

Highlands Highlights



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Special Points of Interest

- Dec 5 - Sunday School
Worship & Children's Church
Puppet Show
Family Fellowship
- Dec 7 - Senior Meal Deliveries
- Dec 9 - Women's Ministry Christmas Party
- Dec 12 - Sunday School
Worship & Children's Church
Congregational Meeting
Deacons' Meeting
Family Fellowship - Children's
Nativity
Deadline for Toy Drive
- Dec 13 - Soup Nite
- Dec 14 - Ladies' Bible Study
- Dec 14 - Senior Meal Deliveries
- Dec 15 - Deadline to order Poinsettias
- Dec 19 - Sunday School
Worship & Children's Church
No Session Meeting
No Evening Events
- Dec 21 - Senior Meal Deliveries
- Dec 24 - Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
- Dec 25 - Christmas Day
- Dec 26 - No Sunday School
Worship & Children's Church
No Evening Events
- Dec 31 - New Year's Eve

Place a poinsettia

IN THE SANCTUARY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Contact the church office for more info

Donate a poinsettia in memory or in honor of someone this year! Orders are now being taken, and forms are available on the table in the narthex or click [here](#) and include your name, the number of poinsettias you would like and the designations for each (in memory or in honor of). The cost is \$10 each. Please have your order turned in by December 15th. Poinsettias may be taken home after worship on December 19th or after the Christmas Eve service.

Worship with us
this holiday season!

IN-PERSON OR ONLINE
SUNDAYS AT 10AM

From the Pastor

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

(John 1:1,14 NIV)

Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year for most of us. It's a time of festivity in which we decorate our houses, our workplaces, and our church buildings with all the lights, ornaments, and other decorations that signify the season. It's a time of joyous celebration in which we sing wonderful songs that bring cheerfulness to our hearts. It's a time in which we give gifts to each other that express our love and generosity. It's a time in which we, as Christians, remember the greatest gift given to us by our Creator – the great gift of salvation that comes through the sacrifice of the Son of God, Jesus Christ.

As I notice all the joy being expressed in our culture during the Christmas season, I often wonder how many are really celebrating the gift of God and how many are just going through the motions. Do we really grasp what happened on that night so long ago? Think about that for a moment. God, who has existed from all eternity, who alone is perfect in every way, who is fully satisfied in himself, who created all that is and ever will be, this God left the splendor and glory of heaven. He stepped into time and space, into the muck and misery of our lives, becoming a human being in every aspect, so that He might relate to us on our level and then become the very One through Whom we find our salvation.

The more I contemplate the mercy, grace, and love of our Lord the more amazed I become. To think that our Creator would love us so much that He would personally come into our world to save us is just beyond my comprehension. The Apostle Paul tells in his letter to the Romans that *"at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us"* (Romans 5:6-8 NIV). Here we are, the rebellious enemies of God, and He comes to make peace with us by giving His life for us. It was our sins that sent Jesus to the cross, but He went willingly, out of His great love for us so that He might bring us home to Himself. Now if that doesn't warm your heart, something's wrong.

As we progress through the Christmas Season this year it's my prayer and my hope that all of us will be so moved by the great love of God revealed through the gift of His Son, that we'll want nothing more than to express our gratitude and love to Him through the gifts, great and small, that we can share with those around 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*

Bible Study "God Does His Best Work with Empty"

November Ladies Bible study focused Chapter 3 – "A Desperate Need" and how God fills our emptiness with His Grace. This chapter used the book of Ruth to teach us about the grace Christ shows to all whom he redeems.

Our next gathering will be:

December 14

Learn Together – Devotion "Celebrating the Gift of Jesus"

Activity – Congregational Care Team project

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.



CHRISTMAS PARTY!

All Ladies are invited to our annual Christmas Party on December 9 in the fellowship hall. We will begin at 6:30 pm and plan to eat around 7:00 pm. You don't want to miss celebrating Christ's birth and each other during this special time of year. Food and fun will be had by all.

The cost is \$5.00 per person.

