

Highlands News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | HIGHLANDS CHURCH | MARCH 2023 | VOLUME 27 | ISSUE 3



Easter Services at Highlands Church

Palm Sunday Weekend Worship: Celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem by joining us for worship at our Celebration Service on Saturday, April 1 at 5:30 pm or Sunday, April 2 at 10:00 am for our Traditional Service.

Maundy Thursday: On Thursday, April 6 at 6:00 pm, in honor of the Passover, we will have a special service. Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper, the Garden of Gethsemane and Jesus' arrest.

Good Friday: On Friday, April 7 at 6:00 pm, we will have a Stations of the Cross Service. The Stations Service is a powerful way to contemplate, and enter into, the mystery of Jesus' gift of Himself to us. The Stations Service will be in the Sanctuary and does not require walking.

Easter Morning Continental Breakfast will be held before Sunday service on Easter morning. Join us from 9:00—9:45 am in the Fellowship Hall on April 9. Signups to bring muffins, pastries, sweet bread, or fruit will begin soon.

A Flower for the Cross: We ask each person to bring a live flower (no silk) on Easter morning, April 9. Before the morning services, we will be adorning the small cross near the Sanctuary entrance with flowers.

Easter Weekend Services: The Entire Church will be celebrating Easter together on Sunday morning, April 9, at 10:00 am; therefore, there will be no Saturday Service April 8.

Holy Week

Pastor's Pen by Rev. Robert Cloninger

I was thinking back to growing up. I loved stories of knights like King Arthur, and soldiers. I loved the story of David and Goliath. I loved cowboy stories, riding horses, and seeing my grandfather and great-uncle work horses. And I remember thinking as a kid that all of what I was seeing and taking in was what my life would be like. In my mind I was going to be the greatest knight/soldier/cowboy that had ever been. There were no limits. Everything, I thought, would be just like the books and stories, and life would play out in the heroic ways I had read and heard about.

I also remember that in school everyone was always being pushed; pushed by teachers and parents. Everyone wants you to do better. It happens through high school and college. Because people that cared about us wanted the best for us. And then I heard this magic phrase my sophomore year in college, "C's get degrees." And my world was set free. I was thinking at the time, yeah, it may be a C and that's not what my parents want, but I still get a piece of paper at the end of my time in this college. The problem was that I found out my yellow brick road made of C's would not fly if I wanted to get into seminary because of competition for spaces in the program. I needed to do better, get better grades.

So I got into seminary trying to achieve my M.Div degree and in my middle year I saw on the blackboard "C=M.Div" and I realized they were right. I wasn't going to be a Doctor of anything. C's would be fine. But something wouldn't let me quit and be happy with C's. I'm not saying I'm a genius, but I am saying something clicked in a different way. Let me explain. We go through life getting pushed. We go through life trying to achieve this and that. A lot of us are wrecked when we don't achieve what we think we ought to. We're disheartened when we can't be a soldier/cowboy/knight. We think we have failed when we don't make it up certain mountains or corporate ladders. Yet here it is, ultimately there are two things that matter: staying faithful to God, and our best. That means you follow God's commandments and live honorably in every area of our life and at the same time you do your best which is an extension of faithfulness to God. Nobody can ask more of us, and honestly, we cannot do anything else. If we have done those two things steadily throughout our life, then we've won life. Again, we may not be knighted, we may not have become president, we may not have made millions or billions, but we'll have completed our race destined for us to run.

If I asked you to sit down and write out your life story and hand it to someone else, what are they going to be most impressed with? Maybe you did big things in the eyes of the world, but my guess is the big things, in the long run, are tiny and the day to day pursuit of being faithful to God and doing your best will grab the narrative of your life and be what people talk about at your funeral.

This Lent and this life require those two things I spoke of. Lent is an opportunity to examine whether or not we're following those two things. Have a blessed and holy Lent. And be at peace knowing that your life matters and you can do the work of a saint.



Pastor Robert's office hours are:

MONDAY - THURSDAY

9AM—NOON ... AVAILABLE IN OFFICE

1PM - 4PM ... AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

Care Group Update for 2023

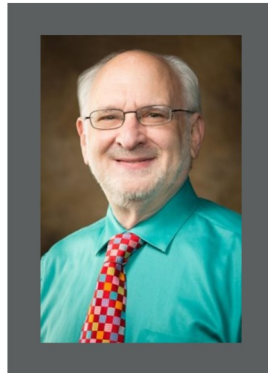
Highlands Church Care Group Coordinators have implemented some changes for 2023 concerning the operation of the Care Groups and we wanted to share this news with the congregation.

- All Care Groups will remain the same as they were in 2022, unless changes are requested.
- The number of social events using our ACE program are being increased. There will be no pressure to have any other social events within the group.
- Care Group Leaders will be a 'Point of Contact' for their assigned group. Their responsibilities will include communicating regularly with their members, supporting each other when there is a need (such as a health problem, surgery, etc.), being a friend, and welcoming new members to the group.
- Care Group Leaders will no longer have monthly Leader meetings to attend. They will be updated by the Care Group Coordinators monthly via email and a meeting will only be called when the need arises.
- Care Groups will no longer be called to help with refreshments after funeral or memorial services. Instead, our Loving Hearts team will offer this service when requested.

HUMCBV.COM
NEW SERMON VIDEOS POSTED WEEKLY

Ernest W. Griik Lecture Series

Highlands Church
371 Glasgow Rd,
Bella Vista, AR
Fellowship Hall
Sunday, March 5
3:00 pm



Jeremy S. Hyman is a professor in philosophy at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. In addition, Mr. Hyman has taught Biblical Hebrew on the college level, and has maintained an Old Testament bible study group, weekly, for the last twenty years.

"How Should We Regard Semitic Sources for the Psalms?"



He'll consider two specific Psalms, numbers 29 and 93, and discuss what lessons should be learned about our own faith-commitments from their historical antecedents.

Refreshments will follow the lecture.

Every
DROP tells a
STORY

When she was two years old, Mia needed blood to recover from acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Today, Mia is a happy, healthy nine-year-old who enjoys spending time with her family because someone just like you donated the blood she needed.

Scan the QR code to read more about grateful blood recipients.



Mia
9 years old

2 years old

GIVE BLOOD

FREE CBCO 1/4 -zip pullover for all donors.
While supplies last.

Highlands United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall
371 Glasgow Road, Bella Vista
Wednesday, March 1, 2023
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Appointments are strongly encouraged to manage donor flow. To schedule your appointment call 417-227-5006 or go to www.cbco.org/donate-blood



 www.cbco.org Find us on social media @ozarksblood 

Photo identification required. Please eat well and drink plenty of fluids prior to the blood drive.

Community Blood Center of the Ozarks is the exclusive provider of blood to ALL your area hospitals.

Care & Share Thrift Store

Volunteers from Highlands Church are needed to work at the Gravette Care & Share Thrift Store the week of March 21-25 from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. See the Weekly Update email for the link to sign up or contact the church office for assistance. If you prefer, you may contact our coordinator, Connie Kiefer, directly at 876-6324.



Food Drive - Special Requests for Spring Break

We continue to collect food and non-perishables to assist food insecure families in the Gravette School District; any and all donations are welcomed!

However, special items are needed during Spring Break (March 20-24). The list below is a sample of things most requested. Place your donated items in the marked bins located in both entries to the church by noon on Monday, March 13 for delivery to the Gravette School Food Bank in time for Spring Break to begin. We are blessed to be a blessing and your generosity and support are always appreciated!

This project is being co-sponsored by the Celebration Worship Team & HUMW.

- ◆ Individual packages of chips, crackers, goldfish, etc.
- ◆ Individual packages of fruit juice
- ◆ Fruit snacks and/or fruit roll ups
- ◆ Ramen noodles and/or mac and cheese
- ◆ Pop tarts and/or granola bars



WE PACK SNACK PACKS

First Wednesday of Every Month
March 1 from 10:00 am — 12:00 pm
Samaritan Community Center

**NO
SIGNUPS
REQUIRED!**

**If you have any
questions,
Contact Sara Sherman
at 870-550-0339.**



Join Us For
Communion
DURING BOTH SERVICES

MARCH 4 & 5





THE HUMMERS

A CHRISTIAN BROTHERHOOD SERVING OUR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY



Hummers March Meeting

Please join us on Tuesday, March 7 at 7:45 am for our next Hummers meeting. We will have Amanda Kelly who runs Bright Futures for the Gravette Schools joining us. She will be explaining how this program works allowing us to better understand how it fits within the school system. We are looking forward to a BIG turnout so please sign up at the Information Station in the Gathering Area.

Garry Benedict and Wade Stewart



Highlands United Methodist Women



HUMW March Meeting

Please join the Highlands United Methodist Women on Monday, March 13, at 9:30 am. Our program will be with the Executive Director of the Bella Vista Animal Shelter and the Animal Control Officer with the BVPD. The Animal Shelter's Mission is to 'Rescue and rehabilitate the homeless animals of the City of Bella Vista'. They provide food, shelter, and medical care for animals in need until they can be adopted into loving homes. These are animals that would otherwise be left to search for food and defend themselves against predators. A 'Wish List' of products needed for the shelter is located at the Information Station. When you sign up for our breakfast meeting, pick up a copy of their Wish List. If you would like to support the BV Animal Shelter, please bring an item from the list to the meeting on Monday, 3/13. We will have fun, food and fellowship. It's always great to see the women of Highlands Church and their friends!

