

# Highlands News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | HIGHLANDS CHURCH | MAY 2023 | VOLUME 27 | ISSUE 5



## Hummers Blood Drive

Help make a difference in YOUR community by giving blood!

Our next Blood Drive is scheduled for Wednesday, May 24 from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm and is organized by our HUMMERS (Highlands United Methodist Men). All donors will receive a FREE t-shirt and attraction tickets. Appointments are strongly encouraged to manage donor flow. To schedule an appointment time, visit our website, call the church office, or contact our coordinator, Gene Leonard at 479-381-1039.

Before the blood drive, please take a few steps to ensure that things go smoothly on the day of our blood drive.

1. Drink plenty of water or juice the night and morning before you donate.
2. Eat a well-balanced meal around 2-3 hours before giving.
3. Bring your photo ID - Photo ID is now required for all donors.
4. Expedite your check-in process by visiting [cbco.org](http://cbco.org) the morning of the blood drive and click on the 'Donor QuickPass' to get your paperwork done before you arrive.

Give Blood. Save Lives. HAVE FUN!



FREE T-shirt & attraction tickets for donors!



While supplies last.  
Full details: [www.cbco.org/spring-fun](http://www.cbco.org/spring-fun)

HIGHLANDS CHURCH

MAY 24

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM



OR



OR



# Pastor's Pen by Rev. Robert Cloninger

One of the hardest things as a Christian is to consistently stay in a place where we remember that Jesus is first. I have spoken of distractions many times, but distractions are really just an excuse. Distractions are not an issue when we value something. An important thing I have to remind myself of is that distractions are only an issue when we are looking to be distracted. To further clarify, nobody forgets to drink coffee that is a coffee drinker. It is something we look for first thing in the morning and know just what time to stop drinking it to get to sleep. Furthermore, nobody forgets to eat food for a week. Some might eat less and some might eat more, but nobody forgets to eat for a period of days.

So let those realizations sink into your understanding of the relationship with Christ. And get honest. We don't get too busy to walk with Christ and delight in him, we just don't want to because we'd rather do something else. We don't just get out of the habit of being a follower of Christ, we'd rather follow other things. I know that this sounds tough, but the first step is admitting that as humans we have a problem following Christ and clinging to him consistently. We have to be honest that the world makes the spiritual life hard, but not impossible. We have to be honest about a reality in which things are distracting, but it is usually the fact that our resolve to follow Christ is weak which keeps us from doing what we should.

People do have an endurance problem when it comes to Christianity, and it is an unacceptable problem. We cannot tell the lie that quitting the race is to be understood and "just happens." It is always unacceptable to trade Christ for the world and make weak excuses about why we did it. It is always unacceptable to take the Scriptures Christ speaks to us through and write them off because they're hard to read or make us feel uncomfortable. While none of these things are okay, what do we hear over and over again? "Don't worry about it," "just try to do better." But this is not working. I have heard "I really need to get back into church but..." so many times that now my only response is "when it becomes a priority, you will." Because here's the truth: for far too many people the day never comes when they get around to pursuing the relationship with Christ they've been meaning to get to. They put it off time and again until they've wasted their lives. Because ultimately, it is Christ that gives true life.



***Pastor Robert's office hours are:***

**MONDAY - THURSDAY**

**9AM—NOON ... AVAILABLE IN OFFICE**

**1PM—4PM ... AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT**



## Church Recycling News

For 10 years, Earl Lehman has volunteered to haul off the church's aluminum and metal recyclables. He has taken over 51,000 pounds of metal to be sold with the proceeds being donated to our Hummers organization. Earl is now retiring and the Hummers would like to thank him for his efforts throughout the years. We appreciate you, Earl! Going forward, the church will not be collecting metal or aluminum cans, other than what is used on our premises. Cans from beverages consumed here and turned in will be taken to the AARP recycling center with our other recycled materials. Unless another volunteer comes forward to take over Earl's position, we will ask our recycling team to take the cans to AARP and let AARP keep the money to put back into the community. Did you know that AARP recycling center accepts other types of metal, even appliances (no freon items)... at the far east end of their lot? There is a local man who comes to the collection center to pick up things to sell; he needs the income to live. If you have metal to recycle, please take it there instead of leaving it at the church. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

## Care & Share Volunteers

Volunteers from Highlands Church are needed to work at the Gravette Care & Share Thrift Store the week of May 2-6 from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. See the Weekly Update email to sign up online or contact the church office for assistance. If you prefer, you may contact our coordinator, Connie Kiefer, directly at 876-6324.

Care & Share Thrift Store  
Volunteers Needed  
May 2 - 6



## Communion Weekend

Holy Communion is served in both Worship Services on the first weekend of every month. We hope you will make plans to join us on May 6 & 7! Everyone welcome!

Join Us For Communion  
DURING BOTH SERVICES  
MAY 6 & 7





# THE HUMMERS

A CHRISTIAN BROTHERHOOD SERVING OUR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY



## Hummers May Meeting

Please join us on Tuesday, May 2 at 7:45 am for our next Hummers meeting. We will have John Flynn, the current Mayor of Bella Vista, joining us for our meeting. We are opening this meeting up to anyone in the church; both men and women. Please be sure to sign up by April 30 in the Gathering Area so we are prepared to serve breakfast for all those attending. This will be our final meeting before we break for our summer travels and we look forward to seeing everyone.