Please bring a wrapped toy that best represents YOUR favorite toy as a child. All toys will be donated to Pride for Parents in South Atlanta. **Please RSVP by December 6th.**



FOR TO US A CHILD IS BORN, TO US A SON IS
GIVEN, AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ON HIS
SHOULDERS. AND HE WILL BE CALLED
WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD,
EVERLASTING FATHER, PRINCE OF PEACE.

ISAIAH 9:6



CHILDREN'S NATIVITY

Sunday, December 12 at 4:30

Christmas Eve

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 7PM

Online or In Person



YOUNG FAMILIES

MINISTRY



Puppet Show

December 5 at 10am



Join us Sundays at 4:30 for a



Journey to Israel

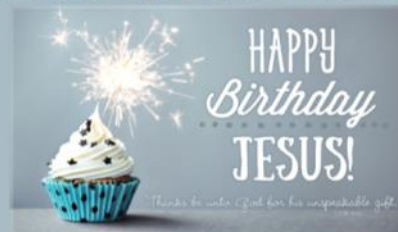


Children's Nativity Program

December 12 at 4:30



JOIN US IN CELEBRATING OUR SAVIOR'S BIRTH!



CUPCAKES IN CHILDREN'S CHURCH ON DECEMBER 26



Dec 5	Lyn Alimena
Dec 12	Corie Kuykendall
Dec 19	Bonnie Hornby
Dec 26	TBD



You don't need a special reason to give blood. You just need your own reason.

Some of us give blood because we were asked by a friend.

Some know that a family member or a friend might need blood someday.

Some believe it is the right thing we do.

Whatever your reason, the need is constant and your contribution is important for a healthy and reliable blood supply. And you'll feel good knowing you've helped change a life.

Did you know that there are only two regularly scheduled blood drives in the city of Grayson and only one in Loganville? Highlands is sponsoring our next blood drive on Tuesday, January 4, 2021 from 3:00 p.m. till 7:00 p.m. Our goal is 15 pints – hopefully you can find a time to give that works in your schedule.

If you haven't given in a while, or if you've never given, this is a great time to start! There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex or you can visit www.redcrossblood.org, search for "30017" and January 4th and sign up online. If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Whitson at 404-790-8936 or bjwhitson@bellsouth.net.



**American
Red Cross**

Highlands Blood Drive

Tuesday, January 4, 2021

3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.



Hello!

November has been a fun month for the youth group! We have enjoyed studying the gospel of Mark and answering all the questions that it brings up. This month we were delighted to serve at the Thanksgiving Pancake Breakfast! Thank you to all who were able to help! I have enjoyed sharing my trip from Israel with the youth and others on Sunday nights. Starting in January, the youth will be meeting in the youth room after the singing portion of the Sunday Family Fellowship. I am excited that we will be able to meet together to learn from God's word and build strong foundations in Christ. Please plan to join us Sundays at 4:30 starting January 9th!

Thanks!
Pastor Chris







JOIN US ON OUR FINAL JOURNEY TO ISRAEL

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

December 5 | 4:30pm
VISIT BETHLEHEM WITH US

No Family Fellowship

December 19
December 26
January 2

SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAYS AT 9AM

No Sunday School

December 26
January 2



TOY DRIVE

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.



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

Here are pictures of last year's Christmas shop – shelves filled with donated toys and games and books for little hands to discover. Toys have already started coming in – we'd like your help for these families to provide for their own by donating between now and December 12th. Drop your gifts in the box located near the youth room.



Toy Drive

Accepting donations of new, unwrapped toys through

Sunday, December 12



Hi All,

Can you believe that November is over, the holidays are upon us and it's almost the end of another year! God has showered His blessings upon us!

For our first November serving on the 8th, we served vegetable soup, warm rolls and for dessert, a whole pound cake per family with chocolate sauce! I had one guest text me asking if she should add meat to it. Guess that this is our first vegetarian meal in a while and people just don't understand it. LOL. I was not present for this Soup Nite, but Jane tells me it was GREAT! Thank you to all the help to set up and prepare. The Drive Thru line ran smoothly and there was only a cup and a half of soup left over! A large crowd for us on a beautiful Fall evening as the sun went down early!

At our second serving in November on the 22nd, we served turkey and rice soup with crackers and cupcakes/cookies for dessert. We weren't sure how this serving was going to go. It was the last day that was opened before the CoOp closed for the Thanksgiving holidays and also the school kids were off the whole week. However, we gave out 144 meals and even though it wasn't a steady flow of cars, it was still a full flow of people requesting meals!!! Thank you for those who prepared and for those who helped served on the blustery, cold evening!

We didn't have a Distribution Day this month, but we are doing a Food Bank run on the 30th. We will have food items to hand out on December 16th when we receive Gwinnett County produce boxes. This will be good to do as we only have one Soup Nite in December due to the

4th Monday being right after the Christmas weekend. We will give our team and our guests time to be with family and loved ones. Therefore, our only Soup Nite in December will be on the 13th and we are serving Beef Stroganoff!

Our senior meal program has been going very smoothly. We missed one because I was out of town. We made meals for a double route because of Thanksgiving week, senior delivery Tuesday was closed, so that week's routes were pushed ahead. Thank you to the 4 ladies who made meals for those routes. I certainly needed help for those 36 meals! All in all, we serve 44 seniors 2 meals each month. I was told by the Seasoned With Love director that one senior just loved our meals and was grateful she had something already prepared to eat! Awe...

A letter came to Highlands Church with \$40 cash in it this past week. It just said that her and her family were grateful to Highlands and thanked us. It wasn't signed but addressed from a Mrs. Henderson. The address was in Snellville. I'm thinking it is from a Soup Nite family, although I don't believe that I know a Mrs. Henderson. We don't know everyone's name as they come thru the drive thru. Some we know only because they have been coming to Soup Nite for so long. A handwritten note and \$40, to me was more special than gold. As always, it's good to look back and see how God has blessed us. It's just as good to look forward and be excited to see how God will bless us.

In Christ,

Carrie



Highlands Presbyterian

Get Rewarded by Supporting the SE Gwinnett Co-op

The Chicken Salad Chick restaurant on Scenic Highway is offering a great deal for 2022. For a \$5 donation at the restaurant to the SE Gwinnett co-op, you can get up to \$60 in Chicken Salad Chick Monthly Rewards next year. With every \$5 Giving Card you are also making a donation to support children with cancer and helping to feed the hungry.

At right is a copy of the rewards card to see what is offered. It's a win-win opportunity – you can get free food and the co-op (which supports our Soup Nite) gets additional funding!!

Donate \$5 ★ Receive \$60
in Chicken Salad Chick Monthly Rewards during 2022!

January	February	March	April	May	June
Buy 2 Large Quick Chicks, Get 1 Free	Free Cookie, No Purchase Necessary	Free Small Quick Chick with Purchase of The Chick Meal	Free Upgrade to a Trio with Purchase of The Chick Meal	Free Drink, No Purchase Necessary	Free Small Quick Chick with Purchase of The Chick Meal
July	August	September	October	November	December
Buy 2 Large Quick Chicks, Get 1 Free	Free Drink, No Purchase Necessary	Free Upgrade to a Trio with Purchase of The Chick Meal	Free Small Quick Chick with Purchase of The Chick Meal	Buy 2 Large Quick Chicks, Get 1 Free	Free Upgrade to a Trio with Purchase of The Chick Meal

ENTER THIS PROMO CODE INTO YOUR CRAVING CREDITS APP

ACTIVATE NOW IN YOUR APP



- ★ Open your Craving Credits App
- ★ Tap "Rewards" at the bottom of the home screen
- ★ Enter promo code found above into the "Enter a Promo Code" box by 12/31/2021
- ★ A welcome message will appear when you have successfully activated your rewards
- ★ Offers will appear in your "Ready to Redeem" list on the 1st day of each month
- ★ Each reward will expire at the end of the month issued

Reward information can be found at:
www.chickensaladchick.com/givingcard
Need More Help?
Contact us by email at cravingcredits@chickensaladchick.com

Prayer Items

- **Kaity Wright** has started her chemotherapy. Please pray that Kaity will handle this treatment well and that it will be successful. Pray for her strength and endurance.
- Also pray for Kaity's friend, **Karen**, who was in a car accident and fractured her sternum. She is in a lot of pain and breathing is difficult for her.
- Pray for **George O'Farrell's** continued recovery from knee surgery.
- Please pray for Paul McInnish's son-in-law, **David Meyer**, who has been diagnosed with bladder cancer. He had surgery in November.
- **Joe Bath** had his pacemaker replaced. Please pray that his recovery continues well.
- **Stan Darmochwal's** back surgery went well and he was able to return home that day. Liz reports that he is still in pain but is able to get up and do some light walking. Pray that his recovery and physical therapy go well.
- **Betsy Whitson** had a good report at the surgeon's follow-up visit. Radiation began in late November and will last for 4 weeks. Thanks to everyone for their prayers!
- **Jackie Rice** has finished PT and has regained most of the use of her arm. However, she still feels a bit unsteady and has given up driving. If you would like to assist in getting Jackie to church, please call the church office.
- **Mary Ashe** is awaiting new tests in Dec. to find out if her treatments are working.
- Pray for John Avitabile's boss' wife, **Kristi Smith**, went home from the hospital Saturday evening and she is improving. She will be on O2 for a week or so. They were very thankful and appreciated our prayers.
- **Joyce Jones'** surgery went well. She returned home on Nov 4 .
- Barbara Fordham's son, **David Fordham**, was released from ICU, but is still on oxygen .
- **Ken Fordham** has an ulcer in his left eye which is infected. He has to have drops every 30 minutes, even at night. The doctor says he might lose vision in that eye. Pray for **Ken and Barbara** as they navigate this situation as well as travelling to Sandy Springs for eye doctor appointments on very little sleep.
- Pray for all who will be travelling during the holidays.

Praise Item

- Linda Whitaker's aunt, **Janet Parham**, was released from Duke Hospital and is recuperating at her daughter's home in Greensboro, NC. Thank you for praying.
- **Dean Fledderjohann's** hand surgery went well. He is recovering at home.

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

Oct Gifts & Offerings	\$21,305.16
Oct Expenses	\$16,785.03
YTD Gifts & Offerings	\$185,674.29
YTD Expenses	\$173,894.71



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 Highland's 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.

December 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5 <i>Happy Birthday Omar Edmondson</i> 9am Sunday School 10am Worship, Children's Church & Puppet Show 4:30pm Family Fellowship - Visit Bethlehem With Us	6 <i>Happy Birthday Don Reinhardt</i>	7 Senior Meal Deliveries	8	9 <i>Happy Birthday Benjamin Coker</i> 6:30pm Women's Ministry Christmas Party	10 <i>Happy Birthday Kristy Summers</i>	11
12 9am Sunday School 10am Worship & Children's Church 11am Congregational Mtg - Officer Election & Budget Approval 11:30am Deacons' Mtg 4:30pm Family Fellowship - Children's Nativity Deadline To drop Off Toy Drive Donations 	13 <i>Happy Birthday Lyn Alimena Andrienne Hunt</i> Soup Night	14 10am Ladies' Bible Study Senior Meal Deliveries	15 <i>Happy Birthday Rob Whittle</i> Deadline for ordering Poinsettias	16	17	18
19 9am Sunday School 10am Worship & Children's Church No evening events	20	21 Senior Meal Deliveries	22	23	24 Christmas Eve 7pm Candlelight Service 	25 Christmas Day 
26 No Sunday School 10am Worship & Children's Church No evening events	27 <i>Happy Birthday Daniel McCoy</i>	28	29 <i>Happy Birthday Alex McGill</i>	30 <i>Happy Birthday Frank Sexton</i>	31 <i>Happy Birthday Earl Thomas</i> New Year's Eve	

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

December 2021 Newsletter

Physical Address:

830 Grayson Parkway
Grayson, GA 30017-1206

Mailing Address:

PO BOX 847
Grayson, GA 30017-0016



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

