

# RIDGE RIDER



Friends,

As I write this in mid-August, we are busy with good plans for Fall and the holidays. LIFT is back on Wednesday nights beginning September 18, and will culminate with a hot dog supper and Trunk or Treat on October 30.

For those who are new, LIFT is our Wednesday evening supper together. After supper, you might enjoy joining a new bell choir forming for beginners. That will be great fun! There are also Bible studies for youth and adults. I am looking forward to leading an adult Bible study on "Christmas Stories in the Gospels." Each week, our study will begin after supper at around 6:30 and end at 7:30.

I also want to commend you for your generous giving over the summer. From January through July, our offerings and revenue have exceeded our expenses. This is unusual in summer for any church. Well done! We are accomplishing great things together. By the way, we're also making plans for Consecration Sunday on Oct. 27. This will be a terrific joint service with lunch served afterward, so please save the date. Our special guest preacher will be The Reverend Beth Hood, who is Assistant to the Bishop. She is a gifted preacher.

Our Joel Team is doing great things! We have many different teams dreaming of what Highland could be in the next 5 years. The team has great leaders and soon, we'll have plans to share with you. The Advent Team is already starting to make plans, and if you'd like to join in please let Ellen Fortenberry, or any staff member, know.

During September, I'll continue preaching on "The Big Virtues" such as justice, temperance, love, hope, and faith. Jesus and others in the Bible will show us the way as we explore these keys to abundant life, even when things are tough.

I look forward to seeing you!

Pastor John

More on Wednesday nights on page 4

See page 7 for a full Finance Update

See next page for more Worship info!

Check page 9 for Fall At-A-Glance

# THIS FALL IN WORSHIP

I'm not sure any of us are completely virtuous, except for Jesus. But pondering the big virtues gives us important guides as we go through every stage of life. The "Big 7" are composed of two groups which have been named and taught by Christianity for over a thousand years. The first four are called the "Cardinal Virtues," because all other virtues in life are said to hinge upon these four: Prudence, Fortitude, Justice, and Temperance. These are very old-fashioned words, but their meaning is as current as that of today's news. Instead of "Cardinal Virtues," we could call them, "Hinge Virtues." More modern names for them might be Wisdom, Strength, Fairness, and Self-Control.

The final three virtues are called the "Theological Virtues" because they are uniquely directed toward our relationship with the living God: Faith, Hope, and Love.

God wants to grow each of these 7 Virtues in our hearts and lives. Which ones are strongest in you? Which ones do you most need right now? "The Big 7" series began on August 18, and concludes on September 15. If you miss any of the series, you can watch it online under the worship tab on our website at [highlandlandumc.org](http://highlandlandumc.org).

On September 22, The Reverend Kevin Quick will be designing and leading the worship services to meet his ordination requirements for Deacon. That will be a great service!

On September 29, we will begin an uplifting 4-week series on Leadership taken from the book of Nehemiah. I've been thinking and praying about this since early June, and it seems the Lord's leading is to share it with you beginning the end of this month. I believe it will be inspiring and informative for all of us, because even though we may not realize it, all of us are leaders and influencers.

Blessings,  
Pastor John

## Sundays at Highland

9 AM: Contemporary Worship  
in Bradley Hall

9:45 AM: Sunday School for all Ages

11 AM: Traditional Worship  
in the Sanctuary

## VIRTUES

# THE BIG VII

**August 18**

Wisdom

**August 25**

Strength

**September 1**

Justice

**September 8**

Self-Control

**September 15**

Faith, Hope, and Love



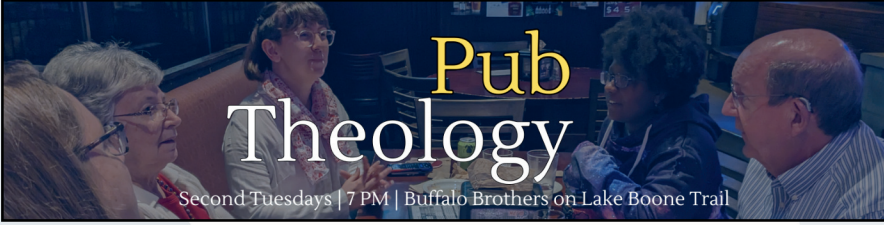
**NEHEMIAH**  
pray | plan | build  
September 29-October 20

