

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

The 2025 Missouri UMC Annual Conference will be held at the St. Charles Convention Center June 6-8. This year's theme is "Illumine: Be The Light." If my Searcy, Arkansas math is correct, this will be my 15th trip to Annual Conference as a member of United Methodist clergy. My Annual Conference affiliations began in the Arkansas Annual Conference, then the Great Plains Annual Conference (Kansas/Nebraska), and finally here in the Missouri Annual Conference.

If you're not exactly sure what an Annual Conference is, may I suggest tapping into the resources of UMC.org for the long version, because it is more than just a conference held once a year. For our purposes here, though, a brief explanation: the Annual Conference is a yearly session of United Methodist churches/charges within a specific region (like Missouri). Each church/charge sends its appointed clergy (that's me) and a lay member (Missy Heilman) for each clergy member.

At Annual Conference we vote on resolutions, receive reports from various ministries, attend daily worship, participate in Bible studies and workshops, and witness sacred moments like ordination and commission of elders, deacons, associate members and licensed local pastors. There is also time set apart for prayer, celebration, mourning and reflection.

What I most look forward to at Annual Conference are the worship services. Of course I love worship in any setting, but it is especially grand for us pastors when we can just sit back and soak it all up without having the responsibility for handling any portion of the service. I also enjoy renewing friendships we've made across the conference, and learning new

and exciting ways of bringing the old, old story of the Gospel to those who haven't heard.

Please lift Missy, Donna and me, in prayer for safe travel, as well as all the clergy, spouses and laity who will be in attendance this weekend. I will submit a report of the happenings of this year's conference at our next Church Council meeting, which is scheduled for July 13.

Blessings on your heads! Pastor Rob

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Adult Sunday School class meets at 9:45 on Sunday morning. We are working on "Being in the Presence of Christ: A Vision for Transformation." If you would like to join us, just talk to Angie.

PARADISE RUBIES

Rubies will meet this Saturday at 10 am to make little girl dresses for Synergy. Sewing skills are not necessary, helpers are. These are really cute dresses and it should be a fun project. Sandra will supply treats.

NOTE--this will be the last Rubies meeting until our planning meeting in September. Please put on your thinking caps for meeting ideas. Hope to see you on Saturday. Valerie

JUNE POTLUCK

The next Potluck meal is June 22nd. Please join us and bring a neighbor or a friend.

OUTREACH/MISSIONS

Thank you so much PUMC family for your continued generosity. We hear back when we drop off how wonderful and generous our church is. Thank you for listening to the Holy Spirit and responding to the nudge to reach out and help those who could use a hand up. Below is a list for June and recap for May.

June Missions Collections & Opportunity

Smithville Food Pantry – regular sized boxed cereal

Plattsburg Food Pantry - Monetary

A Turning Point June 21 help with the Pantry (see article) Please sign up on the sheets in the missions area.

May Missions Collections:

The Smithville food pantry collection for May was paper towels -128 rolls

Plattsburg Pantry \$25

Valor Ranch \$76.80

Paradise Cemetery \$385

Trimble Food Pantry \$375

Native American Sunday \$280

Unhoused Meals

We will be providing 2 more meals for the unhoused through the Fishes & Loaves Ministry that Darcy & Scott are involved with. We will be providing meals August 2 and December 6. Signup sheets are on the clipboards in the mission area. Watch for the recipes to be posted behind the signup sheets.

A TURNING POINT

Please save the date of Saturday, June 21st, as this is our next time to volunteer at A Turning Point. For those that haven't been before, it is a great non-profit organization which offers help in many ways – food, clothing, education, etc. We normally help in their food pantry in the morning. A Turning Point is located at 1900 NE Englewood Road in Gladstone. There is a signup sheet for the outing on the clipboards in the missions area.

PUMC DIRECTORY

Dave Jacobs is a new member who has offered to help with verifying information from our church management software such as name, address, phone, email and pictures to be updated so that we have everyone's most current information. After that it will be printed out (or emailed) if requested and made available to members. For those who use the Church Connect App (if you don't have the app, please let me, Tooti, know and I will help you get it and get set up) you can review your information at any time and also choose what is available to other members of the PUMC church family through the online directory section in Church Connect.

MONTHLY REPORT

The monthly report for May 2025 is as follows:

Beginning Balance:	\$29,605.44
General Offerings:	+\$6,964.55
Capital Improvement:	+1,212.50
Expenses:	-5,330.78
Final Balance:	\$32,451.71