

# RIDGE RIDER



Friends,

April may hold for you the most meaningful connections with Jesus of the entire year. In the space of a few weeks, we will walk with Jesus in his last passionate days. We will celebrate his entry into Jerusalem as

Christ and as King. We will share the intimacy of Jesus' last meal with his closest friends. We will walk with Jesus to the cross he bore for us. And we will thrill to the good news of his Resurrection as the message spreads with bewildering elation among his disciples: He is risen, and because he lives, we will live also!

Please join us for this time of spiritual awakening and rebirth.

Blessings!

Pastor John

**April 6**

*The Rev. Kevin Quick preaching*  
"Self-Sacrifice"

Isaiah 43:16-21, Philippians 3:4b-14, John 12:1-8

**April 13: Palm Sunday**

9 AM: "What Kind Of King?"

Luke 19:28-40

11 AM: Fauré Requiem

**April 17: Maundy Thursday**

6 PM: A meal together remembering The Last Supper

**April 18: Good Friday**

7 PM: A Tenebrae service of scripture lessons and hymns remembering the Passion of Christ

**April 20: Easter Sunday**

"A Grave-Robbing God"

John 20:1-18

**April 27**

"Surprised by Joy"

Luke 24:13-49

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER

**PALM SUNDAY**

April 13

9 AM Connection

9:45 AM Sunday School

11 AM Traditional Worship  
(feat. Fauré Requiem)

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

April 17

6 PM

Supper & Communion  
Bradley Hall

**GOOD FRIDAY**

April 18

7 PM

Tenebrae Service  
Sanctuary

**EASTER SUNDAY**

April 20

9 AM Connection

9:45 AM Sunday School

11 AM Traditional Worship



# FAITH & FELLOWSHIP

## Messy Church

Friday, April 11, 5:30 PM

Our Messy Church is off to a great start! With 40+ children, parents, participants and volunteers at our second Messy Church on March 9, we learned the Lord's Prayer and generally had a great time (photos below). Special thanks to all the volunteers who helped to make it happen!

Families and individuals are invited to join us for our next Messy Church Adventure. Can we find our way to the Upper Room? We will puzzle it out as we dive into the stories of Holy Week.

Messy Church is food, faith, and fun. Everyone is welcome!



## Palms, Parades, and Easter Celebrations!

### Here's what we're planning for kids on Easter:

Our Children's Ministries will celebrate Easter on April 20 during the 10:00 hour:

- Infants, toddlers and two's and their parents are invited to join us for a special story hour in Room 107 followed by an egg hunt on the playground.
- Our Preschool Class will meet at its regular time for a special lesson followed by an egg hunt on the playground.
- Children in grades K-5 will have an Easter Party that will start in Room 202 and then move to the garden for a fun Easter scavenger hunt in the Community Victory Garden  
Parents and friends are invited to join us!





# CREATION



## Celebration

FOR ALL AGES!

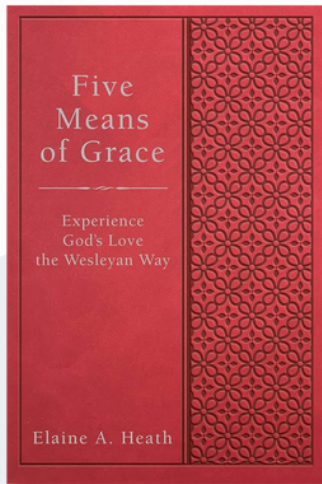
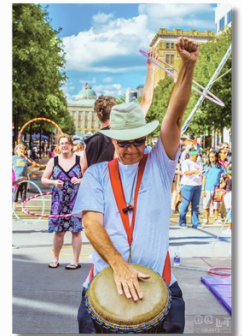
Sunday, April 27 | 4-6 PM

### Creation Celebration

Sunday, April 27, 4-6 PM

Our Creation Celebration is an all-age event that celebrates the goodness of God's creation. Part party, part fair, and part education, our Celebration will include games, crafts and garden tours. We're excited to welcome One Tribe Rhythms back for an interactive drum circle!

Volunteers needed! Follow the QR code to sign up.



### Women's Bible Study

Mondays beginning April 14, 10 AM, Room 209

Join Rev. Janet and friends for a discussion on Elaine Heath's *Five Means of Grace*.

