

Highlands News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | HIGHLANDS CHURCH | OCTOBER 2023 | VOLUME 27 | ISSUE 10

GLOBAL METHODIST INFORMATION MEETING AND AFFILIATION VOTE

On Sunday, October 22, at 2:00 pm in the Sanctuary, a special congregational meeting will be held. The speaker will be Rev. Clark Atkins, Senior Pastor at First Global Methodist Church (GMC) in Siloam Springs, as well as the Presiding Elder (District Superintendent) of the GMC for our area of Arkansas. He will provide valuable insights into the GMC's structure, vision, and mission. At the close of the meeting, a vote of the members will be taken to decide whether Highlands Church will affiliate with the GMC. Results of the vote will be announced at the end of this session. More information will follow. Please plan on attending this important meeting.

Trunk or Treat

Come out and join us for a fun-filled night the whole family can enjoy at Highlands Church. Join us on Sunday, October 29, from 4:00-6:00 pm for our Trunk or Treat Community Event. The front parking lot will be packed with decorated trunks, games, photo booth, and of course CANDY! You and your family do not want to miss it! Costumes encouraged!

We will collect candy in a bin outside the nursery until the weekend of the event. If you host a trunk, please bring your own candy. We will have extra but we don't want to run out! To participate or volunteer at the event, sign up at the Information Station in the Gathering Area. Pick up an event flyer at the Information Station to share with your friends and family.



HIGHLANDS CHURCH

OCT 29

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Pastor's Pen by Rev. Robert Cloninger

There is a monastic group known as the Carthusians. They keep long periods of silence, live alone, and are about as serious as it gets in the world of monks. They have much of the spiritual life down to a fine science, and interestingly enough architecture is a major help. The Carthusians all have their own cell and each cell has three small stories. The division of the cell into three living areas is meant to divide up physical work from spiritual work, secular work. Three forms of work divided up to emphasize the importance of each. We can see as outsiders looking in that the Carthusians know boredom is an awful curse if one is seeking to live like Christ.

It is boredom, after all, that causes fights, doubt, gossip, and all manner of evil deeds. Boredom makes us miserable. It led to the invention of a lot of junk to keep us entertained and comfortably numb. However, the things that have been invented to cure our boredom can't get to the heart of our boredom. And they can't get to the heart of our boredom because so often we just don't know how to be. Not learning that lesson can wreak havoc on our soul. The big lesson here is watch your boredom; at all times, watch your boredom.

One of the Desert Fathers in our faith was said to have struggled with boredom when he went out to the empty desert so he could pray without distraction. He spent time in prayer and study, but he would still get bored. The story goes that an angel appeared to him and taught him how to make prayer knots and weave palm mats. Now these don't seem like big things, but his quality of life improved almost immediately and his ability to pray became stronger.

As Christians, we cannot get bored. We have to have structure to our day and purpose for our life or we will live in constant sin. In fact, the Church community suffers when people don't plan their lives out and stay busy, because it leads to what I mentioned earlier: fights, meanness, gossip, lack of energy for prayer, and discord. As I have served many years in ministry now, I've grown convinced that the majority of problems within churches stem from the inability of some to entertain themselves. They're like three year olds trying to figure out what to do with their time, so they lash out and stay unsatisfied. And that attitude spreads.

Our society is getting out of hand with the constant need for stimulation. They're always seeking new and different things. They seek until they don't seek God. And they're addicted to something new like a drug. My suggestion would be to have a full life of faith, family, friends, serious hobbies, and not so serious hobbies. Strive to live simply. And develop routine. These are great weapons against Satan.

Blessings,

Pastor Robert



Pastor Robert's office hours are:

MONDAY - THURSDAY

9AM—NOON ... AVAILABLE IN OFFICE

1PM—4PM ... AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

Loan Reduction Weekend

One of the most successful programs used to reduce the principal amount of our building loan is the special offerings by our membership and friends on the Fifth Sunday weekends throughout the year. The weekend of October 28/29, is your chance to contribute to this Loan Reduction Initiative. Your check in the offering plate designated as 'Fifth Sunday Loan Reduction' is all it takes!

