March 2021 Volume XVII, Issue I

Highlands Highlights



Your Pastors and Session are pleased to announce the reopening of inperson worship at Highlands beginning March 7, 2021. Contributing to our decision are a favorable level of COVID -19 cases in Gwinnett County, vaccine availability and usage, and other positive factors that seem to be slowing down the pandemic. As a reminder, the live-stream worship services with recently enhanced technology will continue for those who are not yet comfortable participating in larger group settings.

As in our Reopening Plan's Phase 3 implementation last November, we will continue to adhere to reasonable precautions to ensure everyone's health and safety. These precautions include advanced, planned worship registration online, social distancing inside and outside the building, and wearing of face masks while inside the building. Also, please plan to arrive at

Procedures & Requirements for Attending

least 15 minutes before worship begins at 10:00 AM. Building entry will be available beginning at 9:30 AM.

Other logistical and procedural requirements will be in place for a period of time after March 7 while we continue to watch and observe pandemic parameters. In the February 26 and March 5 Friday News emails (and mailings), specific information and requirements will be included. This same information can be found on HPC's home page by clicking "Worship" tab in drop-down box under "Join Us". This will help us "be smart and use common sense" as we resume in-person worship of our Lord and Savior. As a refresher please review this information before March 7th and contact any elder with questions or concerns you may have.

HPC Pastors and Session

Registration for In-Person Worship



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Special Dates of Interest

- Mar 2 Weekly Online Prayer & Praise
- Mar 2 Senior Meal Deliveries
- Mar 3 Midweek Message
- Mar 3 Children's & Youth Group Zooms
- Mar 4 Online Adult Bible Study
- Mar 7 Worship Service
- Mar 7 Puppet Show
- Mar 8 Soup Night
- Mar 9 Weekly Online Prayer & Praise
- Mar 9 Blood Drive
- Mar 9 Senior Meal Deliveries
- Mar 10 Midweek Message
- Mar 10 Children's & Youth Group Zooms
- Mar 11 Online Adult Bible Study
- Mar 14 Worship Service
- Mar 16 Weekly Online Prayer & Praise
- Mar 16 Senior Meal Deliveries
- Mar 17 Midweek Message
- Mar 17 Children's & Youth Group Zooms
- Mar 18 Online Adult Bible Study
- Mar 21 Worship Service
- Mar 21 Session Meeting
- Mar 22 Soup Night
- Mar 23 Weekly Online Prayer & Praise
- Mar 23 Senior Meal Deliveries
- Mar 24 Midweek Message
- Mar 24 Children's & Youth Group Zooms
- Mar 25 Online Adult Bible Study
- Mar 28 Worship Service
- Mar 30 Weekly Online Prayer & Praise
- Mar 30 Senior Meal Deliveries
- Mar 31 Midweek Message
- Mar 31 Children's & Youth Group Zooms

From the Pastor

"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." (Genesis 3:15 ESV)

The Bible is filled with many promises God has made to His people. As I mentioned in last month's article, I would like to focus this year on some of the promises that belong to us. As such, I thought that we could begin with the first promise given in the Garden of Eden after Adam and Eve had disobeyed God and plunged the whole human race into sin and misery.

We all realize the Garden of Eden was a beautiful paradise in which God had placed our first parents. He told them they were to "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth" (Genesis 1:28b ESV). He also told them "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die" (Genesis 2:16b-17 ESV). Well, we know the story and how Eve was deceived by the serpent (Satan), while it appears Adam stood by her side, and that's why this world is in the mess that it is today. It's after their fall into sin that the promise is made through the curse upon the serpent who had deceived them. Theologians call this Scripture the "protoevangelium" which is simply saying that it's the first mention of the gospel. However, it seems to be somewhat cryptic and so let's look briefly at it and how it's the greatest promise our first parents, and us as well, could have ever received from God. You see, this promise is all about God's great plan and purpose moving forward throughout time in which God is bringing about our redemption.

First, notice there are two distinct powers in play within God's plan of redemption. God tells the serpent "I will put enmity between you and the woman." The word "enmity" can also mean such things as anger, antagonism, hatred, and represents two opposing sides in a constant struggle for victory, one over the other. We certainly can see this play out in our lives today as we fight against temptation, both inward and outward. The Apostle Paul tells us: "So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members" (Romans 7:21-23 ESV). We're also told "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8 ESV).

Second, notice there are two distinct peoples in play within God's plan of redemption. The Lord continues in the curse on the serpent "and between your offspring and her offspring." God is telling us there are two peoples who will continue in conflict throughout life in this fallen and cursed world. There will be those who follow the deceiver, who are his offspring, and those who follow the woman, representing the redeemed, who are her offspring. I'm certain we can both see how that has been playing out throughout history, moving forward from that time right up to and beyond today. Jesus tells us: "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you" (John 15:18 ESV). We've all experienced it at various times, and it will be experienced by our children after us. However, it's in the next section of the protoevangelium that we find our greatest hope.

Third, notice there are two distinct pledges in play within God's plan of redemption. God concludes with these words: "he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." This is all about the cross of Jesus and how God makes the final blow to the devil while at the same time redeeming His people. The Apostle John tells us, "Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God" (1 John 3:8,9 ESV). You see, Jesus is the offspring being proclaimed in this passage who defeated Satan (bruising head) at the cross on which Jesus (bruising heel) gave His life to atone for our sins. Even though the struggle continues, Satan knows his time is short and we know the Kingdom of God is coming in power and will one day reach its fullness at the return of our Lord. What an amazing promise!

Pastor Mark



Highlands Women's Ministry

CULTIVATE YOUR JOURNEY WITH CHRIST

CROCKPOT TERIYAKI CHICKEN

4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts 1 onion

3 cloves garlic 1 Tbsp. fresh ginger 1/2 cup soy sauce 1/3 cup honey

1/3 cup rice vinegar 1/4 cup scallions, sliced

3 Tbsp. sesame seeds 1 cups white rice, steamed (for

serving)

1. Place the chicken breasts into your slow cooker.

2. Top the chicken with the onion, garlic and ginger.

- 3. Add the soy sauce, honey and rice vinegar to the slow cooker; season with salt and pepper.
- 4. Cook on low for 6 hours. Shred the chicken with two forks.
- 5. Garnish the cooked chicken with sliced scallions and sesame seeds. Serve with the steamed rice.





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 MMO & Preschool

March

Theme: Animals



This month we will be learning about "Animals," and we will celebrating reading, and Dr. Seuss's birthday. We will also lear letters "T, U, & V" and the numbers, "8, 9, & 10." We will have our favorite "Dr. Seuss" book to help celebrate his birthday!

This school year the Board decided to have Digital Learning July. However, because of the impact that Covid-19 has had on our teachers and our students, the Board has decided to take a sabbatical for the 2021 - 2022 school year.









Online Puppet Show March 7

Trust in the Lord with all your heart.

Proverbs 3:5



YOUTH GROUP ON ZOOM WEDNESDAYS AT 6:30

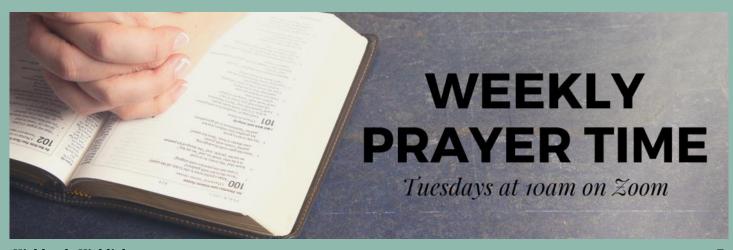
MESSAGE PASTOR CHRIS FOR INFO

Youth group has continued to meet online on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm for those that are able to meet digitally during this pandemic. We have continued our study of Philippians which has been very fitting for the times. One of the things we have highlighted has been Paul's attitude during the hard parts of his life (imprisonment, shipwreck, etc.). Even throughout these difficult times he focused on Christ and the advancement of the gospel. This has been an encouragement to us as we face difficult circumstances this year. We have been reminded to keep Christ our focus despite the strangeness of the world around us. Please continue to be in prayer for our youth and for the church.









Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

ROMANS 5:1



American Highlands Blood Drive Red Cross March 9th, 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Did you know that there are only two regularly scheduled blood drives in the city of Grayson and only two in Loganville? That tells me how critical the need is for donors to come out on March 9th. Our schedule allows for 19 appointments, but **12** are already filled.

If you haven't given in a while, or if you've never given, this is a great time to start! Visit www.redcrossblood.org, search for "30017" and March 9 and sign up online. If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Whitson at 404-790-8936 or bjwhitson@bellsouth.net.

Are you are a first-time donor? Check out the Red Cross page for questions, answers and encouragement - https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/how-to-donate/common-concerns/first-time-donors.html

Our blood donations from the January 2021 drive went to these locations -



HCA-COLUMBIA COLISEUM MEDICAL CENTERS -MACON
EMORY SAINT JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL
PIEDMONT FAYETTE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
NORTHSIDE HOSPITAL-FORSYTH
PIEDMONT WALTON HOSPITAL

MarkYour Calendar

SESSION

March 21, 2021 11:15 AM Fellowship Hall Hi All.

We are moving along into 2021 with speed. God's speed. Our first serving was on the 8th, and we had chicken tortilla soup with tortilla chips and Cliff Bars! We also changed our serving time back to our original time of 4-7pm. That did help a lot with our traffic coming in the Drive Thru. It was a steady flow of guests; however, we ran out of food at 6:15. That was 136 meals including 10 BBQ chicken sandwiches that Jane made up in a hurry, and we still turned away 3 cars. Thank you to all who helped with making crockpots and prepping to serve. Our second day to serve was on the 22nd and we made salmon burgers with lettuce and tomato, dill sauce, mac 'n cheese and cookies. It was a Drive Thru Attention Getter! We had 46 households come thru with 222 meals given out! We ran out of Salmon burgers at 5:45. Jane and Eunice once again made up some sausage burgers and we also ended up giving out frozen salmon burgers too! No one was turned away. It was a very exhausting day but so very blessed.

We did a Distribution Drive Thru of fresh produce boxes and food pantry items on the 18th. After picking up our monthly order from the food bank, we were able to give away meats, breads and snacks! Once again, the Lord held off the rain so we could give away all that was needed to get out without getting soaked!

The Senior Meals program is going strong. We partnered with LettumEat, a non-profit Gwinnett County meal delivery program, located in Snellville. I pick up meals every Monday from them to pass out to our seniors, which will be one of the

two meals delivered through the program. I hope to give LettumEat a donation from the gift money we were given from Friends of Gwinnett Seniors! Hopefully, we can keep doing this for a while into Spring. We also had Cooking for Caregivers come and make meals for us again. Lisa always makes a wonderfully nutritious meal! Two local organizations, Joy Community Kitchen and The Benton House, also donated meals for us to give to our seniors! It has been a huge blessing to allow us to take some time off from cooking these past couple months. We will start up making meals again next month.

Please be in prayer for another person to help Jane and me guide this ministry. A third person, who has a heart to serve and help, would be such a blessing to all facets of navigating Soup Nite. Our next Soup Nite is March 8th and we are serving hamburger soup!

I know it seems like we are not connected because of COVID, but bringing your crockpots and trays of food to the kitchen reminds me that you are very much a part of this ministry. We are able to see each other and chat for a few moments. We see

your eyes and feel you. You are appreciated and prayed for. Thank you for being a blessing to Jane, me, Highlands and the community!

In Christ,

Carrie

ds Jour Highlands Presbyterian

If you would like to order an Easter lily in memory or in honor of someone, please contact the church office for information. Cost is \$10.

Purchases must be made By March 28th

Prayer Corner Update

- Bonnie Hornby had surgery on Tuesday to remove a skin cancer on her nose. The doctor was able to remove it all.
 She says that the swelling is going down and the pain is manageable. She goes to the doctor Tuesday to have the stitches removed. Pray that she will be able to rest as the doctor has requested.
- Ken and Barbara Fordham travelled to Newnan, GA on Sunday to the Cancer Treatment Centers of America for a 3-day consultation and evaluation. They were very encouraged by the doctors and other staff that they encountered during their stay. They did find 2 blood clots in his legs and prescribed blood thinners. They're scheduled for further evaluations in March. On Sunday, Ken had surgery to place an IVC filter to prevent blood clots from travelling from their location in his legs. While at Northside Gwinnett, they discovered that he has a kidney stone as well. He came through the surgery well and is resting back in his room. They are hoping he will be discharged by Monday. Pray that he and Barbara will both get some rest as the last few days have been stressful since Barbara has not been able to be with Ken much of the time.
- Please pray also for Ken's daughter Sharon who is having cancer surgery on Tuesday.
- Pray for church members or their families who have cancer.
- Paul McInnish's eye appointment revealed that he does have glaucoma. He will be treating it with drops for 6 weeks and then back for a follow-up visit. Pray the drops will be effective and he will not have to have surgery.
- Please be in prayer for Elliot and MaryBradley Bayne. They have had a very bad cold since December, and have not been able to shake it. They have been very tired, and had multiple rounds of medicine. Please pray for strength and healing.
- The inflammation in Mary Ashe's eye is has greatly reduced with the eye drops that were prescribed. She is still having blurry vision, floaters and headaches, and is scheduled for follow up visits over the coming weeks until they are improved enough to allow for another surgery to remove the floaters. Doctors are keeping a close watch on her. She sends her thanks for all the prayers.
- James Daniel has been diagnosed with COVID. The family has been tested and one of the girls is positive but Laura and her mom are both not feeling well. Please pray that they will all feel better soon.
- Pray for Caridad Blandshaw as they try to find a reputable vendor to replace their roof.
- John Jacques (Jessamy and Justin's son) John came home from the hospital last night and is recovering. He is feeling pretty well. Please continue to pray as he recovers.
- Phillip Wallace is home after his stay at Eastside where he was diagnosed with pneumonia. He is resuming his course of IV treatments.
- Michelle McCoy is still navigating life with a brace and crutches. Pray for complete healing and that she will not need surgery.

