

**Welcome to Highlands!**

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

**Sign Ups in the Greeting Space - Today**

Visit the table in the Greeting Space following worship to sign up to sponsor Advent flowers and greenery, or to serve as a Communion Steward in the coming months.

**Youth Group Meeting at Highlands - Today**

All youth are invited to youth group meeting today from 2 to 4 PM at Highlands UMC. For more information, contact Henry Gibson at [henry@highlandsumc.net](mailto:henry@highlandsumc.net).

**Call to Action Against Gun Violence - Today**

Join us this afternoon from 3 to 4:30 PM for a follow-up to our recent Gun Violence Awareness Sunday as we individually and collectively develop specific and concrete plans to positively engage in reducing gun violence in our community. Each participant will leave with a solid response and action plan for taking an active role in efforts to curb gun violence. Upcoming events will be announced including Stop the Bleed training and Be SMART training to help parents and adults take reasonable actions to prevent child gun deaths and injuries.

**Christmas Pageant & Sacred Dance Registration**

It's time to sign up your children for Advent Sacred Dance and the Children's Christmas Pageant! Sacred Dance is open to boys and girls in 1st grade or older. The Christmas Pageant will be Sunday, December 22 at the 10:30 AM worship service, with roles for children age 3 – 5th grade. More information and sign up: [www.highlandsumc.net/pageant](http://www.highlandsumc.net/pageant).

**Discovery Weekend Youth Retreat Registration**

Discovery Weekend, our annual youth spiritual formation retreat, will be January 24-26, 2020 at Camp Sumatanga. The cost of the weekend is \$100, which includes lodging, meals, and transportation. All youth, grades 6-12, are invited. Registration is open through Sunday, December 29 at [www.highlandsumc.net/discovery](http://www.highlandsumc.net/discovery).

**Children's November Service Project - Gloves**

This month, our children and their families will be collecting gloves to share with our Community Ministries guests at our Thanksgiving meal. All sizes and colors are needed, but the majority of the nearly 150 guests are men. Place gloves in the collection bins in the Greeting Space and Atrium hallway by Sunday, November 24.

**Spaces of Liberation - November 9**

Spaces of Liberation is a gathering for marginalized persons and allies in the North Alabama Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church to collectively work and lead others to know God in relationship with the oppressed. Highlands UMC is hosting this first meeting of the group, and we hope to focus on the needs of the marginalized in our conference. We will also talk about action steps to empower one another in finding voices in leading our congregations and conference forward. Join us on Saturday, November 9 from 11-2 PM. Lunch will be provided by members of Open Table; there is no cost to attend. Contact Henry Gibson at [henry@highlandsumc.net](mailto:henry@highlandsumc.net) to volunteer or sign up.

**Lay Reader Training - November 10 & 17**

Serving in worship is truly powerful way to experience Highlands in a new way. Whether you are acolyting, serving communion, or reading scripture, being in the Chancel and leading worship is a deeply meaningful way to encounter God and minister to others. The Worship Committee is currently recruiting new people to join our group of wonderful Lay Readers, beginning in Advent. On Sunday, November 10 and again on Sunday, November 17, immediately following the 10:30 service, we will hold a 15-20 minute orientation to Lay Reading in the Chancel. Both sessions will cover the same material, so pick the date that works best for you. No need to sign up!

**Snacks for BSC Religious Life - November 12**

Highlands has been invited to provide snacks for the Birmingham Southern College Wesley Foundation meeting on Tuesday, November 12. If you can help out, please contact Henry Gibson at [henry@highlandsumc.net](mailto:henry@highlandsumc.net).

**Ladies' Coffee Night - November 13**

Join the women of Highlands for a relaxed social gathering at O'Henry's Coffee next to Brookwood Mall on Wednesday, November 13 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.

