Highlands ARP Church

September 2020 Volume XVI, Issue VIII

Highlands Highlights

Highlands Has A New Sign!



Thank you to all who helped make our new sign possible! It has been a great effort, but worth the wait! Next time you drive by, check out the sign!

Thank you also to Lee Hunt for all his hard work in making this happen! Thank God with us and pray that God will use our new sign to bless our community!

Help Needed! Our new sign and church building are being obstructed by low hanging branches and shrubs. If you are interested in helping clear the forest, please see Lee Hunt.







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Special Points of Interest

- Sept 1 Weekly Digital Prayer Meeting
- Sept 1 Senior Meal Deliveries
- Sept 1—Blood Drive from 4-7pm
- Sept 2—Midweek Message
- Sept 3 Adult Bible Study
- Sept 6 Worship Service & Puppet Show
- Sept 8 Weekly Digital Prayer Meeting
- Sept 8 Senior Meal Deliveries
- Sept 9—Midweek Message
- Sept 9—ZOOM for Youth & Children
- Sept 10 Adult Bible Study
- Sept 13 Worship Service
- Sept 13 Small Group Communion Svc
- Sept 14 Soup Nite
- Sept 15 Weekly Digital Prayer Meeting
- Sept 15 Senior Meal Deliveries
- Sept 16—Midweek Message
- Sept 16—ZOOM for Youth & Children
- Sept 17 Adult Bible Study
- Sept 20 Worship Service
- Sept 22 Weekly Digital Prayer Meeting
- Sept 22- Senior Meal Deliveries
- Sept 23—Midweek Message
- Sept 23—ZOOM for Youth & Children
- Sept 24 Adult Bible Study
- Sept 27 Worship Service
- Sept 28 Soup Nite
- Sept 29 Weekly Digital Prayer Meeting
- Sept 29- Senior Meal Deliveries
- Sept 30—Midweek Message
- Sept 30—ZOOM for Youth & Children

<u>From the Pastor</u>

"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us." (Romans 8:18 NIV)

Some time ago I was listening to a speaker on the radio and heard an interesting thought about life in our world, something that I had not even considered before. He quoted someone who made the statement that for Christians this life is the only hell they will ever experience while for the non-Christian this life is the only heaven they'll experience.

Now think about that for a moment. Perhaps read it over again a few times and let it sink in. It's quite a profound thought and one that we really need to grasp. You see, what he was saying is that for those who reject Jesus, who refuse to give their lives to him, who never put their faith in him alone as their Lord and Savior, this life is as good as it gets and it will only get worse as they move toward their permanent residence—one in which they will live forever in torment and total separation from God. But for those of us who are trusting in Jesus, life in this world is the worst that we will ever experience. It only gets better as we move closer to our permanent residence in heaven with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, spending eternity with him in paradise restored.

Sometimes I think we lose sight of the fact that this life is simply a staging ground where decisions are made as to where we'll be spending eternity. We seem to live as if we expect this world to be something like heaven where nothing terrible ever happens. And when troubles, or difficulties, or sufferings, or pandemics come our way, we become disillusioned and perhaps even get angry with God.

Listen, we live in a world that's cursed where bad things will happen, even to humanly good people. But what we need to realize is that no matter how terrible life may become, if we have come to faith in Jesus Christ, the troubles we face in this life are the worst we'll ever experience and it will only get better when Jesus comes for us. So as you live each day keep in mind there's a better day ahead when you will experience the eternal joy of your salvation and you'll live and reign forever with Jesus.

Pastor Mark

SMALL GROUP COMMUNION SERVICE SEPTEMBER 13

REGISTER ONLINE WWW.HIGHLANDSARP.ORG/COMMUNION



Pastor Mark and Pastor Chris led Worship for almost 50 people at each of our first two communion small group Worship services.



After a video prelude of favorite hymns, the Worship service began with the singing of a cross centered hymn. Pastor Chris read passages of Scripture, and Pastor Mark shared sections of the Form of Government on Communion. The Elders had placed the communion elements on the tables before anyone arrived, so all could safely enjoy this means of grace together. It was a sweet time of Worship and fellowship.



Easy Affordable Dinner Recipe from Rachel Bratley

Quick Baked Sandwich

1 pound ground beef

1 pound sausage

1 pound Velveeta cheese (or store brand)

English muffins

Brown beef & sausage together & drain off grease. Stir in Velveeta until melted. Spread on English muffins & bake at 350 degrees until heated. About 15 minutes.

On August 9, we sang, "It Is Well." Here is a link from You Tube, and it talks about how the hymn came to be written. Hugh Bonneville (Downton Abbey) narrates it. I love the opening arrangement of "O Little Town of Bethlehem." Hope you enjoy it! *Betsy Whitson*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ReApJymYSiw

"Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits." Psalm 103:2





Cindy Bennett's Garden

The top picture of Butternut and Tomato plants is from Cindy's garden this spring. The right side pictures are some of her green beans. Faith provided a pressure canner so she was able to harvest 50# of beans so far this year. She generously shared some of the pints and quarts with Faith. Besides green beans, Cindy makes and cans jams, salsa, pickles, and apple sauce. She experiments with different things, this summer it was mango chutney. She also freezes some things.



Christian Education Ministry STUDY THE BIBLE WITH US

At our Bible Studies we share praises, prayer requests, enjoy a discussion-style Bible Study, and learn together in God's Word. Join a Bible Study to deepen your relationship with God and with each other.

August, 2020



You are invited to join the Adult Bible Study! It meets each Thursday on ZOOM. They meet together to study the Bible and to pray together. They have just started a new study on angels, that will Biblically show the origin and nature of angels. It will explain the different classifications of angels, and then go on to explore good and bad angels. Email Betsy for more info.

The Wednesday Night Bible Study was transformed into the Midweek Message when we were no longer able to meet together in person. This goes out each Wednesday as an email. If you are not receiving this email, please check with Betsy to make sure we have your correct email address. Betsy will also mail you a copy if you do not have email. Feel free to pass it along to family and friends, so they also may be encouraged by God's Word.





The Youth and Young Families also have the opportunity to study God's Word. Each week a Bible Lesson and

Craft goes out, so if you are not receiving this email, please let Bonnie know so that you can study God's Word with your children. VBS is still available online, so you can watch again!

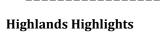


Remember your personal time each day with the Lord in prayer and reading of the Word. Martin Luther recommended the Our Father and reading of the Psalms as a regular starting point.

PERSONAL DEVOTION

Our Tuesday Zoom prayer time is up to Psalm 80 as we pray on through these many difficult weeks.

In Christ's Love to all, Don Reinhardt



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Theme for the Month: In September, the students will be learning "All About Me"! They will learn how special and unique God made each one of them. They will continue learning the school rules and how important it is to make good choices. They are also learning to share and making wonderful new friends.

Silly Fun Day: September 10 is "Wear a Silly Hat Day!" We look forward to seeing lots of silly hats!

The 2020-2021 Preschool year has begun with digital learning. We are looking forward to the time when we can be together in person. We are anticipating the fun we will have at preschool this year!

Highlands MMO & Preschool is reaching out to our community to provide quality Christian childcare and instruction for families with young children. Please pray for this outreach ministry of Highlands ARP Church.







Highlands MMO & Preschool

September

Theme: Back to School Fun







Highlands Highlights

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Hello Youth!

Can you believe that another summer has passed and you are back in school? I can't! I know that this summer and beginning of the school year has gone different than you expected - and I look forward to talking with you all about how you are doing with all of the changes. Youth Group is going to look different this year as well. We will be starting Youth group online only - meeting via Zoom at 6:30PM on Wednesdays. We will participate in the same kinds of things - games, prayer, Bible reading and study - but over zoom. I am hoping that this will be a great time of fellowship and learning for you as you go throughout this school year. It is also my hope that we will be able to resume meeting together for church and youth activities sometime later this year. I want you to know that I am praying for you and that I am here for you. Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Pastor Chris



Online Outreach Impact

For July, 2020



Website Visits in July

Most active Sundays 8am-12pm

252 Unique Users

662 Website Visits

Worldwide Impact – 7 Countries USA, Germany, France, Netherlands, China, Philippines, Poland

Facebook reached 83 people 56 people interacted 11 people went for more info







July 19 Worship had 186 unique viewers

Sunday Worship averaged 107 unique viewers each week in July

Thank you for inviting your friends and family to join us in Online Worship!

