players sign up each week if they can play; you do not have to get a substitute if you cannot play. You don't need to have a handicap and there are no prizes or contests. A player can choose to play either 9 holes or 18 holes. Sometimes the group will decide to play a scramble. Quite often we decide to go for a bite to eat after we finish playing. Dining out is optional and we make the decision on the day of play.

For more information or to get on the email list, please contact Susan Brumbaugh at 479-282-6155 or [brumbaugh.susan1@gmail.com](mailto:brumbaugh.susan1@gmail.com)

You may also contact Gail Storm at 661-331-1069 Or [gljnstorm@gmail.com](mailto:gljnstorm@gmail.com)

## SNACK PACKS—

Mission Ministries will be packing Snack Packs for the children of Gravette Schools on Tuesday, March 17, at 2:00 pm. If you are interested, please join us at the Samaritan Center, 1211 West Hudson Road, Rogers (Hwy 102, two miles east of Sam's). We always pack on the third Tuesday of each month at 2:00 pm. Questions, contact Steve Terry 405-222-8727.

## MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

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.

## CARE & SHARE STORE

Volunteers are needed to work at the Gravette Care and Share Thrift Store the week of March 17-20 from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. Signup sheets are in the Gathering Area.

Nicole's House offers a one-year, Christ-centered transitional living program for women coming out of addiction and incarceration. On Wednesday, May 6 @ 7 a.m. there will be an inspirational breakfast at Keypoint Church, 3700 Medical Center Pkway in Bentonville. Cost \$15 each. If you would like to attend, please sign up on the bulletin board across from the church office. Thanks! Bev Puckett



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.



# March 2020

- 1-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
- 2-Monday
  - 7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
  - 9:00am Men's Bible Study
  - 9:30am UMW Board Meeting
  - 12:00pm One Table Cards
  - 5:00pm Men's Emmaus
  - 5:30pm HUMMERS Meeting
- 3-Tuesday
  - 10:00am Lenten Study-Cloninger
  - 1:00pm Growth Group-McCauley
  - 2:00pm Lenten Study-Schaible
  - 3:00pm Yoga
- 4-Wednesday
  - 7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
  - 9:30am Lenten Study-Warren/Virgili
  - 2:00pm Fellowship Committee
  - 2:00pm Lenten Study-Cloninger
  - 4:00pm Bells Rehearsal
  - 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal
- 5-Thursday
  - 10:00am Men's Bible Study
  - 6:00pm Lenten Study-Marshall
- 6-Friday
  - 7:00am Men's Emmaus
  - 7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
  - 9:30am Samba
  - 10:30am Compassionate Disciples
  - 6:00pm Men's Bible Study
- 7-Saturday
  - 5:30pm Celebrations Worship
- 8-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
- 9-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
- 10-Tuesday
  - 10:00am Lenten Study-Cloninger
  - 10:30am Duplicate Bridge
  - 1:00pm Growth Group-McCauley
  - 2:00pm Lenten Study-Schaible
  - 3:00pm Yoga
- 11-Wednesday
  - 7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
  - 9:30am Lenten Study-Warren/Virgili
  - 1:00pm Staff Meeting
  - 2:00pm Lenten Study-Cloninger
  - 4:00pm Bells Rehearsal
  - 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal
- 12-Thursday
  - 9:00am Kitchen cleanup
  - 10:00am Men's Bible Study
  - 1:00pm Trustees Meeting
  - 6:00pm Lenten Study-Marshall
- 13-Friday
  - 7:00am Men's Emmaus
  - 7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
  - Breakfast Party
  - 9:30am Samba
  - 9:30 am Marathon Bridge
- 14-Saturday
  - 5:30pm Celebrations Worship
- 15-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
- 16-Monday
  - 9:00am Men's Bible Study
  - 9:30am UMW Book Club
  - 12:00pm One Table Cards
  - 1:00pm Mahjongg-FUSS
  - 5:00pm Men's Emmaus
  - 6:00pm Men's Bible Study
- 17-Tuesday
  - 10:00am Lenten Study-Cloninger
  - 1:00pm Growth Group-McCauley
  - 2:00pm Lenten Study-Schaible
  - 3:00pm Yoga
  - 6:00pm Ad Council Meeting
- 18-Wednesday
  - 9:30am Lenten Study-Warren/Virgili
  - 10:00am Blood Drive
  - 2:00pm Lenten Study-Cloninger
  - 4:00pm Bells Rehearsal
  - 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal
- 19-Thursday
  - 10:00am Men's Bible Study
  - 3:00pm Library Meeting
  - 4:00pm Care Group Leaders
  - 6:00pm Lenten Study-Marshall
- 20-Friday
  - 7:00am Men's Emmaus
  - 9:30am Samba
- 21-Saturday
  - 5:30pm Celebrations Worship
- 22-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
- 23-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
- 24-Tuesday
  - 10:00am Lenten Study-Cloninger
  - 1:00pm Growth Group-McCauley
  - 2:00pm Lenten Study-Schaible
  - 3:00pm Yoga
- 25-Wednesday
  - 7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
  - 9:30am Lenten Study-Warren/Virgili
  - 1:00pm Stickers
  - 1:00pm Staff Meeting
  - 2:00pm Lenten Study-Cloninger
  - 4:00pm Bells Rehearsal
  - 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal
- 26-Thursday
  - 9:00am Kitchen Cleanup
  - 10:00am Men's Bible Study
  - 6:00pm Lenten Study-Marshall
  - 6:00pm UMW After Hours
- 27-Friday
  - 7:00am Men's Emmaus
  - 7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
  - 9:30am Samba
- 28-Saturday
  - 1:00pm Scrapbooks & Cards
  - 5:30pm Celebrations Worship
- 29-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
- 30-Monday
  - 7:30am Flex 'N Stretch
  - 9:00am Men's Bible Study
  - 12:00pm One Table Cards
  - 1:00pm Mahjongg-FUSS
  - 5:00pm Men's Emmaus
  - 6:00pm Men's Bible Study
- 31-Tuesday
  - 10:00am Lenten Study-Cloninger
  - 1:00pm Growth Group-McCauley
  - 2:00pm Lenten Study-Schaible
  - 3:00pm Yoga



# 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 SHELDON  
*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](http://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 April Newsletter is March 20 at noon. Please email items to Dru Matthews at [dru@humcbv.com](mailto: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.



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