Reach out to Janet with questions: [janet@highlandumc.org](mailto:janet@highlandumc.org).

### Vacation Bible School

August 4-8, 2025

9 AM- 12 PM

Ages 3-rising 5th grade

Register now!



Learn more and register!



### Music and Arts Camp

August 4-8, 2025

12 PM-5 PM

Ages K-5



## monthly groups



### Pub Theology

**Tuesday, April 8, 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).

### UMM Breakfast

**Saturday, April 12, 8:30 AM, Bradley Hall**

Join us for breakfast and fellowship. All are welcome.

### Circle 1 Meeting

**Monday, April 14, 11:45 AM, Conference Room**

Circle Help pack flu kits for Alliance Medical Ministry! Each year, Highland Circle 1 sponsors an event to pack flu kits, which are provided to clients at Alliance Medical Ministry throughout the year. This is a fun event and all Highland friends are invited to participate! Here are the details:

- All supplies are provided -- just bring yourself!
- ALL are welcome -- everyone is encouraged to help
- Snacks will be provided
- Packing the flu kits typically takes about an hour or a little longer

Questions about this event can be directed to Carol Thomas ([tcarol@me.com](mailto:tcarol@me.com)). Hope to see you there!

### Circle 7 Meeting

**Monday, April 14, 7 PM, Conference Room**

Brenda Walton will deliver a talk on grief and loss. All are welcome. Contacts: Effie Ann Clayton ([effieannclayton@gmail.com](mailto:effieannclayton@gmail.com)) and Diane Racey ([nana2lhpl@gmail.com](mailto:nana2lhpl@gmail.com)).

### Highlanders Senior Adult Fellowship

**Tuesday, April 15, 11:30 AM, Bradley Hall**

Join us as we welcome Courtney Bowman, owner of Raleigh Cheesy deli and cheese shop, as our guest presenter! We will share a large charcuterie board, finger sandwiches, tea, and desserts for \$15 per person. Courtney will share the art of building a beautiful charcuterie board by doing a demonstration date board. We will hold a drawing to award this board to a lucky attendee! Sign the roster at the reception desk or call the church by Sunday, April 13 to reserve your spot.

### The Stonewall Fellowship

**Tuesday, April 22 | 7 PM | Parlor**

As a Reconciling Ministries congregation, this group continues the affirmation of and outreach to the LGBTQ+ community and their allies. All are welcome! Contact Mark Cox for more information: [markymarkcox@aol.com](mailto:markymarkcox@aol.com).

### Mommies Group

On hiatus for April. Check back for our May gathering date!

### Stay In-the-Know!

Subscribe to our weekly E-News to receive updates about these and other Highland events in your inbox every Wednesday.





# YOUTH NEWS



Thank you to everyone who supported our various fundraisers for the upcoming mission trip to Costa Rica. Whether you volunteered, attended an event, or contributed financially (or all of the above!) we couldn't have done this without you.

Through a benefit concert, selling refreshments at the Fall Festival, a talent show, and silent auction, we are thrilled to report we have exceeded our fundraising goal of \$14,000! We can't wait to take this trip together and report back to you the work we're able to do to share Christ with the world as members of HUMC.



## Spring 2025 Youth Calendar

**4/13 Youth Group**  
**4/20 Easter (No Youth Group)**  
**4/27 Youth Group**

**5/18 Youth Group**



Our Youth have been loving Wednesday Night Bible Study each week this Winter/Spring semester!

We have about 8 youth participating every week. We're so grateful to have a group of young people who are committed in growing in their faith together.

## YOUTH

JUL **6-11** 2025



**HSP**  
**High School**

## SERVICE

**SIGN UP NOW!**

**City Servants**  
 A week in Raleigh filled with service and activities



**Highland Service Project (HSP)**  
 One week in Wilmington, NC working with WARM NC



## WEEKS

AUG **11-15** 2025



**City Servants**  
**Middle School**

## From Our Minister of Music



Hi Highland family!

I wanted to take a moment and give thanks for all the ways that you support our music ministry. As a church, we budget a certain amount for music ministry every year, but this money usually covers “the bare necessities” of running a music ministry (e.g. organ/piano tunings, several new choral anthems every year, handbell equipment, music licenses, just to name a few). We’ve also begun supporting college students (music scholars) who sing or play instruments in our worship services and receive a small stipend to support them in their educational endeavors.