Garry Benedict and Wade Stewart

## Blood Drive Award

In March, the Community Blood Center of the Ozarks held their Northwest Arkansas Celebration of Life, a banquet honoring CBCO donors and community partners. During the awards ceremony, we were recognized for being their number one church blood drive for 2022! We had a total of 165 successful donations for the year. Special thanks goes to Gene Leonard for all his hard work coordinating the drives and getting donors.



# Save the Date! - More Info Coming Soon!



# June 11 @ 11:15 am



# Highlands United Methodist Women



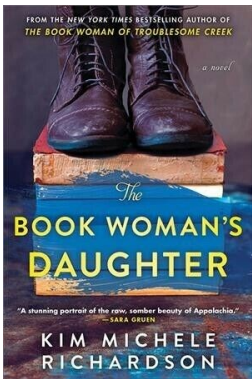
## HUMW May Meeting

Please join the Highlands United Methodist Women, on Monday, May 8, at 9:30 am for fun, fellowship and food! We will welcome Brenda Anderson from Master Gardners of Benton County and Jenny Vance from the Bella Vista Garden Club. The Garden Club's purpose is 'Gardening enthusiasts learning and working together to enhance, preserve, educate and promote Arkansas and Bella Vista as a sanctuary for wildlife, natural beauty and environmental responsibility'. It's May and time to plant! Come hear Brenda and Ginny talk about planting in Bella Vista, learn what plants are deer resistant, learn how to make 'yard art', and much more! Bring your questions and have them answered by these two Master Gardeners!



The signup sheet for this meeting will be available at the Information Station in the Gathering Area and we ask that you sign up by Sunday, May 7, so we know how many are coming. This is our last meeting until September, 2023. Can't wait to see you!

## HUMW Book Club



The Highlands United Methodist Women's Book Club will have their final meeting of 2023 on Thursday, May 18, at 12:00 pm to discuss 'The Book Women's Daughter' a novel by Kim Michelle Richardson. In the ruggedness of the beautiful Kentucky mountains, Honey Lovett has always known that the old ways can make a hard life harder. As the daughter of the famed blue-skinned, Troublesome Creek packhorse librarian, Honey and her family have been hiding from the law all her life. Join us for a Potluck in the Peter classroom. A signup sheet for what to bring will be in the Gathering Area (begins May 6/7) so we know who's bringing what. The main dish, Ham, will be provided. We really do have fun and this should be a great discussion. For questions or more information, call Sue LaHood at 479-855-0937.

## Casseroles for a Year

The Highlands United Methodist Women will again have our delicious raffle, but this year it will be for Casseroles! YES, a new raffle! Twelve of our best bakers will be making you one Casserole a month for 12 months! The drawing will be held after the 10:00 am church service on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14. The tickets are still \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. We think this is the best idea since sliced bread! For those of you that hate to cook, this would be ideal. Buy with confidence as YOU just might be our next winner! Visit the Gathering Area to purchase your tickets!



# Office News

Amey & Lori: [highlandschurch@humcbv.com](mailto:highlandschurch@humcbv.com)  
Newsletter: [newsletter@humcbv.com](mailto:newsletter@humcbv.com)

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

**OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY:**

The church office will be closed on Monday, May 29 in observation of Memorial Day.

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

**UPDATE ON PICTORIAL DIRECTORY:** The office just received the proof this week from the printing company. We are compiling the list of changes and corrections to be made and sending it back for the final printing. We apologize for the delay.

# Family News

**NEW CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Claudia Williams—Email: [cmw21498@gmail.com](mailto:cmw21498@gmail.com)

**NEW MEMBERS:**

None to report

**OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF:**

Dale Morrisett, for the loss of his wife, Dee Morrisett, on 4/9/23

**SPECIAL THANK YOU MESSAGES:**

Thank you so much church family for the cards, calls and most especially for your prayers for the success of my recent partial cornea transplant. The healing process is well underway though it can take up to six months before we know how much vision might be restored in the left eye. My doctor is very pleased with the progress and is allowing me to resume normal activities. Prayer is indeed a very powerful tool!

Kathy Wine



**HUMCBV.COM**  
NEW SERMON VIDEOS POSTED WEEKLY

*Mother's Day on Sunday, May 14*



*Memorial Day on Monday, May 29*



# May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2– Hummers Mtg	3– Fellowship Mtg	4	5	6– Communion
7– Communion	8– HUMW Mtg	9	10– Stitches Mtg	11– Trustee Mtg	12	13
14– Mother’s Day	15	16	17– Kitchen Clean	18– Library Mtg – HUMW Book Club	19	20
21– 3rd Sunday Cookies	22	23	24– Blood Drive – Stitches Mtg	25	26	27– Scrapbooking & Card Making
28	29– Office Closed – Memorial Day	30	31			

## Snack Packs—Thank You!

Thank you to all who volunteered your time packing Snack Packs at the Samaritan Community Center this school year. Those snack packs were packed with love and prayers for the children. We will begin packing again in September and everyone is encouraged to come help with this mission to provide weekend Snack Packs for food insecure children.

Blessings,

Sara Sherman, Missions Chairperson



## 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.

# EVERYONE WELCOME!

**SATURDAY CELEBRATION - 5:30 PM**  
**SUNDAY TRADITIONAL - 10:00 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 - March 31, 2023

	YTD Budget	Mar Actual	YTD Actual
Income	128,193	57,011	137,401
Expenses	128,193	43,319	122,944
Net	0	13,692	14,457

Thank you for your continued support.

**3** ways to give

to Highlands Church



Online



In-Person



By Mail

for details visit... [humcbv.com/give](http://humcbv.com/give)

THE POWER OF  
**ONE**

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



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