



OUTREACH



Volume 36 Issue 6

First United Methodist Church

June 20 , 2024

“...parting is such sweet sorrow.” Juliet

Juliet spoke no truer words to her love Romeo. At a time of parting ways, sweetness and sorrow do mix.

The sorrow in saying goodbye is leaving behind the connections we have forged in friendship and Christian love. There were the trials and challenges we faced together. Nothing unites more than struggling together and coming out at the other end realizing we may not agree, but we are still okay together. The roof and building presented challenges that were fortified by a shared interest to see them overcome.

I will never forget celebrating 150 years of mission and ministry. How cool is it that it all started in a saloon! Adding a Hispanic element to our community has been incredible. Pastor Troy and Sarah have made this blending such a wonderful experience. It has been sweet to walk alongside all of you to rejoice and even cry at times while celebrating God’s amazing love and grace.

But new beginnings await all of us.

I am writing this from my old dining room table in a new space in Hutchinson. My cats are climbing on the moving boxes looking at me with eyes of “what have you done!” The joy of today is knowing in a few minutes I can drive 10 minutes to pick up my dad for lunch. His yard is filled with limbs and trees from a recent storm. I will soon join my family in cleaning the debris. Not a fun job but one I can participate in to care for my dad.

Discovering the new is fun. Last night, Dayna and I joined the taco Tuesday crowd at the Rusty Needle Sports Bar. My mom would have called it a dive. We sat at the bar and ate fried tacos (amazing!), sipped our water (you Volga Germans did not convince me to like beer) and made friends with some lifetime locals. I will miss the Paisley and China Express, but after 40 years of being away from my hometown, new places to explore await. Uh, I have never been to the Cosmosphere or the salt mines.

Soon the new will arrive in Hays. Pastor Susan will begin her time with you. I am so excited for you and her. She brings a diverse background and cultural understanding. You present a loving congregation that is ready to go and grow in faith and discipleship. You are both in good hands.

Saying thank you to everyone who has made our time in Hays so sweet is difficult. All your faces keep popping up in my mind. Too many to name. I hope you know who you are and how important you have been to me. Staff – you dealt with me on good days and bad. Thanks for being close and listening. Bev and Wendy – thanks for holding me accountable and keeping me organized. Matt – thanks for your flexibility, willingness to think outside the box, and for loaning us your house on the 15th and 16th. Troy – I have never had a friend in ministry quite like you. Your open dialogue and willingness to be vulnerable is incredible. Sarah – you are a force of nature! You make me laugh, but more than that, you care and love on my wife in so many sweet ways. I cannot thank you enough. Friends – parting is such sweet sorrow. Until we meet again, may God hold you all in mercy and grace... Craig

Outreach articles are due the **third** Sunday of each month. Please email your **OUTREACH** item to wendy@haysfumc.com before **Sunday, July 21, 2024**. Items may also be placed in the office, labeled **for the Outreach** by **July 21**. The next Outreach should be received on July 25.

Thanks

Thank you for the recognition on Heritage Sunday, the photo of three honorees and the quote from John Wesley. My mother lived by this quote and passed it down to her family. Another quote from my mother was: "Use it up, wear it out, make it do or do without." I have many special memories of this church the last 50 years. God has been good to this church.

Many blessings,
Ruth Briney

Thank You!

to all who labored in hot, humid conditions to sort the tile in the parking lot. We appreciate Josh, Shauna & Brynn Zweifel, Sandy & Russ Henningsen, Mary & Bernie Gribben, Larry Gilchrist, Phil Stahlman, Harvey Jansonius, Rob Kennemer, Shane Preston, Davis & MariJo Rooney, Troy Miller, Jarrod Jones, Josh, Callie, Ella & Jace Thomas.

INTRODUCING OUR STAFF

PROGRAM STAFF

Pastor: Pastor Craig Hauschild
 Congregational Care Director, Troy Miller
 Director of Music: Alexandra Rome
 Special Music Coordinator: Meredith Cory
 Organist:: Hannah Barrett
 Charlotte Rathke

Pianist: Sharon Graham
 Handbell Choir Dir. Hannah Barrett
 Marijo Rooney
 Director of Discipleship: Matt Dumler
 Asst. Children's Director: Melissa Pyle
 Outreach Editor: Wendy Beougher

SUPPORT STAFF:

Administrative Secretary: Beverly Bearley
 Administrative Assistant: Wendy Beougher
 Financial Secretary: Liz Harper
 Childcare Director: Melissa Pyle
 Building Supervisor: Alan Nelson

Sympathy

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family & friends of

Ed Horton who died May 22.

Sharon Carlson who died May 28.

Congratulations

to Stellan David Loomis who was baptized on June 2. Parents are Patrick & Cassandra and Octavia & Torin are siblings.

Congratulations to our newest member, Becky Clark, who joined June 16.

A sincere thank you to Mary and Bernie Gribben for delivering Meals on Wheels in June. Your service is appreciated!

Thank you to the Transition Team for the inspiring and moving farewell worship service for Pastor Craig & Dayna.

The luncheon was fun & delicious. Thanks to Sarah & Troy Miller, Adam Dees, Alan Rooney, Armin Kelly, Shawn Henderson, Hannah Barrett, Kathy Bannister, Shane Preston, Dylan Bryant and Elaine Ford.

Thanks to Alan Nelson & Sarah & Troy Miller for cleaning the parsonage and to Brad, Noah & Isaac Schumacher for mowing. Thanks to Josh Zweifel and Shauna Zweifel for doing dirt work and pulling weeds.

Candy is needed for the Wild West Fest float. There is a box in the parlor for donations.

Help our Happy Camper's by donating items needed for VBS. Select an item from the teepee in the parlor and bring items to the church Parlor teepee by July 7th.



Nichole Younger who is one of our volunteer audio techs, is taking an extended leave of absence. This has opened an opportunity for an addition to our audio or video team. If you have ever thought it might be a way to serve your church, consider volunteering with us. The time commitment is usually limited to Sunday mornings at 8:45 or 10:45 with occasional need for wedding or memorial services. Our current staff is happy to train and support you until you are comfortable with the work. You could explore your interest and decide if it is a good fit for you. Call the church office (625-3408) or Mike Cooper (628-8451) if interested or for further information.

Youth Activities

Tuesdays—Youth Bible Study

Service Projects
 June 24
 July 1
 July 15
 July 29

Nine Square-June 27
 Board Games-July 11
 Lawn Games-July 18
 Putt Putt-July 25

Vacation Bible School –July 9-11

What's been happening this month at Deep Water Eswatini



Mother's Day is a very significant holiday in Eswatini, when women are celebrated for their role in the family. Churches especially host Mother's Day celebrations on that Sunday.

This year our team prepared and gave out small Mother's Day gifts to 78 women in our after-hours communities. This is one of my favorite outreaches throughout the year, because these communities are not often honored as mothers—even though most of these women are doing everything they can to provide for their children. These women were absolutely shocked to be remembered as mothers, and we were so delighted to bless them in this way.

This month, our team has been partnering with Juniper Table for strategic planning sessions. During these sessions we reflect on the journey so far, and dream and strategize for the future of our organization, our team, and our communities. We are so excited for the path God has for us ahead, and we are so grateful for the wisdom and expertise of Juniper Table!

Thank you to every single one of you who supports us financially, through prayer, and through advocacy. None of this would be possible without you!

For those donating financially from the U.S., your donation is tax deductible. Checks can also be made out to "The Cause, Inc." with Deep Water in the memo and mailed to:

The Cause, Inc.
4225 Oceanside Blvd.
Suite H-325
Oceanside, CA 92056

Diving in, Rachel

Summer Giving Campaign

The Adopt-a-Year Summer Giving Campaign (Extra Mile Offering) has begun. This special offering is for the General Operating Fund during a time when the offering revenue is often less during the summer months. You may choose to adopt a year (or more than one year) in the life of the Church from 1-151 and give that amount. Just pull the yellow sticky note for the year that you choose from the Display in the Parlor.

Please be sure to designate your offering as "Summer Giving" in the Memo Line of your check or on the envelope. There are some envelopes available near the Display. Gifts can go in the Offering Plate during Sunday Service, or you may take them to the Church Office anytime during office hours.

Thank you so very much for supporting the Church operating expenses and have a Blessed and Happy Summer!

Finance Team

FUMC Financial Snapshot

	May 31, 2024	Year to Date
Checking Account*	\$44,068	
Operating Gifts	\$38,170	\$225,095
Operating Expenses	\$51,930	\$274,506

Parsonage Mortgage Balance \$99,871

Organ Fund \$5,706

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

GREAT PLAINS 2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE Kearney, Nebraska June 6 - 9 2024

Bob Cox

Those attending this year's Annual Conference from our church were Craig Hauschild, Dayna Hauschild, Troy Miller, Sarah Miller, Mary Meckenstock, Armin Kelly, Vicki Kelly, Bob Cox and Sheryl Cox.

The conference agenda included music, worship, reports from the Bishop, the Great Plains conference lay leader, youth and the various conference committees that do work in and for the conference. We celebrated the 10 year anniversary of our annual conference.

As part of the celebration and review a change was made in the number and naming of the Districts. Over the 10 years the 17 districts and 17 district superintendents has been decreased functionally to 10 districts and 10 superintendents. We now officially have 10 districts and 10 superintendents. The former Hays District and Dodge City District, with minor geographical changes, is now the Western Kansas District. Our District Superintendent remains Rev Zac h Anderson. All of the districts now have geographically appropriate names which, although somewhat mundane, accurately depict where they are located.

The 2025 budget was decreased by 1.41% reflecting an anticipated decrease in mission shares, due to disaffiliations.

Without raising the apportionments for churches, starting in January of 2025, funds will be made available to each district to be used for missional work. Each district will determine the processes and financial components to be developed.

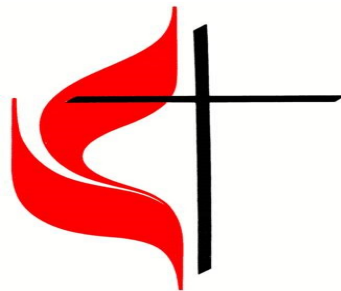
We heard a report of the work from the General Conference of The United Methodist Church. The Social Principles have been revised to remove harmful language. Our Annual Conference voted to reaffirm our core beliefs and doctrines of Christian faith. The decisions of the General Conference (representing the world wide United Methodist Church) and the Great Plains Annual Conference affirm that all persons holding traditional, or moderate, as well as progressive views have a place and a home in our churches.

The number of clergy retiring this year and the number of persons entering professional ministry seems to be nearly the same.

It was a joy to meet our new pastor and her family - Rev. Susan Murithi. She is a delight to visit with; she brings excellent skills and strong leadership.

It was clearly noted throughout the conference that the Great Plains Annual Conference is held in high esteem across the country and in the world wide United Methodist system. We are now held up as leaders in the South Central Jurisdiction of conferences stretching from Nebraska to Texas, New Mexico to Louisiana.

Conference information is always available and is regularly updated at: greatplainsumc.org
All members of our church are encouraged to visit this site for news and information



Great Plains Annual Conference June 6-9, 2024

Armin Kelly

This year's Great Plains Annual Conference was held in the convention center in Kearney, Nebraska, June 6 through June 9. Like other annual conferences that I have attended, it felt like an old fashioned revival meeting with lots of worshiping, praying, and singing together. It was spiritually uplifting to participate with several thousand people who are praising God and expressing their love for ALL people.

This year was the 10th anniversary of the formation of the Great Plains Conference, which includes all of Kansas and Nebraska. Prior to the formation of the Great Plains Conference there were 3 conferences : Kansas East, Kansas West and Nebraska.

A few weeks before the Great Plains Conference, the General Conference for the United Methodist denomination met in Charlotte, North Carolina. The General Conference is a gathering of delegates from all over the world. The General Conference is scheduled every 4 years, but due to the pandemic, the last General Conference was 8 years ago.

At the General Conference, the United Methodist Church voted to remove from the Book of Discipline language that marginalized one group of people by disallowing the marriage of same sex couples and disallowing the ordination of practicing LBGQT clergy. We as a denomination have been in turmoil over these issues for the last 50 years. The Book of Discipline is now like it was prior to 1972.

Removal of the marginalization language from the Book of Discipline allows each clergy person to decide whomever he/she will marry. Clergy, again, can choose whomever he/she will marry.

A large portion of the actions and discussions at Annual Conference was regarding changes that need to take place as a result of disaffiliations of churches from the United Methodist denomination. This included redistricting of the area of Kansas and Nebraska. There currently are 10 districts instead of 17. The Hays District (now referred to as "West Kansas") has the same District Superintendent (Zach Anderson). The "West Kansas" district is a slightly larger area than previously.

The Conference budget was also adjusted to cover the changes made from the disaffiliation of churches that were in the Great Plains Conference. There was a 40% cut in the budget.

I feel that the United Methodist Church denomination, the Great Plains Conference, the Kansas West District, and the Hays First United Methodist Church have shown love and Christ-like behavior during this time of contention. Our mission is still to proclaim Christ to all people of the world.

Prayers for Peace

Bob Hostetler

1) Prayer for perfect peace in your heart and soul

Lord, the prophet Isaiah said to You, "You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in You" (Isaiah 26:3 NIV). And Jesus, You said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid" (John 14:27 NIV). So, I pray for that perfect peace of Christ (Colossians 3:15) to [rule in my heart](#) and soul.

2) Prayer for peace in the church

God, Your word says, "The Lord gives strength to His people; the Lord blesses His people with peace" (Psalm 29:11 NIV). Help me and [Your whole church](#) to "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:3 NIV).

3) Prayer to be a peacemaker

Jesus, You said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God" (Matthew 5:9 NIV). I want to be blessed; I [choose to be a peacemaker](#), knowing that "Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness" (James 3:18 NIV).

4) Prayer for the peace that passes understanding

Prince of Peace, I ask for You to fulfill in me the promise of Your word that "the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:7 NIV).

5) Prayer to live in peace with all

God, since Your word says, "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone" (Romans 12:18 NIV), I ask You to help me "make every effort to do what leads to peace" (Romans 14:19 NIV), that I and those around me "may live peaceful and [quiet lives](#) in all godliness and holiness" (1 Timothy 2:2 NIV).

June OUTREACH

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Hays, Kansas 67601*

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haysumc@hotmail.com
www.kaysradio.com
www.HaysFUMC.com

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Return Service Requested



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, July 1

Blood Drive

Thursday, July 4

Church Office Closed

Saturday, July 6

Wild West Fest Parade

Sunday, July 7

Welcome Pastor Susan

10:00 Service followed by potluck

July 9,10,11

Vacation Bible School

July 12

Sponsor the Lark's game