

**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.

**“Fill the Tube” for Heifer International - September**

The children of Highlands invite you to support our September service project, Heifer International, which works to end hunger and poverty around the world by providing livestock and education to struggling communities. Each Sunday in September, you are invited to bring quarters to “fill the tube” in the Greeting Space to purchase a sheep, goat, or pig for a family in need.

**Explorers Class Covenant Bible Study - Sundays**

The Explorers Sunday School Class is beginning a new Covenant Bible Study this Sunday and would like to invite all who have interest to join them in this new study. Covenant is a comprehensive study of the whole Bible over twenty-four sessions, emphasizing the biblical concept of covenant through both the Old and New Testaments and underscore the unique relationship that God chooses to have with us as God’s people. There will be opportunity for daily scripture readings and space to interact personally with the readings, the group experience, and weekly meditations. The Explorer Class meets in Room E204 at 9:30 AM and is led by Matthew Penfield. All are invited!

**Spiritual Formation Class - Sundays**

It’s not too late to join our short-term study on Spiritual Formation led by Rev. Ben Padgett and using Henri Nouwen’s book *A Spirituality of Living* as our guide for practice and discussion. The class meets on Sundays at 9:30 am in the Griffin-Williams Room.

**Community Ministries Help Needed - Wednesdays**

Several members of our faithful Wednesday Community Ministries volunteer crew have had to take a break due to health and family issues so we are in URGENT need of early morning help with prepping the food for hospitality hour. We’d love someone with food handling experience, but we can train those willing to help. Contact Deb Welch if you can assist - 205-933-8751, ext. 211 or [deb@highlandsumc.net](mailto:deb@highlandsumc.net).

**Homelessness Series - September 25**

Join the Southside Faith Community at 5:30 PM this Wednesday, September 25 at South Highland Presbyterian Church for *Seeing Homelessness Through an Interfaith Lens*, the first in a three-part series on homelessness in our community. The series begins with buffet-style dinner (\$7) and interfaith panel discussion led by Rev. Gregory Edwards, Ph.D., of Holy Trinity-Holy Cross Cathedral, Rev. Ed Hurley of South Highland Presbyterian, and Rabbi Stephen Slater of Temple Beth-El. All are welcome!

**Ladies’ Coffee Night - September 25**

Join the women of Highlands for a relaxed social gathering at O’Henry’s Coffee next to Brookwood Mall on Wednesday, September 25 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.

**Save the Dates: October 13 and November 3**

Sunday, October 13 Gun Violence Awareness Sunday  
Sunday, November 3 Gun Violence Action Steps

Mark your calendar for an important seminar to be held at Highlands on Sunday, October 13, 2:00–4:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Dr. Jeffrey Kerby, Director of the Division of Acute Care Surgery and Chief of Trauma Service at UAB Hospital will be our keynote speaker. Dr. Kerby, a combat surgeon of the US Air Force has been featured in US News and World Report, The New York Times, US Air Force Times and Come Back Town Birmingham. Following Dr. Kerby’s keynote we will have breakout sessions with leadership from Rep. Neal Rafferty, Faith in Action Alabama co-chair Onoyemi Williams, the Birmingham Police Department, our own Stan Hart, and others to help us better understand the impact of gun violence not only on a national level but also here in Birmingham so that we may formulate a faithful response. A follow-up event, Gun Violence Action Steps, will be held on November 3 at 3 PM.

**Birmingham Legion Soccer Game - October 16**

Join the Highlands family for a Birmingham Legion soccer game on Wednesday, October 16 at 7 PM. All are invited! Tickets are \$12/person in advance. Tickets are available now through October 13 at [www.highlandsumc.net/events/legion](http://www.highlandsumc.net/events/legion). For more information, contact Mary Elizabeth Neal at [maryelizabeth@highlandsumc.net](mailto:maryelizabeth@highlandsumc.net).

**New Seekers Adult Sunday School - October 20**

We are offering a new adult Sunday School Class beginning October 20th at 9:35 AM in the Chapel. The class will begin in Genesis and make our way through to Revelation, both chronologically and thematically, spending two or three weeks on most books, moving along a fairly quick pace. There will be no required outside reading but we certainly won’t stop you from following along – our textbook after all has received rave reviews. 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 exercise or activity.

We are currently taking applications for a couple of brewers to make the coffee, and a couple of hospitality captains to greet and welcome those attending. If you feel called to help out, contact Reggie Holder. We hope you will join us on October 20th.

### KEEP IN PRAYER...

Mary Jean Box  
James Daniels  
Don Delashaw  
Sonny Holt  
Jim Hoye  
Pamela 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

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

### **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. 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.

### **Mary Oliver Poetry Group - Wednesdays**

The Mary Oliver Poetry group will regather for our Fall sessions on Wednesdays at 5 PM in the Explorer's Sunday School Classroom (E204). We will once again be using the text *Devotions – The Selected Poems of Mary Oliver* (Penguin Press 2017). We welcome new folks and visitors. If you would like more information, contact Reggie Holder at [reggie@highlandsumc.net](mailto:reggie@highlandsumc.net).

### **Atrium Flowers - Volunteers Needed**

Each week in the Atrium, our children have lessons on flower arranging. You may have seen their small arrangements around the church on the way to worship. We are looking for folks who would bring a bouquet of grocery store flowers to the Atrium each week; ideally, we would like to take this task away from busy parents who are doing their best to get their children here each week.

If you are willing to help, all you need to do is pick up a bouquet and drop it off in Atrium 1, Room E219 on Sunday by 9:30 AM. Please let Reggie Holder know the date this fall you can bring flowers at [reggie@highlandsumc.net](mailto:reggie@highlandsumc.net).

Additionally, we are happy for our congregation to take one of the small vases of flowers home with you to share with a neighbor, visitor to church, or perhaps someone sick or homebound. Please return vases as you are able so that we have a steady supply to use.

### **Festival of Three Kings - December 14**

Save the date for the Festival of Three Kings on Saturday, December 14 in the Fellowship Hall. Many volunteers are needed! If you'd like to be part of the operational team, contact Deb Welsh at [deb@highlandsumc.net](mailto:deb@highlandsumc.net).

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.