Highlands Highlights

Hi All,

Hope everyone is doing well, staying safe and keeping cool. We had a busy month serving. On our first Soup Nite, August 10th, we served Chicken Nachos over at the Food CoOp. We loaded up 157 chicken containers and 180 nachos and dessert bars and went over to serve from there. The CoOp gave us a table inside the warehouse with a lift up garage type door to get to the car line. It had been raining heavily just an hour earlier and thankfully had stopped in time to serve. (Do you feel the drama building?) We had some of our Soup Nite guests in the car line around the block, Mr. Winfrey and Miss Anne. Well, I do not know if they were served because in 15 minutes all the chicken containers were gone! The leftover chips and bars were given away as snacks. Everyone packed up and they were done before 6pm. Just Crazy. On the 2nd Monday, we did another Grab N Go drive thru at Highlands. This procedure worked well last month so we did it again. Bob and Chris made a Food Bank pick up earlier in the morning and it all was bagged up to pass out the same day at 4pm. There was a small glitch in that there were so many frozen items that we didn't have enough storage space. So some went into coolers, some went into the 2 freezers we have and some went over to the CoOP to store for us. It's all good. However, we have been discussing getting another freezer. Please keep this in your thoughts and prayers and we will see where God leads......

Senior meals have been going smoothly. We are still doing 2 meals per person each week. I appreciate all those volunteers that have made a meal for the seniors. Since our Food Bank orders have been so large and diverse in product selection, seniors are now getting some kind of protein shake or something extra, besides the meals, in their food bags. Delivery at the Food CoOp is still drop off when the meals and food boxes are delivered. So far, all seniors are Covid free and well taken care of. Unfortunately, the

governmental assistance program (SSI) for seniors has declined after starting off with "better" dollar amounts at the beginning of the year. Very sad.

Our session at Highlands has approved Soup Nite to now distribute our meals as well as our Grab N Go days to both be conducted at Highlands. There are still no inside gatherings. It will be done as a drive thru with no contact and all servers wearing masks. We have done this with our small group of Soup Nite families and it was good. This will now make it easier for us to serve. YAY!!!!



Highlands Presbyterian

See, I told you it was busy. Each month we reevaluate what we have done and make changes to see if it works better another way. We are learning, growing and cherishing this time to still be able to serve. Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped to continue to reach those in need of food, also in need of a friendly (masked) face and in need of a kind word that shows the love of Christ.

For September, our 1st Soup Nite will be on the 14th. This will be our 8th Anniversary and we are NOW going into our 9th year. There are no plans for any celebration this time, but if you can think of a way to express with our guests how grateful we are to them, please let me know!

In Christ,

Parrie

Prayer Corner Update

- Carol Streng was discharged last Saturday from Eastside and is recovering at home. Please
 pray for her strength and quick recovery. Gene has also tested positive but is not showing
 any symptoms.
- Ken Fordham's oral chemotherapy is going well. He feels as though it is having a positive effect on the mass in his abdomen.
- Joe Bath will have surgery on September 8 to replace a steel plate in his skull that was
 implanted several years ago due to a subdural hematoma surgery. Please pray for Joe as he
 may need to stay overnight.
- John Avitabile has been released to go back to work and the doctor thinks he will have a completer recovery.
- Prayers for Karen Caughman and Ozzie Ashe as they visit Karen's daughter, Emma, in Dublin.
- Pray for our Gwinnett and Walton County school-aged children as they begin to navigate the new school year.
 - Pray for the students at Erskine College as they have begun in-person classes.

If you have a prayer request for the congregation, please send to: highlandarp@gmail.com

American Red Cross

Highlands Blood Drive Tuesday, Sept 1st, 3 - 7 p.m.

Our July Blood Drive was quite successful! We had all 18 appointments filled and several were Power Red donors which means their donation counted for 2 pints! We met our goal of 15 pints and actually had 17 pints collected. Our next drive is scheduled for September 1 from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. We have all of the 16 slots filled. Please contact Betsy if you would like to be a walk-in.

Highlands 2020 Operating Budget Update

As of July YTD Gifts & Offerings YTD Expenses

\$ 125,707.91 \$ 118,572.05 BUDGET

The monthly YTD Summary is posted on the Members' page on our website.

GIVING TITHELY - ONLINE GIVING

Effective July 1, Highlands ARP is changing our online giving platform to <u>tithe.ly</u>. The format is similar to ones that we have been using in that donations by credit card or debit card (fees are 2.9% +\$.30/transactions) and bank transfers (1% fee) are both an option. There will be an option for you to cover the credit card fee as well.

The website is easy to understand -

1.You have the option of donating to predetermined funds (General Fund,

Benevolence Fund, Soup Nite Ministry, Missions, etc.)

2.You may set up the frequency of regular gifts (weekly, bi-weekly, semi-monthly or monthly)

3.You may elect to cover the credit card processing fees

4.You may select a bank draft or a credit/debit card payment

If you have any questions about this platform, don't hesitate to contact me or Lee Hunt.

Betsy Whitson <u>bjwhitson@bellsouth.net</u> c-404-790-8936 Lee Hunt <u>hunt1@bellsouth.net</u> c-(678) 580-8410

September 2020

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		 Happy Birthday Jan Wingfield 10am Weekly Digital Prayer Meeting Senior Meal Deliveries Blood Drive 4-7pm 	2 Midweek Message	3 7pm Adult Bible Study	4 Happy Birthday Hansen Nkefor	5 Happy Birthday John Jacques
6 Happy Birthday Emma Caughman Paul McInnish Zachary Summers 10am Worship & Puppet Show	7	8 10am Daily Weekly Prayer Meeting Senior Meal Deliveries	9 Midweek Message 6:30 Zoom for Children with Ms. Bonnie 6:30 ZOOM for Youth with Pastor Chris	10 7pm Adult Bible Study	11	12 Happy Birthday Jackie Keoho
13 10am Worship 12, 1, 2 pm Small Group Communion Worship Services	14 Soup Night	15 Happy Birthday Charles Ittner 10am Weekly Digital Prayer Meeting Senior Meal Deliveries	16 Happy Birthday Gus Bartenfeld Midweek Message 6:30 Zoom for Children 6:30 ZOOM for Youth with Pastor Chris	17 Happy Birthday Margot Lusby 7pm Adult Bible Study	18	19 Happy Birthday Dennis Bennett
20 Happy Birthday Sonja Woodham 10am Worship	21	22 10am Weekly Digital Prayer Meeting Senior Meal Deliveries	23 Happy Birthday Linda Chesney Midweek Message 6:30 Zoom for Children 6:30 ZOOM for Youth with Pastor Chris	24 7pm Adult Bible Study	25 Happy Birthday Leah Avitabile	26
27 Happy Birthday Malaika Tata 10am Worship	28 Soup Night	29 Happy Birthday Jim Whitson 10am Weekly Digital Prayer Meeting Senior Meal Deliveries	30 Happy Birthday Keegan Jones Midweek Message 6:30 Zoom for Children 6:30 ZOOM for Youth with Pastor Chris			

Highlands ARP Church

770.978.3001 — Phone 770.972.3008 — Fax



Email: highlandarp@gmail.com

Pastor:		Mark Hornby	
Associate Pasto	Chris McCoy		
Music Director:	Bonnie Hornby		
Secretary:	Betsy Whitson		
Elders:	2020	George O'Farrell	
	2021	Lee Hunt	
	2021	Don Reinhardt	
	2022	Charles Roberts	
	2022	Jim Whitson	
Deacons:	acons: <u>Class of 2020</u>		
	Justin Jacques		
	Jon Jones		
	Earl Thomas		

<u>Class of 2021</u> Omar Edmondson Phillip Wallace Betsy Whitson

<u>Class of 2022</u> John Avitabile Fru Chifen Deron Smith

Worship Times and Activities

Sunday:10:00am Worship
11:0011:00Deacon Meeting - 2nd Sunday of the monthWeekly activities resume in Sept. (tentatively)Wednesday:6:006:00pm Choir Practice
6:306:30pm Youth & Children Fun & Games
7:007:30pm Dinner
7:307:30pm Bible StudyThursday:8:308:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast
7:30Saturday:9:009:00am Fellowship Breakfast (periodically)

WHEN ACTIVITIES RESUME

Candle Lighters:

Sept 6	Ethan Spiller
Sept 13	Sama Chifen
Sept 20	Jacob Blandshaw
Sept 27	Nate Edmondson

Warmly Welcoming our Members & Visitors each week

- Sept 6 Jim Whitson, Stan Whitaker, Sal Macaluso, Jon Jones
- Sept 13 Phillip Wallace, John Avitabile, Earl Thomas, Rob Kuykendall
- Sept 20 Robert Whittle, Edward Spiller, George O'Farrell, Justin Jacques
- Sept 27 Paul McInnish, Glenn Martin, Charles Roberts, John West

Highlands ARP Church September 2020 Newsletter 830 Grayson Parkway Grayson, GA 30017



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED