



OUTREACH



Volume 37 Issue 10

First United Methodist Church

October 23, 2025

A Season of Thanksgiving, Gratitude, and Generosity

Thanksgiving day is around the corner, we can't wait to gather with family and friends for the celebrations. Maybe for some of us it is about getting a long weekend when we can hopefully rest from routine duties and sleep in a bit. For others, the season ushers in Advent and we start thinking about Christmas. No matter what it is that makes you welcome this season, we are challenged to not only have a time of thanksgiving, but to also have a time of gratitude. Thanks giving is great, but it is a momentary emotion, sometimes we remember it for just a day, gratitude, however, lasts longer and penetrates all aspects of life.

The Bible in Luke 17 tells about ten people that were healed by Jesus. Nine of them after realizing they had been healed went their way. One of them was a grateful person, he came back to Jesus to appreciate the miracle of healing on his body. It is amazing how Jesus recognized that act and applauded him for it. Gratitude is not just a momentary emotion but a mindset. It's a spiritual posture that influences how we see the world and how we live each day. When we recognize that everything we have, our breath, our families, our daily bread comes from the hand of God, we live differently. Gratitude opens our eyes to God's presence in both the ordinary and the extraordinary. It helps us see blessings not as things we deserve, but as gifts.

The wonderful thing is this, when everything we have is received as a gift, we want to share it with others. We want others to feel the joy we have felt. We want to share the blessing, and our hearts are freed from fear and greed. When we remember how faithfully God has provided, we stop clinging to what we have and learn to trust him. This trust frees our hearts to give cheerfully and generously, knowing that generosity will never make us lack; it multiplies blessings. 2 Cor 9:8-11.

Gratitude, therefore, grows into generosity. It makes us want to join God in what he is doing in the world. The psalmist in Psalm 116:12-14 says, "What shall I return to the Lord for all his goodness to me?" his response "I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord" he worships and witnesses to God's goodness. When we are grateful, we worship God declaring, "God, You've been good to me, so I want others to experience Your goodness too." A heart of gratitude worships by being generous as pertains to giving to God's work.

As we come to the end of the year, reflect on the many blessings the Lord has given to you. In that spirit, consider giving a gift of gratitude to the Lord's work here in the church, and to a needy person in your life, as a way of appreciating who God has been to you. Not out of guilt or obligation but as a joyful response of love. Let us become a blessing to others. Because gratitude turns what we have into enough. May God's goodness continue to abound in your life today and always.

Pastor Susan Murithi

Outreach articles are due the **third** Sunday of each month. Please email your **OUTREACH** item to wendy@haysfumc.com before **Sunday, November 16, 2025**. Items may also be placed in the office, labeled **for the Outreach** by **November 16**. The next Outreach should be received on November 23.

Thanks

Thanks to Pastor Susan and Pastor Troy for their care and leadership of Hays FUMC. October is pastor appreciation month.

Dear Friends at FUMC, Thank you for providing treats to us at children's time. They are really yummy!

*Sincerely,
Ella Rose, Finley, Chance, Chalmers, Alvy, Jace, Ella, Cormac, Jackson, Gage*

Thanks to Jeff & Marla Copper for hosting the church at Pa's Pumpkin Patch.

If you would like to help the campus ministry by bringing a dessert to their Thursday night meal, call the church office or sign up on the clipboard outside the office. Bring enough to serve 12.

Only two more people needed!



INTRODUCING OUR STAFF

PROGRAM STAFF

- Pastor: Pastor Susan Murithi
- Associate Pastor:: Pastor Troy Miller
- Special Music Coordinator: Meredith Cory
- Organist: Hannah Barrett
Charlotte Rathke
- Pianist: Sharon Graham
- Handbell Choir Dir. Hannah Barrett
Marijo Rooney
- Director of Discipleship: Matt Dumlér
- Children's Ministry Coordinator: Jenna Brubaker
- Outreach Editor: Wendy Beougher

SUPPORT STAFF:

- Administrative Secretary: Beverly Bearley
- Administrative Assistant: Wendy Beougher
- Financial Secretary: Marsha Swanson
- Childcare Director: Mellissa Pyle
- Building Supervisor: Alan Nelson

Sympathy

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family & friends of

Earl Blauer, former member, who died on October 4.

Beckie & Richard Holmes on the death of Beckie's step-mother, Vula Roy Gager.



The Mission Committee is collecting hats, scarves, mittens and gloves for the students of USD 489. Mitten trees will be located in the parlor and downstairs. Items will be collected through **Dec. 31.**

The Mission Committee is asking everyone to bring extra and the items can be given away free at the Master Cleaner's coat drive on November 8th. There will be a basket in the parlor for items.

Please bring by Nov. 2



Trunk or Treat
Wednesday, October 29
5:30-7:30 p.m.

Call the church office to volunteer your trunk -625-3408. Drop of candy at the basket in the parlor.

Circle News

Naomi Circle met Wednesday, October 8 at the home of Nancy Jones with Becky Johnson co-hosting. Fifteen members and guest Sherry Chaffin answered roll call, "What is your middle name?". Joys and concerns were shared. Julie Giess presented the program which focused on the Origin and Biblical Meaning of the Doxology. The upcoming Peddler's Soup Lunch & Bake Sale will be held on Saturday, November 8, 2025 from 10:30-1:00. Tickets will be sold at the door as well as before and after services on the following Sundays: October 12,19,26 and November 2. Our next meeting will be held at the church on Wednesday, November 12 at 9:15.

Rebekah Circle met Wednesday, October 8 in the church parlor. Ten members were served by hostesses Carol Purdy & Sheryl Cox. Peggy Stull presented devotions and Jarilyn Staab gave the program on Rebekah. Peggy and Elaine Ford conducted the business meeting. The next meeting will be held at the church on Wednesday, November 12 at 1:30.

Help restock the Hays High Food Pantry.



There will be **One Service** at 10:00 on **October 26.** This will be Consecration Sunday. Please bring your pledge card.

There will be a potluck dinner following the service. Fried chicken will be provided.



A-K bring a dessert. L-Z bring a side.

FUMC Financial Snapshot

	September 30, 2025	Year to Date
Checking Account*	\$31,699.62	
Operating Gifts	\$37,345.83	\$394,706.94
Operating Expenses	\$48,927.61	\$452,889.52
Parsonage Mortgage Balance	\$76,324.38	
Organ Fund	\$ 7,829.99	

*Also known as Unrestricted Operating Account that funds our operating budget.

Women's Fellowship

Wednesday, October 29	Trunk or Treat
Thursday, November 6th	Friendsgiving Appetizers—Make a Thankful Journal, 6:30, Dining Room
Monday, November 10th	Lunch at Professors', 11:30
Thursday, November 20th	Hot Chocolate/Coffee at Tura's, 10 a.m.

I am pushing 60. That's enough exercise for me. Mark Twain

Old age is like a plane flying through a storm. Once you're aboard, there's nothing you can do.

Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir

The secret of genius is to carry the spirit of the child into old age, which means never losing your enthusiasm.

Aldous Huxley


Menus
October 22

Sloppy joes
Mac & cheese
Corn
Salad
Pumpkin cookies
Ice cream

October 29

NO WOW
Trunk or Treat

November 5

Chicken noodle soup
Turkey sandwiches
Corn
Salad
Dessert

November 12

Hamburger steak & gravy
Mashed potatoes
Green beans
Salad
Rolls
Dessert

November 19

Spaghetti & meat sauce
Garlic bread
Peas & carrots
Salad
Dessert

Serving time is 5:00-6:00

Five dollars per person
All menus are subject to change

To go meals are available-call 625-3408 or 650-2401



Kids Corner

The church is excited to offer Children's Church starting November 30th! Children's church will take place during the 10:45 worship service. Kids will stay in the sanctuary till children's moment, then leave with the teachers for a Bible lesson, craft, game and more! The kids will return during the last hymn at the end of the church service. Children's church is for kids currently in preschool up through 5th grade. The church is excited to offer this for our kids in hopes that it will foster spiritual growth and build community amongst the kids that attend our church.

If you'd like to volunteer as a teacher, please contact Jenna Brubaker at jenna@haysfurm.com. The lessons and materials are provided. We need 2 adults (18 years old+) each Sunday. Sets of teachers will only have to teach once every 1-2 months. It's a small commitment that will make a huge impact on our church's kids. Please consider volunteering with Children's Church.

The fall fundraising event for the United Women in Faith is going to look a little different this year. On **Saturday, November 8, 2025, from 10:30-1:00**, the UWF will be hosting the **Peddler's Soup Lunch and Bake Sale**. The ladies will be serving Homemade Chili, Hamburger Vegetable Soup and Chicken Noodle Soup, relishes, pie and a beverage. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 10 years old. We will also have a **fabulous Bake Sale**.



All members of the church are invited to bring baked items for us to sell. Those wanting to bring baked goods for the Peddler's Soup Lunch and Bake Sale can drop off at the church from 4:00-6:00 p.m. on Friday, November 7th or the morning of the sale.

We will also be selling soup in quart/pint jars which will be available that morning. Soup Pre-orders can be submitted to Debra at 785-623-1554 or the church office.

Please plan to join us for lunch that day and take home some wonderful goodies. Proceeds will go to UWF missions and local charities.

This Sunday, we will consecrate our monetary gifts to God. Let us also consecrate our time & talents by:

helping with Kid's Club, Children's Church, Children's moment, Youth group, Trunk or Treat, Feed Hays

delivering meals on wheels, calling on shut-ins

joining a Circle, Bible study, Sunday School class, WOW, Prayer Powerhouse

volunteering for a committee, the Choir, Bell Choir

serving as an usher, greeter or communion helper

attending worship regularly

giving to the mitten tree, Hays High food pantry

supporting missionary Rachel Palmberg

As the days get shorter and cooler, take a moment to appreciate the change of seasons. Here is a collection of inspiring quotes that celebrate fall, from the crisp evening air to the glorious hues of the autumnal foliage.

How beautiful the leaves grow old. How full of light and color are their last days.

—John Burroughs

Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all the other seasons.

—Jim Bishop

October's poplars are flaming torches lighting the way to winter.

—Nova S. Blair

Autumn, the year's last, loveliest smile.

—William Cullen Bryant

Every leaf speaks bliss to me, fluttering from the autumn tree.

—Emily Bronte

Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns.

—George Eliot

It is only the farmer who faithfully plants seeds in the Spring, who reaps a harvest in Autumn.

—B. C. Forbes

Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall.

—F. Scott Fitzgerald

Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower.

—Albert Camus

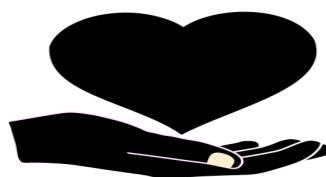
Autumn mornings: sunshine and crisp air, birds and calmness, year's end and day's beginnings.

—Terri Guillemets



Take, bless, break, give
Four words that are definitive
Of the new life we are meant to live,
Take, bless, break, give

Jesus took what God had provided,
Blessed the bread then broke & divided,
With compassion he gave it all away;
Five thousand were fed on that day.



Jesus took the life he'd been given
To the cross both blessed and broken
With forgiveness he gave it all away,
For the sheep who had all gone astray.

We must take what God has provided,
Bless our gifts, then break and divide them,
With compassion we give our love away,
In God's grace as we serve & obey

Take, bless, break, give

October OUTREACH

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, October 26	One Service, 10:00, Potluck to follow
Wednesday, October 29	Trunk or Treat
Sunday, November 2	Charge Conference, All Saints Sunday
Saturday, November 8	Peddler's soup & bake sale
Thursday, November 20	Red Cross Blood drive
Sunday, November 23	Youth Sabbath
Thursday, November 27 & 28	Church office closed
Sunday, November 30	Children's Church begins