

Highlands News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | HIGHLANDS CHURCH | AUGUST 2021 | VOLUME 25 | ISSUE 6



The Future of Our Angel Tree Ministry

Starting in early December, a tree is put out in the Gathering Area, adorned with paper Angels which possess the dreams of some in-need families in the Gravette School District. Much planning has taken place to get us to this point, with the help of contacts at the school district to identify families and get lists of requested Christmas gift items. By mid-December, gifts galore have accumulated around the tree and volunteers come in to sort the gifts & prepare them for traveling to their new homes. The following morning, more volunteers from our congregation gather to deliver the carloads of food and gifts to the families at a central meeting location at our school district. The families are overwhelmed with the generosity of the congregation of Highlands Church. Tears of joy and thankfulness are shed. Some families have even had to call in reinforcements in the way of friends or family members bringing an additional car to transport their gifts home, because they had no idea there would be more than could fit in their compact car.

After 15 years at the helm of the Angel Tree ministry, Anne Mairet has turned in her (extremely organized) Angel Tree binder and supplies; she is ready for someone else to take the lead. We are forever grateful for her many years of dedication and passion for this vital ministry! The Missions Team is now in search of volunteers to lead the Angel Tree ministry into the future. We would like to fill 1 Leader and 2 Co-Leader positions that will work together to continue the legacy of this valuable ministry. If you would like to volunteer your time and talents by filling one of the 3 available leadership positions for the Angel Tree ministry, or have more questions about exactly what it entails, please contact Steve Terry at 405-222-8727 or s_terry63@outlook.com.



Join Us For Communion
DURING ALL 3 SERVICES
JULY 31 & AUGUST 1



Pastor's Pen by Rev. Robert Cloninger

I would like to share some wisdom that I have recently been reflecting on. It's short, but sweet. It also leaves plenty of room for the Holy Spirit. I hope it encourages you as it has encouraged me.

"The key to life is to put one foot in front of the other." This nugget of wisdom is something my father would always say to me. As a child, and into my adult years, if I thought something was more than I could do or too hard to achieve, my father would stubbornly repeat the same thing, "one foot in front of the other." Every single time he said it I was usually at a point of total frustration. One day I had been a little too frustrated when I complained about not being able to do something. He repeated his saying, "one foot in front of the other", when I said, "that's a really cute saying, Dad, but right now I don't think I can even get up to do that." My father never lost a beat and he replied, "I trust you enough to know you'll figure that out." Determination and improvisation. Those two words became the backbone of my father's resilience in the worst of circumstances.



If you've been needing a pep talk then here it is: Jesus will always give you the strength for determination and improvisation. He will always light your fire for determination no matter what life brings, and He will always be there to give you wisdom (and blessing) when determination doesn't seem to be enough. Never forget that.

Pastor Robert's office hours are:

TUESDAY - THURSDAY
9AM - NOON ... AVAILABLE IN OFFICE
1PM - 4PM ... AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

FRIDAY
9AM - NOON ... AVAILABLE IN OFFICE

HUMCBV.COM
NEW SERMON VIDEOS POSTED WEEKLY

Music Ministries Begin Rehearsals

by John Matthews, Dir. of Music Ministries

Starting August 18, the Highlands Ringers and the Chancel Choir will resume their regular Wednesday rehearsals. The Highland Ringers hold their rehearsals each Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Director Joyce Sheldon takes the players through their music with lots of patience and a wealth of experience. The church possesses 5 octaves of bells and chimes - that's a possibility of 60 different bells and chimes that could ring if we had the full complement of ringers. The bells ring several times per year for the Traditional Worship service and are always looking for additional ringers. If you would like to join this fun group of ringers, send Joyce an email at jgsheldon@cox.net. A little musical experience is required but ringing experience is not. You will be taught the basics and will be ringing joyfully in no time.

Also beginning on August 18, the Chancel Choir will be resuming their regular Wednesday night rehearsals in the Choir room at 6:30 p.m. I have planned some wonderful anthems for Traditional worship and we will begin rehearsing our choral cantata for Christmas very soon. If you have been thinking of joining this welcoming and loving group of dedicated singers, this would be a great time to do so.

Psalm 100 begins with "**Make a joyful noise to the Lord. Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.**" Although the Chancel Choir rarely, if ever, makes a "noise," we do come before His presence with singing - with lots of gladness. You can be a part of this wonderful treasure we call the Chancel Choir. No experience is required. We only require a love for the Lord and a willingness to share your voice in praising Him. We are called to share our gifts in furthering the kingdom of God. The Chancel Choir could be that venue to share your gift for singing!

If you would like more information about our music ministries, send me an email at jmatt0952@gmail.com

See YOU in church!

Loan Reduction Challenge

Four sevens... **\$7,777.00**. That's the magic number sitting out there to be matched by our membership to help pay down the debt. The challenge is to match the number or go past it. Should we match it by August 31, we would reduce the debt by \$15,554.00.