Praises

- Cheyenne Joyce Crowell, born March 13th to Bri Whittle. Praises that C-section went well, and mom and baby are doing fine. Grandparents, Lea & Rob Whittle are over the moon!
- Zack Caughman's co-worker, Don, who was in a coma and clinically dead for 40 minutes, has made a miraculous recovery. He woke up and is speaking and showing no signs of brain damage or memory loss. He will likely undergo some physical therapy, but how much is not known at this time. Please continue to pray for him during his recovery.

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

MARCH 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
V)	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 7pm Online Adult Bible Study	5	6 Happy Birthday Esther Chofong Chris McCoy
7 10am Worship 11am Puppet Show	8 Soup Night	9 Happy Birthday Justin Jacques 10am Weekly Online Prayer & Praise Senior Meal Deliveries 3-7pm Blood Drive	10 Happy Birthday Benjamin Badio Midweek Message 6:30 Children 's ZOOM with Ms. Bonnie & Youth ZOOM with Pastor Chris	11 7pm Online Adult Bible Study	12	13
14 10am Worship	15	16 Happy Birthday John Mark Avitabile 10am Weekly Online Prayer & Praise Senior Meal Deliveries	17 Midweek Message 6:30 Children 's ZOOM with Ms. Bonnie & Youth ZOOM with Pastor Chris	18 7pm Online Adult Bible Study	19 Happy Birthday Ken Fordham	20
21 Happy Birthday Caridad Blandshaw 10am Worship 11:30am Session Mtg Fellowship Hall	22 Soup Night	23 10am Weekly Online Prayer & Praise Senior Meal Deliveries	24 Happy Birthday Gertha Billington Midweek Message 6:30 Children 's ZOOM with Ms. Bonnie & Youth ZOOM with Pastor Chris	25 Happy Birthday Bill Alimena Aaliah Mobley 7pm Online Adult Bible Study	26	27
28 Happy Birthday Jon Jones 10am Worship	29 Happy Birthday Chad Herring	30 10am Weekly Online Prayer & Praise Senior Meal Deliveries	31 Midweek Message 6:30 Children 's ZOOM with Ms. Bonnie & Youth ZOOM with Pastor Chris			

Highlands ARP Church

770.978.3001 — Phone 770.972.3008 — Fax



Email: highlandarp@gmail.com

Pastor: Mark Hornby
Associate Pastor: Chris McCoy
Music Director: Bonnie Hornby
Secretary: Betsy Whitson

Elders: 2021 George O'Farrell

2022 Lee Hunt2022 Don Reinhardt2023 Charles Roberts2023 Jim Whitson

2024 Bob Statham

Deacons: Class of 2021

Justin Jacques Jon Jones Earl Thomas

Class of 2022
Omar Edmondson
Phillip Wallace
Betsy Whitson

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

Worship Times and Activities

Sunday: 10:00am Worship

11:00am 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

Candle Lighters:

March 7 Thomas Kuykendall
March 14 Ethan Spiller
March 21 Sama Chifen
March 28 Jacob Blandshaw

WHEN ACTIVITIES RESUME

Warmly Welcoming our Members & Visitors each week

March 7 Jim Whitson, Stan Whitaker, Sal Macaluso, Jon Jones
 March 14 Phillip Wallace, John Avitabile, Earl Thomas, Rob Kuykendall
 March 21 Robert Whittle, Edward Spiller, George O'Farrell, Justin Jacques
 March 28 Paul McInnish, Glenn Martin, Charles Roberts, John West

Highlands ARP Church March 2021 Newsletter

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

Mailing Address: PO BOX 847

Grayson, GA 30017-0016



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



^{*}See calendar for scheduled events or cancellations.