## Stay Connected

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



# FAITH & FELOWSHIP



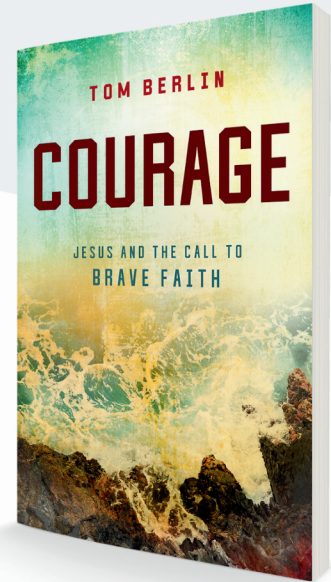
## Pub Theology

Tuesday, September 10, 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](mailto:janet@highlandumc.org).

## Women's Bible Study

Mondays beginning September 9, 10 AM, Room 209

All women are invited to join us for our next study, *Courage: Jesus and the Call to Brave Faith* by Tom Berlin, beginning September 9. Our group meets on Mondays, 10:00 - 11:30 AM, in room 209. Interested? Contact Rev. Janet Baucom for more information ([janet@highlandumc.org](mailto:janet@highlandumc.org))



## Mommies Group

Saturday, September 14, 10 AM, Conference Room

We'll have coffee and snacks and childcare! We'll share ideas, concerns, and encouragement. All Moms are welcome. If you can come and need childcare please RSVP via the QR code.



## Highlanders Senior Adult Fellowship

Tuesday, September 17, 11:30 AM, Bradley Hall

Mark Simon, MPH, Executive Director of Wake County National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) will present a program on coping with mental illness in your family, dealing with crisis situations, and outlining the many services offered by NAMI. Our lunch menu will be baked lasagne, tossed salad, garlic bread, beverages and desserts (gluten free options available).



## WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

@ Highland  
United Methodist Church

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

LIFT

LIVING IN FAITH TOGETHER

### LIFT is BACK!

- LIFT will run for six weeks from September 18-October 23.
- Meal service starts at 5:45 PM
- Make reservations by noon on Monday
- Kids eat free every week!
- Activities for everyone following the meal!

Our first Wednesday night meal of the semester is sponsored by the Board of Trustees in honor of Carlyle Teague. For many years, Carlyle was the first to arrive on Sunday mornings to unlock all the doors so that the building was ready to welcome the congregation and visitors. Carlyle recently retired from this important volunteer ministry, and we are so grateful for his years of service! Please join us to say thank you to Carlyle and have a great meal catered by City BBQ.

### Choose your Wednesday Night Activity (6:30-7:30 PM)

- Adult Bible Study with Pastor John: "Christmas Stories in the Gospels"
- Youth Bible Study
- Beginner's Handbell Choir
- ...or just visit with friends!



RSVP for 9/18 here



### Circle 1 New Year Kickoff

Monday, September 9, 11:45 AM, Conference Room

All ladies of Highland and their guests are invited to Circle 1's kickoff meeting on September 9.

Come meet new friends, and bring an appetizer to share with the group.

Contact Carol Thomas for more information:  
tcarol@me.com.



## Costa Rica 2025

In Summer 2025, our high school youth group and college students will travel to Costa Rica for a mission trip! We will fly out on July 19 and spend the week serving in San Isidro with CRMP (Costa Rica Mission Project).

We'll do several service projects while there, including construction, repairs, VBS, and other services where our gifts are needed.

We'll keep you posted about ways you can support this trip, beginning with a fundraiser concert on September 29 (more info to the right). We are grateful for your prayers and donations to make this a special and meaningful trip for our young people!

An Invitation  
to

## Autumn Rhapsody

Celebrating harvest time, great music,  
and the Glory of God

Supporting Highland's 2025 Youth Mission Trip

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

3:00 P. M.

