

# Highlands News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | HIGHLANDS CHURCH | MAY 2024 | VOLUME 28 | ISSUE 5

## Highlands Church Kids Worship



Our new Kids Worship group launched successfully on Sunday, April 14, in the newly equipped room near the ongoing Nursery. What a great experience to see God's provision for our children through many Highlands hands and hearts at work! Our meeting space now includes a new DVD player with a wall mounted screen, plenty of sturdy chairs for all, new GROUP curriculum, and NIV Children's Adventure Bibles. Our charter group includes 5 children, and the door is open for more.



If you have a heart for working with children and would enjoy this type of ministry, please contact Wanda Krug (719-213-1115) or Fran Lovell (571-255-0701). We teach in pairs of two for one month of consecutive Sundays, and would love to have you to join us.

# Pastor's Pen by Rev. Robert Cloninger

I need to speak more on the topic of Holy Communion more frequently. I do want to apologize for my negligence in this matter. Recently, I spoke about the Holy Communion sermon and Revelation in my class, and I got terrific feedback. From that feedback, I've decided to write and talk more about the subject, which has many titles, including: "Holy Communion," "The Lord's Supper," and "The Eucharist." After I finish two of my current projects, I intend to start working on a Communion pamphlet to discuss its theology and practical implications. My opinion over the years has changed so much. Growing up, I always dreaded the first Sunday of every month. And yes, that continued for a while. I loved taking Communion, but the extended worship service was challenging because of my short attention span growing up. Now, I believe participation in the Eucharist to be an absolute necessity.



The reason for my change over the years is starting to look at what happens when we have Communion in a worship service. Without getting overly theological, we have to understand that Christ is fully present in the Bread and Cup; it is not just a memorial; the fullness of Christ is truly present. This idea of the presence of Christ has been the topic of much debate and division. However, so much of the debate and division comes down to people trying to figure out how everything happens. We can't figure out how everything happens; we can only trust that Christ is truly present in Holy Communion in a way that differs from other ways.

I also understood that Communion was the answer to so many spiritual problems. It is medicine, and we are all sin-sick because of our fallen nature. Yet, Christ provides us with the right medicine in Holy Communion to get us on a path to health and keep us there. We don't want to downplay the importance of other components of Christian living, but for far too long, Communion has backburnered as a mere nod to obedience rather than something that gives us unique access to Christ and provides for us a considerable measure of grace given in the Lord's Supper.

I've experienced pastors who have hesitated to celebrate Communion once a month because they feel attendance goes down. I've never experienced that myself, but if that is the case, that's all the more reason to have it because the Meal is a unique grace. And yes, sometimes that fact requires more teaching. One of the reasons we have an open table is so people can come to the Meal and receive a particular grace for their spiritual benefit. The requirements to take Communion in our tradition are simple: Belief in Christ, confession of sin, repentance, and taking the Meal seriously and with reverence. Other Christian traditions put more rules in place, and yet we have not out of a collective belief that Christ works on people hard through His precious Body and Blood.

I briefly taught the Methodist theology of Holy Communion in my Methodist beliefs class. Still, I plan to teach a class specifically on Communion shortly. I look forward to seeing you at the Table.

Blessings and peace,

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).



## Join Us For Communion DURING BOTH SERVICES MAY 4 & 5

## Snack Packs - Mission Ministry

Our next packing day is May 1, 10:00 am — 11:30 am, at Samaritan Community Center, 2910 S 8th Street in Rogers. Thank you to all who have volunteered their time packing Snack Packs this year. Those snack packs were packed with love and prayers and distributed to food insecure Gravette School students each Friday. After we pack in May, we will be done until September 4 and then we will continue packing every first Wednesday of the month until the end of the school year. Everyone is encouraged to come help with this mission to provide weekend Snack Packs for the children. We hope to see you there. No signups required. Questions? Call Sara Sherman at 870-550-0339.



Care & Share Thrift Store  
**Volunteers Needed**  
May 28 - June 1

SIGN UPS COMING SOON!

HIGHLANDS CHURCH

# MAY 22

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

## BLOOD DRIVE

Give life  
to your  
community!