HIGHLANDS CHURCH
BLOOD DRIVE
WEDNESDAY, OCT 4
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

BE A CHAMPION
GIVE BLOOD. SAVE LIVES.
October 4, 2023
Highlands United Methodist Church

COMMUNITY BLOOD CENTER OF THE OZARKS

3X CHAMPS

FREE Chiefs T-shirt for all donors.
While supplies last.

More info at www.zbcok.org/chiefs

HIGHLANDS CHURCH
OCTOBER 8
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS COMMUNITY EVENT

October 8 3:00-5:00 pm



Highlands Church Parking Lot, 371 Glasgow Rd, Bella Vista, AR

Music Appreciation Sunday

On Sunday, October 29, we will have a Music Appreciation Sunday during our Traditional Worship Service. The Chancel Choir will sing 3 anthems and there will be instrumental and vocal solos. Pastor Robert will preach a wonderful homily and there will be a hymn sing of your favorites.

It is widely known that people are drawn to a church for very specific reasons; preaching, music, and fellowship are among the top three. We have these three elements in abundance at Highlands Church. Robert preaches a Word-filled sermon every week. We are one of the most friendly and welcoming churches around and our Music Ministry is second to none in Bella Vista. Our Celebrations Worship Team is Spirit-filled, loving, and true to God's Word. Our Traditional Worship choir, soloists, and accompanists provide music that brings everyone together in praising our Lord through music. Some say that the Music Ministry seeks to perform and not worship. Half of that is true. We do perform. We perform for God, but we also worship. Our congregations are part of that performance. We praise God with our singing and special music. It is all to the glory of God. When the congregation applauds, it's just our way of saying, "AMEN!"

See you in church!

John Matthews, Music Ministries

Highlands Church 6th Annual Charity Car Show & Cruise-In

Since our 6th annual Car Show and Cruise-In doesn't take place until after this newsletter comes out, we can't give an update on the results at this time.

However, we can give our sincere thanks to you, our Highlands Church family, for your continued support of this event. Not just for your monetary support through ticket sales and purchases, or your physical support with almost 50 volunteers helping put on the show, but for everyone's willingness to pitch in when asked and to give so generously of your time, money and selves - THANK YOU!

Highlands Car Show Committee

Care & Share Thrift Store

Volunteers from Highlands Church are needed to work at the Gravette Care & Share Thrift Store the week of October 24 - 28, from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. See the Weekly Update email to sign up online beginning September 6, or contact the church office for assistance. For details, contact our coordinator, Connie Kiefer, at 876-6324.



CARE & SHARE TRAILER
OCTOBER 9
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM



HIGHLANDS
CHURCH
PARKING LOT

PLEASE DONATE CLEAN
& GENTLY USED ITEMS
(no mattresses or printers)

Snack Packs—Mission Ministry



VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED TO HELP
WITH SNACK PACKS



Our next packing day is October 4, 10:00 am — 11:30 am, at Samaritan Community Center. Snack Packs are distributed to food insecure Gravette School students each Friday. We will be packing Snack Packs the first Wednesday of every month. If you are interested, please join us! No signups required. Contact Sara Sherman at 870-550-0339 if you have any questions!

Samaritan Community Center has moved to their new location: 2910 S 8th Street in Rogers. On I-49 take exit 81 and go east on Pleasant Grove Road. Turn left on 8th Street and another left on Laurel into parking lot.

ACE = All Church Event - Fall Festival

Join us on Sunday, October 22, at 5:30 pm for a fun evening of fellowship. We are celebrating the colors of the season, cooler weather, and good food with church members and friends. Mark your calendar and plan to sign up later in October.



