

Highlands Highlights



JANUARY MEETINGS
DEACONS & SESSION
Sunday, January 9th
11:30 AM

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Welcome New Officers!

Rob Kuykendall, Elder 2025

Edward Spiller & Gene Wade, Deacons 2024

All the officers and their families are invited to stay for lunch and an officer training session. There will also be time to meet with your fellow ministry team leaders to plan out your goals for 2022! Please save the date, and we hope to see you on January 30th!

Special Points of Interest

- Jan 2 - Worship & Children’s Church
- Jan 4 - Blood Drive
- Jan 4 - Senior Meal Deliveries
- Jan 9 - Sunday School
Worship & Children’s Church
Deacons’ & Session Meetings
Family Fellowship
- Jan 10 - Soup Nite
- Jan 11 - Ladies’ Bible Study
- Jan 11 - Senior Meal Deliveries
- Jan 16 - Sunday School
Worship & Children’s Church
Family Fellowship
- Jan 18 - Senior Meal Deliveries
- Jan 23 - Sunday School
Worship & Children’s Church
Family Fellowship
- Jan 24 - Soup Nite
- Jan 23 - Sunday School
Worship & Children’s Church
Officers Luncheon
Family Fellowship



From the Pastor

“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.”

Galatians 6:9,10 ESV

Here we are at the beginning of a New Year with all its hopes and dreams as well as the many challenges we might have to face. Can you believe that it's 2022? Time certainly does seem to fly by us at an incredible pace especially for those of us who are older.

One of the habits many people do at the beginning of a New Year is to make a bunch of resolutions they intend to keep. Often, those have to do with personal goals regarding losing weight, exercising more, and maybe spending more time with family and friends. As Christians, perhaps we might even make a resolution to read through the Bible (that's a great one by the way) this year. Sadly, we also can fall short of achieving those goals as we sometimes just quit; we give up.

In our passage above the Apostle Paul is encouraging us to make one very important goal for our lives which is to do good to everyone. That's certainly a great calling for us as believers in and followers of Jesus and can quite often reveal the reality of God's powerful grace at work in our lives. I honestly believe this should be a daily resolution although it can certainly start as a newly determined goal each and every year.

However, in order to fulfill that resolution, we will have to follow through on exactly what he tells us in that passage when he says: *“let us not grow weary of doing good.”* You see, the issue we often face is when we get to the point where we wonder if we're really having any impact at all through the good we're trying to do. The voices in our head begin to cry out: *“What's the use? Nobody is appreciative and I wonder if I'm having any impact at all.”* We've all been there as we sought to help others by doing something we consider good. The truth is that when we begin to entertain those thoughts, that's when the weariness starts to creep in, and we feel like giving up.

The answer to that weariness is found in the promise that's given to us: *“for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.”* Listen, God is the One who brings the results, and He does so in His way and in His time. If something is worth doing then we should keep doing it regardless of how we feel, unless, of course, God makes it absolutely clear we need to try something else. He's promised to bless our efforts of doing good for others if we continue doing so for His glory and their good.

So, as we begin a New Year, *“let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.”*

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*



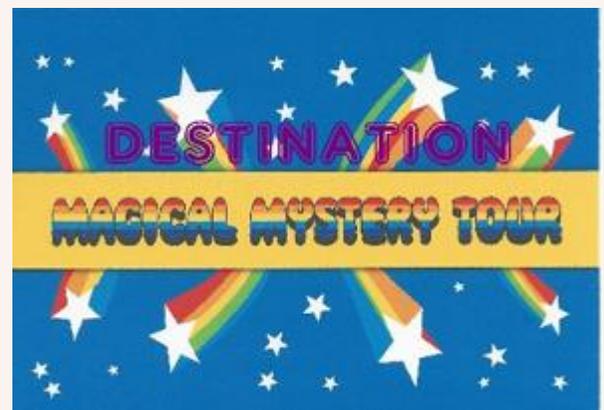
2021 Christmas Party!

The 2021 Women's Ministry Christmas Party was a wonderful time for all of us that attended. Over 25 Highlands' ladies enjoyed a delicious dinner catered by Eagles' Landing, celebrating the birth of Christ and each other. Cindy Bennett and Carol Streng presented a short program on Christ's birth. During our Ministry Minute segment Carrie Macaluso shared information on Soup Nite and Betsy Whitson talked about Pride for Parents.