HUMW Book Club

Please join the HUMW March Book Club on Thursday, March 23, at 1:00 pm as we discuss the book, God's Smuggler by Brother Andrew. This should be a really great discussion on Brother Andrew! Hope you read the book and then come to this discussion! For questions or more information, please call Sue LaHood at 479-855-0937. As always, treats will be available.

Highlands Church Flea & Boutique

The 28th Annual Highlands FLEA will be April 28 - 29. Please start saving your gently used items and watch for more information in the very near future. If you are spring cleaning and need to get rid of 'gently used stuff', contact the church office to make arrangements to store your items. (no clothes, books, appliances, or tv's)



HIGHLANDS CHURCH FLEA & BOUTIQUE

APRIL 28 • 8 AM – 2 PM *and...* APRIL 29 • 8 AM – NOON

Office News

Amey & Lori: highlandschurch@humcbv.com

Newsletter: newsletter@humcbv.com

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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The Deadline for the April Highlands Newsletter is 12:00 (noon) on March 20. Please send all newsletter submissions, comments and/or questions to this email address:
newsletter@humcbv.com

Family News

NEW CONTACT INFORMATION:

Joyce Sheldon:

Cell phone only - 479-531-0639

Not using email currently

Louise Ward:

2110 N Crest Parkway Apt #112

Ames IA 50010

OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO:

Allen & Fran Lovell, for the loss of Allen's brother, Richard, on 2/21/23.

Mission Highlight



1 in 4 of Arkansas children live in poverty. That is over 500 students in the Gravette School District. Over 500 children are struggling to survive. Bright Futures Gravette works to see that children have their basic needs met so they can succeed in school and beyond.

Bright Futures Gravette is a non-profit organization that brings faith-based organizations, human service agencies, businesses, community members, and parents together. BFG partners with Gravette Schools to help meet the basic needs of the children in the district.

Founded in 2011, Bright Futures USA has been working to tackle issues facing children like food insecurity, attendance and graduation rates. Dr. Richard Page and the late John Edwards created Bright Futures Gravette in 2016. To date, with the help of Highlands Church, hundreds of children have received food including snack packs, school supplies, shoes, clothing, mentorships, and other basic needs. In the fall of 2022, an on-site campus food pantry was made available to families of students within the Gravette School District. The pantry is open on the first and third Thursday of the month from 12-2pm and 4-6pm. Highlands Church, Bright Futures, and NWA Food Pantry are partnering with the school to fill the pantry with food.

We Believe

- * In the inherent worth of every child.
- * Every child's basic needs must be met in order for that child to be able to learn effectively.
- * Education is critical to success.
- * Every community has the resources to meet the needs of every child. These resources must simply be brought together.
- * Every child deserves a chance at success.
- * Diversity should be celebrated.
- * In the sanctity of the family unit.
- * Honesty and integrity are the key to maintaining purity of mission.
- * All of us are better together than any one of us alone.



March 12

March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1– Blood Drive – Snack Packs – Fellowship Com	2– Compassionate Disciples	3	4– Communion
5– Communion – Grilk Lecture	6	7– Hummers Meeting Admin Council Mtg	8– Stitches	9	10– Marathon Bridge	11
12– Daylight Sav. Time Begins	13– HUMW Meeting	14	15– Kitchen Cleaning	16– Library Meeting	17	18
19	20	21– Care & Share Volunteers Begin	22– Stitches	23– HUMW Book Club	24	25– Scrapbooking & Card Making
26	27	28	29	30	31	

8:45 Adult Sunday School

Start off your week by joining us in the Matthew classroom at 8:45 am Sunday morning as we study the book of Daniel. Study led by Brad Krug. Questions? Call Brad at 719-210-6124.

Men's Bible Study

All men are invited to participate as we study the New Testament together. Bring your bible and join us in the Matthew classroom 4:00-5:00 pm on Monday nights or 5:00-6:00 pm on Tuesday nights. Contact Pastor Robert with any questions.

SCAMMER WARNING

Please remember Pastor Robert is not going to text or email you a request to purchase gift cards or place an order online for him. Please contact the office staff if you have any questions about the validity of a message you receive that appears to be from Pastor Robert.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

SATURDAY CELEBRATION - 5:30 PM
SUNDAY TRADITIONAL - 9:30 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 Staff

MIKE & JUDY PAYNE
Custodians

Operating Budget Report - December 31, 2022

	YTD Budget	Dec Actual	YTD Actual
Income	538,346	66,336	538,196
Expenses	538,346	51,249	509,591
Net	0	15,087	28,605

Thank you for your continued support.

3 ways to give

to Highlands Church



Online



In-Person



By Mail

for details visit... humcbv.com/give

THE POWER OF
ONE

Drop a folded dollar into the offering
plate to support our Mission Ministry



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Instagram.com/humc.bv

