

# WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS



Highlands United Church  
*Live Grow Thrive*

## Many Hands...Many Hearts

Highlands United Church

*A Community of Volunteers*

*A Ministry of Service*

2018—2019



# THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

No words or program insert can express the gratitude we have for the countless hours given in service to the work of this church.

Here are some of the things Highlands Volunteers have done this past year:

1. Folding leaflets
2. Pulling weeds
3. Directing a musical
4. Acting, singing and dancing in a musical
5. Playing the bells
6. Singing in a choir
7. Teaching guitar
8. Teaching English
9. Making coffee and snacks for an ESL class
10. Serving tea to the Flea Market sorters
11. Sorting used goods for the flea market
12. Painting the gym
13. Creating a wall hanging
14. Setting up tables and chairs for an event
15. Making pies
16. Baking cookies
17. Doing dishes after Thursday dinner
18. Cooking a meal for Thursday dinner
19. Grocery shopping
20. Serving a meal
21. Visiting a shut in
22. Visiting someone in hospital
23. Being a listening ear
24. Providing healing hands
25. Knitting a prayer shawl
26. Ordering pizza and Chinese food
27. Leading the Book Club
28. Supporting a refugee
29. Reading the scripture for worship
30. Preparing and leading the prayers of the people
31. Doing kitchen laundry
32. Cleaning the kitchen cupboards
33. Planting flowers
34. Sorting items donated for Shelter to Home
35. Picking up donated items
36. Assessing the needs of someone requiring support
37. Cooking a meal for the seniors connection
38. Cataloguing nativity scenes
39. Helping children shop in the kids only market
40. Making crafts to sell
41. Serving on the leadership board
42. Serving on the M & P committee
43. Serving on the Finance Committee
44. Being the treasurer
45. Hanging art in the sanctuary
46. Hanging signs on the front tower
47. Serving on the Building committee
48. Serving on the property committee
49. Administering first aid
50. Leading a study group
51. Hanging pictures
52. Hosting Amica live stream worship
53. Pouring wine
54. Greeting on Sunday mornings
55. Praying for names on Sunday prayer list
56. Being a welcome host on Sundays
57. Setting up and hosting the 'action table'
58. Distributing pouches for stewardship campaign
59. Organizing food for the 'Upside Down Lunch'
60. Helping with serving at a memorial reception
61. Setting up the chancel for a baptism & communion
62. Cataloging library books
63. Organizing and tidying the library
64. Keeping the recycling containers organized
65. Polishing silver
66. Washing linens
67. Arranging flowers
68. Decorating for a special event
69. Displaying nativity scenes
70. Creating a volunteer survey
71. Drafting a model of governance
72. Baking cinnamon buns
73. Welcoming people to a concert
74. Donating items for summer camps

75. Responding to an emergency need
76. Washing tables
77. Bleaching cups
78. Providing rides
79. Driving a bus
80. Consulting
81. Checking the sound system
82. Trimming candles
83. Writing a grant application
84. Sending cards
85. Making a display board
86. Taking photographs
87. Moving chairs out of the sanctuary
88. Moving chairs back into the sanctuary!
89. Speaking at an event
90. Playing an instrument for a service
91. Sorting hymn books
92. Putting out book displays
93. Hand stitching a quilt
94. Flipping burgers
95. Shopping for burgers
96. Cleaning the barbecue
97. Flipping pancakes
98. Providing entertainment for an event
99. Putting on the coffee
100. Making desserts
101. Making or buying a birthday cake
102. Decorating for the monthly birthday party
103. Hosting the monthly birthday party
104. Playing with babies in the nursery
105. Putting costumes on children
106. Making costumes
107. Creating fabric art
108. Making palm crosses
109. Decorating cookies with kids
110. Taking care packages to those in need
111. Creating Christmas 'hampers'
112. Keeping us aware of global and local needs
113. Salting the sidewalks in winter
114. Shovelling snow before a service
115. Putting together IKEA furniture!
116. Organizing a fund raiser
117. Taking a trip to the landfill
118. Face painting
119. Setting out a reception

120. Baking scones and muffins
121. Testing electronics for the flea market
122. Selling items at the flea market
123. Sorting sheet music
124. Being an evening building monitor
125. Organizing the evening monitors
126. Evaluating furniture for Shelter to Home
127. Counting money
128. Being a super recycler
129. Picking up litter on the grounds
130. Interviewing an applicant for staff
131. Writing a grant application
132. Collecting soup labels
133. Appraising stamps
134. Collecting old glasses
135. Organizing the Photo directory
136. Maintaining archival materials
137. Managing the stewardship campaign
138. Choosing chancel furnishings
139. Doing calligraphy on cards
140. Putting up Posters
141. Sharing Facebook Posts
142. Leading a Workshop
143. Hosting visitors from another country
144. Making or hanging up nametags
145. Serving Communion on Sunday
146. Visiting in a care facility
147. Setting up tables
148. Moving furniture
149. Serving snacks at summer camp





**Maintaining Building and Grounds**

Do you like tinkering with things that have stopped working? Doing touch up or more major painting jobs? Oiling squeaky hinges? Moving, fixing or building furniture? Hanging things on walls? Minor plumbing or electrical issues? Are you flexible enough to be called when a building ‘emergency’ happens? Or would you like to be part of an ongoing property group to help maintain our space? Can you follow IKEA instructions? Do you enjoy spending time in the garden? Can you recognize a weed? Enjoy watching things blossom and grow?

***Why do this?** Because having a lovely well maintained space, indoor and out, welcomes those who come through our doors, and makes working in the space a pleasure.*

- Painting tasks
- Climbing ladders to hang things
- Repairing minor plumbing/wiring/wood
- Gardening (weeding, planting, transplanting)
- Building cabinets
- Organizing tasks/planning
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Be part of the volunteer community at Highlands!**

Read through this list and tick off the things that interest you. Then fill out the form at the end put it in the Sunday offering plate, drop it off at the church office or email your information and interest to [sandi.parker@highlandsunited.org](mailto:sandi.parker@highlandsunited.org)

**Food Ministry—Preparing Meals / Cooking / Dishes / Baking**

Cooks, helpers, dish doers and servers are always needed for the many opportunities to eat together at Highlands or help others in the community enjoy good food and company. If you like cooking and enjoy spending time in the kitchen (often in the company of others!) this is the opportunity for you. Most tasks ideally require a monthly commitment. Support is provided in learning to plan and cook for groups.

***Why do this?** Because eating good food in the company of others is one of the great joys in life, and is something not everyone gets to do. Food for body; food for spirit.*

- Thursday dinners
- Seniors lunches
- Saturday lunch program (at North Shore Neighborhood House)
- Sunday lunches
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_



## Visiting and Compassionate Care

Visiting folks in a care facility to bring news of Highlands and have conversations with a member who can't get out any longer. Are you able to visit someone from Highlands who is in hospital? Would you see yourself being part of a Circle of Compassion for someone who needs a little extra support for a period of time? Training and/or experience is required (and available) for some of these roles.



**Why do this?** *Because the Highlands community reaches beyond our Sunday morning walls. Being community means caring for one another through the good times and the hard times.*

Opportunities include;

- Healing hands
- Hospital visiting
- Visiting in Care facilities
- Delivering care packages to people at Christmas and Easter
- Serving on the Refugee Committee



## Technology

Highlands uses sound, projection, and video (Livestreaming) each Sunday. We also rely heavily on Wifi for day to day business, and technology for meetings and gatherings. If you are able to advise us on IT issues or do minor troubleshooting when things break down, and we are waiting for a technician, we would appreciate your help! We are also continually trying to improve our Livestream experience for viewers

and our Sunday morning experience, so if you are interested in that area of ministry we want to hear from you!

### Why do this?

*Because the Highlands community reaches beyond these walls and technology allows us to reach and communicate with others around the world. Because for various reasons, people can't always come to church, but they can join us online. Because technology allows us to stay connected.*

- Computers / Networking / Troubleshooting
- Video / Film / Livestream / PowerPoint
- Audio / Sound
- Lighting / Production
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_



## General Help as Needed

Can you set up tables and chairs for an event? Take them down again? Shovel Snow? Find a water shut-off? Sharpen 100 pencil crayons? Tidy a cupboard? Move Sanctuary chairs?

**Why do this?** *Because sometimes things just happen, or in spite of our best planning a detail gets missed. And knowing there are people we can call at the last minute for help ensures ministry carries on and reduces stress.*

- Call me when you need me \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Flea Market

Do you have time on Tuesday mornings to help sort and organize donated items in the company of a friendly group of folk? Can you lift a box of books without putting your back out? Move a table? Test lights and electronics? Recognize an antique? Can you give time on the week after Thanksgiving for the main Flea Market Sale event?

**Why do this?** *Because the Flea Market is the biggest fundraiser of the year and generates money for a significant number of the ministries that we do. And it is a great group of enthusiastic and committed people with whom to spend time.*

- Regular Tuesday sorting
- Help with set up the week before the Flea Market
- Sell, serve or clean up on Flea Market Sale Day



## Leadership and Management

Are you big picture thinker? Are you passionate about the work and ministry of this church? Do you have some familiarity with United Church Polity and Governance (or willing to learn?) Do you have experience in organizational leadership? Positions come up annually on the Highlands Leadership Board,

Finance committee, Ministry and Personnel Committee and other ad hoc committees.

I'm interested in:

- Leadership
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_



## Special Events and Fundraisers

No time for a long term or regular volunteer commitment? There are plenty of special events throughout the year that require many volunteers to run. The first weekend of Advent is the Nativity Exhibit. The beginning of Lent is Mardis Gras. A musical production is held once every two years. FaithFest renewal weekend is every second year. Sometimes Highlands is asked to host an event for the wider church.

**Why do this?** *These events are time limited but often involve and reach a large number of people. These kind of events build our community, inspire us, and engage the wider community. There is plenty of satisfaction in seeing an event come together of which you have been a part.*

- Nativity Exhibit (held the weekend of the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent, with preparation during November)
- Mardis Gras (congregational all ages party held on a Friday or Saturday in February), back stage... (Jan – March)
- Musical 'behind the scenes': ticket sales, publicity
- Congregational educational events like FaithFest or conferences
- Other \_\_\_\_\_





## Highlands Local Connections & Community Ministries

Highlands has two specific ministries to the local community that were initiated and managed by members of this congregation: Shelter-to Home and Saturday Lunch. Each of the programs provides support to vulnerable members of the community in different ways and relies entirely on volunteers. In addition, Highlands has an active Local Connections committee which oversees financial support to community organizations and ministries

### Why do this?

*These programs provide 'hands on' support to people living in poverty. Food and shelter are two of the basic needs we all have. And for those who eat together at the Saturday Lunch, an opportunity to make friends and eat in the company of others is as important as the food.*



- Saturday Lunch set up, serving and cleanup.
- Shelter to Home: meeting with donors of furniture to assess suitability of items offered
- Lifting and transportation of goods
- Helping with the organization of the storage facility
- Being part of the local connections committee
- Shopping
- Scheduling
- Other \_\_\_\_\_



## Worship, Spirituality and Prayer

Sunday mornings is the main time we come together as community: to sing, pray and learn together. Many volunteers ensure that Sunday service happens. But people are engaged in prayer and worship not just on Sundays –

**Why do this?** *Because worship and prayer is wired into us and is what equips us for other ministries. Without it we wouldn't be who we are. And when you greet people, pray for people and help with worship, you feel connected to one another and to God.*

- Greeting at the door Sunday mornings
- Being a welcome host, to help welcome and introduce newcomers to others, and orient to Highlands or answer questions.
- Reading scripture in worship
- Serving on the worship committee
- Praying throughout the week for those named on the prayer list
- Serving communion
- Creating liturgical art
- Knitting prayer shawls
- Playing in the Family Band or Praise Band
- Other \_\_\_\_\_





## Children, Youth and Family Ministries

The participation of children, youth and families brings life and energy to our church! We have an active Sunday school and youth group that nurture faith and friendships, offer workshops to support parents, and provide opportunities for families to gather together and to mix across the generations. With a staff person dedicated to this ministry and committed teachers and leaders, there is always a place for volunteers to be involved in this work, especially for one time events and activities.



**Why do this?** Because working with children and youth is a lot of fun and because it 'takes a village to raise a child'. The village is our church community, and we love our children and want them to grow in a faith that will last them a life time. Families are busy these days and creating well planned and supported events where parents can enjoy each others company and kids can be together gives a bit of respite in a fast paced world. Every cookie baked, every costume fitted, every pancake flipped, every game taught, and every prayer offered supports this ministry!

- Snacks for Sunday School or special events
- Event set-up/clean up (ex: All Hallow's Eve and Children's space at the Nativity Exhibit)

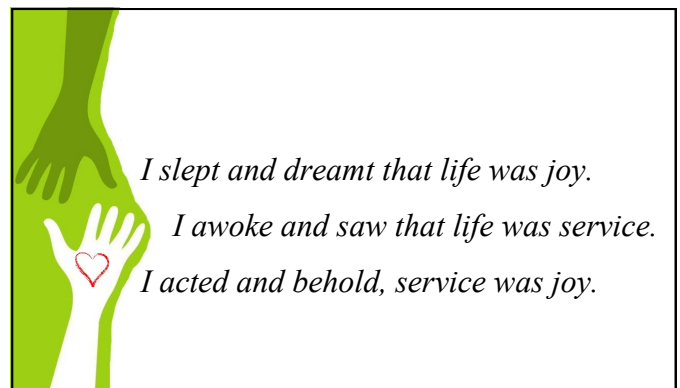
- Dramatic roles/ other creative 'guest appearances' in all ages services and fun videos
- Expert Pancake flippers (ex: Pancakes & PJ's)
- Costume help for the Christmas Pageant.

## Other Volunteer Opportunities

- Evening monitors: answer inquiries, provide building security, lock up
- quilting (Monday mornings)
- church library: sorting, cataloguing and maintaining
- Hosting monthly Birthday Celebrations and/or providing cakes.
- Teaching and supporting our ESL learners
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

*If there is something you think you could offer that you don't see here, it might mean we have accidentally left it out or maybe it is something we have not even thought of yet! So please let us know.*

*For more information about volunteering at Highlands, contact Sandi Parker at [sandi.parker@highlandsunited.org](mailto:sandi.parker@highlandsunited.org) or contact the Church Office 604-980-6071 ([churchoffice@highlandsunited.org](mailto:churchoffice@highlandsunited.org))*



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