

August 4, 2019

## Happening at Highlands

The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

### **Welcome to Highlands!**

*Hospes venit, Christes venit. – When the guest comes, Christ comes.*  
Join us in the Greeting Space following 10:30 AM worship. Visitors are especially encouraged to come by for a small gift and to learn more about the Highlands family.

### **Start the Adventure in Reading - August 6**

Join us to kick off a new STAIR (Start The Adventure In Reading) school year tutoring 2nd grade students in the Birmingham City School System. Join current tutors who are making an impact, meet STAIR staff working behind the scenes, and learn about each of STAIR's 13 sites throughout the Birmingham community. Whether you are a current volunteer, interested in learning about becoming a tutor, or want to just learn more about STAIR, all are invited! Drop in on Tuesday, August 6th between 4 and 6 PM at Avondale United Methodist Church.

### **Men's Fellowship Lunch - August 8**

Join the men of Highlands at Dave's Pizza in Homewood for lunch and fellowship on Thursday, August 8 at 11:30 AM. Contact Mark Chamber at [markc205@yahoo.com](mailto:markc205@yahoo.com) for more information. All Are Welcome!

### **Blessing of the Backpacks - August 11**

Our annual back-to-school tradition of blessing our children and youth for the new school year will be next Sunday during the 10:30 AM worship service. Students of all ages, as well as teachers and administrators, are encouraged to bring their backpacks to worship for the blessing.

### **Youth Whitewater Trip - August 16-18**

This year's end-of-summer youth group retreat will be a whitewater rafting trip to Columbus, GA, August 16-18. Payment portal, packing information, and forms can be found at [highlandsumc.net/whitewater-registration](http://highlandsumc.net/whitewater-registration). Contact Henry Gibson at [henry@highlandsumc.net](mailto:henry@highlandsumc.net) or Mary Elizabeth Neal at [maryelizabeth@highlandsumc.net](mailto:maryelizabeth@highlandsumc.net) for more information.

### **Children's Team Meeting - August 18**

Our Children's Ministry Team will have a planning retreat on Sunday, August 18 at NOON to plan for the next year. Lunch will be provided. This meeting is open to all parents of children in our congregation! If you have ideas that you would like to share or if you wish to join the team in their work contact Lauri Soong at [laurisoong@hotmail.com](mailto:laurisoong@hotmail.com).

### **Ladies' Coffee Night - August 21**

Need a break? Join the women of Highlands for a relaxed social gathering at O'Henry's Coffee next to Brookwood Mall on Wednesday, August 21 at 7:30 PM. No agenda, no book to read - just friends fellowshiping together. Contact Lauri Soong at [laurisoong@hotmail.com](mailto:laurisoong@hotmail.com) to learn more.

### **Men's Group Baseball Outing - August 22**

Join the men of Highlands for a night out at the ballgame! The group will meet at Region's Field for a Barons game on Thursday, August 22 at 7 PM. Contact Mark Chamber at [markc205@yahoo.com](mailto:markc205@yahoo.com) for more information.

### **Saturday Supper Sisters - August 24**

All women of Highlands are invited to the next meeting of the Saturday Supper Sisters on August 24 at 5:30 PM at the home of Fran Hopkins for food, fun, and fellowship. Bring a summer salad, side dish, dessert, or beverage; entrée will be provided. For more information, call or text Kim McRae at 334-750-0223.

### **Youth Parents Meeting - August 25**

All youth parents are invited to an information parents meeting following worship on Sunday, August 25. Lunch will be provided. RSVP to Henry Gibson at [henry@highlandsumc.net](mailto:henry@highlandsumc.net).

### **Acolyte Training Lock-In - September 7**

Those who wish to serve in worship as an acolyte this year are invited to an overnight training event on Saturday, September 7, beginning at 5 PM. This event will include meals at local restaurants, acolyte instruction, a tour of the bell tower, fun and games, candlelight communion, and a sleepover at the church! Acolyting is open to adults, youth, and children in 4th grade or older. All current acolytes are requested to attend! Register no later than September 1 at [www.highlandsumc.net/acolyte-training](http://www.highlandsumc.net/acolyte-training). For more info, contact Brian Bellenger at [bellengerb@gmail.com](mailto:bellengerb@gmail.com) or Mary Elizabeth Neal at [maryelizabeth@highlandsumc.net](mailto:maryelizabeth@highlandsumc.net).

### **People In Motion - Tuesdays**

People in Motion meets at Highlands each Tuesday at 1 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Each class costs \$10 and is open to adults of all ages and abilities. Scholarships are available to those in need of financial assistance. Come join in for an hour of fun, fellowship, and dance! Contact Cynthia Brennan at 205-213-7322 or [cacmjp@bellsouth.net](mailto:cacmjp@bellsouth.net) to learn more.

### KEEP IN PRAYER...

Britton Buckner	Pamela Huck	Nancy Sawyer	Lisa, sister of Angela Chramer
James Daniels	Marie Jeff	Pat Smith	Mark Carleton, brother of Lynn Hairston
Don Delashaw	Judy Mills	Abygail Thompson	Sharon Self, mother of Michelle Jones
Beth Douthit	Karl Moore	Kathleen & Tommy Thompson	Judy Trench, mother of Bart Trench
Sonny Holt	Brook Morris	Sharon Turner	The Panciera Family
Suzanne Hoye	Christian Riley	Chuck Tyndal	The United Methodist Church

Contact information for those on this list is available from Deb Welsh at [deb@highlandsumc.net](mailto:deb@highlandsumc.net) or 205-933-8751, ext. 211

### **Spiritual Formation Class - September**

Highlands is offering a five-week study on Spiritual Formation. One often hears people describe themselves as “spiritual” without knowing what this means. This class will help each participant define a spiritual growth formation that follows the process Father Henri Nouwen understood to be the one modeled by Jesus. We will use Nouwen’s book *A Spirituality of Living* as our guide for practice and discussion. Participants will have the opportunity to share their spiritual experiences as we practice the spiritual process Jesus offers us in this study (Solitude, Community, and Ministry). The class will be led by Reverend Ben Padgett, a member of Highlands UMC’s Charge Conference. The class will begin on Sunday, September 15 at 9:30 AM in the Griffin-Williams Room. Books are available in the Greeting Space.

### **Community Ministries Opportunities**

It takes a lot of people to pull off Community Ministries each day...each week....month and even years. Every day folks are gleaning all around town to put food on the serving line, laundry pods in the washer, mail in the bin, hygiene items in the cabinet. But most off all, we need welcoming faces to open our doors, pour coffee, and smile, listen, love.

I know that life changes and we go through phases where it may not be possible to come in person and serve. Those changes are now a reality for some groups who have been serving for years. The first Saturday of each month needs a few more folks to join the leaders for that day (Donna and Dan Sibley and Nancy and Dan Hill). Individuals, groups of friends, families can serve. Just one day a month and you will be blessed.

If you’d like to join in the fun, the grace, the organized chaos called Community Ministries, contact Deb Welsh at [deb@highlandsumc.net](mailto:deb@highlandsumc.net).

### **Worship and Giving Online During the Summer**

As summer approaches, Highlands hopes that you will join us in worship as often as possible. However, please remember during summer travels that you can join us for worship online from wherever you find yourself!

To worship online: [www.highlandsumc.net/services](http://www.highlandsumc.net/services). Live services are streamed on Facebook (@HighlandsUMC) each Sunday at 10:30 AM. You do not need to have a Facebook account to watch.

To give online: Visit [www.highlandsumc.net/giving](http://www.highlandsumc.net/giving). Click the Online Giving button. Choose the HUMC General Operating Budget/General Budget and enter the amount of your gift. Complete payment information and submit.

Highlands United Methodist Church  
[office@highlandsumc.net](mailto:office@highlandsumc.net)  
205-933-8751

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram  
@HighlandsUMC

#### Office Hours

Monday–Friday 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
Closed for lunch 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Get email updates from Highlands!  
Text HIGHLANDS to 84576

To include an announcement in *Happening At Highlands*, please submit information to the church office by Wednesday at noon.