



# OUTREACH



Volume 36 Issue 3

First United Methodist Church

March 21, 2024

Rev. Dr. Susan Murithi will be appointed as our senior pastor beginning July 1, 2024. The cabinet, with Bishop David Wilson, have prayed for God's wisdom about the best available leadership for our church.

Susan writes:

I am a disciple of Jesus Christ who is passionate about the mission of God in the world. I serve as a Pastor who is dedicated to shepherding all God's people and to nurturing them toward Christlikeness. I desire to join God in kingdom work through missional outreach and discipleship communities for the transformation of the world.

Dr. Murithi received a Bachelor of Theology at Kenya Methodist University; a Master of Theological Studies at Drew University; and a Ph.D. in Intercultural Studies at Asbury Theological Seminary. She considers her gifts to be leadership, preaching, discipleship, and prayer.

Local church experiences include: Senior Pastor Methodist Church in Kenya – St. Paul's Meru; Pastor of Mentor and Gypsum UMCs in Kansas; Pastor of St. Paul UMC in St. Paul, Nebraska. She currently serves as a mentor with the Lily Foundation's Women Thriving in Ministry Initiative, an Intercultural Ministry trainer in the Great Plains Conference, and a member of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Committee. Her orders as an Elder in the Kenyan United Methodist Church will be recognized this summer at the Great Plains Annual Conference.

Susan is married to Jeffrey. They have two daughters. Faith is a student at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Neema will be a student at Hays High School.

Please join us in providing a warm welcome to Pastor Susan!

Dylan Bryant and the First United Methodist Staff Parish Relations Committee

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

**Thanks**

*Thanks to Alan Nelson for cleaning the kitchen ovens. This was no small task!*

Stop-doing lists are more important than to-do lists.

**Blessing of the Bikes**

March 30, 11-1  
 Good Times Motorcycle Shop-  
 1007 Vine Street  
 Lunch provided by CMA at 12:30  
 Blessing of the bikes at 1:00 by Pastor Troy



When you come to the muck, you walk right through it.

Then you won't get stuck.

Alice Ebderhart-Wright

**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*

*Bonnie Ginther, on the death of her son, Loren, on March 12.*

**Contratulations**

*to Madison Schlaefli and Colton Helm on their wedding on February 24. Parents are Dustin and Kristy, grandparents are Larry and Pauline.*



*to Beckie & Richard Holmes who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on April 6.*

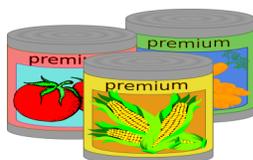
*to Patrick & Cassandra Loomis on the birth of Stellan David, born on March 5. Stellan has two siblings, Octavia & Torin.*

*If you or a family member are in the hospital, please call the church office if you would like to be on the prayer list or to let the pastor know at 625-3408.*

*The gift for the Altar Foundation for 2024 is \$151.*

*Remember to bring the Heifer Project containers back to the church on Palm Sunday, March 24.*

**Remember to bring items for the Hays High food pantry.**



**Circle News**

**Rebekah Circle** met March 13 at the church. Peggy Stull & Elaine Ford were hostesses and served 8 members. Cathy Albers led the business meeting and Carol Purdy gave the program "A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial".

**Looking Ahead**

April 7, 8:30-12:00  
 Camp Bake Sale

April 7, 6:30, Gym  
 Family Movie Night

May 4, 7:30, The Fort  
 Adult Night at The Fort  
 Finger Food pot luck

June 9, 5:00 Ark Park  
 All Church Fellowship  
 Food truck, Sno cone truck  
 Dessert pot luck

June 16, 10:00, Pavillion  
 One church service

July 9-11  
 Vacation Bible School

July 12  
 FUMC sponsors The Lark's game



## Menus for April

### April 3

Sub sandwiches  
Mac & cheese  
Chips  
Salad  
Dessert

### April 10

Chicken pot pie  
Salad  
Rolls  
Dessert

### April 17

Chili or chili dogs  
Salad  
French fries  
Dessert



### April 24

Taco salad  
Chips & cheese  
Spanish rice  
Dessert

### May 1

Hamburgers & drink provided  
Salad & dessert pot luck

Menus are subject to change

Serving times– 5-6 p.m.

Meals are \$5.00 each

To go boxes are available/call church,  
625-3408 or Susan, 650-2401

## FUMC Financial Snapshot

	February 29, 2024	Year to Date
Checking Account*	\$72,671	
Operating Gifts	\$54,636	\$ 93,513
Operating Expenses	\$61,771	\$111,512

Parsonage Mortgage Balance \$128,947

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

## An announcement from Pastor Craig

The last three years have been some of my best in ministry. The kind spirit of Hays America has been felt. Dayna and I have been the beneficiaries of a church that knows how to care and come together for another 150 years. I have been blest to call myself pastor of Hays First UMC.

However, change is afoot. On July 1, 2024, I will become the Senior Pastor of Trinity UMC in Hutchinson, Kansas. For those who remember my story, Hutchinson is the area where I grew up. I am a graduate of Haven High School. My dad, who is 95, still lives in the house he and my mother built in the late 1950's about five or six years before I was born. I have two siblings in that area, and I have three grandchildren who will be 45 minutes to an hour away.

I was not actively seeking an appointment away from Hays until I saw the Trinity opening. In consultation with Dayna, I submitted a letter of consideration for this appointment. It took the cabinet and bishop several weeks to discern my gifts and graces for ministry and Trinity's needs before I was asked to accept this new appointment.

The process for discernment of a new Senior Pastor is already in the works. Please pray for your Staff Parish Relations Committee as they work alongside the District Superintendent and Bishop.

## Endowment Moment

**Greg Daughetee, Chairman**

The operating document that governs the activities of the Permanent Endowment Committee outlines six general funds. This month's Endowment Moment will focus on two of these general funds of the Church's Permanent Endowment. **Building Fund:** Income from this fund shall provide for capital improvements, major repairs, equipment, furnishings or decorations for any properties owned by the church.

**Non-endowed Building Fund:** The Permanent Endowment Committee may determine certain undesignated ministry funds or unspent income be placed in this fund and not endowed, with the entire portion eligible for expenditure for such purposes as may be determined by the Permanent Endowment Committee. Gifts to any of the funds can be made at any time during one's lifetime or as a bequest.

## One Word Prayers for Lent

Rick Hamlin

Very early in the life of the church, followers of Jesus began observing a season we now call [Lent](#), a 40-day season of spiritual preparation for the holiest of days in the Christian calendar: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Silent Saturday, and Easter Sunday. Lent often involves [spiritual discipline](#) and practices such as [fasting](#), meditating, or [giving something up](#). It is a time of intentional, [focused prayer](#) and contemplation. Could using one-word prayers for Lent be helpful?

In the clamor and frenzy of our daily lives, it's difficult to mark this season of confession, repentance, and humility as we'd like. But it's not impossible if we have a plan for Lent. One way is to select one-word prayers.

Lent one-word prayers can be offered silently or whispered during daily activities—while dropping kids at school or waiting on hold. They can offer a prayerful respite in the most mundane moments. All it takes is a little intention, a momentary awareness, and sometimes a helpful trigger or reminder. Maybe before opening the mail. Or after hearing a car horn or barking dog.

So, here are one-word prayers for Lent I suggest for praying throughout the days and weeks leading up to this year's observance of Christ's Passion. Let them bring [meaning to the Lenten season](#).

### Week 4 of Lent: **Mercy**

Let this word make your fourth week of Lent a continual cry for mercy, for yourself and for others.

### Week 5 of Lent: **Break**

As you pray into the fifth Lenten week, you may have become more aware of your sins and shortcomings, [habits and tendencies](#) that aren't helpful to you or pleasing to God. Speak the word "break" often in the course of your days, asking the Lord to break up those patterns and proclivities.

### Week 6 of Lent: **Need**

Among the blessings of Lent is a deeper and broader awareness of how much we need the powerful presence of Jesus in our lives. Repeating the word "need" as often as possible can become a petition for God to "meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19 NIV).

### Week 7 of Lent: **Jesus**

In the final week of Lent, as you prepare for the events of [Holy Week](#), speak the name of Jesus, invoking His presence, praising His beauty, and asking for His blessing and working in your life and in the lives of those around you.

Try it. Sprinkle each of these one-word prayers for Lent through your days, hours, and minutes between now and the annual observance of Christ's Passion. Then you may be more ready than ever for the glorious celebration of Resurrection Sunday.

## Easter Services



Sunday, March 24

Palm Sunday

Thursday, March 28

Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 p.m. Worship Center, downstairs

Friday, March 29

Good Friday Service 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary

Sunday, March 31

Easter Sunday 8:30, 9:45, 10:45 Services  
9:30 Children's Easter Egg Hunt

## Acts of Kindness to Do for Easter

*Guideposts* blogger Michelle Cox offers 6 ways you can be a blessing to others this Easter.

Easter is a time to reflect on a God who loved us so much that He gave His life for us. As we think about how blessed we are on this day, take this opportunity to be a blessing to someone else. Make acts of kindness a new part of your yearly Easter traditions. Here are ten inspiring deeds you can do for your friends, family, loved ones, and even strangers.

### **Never underestimate the power of praying for others.**

This year, as you hunt for eggs, sit down for Easter dinner, or attend a church service, take the time to show someone acts of kindness by praying for them. Let your Easter prayers for others focus on what this season is all about: hope, renewal, and new beginnings. Here are a couple Easter prayers to get you started:

*Lord, the resurrection of Your son has given us a new life and renewed hope. Help us to live as new people in pursuit of the Christian ideal. (From New Saint Joseph People's Prayer Book)*  
*Glory and praise to you, Risen Savior, for you bring light to our darkness, joy to our sorrow, and the fullness of love to our reluctant hearts.*

### **Share the message of Easter with your family, friends and children**

Don't forget what Easter is all about. Share the message of Easter with everyone in your life. Read the Easter story in [the Bible](#). Put some coins in a plastic Easter egg and then tell your children about the price that Jesus paid for us. As you dye eggs, talk about how the red eggs represent God's sacrifice for us, the blue eggs are a reminder of the sky He made, the green eggs represent the grass He created, and the white eggs are a symbol of having a pure heart for God. And as they enjoy their candy, talk about the sweetness of Jesus. Make the fun traditions a celebration of God's amazing gift of love for us—His Son.

Make any of these Easter acts of kindness a part of your yearly Easter traditions or try a new one every year. Easter is the season to be grateful for the blessing of a risen Lord, and for the opportunity that gives us to be a blessing to others.

### **Fix Easter baskets for your friends and family**

Nothing brings joy like receiving an Easter basket, even if you are an adult. Take on a tradition of putting together Easter baskets for your friends and family, not just the kids. See the smile it will bring to their faces. You could put the usual jellybeans, Easter eggs, and chocolate bunnies in the basket, but here are some other ideas:

- A pot of cheery flowers that will keep on blooming
- A "gift card" to mow their lawn or clean their house
- A small decoration for their home
- A gift card to a local restaurant

### **Share your bounty**

Do you know a family that's going through difficult times financially? If you have the means, offer to help make this an Easter season they will love, even if times are hard. Give them a sweet Easter gift, offer to help them around the house or with babysitting. Take the kids shopping for an Easter outfit or for some treats for an Easter basket. See how even small acts of kindness can make a difference on Easter. If we all took the time to help someone this Easter (and all the days after) how much more hope and love could we be sharing throughout our communities?

### **Invite someone to Easter dinner at your house**

Easter dinner is a wonderful tradition that brings the whole family together for good food and cherished memories. Why not share the love this season? Make a tradition of inviting someone to your Easter dinner every year. Pick one of your kids' friends, a coworker, a friend you haven't seen in a while, or a neighbor. Keep in mind that holidays can be lonely when someone doesn't have family to spend it with. Share the gift of your family with someone else. Plus, sometimes it's a rare treat for folks to have a home cooked meal. Even if your family traditionally heads to a restaurant for Easter, you can still invite someone along.

# March OUTREACH

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www.kaysradio.com  
www.HaysFUMC.com

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday, March 23**

**Women's Conference**

**Tuesday, April 2**

**Loving Hands/Loving Hearts**

**Wednesday, April 3**

**Women in Faith, Executive Board**

**Sunday, April 7**

**Confirmation Sunday, Camp Bake Sale**

**Family Movie Night, 6:30, Gym**

**Wednesday, April 17**

**Senior WOW—4:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, April 20**

**Women in Faith, Spring Brunch**