**Pipes, Pedals, and Pies - November 17**

All are invited to an organ recital on hymn arrangements on Sunday, November 17 at 3:00 PM. Highlands' Choirmaster and Organist, Richard C. Phillips, will showcase our beautiful M. P. Möller pipe organ (1952, Opus 8320). The recital is free and open to the public, however seating is limited - participants will be seated in the choir stalls. Reception to follow in the Greeting Space with drinks and pie. Contact Rick Phillips at [rick@highlandsumc.net](mailto:rick@highlandsumc.net) for more.

### KEEP IN PRAYER...

Britton Buckner  
Mary Jean Box  
James Daniels  
Don Delashaw  
Sonny Holt  
Pamela Huck  
Paul Huck

Marie Jeff  
Ross Mason  
Judy Mills  
Karl Moore  
Brook Morris  
Christian Riley  
Nancy Sawyer

Pat Smith  
Abygail Thompson  
Kathleen & Tommy Thompson  
Sharon Turner  
Chuck Tyndal  
Kate

Lisa, sister of Angela Chramer  
Mark Carleton, brother of Lynn Hairston  
Sharon Self, mother of Michelle Jones  
Judy Trench, mother of Bart Trench  
The United Methodist Church

OUR SYMPATHY... to Danny Jones and family in the death of his mother, Mary Louise Howard Jones.

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

### Homelessness Prevention Series - November 20

This fall, the Southside Faith Community has been examining homelessness through a three-part series. The final program in this interfaith series will be on Wednesday, November 20 at Highlands from 9 AM to 1 PM. Participants will serve breakfast during Community Ministries hospitality hour, eat lunch with the formerly homeless, and will conclude with a panel discussion about the care available to our homeless population, its coverage gaps and how we can help. Contact Deb Welsh at [deb@highlandsumc.net](mailto:deb@highlandsumc.net) for more information.

### Community Thanksgiving Meal - November 28

We will serve Thanksgiving lunch to our Community Ministries friends on November 28. Prior to the meal, we need volunteers to cook desserts or purchase fresh fruit, as well as set up and decorate the Fellowship Hall. On Thanksgiving Day, we need volunteers to help with serving, welcoming, and clean up. If you will be out of town on Thanksgiving, please consider making a donation to assist with the purchase of the meal. Checks may be made to HUMC with "CM Thanksgiving" in the memo line. Contact Martha Council at [mcouncil@metromonitor.com](mailto:mcouncil@metromonitor.com) or Deb Welsh at [deb@highlandsumc.net](mailto:deb@highlandsumc.net) to volunteer.

### Festival of the Three Kings - December 14

Join us on Saturday, December 14, as we host 100 children for an afternoon of Christmas fun! Volunteers are needed to help with setup and clean up, gift pick-up, and festival activities – snacks, crafts, face painting, and photo booth. To volunteer to help with the day of the festival, contact Deb Welsh at [deb@highlandsumc.net](mailto:deb@highlandsumc.net).

### Sponsor a Festival of the Three Kings Child!

Highlands families are invited to provide a memorable Christmas for the 100 children attending our Festival of the Three Kings. Sponsors will purchase gifts (\$100 limit) to be distributed to each child's family while the children enjoy the festival activities. Wish lists will be available in the Greeting Space beginning Sunday, November 10. Gifts must be dropped off at Highlands by Wednesday, December 8 at NOON.

### Lectionary Bible Study - Begins December 4

Are you looking for an opportunity to discuss the scriptures used in worship? Each week through Pentecost, we will host a lectionary study on Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. This study will serve as an opportunity to converse around the scriptures for each week as they relate to, not only the Christian Calendar, but also our individual and communal lives more broadly. All are welcome and you can even bring your lunch if you wish to do so.

### New! Seekers Sunday School Class - Sundays

Join us on Sundays at 9:35 AM in the Chapel for a new adult Sunday School class. The class is a fast-paced overview of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, both chronologically and thematically, spending two to four weeks on each book. No required readings, but you're certainly welcome to follow along on your own. Each week will begin with a time of fellowship, hot coffee, a favorite song or hymn, and a compelling lesson with opportunity for questions, comments and an occasional activity. Contact Reggie Holder at [reggie@highlandsumc.net](mailto:reggie@highlandsumc.net) for more information.

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.