

RIDGE RIDER



Dear Friends,

In May, we celebrate the Ascension of Jesus into heaven, Mother's Day, the Coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, Confirmation Sunday as youth join the Church, and Memorial Day. That is a lot of joy packed into 30 days!

I'd like to focus for the moment on Pentecost Sunday, May 19. This will be a joint service of our entire congregation. Instead of having The Connection at 9, Sunday School at 9:45, and Traditional worship at 11, we will have a combined service at 10:00 in the sanctuary, with a covered dish lunch at Laurel Hills Park at noon. There are several reasons for this joint service.

Perhaps the first reason is that it builds a lovely sense of unity and fellowship when our entire congregation worships together. We see and meet other Highland folks whom we ordinarily may not see because we go to different services. It also gives us a chance to enjoy the musical and worship styles of both services at once, which feels like a great celebration. It has been suggested that we try to have about 4 of these services each year: Pentecost (usually in May) HSP (in July) Consecration (in late October) and the Bluegrass Lessons and Carols (in December). This isn't written in stone, but it seems to reflect the desires of many for the time being.

This Pentecost (May 19) will be one such service. Not only are we celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit, we are also Confirming many of our youth that day. When young persons make a decision to follow Jesus and confirm their faith in him, that is a cause of great celebration for all who love them. It is also a cause to celebrate our faith community who continues to mid-wive the New Birth.

Many thanks to the young people, their families, their mentors who have volunteered countless hours of love and faith, and staff members Neil Smith and Janet Baucom. You give us great joy!

Blessings,



May 5: Celebration of Ascension Sunday

What's Up?

Acts 1:1-10 (Key Verse 1:11: "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven?")

Main Idea: We have important work as we wait for Christ's return. We will need the Holy Spirit to do it well.

To Think About: How am I waiting for the power of the Holy Spirit?

May 12: Celebration of Mother's Day

Festival of the Christian Home:

Mary, Joseph, and the "Perfect" Teen

Luke 2:41-52 (Key Verse: 43: "When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents were unaware of this.")

Main Idea: Even the perfect teen was hard to parent sometimes. They were smart enough to cut him some slack.

To Think About: Am I giving my children space to grow and thrive?

May 19: Celebration of Pentecost & Confirmation

Tell Us In Your Own Words

Acts 2:1-13 (Key Verse: Acts 2:1: "When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.")

Main Idea: When the Holy Spirit came, he empowered people to praise God using words and language.

To Think About: The Lord is phenomenal! Who have I told this week?

May 26: Celebrating Their Gift to Us (Memorial Day)

John 15:12-17, James 4:1,2

Key Verse: 15:13: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."

Main Idea: We celebrate the faithfulness and sacrifice of those who have laid down their lives for others. United Methodists have traditionally believed in the "pessimism of human nature" and the "optimism of grace." Godly wisdom underestimates neither.

To Think About: How can I honor their sacrifice?

FAITH & FELLOWSHIP



Highland United Methodist Men
Breakfast
Saturday, May 11
8:30 AM | Bradley Hall

UMM Breakfast

Saturday, May 11, 8:30 AM, Bradley Hall

All are welcome for great breakfast and fellowship. Contact Scott Loftin (s@theloftins.net) for more information.

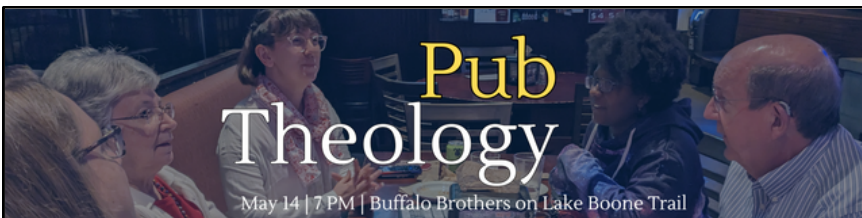
Mommies Group

Saturday, May 11, 10 AM, Conference Room

Enjoy fellowship with other moms of young children. Childcare available upon request. Contact Amy Takahashi: amy@highlandumc.org.



