Highlands ARP Church

Highlands Highlights

On Sunday, January 17, 2021 the Session of Highlands Presbyterian Church met and discussed the future reopening of our Sunday church services. Because the COVID pandemic is currently at its peak in Georgia and specifically in Gwinnett County, the Session voted to continue online services through February. At our next meeting on February 21, 2021, the Session will again review the decision to reopen. The Session would like to emphasize that we make these decisions, covered by prayer, based not on fear but rather on the current data available surrounding the COVID disease.

The Session would like to encourage those eligible to receive the COVID vaccine to apply for and receive it in the coming weeks. Our desire to protect those in our congregation most vulnerable to COVID is an important consideration in deciding when to reopen. As more of us get vaccinated, the risk of resuming Sunday services diminishes. Of course, we understand that some are reluctant to receive the vaccine, and this message today is not intended to change anyone's views in that regard. We all look forward to the day when we can worship together in person; the Session wants to assure everyone that that day will be coming.

February 2021 Volume XVII, Issue I

As stated before, the Session asks everyone to pray for the health and safety of our staff and our members and guests during this unprecedented time. Please do not hesitate to contact Mark, Chris, or any of the Elders if you have questions about our Sunday services.

Yours in Christ. Bob Statham





Inside This Issue

From the Pastor	2
Women's Ministry	3
MMO & Preschool	4
Young Families	5
HARP Youth	6
Hunger Walk Run	8
Soup Nite	9
Missions Update	10
Prayer Corner & Prayer Time	11
Benton House Virtual Events	12
Budget & Blood Drive	13
Calendar	14

Special Dates of Interest

- Feb 2 Weekly Online Prayer & Praise
- Feb 2 Senior Meal Deliveries
- Feb 3 Midweek Message
- Feb 3 Children's & Youth Group Zooms
- Feb 7 Online Worship Service
- Feb 7 Puppet Show
- Feb 7 Deacons' Meeting
- Feb 8 Soup Night
- Feb 9 Weekly Online Prayer & Praise
- Feb 9 Senior Meal Deliveries
- Feb 10 Midweek Message
- Feb 10 Children's & Youth Group Zooms
- Feb 11 Online Adult Bible Study
- Feb 14 Online Worship Service
- Feb 16 Weekly Online Prayer & Praise
- Feb 16 Senior Meal Deliveries
- Feb 17 Midweek Message
- Feb 17 Children's & Youth Group Zooms
- Feb 18 Online Adult Bible Study
- Feb 21 Online Worship Service
- Feb 21 Session Meeting
- Feb 22 Soup Night
- Feb 23 Weekly Online Prayer & Praise
- Feb 23 Senior Meal Deliveries
- Feb 24 Midweek Message
- Feb 24 Children's & Youth Group Zooms
- Feb 25 Online Adult Bible Study
- Feb 28 Online Worship Service

<u>From the Pastor</u>

"For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory" (2 Corinthians 1:20 ESV).

We've all probably heard that saying: "A promise is a promise" and we understand that it means we're to speak truthfully and do what we're promising. As human beings though, we don't always keep our word and can often fail to fulfill what we intended when we made the promise. However, as we've discussed previously, that's not the way it is with God. When God speaks, He not only intends to keep His word, but He also actually keeps His word and completely fulfills what He intended to do when He makes each and every statement. With that in mind, I thought that it might be good for us to spend this year, and maybe next year as well, looking at some of the promises God has given us so that we might be encouraged as we read and grasp the significance of God's promises to us.

In the Scripture above, the Apostle Paul is giving us, by the power of the Holy Spirit, the assurance that everything God has promised is absolutely true. The word that's translated "Yes" in our English Bibles literally means "sure" and is a strong affirmation that what is being said is completely certain to occur, not only when it is first being said, but continuing on through the ages until the end of time. In other words, the intent of the message as well as what that message brings about is always going to be effective according to the purpose and plan of God. In the Book of Numbers we're told: *"God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?"* (Numbers 23:19 ESV). When God speaks, He speaks the truth and when He speaks the truth, He will not ever change His mind but will fulfill all that He intended. In Isaiah we're reminded:

"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

(Isaiah 55:10, 11 ESV)

God is always faithful to His Word, steadfast in all He has promised, unchanging, unwavering, and unmovable. He will always do what He has said He will do.

Now, the reason we can be assured of God's faithfulness is that it's *"in him."* You see, everything God has promised has its foundation in the person and work of our Lord Jesus Christ. The reality that God sent His one and only Son into this world to redeem sinful rebels like us is all the evidence we need to take God at His Word. In fact, when you read through the preceding verses of this chapter in 2 Corinthians, this Scripture culminates the Apostle Paul's argument regarding all he had been teaching them. It's because of our Lord's finished work on the cross that we can be assured that God is faithful and true and will always do what He's said He will do.

So, as we progress through this year and look at some of God's promises remember that each and every one of them find their fulfillment in and through our Lord because all that God says is absolutely true and we can say "Amen to God for His glory."

Pastan Wank





Highlands Women's Ministry

CULTIVATE YOUR JOURNEY WITH CHRIST

Italian Chicken and Rice Casserole

Servings

6 -8 servings

Ingredients

- 2-3 cups cooked chopped chicken
- 1 cup rice uncooked
- 1 red bell pepper chopped
- handful of chopped fresh parsley
- 1 cup Italian blend shredded cheese
- 2 cans 15 oz chicken broth
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1/2-1 tsp. oregano
- 1/2-1 tsp. basil
- 1 garlic clove minced or crushed
- black pepper to taste

Instructions

- 1. Put the chicken in the bottom of a 9×13 casserole dish.
- 2. Sprinkle the rice, red pepper and parsley over the top.
- 3. Spread the cheese evenly over the top.
- 4. In a small bowl, combine the broth, chicken soup,, oregano, basil, garlic and pepper.
- 5. Pour evenly over the top of the other ingredients.
- Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour 1 hour and 15 minutes. Let it stand for a few minutes before serving.



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

Highlands Highlights

Highlands MMO & Preschool February Community Helpers





This month we will learn about "Community Helpers." We will talk about the many ways that people from our community help us. We will have a video about firemen and fire trucks. We will also learn about letters "Q, R, & S" and the numbers, "5,

6, & 7." We will have a "Hero Day" where the students can dress up at

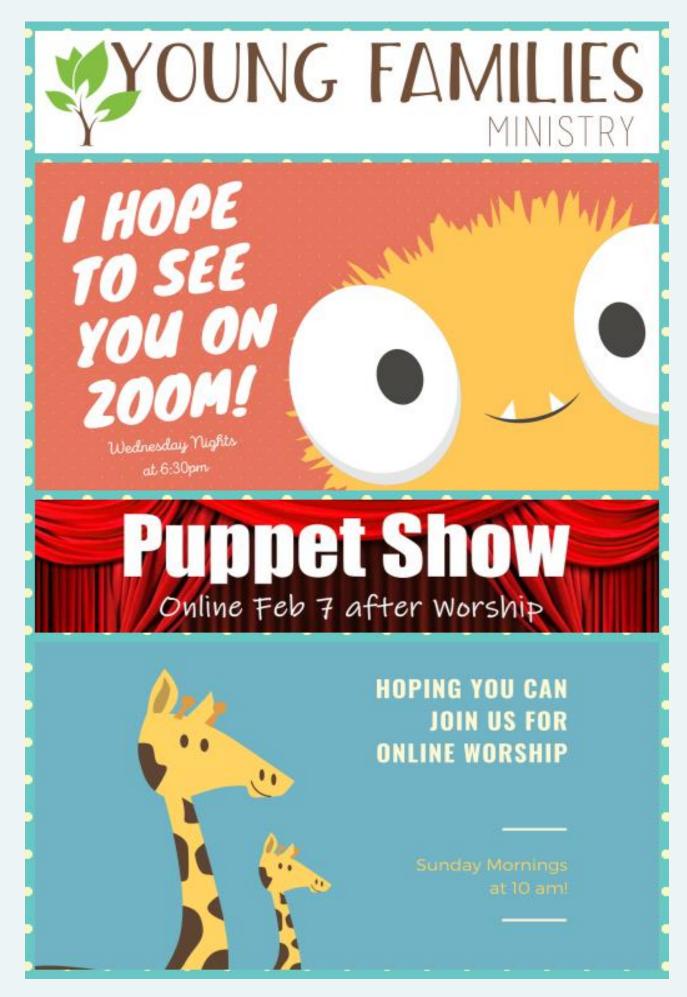
home as their favorite hero!





Last year's fun at Pajama Day and Donut Day!

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 Highlights



Pray for our youth as they navigate a unique school year.

I want to ask you to continue to lift our youth up in prayer as they continue this school year. We have resumed meeting online on Zoom on Wednesday nights for fellowship and study. We are continuing our study of Philippians. As this new year continues, we are hopeful that our ministry to the youth will encourage them during this time. We know that God has a plan and that He is using and will use this strange time in the story of each of us. It is my prayer that God will use these things to draw all of us closer to Him as we seek to rely on Him for all things.

Pastor Chris





-eb. 7, 2021 11:15 AM via Zoom Feb. 21, 2021 11:30 AM Fellowship Hall



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

ONLINE THURSDAYS AT 7PM



HUNGERWALKRUN

MARCH 7, 2021

Dear Family and Friends,

I am excited to share that I will be participating in the VIRTUAL Hunger Walk Run. I can't wait to raise muchneeded funds for hunger relief in our community.

I am asking you to help by supporting my fundraising efforts with a donation. **My goal is to raise \$750 this year** so that Highlands Soup Nite can serve more hot, nutritious meals to children, families, and seniors in need. More than 1 in 5 Georgia kids live in homes where hunger is a regular worry. I want to change that, but I need your help. Seniors have to decide to buy medicine or groceries. Parents worry if they can pay their bills and put food on the table.

It's fast and easy to make a gift on my behalf. Just click on the link at the bottom of this message to go to my personal fundraising page.

Whatever you can give will help – it all adds up! I greatly appreciate your support and will keep you posted on my progress. Let's do this together!

Sincerely, Carrie Macaluso





Hi All,

Happy New Year! I'm excited to see how God will lead us in 2021! We began Soup Nite on the 11th, serving Breakfast for Dinner. It was egg hashbrown casserole and cheesy sausage biscuit. The weather was definitely a factor in the low turnout for the evening, as it was cold and rainy. The meal was wonderful and yummy, yet we had a lot left over but were able to freeze it easily enough for maybe a lunch over at the CoOp at another time. Our second serving was on the 25th and we served chicken & rice soup including a dessert of custard donuts or homemade chocolate chip cookies! It was a very slow start, but we did give out all the soup and had to give out a few frozen items to compensate for the lack of soup for the last car. The Food Coop was still busy after we closed, and Jane and I feel that we can move our time back to 4-7ish, and probably extend it to 7:30. We WILL find that sweet time again.

There was also a food distribution drive thru this month on the 17th. We had 32 families come through the line, and we passed out over 1,000 lbs. of food products. There were lots of meats to pass out this time and that is always a huge hit!

Our senior meal delivery program is very busy! Not only did we have a Dairy Queen fundraiser for our seniors, but we also had community restaurants make meals for this program. The fundraiser raised \$287, which we were to get 10% but managers, Ali and Mike are giving us a larger check as they had a wonderful day at the DQ and feel more people came but didn't turn in their receipts. I was happy with the \$29 we were to get as that would feed over 2 dozen seniors! Next time, we will tweak the fine print. LOL. Isn't that awesome! Thank you for participating and I hope it was fun for you! For other senior meals, we have been able to pay some restaurants with the holiday donation from our friends at Friends of Gwinnett Seniors. Some restaurants have donated meals as Dairy Queen and Mom's Meals, an online frozen meal delivery program. Grayson Coffee House and Chicken Salad Chick have also made meals for us. Lisa Lowe, a local caterer from Cooking for Caregivers, made wonderful meals for our seniors and will again in February. LettumEat is a Christian, non-profit community meal prep organization who will make us meals for as long as we want beginning in February! As Chef Hank, Executive Chef, said, "This is what we do!" They are in Snellville, so how local is that! Highlands will donate something to LettumEat for helping us and offsetting their expenses for this.

There is also another fundraiser at the Atlanta Community Food Bank for the Virtual Hunger Walk Run. Check out the weekly emails from Highlands or go to our Facebook page, <u>Highlands Soup Nite</u> to donate. So.....only one month into 2021 and we are up and running. Next month's Soup Nites are on the 8th and we are serving chicken tortilla soup and then on the 22nd, we don't know yet but we will come up with something... LOL. Thank you for your

willingness to serve and reaching out to our community. The need is great, but our God is greater.

In Christ,

Parrie

Highlands Presbyterian



Prayer Corner Update

- Pray for Highlands' members who have family and friends diagnosed with COVID –
 Mark and Bonnie's daughter, Angela.
 - * Temple Elam is home from the VA after his stay with COVID. He continues dialysis three times a week. Praises that both have now tested negative for COVID.
 - * Joey Hunt (Lee and Jerita's son) has tested positive for COVID-19. Please keep him in your prayers that he will recover quickly.
 - * Zack Caughman's manager & her husband, Lisa & Chris Cooper, both have COVID. Pray for them and their 6-year-old triplet sons as they recover.
- Zack Caughman's co-worker, Don, who recently retired, had a medical emergency and he is now in a coma. The doctors have not given him a good prognosis. However, he did move his foot and hand slightly and has showed some brain activity. They are waiting to see how things go over the next few days. Please pray for Don, his family and the physicians who are caring for him.
- Phillip Wallace's results of a kidney biopsy confirmed a diagnosis that will require several infusions to treat. Please pray that the doctors will determine the best course of treatment. His first infusion is next week.
- Please pray for former Highlands member, Dannelle Wallace, whose husband Roger died on January 8 after a short battle with COVID. A social-distanced memorial service was held last week.
- Michelle McCoy fell while walking at Tribble Mill Park and tore a ligament in her right ankle. She
 will be in a brace and on crutches for about a month. The doctor is hopeful that it will heal without
 surgery.
- Pastor Mark and Bonnie as they recover from strep throat.
- Barbara Fordham's son, David, and his wife, Cheryl, with on-going health issues.

Praises

- Vickie Fledderjohann's husband, Dean, had successful hernia surgery.
- Michelle Miles and her boyfriend, Jack, have recovered from their bouts with COVID.
- Danny Streubing, Lynn Avitable's brother, has recovered and is back at work but is tired.
- John Mark Avitabile had COVID before Christmas but is back at school.
- Jim and Debi Veldhuis, friends of the Wrights, are recovering.
- Zack Caughman has recovered from COVID and is back at work. Karen has tested negative and is feeling much better.
- Lea and Rob Whittle's daughter, Brianna Sinclair, is feeling better and is starting a new job that will allow her to work from home after the baby comes.

If you have a prayer need, please contact your shepherd or email the office to let the congregation know. Please use the <u>highlandarp@gmail.com</u> address.



Our Family Serving Yours. Benton House is proud to support seniors and caregivers at home with an ongoing series of free, fun and educational virtual events. Call and reserve your spot for one or all. But hurry, space is limited.

Zoom Bingo

Thursday, February 11th, 3 pm Just like the live experience! No cost to participants. Prizes!

Virtual Craft Class

Thursday, Febuary 18th, 3 pm

You will not want to miss our virtual craft class via zoom! We'll send you craft supplies and instructions on how to participate. Hosted by Casey Caulk, Garden House Activity Director.

Radio Theater Zoom

Tuesday, February 23rd, 4 pm

Featuring story teller, Gloria Elder, as she tells a special adventure about her grandmother from her book, I Walked a Mile in Her Shoes: A Story of Unconditional Love.

New to Zoom? We're here to help. With each event reservation we'll send instructions and supplies to participate.

HOUSE^{*} living community

Highlands **Operating Budget** as of Dec. 2020

YTD Gifts & Offerings YTD Expenses

\$222,172.21 \$214,696.03

The monthly YTD Summary is posted on the Members' page on our website. Contact the church office if you would like a copy of the 2021 Budget.

