

Highlands Highlights



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Special Points of Interest

- Nov 2 - Senior Meal Deliveries
- Nov 2 - Blood Drive
- Nov 7 - Sunday School
Worship & Children's Church
Puppet Show
Family Fellowship
- Nov 8 - Soup Night
- Nov 9 - Senior Meal Deliveries
- Nov 14 - Sunday School
Worship & Children's Church
Deacons' Meeting
Family Fellowship
Start Collecting for Toy Drive
- Nov 16 - Ladies' Bible Study
- Nov 16 - Senior Meal Deliveries
- Nov 21 - Thanksgiving Pancake Breakfast
Worship & Children's Church
Session Meeting
Decorate for Advent
- Nov 22 - Soup Night
- Nov 23 - Senior Meal Deliveries
- Nov 25 - Thanksgiving
- Nov 28 - First Sunday of Advent
Sunday School
Worship & Children's Church
No Evening Events



This breakfast has been a tradition of Highlands since 1932, started by Ernest Bell to raise money for the Youth. This was during the depression when money was tight. Ernest had arranged for the pancake mix, sausage and syrup when he suddenly died at the age of 42. With Thanksgiving approaching his family thought it would be appropriate to have the breakfast on Thanksgiving morning as a memorial for Ernest. The tradition has continued now for more than 80 years.

The Bell family still try to join us every year and help provide the supplies for the pancake breakfast. This year the Thanksgiving Breakfast will on Sunday morning, November 21 at 9:00AM. The men of the church help the youth by cooking and the youth eagerly serve up the piping hot pancakes and sausage.



Join us for Family Fellowship Sundays at 4:30pm

- November 7 - Caesarea & Qumran
- November 14 - Nazareth
- November 21 - Decorate for Advent
- November 28 - No Meeting

From the Pastor

“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” (Isaiah 41:10 ESV)

The world in which we live can often create a sense of fear, especially in times such as now when we’re still in the midst of a pandemic. Even though the current wave of this virus is now declining, we still can’t be sure it’s reaching its end as new variants are being discovered. However, even if this pandemic were to end tomorrow there’s still the everyday issues of life in a cursed world we’d have to face. There will always be times of hardships and struggles that have come since our first parents, Adam and Eve, disobeyed God and plunged the world into sin and misery. We may desire to enjoy a carefree life but simply that isn’t possible in the current state of our world as that will only happen when Jesus returns and restores everything to what God intended from the beginning of creation. Now, having said all that, we who are believers in, and followers of the Lord, don’t need to live our lives without hope. We don’t have to give into fear, being filled with anxiety as if there’s no help as we navigate the storms of life. God tells us we can live life to its fullest because we’re His people and He deeply loves us.

You see, first of all, we have the promise of God’s presence with us. The Lord reminds us of this when He says: *“Fear not, for I am with you.”* Do you wake every morning with the thought that God has already planned out your day for you and that He’ll walk with you every step of the way you go? Sure, we’ll make decisions; some of them will be good and others not so good and yet they’re all in accordance with God’s providence for our lives. I’ve always loved the passage from Psalm 139, beginning in verse 7:

“Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me. If I say, ‘Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night,’ even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.”

God never leaves His beloved people to fend for themselves but is always very near, walking with us as we travel this journey we call life.

Secondly, we have the promise of God’s person with us. God tells us: *“be not dismayed, for I am your God.”* When life tends to beat us up, we can often fall into the pit of despair and forget that God is personal and that through Jesus we have a vibrant and living relationship with our Heavenly Father. God is telling us that He is OUR God, such that there’s a personal connection that He has established, and we can go to Him at any time, for any reason, and know that He’ll hear us and, in His way, and His time, will answer us. Perhaps this is why the Apostle Paul could write with such confidence those words from Romans 8:28: *“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.”* Since God loves us so much, as is revealed in the sacrifice of Jesus for us, we can know and trust that this personal God will see to our wellbeing.

Finally, we have the promise of God’s power with us. God reminds us of this when He says: *“I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”* We need to remember that God isn’t powerless to help us or even unwilling to do whatever is necessary to bring us through whatever trial or temptation we happen to be facing. He’s there to strengthen us when we think we can’t take another step. He’s there to help and uphold us when we feel too weak to carry on. He does so by the power of His *“righteous right hand”* which points us to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. You see, Jesus is the *“righteous right hand”* of God who has taken upon Himself our sin and has restored us to fellowship with our Heavenly Father. Listen, the same power that raised Jesus from the grave is the same power that’s at work in us. The Apostle Paul tells us in his letter to the Ephesians: *“I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God’s power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God’s right hand in the heavenly realms.”* You see, no matter what we face in this life, our God will always be there for us.

Pastor Mark



Highlands Women's Ministry



CULTIVATE YOUR JOURNEY WITH CHRIST

"Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged. The Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

October was a wonderful, faith-filled month for Highlands Women's Ministry! On October 16, five Highlands women had the opportunity to attend the Second Presbyterian Women's Ministries Annual Conference near Greenville, SC. The keynote speaker, Wendy Herrmann Smith, opened with encouragement and challenge from God's Word, "Count It All Joy." The women were offered workshop times where they could hear about other churches' women's ministries (and share our ideas), were challenged to practice Christian hospitality to our neighbors, and to learn more about Rebekah Carson's ministry in East Berlin.

It was a great day of fellowship, meeting new people and seeing some familiar faces as well. We're already looking forward to next year!

Bible Study "God Does His Best Work with Empty"

Ladies Bible study continues as we discover why emptiness has never been, and never will be, a problem to God. We dove into Chapter 2 - "A Tent at the Center; God Fills Our Emptiness with His Presence" on October 12. Ladies

brought their own lunch and we shared a very pleasant time together in fellowship.

On October 26, Bonnie treated us to an excellent devotional on sharing Jesus with others. We also made Jesus themed crafts to be given out at Highlands Trunk or Treat. Each table had a different craft such as Gospel bracelets and glow stick crosses.

We usually have 12-16 attendees but we need YOU! It's never too late to sign up! Please see any member of the Women's Ministry team or speak to Bonnie if you would like to join us.

We will only have one study in November. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DATE:**

November 16

"A Desperate Need" – "God Fills Our Emptiness with His Grace"

Lunch will be provided.



**DESTINATION
MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR**

RECONNECT! With a Magical Mystery Destination Tour

Join us for a magical tour! The destination is a mystery, and the "magic" of building deeper friendships while having fun is the goal! We meet at the church, and "tour bus" to our destination. Keep an eye out for date and time.

The Women's' Ministry team wants to know you better. Please tell us what activities you are interested in and what days and times work better for your schedules.




wm *Ladies Bible Study*

God Does His Best Work With Empty
Schedule Change! 3rd Tuesday at 10am
 November 16- God Fills Our Emptiness with His Grace



**JOIN US
EACH
SUNDAY!**

Sunday School at 9am
Worship at 10am
Family Fellowship at 4:30pm



DON'T FORGET TO
FALL BACK

**Nov. 7th
at 2AM**



**PRAISE THE LORD.
GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD,
FOR HE IS GOOD;
HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER.**

PSALM 106:1

AMERICAN RED CROSS

BLOOD DRIVE

November 2
3pm - 7pm



Our November Blood Drive is available for scheduling. Almost all of the 23 slots are filled, but if you can be a stand-by donor, please let Betsy Whitson know. Our goal is 16 points, so I hope that you will come and support Highlands's last blood drive of 2021. Visit www.redcrossblood.org, search for sponsor code "HPC" or zip 30017 and find your place today!

There is a nice national incentive for donors during the month of November. Donors have the opportunity to win a Hawaii trip for 2 from Prime Video 11/1-12 and \$10 Gift Card by email.

CHRISTIAN education



Dear Highlands Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thanks to Sal Macaluso for a beneficial, deeper and closer look at "Worship" over the last six weeks. He shared many good insights and concepts, which you can watch on the archived sessions on the Highlands ARP website.

Associate Pastor Chris McCoy continues the Sunday 4:30 PM Family Fellowship time with a wonderful review of his Israel trip as he ties together Scripture, Jesus and important sites of biblical history and geography. The series continues into December and is presented live and archived on our church website.

Dennis Bennet will begin teaching on "Christmas and the Scriptures" during the 9AM Sunday Bible Study.

Thanks to all helping with Children's Church each Sunday. Volunteer substitutes are still needed from time to time, so please see Bonnie Hornby or Don Reinhardt to sign up.