In addition to these regular operating costs, you have provided some special funds over the years that allow our music ministry to sparkle and grow. When someone donates to the designated Music Fund, we are able use it to support larger purchases (such as our timpani), music

equipment, CD recordings our music ministry has produced over the years, and guest musicians.

We are also fortunate to have the Special Music Endowment, which funds organ repairs, guest musicians, and special music projects. This endowment has been instrumental over the years, allowing us to have many guest musicians for special occasions like cantatas, Easter services, and hymn sings.

Recently, one of our former choir members, Creighton Wellman, included Highland’s music ministry in his will, which has bolstered several projects such as purchasing new musical instruments and allowing for additional music scholars.

To have a thriving music ministry, we need both the skilled and dedicated volunteers that we’re known for having and the funds to support it. It is a great honor to serve this congregation, which supports this ministry so faithfully and completely. Thank you very much for allowing me to have the best job in the world.

Kevin

**Highland** MUSIC MINISTRY  
United Methodist Church PRESENTS

**Fauré**  
*Requiem*

**Sunday, April 13 | 11 AM**



## From the Finance Office

February Revenue Report	Budgeted	Received as of 2/28/25 (17% of year)
General Fund Pledges	\$934,320	\$161,769 (17%)
2025 Other Revenue	\$515,257	\$55,401 (11%)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,499,577</b>	<b>\$217,170 (15%)</b>

### Quarterly Pledge Statements

2025 Q1 pledge statements will be mailed mid-April. Please review your statement carefully for accuracy.

### Questions about Finances?

Contact Finance Manager, Deanna Clack:  
deanna@highlandumc.org or  
984-247-2125

### Community Victory Garden

Our 16th Growing Season has commenced! Join us each Saturday from 9-11 AM to enjoy the outdoors, meet new friends, and tend to God's creation. Questions? Contact Donna Wolcott: donna.wolcott2@gmail.com



### 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.

### Student Scholarships Available

Qualified students are invited to apply for the three scholarships listed below. Awards will be determined using the application process of the Highland UMC Endowment Committee. Questions? Contact Ruth Moore, Endowment Committee Chair: rpmoore1@live.com or (919) 306-3306.

#### Scholarships:

1. The Robert R. and Betty M. Gardner Memorial Scholarships for students at either the undergraduate or graduate level who demonstrate financial need.
2. The Grace George Memorial Scholarship for Highland students at any academic level pursuing a postsecondary degree in education.
3. The Mulwee Scholarships for Highland high school seniors who have participated in music programs during high school.

Go to [highlandumc.org/ministries/scholarships](http://highlandumc.org/ministries/scholarships) for additional information and to apply.

**Applications and all requested materials are due April 15, 2025.**



# CHURCH FAMILY



Rise Against Hunger | Community Victory Garden | Women's Retreat

☯ Love. Serve. Share. *With Us.*



# CHURCH FAMILY

## April Birthdays

04/03	Paula Berryann, Janet Stuber, Joyce Hicks	04/14	Dale Matzinger	04/23	Bob Smith, Karen Hudson
04/05	Larry Wilson, Violet Townsend	04/15	Isabella Templeton	04/24	George Dodson
04/06	Bonnie Anderson, Matt Tucker	04/16	John Cummings	04/25	Alice Perry, Peggy Kearns, Joyce Tynes
04/08	Dot Anderson, Lian Lian, Kenley Myers	04/17	Tripp Pearce	04/26	Margueritte McDonald
04/09	Meliene Bawden, Angie Martin, Lauren Krueger	04/18	Rick Richards	04/27	Hal Barnes, Gretchen Shaffer
04/10	David Beam, Ryan Baucom	04/19	Malinda Stallings, Laura Black	04/28	John Robinson
04/11	Carolyn Shropshire, Hilary Wilkinson	04/21	Kevin Flowers, Brian Dilley, Sarah Wallace	04/29	Inabelle Sides, Carol Blue, Nancy Zweigart
04/12	Vickie Dunn, Leslie Hobbs	04/22	Perry Safran	04/30	Jeanine Lueke, Dee Maronpot, Steve Brown, Hadley Myers