> l give blood because

Find your reason. Give on March 9 C American Red Cross

00000000000

BUDGET

3

ENJOY A MIDWEEK MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MARK February 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 10am Weekly Online Prayer & Praise Senior Meal Deliveries	3 Midweek Message 6:30 Children 's ZOOM with Ms. Bonnie & Youth ZOOM with Pastor Chris	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10am Online Worship 11am Puppet Show 11:15am Deacons' Mtg, Zoom	Soup Night	10am Weekly Online Prayer & Praise Senior Meal Deliveries	Happy Birthday Chad Edmondson Midweek Message 6:30 Children 's ZOOM with Ms. Bonnie & Youth ZOOM with Pastor Chris	7pm Online Adult Bible Study	Happy Birthday Fin Daniel	Happy Birthday Richard Akins Mccoscar Ngoh
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10am Online Worship		10am Weekly Online Prayer & Praise Senior Meal Deliveries	Midweek Message 6:30 Children 's ZOOM with Ms. Bonnie & Youth ZOOM with Pastor Chris	7pm Online Adult Bible Study		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Happy Birthday Mia Nkefor 10am Online Worship 11:30am Session Mtg Fellowship Hall	Happy Birthday George Coker Soup Night	10am Weekly Online Prayer & Praise Senior Meal Deliveries	Midweek Message 6:30 Children 's ZOOM with Ms. Bonnie & Youth ZOOM with Pastor Chris	7pm Online Adult Bible Study	Happy Birthday Rusty Smith Lillie Rankin	
28 10am Online Worship			<i>6</i> ,			sector a



Highlands ARP Church

770.978.3001 — Phone 770.972.3008 — Fax

Email: highlandarp@gmail.com

Pastor: Associate Pas Music Directo Secretary:		Mark Hornby Chris McCoy Bonnie Hornby Betsy Whitson	Monda Tuesda	-
Elders:	2021 2022	George O'Farrell Lee Hunt	Wedne	≥sday:
	2022 2023 2023		Thursd	lay: alenda
Deacons:	2024 Bob Statham <u>Class of 2021</u> Justin Jacques		Candl Feb 7	e Lig
	Jon Joi Earl Th	nes	Feb 14 Feb 21 Feb 28	
	Omar	o <u>f 2022</u> Edmondson		
	•	Wallace Whitson	Warm Feb 7 Feb 14	۔ Jim ۱
	Class c	of 2023	Pep 14	P1111

<u>Class of 2023</u> John Avitabile Fru Chifen **Deron Smith**

Worship Times and Activities

Sunday:	10:00am 11:00am	Worship Deacons' Meeting (2nd Sunday of the month)
	11:30am	Session Meeting (3rd Sunday of the month)
Weekly activities*		
Monday:	4-7pm	Soup Nite (2nd & 4th Mondays)
Tuesday:	10:00am	Online Prayer Time
		Senior Meal Deliveries
	3-7pm	Blood Drive (every other month)
Wednesday:	12:00pm	Midweek Message from Pastor Mark
	6:30pm	Young Family Ministry ZOOM Meeting
	6:30pm	Youth ZOOM Meeting
Thursday:	7:00pm	Adult Online Bible Study

ar for scheduled events or cancellations.

ghters:

Feb 7	Ethan Spiller
Feb 14	Sama Chifen
Feb 21	Jacob Blandshaw
Feb 28	Nate Edmondson



Velcoming our Members & Visitors each week

- Whitson, Stan Whitaker, Sal Macaluso, Jon Jones llip Wallace, John Avitabile, Earl Thomas, Rob Kuykendall
- Feb 21 Robert Whittle, Edward Spiller, George O'Farrell, Justin Jacques
- Paul McInnish, Glenn Martin, Charles Roberts, John West Feb 28

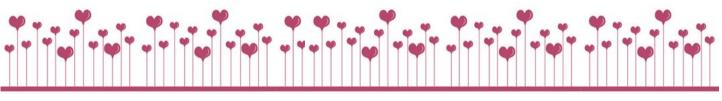
Highlands ARP Church February 2021 Newsletter

Physical Address: 830 Grayson Parkway Grayson, GA 30017-1206

Mailing Address: PO BOX 847 Grayson, GA 30017-0016



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Highlands Highlights