A special thanks to Bonnie and Mark for great Scripture and Praise during the Sunday Family Fellowship time. God's Blessings and love to you all.

Don Reinhardt



Nov 7	Lyn Alimena
Nov 14	Corie Kuykendall
Nov 21	Lynn Avitabile
Nov 28	Bonnie Hornby



YOUNG FAMILIES MINISTRY

Join us for
Sunday
School
Family Fellowship
and Worship!

Can you please help decorate for
Advent on Nov. 21 at 4:30pm?

Puppet Show on Nov 7 at 10am

Please join us for a
pancake
breakfast
November 21 at 9am



TRUNK OR TREAT





Hello!

This month we began a study of the Gospel of Mark in Sunday School. We read the Scripture together and talked through the first portion of Mark's gospel. On Sunday evenings we have continued to have fellowship together with the adults as we learn about Israel. A number of our youth are participating in band or other extra-curricular and I was glad to be able to see some of them at the recent Grayson v. Brookwood Football game. Please continue to be in prayer for the youth as they navigate living as a young Christian at school, home, and with friends. I am thankful that we have been able to meet together and know that the Lord has good plans for Highlands youth this year!

Thanks!
Pastor Chris





In years past, Highlands has participated in several outreach opportunities at Christmas. Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Samaritan’s Purse, provides shoeboxes packed with toiletries, small items of clothing and toys for children around the world. Angel Tree was originally an outreach of Prison Fellowship and provided presents to children of incarcerated men and women. It has evolved over the years to be synonymous with ministry to families who need financial assistance, not only at the holiday season but throughout the year. At Highlands, we have assisted church families, community members and MMO families.

The Community Outreach ministry team has decided this year to participate in a new outreach. Pride for Parents is a community-based toy drive that benefits families in the historic South Atlanta neighborhood. It is a ministry of FCS, Focused Community Strategies, a non-profit founded in 1978. FCS has “a national reputation as a multi-faceted community development organization that creates healthy, sustainable, and restorative communities.” They have partnered with neighborhoods in Grant Park, Summerhill, Ormewood Park and East Lake and for the last 16 years, South Atlanta.

The premise is quite simple – Highlands collects toys which are delivered to the Pride for Parents toy drive in South Atlanta in time for their toy sale beginning December 16. Items are priced at garage sale prices and parents are able to purchase specific

toys for their children rather than receiving something they can’t use. If they are unable to pay even these low prices, parents are allowed to work in the store in exchange for vouchers which they use to buy items for their children.



What would you buy? Whatever you purchase for your children or grandchildren, buy an extra one for the toy drive. If you need ideas, you can visit FCS’ links to [Target](#) and [Amazon](#). Toys range in price from \$6 for card games up to \$40 for child-sized basketball games or scooters. If you choose to donate cash, someone can shop for you. If you purchase through Amazon, don’t forget to log in through Amazon Smile so that Highlands can get credit for your purchase.

Here are pictures of last year’s Christmas shop – shelves filled with donated toys and games and books for little hands to discover. Please consider helping these families provide for their own by donating between November 14 and December 12. Drop your gifts in the box located near the youth room.



Join us as we decorate the Church for Advent!

NOVEMBER 21 AT 4:30

Army

Melvin Crook
Temple Elam
Ken Fordham
Mark Hornby
Bill Keoho
Paul McInnish
Bobby Rice
Charles Roberts
Gene Streng
Gene Wade
John West
Stan Whitaker
Jim Whitson

Navy

John Avitable
John Jones
Paul McInnish
Phillip Wallace

Air Force

Gus Bartenfeld
Henry Kurtz
Alex McGill
Russell Smith
Ron Wimer

Army National Guard

George O'Farrell



Honoring all who served

**HAPPY
VETERANS
DAY**

11TH NOVEMBER



*Kirkin'
of the
Tartan*

**Service Held
October 31st**



Hi All,

This month is TOTALLY different from last month! On our first Soup Nite in October on the 11th, it was Columbus Day. However, it also included Fall Break for our community, so many people took off for fun and relaxation. That included our team of volunteers. So our guest list wasn't what we usually have but we didn't have the help that we usually do either. Our soup was already bought and Jane "doctored" it up a bit to go further. So, you know what that means? God already knew just what we needed and how to use the meal. We also have plenty left over for Senior Meals! Praising Him for always knowing what blessings to give us!

On the second Soup Nite, we served Pumpkin Chili. There were some issues with the name Pumpkin though! It was said that people don't like pumpkin, so they weren't going to come to this Soup Nite. After a bit of "education" and razzle dazzle, we had over 150 meals served. The leftovers will go for senior meals! It's all good. It was a beautiful evening with a cool breeze and perfect for any chili!

We had a Distribution Day on October 14th, which also wasn't that well attended. Jane and Bob gave the leftover produce boxes to the CoOp to pass out to their clients, so nothing was spoiled. Turkeys went back into the freezer! This too worked out for the best. We passed out some of the left-over pantry items to 18 households on the October 25th Soup Nite and that

increased our poundage. As far as those turkeys, we are thinking we will use them in upcoming meals!

Our monitoring visit with the ACFB happened this month and we passed! Another year of using the Food Bank's generosity to help us prepare and distribute meals/food items. Very grateful. The best news this month is that we received a \$5,000 grant from our friends at Friends of Gwinnett Seniors. Yay! We hope to purchase a reach-in fridge and insulated bags for our senior meal program. I will keep you posted on this.

We can see from this month how different it was from last month. Still, in all the Soup Nites, we can clearly see how God has provided for us. He knows exactly what we need and when we need it. We are blessed.

Our next Soup Nite is November 8th and we are serving Vegetable Stew. I will be out of town, so please help Jane in any way you can. Jane and I appreciate everything you already have done. If you know someone who can make meals for us, whether for Soup Nite or Senior meals, please let one of us know.

In Christ,

Carrie



Highlands Presbyterian

SPECIAL FALL OFFERING

**Supporting the work and ministry of the
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church**

You have the opportunity to support the following:

**American Bible Society
Outreach North America
Erskine Seminary
Christmas Benevolent Fund**

You also have the opportunity to designate how you want your gift divided among those ministries. Unless you indicate otherwise, your gift to this offering will be divided according to the percentages shown on the offering envelope.

We urge you to give generously for these special causes and beyond your tithe to your local church. Contributions given through Highlands should be marked "Fall Offering."

GIVE
with a
Thankful
Heart

Prayer Items

- Kaity Wright is starting her round of chemotherapy to combat any stray cancer cells that may still be present after her surgery. Please pray that Kaity will handle this treatment well and that it will be successful. Pray for her strength and endurance.
- Please pray also for Kaity's neighbor and good friend Debi Broadnax. Her cancer has returned and she will be undergoing further treatment.
- Joe Bath fell at home recently and is still experiencing pain and difficulty sleeping. Please pray for his quick recovery.
- Stan Darmochwal will be having back surgery on November 8. Pray that his pain will be manageable until then.
- George O'Farrell had recent knee surgery, pray his recovery continues to go well.
- Please pray for Paul McInnish's son-in-law, David Meyer, who has been diagnosed with bladder cancer. He is scheduled for surgery in November.
- Jackie Rice is recovering from her upper arm break of several months ago. She has been going to PT twice a week for four weeks and is hoping to graduate to the gym. Pray for continued recovery.
- Betsy Whitson's surgery on October 20 went well. She has a follow-up appointment on November 8 to determine further treatment.
- Mary Ashe's tests show her markers are improving, but her white and red blood cell counts remain low, which they are carefully monitoring.
- Pray for John Avitabile's boss's wife, Kristi Smith. She has Covid-19 pneumonia and is being treated in the hospital.
- Joyce Jones was admitted to Northside Gwinnett on Friday with chest pain and will undergo surgery Monday for a stint.
- Barbara Fordham's son, David, was admitted to the hospital with breathing issues. He has been moved out of ICU and was not placed on a ventilator as feared. He will need to stay on oxygen for most of each day. Please pray that his lung capacity would improve.

Praise Item

- From Pastor Mark and Bonnie - Thanks so much for praying for our son-in-law Cade and daughter Angela. Cade is finally starting to improve. He is back to work after 2 weeks of struggling with COVID. The doctor said his breathing issues and cough could last up to 2 months. But thankfully the fever is gone, and he is getting some of his strength back.
- Michelle's MOHS surgery to remove the pre-melanoma cells was successful. They were able to remove all of the cancer/atypical cells and no further treatment is needed. Thank you for praying!
- Ken Fordham had an IVC filter removed that helped prevent blood clots from moving into his lungs. Barbara says that everything went well and he should have no symptoms of any kind and has no activity restrictions.

