

# Highlands News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | HIGHLANDS CHURCH | APRIL 2024 | VOLUME 28 | ISSUE 4



## ACE = All Church Events

Our Care Group Coordinators plan to sponsor FOUR more social events this year all to be held in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone in the church is invited with the purpose of getting to know others who might not all attend the same worship service. Mark your calendars for the list of events below.

**April 28 at 5:30 pm:** Country & Western Night. Wear blue jeans, western shirt & boots. Country meal served- \$4 per person.



**June 30 at 5:30 pm:** Tropical Luau. Wear flowered shirt, grass skirt, or brightly colored clothes, etc. Luau food served- \$4 per person.

**August 25 at 5:30 pm:** 'P' Party Potluck. Wear clothes that are plaid, pink, purple, paisley, pajamas, etc. Bring food/potluck beginning with the letter 'P' (pork, potatoes, peas, pies, etc).



**October 27 at 5:30 pm:** Football Frenzy. Wear your favorite team colors. Tailgate food will be served- \$4 per person.

# Pastor's Pen by Rev. Robert Cloninger

The liturgical colors we use in church change after Lent and Easter. We go from the purple of lent, which represents repentance, fasting, and abstinence, along with a nod to the royalty of Jesus Christ, to white, which represents the purity of Christ and our being washed anew. However, we soon go into the “long green season.” That means the color on my stole and the paraments will be green for a long time. Two questions come from that: Why green? And why so long? First, green is the color of growth, which aligns nicely with the trees and grass, and we are beginning to see more and more (though slowly). Second, it’s so long because growth takes a long time.

The idea is that we have had Lent to change ourselves; to repent and study. It has been a time to fast and pray. Then, we really buckle down during Holy Week and deal with the discomfort and sadness of Jesus’ death. But finally, we see the resurrection and remember it in our hearts. All of this should produce new buds of growth in us. And we spend the next several months until Advent letting our spiritual “crops” come in.

When I lived in Marion, I saw the farm fields come alive throughout the summer. I didn’t grow up near farms, so seeing the long green season of the church side by side with the long green season of farming life made sense to me. We work, and we work spiritually, to get our “crop” to grow (which is the work of God), and then we labor with the Spirit to get those crops to flourish.

Life is short, and fields don’t need to rest like they used to. We don’t just let them stay fallow. We give more fertilizer and change the crops out. That’s a good lesson for us: never is there a time for us not to produce fruit. We might need to change the type of spiritual crop we focus on for the season, but there’s no vacation in the Christian life.

I want to leave you with one of my favorite stories. Growing up, my senior pastor was a wonderful man. He was often quiet and serious, but was sometimes known for his jokes and lightheartedness. He was about the business of God, though. He also had a motto for how he did ministry. Being from a rural area growing up, he knew about crops. And his response to “What’s next?” or “What do we do?” would always be the same: keep plowing corn. Why? Because he believed in growing and planting simultaneously. He was never going to quit sowing and harvesting. May the same be said for us!

Pastor Robert



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

**MONDAY - THURSDAY**

**9AM—NOON ... AVAILABLE IN OFFICE**

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



# Food Drive Continues

We continue to collect food and non-perishables to assist food insecure families in the Gravette School District; any and all donations are welcomed! Place your donated items in the marked bins located at all entrances to the church for delivery to the Gravette School Food Pantry. 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 & Highlands Methodist Women (HMW).



# Care & Share Thrift Store

Volunteers are needed to work at the Gravette Care and Share thrift store the week of April 9-13, from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. See the Weekly Update email to signup online or call the church office. Questions, contact Connie Kiefer at 876-6324.



Pictured above are just a few of the friendly faces you will see volunteering at Care & Share Thrift Store.

# Snack Packs - Mission Ministry

We are packing Snack Packs the first Wednesday of every month. Our next packing day is April 3, 10:00 am — 11:30 am, at Samaritan Community Center, 2910 S 8th Street in Rogers. Snack Packs are distributed to food insecure Gravette School students each Friday. If you are interested, please join us! No signups required. Contact Sara Sherman at 870-550-0339 if you have any questions.



Photo of volunteers packing Snack Packs and photos of items received by the children (taken March 2024).



# HIGHLANDS METHODIST MEN

## April HMM Meeting

Please join us on Tuesday, April 2 at 7:45 am in the Fellowship Hall for our next Highlands Methodist Men (HMM) breakfast meeting. We will welcome Dave Armstrong as our guest speaker. Dave is the director of the Futures Cup golf tournament. This tournament raises funds for Arkansas junior golf and supports the Gravette girls golf team. If you plan to attend, please sign up at the Information Station in the Gathering Area so we are able to prepare the proper amount of food.



JOIN PASTOR ROBERT  
**EVERY TUESDAY**  
**11:15 AM IN JOHN**



## Church Library News

The Church Library committee is planning a book sale in June. If you have books in good condition and preferably published after 2010, that you would like to donate, we will gladly accept them. Please bring them to the library between April 1 and April 30, so that we will have time to process them.

Also, there are still many books that have been checked out in the past year (2022- 2023), and have not been returned. If you have books that have not been returned, please bring them back so that others can enjoy them as well.

Thank you,  
Sofia Bartmus,  
Committee Chair





## HIGHLANDS METHODIST WOMEN

### April HMW Meeting

Hi ladies! Welcome spring, finally! Please join the Highlands Methodist Women (HMW) on Monday, April 8 at 9:30 am. This month we will learn about the Single Parent Scholarship Fund of Northwest Arkansas. At SPSFNWA, they help single parents in Northwest Arkansas create futures for their families by providing direct financial assistance, as well as supportive services for those who are pursuing higher education and live in Benton, Carroll, Madison, and Washington counties. We will have fun, fellowship and food. Sign up sheets will be at the Information Station and we need you to sign up so we will have enough food for all of us! We will also learn about the NEW Discipleship Program that is available this year. It's pretty neat and should be more meaningful. We are also starting an at-home Bible Study called 'Praying the Names of Jesus' for 26 weeks. If you would like a study book the cost is \$14 and the books will be available at the meeting. Hope to see you Monday, the 8th!

### HMW Book Club

The Highlands Methodist Women's book club, for April, will read *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant. Our discussion is on Tuesday, April 16, 10:30 am in the Mark classroom. *The Red Tent* is a reimagining of the story of Dinah, the only daughter of Jacob, the man who, according to the Bible wrestled an angel and won the name 'Israel' and whose 12 sons became the 12 tribes of Israel. Please join us as we discuss this book and sometimes other "off script" topics. It's fun, coffee is always ready and some kind of treat awaits those that participate. A copy of the book is available on a first come first serve basis in the library annex, or buy it from Amazon or eBay, or go to our BV Library. ALL women of the church are invited and their friends. For more information please call Sue LaHood at 479-855-0937. Hope to see y'all there!

Traditional Worship  
Sundays at 10 am  
**LIVE** Streaming  
**ON facebook**



The Traditional Worship service is now streaming LIVE on Facebook every Sunday morning at 10:00. Find us on Facebook by visiting [facebook.com/hgmcbv](https://facebook.com/hgmcbv) or searching 'hgmcbv' and make sure you FOLLOW our page to get notifications from Highlands Church. Alternatively, a direct link to our Facebook page can be found on the homepage of our website at [www.hgmcbv.com](http://www.hgmcbv.com).

We will continue to record our Saturday Celebrations service and email a video link on Sunday mornings for those preferring that option.



## Office News

Amey & Lori: [office@hgmcbv.com](mailto:office@hgmcbv.com)  
Newsletter: [newsletter@hgmcbv.com](mailto:newsletter@hgmcbv.com)

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

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

## Family News

### Notes of Condolences to the Family of:

Marlene Hartzler, for the loss of her husband, Vic Hartzler on 3/11/24.

Bill and Claudia Williams, for the loss of their sister-in-law, Pat Williams on 3/12/24.

### New Contact Information:

Terri Fontenot, 14 Parkridge Drive, 72715

# Join Us For Communion

## DURING BOTH SERVICES

### APRIL 6 & 7



# HGMCBV.COM

## NEW SERMON VIDEOS POSTED WEEKLY



## Power of One

Wondering what the folded lengthwise dollars in the offering plate are for? They are going to a special mission fund called The Power of One. Those 'ones' add up and do marvelous things to support local needs, like helping children in need in the Gravette School District by providing financial support to Bright Futures, Snack Packs, and the Samaritan's Feet ministry.

THE POWER OF  
**ONE**

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

# April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2- HMM Mtg - Prayer Group every Tuesday	3- Fellowship Mtg - Snack Packs	4	5	6- Communion
7- Communion	8- HMW Mtg - Care & Share Trailer Here	9- Compassionate Disciples Mtg	10- Stitches Mtg	11	12	13
14	15- HMW Book Club	16- Admin Council Mtg TBD	17	18- Library Mtg	19	20
21	22	23	24- Stitches Mtg - Kitchen Cleaning	25	26	27- Scrapbooking & Card Making
28- All Church Event	29	30				

## Care & Share Trailer

The Care & Share Trailer will be at the church parking lot on Monday, April 8 from 9:00 – 4:00 pm. Please donate clean, gently used items (no mattresses or printers). If you are spring cleaning at home, please keep 'stuff' to donate for our Flea & Boutique... It's scheduled for June 7 & 8. Official Flea drop-off will begin the week of June 3 but if you need a place to store your donations until then, contact the church office for assistance. The Flea does not accept clothes, books, appliances, or tv's.



**HIGHLANDS CHURCH  
FLEA & BOUTIQUE**

**JUNE 7 • 8 AM – 2 PM**  
**JUNE 8 • 8 AM – NOON**

**371 GLASGOW RD, BELLA VISTA AR**



# EVERYONE WELCOME!

SATURDAY CELEBRATION - 5:30 PM

SUNDAY TRADITIONAL - 10:00 AM



## HIGHLANDS CHURCH

A Global 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 - February 29, 2024

	YTD Budget	Feb Actual	YTD Actual
Income	85,336	35,631	62,761
Expenses	85,336	37,915	74,501
Net	0	(2,284)	(11,740)

Thank you for your continued support.

3 ways to give

to Highlands Church



Online



In-Person



By Mail

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

THE POWER OF  
**ONE**

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



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