

*April*  
*2024*



*The*  
*Echo*

HIGHLAND LAKES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### **ECLIPSE FAMILY REUNION – BY DEVLON GOODMAN**

My wife's church in Buchanan Dam had an "eclipse parking fundraiser," so I went to help, and so I could see the eclipse together with my wife. It seemed like something you should do together with someone you care about, and I was right. But it turned out that we watched it together with people from Holland (Netherlands), Holland (Michigan), Hawaii, Florida, Arizona, California and East and West Texas. It turned out to be like a humanity family reunion! We shared the nervousness of "Did we travel all this way for nothing?" (even though some of us didn't really "travel all this way.") But then we shared the wonder of being reminded that the sun really is just a big ball of fire that we take for granted until it's almost blotted out by a big, round, chunk of rock that we take even more for granted, and we see midnight at midday by the glow of a dazzling ring of light that would burn your eyes out were it not for that big chunk of rock! The really amazing thing was that after we shared that "wow," we were now talking to these folks from across the globe as if they were old friends sharing cake and champagne and hoping to see them in Iceland or Spain so we could do it again!

The wonder of God's creation (that includes us, by the way) brought us together, but the joy of witnessing together this moment when God said, "Hey, guys, watch this " made us want to gather again and see what else God would do.

Good news! You don't have to wait until 2026 or 27 or go to Iceland or Spain. Every Sunday (and the other days when two or more of us gather in Jesus' name) God's Son eclipses our fear and pain and loneliness and says "Hey, guys, watch the wonder that happens when you let me gather you together, and then I'm right there too! Come to see the 'wow' of my wonders, but stay to feel the love of my family!"

"The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders;  
where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth  
songs of joy." (Psalm 65:8).

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5– Annette Spiers

6- Barbara Ochs

19– Priscilla Schaefer

21– Mike Stoddard

25– Jim Acklen

27– Jan Webb

28– Sally May

## Financial Report

Month of February 2024

Income	\$ 21,924.06
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Expenses	\$ 18,378.39
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Net Income	\$ 3,545.67
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*Year to Date*

*Jan– Feb*

Income	\$ 56,006.32
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Expenses	\$ 44,373.17
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Net Income	\$ 11,633.15
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*The Stained Glass Class has generously donated \$325.00 to the church, the proceeds collected come stained glass sales made from their very own hands. If you are interested in purchasing some beautiful stained glass crosses or butterflies, please contact Susie Phillips after worship service.*

**Men's Walk to Emmaus  
at  
Eagles Wings Retreat Center  
April 18– April 21 .**



# EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar

THURSDAY'S @ 4 pm

## Deeply Rooted

IN GOD'S WORD

JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

with *Pastor Roberta*



## Recycled Creations

by Women for Missions  
Highland Lakes UMC

Thursdays @ 1:30 pm

Roe Hall

## AWAKENING CELEBRATION

## Concert

APRIL 18TH & 19TH  
AT 6:30 PM

Kingsland Community Church  
1136 RR 1431 Kingsland, TX

PRESENTED BY  
KINGSLAND AREA  
CHURCHES



FREE ADMISSION  
LOVE OFFERINGS  
ACCEPTED

## ONE Body



## ONE Spirit



United  
Women  
in Faith

## United Women in Faith

### \*Monthly Meeting\*

Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>

@ 1 PM

Roe Hall

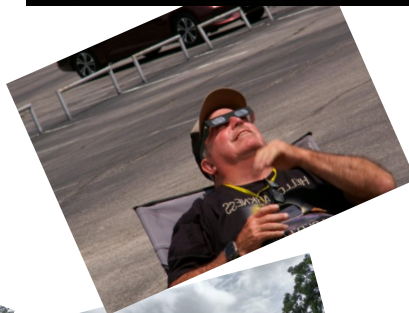
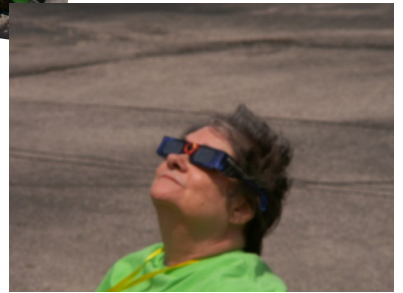
### \*Cookie Sale\*

Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

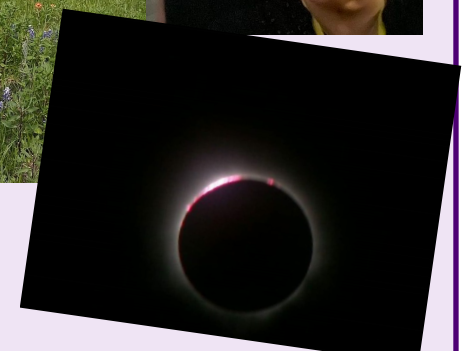
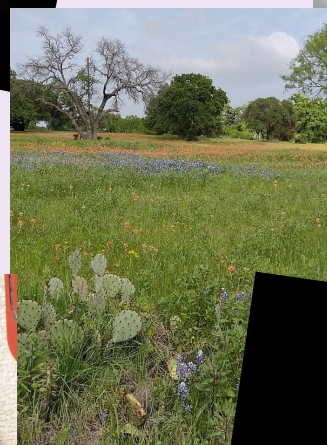
@ 10:30am

Sanctuary Foyer









We send a huge thank you to all of our Eclipse Event Team. You are all such a wonderful group to work alongside. We had alot of fun. We were blessed to host 13 astronomers from Holland! Had more day trippers than RVs, and they were all wonderful. And the eclipse itself was spectacular!