Mommies Group
Saturday, May 11
10 AM
Childcare available



Pub Theology
May 14 | 7 PM | Buffalo Brothers on Lake Boone Trail

Pub Theology

Tuesday, May 14, 7 PM, Buffalo Brothers

Join us for faith-filled conversation, pizza, and a pint! All are welcome. Let Rev. Janet Baucom know you're coming and she'll save you a seat: janet@highlandumc.org.

Highlanders Senior Adult Fellowship

Tuesday, May 21, 11:30 AM, Bradley Hall

Senior adults are invited for food and fellowship! Lunch is \$15/person. Program TBD. Please sign the reservation sheet at the reception desk or call the church office by Sunday, May 19 to reserve your spot!



Highlanders
HUMC Senior Adult Fellowship



Get Ready for Realm!

We are excited to announce that Highland is switching to Realm for our church database. Realm has been consistently voted one of the most user-friendly interfaces in church software and will bring us up-to date with the latest technology.

You will have access to the Realm App which will allow you to easily access our Church Directory and give online.

Right now, no action is needed on your part. Be on the lookout for updates in mid-May!

Vacation Bible School

June 24-28

Children ages 3 (as of 6/24/24) through 5th grade (completed)

are invited to join us for a great week of fun and learning. Snappy tunes, silly skits, engaging crafts, plus games, snacks, and stories make for a week-long summer adventure.

This year's theme is Camp Firelight: A Summer Camp Adventure with God. Register today via the QR code.

We need adult and youth volunteers. Contact Amy T. if you can amy@highlandumc.org.



pentecost sunday

- May 19 | One Combined Service at 10 AM -
- Confirmation Sunday -
- The Highland Choir presents -
- Robert Ray's *Gospel Mass*
- Picnic at Laurel Hills Park following Worship -



Wear red and dress for the picnic!
Bring a covered dish to church
and head straight to the
park after Worship.

Nurturing Seeds of Faith: Confirmation 2024

By Eddie & Becky Wood, Confirmation Mentors

Since November, we have been serving with seven other confirmation mentors and walking alongside ten youth confirmands as they continue their faith journeys and Christian discipleship. Hopefully, they will emerge from confirmation learning how to further live their lives as Christians. Although mentors certainly do not have all the answers, we have had fun together gaining a better understanding of the beliefs of the Christian faith, the history and unique aspects of United Methodists, and making decisions about faith.

Minister of Discipleship Rev. Janet Baucom and Youth Director Neil Smith lead our confirmation group classes. We have explored, had great discussions, and even done wonderful artistic illustrations about scripture, salvation, sacraments, and what it means to be a member of the church. Our confirmation group meets most weeks during the Sunday school hour.

We have also enjoyed day retreats and informative field trips to Temple Beth Or and Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral. In March, the confirmands and mentors went on a full weekend retreat at Trinity Center at Pine Knoll Shores where we enjoyed class time, activities, meals, walks on the beach, a worship service and free time together.

It seems fitting to be writing about confirmation as we now move into the beauty and wonders of spring! In this season of growth and renewal, consider what it takes for seeds to grow. Seeds need good soil and nurturing as the confirmands need the stability of

their homes and guidance of their parents, but there are other factors needed: water, air, and sunshine are essential and will help the seeds grow and flourish, like friends, church, and mentors who help teach and guide the confirmands. The confirmands' journeys of introspection and growth in their Christian faith is a joy to behold, and we are grateful to be a part of it! It is refreshing to witness young adults as they grow in knowledge and faith, like flowers seeking the Son!