ALL CHURCH EVENT FALL FESTIVAL

October 22 • 5:30 pm • Fellowship Hall

Dinner & Entertainment - \$4 per person

Holiday Food Drive at HUMC

We are always looking at ways to make the holidays a little brighter for those in need. Bright Futures is looking to put together holiday meal bags for families to pick up when they come to the Food Pantry in November and December. We have compiled a list of items in hopes that you can help us reach our goal of making 75 holiday meals each month. Other items are greatly appreciated as well. If you would like to donate gift cards to buy food or make a monetary donation, we can do the shopping for you. Thank you for your generosity and supporting families in the Gravette School District. Place your donated items in the marked bins located at all entrances to the church for delivery to the Gravette School Food Pantry.

Items we are collecting are:

Box Stuffing

Canned Vegetables

Cranberry Sauce

Gravy Mix or Sauce

Box Mashed Potatoes

Canned Fruit

Box Dessert

Macaroni and Cheese

Veterans Day - Picture Wall & Celebration

The church office is updating Veteran's pictures that will be used on the wall for the Veterans Day Celebration the weekend of Nov 11. If you haven't turned in a picture to the office, or if you would like to update your picture, please include your name, branch and the date of service and turn in by November 6. Your photos will be scanned in and returned to you.

The Veterans Picture Wall will be available to view in the Gathering Area beginning Wednesday, November 8 through November 12. Make plans to join us on November 11 & 12, the weekend of Veterans Day; we will be serving cake and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall after Worship Services to honor our Vets.





Highlands United Methodist Women



October HUMW Meeting

Please join the Highlands Methodist Women on Monday, October 9, at 9:30 am as we welcome representatives from the Sunshine School & Development Center. Since 1958, Sunshine School & Development Center has served thousands of people in the Northwest Arkansas community by offering a range of services in order to benefit every child and client that they serve. Because of their work, our families are better advocates, students aren't limited by their labels, and adults with disabilities thrive in their communities. All women of Highlands Church are invited to attend this informative talk. We will have fun, food and great fellowship. Please RSVP at the Information Station before October 8. Blessings and hope to see you there!

Crock Pot Sunday

Crock Pot Sunday is back... Highlands Church! The Highlands Methodist Women will be sponsoring the 99th annual, not really, it's the 1st in 2020's, Crock Pot Pot-Luck Luncheon / Fundraiser on Sunday, October 8, at 11:15 am following the worship service. This used to be a big hit years ago and we think y'all will enjoy eating a homecooked meal with a free-will donation going to a good cause; helping women and children in NWA. Please sign up in the Gathering Area to bring a Crock Pot Entrée, Salad or Dessert or to help serve, set up and clean up. Your food cooked in a crock pot are the only requirements besides your appetite! ALL worshipers of Highlands Church are invited for this special event with food, fun and fellowship! And you all know how we love to cook and eat! See you at the church on October 8!



Muffins for Missions



Muffins for Missions will be back for Halloween Weekend, Saturday and Sunday, October 28 & 29. What a great snack for all the Little or Big Goblins and Princesses in your house and/or to go with their coffee, tea or cocoa on Sunday morning! YUMMMM! Come to church for the service and then see what our bakers whip up on this very Spooky Pre-Halloween weekend for those very special people in our lives!

We are looking for a few good bakers... We need a few volunteers to help with baking the Halloween Muffins for Missions. Please contact Beth Williams for more information or to sign up to bake a dozen or two. Email Beth at bvbeth.williams7491@gmail.com or phone 479-619-9317. If you will do some baking, please RSVP by Friday, October 20.



THE HUMMERS

A CHRISTIAN BROTHERHOOD SERVING OUR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY




October HUMMERS Meeting

Please join us on Tuesday, October 3, at 7:45 am for our next Hummers meeting. We will have James Graves, Bella Vista Police Chief, joining us for our meeting. He will be giving us an overview of what is happening in Bella Vista along with the goals of the compliance officers who are working within the department. It will be a great opportunity for us to better understand what he is trying to accomplish here in our community. Please be sure to sign up by October 1 in the Gathering Area so Mike Maginness and volunteers are prepared to serve breakfast for all those attending.

