

**BETTER
STRONGER
GIVING** **TOGETHER**

All are invited to prayerfully consider giving to support the ministries of Highlands in 2022.

Complete a pledge card or make your pledge online at www.highlandsumc.net/pledge.

Pledges are requested by December 24, 2021.

Welcome to Highlands!

Thank you for joining us in worship today! If you would like to learn more about the ministries of Highlands, please fill out an information card found in the pews, or speak with a member of the clergy or staff in the coming week. We welcome the opportunity to be in conversation with you. *Staff contact information – www.highlandsumc.net/staff*

Youth Group Meeting - Today at 4 PM

Join the youth group this afternoon to complete decorations to our church and help Mary Elizabeth prepare costumes for the children's Christmas pageant. Dinner will be provided and all are welcome!

*Contact: Danny Jones – danny@highlandsumc.net | 933-8751 ext. 211
Leslie Williams – leslie@highlandsumc.net | 933-8751 ext. 200*

Advent Midday Communion Services - Tuesday

All are welcome and invited to join us each Tuesday in Advent for a midday service of Holy Communion. Lunch will follow in the Fellowship Hall for \$10. These brief services offer a moment to pause, reflect, and prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of the Christ child. We hope you will join us this week – our homily will be provided by our Seminarian-in-Residence, Leslie Williams.

Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsals - Saturday

The children's Christmas Pageant will be next Sunday, December 19 during the 10:30 AM worship service. Required dress rehearsal for all participants is this Saturday, December 18 from 9:30 to 11:00 AM. Masks are required for all participants.

Contact: Mary Elizabeth Neal – maryelizabeth@highlandsumc.net

Ring the Bell for The Salvation Army - Saturday

Each year, Highlands sponsors a day of bell ringing for the Salvation Army outside the Belk's at the Summit. Ringers are needed in 1 hour shifts from 10 AM to 7 PM on Saturday, December 18. Contact Mark Chambers to sign up.

Contact: Mark Chambers – markc205@yahoo.com

Children's Day of Service - December 20

Save the date for a children's ministries service project on Monday, December 20 from 3 to 5 PM. Children will rotate through stations creating needed items for various ministries of the church and local service organizations such as the Greater Birmingham Humane Society. All are welcome and invited. RSVPs requested.

Contact: Lauri Soong – laurisoong@hotmail.com

Youth Group Christmas Party - December 20

Save the date for the youth group Christmas Party on Monday, December 20 from 5 to 7 PM. The Rand family will host. More information and directions will be sent to youth group families in the coming week.

*Contact: Danny Jones – danny@highlandsumc.net | 933-8751 ext. 211
Leslie Williams – leslie@highlandsumc.net | 933-8751 ext. 200*

Light of the World - Adult Sunday School

This Advent, all adults are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 AM for Sunday School. We are studying *Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent* by Amy-Jill Levine. Classes will be taught by Matthew Penfield and Janet Holt. All are welcome and invited.

Advent In Narnia - Youth Sunday School

All students in 6th-12th grade are invited to join the youth group for Sunday School in the Youth Room each Sunday at 9:30 AM. This Advent, the class is studying *Advent in Narnia*, based on *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* by C. S. Lewis. Classes are led by Kathleen Lalor.

Christmas Eve at Highlands

Join the Highlands family to celebrate the birth of the Christ child this Christmas Eve. All are welcome!

2 PM – *Holy Communion for Children and Families*

3 PM – *Tower Bells 100th Anniversary Concert on the Front Lawn*

4:30 PM – *The Music of Christmas Choral Concert*

5 PM – *Holy Communion and Candlelighting*

KEEP IN PRAYER

Britton Buckner	Sonny Holt	Nancy Sawyer	Lisa, sister of Angela Chramer
Tim Brennan	Pamela & Paul Huck	Mary Carol Smith	Mark Carleton, brother of Lynn Hairston
Gayle Byrne	Joyce Jones	Vastine Stabler	Billy Ray, father of Suzanne Hoye
Cathy Caldwell	Judy Mills	Carol & Arthur Stephens	Lee Windham, son of Joyce & Ebbie Jones
Jean & James Daniels	Brook Morris	Abby Thompson	Mary Jane Meadows, sister of Margaret Moore
Susan Gaskin	Keith Owens	Kathleen & Tommy Thompson	Neil Shelor, father of Jennifer Shelor
Martha George	Lois Poe		Judy Trench, mother of Bart Trench
Patty Green	Christian Riley		

Contact information for those listed is available on the ShelbyNext Membership Directory. For help connecting to the directory, visit www.highlandsumc.net/shelbynext or contact Mary Elizabeth Neal at maryelizabeth@highlandsumc.net.

2021 Year-End Giving Guidelines

Please consider this important reminder regarding giving to Highlands. In order for contributions to be tax deductible for 2019, they must:

By mail: be postmarked on or before December 31.

Online: be completed by midnight (CST) December 31 at www.highlandsumc.net/giving.

Hand Delivered: be delivered to the church office no later than 4 PM on Friday, December 31 or placed in the offering plate on Sunday, December 26.

If you would like to make a gift of stock to the church, we have accounts with Charles Schwab and Morgan Stanley. Please contact Tyra Pirtle in the church office (finance@highlandsumc.net or 933-8751 x103) and she will provide you with the church account number and transfer codes. Your contributions to the church are greatly appreciated!

Community Ministries Christmas Meal

Join us for our Community Ministries Christmas Meal on Friday, December 24 at 10 AM. Due to the ongoing pandemic, we will be distributing catered boxed meals to our guests. Volunteers are needed to serve, beginning at 9:30 AM. If you are unable to volunteer but would still like to help, please consider making a donation to assist with the purchase of the meal. Make checks to HUMC with "CM Christmas" in the memo line and place in the offering plate today during worship.

To volunteer, contact: Danny Jones – danny@highlandsumc.net

Highlands United Methodist Church
office@highlandsumc.net
205-933-8751

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Vimeo
@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.