



# OUTREACH

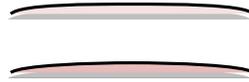


Volume 33, Issue 9

First United Methodist Church

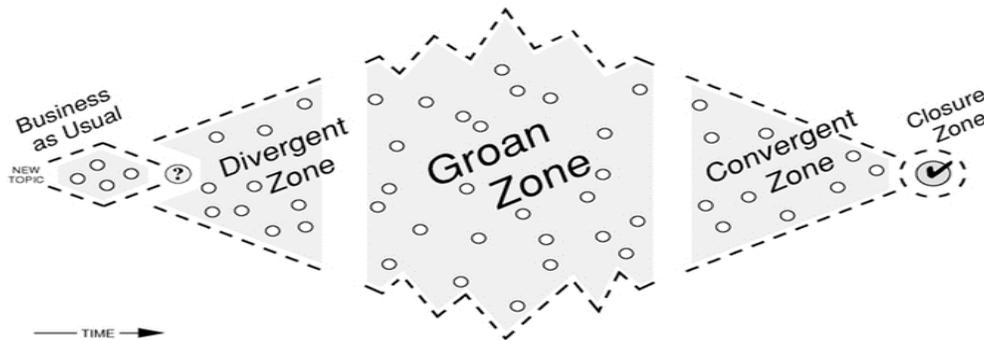
September 23, 2021

## The Groan



New ways of thinking and new approaches to doing things creates both excitement and dread. It is fun to daydream and envision. I personally love the work of thinking outside the box and dreaming fresh starts. Where I get energized is looking at business as usual and imagining creative new ideas or next steps. Others can catch that excitement as well but soon our ideas may begin to diverge.

Divergent ideas are great. It means there are more thoughts and dreams to pull from, but eventually a point is reached, convergence, where ideas need to come together so action and closure can occur. Enter the groan zone.



The Diamond of Participatory Decision-Making. It was developed by Sam Kaner with Lenny Lind, Catherine Toldi, Sarah Fisk and Duane Berger.

The groan zone is where the hard work of shaping and forming new approaches to ministry unfold. It is a place of conversations, debate, and coming together. It is called the groan zone because it is here where we can dig our heels in and not want to budge. It is here where the difficult work of compromise and openness to different approaches can make or break what happens next. It is in the groan zone where new ideas can go to the graveyard or spring to life.

We are in a season of change. As we come back from the ebb and flow of a virus that continues to be tricky, we must adapt. As we chew on denominational issues, we ache to know what is next for us. As you adjust to a new pastor who is beginning to see new possibilities, his ideas may lead to divergence and some groaning.

The good news is God journeys with us through it all. Where we converge is yet to be decided. But in our groaning, God will be faithful to love us. Grace will be abundant.

Pastor Craig

Please email your OUTREACH item to [haysumc@hotmail.com](mailto:haysumc@hotmail.com) before Sunday, October 17, 2021. Please place the name "Outreach" in the subject line...or place your item, clearly labeled for the Outreach, in the office by Sunday, October 17. The next Outreach should be received by October 21.

# Thanks

Dear Members of the FUMC,  
Thank you for your continued support of the HHS food pantry. Your donations this summer allowed us to continue to serve USD 489 families in need. During school each week the Helping Hands students pack pantry boxes for families in need. Your support allows us to continue this program.

Michelle Thacker  
John Hafliger  
Helping Hands Instructors

Dear Liz & FUMC members,  
Thank you all so much for the financial donations you contributed to Backpacks For Kids. Thanks also to everyone who donated backpacks and school supplies. I was shocked at the quantities supplied from the Vacation Bible School youth! Thank you parents for your generous support. We had a wonderful backpack distribution.