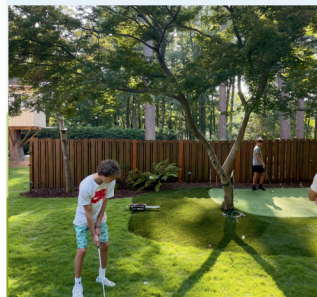
HIGHLAND SANCTUARY

Admission: Free

Offering in Support of 2025 Youth Mission Trip

Presented by Highland members  
Sarah Mann Wilcox, violin; Phyllis Vogel, piano  
Jo Anne Swartz, soprano and piano  
Bill Shelton, organ; Meghan Quick, flute  
Kevin Quick, string bass and handbells  
Ann Pearce, flute; Marcia Nance, organ;  
George Deaton, tenor

# SUMMER memories



Game Night & Pool Party, August 2024

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



## Sleepout to End Homelessness

Friday, September 13

Join us for an urban camping adventure! We will pitch our tents on the front lawn for our annual Sleep Out. Our tents will remind our community of the need for affordable housing in Raleigh and raise funds for Family Promise while we learn about ways we can be part of the solution.

Families will camp together (this is not a drop-off event). No tent? No problem! Let us know you need to borrow one when you register.



Register for the Sleepout



Make a Pledge

## Kindergarten Blessing

Wednesday, Sept. 4, 7:45AM

It will be the first full-day of school for Lacy Kindergarten students. That's a pretty big deal for kids and their grown-ups. Kindergarten students, older siblings, and parents are invited to take a minute for a special blessing on this momentous occasion. Parents can also grab a tissue and a cup of coffee before or after drop-off.

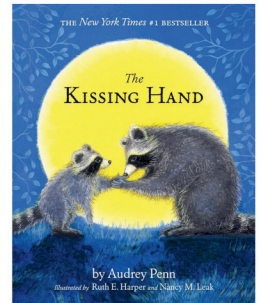


## Story Stroll:

Take a walk, read a book--do both at the same time!

Story Stroll has returned to our Community Garden. The featured book is *The Kissing Hand* by Audrey Penn. This back to school classic reminds us that because we are surrounded and supported by love we can be brave and try new things.

You are invited to take a stroll through the garden and enjoy this story--even if you don't have kids with you.



## From the Finance Office

Thanks to your diligent financial stewardship, we can report that revenues are surpassing expenses by over \$84,000. These contributions allow Highland to continue to bless the community and fulfill our mission statement.

The finance team is now concentrating on creating an initial expense budget for 2025 and is gathering feedback from Highland staff and committees in preparation for Consecration Sunday on October 27. Thoughtful consideration regarding your 2025 giving is deeply appreciated.

Income	
Gen Fund Contributions	\$632,139
Other Income	\$203,607
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$835,746</b>

Expenses	
Ministries	\$129,804
Compensation	\$403,304
Admin	\$49,921
Property	\$168,432
<b>Budget Surplus</b>	<b>\$84,285</b>

### Questions about Finances?

Contact Finance Manager, Deanna Clack:  
deanna@highlandumc.org

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

Highland's missions team is sponsoring an ongoing food and clothing donation drive for Centennial Campus Middle School. Non-perishable food (granola bars, Pop Tarts, ramen soup, canned pasta like ravioli or beefaroni, and cans of fruit or soup are favorites) and clothing are accepted. Donations can be dropped off in the marked box outside the church offices. These items are currently of particular need: Hoodies (all sizes, including Youth large and XL) Leggings/sweatpants (Youth Large-Adult XL) granola bars, deodorant.

## Explore Your Musical Talents at Highland

Ever want to sing in a choir or play handbells? Here's your sign to give it a try. Our Highland Choir rehearses every Thursday evening from 7:15 to 8:30 PM and YOU are invited. No commitment or experience necessary. Come and see what it's like to sing with a group of people who love music—who knows, you might find a new hobby and make new church friends!

We are also starting a beginning handbell choir on Wednesday, September 18 after our LIFT suppers that will run for six weeks (ends Wednesday, October 23). Join us! Questions? Reach out to Rev. Kevin Quick: kevin@highlandumc.org.

## Victory Garden -15th Season-

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

The garden is flourishing and kicking into high gear with summer blooms and produce--there's no better time to get involved! This is a great way to get outdoors, meet new friends, and give back to your community!

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

Over 1,700 pounds of produce  
donated so far in 2024!



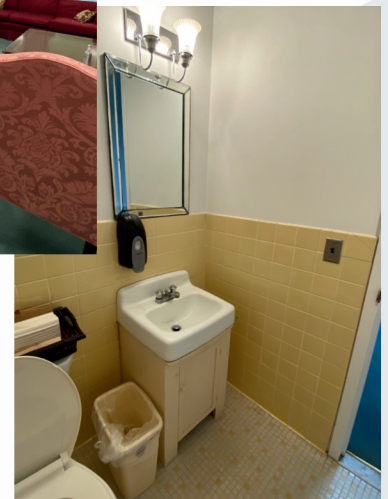
## Narthex Renewal Project

If you have entered the church by the sanctuary recently, you may have noticed some changes. Thanks to donations from generous church members, Highland's entrance and narthex have been painted and seating, tables and cabinetry have been added. That is not all! An information center and a beautiful quilted banner, created by Sharon Lee, will be added later.

As the narthex project comes to completion, there has been interest in refurbishing the parlor. Our parlor gets regular use by our members and by families for funeral services and weddings. The seating and carpeting is worn, and the bathroom is not handicapped accessible and therefore unusable by many of our members and visitors.

As with the narthex project, funding from the operating budget is not possible, so accomplishing the refurbishment and bathroom renovation will require donations from generous members of the congregation. Some pledges and donations have already been received to help move the project forward.

Thanks to the committee members whose hard work and vision made this possible: Jane Gray, Nancy Zweigart, Pat Scott, Ellen Fortenberry, Sharon Lee, Earleen Barnes and Elizabeth Beam. A special thanks goes to Jill Rossi who graciously donated her time and design expertise to the committee. Design plans for the parlor can be found at the reception desk. If you have questions regarding these plans, please contact Jane Gray at [judgejanie49@gmail.com](mailto:judgejanie49@gmail.com). To donate, please indicate "Parlor Project" on the subject line of your check and send to the church or give it to a committee member. All amounts are greatly appreciated and will go to renew our parlor as a place of comfort and hospitality.



## Help Us Celebrate Legacy Building Sunday on September 8th

September 8th is Legacy Building Sunday at Highland, a day of celebration and recognition designated by the North Carolina Annual Conference and sponsored by Highland's Endowment Committee. On this special Sunday, we honor individuals, both living and those who have gone before, who have created a legacy through an endowment. Make this special Sunday a priority to worship and celebrate the generosity of those whose commitment to Christ will live on through the ministries their gifts will make possible far into the future.



# fall

@ Highland  
United Methodist Church

## SEPTEMBER

9.1	7:45 AM	Kindergarten Backpack Blessing
9.8		Legacy Sunday
9.8		Youth Group Picnic
9.9	10 AM	Women's Bible Study
9.10	7 PM	Pub Theology
9.13		Sleepout to End Homelessness
9.14	8:30 AM	UMM Breakfast
9.14	10 AM	Mommies Group
9.15	5 PM	Youth Group
9.17	11:30 AM	Highlanders
9.18	5:45 PM	LIFT
9.18	6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Activities
9.22	5 PM	Youth Group
9.25	5:45 PM	LIFT
9.25	6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Activities
9.29	3 PM	Autumn Rhapsody Youth Fundraiser Concert
9.29	5 PM	Youth Group

Volunteer for the Fall Festival



Subscribe to our E-News for additions and updates to this schedule

## OCTOBER

10.2	5:45 pm	LIFT
10.2	6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Activities
10.5		PUMPKINS!!!
10.6	5 PM	Youth Group
10.8	7 PM	Pub Theology
10.9	5:45 pm	LIFT
10.9	6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Activities
10.12	8:30 AM	UMM Breakfast
10.12	10 AM	Mommies Group
10.13	4 PM	Fall Festival
10.16	5:45 PM	LIFT
10.16	6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Activities
10.20	5 PM	Youth Outing
10.22	11:30 AM	Highlanders
10.23	5:45 PM	LIFT
10.23	6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Activities
10.27	10 AM	Consecration Sunday
10.27	3 PM	CROP Walk
10.30	5:30 PM	Trunk or Treat

## NOVEMBER

11.3	2 PM	Food Drive
11.3	5 PM	Pancake Supper & Talent Show (Youth Fundraiser)
11.8		Youth Pilgrimage
11.9	8:30 AM	UMM Breakfast
11.9	10 AM	Mommies Group
11.12	7 PM	Pub Theology
11.17	5 PM	Youth Group
11.19	11:30 AM	Highlanders

