

**Highland
United Methodist
Church**

680 W. Livingston Rd.
Highland, MI 48457
248.887.1311 phone
248.889.4475 fax
www.humc.us



INSIGHTS

November 2005

**It is our mission to
"Make Disciples of
Jesus Christ"**

SUNDAY WORSHIP
8:30 AM
10:00 & 11:30 AM

CHURCH MINISTRY STAFF

Pastor

Rev. James Kummer
pastor@humc.us

**Director of
Education and
Children's Ministry**

Sue Cole
scole@humc.us

**Director of
Youth Ministry**

Brian Saunders
bsaunders@humc.us

**Director of
Worship**

Grace Farley
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**Director of
Music**

Steve Dorer
stdorer@humc.us

**Director of
Communications**

Karie Saunders
ksaunders@humc.us

**Director of
Housekeeping**

Kim Leonard
kleonard@humc.us

Office Manager

Pat Mulder
pmulder@humc.us

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

A Renewal Leave for our Pastor

We are pleased to tell you that our Administrative Council and Staff Parish Relations Committee, in conjunction with our Ann Arbor District Superintendent, Rev. Thomas P. Macaulay, have granted the request of a Renewal leave for our pastor, James Kummer.

A Renewal leave is authorized by the Untied Methodist Discipline for the purpose of travel, study, and reflection.

Pastor James will be attending classes at Regent College, Vancouver B.C. in the summer of 2006. This is the fulfillment of a dream birthed in 1976 when James was accepted at Regent for a one-year Intensive Christian Studies Program designed for graduates holding a Bachelors Degree. At that time, James' call to ministry shifted his focus to Asbury Theological Seminary for the Masters of Divinity Program instead. Almost 30 years later he will finally spend some time with the Regent Faculty. Their program is known for its practical application to ministry and for the number of resident writers who also teach and work there.

The Renewal leave will extend from Memorial Day to Labor Day and will include two weeks of James' vacation time.

As we move into a new phase of building for church growth, this is a most advantageous time for our pastor to prepare himself for the next wave of growth and increased leadership responsibility. Next year we plan to break ground on a new addition that will spur a new spike in effective outreach. We want James to be ready for this great stage of discipleship that is around the corner as

he continues to lead us effectively with vision, purpose, and conviction.

James will be reading through an extensive list of books related to leadership, spiritual life, theology, and church growth as it relates to culture. We believe this renewal will benefit his ministry as he preaches, teaches, and equips others in ministry.

The pastoral needs of the congregation will continue to be served by our able staff. Three local United Methodist Clergy will also be on call.

Our pulpit will be led by a professional slate of outstanding preachers, including: Rev. Ron Kopeco of Spring Arbor University, Rev. John Gunn of the Pontiac Power Company, Rev. Timothy Beuthin, a church growth consultant from Indianapolis, Beth Miller and "The Strangely Warmed Players" of Ann Arbor First United Methodist Church, Rev. David Mulder (Pat's husband and Marilyn Kolasa's brother),... the complete list will be published early next year.

As our church moves forward in the stages of discipleship, we are excited that our pastor is asking to take this opportunity afforded by the Discipline of the United Methodist Church and by our church for renewal. Thank you all for your many contributions to the ministry of Jesus Christ among us, and for your support of our staff and our pastor as we experience this great time in the life of our church.

With Warm Regards,

Highland United Methodist Church

Administrative Council and
Staff Parish Relations Committee

Mark your Calendar!!

ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE to be held at the old church on Livingston Rd.
Look for the steeple across from the Fire Dept. Tuesday, December 13, 2005, at 7:30PM

2nd Saturday

Leadership Enrichment Training

Saturday, November 12, 9:00-10:30am.

Training event for leaders and potential leaders, designed for administrative, small group facilitators, youth and children's ministry leadership. Time will include a key-note address, A Personal Check-up by Pastor Kummer.

Sign-up requested at registration table near church office. A light breakfast will be served. Contact Karie Saunders: ksaunders@humc.us

Adult Education Opportunities

Sundays, November 6 - December 18 from 10:00 - 11:00am in the East Wing...

TAKING GOD'S WORD TO HEART

Personal Devotion

Facilitators: Sherry Mansfield & Deb Matson

God's Word is ALIVE! It transforms our lives! Discover how to tap the riches of Scripture in our personal devotional lives. Group discussion and small group sharing.

Mid-Week Study Opportunities

W.O.W. - Women on Wednesdays

November 30 - December 21

Wednesdays from 9:30 - 11:30am

CHOOSING THE JOY OF OBEDIENCE

A Study of Mary

See how God wants to work in your life! MARY said YES to God's incredible plan for her life. Discover the blessings received when trusting God. Our obedience can be a joyous choice.

The DaVinci Code - Fact or Fiction

Sunday, November 6th...

Two opportunities to sort it out!

4:30-5:30PM at St. Matthew Lutheran Church
H20 Wixom Campus, 48380 Pontiac Trail in Wixom,
AND

6:00-8:00PM at St. Matthew Lutheran Church
Walled Lake Campus, 2040 S. Commerce Road in
Walled Lake.

Supper will be served at the Walled Lake Campus for a free will donation (4:45-5:50pm). Please RSVP to 248.624.7676 or 248.624.7677

SIMULCAST SCHEDULE



Tuesday, November 1, 7:30-8:30pm

In ***Building Authentic Relationships in Your Small Group***, small group leaders will learn how to build deeper community through: appropriate self-disclosure, genuine expressions of love, heart-felt acts of compassion, and the discipline of celebration. Discover what is needed to build this atmosphere of safety and encouragement, and your small groups will become characterized by authenticity, service and love!

Thursday, November 3, 12-1:30pm

Narnia Outreach Training

Learn how your church can use this major motion picture as an outreach tool to reach your community with the Gospel.

November 5, 11:30am - 3:30pm

How To Get A Date Worth Keeping

This seminar will help singles conquer the two basic problems of dating: no dates and wrong dates. They'll receive some real solutions and practical steps to improve their dating life, while learning: how to make dating an opportunity for personal and spiritual growth, how to view dating as an important time to learn about other people, how to avoid unfruitful and stale dating, how to build a team of people that can provide encouragement and help prevent self-destructive behaviors, how to make dating an opportunity to love and serve others, and more!

Tuesday, November 8, 11:30am - 1:30pm

Revolution

This exciting seminar will place you on the cutting edge – where cultural change and spiritual transformation intersect. You will: discover the radical changes that are reshaping the Church in North America, gain a better understanding of the new “Christian Revolutionaries” and their quest to be more Christ-like, learn how your *church* can offer resources and support to its own “revolutionaries,” and learn how you might partner with this movement to advance God's kingdom

Tuesday, November 22, 11:30am - 2:00pm

The Present Future - Six Tough Questions for the Church

The American culture no longer props up the church the way it did, no longer automatically accepts the church as a player at the table in public life, and can be downright hostile to the church's presence.

Reggie McNeal identifies important realities that church leaders must address, including: recapturing the spirit of Christianity, replacing church growth with kingdom growth, developing disciples instead of church members, fostering the rise of new leadership to meet the needs of new realities, focusing on spiritual formation rather than church programs, and shifting from prediction and planning to preparation for challenges.

To view any of the above simulcasts, simply go to either of the classrooms in the east wing, turn on the television, and enjoy. For more information regarding past simulcasts, contact Tim Davidson, tdavidson@humc.us

The Men's Chorus Records a CD

The Men's Chorus has just released a CD, titled "*More Than Songs*"

Pick up your copy today at the Information Station. \$8 each or 3 for \$20.

What a great stocking stuffer!

Providence's Restored Again is also available.

Operation Christmas Child



Last month we announced an opportunity for your family to be involved in a Christmas Shoe Box Project. This month we will be collecting the filled, wrapped, and labeled boxes and sending them to the distribution center in Brighton where they will then be sent to needy children around the world.

Please bring your boxes to the church between November 6th and November 13th. They should be placed in the appropriate boxes located in the Narthex and Children's Ministry Wing.

Thank you for your participation! Please pray for this project. We have enclosed a prayer card that you can keep handy and continue to use.

Pure Style - A Teen Event

Live Music, Great Food, Respectful Clothes, and Door Prizes! Featuring Jason Illian, NCAA Academic All-American. Reserve your tickets.

Crystal Gardens Banquet Center
5768 W. Grand River in Howell. 810.494.5433

Two Shows - November 12, 2005 at 10:00am (Brunch) or 2:30pm (Lunch). \$15 Each for open seating or \$150 for a Reserved Table of 10.

Are you a Meijer Shopper?



You can help our Youth Ministry earn up to 4% of your qualified Meijer purchases.

It's easy... Apply for your Meijer Rewards Card (MRC), Shop at Meijer, Use your MRC, and the Youth Ministry receives a monthly check and rewards statement.

So stop by the Youth/Meijer Reward Table and pick up your 'Shop, Earn, Share' Enrollment Application today.

To apply online, go to www.meijer.com/rewards
Our code # is 536839.

"MY TIME" Special Needs Ministry is looking for a Bible Study Leader...

"My Time" is seeking someone who will enjoy leading the Bible Study Program on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. Interested persons should contact Sherry Mansfield, smansfield@humc.us.

The "My Time" gathering is from 6:00 - 7:30pm.

Youth Ministry and Children's Ministry UPDATES

Please check the www.humc.us youth page, your Youth News letter, OR the youth bulletin board (located in the Youth Room) for the dates and times of all of your gatherings and events.

The Children's Ministry Board (located just beyond the double doors in the children's wing) is a great place to check for Children's events, There's also the website and the Star Seekers newsletter.

U.M. Men

This month's Men's Breakfast will be on **Saturday, November 5 at 8:00am.**

All men are welcome – bring a friend!

Men's Breakfast dates for the remainder of 2005 calendar include: December 3.

To start the new year, the first 2006 breakfast date will be January 7.

For more UM Men info, contact Vern Rife at (810) 632-6846 or vrife@humc.us.



Good Soil Ministries

Join us Mondays at 6:30 in the Centrum.

Upcoming sessions feature the following:

November 7th – (Drama) Developing Characters by Barb Kaluz

November 14th – (Technology) Photographic Design by Grace Farley

November 21st – (Readings) Presenting Your Testimony by David Schwaninger

November 28th – Not meeting

Support Groups

Grief Care and **Divorce Care** Support Groups meet every Monday evening from 7:00 – 9:00 pm in the East Wing. Groups are confidential and free.



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November 2005

Non-profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Highland, MI 48357
PERMIT NO.4

Highland United Methodist Church

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Pastor James Kummer

Our Mission is to
make disciples of Jesus Christ.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.HUMC.US

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called! Is He calling you? Step out in faith and watch what He does through you.

Sundays at a Glance

November 6 – *The Treasure Principle*

New Series Begins... Jesus in High Definition

November 13 – *His Amazing Presence*

November 20 – *His Divinity*

November 27 – *His Brilliant Authority*

December 4 – *His Compassion*

December 11 – *His Power*

December 18 – *His Compelling Invitation*

December 25 – *He is God Revealed*

(series concludes)

January 1 – Guest Speaker, Brian Saunders

January 8 – New Series Begins

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Planned Giving

You can share your faith beyond your lifetime by signing your estate planning documents now. You will have the joy of knowing that whatever you do not use in this life, will continue in ministry after your death.



“For we are joined together in his [Jesus'] body by his strong sinews, and we grow only as we get our nourishment and strength from God.”

Colossians 2:19

Fall Rummage Sale

Thursday & Friday, November 3rd & 4th
9:00am - 4:00pm

Bag Sale All Day Friday!

Call Jerry Truss to help: 248.892.2212

Items can be dropped off at the church
Monday, Oct 31 - Wednesday, Nov. 2

"Grace to Give Away"

Dear Friends at Highland UMC,

To everyone there at Highland - Thank you for your generous welcome when we visited on September 18th. We certainly enjoyed meeting many of you.

To those who anonymously gave us the gift titled "Grace to Give Away," we want to thank you for your thoughtfulness and your generous gift.

Bryan & Joan Wussow
Wycliffe Bible Translators

Stewardship Information Form

On Sunday, October 30th, the Stewardship passed out an information form during each of the worship services. These forms are designed to gather information about each member of the church regarding talents and areas of interest.

It is the goal of the Stewardship Committee along with the Pastor and church staff to gather as much information as possible so that we can put in place some organization for matching your desires with the appropriate need.

If you have not already turned your form in, please do so as soon as possible. If you were not present to receive a form, please stop by the Information Station to pick one up or call the church office and we will mail you a copy. For further information, please contact Tami Flowers, tflowers@humc.us.

Thank you for your time and support of this very important endeavor. We believe it will help us all be better stewards for God.

Please note: The church directory photo shoot that was scheduled for later this month has been canceled. We are sorry for the inconvenience. Our new membership program is still in the process of being developed. Once it has been completed, we will publish an updated version. In the meantime, if you need a directory listing, please contact Pat Mulder or pick one up at the Information Station.

The Liberia Connection – a letter writing campaign

Thanks to the Ann Arbor District of the United Methodist Church, we are partnered with the Paynesberry Preaching Point Church in Liberia, Africa. Pastor Moses Brumskine, Sr. of Paynesberry would like to begin developing relationships between our churches. If you or your family would like to write a letter about yourselves, and possibly include a photograph, please drop it off at the Information Station by November 27th. We will be mailing them all together with a brief history of the church and church photos.

Please use lightweight paper when writing your letters and if possible, print or copy your photos onto lightweight paper as well.

You can drop your letters off at the Information Station. Look for the box marked with a map of Africa. It pinpoints the church location.

Communications still take quite some time so it may be several weeks or months before a reply is received. Information about the Paynesberry Preaching Point will be available soon. Contact Linda Betts: lbetts@humc.us

A Gift of Rest and Reflection



"A gift of rest and reflection" has been given as an expression of appreciation to our Children's Ministry team. Therefore, we encourage all children to attend Christmas Day and New Years Day services with their parents. All Children's Ministry programming will resume on January 8, 2006.

CAN YOU SPARE 1 HOUR A MONTH?

JOIN A ROTATING SCHEDULE! Volunteers are needed to assist at the Information Station prior to the 8:30 AM and 11:30 AM services. Please contact Sherry Meyer: 810.632.7118

This is a day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Psalm 118:24

LIBRARY INFO



Just a reminder that we have books you can purchase and books, tapes, CDs, and videos for loan. There is also a variety of informational pamphlets available to you at no charge.

Please visit the west wing corridor.

We currently have available CD recordings of the books in the Chronicles of Narnia collection. They are Focus on the Family productions and are good quality.

Also available, in the purchase section, are copies of the Jesus CEO devotional book that has become so popular.

Holiday Worship Schedule

Christmas Eve services will include:

Family Services at 4:00 & 5:00pm

Candle Services at 6:30 & 8:00pm

Christmas Morning falls on Sunday this year; Worship will be at 10:00am ONLY

New Years Day at 8:30, 10, & 11:30am

HUMC Christmas Cards

We will be offering a variety of boxed Christmas Cards this year, designed by several members of our congregation.

Details and cards will be out soon!

Do You Have A Green Thumb?

Do You Love To Be Out in the Garden?

Do You Enjoy Organizing Others?

HUMC has a ministry opportunity available that would be perfect for someone who is passionate about gardening, has a basic knowledge of plants, and who has the ability to work with and coordinate garden volunteers.

Major Responsibilities would include maintaining garden plots on church property, assigning garden plots to volunteers (summer growing season), coordinating the activities of volunteers by arranging for work days to plant and maintain plots, submitting annual budget request to the Finance Committee for funding for procurement of plants and materials, and working with the Trustees to coordinate outside beautification projects.

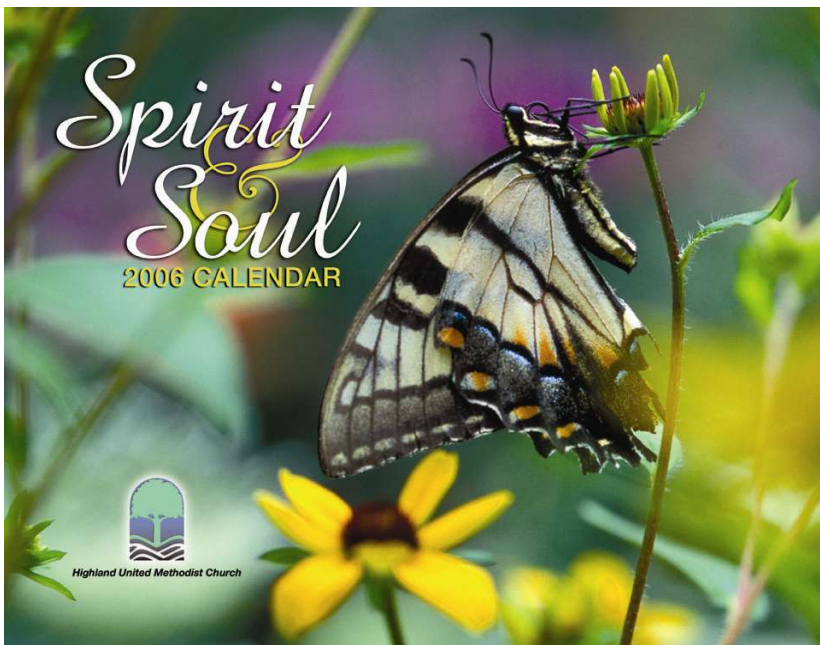
Time Requirements would involve approximately 2 hours a week during the growing season.

The church Garden Ministry was established to beautify the church property with attractive gardens for members and the local community. The ministry serves as an effective forum for allowing members with a passion for gardening to work together. The interaction of church volunteers during work events and during the summer months provides an effective way for members to minister to each other. The gardens give the members a place to reflect on the beauty God has provided in flowers.

For more information or to sign-up, please contact Denny Wolcott, dwolcott@humc.us.



Our 1st HUMC Wall Calendar will be available on Sunday, November 13th.



This beautiful 12-month calendar offers a different photograph of God's creation each month as well as an appropriate verse from God's Word.

Enjoy the photographic genius of Michael Morley and stay organized at the same time.

The daily spaces include holidays and are large enough to hold a variety of appointments. There is also extra room on the back page for notes and important phone numbers.

These are a great gift idea for everyone on your holiday list. Watch for the Calendar Table... \$10 each or 3 for \$25.