Our real challenge is to blow past the \$15,554.00. We have until August 31.

Members and friends, "LET'S DO IT".

Thank you, Finance Committee



Centered in Prayer



The church and the world need saints. They need saints more than they need more canny politicians, more brilliant scientists, more grossly overpaid executives and entrepreneurs, more clever entertainers and talk-show hosts. Are there any on the horizon now that Mother Teresa is no longer with us, either of the extraordinary or of the ordinary kind? I think there are. Maybe I should say that there are saints "aborning" by God's grace. There are those whose lives have been irradiated by God's grace, who seek not to be safe but to be faithful, who have learned how to get along in adversity, who are joyful, who are dream filled, and above all, who are prayerful. That is what the church and the world need most. It begins with you!

from *Spiritual Preparation for Christian Leadership* by E. Glenn Hinson

4th Annual Highlands Cruise-In & Car Show

Early August will mark the start of congregational meal ticket sales and volunteer sign-ups to support the Highlands Church 4th Annual Cruise-In & Car Show fundraiser to support Bright Futures, Snack Packs for Kids and Samaritan's Feet for Gravette School District children.

Nearly half of the money we raise from the car show comes from congregational sales of meal tickets in addition to day-of-the-show sales and donations. Car show meal tickets (4 for individuals, 8 for families) will be provided to all members of the congregation at Highlands to sell, buy & give away or to return to the church. Money from ticket sales and/or unsold tickets may be returned to the church in the envelopes in which the tickets will be provided. Returning unsold tickets is appreciated since they may be used for sales during the show.

July 30 is the deadline for sponsor donations to have their business information included on the meal tickets. Let us know as soon as possible if you have any sponsor suggestions so we may finalize the meal tickets.

Note that there is NO deadline for individual or business donations. The deadline is only for business listings on the meal tickets. Please consider making an individual donation for these charities that play such a vital role in the lives of so many school children in our community.

The other way you might support this fundraising effort is to volunteer to help the day of the show. We will be needing help greeting and parking people displaying their vehicle; facilitating spectator parking—including transporting spectators from the back lot and Baptist lot to the main HUMC lot; preparing and serving the lunch; selling meal tickets at the show and monitoring show activities. There will be additional and more specific information about volunteer opportunities in the near future.

Please contribute as you are able in supporting this event.

Thank you!

Steve Terry, Chair

Ted Lasher, Co-Chair

Highlands Church 4th Annual Cruise-In & Car Show

September 18, 2021





THE HUMMERS

A CHRISTIAN BROTHERHOOD SERVING OUR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY



Hummers Meetings

The Hummers are on summer hiatus until Tuesday, September 7, at which time they will have a breakfast meeting with the Superintendent of the Gravette School District (and Highlands Church's own) Mrs. Maribel Childress as our guest speaker. Mark your calendars!

Hummers Blood Drive Report

Our Blood Drive on Wednesday, July 21 had an excellent turn-out. With a goal of 29 donors for this event, we had 36 appointments made in advance and 7 walk-ins for a total of 43 prospective donors.

The total number of donors successfully completing the donation was 38. These totals are an excellent number, especially given the current reluctances due to COVID-19 conditions and the typical summertime pressures of vacations and travel.

We feel that these contributions are a direct result of the good work of our Hummers Blood Drive Coordinator, Gene Leonard, and our Office Staff. If you have an opportunity to do so, please give them a good, 'ol time, "Thank You".

And, a huge "THANK YOU" to every one of you who answered the call to volunteer your time and your arm. It makes a difference because.... **A blood donation can be the gift of life..... yours, and our loved ones.**



Highlands United Methodist Women

Faith · Hope · Love in Action



We Love Our Highlands Church Congregation!

The Highlands United Methodist Women would like to thank our most generous congregation for their donations in the 'Change for Change' project, 'Desserts for a Year' and the Highland Shirts. We received **\$1,000.48** from y'all for the **Change for Change!!!** Thank You, Thank You, Thank You! We collected **\$750.00** for the **Desserts for a Year** fundraiser. Donna VanderSchaaf was the winner and she has already received her first dessert and is waiting for her August dessert! Thank you all again! We also collected **\$48.00** from the **Highlands Shirts**. You guys and gals will look so great in those shirts! Woo-hoo! Thank you for your generous donations!

The Highlands United Methodist Women Book Club had their End of Season Luncheon on July 8

We discussed our books, ate a fabulous lunch and talked. We will have our regular book club meetings to discuss books, 1 per month, next year with 5 new books. If you would like to be part of our Book Club, all information you will need will come out at a later date this year! We do have fun and would love to have you in our group! All women of the church are welcome and their friends, too. For any questions or more information, please call Sue LaHood, 479-855-0937 or email at suelahood@currently.com.