# CHURCH FAMILY

## September Birthdays

09/01	Jill Mills	09/11	Jennifer Dilley, Bill Babcock	09/20	Phoebe Ellison
09/03	Ruth Moore	09/12	Sadie Heiler, Matt Gray	09/22	Doris Huber
09/04	Barbara Bunch, Sam Brewer	09/13	Carol Thomas, Sheridan Page		Frank Gray, Don
09/05	Emily Burt	09/14	Elizabeth Beam, Phaolo Lieng, Julie Driggers, Elliott Fletcher	09/23	Aschbrenner, Edward Shutt, Lacey Seaton
09/06	Peter Baucom, Jamie Pierce	09/15	Hope Dodson	09/24	Talia Hicks
09/07	Will Richards, James Noneman, Sarah Atkins	09/16	Christian Bugger, Edna Crouse	09/25	Cynthia Gage
09/08	Vickie Adamson, James Riordan	09/17	Sara Lockett, Lynn Brown, Leyton Atkins, Christine Taylor	09/26	Charles Dunn, Ginger Brame
09/09	Morgan Gojanovich	09/18	Rex Thomas, Bruce Taylor	09/27	Joanie Loftin
09/10	Jim Hudson, Susan Safran, Anne Lowe Vodicka, Ann Chapman, Lisa Templeton, Wayne Smith	09/19	Judy Dilley, Charlie Stuber, Donna Kelly, Cindy Mitchell, John Seymour	09/28	Uck Cil, Stephanie Parker
				09/29	Betsy Pridgen, Melinda Wagoner
				09/30	Hailey Loftin

## Please Remember In Prayer

Mark Adamson	Archie Clark	Doug Hoffman	Kenley Myers
Nang Dik Tuang	Vance Clayton	Betsey Huber	Robin Pendleton
Bonnie Anderson	James Cornell	(Doris Huber's daughter-in-law)	Billie Poole
Melva Armstrong (Amy Massey's cousin)	Beth Deaton	Glenda Johnson	Betsy Pridgen
Susan Bailey (Doris Kruger's daughter)	Linda Edwards	Doris Kruger	John Robinson
Earleen Barnes	Phyllis and Alex Edwards	Jeanine Lueke	Harriet Roland
David Beam	Cleo Flowers (Kevin Flowers' mother)	Amy Massey	Bob Sexton
Brady Beck (Bev and Keith Beck's son)	Margie Ford	Cliff McCowan	Jeanne Shorter
Paul Blomquist	Ben Franklin	Georgie McKenzie	Carlyle Teague
Paul Braun	Dennis Goodson (Brenda Hudson's brother)	Dennis McLain	Jane Webb
Marcia Brugger (Jamie Pierce's mother)	Walter Harvey (Grace Haven's brother)	Mary McLeod	Conor and Sarah Mann Willcox
Teresa Burt	Mark Haven (Grace Haven's son)	Dot McGee	Judy Wilson
Jonathan Chapman		Linda Moran	Cathy Zachary
		Brenda Murphy (Joyce Hicks' sister)	

**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

Our sympathy to the family of former Highland minister, Jim Bailey, who died on July 26.

Our sympathy to Paul and Kathy Langfield upon the death of Paul's son, Joseph Langfield, on August 25.

# SEPTEMBER EVENTS

## AT-A-GLANCE

### Kindergarten Backpack Blessing

September 4 | 7:45 AM | see p. 6

### Youth

September 8 | Picnic

September 15, 22, 29 | Youth Group  
see p. 5

### Women's Bible Study

September 10 | 10 AM | see p. 3

### Pub Theology

September 10 | 7 PM | Buffalo Bros. | see p. 3

### Sleepout to End Homelessness

September 13 | see p. 6

### UMM Breakfast

September 14 | 8:30 AM | Bradley Hall  
see p. 3

### Mommies Group

September 14 | 10 AM | Conference Room  
see p. 3

### Highlanders

September 17 | 11:30 AM | Bradley Hall  
see p. 3

### LIFT/Wednesday Night Activities

September 18, 25 | 5:45 PM | see p. 4

### Autumn Rhapsody Fundraiser Concert

September 29 | 3 PM | see p. 5

### Community Victory Garden Workdays

Every Saturday | 9 AM | see p. 7

## 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

# CONTACT US

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john@highlandumc.org | ext. 103

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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

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stephenie@highlandumc.org | ext. 122

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Facilities Manager: **Tom Lamb**

tom@highlandumc.org | ext. 107

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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 Stephenie Sanders at stephenie@highlandumc.org.

