



OUTREACH



Volume 37 Issue 4

First United Methodist Church

April 23, 2025

What's Next

Matt Dumler

Holy Week brings about this intrigue and a longing for faith like no other time of the year. We get to experience emotions ranging from the joy of Palm Sunday to the mourning of the cross, to the awe of the open tomb. Something within us causes a desire to be stirred up to investigate faith further. Many people who have not attended church for a very long time find themselves attracted to Easter morning services. Others find themselves experiencing grace in a way they never have before. Still others are left wondering where faith's place is in their lives. Regardless of where you find yourself, the question is the same for everyone: what's next? How do we possibly take what we experienced during Holy Week and transition it into something that lasts all year round?

Acts 2:42 says "They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." This is the same verse we designed our contemporary service around. Oftentimes churches will adopt this verse as their model for faith building. However, this verse doesn't simply apply to building an entire church or even a service. Rather this verse helps us define the journey of faith and helps us answer the question of what's next.

First, devote yourself to the apostles teaching. Find a Bible study that fits. We have many to choose from at the church. I know how intimidating it can be joining an already established group, but trust me you will be welcomed with open arms. This simple idea of joining a study elicits thoughts like "I don't know enough to join a Bible study" or "I don't have time for that". I hear those statements and acknowledge that those feelings are real, but those are also the same feelings that hold you back from where you want to go. Moving forward means getting uncomfortable. Everyone in a Bible study started where you are now, and if you asked them, they will tell you how much better off they are because they didn't listen to those thoughts.

Devote yourself to scriptural reading. Whether it's a verse a day, a chapter a day or more, do something to get to know the scriptures better. I wish I could tell you that every scripture is going to make you feel good about yourself but I can't. What I can tell you though, is that each scripture will help you draw closer to God.

Second, devote yourself to fellowship. There is so much more to church than simply attending services on Sunday morning. Some of the most powerful moments in church for me had nothing to do with a sermon or scripture lesson. Rather, they had everything to do with the people I met at church. A mentor of mine used to say that your best friends are in church with you, you just don't know it yet. I understand it's intimidating meeting new people, but finding your people in church is vital for your faith walk.

Third, devote yourself to breaking of the bread. What goes through your mind when you take communion at church? Is it treated as a simple snack before you get to go home or do you reflect upon what it actually means to be taking communion. When you take the bread, remember how Jesus's body was physically broken for us and the punishment he took on the cross was ours to bear but His mercy didn't allow it. When you drink the juice, remind yourself of the blood He shed so that we don't have to take the consequences of our sin. Don't take communion for granted. Lastly, devote yourself to prayer. If you only got to spend an hour a week with your spouse or your children would you consider that a healthy relationship? I think the unanimous answer to that question is no. How then can we say we have a healthy relationship with God if we only ever seek him for an hour on Sunday morning? Build time into your day to commune with the Father. Take Him all of you and don't hold anything back. Do more listening than you do speaking. Prayer is simply a conversation with God, don't overthink it. Whatever you do next won't be wrong. The only wrong thing you could do coming out of Easter is to do nothing at all. Don't expect to do everything all at once. Start with one thing. When that one thing has become a habit, add in something else and continue the process. You have a journey to travel but you have to choose to take the first step. So what will that first step be?

Outreach articles are due the **third** Sunday of each month. Please email your OUTREACH item to wendy@haysfumc.com before **Sunday, May 18, 2025**. Items may also be placed in the office, labeled **for the Outreach** by **May 18**. The next Outreach should be received on May 22.

Thanks

Thanks to Alan Nelson, Tom Ford and Sarah Schumacher who worked at the cold weather shelter. Thanks for sacrificing hours of sleep to help those less fortunate have a warm, safe place to rest. Thanks to Pastor Susan & Matt Dumler who participated in the training.

On behalf of Hays High School, I want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your continuous support of our food pantry throughout the year. Your generous and consistent donations have had a tremendous impact on our students and families, ensuring that those in need have access to essential items. We are truly thankful for your kindness and commitment to our school community. Your generosity makes a difference every day.

Hays High food pantry Student Leaders & Hays High Culinary Team

Have you seen 30 brown plastic chairs? Let Alan Nelson know.

INTRODUCING OUR STAFF

PROGRAM STAFF

Pastor: Pastor Susan Murithi
Associate Pastor:: Pastor Troy Miller
Special Music Coordinator: Meredith Cory
Organist::Hannah Barrett

Charlotte Rathke

Choir Director: Garrett Cole

Pianist: Sharon Graham

Handbell Choir Dir. Hannah Barrett

Marijo Rooney

Director of Discipleship: Matt Dumler

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:: Melilssa Pyle

Sympathy

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family & friends of

Sandra & David Quint on the death of Sandra's mother, Delsia Dee Grover.

