



# OUTREACH



Volume 37 Issue 7

First United Methodist Church

July 24, 2025

## A Month of Celebration, Growth, and New Beginnings

As summer winds down and we prepare for a new school/church year, we are grateful for what God is doing in our church family and invite you all to join us as we celebrate and step into this next season together. Isaiah 43:19 reminds us of God's desire to step with us into new seasons of life. "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." This verse reflects God's power to bring renewal and fresh direction in our lives and within the church. I wanted to share with you a few exciting things happening in August.

On Saturday, August 2nd, we welcome all children from our church and community to join us for the final day of Vacation Bible School at Ellis. This event was planned in collaboration with the Ellis community, enabling the kids from both towns to interact and fellowship. The day will be full of fun, learning about Jesus, and growing in faith. Please register your kids for this event as they conclude their 2025 VBS journey, invite their friends too. Just a few weeks later, we gather again for Joining Sunday on August 17th. On this day during worship, we will welcome new members into our church family. They come from other churches but now call Hays home. Others are professions of faith for those who have not been members elsewhere but have heard the call of Jesus to serve in this location. We praise God for our brothers and sisters who are getting ready to officially join the church. Please keep them in your prayers as they make this wonderful commitment before the Lord.

On August 24th, we will celebrate New Beginnings Sunday. During worship, we will bless students and educators as they prepare to begin a new school year. We will present Bibles to our third graders, launching them into deeper exploration of God's Word, and we will have the joy of confirming our youth who have been training for the past year. Most exciting of all, we will unveil the new vision and mission God is calling us to as a church. Ministries throughout our congregation will be highlighted, offering opportunities for everyone to get involved in service, fellowship, and growth.

August marks a natural turning point in our calendar, and we believe it can also be a spiritual reset and a time to renew our devotion to God and recommit ourselves to serving others. Whether you're a student, teacher, parent, or simply someone seeking deeper connection, this month invites us all to begin again in faith. Colossians 3:23 appeals to us, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters." So as we commission students and teachers, confirm our youth, and join in ministry as volunteers and disciples, may we step into this new season together, inspired, and ready to follow where God leads, amen.

Pastor Susan

**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, August 17, 2025**. Items may also be placed in the office, labeled **for the Outreach** by **August 17**. The next Outreach should be received on August 21.

## Thanks

Dear Church Family,  
Thank you for helping me go to camp! It was the best time of my life! I love working at the church too!

Love, Cam

*Thanks to Marilyn Davidson for helping with church cleaning while Alan was away.*

Thanks to Liz & Jim Harper and Mary Mecekenstock-Gribben and Bernie Gribben for delivering Meals on Wheels in July.

*With sincere appreciation we thank everyone for your donations to help with our journey for our warrior, Emersyn.  
God Bless Everyone,  
Talon, Jessie & Emersyn*

FUMC has been a valued support during the 40 years we have lived in Hays. Thank you for caring.

Betty Innes

## 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:  
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*

*Betty Innes, on the death of her husband, Doug, on June 23.*

*Linda Mosier on June 25.*

*Lary & Peggy Stull on the death of Lary's sister, Jean Tatkenhorst, who died on June 27.*

*Misty & Jamie Graham on the death of Misty's mother.*

## Congratulations

*Millie & Dorain Williams are the proud parents of a son, Wren Michael Williams. Grandparents are Jeff & Marla Copper and Lela Eller is the Great Grandmother.*

*The Audio/Video team is happy to welcome back our prodigal son, Chuck Ames. And he is still a Methodist!*

*No fatted calf, loud music, or raucous parties will occur however. We are, after all, Methodists.*

*Welcome back, Chuck. Nice to have you on board.*

## Women's Summer Ministry

**July 29** Lunch at Paisley Pear at 11:30



## Offer Hospitality

There are welcome bags at each entrance for Hays Visitors. If you see someone new sitting by you and they don't have a bag, please get one for them. Take one to a neighbor or friend you would like to invite to church. Also call & check on people who sit next to you and may have missed Sundays.

There are cards & pens to give to out of town guests.

Take responsibility for getting people sitting within 10 feet of you.

Spend 3 minutes before or after church talking to someone you don't know well.

## I Cannot Do This Alone

O God, early in the morning I cry to you.  
Help me to pray  
And to concentrate my thoughts on you:  
I cannot do this alone.  
In me there is darkness.  
But with you there is light;  
I am lonely, but you do not leave me;  
I am restless, but with you there is peace.  
I do not understand your ways,  
But you know the way for me...  
Restore me to liberty.  
And enable me to live now  
That I may answer before you and before me.  
Lord, whatever this day may bring.  
Your name be praised.

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

## Left in the Shadows

*A play by Braelyn Dumler & Addison Booze*

*Fri, August 8, 6:30  
Saturday, August 9, 2:00 & 6:30*

FUMC Sanctuary– Free admission

The History we forget, is the History doomed to repeat

## FUMC Financial Snapshot

	June 30, 2025	Year to Date
Checking Account*	\$18,342.88	
Operating Gifts	\$35,433.24	\$249,797.25
Operating Expenses	\$47,702.73	\$311,101.08

**Parsonage Mortgage Balance** \$79,007.23  
**Organ Fund** \$ 7,809.99

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

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

Don't take a vacation from your church attendance or your giving.



### Thanks to all who helped make our Bible School road trip a success!

Jenna Brubaker	Matt Dumler
Sandy Henningsen	Dylan & Ellen Bryant
Ian Henderson	Aubrey, Ava & Shanda Preston
Susan Murithi	Krista, Gemma & Dub Stuart

Meghan Musil	Evie Reichel	Hali Bielser	Jessica & Michael Cutting
Emmaline Leuschner	Addie Booze	Alan Nelson	Erica & Jackson Berges
Chuck Ames	Braelyn Dumler	Brynn Zweifel	Maycie & Michelle Holdeman
Dottie Staab	Evelyn Zellmer	Linda Stahlman	Brad & Sarah Schumacher
Ruth Briney	Debra McDonald	Sheryl Blair	Lary & Peggy Stull
Lori Swift	Marie Henderson	Laci McGrath	Vicki & Armin Kelly
Haley Roth	Sheryl Cox	Carol Purdy	Jenna & Hale Sloan
Glenna Clingingsmith	Haley Roth	Jacob Brubaker	Brandon Kennemer

Thanks to all who donated supplies & to Armin & Vicky Kelly, Hale & Jenna Sloan & Brad & Sarah Schumacher for donating hamburger for the VBS meals each night.

## 7 Attributes of Grateful People , Pablo Diaz

1. Express joy.
2. Celebrate all of God's blessings.
3. Remember who and what helped your life turn out for the best.
4. Endure hardships with grateful hearts.
5. Serve others with talent, time and money.
6. Value the small things in life.
7. Spend time with loved ones and friends.

# July OUTREACH

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Return Service Requested



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>July 23</b>   | <b>Women's Ministry Ice Cream Social at Church at 6:30</b> |
| <b>July 26</b>   | <b>Free cancer screening</b>                               |
| <b>July 29</b>   | <b>Women's Ministry Lunch at Paisley Pear at 11:30</b>     |
| <b>August 1</b>  | <b>VBS Day Camp for Kids</b>                               |
| <b>August 8</b>  | <b>Left in the Shadows, 6:30</b>                           |
| <b>August 9</b>  | <b>Left in the Shadows, 2:00 &amp; 6:30</b>                |
| <b>August 17</b> | <b>New member Joining Sunday</b>                           |
| <b>August 24</b> | <b>New Beginnings Sunday</b>                               |