## Don't Miss the Deadline!

**E-News Deadline**

Tuesdays at Noon

**October Ridge Rider Deadline**

September 16

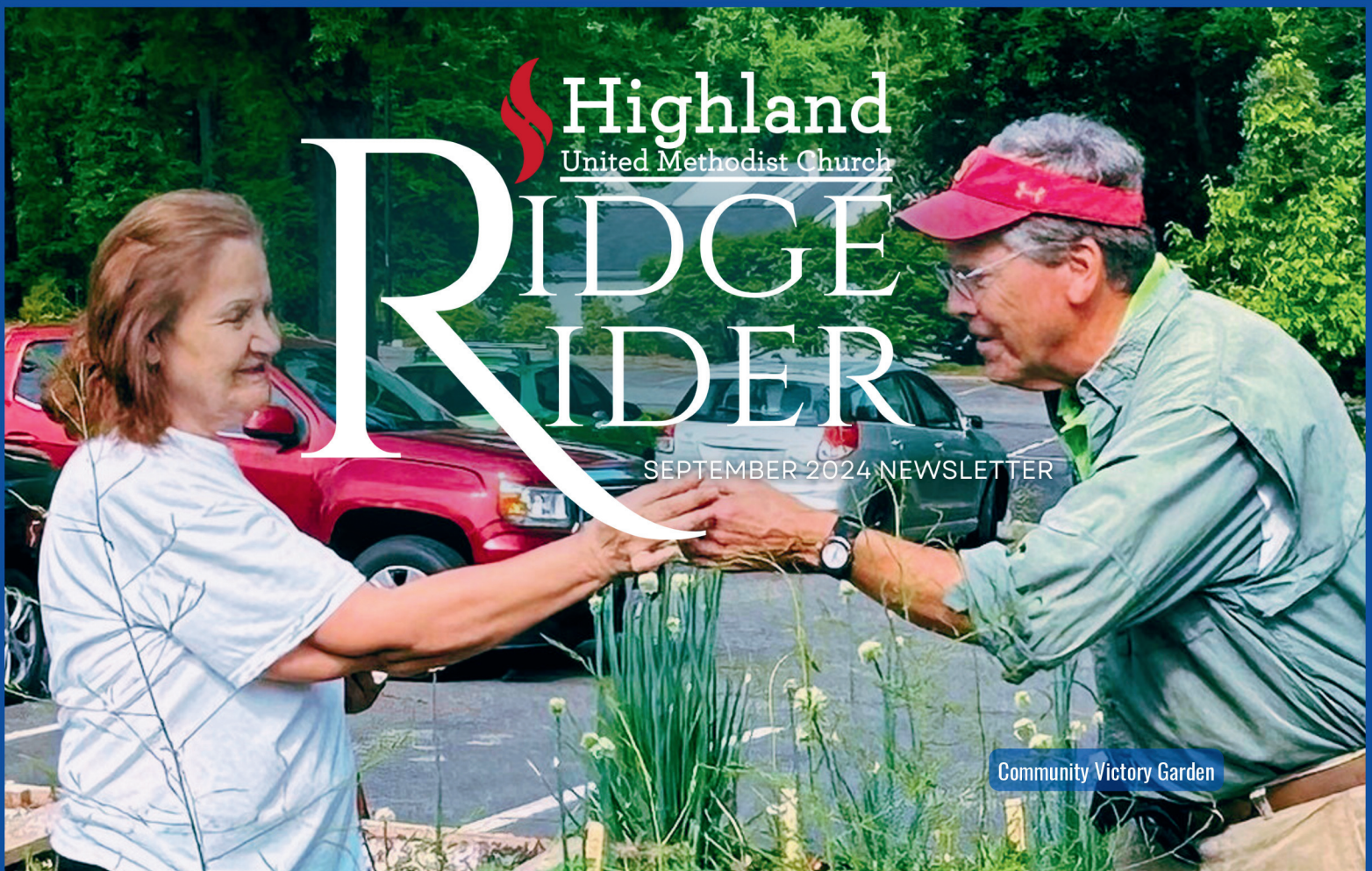
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SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Community Victory Garden