Garry Benedict and Wade Stewart

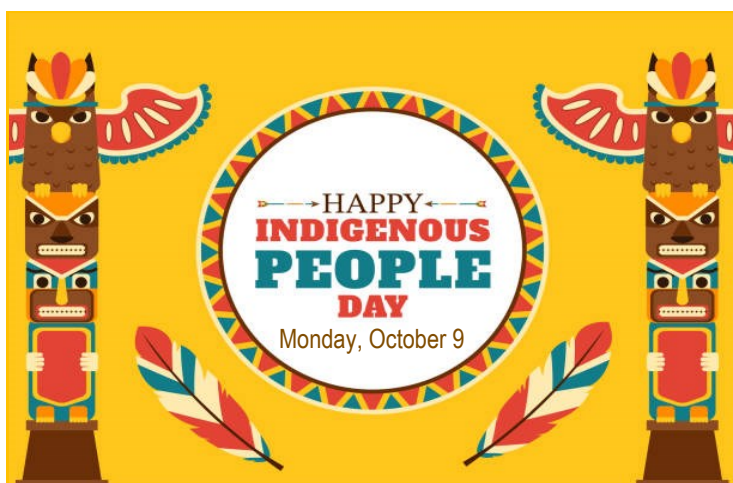
October 2023

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|--|---------------------|-----|--|
| 1– Communion | 2 | 3– Hummers Meeting | 4– Snack Packs – Fellowship Meeting – Blood Drive | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8– Crock Pot Sunday – Blessing of the Animals | 9– HUMW Meeting – Office Closed – C&S Trailer Here | 10– Compassionate Disciples Meeting | 11– Stitches Meeting | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15– 3rd Sunday Cookies | 16 | 17– Admin Council Meeting | 18– Kitchen Cleaning | 19– Library Meeting | 20 | 21– Scrapbooking & Card Making |
| 22– All Church Event – GMC Affiliation Meeting | 23 | 24– Care & Share Thrift Volunteers Begin | 25– Stitches Meeting | 26 | 27 | 28– Loan Reduction Weekend – Muffins for Missions |
| 29– Loan Reduction Weekend – Music Appreciation Sunday – Trunk or Treat – Muffins for Missions | 30 | 31 |  <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Save the Date</i> Christmas Cantata & Luncheon December 17, 2023 • More Details Coming Soon</p> | | | |

Thank You for Attending Holifield Lecture: The Ernest W. Griik Lecture Series committee would like to thank all those who attended the lecture on September 24. We were all blessed to have Tony Holifield speak on having the "Best Life We Can Have." It was an inspiring afternoon filled with the Holy Spirit. The refreshments were fantastic and a special "Thank You" goes to those who brought treats.

Our next lecture will be in the Spring of 2024 so keep watch for the details in your communications with the church. We pray that our lecture series will bring many to experience the loving grace, mercy and forgiveness of our Lord, Jesus Christ. We are tasked with saving souls and look for opportunities to fulfill that goal. Blessings of Peace to you all.

Gloria Febro Griik, wife of Ernest W. Griik
John Matthews, Committee Chair



Office News

Amey & Lori: highlandchurch@humcbv.com

Newsletter: newsletter@humcbv.com

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

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

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 - August 31, 2023

| | YTD Budget | Aug Actual | YTD Actual |
|----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Income | 342,375 | 30,938 | 338,385 |
| Expenses | 342,375 | 39,104 | 328,475 |
| Net | 0 | (8,166) | 9,910 |

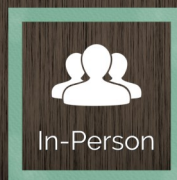
Thank you for your continued support.

3 ways to give

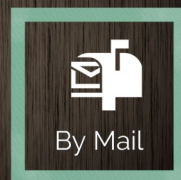
to Highlands Church



Online



In-Person



By Mail

for details visit... humcbv.com/give



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Instagram.com/humc.bv



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