

Highland United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 34
Callaway, VA 24067



THE HIGHLANDER

November 2017

I am grateful for all who have helped with the little cemetery in the front yard of the parsonage over the past two and half years. I especially thank Keith Brubaker for his efforts, time, wisdom, and kindness at this pastor's wild hare project!

My first night in Callaway, as I walked from room to room, (trying to find a cell phone signal) I looked out through the large window, and saw this little cemetery in front yard. I immediately planned to place a reading chair by the window, so I could look out and see this sacred place. Growing up, I have always respected cemeteries as places of honor, reflection, and humility. We are given the gift of life and a cemetery is this reminder that this gift is to be cherished. In the faith we share, cemeteries are the place we praise a Christ who rose from death and all that degrades and diminishes the gift of life. In the gift of his life, he promises to raise us and resurrect us. Cemeteries are places of praise.

As my first months with you unfolded, the cemetery became a place of prayer and service. There are many situations and people in life that we are helpless to help. There is nothing I can do to fix the situation, heal pain, cure the disease, solve problems. Life can be unfair and the challenges we face feel overwhelming. As I weeded or placed rocks, I thought of Jacob from Genesis in our Bibles. God asked him to place a rock at the places where God and Jacob talked and listened to each other, so when others passed by they would know, this is a special place, this is a place God and someone met with each other. Jacob and God wrestled when God called Jacob to face difficulty and fear. Cemeteries are places that testify to our struggles with God.

Now, after last Saturday's work day, the cemetery has permanent stone. In the past week, I look out and smile, remembering all the people with their rakes and shovels. I am inspired for a new day and comforted at the end of the day, remembering little Zoe and Ashton Guilliams insisting on helping—they would help, they could help. Cemeteries are places of community and belonging.

This past week, as I look out, settle into my reading chair, I am grateful for the permanence of the work that has been done—because of the many—this place will be weed free and honorable long after I may be buried in my home town. I think all of us, long to do something that is worthwhile, meaningful, and lasting. Most often, life is filled with doing a great deal of impermanent work; even the things we get upset about or let drive our time and priorities. I think being part of Jesus' life and his Kingdom coming speaks to our longing for our lives mattering. Long after we are gone, what will be left of our lives—prayerfully more than just a headstone.

See you in worship, Amy

Schedules

Acolytes

November 5 Davis Moran
November 12 Garrett Weaver
November 19 Sam Krauss
November 26 Logan Custer

Greeter

Graham and Crystal Weaver

Nursery

November 5 Donna Guilliams
November 12 Sarah Haskins
November 19 Crystal Weaver
November 26 Sherri Krauss

UMW

The UMW will meet on Monday, **November 20** at 7:00 p.m. Due to the pie making by our youth, we will meet in the Adult Sunday School class. Refreshments will be serviced by Caroline and Norma Jean Guilliams. Betsy Stanley will be having our "World Thank Offering" program.

The Annual Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, **November 14** beginning at 11:30 a.m. Music will be by Alan Messenger and friends. Come and join us for a great meal, fun and fellowship.

OTHER NEWS AND NOTES

Missions meeting will be held on Wednesday, **November 8** at 6:00 p.m. at the parsonage.

PPRC meeting will be held on Thursday, **November 9** at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Highland always recognizes veterans on a Sunday near Veteran's Day (which is November 11th). This year, we would like to send thank you notes and possibly a small care package (depending on regulations) as a small mission project to people that are presently in the military. If you would like Highland to send a thank you note/small care package to someone you know presently in the military, please give Jennifer their addresses on or before Sunday, November 5. Their names will be lifted up in prayer on Sunday, **November 12**. We will also recognize the veterans in our congregation who has served in the past or who is presently serving. If you are a veteran that has a picture in a uniform or would like to share your name and the branch of military in which you served, we would love to share it on our morning slides prior to our worship service. It is always fun to see these pictures as we honor you! Thank you, and we appreciate you!

The Administrative Council will meet on **November 12** following the morning worship service.

Community Lunch at Bethany Church of the Brethren on **November 15** at noon.

Relay for Life Fundraiser at Henry Community Center will be held on Saturday, **November 18** from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Hot dog dinners available and crafts. If you would like to sell your crafts, table are available for rent. So paln to come out and do your Christmas shopping and it's all for a good cause. See Helen Akers for more information. She can be reached at (540) 483-2932.

The Youth plan and shop for Pies on Saturday, **November 18**. Also, the youth will be making pies from **November 19 - 22**.

November 19, 7:00 p.m. at Piedmont Presbyterian Church (8585 Callaway Road). Highland United Methodist Church will provide the music and the Rev. Andy Duffy, pastor of Antioch, will be the preacher. Everyone is asked to bring an item of food and/or make a cash donation. Food items will be donated to Heavenly Manna. Cash donations will be given to the Callaway Elementary School Pack-A-Sack program.

Charge Conference is an event that takes place once a year. This year our charge conference will be held on Sunday, **November 19** at Gogginsville UMC at 1:00 p.m.

Pack-A-Snack is a food program that was started by a local Bible study church group that has grown over the last several years. It sends healthy snacks/foods home with selected students on Friday afternoons in their bookbags. The students get food during the week in the cafeteria, but these students also get healthy foods that can be in single servings and easily accessible for Saturdays and Sundays while they are not in school. Highland is participating with the Pack-a-Snack program at Callaway Elementary School. Thanks to Jennifer for gathering up the first needed snacks/foods for the kids in October and thanks to the youth and parents for helping put the bags together. There will be "tickets" that folks can pick up to help with the November Pack-a-Snack program. This way there will not be a lot of some things and not enough of others. You may also give cash and the shopping can be done for you. Please pick up your ticket if you would like to help with this program. Also, if you know of a family that we may need to help during Thanksgiving, give that name to Jennifer.

Our District will host a Finance Training on Wednesday, **November 29th** beginning at 7 p.m. at Stanleytown UMC (24 Maplewood Ave, Stanleytown). David Domnisse, Conference Treasurer and Statistician will facilitate the training. All are invited, particularly those involved in local church finances—treasurers, finance committee members, trustees, S/PPRC members, finance secretaries, etc.

SAVE THE DATES

On **December 24**, Sunday, Christmas, we will have many opportunities to celebrate Christ's coming into the world and his promise to come again. Sunday morning, we will have worship at the time we have all year round: New Hope, 8:30 a.m. and Highland, 10:00 a.m. That evening, there will be different opportunities offered. At Highland, between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. you may come by for quiet, worshipful communion. At New Hope, beginning 7:00 p.m. we will have a worship service with candle light, hymns, and a proclamation of the good news (different than in the morning). May you find many ways for preparing a welcome of Jesus into our lives.

Bishop Sharma D. Lewis will be available for "Chat-N-Chew 2.0", Saturday, **January 6, 2018** at Bethlehem UMC in Moneta. Church is located at 13856 Old Moneta Road, Moneta, VA. Lunch will be provided. Details will follow soon.

The Missions Committee: What? How? Who? Why?

Highland United Methodist Church Missions Committee shares the belief that everyone is called to take an active part in the ministry of Jesus Christ. We seek to fulfill God's mission throughout our community and the world by participating in the United Methodist Church's outreach, across all boundaries that divide the human race. Our goal is to send individuals and disburse funds and goods to help meet the physical and spiritual needs of all people in the name of Jesus Christ. We all strive to live by the words of John Wesley the founder of Methodism –

“Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can.”

The Missions Committee is comprised of a chair; representatives from each of these groups: the United Methodist Women, youth group/children's ministries, outreach ministries; and the pastor. The committee is responsible to the Church Council to oversee and support mission activities and projects in which the congregation engages, in and beyond our local community. Through mission activities, our goal is to serve and share with each other the love of Christ. As we build relationships, we will know the love of God and understand Jesus' teachings.

The work of the committee is central to the success of God's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. God's Holy Spirit calls the church into being for mission. In response to God's call and the leading of the Holy Spirit, women and men, young and old, of all nations, stations, and races, and in all times and places, unite as the living body of Christ to join God's mission of redemption, bearing witness to God's presence in the world. This work gives the members of the congregation opportunities to use their gifts – to be Jesus' hands and feet in our community, nation, and world, allowing all to see a living Christ.

The committee is in its organizational stages. We feel like there's a calling for all of us to be involved in missions. Be on the lookout for the opportunity to share your talents and interests.

Prayer List

Sarah Haskins
Barbara Guilliams
Fred Guilliams
Skye and Nova
Tiffany and Brandon
Pam and Randy McPherson
Ronnie Bernard and Sue
Veterans and all those serving now
Family of Oakey Bowman
Butch Moran
Billy Wayne Dudley
Family of Morris Stephenson
Family of Eddie Scott
Nelson Spicer
B. L. Furrow
Dean Blankenship
Jerry Mattox
Carol Ruff
Karen Haskins
Vivian St.Clair
Ricky Stump
Julie and Mark Bollins
Family of Barbara Beckwith
Fred Bussey
Julie Fortner
Amanda Rude
Andrew and Dena Snead
Family of Ron Burroughs
Carol (friend of Barbara and Julie's)
Zoey and Ashton Guilliams

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Nov 1 B – Kevin Burroughs
Nov 2 B - Amanda Custer
B – Coy Guilliams
B – Sheldon Mankes
Nov 3 B – Shelby Moran
Nov 7 A – Fred and Barbara Guilliams
B – Mark Bollings
Nov 8 B – Ken Handy
Nov 9 A – Dawn and Brad Akers
B – Barbara Mankes
B – Travis Prillaman
Nov 14 A – Johnnie and Missy Pendleton
Nov 15 B – Bobby Webb
B – Wesley Moran
Nov 19 A – Ronnie and Sue Bernard
Nov 20 B – Taylor Moran
Nov 24 B – Sarah Jamison
Nov 24 B – Fred Guilliams
Nov 28 B – Joyce Guilliams
Nov 29 B – Eva Wooldridge