# HIGHLANDS METHODIST MEN

## HMM May Meeting

Please join us on Tuesday, May 7 at 7:45 am in the Fellowship Hall for our next Highlands Methodist Men (HMM) breakfast meeting. We will welcome Chief Steve Sims from the Bella Vista Fire Department as our guest speaker. 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.

## Flea & Boutique - Donations Needed Soon

If you are spring cleaning, 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** *and...* **JUNE 8 • 8 AM – NOON**

## 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**

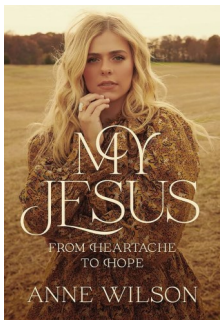
Drop a folded dollar into the offering plate to support our Mission Ministry.



## HMW May Meeting

Please Join the Highlands Methodist Women on Monday, May 13 at 9:30 am for a Style Show! We will have our own members modeling their picks from Audrey's Resale Boutique. Audrey's Resale Boutique accepts gently used items of women's clothing, furniture and home decor and resells those donations to the public. Come for our last meeting before our Summer break. Food, FUN and fellowship will be had by all! Sign up at the Information Station.

## HMW Book Club



Please join the Highlands Methodist Women on Thursday, May 23, as we travel to Joplin for lunch at Cheddars Restaurant for our final meeting of the year. We will be discussing the book *My Jesus: From Heartache to Hope* by Anne Wilson and Matthew West. *"Whatever you are feeling, God can handle it—all of it. The tears, screams, and questions. God invites you to let Him tend to your heart."* We will meet at the dog park, on Glasgow and Scottsdale Road, and carpool to Joplin from there. Please arrive by 10:13 am. For any and all questions, please call Sue LaHood, 479-855-0937. All women of Highlands Church, and their friends, are welcome for our special outing!

## HMW Casseroles for a Year

The Highlands Methodist Women will again have our delicious Casseroles Raffle! Twelve of our best bakers will be making you one Casserole a month for 12 months! Ticket sales have begun, on both Saturday and Sunday. The drawing will be held after the 10:00 am church service on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12. 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! Please contact Billie Hall at 843-475-5448, if you have any questions.



Mother's Day on Sunday, May 12

Memorial Day on Monday, May 27



## 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

**OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY:** The church office will be closed on Monday, May 27 in observation of Memorial Day.

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

**CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE BOOKLET:** Please pick up your copy of the April 2024 Booklet at the Information Station in the Gathering Area. Thank you to everyone who submitted their updated profile to the office.

## Family News & Thanks

### Notes of Condolences:

The family of Jean Knadler for her passing on 3/30/24

### New Contact Information:

Janna Young  
Primrose Retirement Community  
650 S Dodson Rd, Rm 118  
Rogers AR 72758

### Special Thank You Message:

Dear Congregation,

Thank you all for providing a wonderful assortment of food for our Easter Continental Breakfast. And, for all your help and support for making this event a success. It was all greatly appreciated. Also, thank you for bringing all the beautiful flowers for the cross.

-The Fellowship Team

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



The Traditional Worship service is 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 Celebration service and email a video link on Sunday mornings for those preferring that option.

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

# May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1– Fellowship Meeting – Snack Packs	2	3	4– Communion
5– Communion	6	7– HMM Meeting	8– Stitches Meeting	9– Trustees Meeting	10	11
12– Casseroles for a Year Drawing – Mother’s Day	13– HMW Meeting	14– Compassionate Disciples Meeting	15– Kitchen Cleaning	16– Library Meeting	17	18
19	20	21– Admin Council Meeting	22– Stitches Meeting – Blood Drive	23– HMW Book Club	24	25– Scrapbooking & Card Making
26	27– Office Closed – Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	

Save the Date! - More Info Coming Soon!

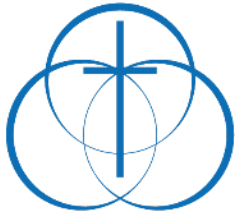




# EVERYONE WELCOME!

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 - March 31, 2024

	YTD Budget	Mar Actual	YTD Actual
Income	128,003	63,413	126,174
Expenses	128,003	42,363	116,864
Net	0	21,050	9,310

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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[Instagram.com/hgmcbv](https://instagram.com/hgmcbv)