Family News

NEW CONTACT INFORMATION:

Dick & Anne Mairet
19601 W 100 St, Lenexa, KS 66220
Anne's email: annemairet1@gmail.com

Jeanne Johnson-Redway
8222 S Yale Ave Apt 341, Tulsa, OK 74137
Cell phone: 479-659-4847

NEW MEMBERS:

None to report

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF:

Pastor Robert and Betsy Cloninger for the loss of Robert's grandmother, Renna Martin Kelton, on 7/7/21.

Betty Davis for the loss of her husband, Paul Davis, on 7/12/21.

SPECIAL THANK YOU MESSAGES:

None to report

Office News

Amey & Lori: highlandschurch@humcbv.com
Newsletter: newsletter@humcbv.com

OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 4:00pm.

BUILDING USE: Groups can meet inside the church but please call to schedule a classroom with the church office in advance.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The Deadline for the September Highlands Newsletter is 12:00 (noon) on August 20. Please send all newsletter submissions, comments and/or questions to this email address: newsletter@humcbv.com. We appreciate any input, articles and information you may send. Thanks! Amey & Lori

Care & Share

Volunteers from Highlands Church are needed to work at the Gravette Care & Share Thrift Store the **week of August 10-13 from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm**. See the Weekly Update email to sign up online or contact the church office if you need assistance. If you prefer, you may still contact our coordinator, Connie Kiefer, directly at 876-6324.

Please note: Due to the Gravette Day Celebration, Care & Share will be closed on August 14. Therefore, no volunteers are needed Saturday, August 14.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

EVERY SUNDAY
9:30 AM
MATTHEW CLASSROOM



AN ADULT CLASS • STUDYING THE BOOK OF ROMANS



Care & Share Thrift Store
Volunteers Needed
August 10-13

SEE THE WEEKLY UPDATE EMAIL TO SIGN UP ONLINE OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE!

August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1– Communion Weekend	2– Men’s Bible Study & Emmaus	3– Yoga meets & Men’s Bible Study	4– Staff Meetings on Wednesdays	5	6– Samba plays on Fridays	7
8	9– American Legion Meeting	10	11	12	13	14– Alpha Gal Support Group
15	16	17– Admin Council Meeting	18– Bells & Choir Rehearsals begin	19– Library Meeting	20	21
22	23	24– Care Group Leaders Meeting	25	26	27	28– Scrapbooking & Card Making
29	30	31				

The Safety and Security Team is looking for some men or women to join us! We need a few more people to take over one month per year to make sure the doors are locked during the Traditional Service, 9:15 am - 10:40 am, and to monitor our video cameras. ‘On the job’ training will be provided. Also, during the Traditional Service, we also need a few more people for our **CPR Team!** CPR Training is available thru the Police Department for a nominal fee and we will be going to a class to get recertified sometime soon. Please contact Sue LaHood, 479-855-0937, suelahood@currently.com.

Changes for Little Free Pantry



Our Little Free Pantry is located in the rear parking lot of Highlands Church.

Take what you need, leave what you can.

A huge thanks to all who volunteered to serve the food pantry during the worst of Covid 2020 & 2021. Because of our ACE project, we were able to substantially increase the volume of food supplied to the community. Now that the ACE project is completed, we need to make changes to our program that will require less work from volunteers. The changes are as follows:

- We will no longer be accepting food donations into the church building.
- We will use up approximately a one month’s supply of food currently stocked in the food pantry and return the room into a meeting room.
- Please take food donations directly to the pantry and organize food by groups as possible.

Thanks, The Missions Team

EVERYONE WELCOME!

SATURDAY CELEBRATION - 5:30 PM
SUNDAY TRADITIONAL - 9:30 AM
SUNDAY GATHERING - 11:15 AM



YOUR

HIGHLANDS CHURCH A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

Church Staff

REV. ROBERT CLONINGER
Senior Pastor

LORI HEALD
Office Administrator

AMEY BURKETT
Administrative Assistant

DRU MATTHEWS
Bookkeeper /Treasurer

JOHN MATTHEWS
Director of Music Ministries

PAM MEYER
Celebration Worship Leader

JEANNINE WAGAR
Organist

JOYCE SHELDON
Chimes & Bells Director

LAURIE PEARSON
Nursery Worker

Operating Budget Report - June 30, 2021

	YTD Budget	June Actual	YTD Actual
Income	269,332	42,645	247,481
Expenses	269,332	40,628	251,520
Net	0	2,017	(4,038)

Thank you for your continued support.



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Instagram.com/humc.bv



GIVING YOUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

You can give your
tithes & offerings online
by visiting our website
humcbv.com/give

Online giving is a safe and easy
way to give to Highlands Church.

Contact the church office if you have
any questions regarding online giving.