



OUTREACH



Volume 37 Issue 9

First United Methodist Church

September 25, 2025

The Fruit of Love

A little girl once picked a bunch of flowers from their backyard and ran to give it to her mom and dad. It wasn't expensive or perfect, but it was a gift from the heart. She didn't give because she had to; she gave because she loved her parents. That's what love does, love gives. The Bible tells us the greatest example of this: "God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son" (John 3:16). God's love was not just a feeling, it was expressed through the most generous gift of all, Jesus Christ. In the same way, when we say we love God, our words must be backed up with action. Love shows itself through giving.

To fulfill our just-launched vision and mission as a church, we will need to respond in practical ways. Like the wise and faithful servant in Jesus' parable, we are called to take what God has entrusted to us and use it well for His Kingdom. Our vision is to be disciples who make disciples, heal the community, and build relationships as we seek to be a Christ-centered church, but vision alone is not enough. It takes prayer, commitment and faithful giving to turn vision into reality. To transport it from the paper to actual ministry.

That's why this October; we will begin our stewardship campaign. Our theme this year is: Because He is Good! We will be looking at how God's goodness fuels our gratitude, generosity, and commitment to God's mission. In other words, stewardship is about trust, discipleship, and love. Each of us is invited to pray: "Lord, how can I be moved by your goodness to show my love for You through my giving? How can I faithfully respond to this campaign?"

Remember the fruit of love is giving. Just as God's love was revealed through giving, so too our love for God is revealed when we give joyfully and faithfully. Our giving is not about keeping the church running; it is about making God's love visible and real in the world. May our love for God and each other bear much fruit now and forever.

Prayer: Lord, all I have comes from You. Show me how to give with joy, love with action, and serve with gratitude. Guide me as I respond faithfully in this year's campaign. Amen.

Have a love filled month!

Pastor Susan

Outreach articles are due the **third** Sunday of each month. Please email your OUTREACH item to wendy@haysfumc.com before **Sunday, October 19, 2025**. Items may also be placed in the office, labeled **for the Outreach** by **October 19**. The next Outreach should be received on October 23.

Thanks

Dear Church Family,
Thank you for putting \$300 towards my camp fee. I had so much fun, especially horseback riding.

Love,
Cailynn Luck

If you would like to help the campus ministry by bringing a dessert to their Thursday night meal, call the church office or sign up on the clipboard outside the office. Bring enough to serve 12.



Help restock the Hays High-Food Pantry.



Congratulations

to the 3rd Graders who received their Bibles"

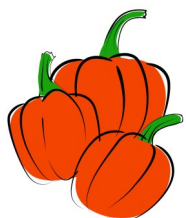
- Layla Stuart*
- Amelia Pyle*
- Serenity Wiegand*
- Tenley Sturgeon*
- Gabriella Brock*

to the Confirmands, our newest members:

- Addison Booze*
- Trey Brown*
- Isaac Schumacher*
- Noah Schumacher*

to Kwaku Anokye & Bernice Bosomtwe, who joined on September 7. Nana Ofori and Nana Aba were baptized on September 7.

Wednesday, October 1, 5:30 Churchwide Fellowship at Pa's Pumpkin Patch.



That phrase they use 'in living memory'-as in, 'the worst flood in living memory' or 'the coldest winter in living memory'-just how far back does it stretch?

Because at my age, my 'living memory' goes back to a week last Thursday.

Alan Cohen

Fair Trade coffee, cocoa and baking cocoa are available in the church office.

Circle News

Naomi Circle met Wednesday, September 10 at the church. Thirteen members enjoyed Fall Fellowship with Sammy Miller, Sheryl Blair and Linda Stahlman serving as hostesses.

Joys and concerns were shared. A card for Virginia Johnson was passed for members to sign. Roll call was answered by responding to "What is your favorite game to play?"

One of our projects is to provide baby quilts to new babies in the congregation. Linda Stahlman & Evelyn Zellmer shared that a baby quilt had recently been delivered.

Upcoming events include:
Peddler's Soup and Bake Sale
November 8th, 10:30-1:00
Church dining room

Spring Brunch

Quilt drawing

Potluck dinner with both Circles in May.

Our next meeting will be October 8 at 9:15 at the home of Nancy Jones.

Rebekah Circle met Wednesday, September 10 at the church. Sharon Barton & Barbara Jones were hostesses and served eleven members. Jarilyn Staab gave devotions and Elaine Ford presented the program. The business meeting was conducted by Peggy Stull and Elaine Ford. The next meeting will be October 8 in the church parlor.

Sometimes the most honest prayers we can pray are the ones that sound like, "This is hard. I'm tired. Please help."

Ashley Morgan
Jackson



INTRODUCING OUR STAFF

PROGRAM STAFF

- Pastor: Pastor Susan Murithi
- Associate Pastor:: Pastor Troy Miller
- Special Music Coordinator: Meredith Cory
- Organist: Hannah Barrett
Charlotte Rathke
- Pianist: Sharon Graham
- Handbell Choir Dir. Hannah Barrett
Marijo Rooney
- Director of Discipleship: Matt Dumlér
- 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: Mellissa Pyle
- Building Supervisor: Alan Nelson

FUMC Financial Snapshot

	August 31, 2025	Year to Date
Checking Account*	\$42,951.15	
Operating Gifts	\$59,950.16	\$360,591.59
Operating Expenses	\$47,433.59	\$407,192.39
Parsonage Mortgage Balance	\$77,147.92	
Organ Fund	\$ 7,829.99	

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

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

Women's Bible Studies**Wednesdays at 6:15, Church library**

Genesis Verse by Verse by Jen Wilkin
Leader Sandy Henningsen

Fridays at noon, Room 207 (Miler's classroom)

Jesus Calling: Receiving Christ's Hope by Sarah Young
Leader Barb Mayo

Sundays at 7:00, Youth room, west end

Not Alone: A study on Friendship, Jennie Allen, Right Now Media
Leader Tina Conger

**Women's Fellowship**

Sunday, September 28 at 6:30 Fire Pit at Sandy's

Thursday, October 9, 10 a.m. Coffee at I-Hop

Monday, October 13, 11:30 Lunch at Paisley Pear

Menus

September 24 Beef enchiladas, Nachos
Spanish rice, Corn, Dessert



October 1

NO WOW

Pa's Pumpkin Patch

October 8

BBQ Pulled Sandwiches

Chips

Green beans

Dessert

October 15

Chili or Green bean dumpling soup

Veggie tray

Cinnamon rolls

Fruit cups

October 22

Sloppy joes

Mac & cheese

Corn

Salad

Pumpkin cookies

Ice cream

October 29

NO WOW

Trunk or Treat

Serving time is 5:00-6:00

Five dollars per person

All menus are subject to change

To go meals are available—call 625-3408 or 650-2401



Kids Corner

We have a new Feed the Fish mission till the end of the year. We are raising funds for the Angel tree. Once it gets closer to Christmas time, we will take the kids shopping during Kids Club to fulfill the wish lists of children in the community.

Trunk or Treat will be on October 29th. There is a laundry basket in the church parlor if you would like to donate to this event.



Children's church will begin November 30th during the 10:45 worship service. It's a lot like Sunday School but children will stay in church until children's moment, then go upstairs for a short Bible lesson and activity. They will return before the service ends. We are in need of teachers for this. Our goal is to have enough teachers so everyone is only having to teach about once every two months. If you are interested, please email Jenna Brubaker at jenna@haysfumc.com



to our teachers and leaders

Mark & Judy Hantla-Fidelis Sunday School Class

Marijo & Davis Rooney, Mike Cooper-Milers Sunday School Class

Sandy Henningsen, Tina Conger, Barb Mayo-Women's Bible Studies

Matt Dumler, Scott McGrath, Tom McDonald—Men's Bible Studies

Stacey Jones, Matt Dumler-High School Bible Studies

Adam & Alyssa Dees, Matt Dumler-Youth Group leaders

Marie Henderson, Heather Musil-Young Adult leaders

Feed Hays

The Mission Committee is focusing on food insecurity within our community and is asking for the congregation's assistance with supporting Feed Hays. The committee has a member involved in the forming of a board for Feed Hays and has two members that are assisting weekly with pasta preparation. We are asking for help to provide two volunteers weekly on Thursdays from 5-7:30 for food prep and serving at St. Michaels Episcopal Church at 2900 Canal. Sign up sheets are in the foyer with slots from October through the end of the year. This is a great opportunity for families or youth. This is an opportunity for people with limited physical capabilities to help fill bags with cookies or vegetables. This is a way for our church to work with our community. Please consider volunteering.



Jesus says we are the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13). He wants me and my words to be an example of love, kindness, goodwill, compassion, and grace. If I'm sprinkling around those things, then I'm doing my job as a saltshaker.

Barbara Lumpkins Walls



The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

You are not just my Father, you are *our* Father. Father of those like me and those very different from me, Father of those people I love and those I struggle to love. Help me remember they are all your children.

You are our *Father*, the One who created us, who loves us, who protects us, walks with us, and longs for the best for us; the One from whom all blessings have ultimately come.

Father, you hold the entire universe in your hands. You are present with the saints who have gone before. Yet you are as near as the air that I breathe.

Hallowed be *thy* name, not my name, but thy name, hallow thy name. May others see your majesty, beauty, and love. May they see this in my living, in my loving. Help me to hallow your name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Not my kingdom, *Thy* kingdom come. May your rule and reign come, in my life, in the lives of your people until it expands and fills the earth. I submit to your rule and honor you as my king.

Thy will be done, not mine. Help me to sense your leading. Help me to long more than anything to do your will. May your will be done on earth, not just in my life, but in how we as humans live and love, just as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread

I lift up to you, O Lord, those who don't have enough to eat, or who lack the other necessities of life. Help me to pay attention, to see and notice, those in need. Please use me, and your church, to generously share with them. Give me today, dear Lord, the bread I need—your presence, your love. Be for me the bread of life today, Lord, and satisfy my hungry heart.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lord, forgive my debts, Those things I should have done but failed to do and those things I should not have done which I did do. Forgive us Lord, as a race, a people, for the ways in which we have not done your will. For the ways in which we have not loved you with our whole heart, and not loved our neighbor as we love ourselves. Forgive us for accepting injustice, for our part in bringing harm to your planet. Forgive our indifference, our pride, and our lack of empathy for the suffering of others.

And help me to forgive, as you have forgiven us. Bless those who have wronged me in the past. Help me to see my own shortcomings as I consider the shortcomings of others. Please help me to let go of the wrongs committed against me and free me to love even those who wrong me.

And lead us, not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Lead me, Lord, today, now, in this moment. Help me to pay attention to the voice of your Spirit. I yield my life to you, Lord, do with me what you will. Lead me away from temptation. You know how easily I stray from your path, chasing after things that promise pleasure, but only bring pain.

And lead *us* Lord, the human race. Lead us in our church, in our city, in our state, in our country, lead us in the world. Help us steer clear of temptation. Lead us away from evil and forgive us for the ways we as a people have succumbed to the tempter's lies.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Thine, not mine, is the kingdom, help me to live like it. Thine, not mine, is the power, help me to yield to it. Thine, not mine, is the glory, help me to live for your glory. Forever and ever. So be it! Amen

Adam Hamilton, *The Lord's Prayer*



September OUTREACH

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, October 1	Pa's Pumpkin Patch
Thursday, October 9	Women's Ministry, Coffee at I-Hop
Monday, October 13	Women's Ministry, Lunch at Paisley Pear
Tuesday, October 21	Trunk or Treat
Sunday, November 2	Charge Conference