Confirmation Retreat, March 2024



MAY YOUTH SCHEDULE	5/5	Youth Group at 5 PM
	5/19	End-School-Party at 5 PM

Youth Summer Events:

City Servants
Middle School Service Week
June 17-21

Highland Service Project (HSP)
High School Service Week
July 7-12
Wilmington, NC

Visit highlandumc.org/youth for
more info on all upcoming events
and activities

- Confirmands:**
- Leyton Atkins
 - Tate Wilkinson
 - Evan Baucom
 - Grant Shaffer
 - Violet Townsend
 - Madeline Townsend
 - Madeline Driver
 - Fiona Lockett
 - Braedon LaRocca
 - James Riordan

- Mentors:**
- Eddie Wood
 - Becky Wood
 - Lee Smither
 - Rick Richards
 - Paige Gant
 - Chuck Stuber
 - Laura Horn
 - Pam Hood
 - Corrine Lusic

Victory Garden -15th Season-

Join Highland's Community Garden crew as we celebrate the 15th season of this beautiful garden.

The garden crew meets every Saturday at 9 AM, and you're invited! Questions? Contact Donna Wolcott: donna.wolcott2@gmail.com.



Highland is a longtime partner of the Welcome House Raleigh, a temporary reception housing ministry for refugees and immigrants who do not have a place to live upon arrival to the United States.

Once per quarter, Highland will help provide groceries for the families currently living at Welcome House. Here's how to help: You can sign up to do the grocery shopping (you'll have a complete list provided) and deliver the groceries to Welcome House OR you can make a donation to help cover the cost of the groceries. Our first commitment is for Wednesday, June 5. Questions? Contact Donna Wolcott or Rev. Janet Baucom. Sign up to help here:



Habitat for Humanity Build

Our Habitat build is officially underway and will continue through June 1. Sign up to build here.



Power tools not your thing? You can still help by providing lunch on our designated Saturdays.



Food and Clothing Donations for Centennial Campus Middle School Students in Need

Highland's missions team is sponsoring an ongoing donation drive of food and clothing. Donations of food (granola bars, Pop Tarts, canned pastas, soups, and fruits) and clothing (warm weather T-shirts S-XL are especially needed) are accepted. Bring your donations on Sunday and place in the designated bins.

Stay Connected

Subscribe to our weekly E-News to stay up-to-date on all these events, find registration links, and more!



CHURCH FAMILY



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Buck & Laura Wheeler
joined on April 7



CHURCH FAMILY

May Birthdays

05/03	Chris Richards
05/05	Georgie McKenzie, Andrew Tucker, Anderson La Rocca
05/06	Mike Hughes, Robert Hearn, Brenda Hudson
05/07	Helen Morrill
05/08	John Hunter, Junko Takahashi
05/09	Anna Yarborough, Abby Bugger
05/10	Judy Allen
05/12	Isabella Knight

05/13	Kathy Langfield, Douglas Templeton
05/14	Eric Fish
05/17	Glenda Johnson
05/18	Debbie Carroll, Ken Schuster, Ila Krueger
05/19	Bud Driggers, Scott Deuel
05/20	Ann Pearce, Anna Letchworth
05/21	Kay Burgess, Aidan Cronin-Hudgins

05/22	Andrew Wilkinson, Maddie Driggers
05/23	Camilla Matzinger
05/27	Thad McDonald, Debbie Sykes
05/28	Sharon Lee
05/29	Kay Driggers, Lanny Piper
05/30	Vance Clayton, Ellen Fortenberry
05/31	Joyce Faucette, John Shutt

Please Remember In Prayer

Mark Adamson
 Nang Dik Tuang
 Bonnie Anderson
 Melva Armstrong
 (Amy Massey's cousin)
 Susan Bailey
 (Doris Kruger's daughter)
 David Beam
 Brady Beck
 (son of Bev and Keith Beck)
 Paul Blomquist
 Paul Braun
 Marcia Brugger
 (Jamie Pierce's mother)
 Ann & Jonathan Chapman
 Archie Clark
 James Cornell
 (Amy Massey's son)
 Beth Deaton