## Please Remember In Prayer

Bonnie Anderson	Linda Edwards	Doris Kruger	Billie Poole
Melva Armstrong (Amy Massey's cousin)	Phyllis and Alex Edwards	Jeanine Lueke	Betsy Pridgen
Susan Bailey (Doris Kruger's daughter)	Cleo Flowers (Kevin Flowers' mother)	Amy Massey	John Robinson
Brady Beck (Bev and Keith Beck's son)	Margie Ford	Cliff McCowan	Harriet Roland
Paul Braun	Ben Franklin	Georgie McKenzie	Pat Scott
Marcia Brugger (Jamie Pierce's mother)	Dennis Goodson (Brenda Hudson's brother)	Dennis McLain	Bob Sexton
Archie Clark	Walter Harvey (Grace Haven's brother)	Mary McLeod	Jeanne Shorter
Vance Clayton	Mark Haven (Grace Haven's son)	Dot McGee	Carolyn Shropshire
Bill Correll	Betsey Huber (Doris Huber's daughter-in-law)	Linda Moran	Meg Smither
James Cornell (Amy Massey's son)	Glenda Johnson	Brenda Murphy (Joyce Hicks' sister)	Janet Stuber
Beth Deaton		Kenley Myers	Carlyle Teague
		Robin Pendleton	Cullen Whitley
			Conor and Sarah Mann Willcox

**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

## WELCOME, NEW BABY!

Elliot Reed White was born on March 19, 2025, son of London & Whitney White. Welcome Elliot to the Highland family!

# LENTEN FAITH PRACTICES APRIL 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6 I WONDER how I can share my blessings with someone who has less.	7 I WONDER what it means to be a good listener.	8 I WONDER I wonder how I can be a peacemaker.	9 I WONDER what God is saying to me right now.	10 REST by stepping away from screens for as long as you can.	11 REST by sitting in silence for one minute.	12 REST by going for a walk outside.
13 REST by going to bed extra early.	14 REST by stretching your body gently.	15 REST by filling a page with doodles.	16 REST by listening to three minutes of instrumental music.	17 REST by drinking a glass of cool water or a cup of hot tea.	18 REST by journaling or drawing for a few minutes.	19 Take a moment to reflect on your journey during Lent. Use the questions below.

20

## EASTER

Christ is Risen,  
Alleluia!

- 
- 
- 

### For Reflection:

Which practice was most meaningful for you?  
Which practice was most challenging?  
Is there a practice you'd like to continue after Easter? Which one?  
How did this experience help you connect to your faith this year?

This calendar was produced by Traci Smith, author of the *Faithful Families* series. To learn more, visit [www.tracismith.com](http://www.tracismith.com) © 2025 Traci Smith. All Rights Reserved.





# APRIL EVENTS

## AT-A-GLANCE

### Pub Theology

April 8 | 7 PM | Buffalo Bros.

### Messy Church

April 11 | 5:30 PM | see p. 2

### UMM Breakfast

April 12 | 8:30 AM | Bradley Hall

### Palm Sunday/Fauré Requiem

April 13 | 11 AM

### Women's Bible Study

Mondays beginning April 14 | 10 AM | see p. 3

### Holy Week/Easter

April 13-20 | see p. 1 & 2

### Youth Group

April 13 & 27 | 5 PM | see p. 5

### Circle Meetings

April 14 | 11:45 AM/7 PM | see p. 4

### Highlanders

April 15 | 11:30 AM | Bradley Hall

### Stonewall Fellowship

April 22 | 7 PM | Parlor

### Creation Celebration

April 27 | 7 PM | Parlor | see p. 3

### Victory Garden Workdays

Every Saturday at 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

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: **Stephenie Sanders**

stephenie@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 Stephenie Sanders at stephenie@highlandumc.org.

## Don't Miss the Deadline!

**E-News Deadline**

Tuesdays at Noon

**May Ridge Rider  
Deadline**

April 14

## Don't Fall Prey to Scams!

Highland Staff will NEVER send you an email or text asking you to purchase gift cards on their behalf. These messages are from scammers impersonating people you know. Any such messages should be ignored and reported to the FTC.



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