

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 our staff in the coming week. We welcome the opportunity to be in conversation with you. *Staff contact information – www.highlandsumc.net/staff*

Cards for Homebound Members

Stop by the table in the Greeting Space today to pick up a card to send Easter greetings to some of our homebound members. This expression of love and care is a reminder that even when they are not able to attend regularly, these members are still an important part of our church family.

Special Offering for Medical Debt Forgiveness

This Lent and Easter, Highlands is partnering with RIP Medical Debt, a non-profit organization dedicated to removing the burden of medical debt, to forgive ONE MILLION DOLLARS of medical debt from the greater Birmingham area. For every \$1 donated, an average of \$100 in debilitating debt is forgiven. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 this season. In 2023, Highlands abolished \$3,226,845.14 in medical debt for 4,631 of our neighbors across the state. We hope you will join with us in this worthy cause, living into our mission of loving God and serving our neighbors. Donate online using the QR code on the back of your bulletin, or use the special envelopes in the pew racks.

Lent Midday Communion - March 26

Join us this Tuesday at noon for our final Lenten Midday Communion service. Our guest preacher will be retired UMC clergy Rev. Charles Lee. All are invited to stay after the service for lunch in the Fellowship Hall for \$10.

Alabama Arise Legislative Day - April 2

Alabama Arise Legislative Day is Tuesday, April 2 in Montgomery. Highlands is a member of Alabama Arise, a state-wide member-led organization whose mission is to advance public policies to improve the lives of Alabamians who are marginalized by poverty. If you are interested in going with fellow HUMC members to the Alabama Arise Legislative Day in Montgomery (or if you would like to know more about Alabama Arise), visit the table in the Greeting Space or contact Danny Jones. Advance registration is required as lunch will be provided and seating is limited. *Contact: Danny Jones – danny@highlandsumc.net*

Ladies' Coffee Night - April 10

Need a break? Join the women of Highlands for a relaxed social gathering at Panera Bread in Vestavia Hills on Wednesday, April 10 at 7:30 pm. No agenda, no book to read – just friends fellowshiping together. *Contact: Lauri Soong – laurisoong@hotmail.com*

Heart and Hand Sunday - April 7

Our next Heart and Hand Sunday will be April 7 at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. We will be collecting books for two organizations – *Books to Prison*, which provides books to Alabama and Texas prisons, and *Little Libraries* to stock several Little Libraries around Birmingham that cater to children. We are especially in need of paperbacks of all genres and gently used children's books. Like our food drive last summer, this is an excellent opportunity to ask your friends and neighbors to bring books to you, for you to bring to the church. During our Heart and Hand session, we will sort and pack books; there will be opportunities for volunteers books to deliver to Little Libraries in the coming week. Lauri Soong is coordinating this effort and is happy provide further information.

Spring Adult Sunday School - Starts April 14

Our Spring Adult Sunday School classes begin Sunday, April 14 at 9:30 AM. These six-week classes will continue through May 19. We hope you'll join in!

Two Peas in a God Pod:**A Different Look at Faith and Religion**

The dynamic duo of Dr. Weily Soong and Dr. Sonya Heath are at again with Two Peas in God Pod – a Different Look at Faith and Religion. This six-week course will feature podcasts from Krista Tippet, Barbara Brown Taylor, Rachel Held Evans, Kate Bowler, Frances Collins, and Brene Brown. Meets in Room 204

From Suffering to Redemption:**The Journeys of Job, Jonah, Ruth, and Esther**

Veteran Sunday School teacher Janet Holt will introduce both new and experienced students of the Bible to some of the four most compelling characters and genres of the Hebrew scriptures. Janet will start with her favorite book of the Bible, Job, for several weeks and end with a one-Sunday summary lesson of Jonah, Ruth, and Esther. Meets in Room 209

Community Ministries Donations

Our Community Ministries guests always enjoy having plenty to drink. Your donation of drink pouches like Capri Suns or Kool Aid Jammers would be most welcome to our morning guests. Donations may be dropped off in the marked baskets in the Greeting Space and Narthex. You may also purchase items from our Amazon Wish List, which ships directly to the church; scan the Happening at Highlands QR code on the back page.

Contact: Danny Jones – danny@highlandsumc.net

There will be no Sunday School classes next Sunday.

Atrium will begin at 10:15 AM for children age 3 through 5th grade.

KEEP IN PRAYER

Britton Buckner
Gayle Byrne
Peggy Carey

Susan Gaskin
Nina Reeves
Nancy Sawyer

Martha Satterwhite
Kathleen Thompson
Tutter Tyndal

Leo Bolack, grandson of Jettye and Jon Davis
Billy Ray, father of Suzanne Hoyer
Bill White, brother of Reina McFarlin
Carol & Arthur Stephens

OUR SYMPATHY to the family and friends of Martha George.

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.

Holy Week and Easter at Highlands

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Service of Holy Communion at 6:30 PM

This service commemorates the night Jesus and his disciples shared The Last Supper. In remembrance of that night, we will celebrate Holy Communion; all are invited to the table to receive the sacrament. The service concludes with the stripping of the altar, during which time the congregation will assist in removing the symbols of Jesus' life and teaching from the Sanctuary.

Good Friday, March 29

Solemn Liturgy for Good Friday at NOON

A quiet, solemn service of scripture and song recalling the final day of Jesus' earthly life. This service typically lasts no longer than 50 minutes, perfect for working professionals. The Reverend Jeff Bayne will be our guest preacher.

Service of Tenebrae at 6:30 PM

The service of Tenebrae, from the Latin meaning "darkness," makes use of gradually diminishing light, scripture readings, and sacred music to symbolize the events of Jesus' last week on earth. The service concludes in total darkness, as the Christ candle is taken from the Sanctuary, symbolizing the death of Jesus.

Easter Sunday, March 31

There will be no youth or adult Sunday School on Easter Sunday. The Atrium will open at 10:15 AM for children age 3 through 5th grade.

Children and Family Service at 9:00 AM

A joyful, abbreviated worship service of Holy Communion for Easter Sunday – perfect for families with young children. The nursery will be available for children age 4 and younger.

Service of the Resurrection at 10:30 AM

A joyful worship experience celebrating the resurrection in scripture, beautiful music enhanced by chamber orchestra, and Holy Communion. The nursery will be available for children age 4 and younger.

Invite your friends and neighbors to Highlands this Holy Week and Easter! Pick up a few postcards from the Sanctuary entrances or Greeting Space to help start the conversation.

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

Follow us on Social Media!
@HighlandsUMC



Office Hours

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

Get 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.