Harvey & Susan Jansonius on the death of Harvey's brother, David, on March 19.

Barbara Michaelis, on the death of her sister, Linda, and brother-in-law, Bob Davis, both former members.

Chris Trauer who died March 31.

Congratulations

to Jenna Brubaker, the new Children's Ministry Coordinator. Jenna is married to Jacob and has a son, Harrison.

Thanks to Susan Jansonius for preparing meals all year for WOW. Thanks to Dandy Henderson, Tony Anthony, Brad Schumacher, Tura Clement, Armin Kelly, Alan Nelson, R.W. Stuart, Carol Purdy, Lorraine Howerton and Kristi Lang for helping this year.



Dear Church family:
We would like to thank all of you for the prayers, cards, & caring thoughts over these past 2.5 years. The journey has not been easy but it helped all of us, knowing we had your support & love. It is so good having Cameron back home.

Greg, Gwen & Cam Daughhetee

Circle News

Naomi Circle met Wednesday, April 9 at the church. Glenna Clingsmith and Evelyn Zellmer served twelve members.

Joys and concerns were shared especially for Pastor Susan as she and her husband travel to/from Kenya. The Spring Brunch was held on Saturday, March 29th and was enjoyed by forty-four individuals.

Our program today featured a Lenten activity using the left/right game. The Mizpah Benediction closed our meeting.

Our May meeting will be held [on May 14 at 10:30](#) with a potluck being served at 11:15.

Rebekah Circle met April 9 at the church. Barbara Clinkscales and Peggy Stull served 12 members. Peggy Stull gave devotions. The business meeting was conducted by Peggy and Elaine Ford. Members voted to accept the committee's recommendation for distribution of Peddler's Fair monies. Bob Albers presented the program, "A Trip to New Zealand". The May meeting will be the 14th and will be a joint luncheon with Naomi Circle.

UW Faith Spring Brunch

Forty-four members and guests attended the Annual Spring Brunch hosted by the United Women in Faith on March 29th at the church. Following a delicious brunch, an informative program was shared by Pastor Susan and her mother, Dorcas Baariu, about Kenya. The program included the group learning a Kenyan song and dance. Several lucky attendees won door prizes. It was a beautiful spring morning full of fun and fellowship.



FUMC Financial Snapshot

	March 31, 2025	Year to Date
Checking Account*	\$40,777.05	
Operating Gifts	\$50,213.98	\$140,206.24
Operating Expenses	\$53,466.68	\$156,656.62

Parsonage Mortgage Balance \$83,273.21
Organ Fund \$8,125.99

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

The sustaining gift for the *Altar Foundation* is \$152 in 2025.



But God made the earth by his power; he founded the world by his wisdom and stretched out the heavens by his understanding.—Jeremiah 10:12 (NIV)

God placed humankind on this earth to be the [caretakers of the world](#). On [Earth Day](#), look for ways to help the gift of His creation—and make a habit of looking for ways that you can continually honor His mighty works.

Dear Lord, You founded the world by Your wisdom. Guide me to do my part in protecting the earth, and help me make choices that support the future of our planet.

Menus for**April 23**

Spaghetti casserole
 Green beans
 Breadsticks
 Dessert

April 30

Hamburgers
 Baked beans
 Chips
 Potato or macaroni salad
 Fudge bars

Menu subject to change
 To go boxes available on request
 Serving time-5:15-6:00

**Womens Fellowship**

Thursday, April 24, 4 p.m.—Ice cream at Dairy Queen

Thanks to Sandy Henningsen, Matt Dumler, Marie Henderson, Jarilyn Staab, Tura Clement, Wendy Beougher and Heather Musil for preparing the labyrinth walk, prayer stations and brunch. This was a very moving experience.

Don't let people's compliments go to your head, and don't let their criticisms go to your heart.

Lysa Terkeurst

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy



Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit?...Therefore honor God with your bodies.”
– I Corinthians 6:19-20

It's time to spruce up the “temple.” Get stronger for good health!

Sign up for an eight-week, energizing Stay Strong, Stay Healthy program. This health program is being offered to help you move & get stronger for your health! Adults of all fitness levels are encouraged to participate. In April 2025, Level 1 will be offered.

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy Level 1 is an evidence-based program to help individuals learn basic balance and strength-training exercises.

Come to the first class on April 28th at 4:00pm at Cottonwood Extension District, 601 Main Street and check out the program to see if it's for you. All the equipment is provided. Stop by the office at 601 Main St. between 8-12 and 1-5 to sign up early.

Take this opportunity to take better care of your health and join others for this fun program. The group will begin meeting twice weekly on April 28, 2025 at 4:00 on Mondays and Wednesdays until June 18, 2025 at Cottonwood Extension District office, 601 Main Street. Each class is approximately an hour long. For more information contact Monique Koerner at 785-628-9430 or moniquek@ksu.edu. K-State Research & Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Seven Truths About Extravagant Love

1. **Extravagant Love is a Choice and Action, not just a Feeling:** It isn't dictated by emotions but by a conscious decision to prioritize and cherish the recipient, even when it's challenging or costly.
2. **Extravagant Love Transcends Boundaries:** It goes beyond expectations, societal norms, and even personal convenience to demonstrate genuine care and devotion.
3. **Extravagant Love Requires Sacrifice and Vulnerability:** It often entails giving up comfort, resources, or even personal desires for the sake of the beloved.
4. **Extravagant Love is Rooted in Forgiveness:** It embraces imperfections and extends grace, even in the face of mistakes or wrongdoings.
5. **Extravagant Love is a Transformative Power:** It can heal wounds, inspire growth, and build deep, lasting bonds, both in personal lives and in our relationship with God.
6. **Extravagant Love Inspires Imitation:** When such love is witnessed, it motivates the cultivation of similar qualities in relationships and service to others.
7. **Extravagant Love is not about Perfection, but the Heart:** It is about offering the best, even when flawed or imperfect, knowing it's the heart behind the action that matters most.



Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”—John 11:25–26 (NIV)

In the words of Rebecca Barlow Jordan, “Lord, death could not hold You. And because of You, the [Resurrection](#), we, too, can live. Thank You that the grave is only a journey into the [presence of God](#). You have removed the sting of death and empowered this thing called life. Now I will live in Your presence forever.”

My Lord and Savior, today I rejoice and experience the Resurrection with new wonder.

My name is Jenna Brubaker and I am thrilled to introduce myself as the new children’s ministry coordinator. I am very excited to take on this role and bring even more energy and excitement to our already amazing children’s program! I hope to inspire our children to dive deep in their faith and find joy in learning about God, serving others and discovering God’s purpose for their lives.

I am currently a stay at home mom with my son, Harrison. During my free moments between parenting, I love making lattes, crafting, baking and spending time outside. I’m always looking for a new creative project to work on!

My husband, Jacob, is a loan officer at High Palins Farm Credit here in town. We are both from Cheyenne County originally. I’m from St. Francis and Jacob is from Bird City. I attended FHSU and graduated in 2022. Following my graduation, I worked at O’Loughlin Elementary here in Hays for 2 years teaching music. I loved teaching, but always knew staying home was what my heart desired most! I am excited to get back to working with children and show them the beauty of following Christ!

Thank you for this opportunity. It’s a privilege to work with this church and make our children’s ministry program a meaningful experience for all!

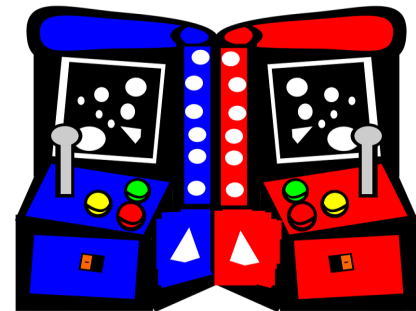
Joyously Live,
Jenna Brubaker

Wednesday, April 30

Kid’s Club at 3

Meal at 5

Then join us at: Arcade 11, 201 W. 10th, 6-7 p.m.



For Fun & Fellowship (do not have to be a regular attendee of WOW to attend). Coupons will be available for \$10 in tokens



Thanks to all who contributed to the Wish List Closet for homeless students. The goal was 460 items and thanks to your generosity all items were purchased and the Lenten Challenge was met!

April OUTREACH

***First United Methodist Church
305 West 7th
Hays, Kansas 67601***

**(785) 625-3408
haysumc@hotmail.com
www.kaysradio.com
www.HaysFUMC.com**

**NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HAYS, KS.
PERMIT NO. 97**

Return Service Requested



UPCOMING EVENTS

**Women's Fellowship
Last day of Kid's Club
Red Cross Blood Drive
UWF Executive Board
HHS Graduation**

**Thursday, April 24, 4:00 at Dairy Queen
Wednesday, April 30
Monday, May 5
Wednesday, May 7
May 18**