Laura Shoaff

## INTRODUCING OUR STAFF PROGRAM STAFF

Pastor: Pastor Craig Hauschild  
Congregational Care Director, Troy Miller  
Director of Music: Alexander Rome  
Special Music Coordinator: Meredith Cory  
Organist: Noah Erichsen  
Pianist: Sharon Graham  
Handbell Choir Dir., Shawn Henderson  
Children's Ministry Director: Jo Swayne  
Asst. Children's Director: Melissa Pyle  
Youth Ministry Director: Matt Dumler  
Outreach Editor: Wendy Beougher

## SUPPORT STAFF:

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

# Sympathy

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family & friends of

Bill Werth, Chelsea Dickey, Cadence, Callie, Cidnee & Cashlyn on the death of **Colton** on 8-21-21.

Darci, Brent & Tegan Cain on the death of Darci's grandfather **Keith Bergess** on 8-24-21.

Athenna Moore on the death of her sister, **Diane Payne**, on 8-25-21.

Norman Owings on the death of **Karen** on 8-25-21.

to Chelsey & Aaron Ladd on the death of Chelsey's grandfather, **Larry Nofton**.

Bev Lowen died on 8-22-21

Don Branda on the death of his wife, **Pauline**, on September 7.

Pauline had been a member of First FUMC for 58 years.

Julie & Steve Paul on the death of Julie's mother, **Evelyn Engleman**, on 9-9-21.

## Congratulations

to our newest members: **Derek, Emily, Audrey, Alaina & Ethan Yarmer** who joined September 12.

**Laurel & Ruby Stephensen** who joined September 12.

to Pam & Ernie Bryant who celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on September 12.

# Circle News

**Naomi Circle** met Wednesday, September 8 with Deb McDonald and Evelyn Zellmer serving as hostesses. Nine members shared fall fellowship with Pastor Craig and Troy Miller who joined their breakfast. Pastor Craig shared how much the dinners meant to the families following memorial services. Troy Miller, on behalf of Sarah, shared an update on the Bonding Through Books project. Roll call of our members was answered by "What was your favorite subject in school?" The Peddler's Fair was discussed in terms of how we could proceed with Covid 19 still looming in and around us.

Our next meeting will be held at the church on October 14 at 9:15.

**Rebekah Circle** met September 8 at the church. Jarilyn Staab and Sherrie Smith were hostesses. The program was presented by Pastor Craig.

Our next meeting will be October 13 at 1:30 in the Alcove. Louise Younger & Carol Purdy will be hostesses. Sherrie Smith will present the program. Any woman not in another Circle is welcome to join.

Thanks to Phil Stahlman and Joe Edwards for fixing the toilet on first floor. Thanks for your hard work to keep the church in good repair.

Congratulations to **Theodore Ladd** who joined September 19. Pare Chelsey.



Think and it's October...that's what it feels like here at church because boy is it going fast! All kinds of activities are planned and more are planned, so check out our Facebook page and stay up-to-date by signing up for Reminder texts and Textcaster.

WOW kicked off August 25 with a potluck dinner and fellowship because it was too hot to go outside. The first Wednesday in September we had a cookout, until the flies overtook us, and ended the evening finishing a rock project behind the fountain. This landscaping project started on Sunday, August 29, as "the church left the building" to dress up the west side of the church. If you haven't walked by to see our stepping stones yet, please do, they look awesome! Classes began September 8 with Kids Club, G1 (God First) our 5th grade only class and some amazing opportunities for adults too. Be sure to come on Wednesdays any time between 5-6 for an inexpensive meal, usually \$3-4, then stay for worship 6-6:15 and classes 6:15-7:15. A midweek pick me up with your church family

Sunday mornings have a new look through the end of the year. We've been trying lots of different options to find the sweet spot of having ministry when children are here. Currently we have three worship opportunities: 8:30 traditional service in the Sanctuary, 9:45 contemporary worship in the gym and 10:45 traditional service in the Sanctuary. We are testing out a Sunday School hour from 9:45-10:45 upstairs for Preschool-5th graders and in the dining room or The Gathering Coffee Shop for the youth. If your family attends during this trial period and have thoughts or suggestions, please let us know.

Lots of upcoming activities to put on your calendar:

October 6 WOW @ Pa's Pumpkin Patch

October 27 Trunk or Treat So Others Can Eat

November 14 Children/Youth Sabbath @ all three services

November 14 Casting for Children's Christmas Pageant

December 8 Children's Christmas Pageant @ WOW

December 12 Children's Christmas Pageant @ 10:45 worship

December 18 Caroling & Cookies @ WOW

Blessed to Serve - Melissa Pyle (pylemelissa06@gmail.com) & Jo Swayne (jo@haysfumc.com)



## Meet our new musicians

**Noah Erichsen**, organist, is a freshman at Fort Hays State University majoring in Political Science and History, and plays trombone in the FHSU Marching Band. He has played organ since 3rd grade and hails from Ellsworth, KS. You might be interested to find out why he chose the organ as his instrument.

**Sharon Graham**, pianist, currently teaches English at FHSU. She has taught English composition to students in China with the English/Chinese studies program at FHSU. She also has a Masters of Divinity from Lincoln Christian University, Lincoln, IL. She will be playing for the choir as well as assisting the morning traditional worship services.

**Alexandra Rome** is our new choir director. A graduate of FHSU, she student taught at Hays High under the direction of Johnny Matlock. She is a vocal music educator and is currently at Thomas Moore Prep-Marion and at Holy Family Elementary since 2019. She is excited to share the joy of God's word through choral music as we enter this new season of worship.

As we meet these musicians, let's welcome them and let them know how we appreciate the sharing of their talents to enhance the worship at Hays FUMC.

International Literacy Day is observed on September 8, 2021. The day was proclaimed by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) on November 17, 1965 and first celebrated in 1966. The goal for recognizing this day is to emphasize the importance of literacy to individuals, communities, and societies. Literacy is described as the ability to read for knowledge and write coherently and think critically about the written word. Some experts state that literacy can also include the ability to understand all forms of communication, be it body language, pictures, video or sound.

Did you know:

- Some 776 million adults lack minimum literacy skills;
- One in five adults is still not literate and two-thirds of these adults are women;
- 75 million children are out-of-school and many more attend irregularly or drop out.



But wait, there is more you should know:

- Children who have not developed some basic literacy skills upon entering school are 3-4 times more likely to drop out in later years.
- Children who do not read on grade-level by the 4th grade have a 78% chance of not catching up.
- Students who reported having all four types of reading materials at home (newspapers, books, magazines, encyclopedias) scored, on average, higher than students who reported having fewer reading materials.

Crime and Literacy:

- 85% of youth who interact with the juvenile court system are functionally illiterate.
- More than 60% of prison inmates are considered functionally illiterate.
- 2/3 of children who cannot read proficiently by 4th grade will end up in jail or on welfare.

Poverty and Literacy:

- Teenage girls ages 16-19 who live at or below poverty level and have average literacy skills are 6 times more likely to have children out of wedlock than their peers who can read proficiently.
- 3 out of 4 food stamp recipients perform in the lowest 2 literacy levels.

Cost of Illiteracy:

- It is estimated that the cost of illiteracy to business and the taxpayer is roughly \$20 billion per year.
- An estimated more than \$2 billion is spent each year on students who repeat a grade because of reading problems.
- Low literacy costs roughly \$73 billion per year in direct health care costs.

(Source: US Department of Education, US Department of Health and Human Service, United Way, National Adult Literacy Survey)

There are many ways to celebrate Literacy Day:

- Supporting your local library
- Raising literacy awareness in our communities.
- Reading is one of the most stimulating activities for children. Why don't you read one of your favorite stories to your children?
- Find a pen pal to write to. This person can be a friend, a grandparent, a cousin, an elderly person who is alone, etc. Notes do not have to be long, just the thought is important.
- Volunteer at your local schools.
- Share gently used books with others.

**Jesus Taught  
us how to  
Serve Others**

From your Church and Society Committee

**WHAT: CHILDREN'S BOOK DRIVE****WHEN: SEPTEMBER 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30**

Every September 8 countries around the world celebrate International Literacy Day to remind people of the importance of literacy. Literacy is an ability to read, write, and use numeracy in at least one method of writing. Children who do not read on grade-level by 4th grade have only a 78% chance of catching up.

Your Church and Society Committee is sponsoring a Children's Book Drive during the month of September. We are asking you to donate new or gently used books for children in our community. The books will be distributed to FHSU Literacy Institution, USD 489 Elementary Schools, Hays Area Day Care and Hays Head Start. (Depending on the number of books received)

Bring new or gently used children's books to the church and leave them in the church library marked children's book drive.

Examples of book titles and authors include:

Eric Carle

Dr. Seuss

Wonky Donkey

Book with No Pictures

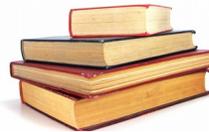
Bernstain Bears series

Little Critter series

Books that have verses that rhyme or repeat words and phrases

Nursery Rhymes

Hard cover books for pre-school ages



~~We thank you for your support!~~



**munion Sunday**

**October 3, 2021**

The Bible is clear. Galatians 6:2, NRSV says, "Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Jesus says it this way, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 19:19b).

World Communion Sunday began in 1936 as a way to recognize our ecumenical oneness in Christ and to bring Christians together in a spirit of unity and peace. In the United Methodist Church, congregations throughout the denomination will join together to collect a Special Sunday offering that helps scholars from around the world reach their full potential through scholarships, training and mentoring.

Nelson Mandella said: "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world." As a small child Mary Grace Galapon labored as a housemaid in exchange for food and clothing. Yet, allowed to attend church, she found hope. As a member of The United Methodist Church, your giving on World Communion Sunday has allowed this deaconess, of the Mindanao Philippines Annual Conference, to pursue an education that is now changing her community as she works to eliminate poverty. Mary Grace's work, and the impact of hundreds like her, are possible because you give. Your gifts help to provide scholarships for national and international graduate students whom God has gifted to learn and to serve. For stories on how you make a difference visit [UMC.org/your-impact](http://UMC.org/your-impact).

Please come prepared on October 3 to give to this special offering, and may the gifts we present be multiplied with the gifts of other United Methodist congregations and shared with faithful students around the world.

*The Trustees are seeking someone to assume responsibility for operation and maintenance of the fountain on the south side of the church. For additional information or referrals contact Phil Stan at 785-656-1901 or phil@pstahlman.net*

Volunteers are needed for the 8:30 & 10:45 services to help run the audio & video equipment. If you are interested, please call Mike Cooper (628-8451) or the church office (625-3408).

### **New Staff Email Addresses**

The church staff has new email addresses. They are simply the person's first name @haysfumc.com  
So, for example, craig@haysfumc.com.

If you send an email to the old address, it will reach the new one for the time being. We have set up forwarding services to make sure we don't miss an email. Please begin updating your address books and make sure the new addresses are marked safe.

## **News from Rachel Palmberg Summer**

## **Happy**

I arrived back in Kansas at the end of May after weeks of packing and wrapping up my four years in Bangkok. Shortly after sending out my April newsletter, COVID cases began to spike again and Thailand went back into a soft lockdown. Looking back to 2017 on my first walk into the soi 4 red light district that was full of music, tourists, vendors, hustlers, and more, it was such a stark contrast to my final walk down soi 4, which was quiet, empty, and full of despair. While I have peace with leaving the city and I feel I finished my time there as well as I could, it was still hard walking away during lockdown, not being able to say a proper goodbye to many members of my community there.

When I planned this trip to the US for the summer, I knew I wanted to spend the first few months relaxing and having a much needed break after six years living in Africa and Asia. I've had a great time reconnecting with family and friends and being back in Kansas. I even had opportunities to visit friends in Washington DC and Michigan. I've also started volunteering as a crisis counselor for Crisis Text Line, which has been an awesome opportunity to continue sharpening my counseling skills and support people in their darkest moments.

I am still looking forward to moving back to Eswatini in mid October. I'm excited to reconnect with the Manzini community and plug into what's happening there. As many of you know, during my time with Hosea's Heart from 2015 to 2017, I was able to connect and build relationships with women living in the squatter camp and working in prostitution on the streets. I was and still am inspired by their resilience and drive to provide a better future for their children and community. So much has changed since the pandemic hit with full force last year, but I'm excited to be on the ground and be a part of what's happening in the community.

My goal when I arrive in October is to visit various ministries and organizations in Manzini and get a feel for where I can fit in the community. I'm looking forward to seeing what's already happening on the ground that I can get involved with and partner with my vision. I am so grateful to be partnering with The Cause, which helped support me in my time in Thailand and will continue to partner with me in Eswatini. They are a great source of accountability, networking, and support, and I'm so thankful to be part of their community. I am so grateful to you all for your love and support on this journey, starting from my first short-term trip to Eswatini in 2012. I am in awe of your faithfulness in walking alongside me on this adventure.

My salary is still completely dependent on your support and I am still in need of \$900 per month for my basic living expenses (not including one-time expenses such as flights, security deposit, a car, etc.). If you have any questions or would like more details about my expenses, please don't hesitate to ask. If you're interested in supporting me monthly or making a one-time donation, you can visit my Cause profile (<https://thecause.org/partners/nightlight-rachel/>). In the US, checks can be made out to The Cause with my name in the memo and sent to:

The Cause, Inc.

Rachel

P.O. Box 190896

Carlsbad, CA 92013

**Rachel will be speaking on the topic of sex trafficking, Thursday, Oct. 7. 6:00 p.m., Campus**

**Center**

**Part Time Paid Opportunity**

Someone who likes to cook and help others is needed to prepare breakfast and dinner on weekends for one person. Also to spend some time while pills are taken and possibly do a little extra cooking. If interested, please call the church office at 625-3408. Can be flexible.

*Volunteer custodial help is needed from October 11-17. Call the church office if interested. (625-3408).*

WOW classes began Wednesday, September 8. Adult options:

Join Sandy Henningsen & Tanya Smith in Room 205 at 6:15 to learn how to study scripture.  
Join Troy Miller in Room 207 for relevant discussion on scripture, Spiritual gifts, Bible study.  
Join the Chancel or Bell Choirs

**October WOW Menus****October 6**

Family Night at Pa's Pumpkin Patch

Hot dogs

Chips

Bottled water

**October 13th**

BBQ meatballs

Mac & cheese

Green beans

Dessert

**October 20th**

Bierocks

Green bean & dumpling soup

Veggie tray

**October 27th**

Trunk or Treat

Snack trunk outside

Menus are subject to change.

Price for the meal will be announced on email site or posted in the kitchen.

Girlfriends & the Bible (GAB) begins September 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Please check the lost and found table in the parlor. There are many cups, umbrellas, sunglasses & jackets.

Be looking for more information on the Stewardship Campaign:

October 3 Re:Member

October 10 Re:Fresh

October 17 Re:Joice



Bring your pledge card beginning October 17.

# September OUTREACH

*First United Methodist Church*

*305 West 7th*

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**www.kaysradio.com**

**www.HaysFUMC.com**

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## Upcoming Events



- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>October 3</b>  | <b>World Communion Sunday</b>                    |
| <b>October 6</b>  | <b>WOW at Pa's Pumpkin Patch</b>                 |
| <b>October 7</b>  | <b>Rachel Palmberg, 6:00 p.m., Campus Center</b> |
| <b>November 7</b> | <b>Charge Conference at 7:00 p.m.</b>            |