The theme this year was "Our Favorite Toys". Each guest brought a wrapped gift that best represented their favorite toy as a child. Next, we all picked a gift and opened them one by one, guessing which lady brought this particular "favorite" toy. The person who brought the toy then shared what it represented and why it was important to her. The guesses were hilarious and our stories of Christmases past entertaining and heartwarming. Surprisingly, we had four ladies who correctly identified the one who brought their toy and won the highly coveted door prizes. All of the unwrapped toys were donated to Pride for Parents.

COMING SOON IN JANUARY!!!!

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.



Ladies' Christmas Party





YOUNG FAMILIES

MINISTRY







HELPERS NEEDED!!

Contact Bonnie to sign up for a
Sunday each month.

SIGN UP TODAY!



Sunday School

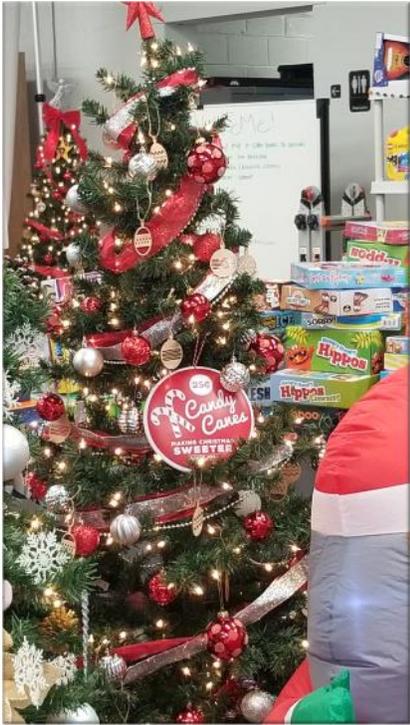
RESUMES JANUARY 9

Toy Drive

Thanks to Highlands' generosity, we were able to donate 175 toys to the toy drive in South Atlanta!

"Thank you for the wonderful items
donated through the Toy Drive!"

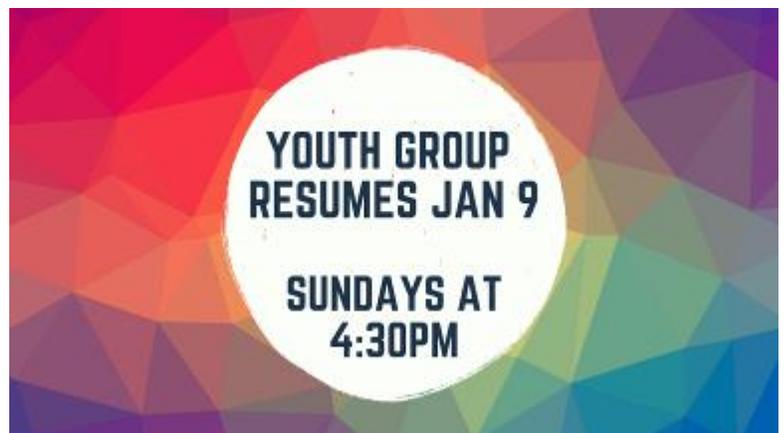
Pamela Stringfield, Director of FCS Pride for Parents





December was a fun filled month for the youth. We enjoyed decorating the church for the advent season and have continued our discussion of the Gospel of Mark in Sunday School. Thank you to all the youth who were able to participate in the Christmas Nativity! It has been good to be back together for Sunday School and I am looking forward to continuing in Mark in the new year. We are also looking forward to youth group starting back on Sundays at 4:30PM starting January 9. Please be in prayer for the youth as they prepare for the next semester of school. Pray that the Lord would encourage them in 2022 and help them in all their activities. Pray especially that the Lord would continue to grow them in their walk with Christ.

Merry Christmas!
Pastor Chris





CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY TEAM REPORT CHRISTMAS PRESENT PROJECT



Thank you so much for your support of this project! It went very well. At Ladies Bible Study, they wrapped about 150 presents in just over an hour! Some of the ladies then delivered the packages they had wrapped and some men volunteered to deliver the presents to the widowers! I had the privilege of delivering just a few myself! Everyone was so thrilled to be remembered, and so thankful for the thoughts and prayers and gifts! A total of 175 gifts were delivered. Here are just a few comments:

"There's just a hole in my heart that I can't seem to fill! Thank you for remembering me! This gift will help so much!"

"We have been in the hospital 3 times in the last 3 months—but we got to come home each time! So these gifts came at just the right time! We needed it!"

"We miss you so much! You're making me cry giving me these presents! It's so hard, especially at Christmas!"

One just cried! Tears streaming down her face! So thankful and grateful and needing our prayers and so glad to be remembered!

"Each gift and verse brought a moment of grounding and a reminder in what the season is all about, and on who should be our focus. Each day of the season it reminded us of this focus and brought us some much needed respite."

"We just want to thank the church for the lovely gifts. What a blessing! They came at a good time. The scriptures on the gifts are wonderful. We look forward to opening our present each day."

Over 25 church families were blessed with gifts reminding them of the promises of the Savior this Christmas. These families included those that were home bound, had health issues, or were widows or widowers.

I've also had phone calls and texts from many saying how thankful they are for the gifts and the verses, so once again, thank you for supporting this project. On the next page, is a list of the verses and gifts that were handed out.

So thankful for your love and support of our Highlands family, and submitted by: Bonnie Hornby

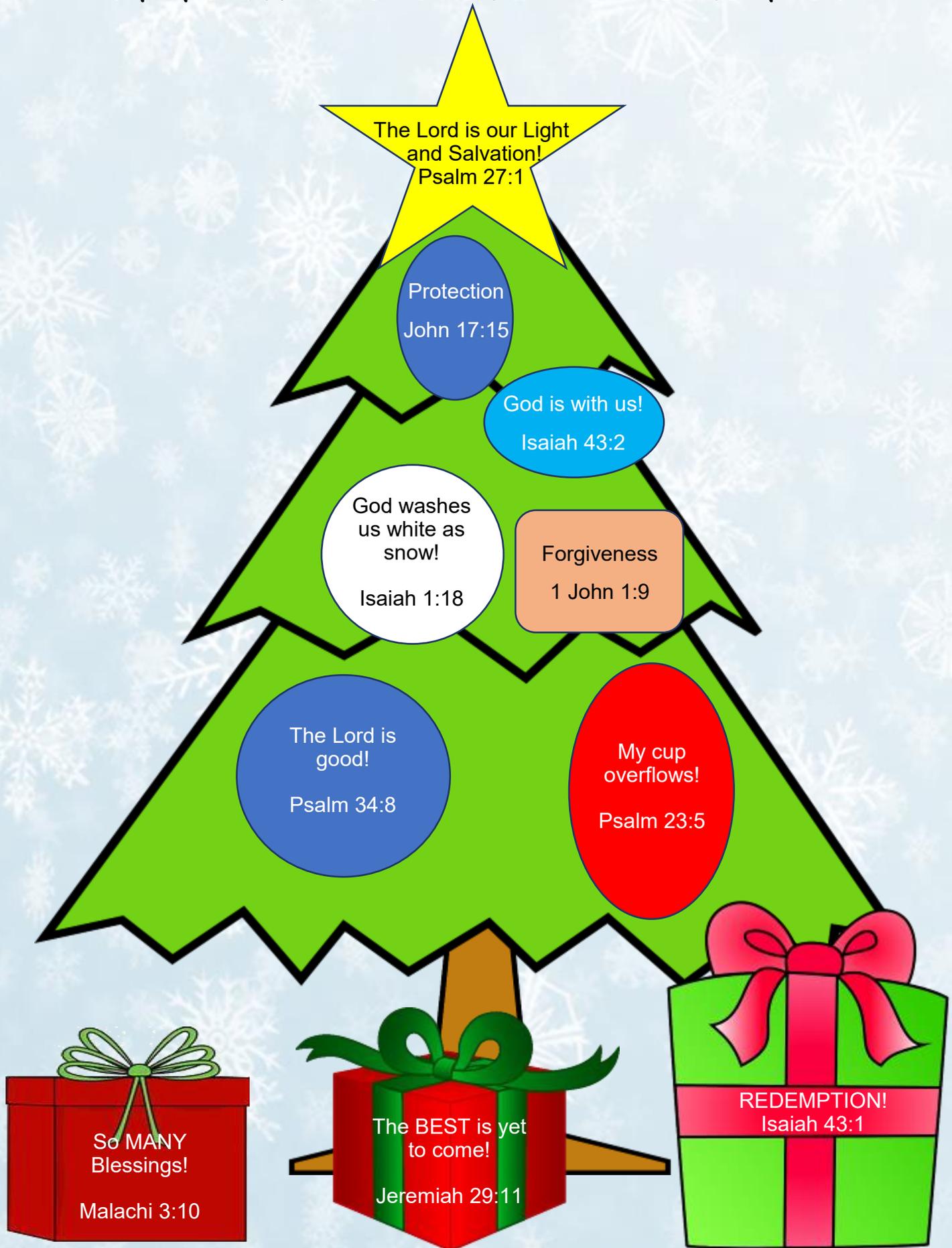


Remembering God's Grace This Christmas!

- "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9 **Object:** Scrub brush **Remember:** Anytime you have to scrub the dirt away, know that God purifies us from all our sins and FORGIVES!
- "My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one." John 17:15 **Object:** Potholder **Remember:** Just as a potholder protects you, God will protect you so much more!
- "The Lord is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid?" Psalm 27:1 **Object:** Light **Remember:** Each time you see a light, know that the Lord is your true light, and you don't need to be afraid.
- "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine." Isaiah 43:1 **Object:** chalkboard easel **Remember:** Whenever you see your name written down, remember that God has called us by name and we are His!
- "Come now, let us settle the matter," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow." Isaiah 1:18 **Object:** washcloth **Remember:** Each time you use a washcloth, remember that God washes our sins away, so they are as white as snow!
- "Taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the one who takes refuge in him." Psalm 34:8 **Object:** Delicious food (Thin Mints) **Remember:** Every time you eat something that tastes good, remember that the Lord is good!
- "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze." Isaiah 43:2 **Object:** lighter **Remember:** Regardless of what happens, Our God is with us!
- "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." Malachi 3:10 **Object:** Pitcher, cup, or bowl **Remember:** Every time you pour something out, remember God's promise to pour out so many blessings, there won't be enough room to store it!
- "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows." Psalm 23:5 **Object:** cup **Remember:** God fills our cup! Is your cup overflowing?
- "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11 **Object:** The Best is Yet to Come magnet **Remember:** Don't give up! The best is yet to come!



REMEMBERING GOD'S GRACE THIS CHRISTMAS!



Family Fellowship

Each Sunday at 4:30



Spark HOPE this year

2022

Join a Ministry Team



WASH ME AND I WILL
BE WHITER THAN SNOW.

PSALM 51:7





It is the desire of the officers of Highlands Presbyterian Church that each member finds their passion for ministry and serve on that ministry team. The church is most effective when each member does his or her part toward making the Kingdom of God known. Please prayerfully consider what your part will be in 2022.

The Highlands Ministry Team Handbook states God's Word tells us that all things are to be done "decently and in order" (1 Cor 14:40). The Handbook is a means to help us minister to each other, to our community and to the world. The handbook contains guidelines for each ministry team, both leaders and members, enabling them to have a clear vision of their task at hand. Without structure and guidelines, how do we access the impact of our ministries?

The biblical basis for Ministry Teams is found in Ephesians 4:7, 11-13 - *But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.*

There are 4 basic scriptural principles that are our basis for ministry –

- Our beginning in ministry must be God and not human activity.
- Our guide for ministry must be the Bible and not human understanding.
- Our focus in ministry must be people and not programs.
- Our goal for ministry must be a mature church and not a social club.

Two types of Ministry Teams correspond to the offices of the church - spiritual ministry of the church (under the direction of the Session) and physical ministry of the church (under the direction of the Diaconate). Both are an absolute necessity for successful ministry in the church and extreme care must be undertaken not to focus on one at the exclusion of the other. All Ministry Teams shall be under the authority and direction of the Session who shall have the final say regarding any matter that pertains to the spiritual and physical ministry and well-being of Highlands ARP.

Some of the duties of each team include meeting on a regular basis, establishing goals based on the needs of the congregation and the community and evaluating programs every year. Each team should also prepare a budget each year and recommend ideas to the Session for new programs.

Here's a brief description of each of the teams:

Spiritual –

Worship & Music - promote the full and well-rounded worship of God by the congregation of Highlands ARP.