Glenda Desmond
 (Marcia Nance's sister)
 Linda Edwards
 Phyllis and Alex Edwards
 Cleo Flowers
 (Kevin Flowers' mother)
 Margie Ford
 Ben Franklin
 Dennis Goodson
 (Brenda Hudson's brother)
 Mabel Gray Henry
 (Laura Horn's mother)
 Walter Harvey
 (Grace Haven's brother)
 Doug Hoffman
 Betsey Huber
 (Doris Huber's daughter-in-law)
 Glenda Johnson
 Doris Kruger
 Jeanine Lueke

Amy Massey
 Cliff McCowan
 Georgie McKenzie
 Dennis McLain
 Mary McLeod
 Dot McGee
 Linda Moran
 Brenda Murphy
 (Joyce Hicks' sister)
 Kenley Myers
 Billie Poole
 Betsy Pridgen
 Harriet Roland
 Jeanne Shorter
 Carlyle Teague
 Jane Webb
 Conor and Sarah Mann Willcox
 Judy Wilson
 Cathy Zachary

We pray for peace, we pray for wisdom for world leaders, we pray for the people of Ukraine, Gaza, and Israel, and we pray for all those impacted by war.

Please also remember in prayer those serving in our military: Erich Dix, James Noneman, Matthew Bawden, Ryan Shorter, Margarita Shorter

Holding In Prayer Those Who Mourn

We offer sympathy to the family of Marcy Briley upon her death on April 11, 2024.

Welcome New Baby!

We celebrate the birth of Theodore James Morgan to parents Allison and Arlyn Morgan on April 6, 2024.



MAY EVENTS

AT-A-GLANCE

Food Drive

May 5 | 2-5 PM | see p. 4

Youth Group

May 5, 19 (End-of-School Party) | 5 PM
see p. 3

UMM Breakfast

May 11 | 8:30 AM | Bradley Hall | see p. 2

Mommies Group

May 11 | 10 AM | Conference Room
see p. 2

Pub Theology

May 14 | 7 PM | Buffalo Bros.
see p. 2

Pentecost & Confirmation Sunday

May 19

Joint Service at 10 AM | Robert Ray's Gospel
Mass | Church Picnic at Noon
see p. 3

Highlanders

May 21 | 11:30 AM | Bradley Hall | p. 2

Community Victory Garden Workdays

Every Saturday | 9 AM | see p. 4

CONTACT US

Main number: 919-787-4240

Pastor: **Rev. Dr. John Tyson**
john@highlandumc.org | ext. 103

Minister of Discipleship: **Rev. Janet Baucom**
janet@highlandumc.org | ext. 105

Minister of Music: **Rev. Kevin Quick**
kevin@highlandumc.org | ext. 102

Director of Children's Ministry: **Amy Takahashi**
amy@highlandumc.org | ext. 104

Director of Youth Ministries: **Neil Smith**
neil@highlandumc.org | ext. 109

Director of Communications: **Stephanie Sanders**
stephanie@highlandumc.org | ext. 122

Director of Finance: **Deanna Clack**
deanna@highlandumc.org | ext. 108

Facilities Manager: **Tom Lamb**
tom@highlandumc.org | ext. 107

Office Administrator: **Karen Winters**
karen@highlandumc.org | ext. 106

Pastoral Emergencies

During church office hours, please call the church office to contact one of our ministers. If you are unable to reach a pastor or if it is after hours, contact the Rev. Dr. John Tyson at 919-787-4240 ext. 103 and leave your message. He will contact you as soon as possible.

Spread the Word

Please submit content for the website, the Ridge Rider, and the weekly E-News to Stephanie Sanders at stephanie@highlandumc.org.

Let's Get Social!

Make sure you're following us on our social media platforms and liking, sharing, and commenting on our posts. We depend on you to help spread the word about the good work of Highland to the community!



@humcraleigh



@highlandraleigh



@highlandumc-raleigh

Don't Miss the Deadline!

E-News Deadline
Tuesdays at Noon

June Ridge Rider Deadline
May 20



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Raleigh, NC 27607

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A MONTH OF

Celebration



 Highland
United Methodist Church

RIDGE
RIDER

MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER