

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

You may or may not have realized by now, but every November we talk about everyone's favorite subject: stewardship. Really, stewardship is a nice way of saying money. This month we're going to be looking at the biblical concept of tithing, which means giving 10% of our income to the church. To the outside world, tithing seems crazy. Why in the world would I give 10% of my income to the church? Isn't that a little excessive? It might seem excessive, but truly 10% is not excessive at all. Considering the Lord has given us 100% of what we have, it is not much to give the Lord only 10% back to Him. We still get to live on 90% of what the Lord has given us.

When Jesse and I first got married, we made the commitment to tithe 10% of our income to whatever church we are serving. I would be lying if I didn't say there have been times where we have questioned if we should give less. When money has gotten tight, it would be a whole lot easier to have that extra 10% for ourselves. But we continue to tithe even when times are hard, because it's a spiritual discipline that grows our faith. To tithe, you have to trust that God is going to provide for you. To tithe, you have to learn to live on only 90% of your income, to make monetary sacrifices that you might not otherwise have to make if you didn't tithe. Now I don't say this to pat myself on the back, but to say I understand how difficult tithing can be. Believe me, I get it. But I also know firsthand how tithing has shaped both Jesse and me into being better Christ followers.

Tithing might be difficult financially, but I believe it grows you spiritually. Its saying, Lord you are so important to me, that I will put you first in every area of my life, even with my wallet. Some of you might have never given before, some of you give, but it's not at 10% of your income, and there're others who are giving more than 10% of your income. To all of you, I would ask you to consider giving more. For those who aren't giving yet, that might be difficult. So if you think 10% is too much of a stretch, I encourage you to take a baby step this year and give more than you currently are giving. If you do, I promise it will be a great step in growing your faith to trust God in all areas of your life. Often, the hardest part to trust God is with our finances, so if we trust him first with our finances, we will begin to see ourselves trusting him more in other areas of our life as well. If you've already been tithing 10% for a while and think, this series isn't for me, I encourage you to pray and ask the Lord if he is calling you to give more than 10%. It might sound excessive, but we serve an excessive God, who lavishes his love and grace on us excessively. Let's be like our God and be excessive in our giving.

I without a doubt believe that if every person in our congregation tithed 10% of their income, we would not have financial difficulties whatsoever. I believe we would be able to support a full time pastor without receiving equitable compensation from the conference. I believe we would be able to make improvements to our building easily in a timely manner. I believe we would be able to pay for new ministries to take shape. Remember, we as a church exist to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We need money to do this and do it well though. The good thing is that God has already provided the money for us to do it. But he has given it to us, and it's up to us to decide if we will use it for God's mission, or if we will use it for ourselves. I hope we will be faithful to how God is calling us to use the money he has given us, and that we use 10% or possibly more to fund his mission.

Blessings,
Pastor Katie

November Sunday Schedule 2019

9:00 am Seeker's Sunday School Class—Education Bldg
9:00 am Children's Sunday School Class—Education Bldg
9:45 am Coffee and Fellowship—Narthex
10:00 am Blended Church Worship—Sanctuary

November Activities:

11/1-11/3 Mission Monday Boutique Sale-Fellowship Hall
11/3 First Fruits & Communion Sunday
11/5 Finance Team Mtg-5:30pm-Office Conf Rm
11/6 Highlands Youth -5:30pm-Education Bldg
11/6 Community Campfire Worship-7pm-Behind Office
11/8 Decorating All Day/Bryson Wedding Rehearsal- 6pm
11/9 Bryson Wedding-4pm-Sanctuary
11/11 Veteran's Day—Office Open
11/11 Mission Monday-10am-Education Bldg
11/12 Friendship Circle-1:30pm-Office Conf Rm
11/12 Leadership Team Meeting-5:30pm-Fellowship Hall
11/13 Highlands Youth -5:30pm-Education Bldg
11/13 Community Campfire Worship-7pm-Behind Office
11/16 Mission Day Out-Eden Gardens in Dinsmore-Meet at Church at 8:45am to ride together.
11/16 Christmas Decorating-Organizational Mtg-2pm-Fellowship Hall
11/20 WDC Board Mtg-11am-Education Bldg
11/20 Community Dinner-5pm-Fellowship Hall
11/20 Highlands Youth Assist with Community Dinner
11/22 Friday Night Movies-6pm-Fellowship Hall
Facing The Giants
11/23 Spanish Church Fasting & Prayer Service 7am
11/23 Christmas Decorating Mtg-2pm-Fellowship Hall
11/25 Deadline for Newsletter Articles
11/25 Mission Monday Ministries-10am-Education Bldg
11/26 Prime Timers-11am-Wesley Fellowship
11/26 Mission Team Mtg -5:30pm-Office Conf Rm
11/26 NCSC Ecumenical Service-Highlands Baptist Church—7pm
11/27 Community Campfire Worship-7pm-Behind Office
11/28 Thanksgiving Day—Office Closed
11/30 Hanging of the Greens-9am-Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, and Outside Decorations

Bible Studies

Sunday Young Adults Bible Study-6:30pm Parsonage
Wed. morning Bible Study—10 am Education Building
Thurs. afternoon Bible Study—Garrick's home—2 pm
Thurs. evening Bible Study—Steven's home—6 pm

Highlands United Methodist Church
1955 Broward Rd., Jacksonville, Florida 32218
Phone: (904)757-7909, **Email:** office@humcjax.com
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9 am to 1 pm

**TOTAL REFERRALS FROM HUMC in September**

Households	201
Adults	246
Children	214
Disabled	29
Total	489

TOTAL SERVED FOR NCSC in September

Families	186
People	466
Seniors	81
Children	199
Disabled	90
Veterans	21

Blessings from
Gwen



Phone Tree

It is time to update the phone tree preferences. You can receive messages about changes in schedules, events, prayer requests and group activities. Please call the office at 757-7909 to have your changes made. You can be added or deleted or change the groups you are currently enrolled in.



October Community Dinner—10/23/19

70 guests
29 volunteers

Next Month **November 20th** Thanksgiving Feast Turkey, Dressing, Gravy, Sweet Potatoes, and Salad

Please note this is the third
Wednesday due to Thanksgiving -
Not the fourth Wednesday as usual



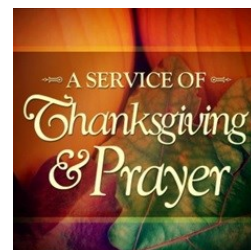
November Birthdays

11/2	Helen Crotts
11/2	Urshima J. Weaver (PLWM)
11/3	Keith E. Butler (PLWM)
11/3	Travis L. Fletcher (PLWM)
11/3	Ethell E. Johnson (PLWM)
11/3	Mary Ann Gay
11/4	Danny J. Smith (PLWM)
11/6	Marie Wells
11/7	Gene Garrick
11/7	Gary Moore (PLWM)
11/9	Telron Gilbert (PLWM)
11/16	David Kitt (PLWM)
11/16	Darrell Logan (PLWM)
11/17	Doris Sell
11/17	Miranda "Cheyenne" Gilley (PLWM)
11/17	Jose (Zae) Moreira (PLWM)
11/19	Dale Parker
11/20	Savannah Hardin
11/20	James Sell
11/21	Alphonso Lee, Jr. (PLWM)
11/22	Melanie Shoup
11/23	Cile Garrick
11/23	Douglas Sell
11/23	Andrew Henn (PLWM)
11/25	Curtis Ossman Jr.
11/27	Pat Stom

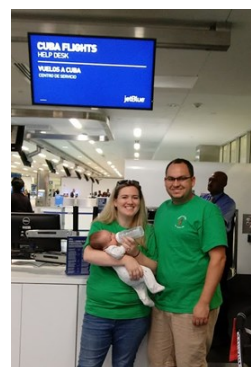


Evening Thanksgiving Service

The annual Northside Christian Service Center Thanksgiving Service will be held at Highlands Baptist Church on Tuesday, November 26th at 7pm. This is an ecumenical service with several churches participating. Please bring a non-perishable food item to help stock our shelves at the pantry. Refreshments will be served following the service.



CUBA MISSION TRIP



The Harrington family (Jesse, Pastor Katie & Ellie), Eva Mathews, Maverick Hardin, and Lori Ann Prange went on the Cuba Mission Trip from October 2nd to 7th. They took 500 lbs of clothes, shoes, medicine, plus many other things. The trip was truly amazing and all we can say is this, "Come on the next Mission Trip and find out why we're all smiling!"



**Members of the Friendship Circle
and some HUMC members are filling
30 shoeboxes which will be sent to
those in need by**

Samaritan's Purse
(an International Relief Organization)

Boxes need to be turned into the church by November 12th or bring to the Friendship Circle Meeting on the 12th.



Christmas Stocking For Food Pantry Children November 24th after Worship

Tammy has been collecting small gifts for the 200 children's stockings to be handed out to the Food Pantry Children during December.

She still needs: Small stuffed animals, toys, soap, and hair items.

**Tammy needs help to fill and close the stockings!
Please come and assist with this project.**

*You're
Invited!*

*Friendship Circle invites you to join them
at any of their monthly meetings. They
do community service, devotions, and
great fellowship at each meeting.*

November 12th—1:30

December 2nd—1:30

Office Conference Room

Hanging of the Greens - Nov 30th at 9:00am

We are fast approaching one of my favorite times of the year, Christmas!! Like many of you this is a special family time as well as a season Christians celebrate the birth of our savior, Jesus. We usually go all out buying presents, having parties, and of course decorating. As we plan for this year's Hanging of the Greens, I would like to try a different approach. **Please pray about your acceptance and participation desires before letting negative thoughts take over.**

May people think of Christmas as a Family Special Event that brings joy, and celebrations. However, there are others who experience sadness and loneliness. Therefore, I have selected for this year's Decorating theme. **"Family Christmas"**



Here is the plan:

1- Determine your family group

- Any family interested in decorating together will select a specific area of the church as their focus
- Not everyone has family close by so gather a few of your friends to be your "family" group
- Perhaps you belong to a group at Highlands who are your "family"

2- Talk with your "Family" and decide which area of the church you would like to decorate

3- Attend a meeting on Saturday November 16 at 2pm to discuss the plan of action.

4- Attend a meeting on Saturday November 23 at 2pm to sort the decorations, determine what is needed and prepare for the actual decorating the next Saturday.

4- Show up with your family ready to Hang the Greens on November 30

Ellie's (Elena Rose) Baptism on October 27th, 2019

At Highlands United Methodist Church

Jay Therrell Officiating



Pastor Katie & Elena Rose



I now baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost



The beginning of the ceremony



The Harrington and Miller Families Who Came From Near and Far to witness Ellie's Baptism



A Happy Grandma and Ellie



The Happy Harrington Family:
Jesse, Katie and Baby Ellie



Jay Therrell and Baby Ellie



FACING THE GIANTS

November 22nd

Friday Night Movies

Highlands United Methodist

Doors open at 6 pm

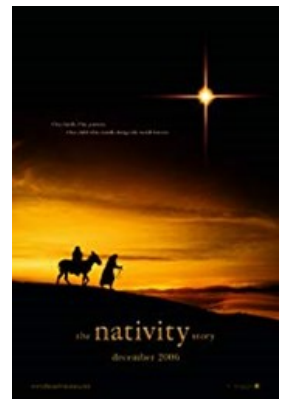
Movie starts at 6:30

Popcorn, sodas, slice of pizza,

small hot dog is \$1.00

Large Hot Dog is \$2.00

Free lemonade and ice tea.



December 13th at 5:30pm

(Half an hour earlier than normal)

Your Choice of:

THE STAR (Kid's Animated Film)

THE NATIVITY STORY (Adults)

Friday Night Movies

October 25, 2019

"Son of God"

14 Movie Goers
Attended



Highlands

Mission Day Out

Saturday, Nov 16

9am to Noon



GATHER.GUIDE.GROW

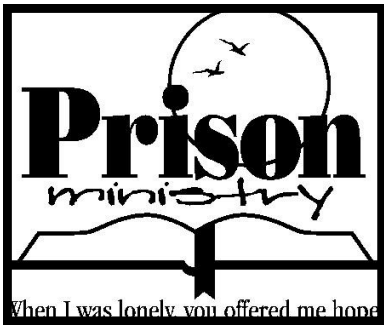
Take a guided tour. Opportunity to serve in the greenhouse, garden, or orchard. Learn how the missionaries teach aquaponics to other countries. Everyone can join in. It is a very short walk to main Greenhouse where there are sit down jobs!

Maps will be available in the Narthex if you care to drive yourself.

Meet at Church

At 8:45am

To Ride the Van



Prison Ministry is Working!

We recently received a great letter from one of the prison inmates on how the Prison Letter Writing Ministry has affected his life... and here is a summary of that letter from Larry Haney:

"I thank God and prayer for the health of your ministry every day. What you are doing is helpful to the ones that truly need it. It has had a big impact on my and my walk with the Lord. I gave my life to Christ last year around February. I was really under attack by the devil. I was beaten up pretty badly and I was ready to give up. I was writing to friends and family, but no one responded. I thought that no one cared. I cried out to the Lord please help me. While I was crying out to God, I heard these words, Trust me my son, really trust me and I got you!"

I still didn't hear from home, but a brother in Christ was getting ready to go home. He gave me this address to PLWM and said that he was a member of this church and that you were like family to him. LoriAnn, I really needed that and I sat down and wrote you in February of 2018. In March, I got a letter that said, Happy Easter. It put a smile on my face and I was amazed to see that some one actually cared and took the time to do something like that. Then April came and I got a bunch of beautiful pictures from Cuba which was truly amazing. Lori Ann, you sent me a "Ready for Work" brochure. You said that this program came highly recommended and keep it in mind if Jacksonville is in your future. At the time you sent this, I was bothered about where I was going to go and how I was going to be successful. Then I got a letter from the Seeker's Sunday School class which really moved me. I wanted to thank you for all you and your church does for the Prison Letter Writing Ministry. It really touched my heart when my birthday was listed in the newsletter and then I see that you used the excerpt from my letter. It is in Trusting God and believing in Him to bring you through whatever it is you are going through. Christ gave me another family. He has shown me in amazing ways how He cares and His love for us.

I want to thank you so much for everything you and your team do for us. I pray that God will bless your health and all the members that are behind you. Just know that you are making a difference in the lives in this dark place. Your light shines and gives joy, peace, and happiness to God's people. God bless you all.

Your Brother in Christ Jesus, Larry Haney