Christian Education - equipping of the members of Highlands to serve Jesus Christ and His Church through Christian ministry that will enable people of all ages to grow in their relationship with Him.

Missions & Evangelism - promote the gospel in Grayson, the local communities & beyond.

Physical –

Administration & Supplies - to ensure that all the necessary materials are available for use by the programs and ministries of the church.

Building & Grounds - maintenance of, and improvements to, the physical property of Highlands ARP. The team seeks to ensure good stewardship and witness of the church building and grounds through proper care and maintenance.

Stewardship & Finance - all matters relating to the financial aspects of Highlands ARP. It shall strive to encourage faithful stewardship of all the resources that God so graciously provides.

Congregational Care - ministering to the physical needs of our congregation through personal contact and care, solicitation of prayers from the congregation, and expressions of sympathy.

Community Involvement - ministers to the needs of our community, promoting the name/programs of the church in the community, and facilitate personal contact with those who visit Highlands ARP.

Hi All,

December Soup Nite is in the books. We only had one serving this month as the second Monday is the day after Christmas weekend and no one would be around for that one, so we canceled it. However, we did have a Distribution Day or should I say two Distribution Days. On the 13th, we served Beef Stroganoff with green beans and chocolate croissants for dessert. At the same time, we passed out food pantry items that were bagged and weighed. It was a busy night but still not as busy as we had food for, so the leftovers were brought over to the CoOp the next day for their Tuesday volunteers to bring home. The rest of the leftovers were frozen and saved for our senior meal program. Our second distribution was on the 16th and we gave out fresh produce boxes from Gwinnett County. There were 37 households that came to the drive thru for fresh carrots, oranges, apples, cucumbers and onions. It's all good!

Speaking of our senior meal program, we did a double route on the 14th because the CoOp is closed until the first week in January so all routes left for the month went out on the 14th. There were 18 seniors given two meals each of roasted pork loin, green beans and pineapple casserole, lasagna and or bake macaroni and also Shepherd's Pie. Yummmm.....36 meals in all. Thank you to all who made meals for the seniors. If you would like to make a meal in January, please let me know. The routes pick up again on January 4th.

It's the end of the year! All done! Can you believe it? We have been so blessed this year. The drive thru is working beautifully and the kitchen is back to full capacity! Beside these blessings there were other really great things that happened, like a \$5,000 grant to get a new reach-in refrigerator and insulated food carrier bags! Also, two new Board members were added. They are Pastor Steve Mason from Faith Church and Rachel Bratley. Yay!

Our homeless young man from the summer brought new prayer requests our way. We served over 200 people several times in the summer. All great things to ponder on. Yet, we had some losses too. Mr. Winfrey passed away. Dionne Robinson's son was killed. They were all part of our Soup Nite family and we still mourn their loss. We gave out 3,821 meals for Soup Nite and 880 meals for Senior Meals. It's crazy that our small but mighty team of servants prepared and distributed 4,700 meals in 2021, a pandemic year. So, it has been a year to look back on and praise God for His blessings and tender mercies to us. We look forward to our 10th year of Soup Nites and a huge celebration in September 2022. Jane and I hope our great Lord will shine His face upon you in the New Year! Merry Christmas. Stay safe and healthy.

In Christ,

Carrie



Highlands Presbyterian



The office is planning to publish an updated Church directory in January 2022. But before we can do that, we need your updated family pictures. We've received several family pictures and now we need yours. Send one from your Christmas gatherings - there's no need for formality! But if you didn't get one, never fear- over the next few weeks, we'll be contacting you for a quick photo shoot after church.