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.

Highlands 2021 Operating Budget Update



Sept Gifts & Offerings	\$18,677.46
Sept Expenses	\$18,939.59
YTD Gifts & Offerings	\$164,369.13
YTD Expenses	\$157,109.68



WHILE YOU SHOP!
- and help save lives -



As many people continue to shop online each year, did you know that there are several ways you can generate cash for Highlands' ministries when you shop? The most popular program, called Amazon Smile, gives 0.5% of the online purchase price to the charity of your choice – Highlands! Simply visit www.smile.amazon.com, type "Highlands Presbyterian Church" in the search bar, select the one in Grayson GA and your next online purchase will generate a donation to the church.

If you shop at Kroger, you can register for their rewards program at www.krogercommunityrewards.com. Log into your account with the email address you used to enroll for a Kroger Plus card (if you don't have one, you will need to acquire one first). Again, search for Highlands Presbyterian Church and make that selection. When you shop at Kroger, simply give them your Kroger Plus card and a percentage of your purchase will benefit Highlands' ministries.



Another program is called iGive. This site www.iGive.com is an online shopping mall with thousands of stores which donate a portion of each purchase to your favorite cause. Again, simply log in, search for Highlands Presbyterian Church in Georgia, select and shop! It's that easy.

The Finance and Stewardship team has recommended that any donations generated through these programs benefit two ministries of Highlands – Soup Nite and Missions. Soup Nite occasionally needs to purchase food items and supplies as the number of families they serve continues to increase. Missions giving will allow HARP to increase support for our current missionaries or to support new ones. The team also wants Highlands' members to know that while we don't endorse these companies, they provide the rewards programs that we are aware of. You might be enrolled in a program that provides similar rewards – if you do, contact the office and we can look into it. **This year, with 10 families participating in these online programs, they have generated more than \$200 in donations to our church.** Imagine what it would be if more of us took advantage of this service! Please consider participating in one or all three of these programs. If you need help enrolling, contact the office at highlandarp@gmail.com or at (770) 978-3001.

November 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Azalea Akins Zack Sinclair Andrew Smith	2 Senior Meal Deliveries 3-7pm Blood Drive	3	4	5	6 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Carrie Macaluso
7 9am Sunday School 10am Worship, Children's Church & Puppet Show 4:30pm Family Fellowship <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends</i>	8 Soup Night	9 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Kaileigh Mueller Senior Meal Deliveries	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Gene Streng
14 9am Sunday School 10am Worship & Children's Church 11:30am Deacons' Mtg 4:30pm Family Fellowship Start collecting for Toy Drive	15	16 10am Ladies' Bible Study Senior Meal Deliveries	17	18 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Stan Darmochwal	19 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Lori Martin	20
21 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Brianna Sinclair 9am Thanksgiving Pancake Breakfast 10am Worship & Children's Church 11:30am Session Mtg 4:30pm Decorate for Advent	22 Soup Night	23 Senior Meal Deliveries	24 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Betsy Whitson	25 Thanksgiving Day 	26	27
28 First Sunday of Advent 9am Sunday School 10am Worship & Children's Church No evening events	29	30 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Michelle McCoy Aiden Mobley Stan Whitaker				

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 Hunt
2022 Don Reinhardt
2023 Charles Roberts
2023 Jim Whitson
2024 Bob Statham

Deacons:

Class of 2021

Justin Jacques
Jon Jones
Earl Thomas

Class of 2023

John Avitabile
Fru Chifen
Deron Smith

Class of 2022

Omar Edmondson
Phillip Wallace
Betsy Whitson

Worship Times and Activities

Sunday: 9:00am Sunday School
10:00am Worship
11:30am Deacons' Meeting (2nd Sunday of the month)
11:30am Session Meeting (3rd Sunday of the month)
4:30pm Highlands Family Fellowship

*Weekly activities**

Monday: 4-7pm Soup Nite (2nd & 4th Mondays)
Tuesday: 10:00am Ladies' Bible Study (2nd & 4th Tuesdays)
Senior Meal Deliveries
3-7pm Blood Drive (every other month)

**See calendar for scheduled events or cancellations.*



Highlands ARP Church

November 2021 Newsletter

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

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



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED