

Highlands News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | HIGHLANDS CHURCH | JUNE 2024 | VOLUME 28 | ISSUE 6

Fellowship Church Picnic

You are invited to a Fellowship Church Picnic on Sunday, June 23, at 11:15 am! Join us for fellowship, food, and fun after the Traditional service. Please bring lawn chairs and dress for a casual day at church. We will serve hamburgers, chips, salads, desserts, and drinks.

Sign up to bring salad or dessert in the Gathering Area before June 16. If you plan to attend, please sign up to help us better prepare for this free event! Hope to see you all there! Questions? Contact Linda Uttley, Chairperson of the Fellowship Committee, for more information.

You're invited to a
Church Picnic
June 23 @ 11:15 am

Pastor's Pen by Rev. Robert Cloninger

One of the things I've been following for the past year has been the popularity of people's "deconstructing" stories. If you don't know what that is, it's where "former Christians" talk about some things that lead them away from the Christian faith. I find it interesting that there are a lot of similarities. The stories are remarkably similar, and as far as I can tell, people who are "deconstructing" seem to have come from places where they felt unable to ask questions. I understand many people do either grow up or get involved with groups in Christianity where asking questions is either frowned upon or, for whatever reason, asking questions of the faith is something people feel sinful if they do. Yet, we see the results of not asking serious faith questions, and the results often end up with either a total crisis of faith or the destruction of an individual's faith life.



So what's the answer? We start with the basic idea that asking faith questions doesn't mean someone is less of a believer or needs to be corrected. Most people agree that asking those hard-faith questions is okay and normal. Next, we help people see that their faith questions can be great prompts to grow in their faith. When you get to deep places of faith, questions naturally arise, and the way to go even more profound is to ask the questions that come up. If you think about it, when you're growing up, you have many questions because the world is new, and you're trying to figure things out. In the Christian faith, things are constantly becoming new as we walk each day because God is so big, and the things of Heaven are so broad. Of course, I would have questions. People must be encouraged not to give up. The answer to having a lot of faith questions is not to quit the faith. The answer is to do the work of finding the answers to our questions. The blessing is that Christians have been asking questions for so long that we have many resources to find answers.

You might be going through a time when you feel like you have so many unanswered questions that your faith is suffering. I'll tell you this confidently: if you get your questions answered and stay open to God's voice, you'll be better at the end of your time of deep questioning. Our life on earth can be full of many blessings and, at the same time, many struggles. We must, therefore, be stubborn about the faith, not letting it go and wrestling for the blessing. What we do with struggles in questions not only matters for our personal faith life but also sets an example for others and blesses them in theirs.

Blessings,

Robert

Pastor Robert's office hours are:

MONDAY - THURSDAY

9AM—NOON ... AVAILABLE IN OFFICE

1PM—4PM ... AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

HMW Book Club

Highlands Methodist Women's Book Club will have their final meeting at Cheddar's Restaurant in Joplin on Thursday, June 13, leaving Bella Vista at 10:30 am. The date change is to do with the weather. We will still carpool from the dog park / ball diamond / pavilion and hope you can make it! Please RSVP to Sue LaHood at 479-855-0937 or email suelahood@currently.com. Thank you for your understanding!

HMW Muffins for Missions

Muffins for Missions will be back on Saturday and Sunday, June 29 & 30. We will celebrate Independence Day early with muffins, coffee, tea or cocoa! Come to church for the service and then see what our bakers whip up! We need a few volunteers to help with baking the Muffins for Missions. Call or text Billie Hall at 843 -475-5448 to sign up to make muffins.

Fifth Sunday Loan Reduction

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 June 29/30, 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!

Summer Choir

It's that time of year when the choir takes it easier during the summer months. Our Chancel Choir's summer schedule has begun. Highlands' Summer Choir meets for only 3 rehearsals during the summer season: May 29, June 26 and July 31, at 6:30 in our choir room. This is a time change from our regular Wednesday afternoon rehearsal. We're offering an evening rehearsal for those that might have other obligations on Wednesday afternoons.

We sing easy to pick-up anthems so even if you miss a rehearsal, you can still sing with us on Sunday morning. This is a great time to try out singing with the choir family and still listen to the sermon next to your spouse, friend, or significant other. We will sing the anthem during the offertory and then move to the sanctuary for the sermon. We won't wear robes and casual dress is encouraged!

Summertime is a great time to think about giving our Chancel Choir a try, or if you're from the Midwest, a "look- see." Should you have any questions, you can email John Matthews at jmatt0952@gmail.com.

John Matthews



Mission Ministry Opportunities

Thank you, Highlands Church, for your love and support of Bright Futures, Samaritan Community Center Snack Pack Program, and Samaritan's Feet. Our church family is amazing! You are GOOD SAMARITANS! Thank you to everyone who volunteered to pack Snack Packs at Samaritan Community Center for the 2023-2024 school year. We packed over 12,000 snack packs at 9 events! We will begin packing for the 2024-2025 school year on the first Wednesday in September. We provide a blessing to food insecure children in our community. As we pack, we fellowship, have fun, and even listen to 60's and 70's music (we might even sing & dance to the music).

The Samaritan Feet Shoe Event in Gravette will be held Saturday, July 27 in the Gravette Middle School Cafeteria from 9:30 am-1:00 pm. Highlands Church is again providing 200 pairs of shoes for students in the Gravette School District. I hope you will volunteer to participate in this special event. Volunteers are needed in various areas; to register the students, be a shoe runner, wash the children's feet, and fit them with a new pair of shoes. The students are so appreciative and you will receive a blessing every time a child's face lights up when they receive a new pair of shoes. (see flyer on page 5)

Listed below are dates for Care & Share Thrift Store volunteer opportunities coming this summer and fall. Watch for more information as the dates approach in the Weekly Update emails.

July 16 – 20

September 10 – 14

November 5 – 9

Thank you for your continued support of the Gravette School District (GSD) Food Pantry. We help fulfill a need for food insecure families in the GSD. Other needs besides food are: detergent, dishwashing liquid, paper products, and personal hygiene products. Don't forget the egg cartons! Place your donated items in the marked bins located at all entrances to the church for delivery to the Gravette School Food Pantry. This project is co-sponsored by the Celebration Worship Team & Highlands Methodist Women (HMW).

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Car Show on Saturday, September 28.

Blessings,

Sara Sherman, Mission Ministries Chair



SAMARITAN'S FEET

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.



VOLUNTEER WITH US IN GRAVETTE, AR!



Saturday, July 27
9:30AM to 1:00PM



Gravette Middle School
Cafeteria 607 Dallas St.
SE Gravette, AR. 72736

Approximately 200 students will receive a pair of new shoes at this special community event, made possible by Highlands Global Methodist Church, Bella Vista, AR. At this event, Gravette Students will be fitted for their new shoes by community volunteers and receive a Hope Tote with new socks, Hope Note and an encouraging message from a volunteer. To volunteer, please register by scanning the QR code [SOH: Gravette, AR \(volunteerhub.com\)](https://www.volunteerhub.com)

We look forward to serving with you!

If you have questions, please contact
Alicia Morrow – amorrow@samaritansfeet.org



Office News

Amey & Lori: office@hgmcbv.com
Newsletter: newsletter@hgmcbv.com

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

OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY: The church office will be closed on Wednesday, June 19 in observation of Juneteenth.

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



SPRC News

The SPRC (Staff Parish Relations Committee) is pleased to announce Monica Clark has joined the church staff as our Custodian. Monica lives in Jane and enjoys outdoor activities and spending time with her two children, River and Aspen. Please give Monica a warm Highlands Church welcome when you see her.



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 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.

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

June 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1- Communion
2- Communion	3- Bring Flea Items	4- Bring Flea Items	5- Bring Flea Items & Baked Goods	6- Bring Flea Items & Baked Goods	7- Flea & Boutique	8- Flea & Boutique
9	10	11- Compassionate Disciples Meeting	12	13- HMW Book Club	14	15
16- Father's Day - 3rd Sunday Cookies	17	18- Admin Council Meeting	19- Office Closed - Juneteenth - Kitchen Cleaning	20- Library Meeting	21	22- Scrapbooking & Card Making
23- Church Picnic	24	25	26	27	28	29- Fifth Sunday Weekend - Muffins 4 Missions
30- Fifth Sunday Weekend - Muffins 4 Missions						

HIGHLANDS CHURCH

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP CENTER

SUNDAYS DURING THE TRADITIONAL SERVICE



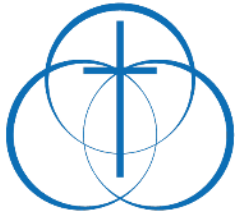
Children are welcome to visit our Nursery (0-4 years) and Kids Worship (5-11 years) on Sunday mornings. For more information, contact Laurie Pearson at 479-256-4452 (Nursery), Fran Lovell at 571-255-0701 or Wanda Krug at 719-213-1115 (Kids Worship). Come join the fun!



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

MONICA CLARK
Custodian

Operating Budget Report - April 30, 2024

	YTD Budget	Apr Actual	YTD Actual
Income	170,671	33,612	159,526
Expenses	170,671	35,721	153,585
Net	0	(2,109)	5,941

Thank you for your continued support.

3 ways to give

to Highlands Church



Online



In-Person



By Mail

for details visit... hgmcbv.com/give

THE POWER OF
ONE

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



Like & Follow Us
facebook.com/hgmcbv
instagram.com/hgmcbv