**SUNDAY
SCHOOL**

Each Sunday at 9am



WORSHIP WITH US
WWW.HIGHLANDSARP.ORG



Family Fellowship

Resumes January 9

Prayer Items

- Paul Akins and his family in the loss of his mother, Martha Towns Akins, who passed away December 20th.
- Kaity Wright as she continues her chemotherapy regiment.
- The family of John Callahan, Paul McInnish's friend, who passed away recently.
- Mary Ashe as she continues her cancer treatment and deals with increased pain.
- Ken Fordham as he treats the ulcer in his left eye. Pray that the drops will be effective in restoring his vision in that eye.
- The extended Hunt family as they battle COVID during the Christmas season.
- Betsy and Jim Whitson's son-in-law, Brandon Shields, continues to battle pain in his shoulder from a recent car accident. Please pray that he will get relief from the pain and that the physical therapy sessions will help.
- Caridad Blandshaw as she helps a coworker deal with a situation with her friend Abby who has kidney cancer.
- Ron and Anna Wimer's son and his wife, Graig & Laura Wimer, both have COVID. Please pray that their three children don't get it. They live in Newnan and Ron and Anna have not been able to see them since Thanksgiving.
- Bill and Kaity Wright's friend Shannon Jansson, she and her husband both have COVID. His symptoms are mild but she is in the hospital with extremely low oxygen levels and has now developed pneumonia in both lungs.
- Emily Caughman tested positive for COVID on Christmas Eve, and is still experiencing mild symptoms.
- Edward Spiller's uncle Bill, who experienced a stroke several weeks ago.

Praise Item

- Hazel Stephens has overcome several health challenges recently.

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.



THANK YOU
for your generosity

With love, Pastor Mark and Mrs. Bonnie
Pastor Chris and Michelle

INVITE SOMEONE
TO WORSHIP
ONLINE WITH US

SUNDAYS AT 10 AM
WWW.HIGHLANDSARP.ORG



Highlands Giving

SUPPORT THE MISSIONS AND MINISTRIES OF HIGHLANDS



In-Person

Offering plate at the back of
the Sanctuary each Sunday!



Online

www.highlandsarp.org/give



By Mail

PO Box 847
Grayson, GA 30017

Highlands 2021 Operating Budget Update

Nov Gifts & Offerings	\$17,578.68
Nov Expenses	\$17,036.09
YTD Gifts & Offerings	\$203,252.97
YTD Expenses	\$190,930.80



**American
Red Cross**

Highlands Blood Drive
Tuesday, January 4, 2021
3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

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.

Thank you to all who donated at our November 2021 drive. Your support and generosity helped to ensure blood needs were met locally. And, once that was done, the Red Cross can ensure blood is available when and where it is needed the most – the ongoing fulfillment of our mission depends on you!

Visit www.redcrossblood.org, search for "30017" and January 4 and sign up online. As of December 29, we have filled 13 of 19 slots. If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Whitson at 404-790-8936 or bjwhitson@bellsouth.net

January 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 <i>Happy Birthday Helen Tata</i>
2 <i>Happy Birthday Ethan Chofong Laura Daniel</i> 10am Worship & Children's Church	3	4 <i>Happy Birthday Lyna Nkefor Linda Whitaker</i> 3-7pm Blood Drive Senior Meal Deliveries	5	6	7	8 <i>Happy Birthday Rachel Bratley Zack Caughman</i>
9 <i>Happy Birthday Henry Kurtz</i> 9am Sunday School 10am Worship & Children's Church 11:30am Deacons' & Session Meetings 4:30pm Family Fellowship	10 Soup Nite	11 10am Ladies' Bible Study Senior Meal Deliveries	12 <i>Happy Birthday MaryBradley Bayne</i>	13	14	15 <i>Happy Birthday Karen Akins</i>
16 9am Sunday School 10am Worship & Children's Church 4:30pm Family Fellowship	17 MLK Jr Day of Service	18 <i>Happy Birthday Betsy Kuykendall Carole Sexton</i> Senior Meal Deliveries	19	20	21 <i>Happy Birthday Liz Darmochwal</i>	22
23 9am Sunday School 10am Worship & Children's Church 4:30pm Family Fellowship	24 <i>Happy Birthday Mark Hornby</i> Soup Nite	25 <i>Happy Birthday Deborah Akins</i>	26	27	28	29
30 9am Sunday School 10am Worship & Children's Church 11am Officers' Luncheon 4:30pm Family Fellowship	31					

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: 2022 Lee Hunt
 2022 Don Reinhardt
 2023 Charles Roberts
 2023 Jim Whitson
 2024 Bob Statham
 2025 Rob Kuykendall

Deacons:

Class of 2022

Omar Edmondson John Avitabile

Phillip Wallace Fru Chifen

Betsy Whitson Deron Smith

Class of 2024

Edward Spiller

Gene Wade

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

January 2022 Newsletter

Physical Address:

830 Grayson Parkway
Grayson, GA 30017-1206

Mailing Address:

PO BOX 847
Grayson, GA 30017-0016



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED