

The Grapevine July 2025

Pastor Mark Schlasner

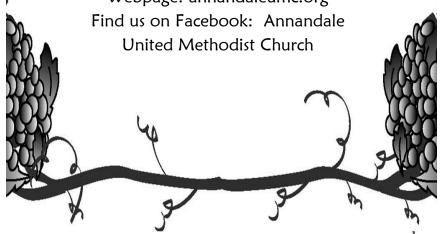
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United Methodist Church



July 2025 Grapevine

As we celebrate the Fourth of July—a holiday marked by fireworks, family gatherings, and reflections on liberty—it's also a fitting time to consider the deeper freedoms we cherish. True freedom isn't just about independence from external forces; it's about the hope that sustains us even in uncertain times. Like planting a tree in the middle of a storm, faith calls us to act with courage, trusting that brighter days lie ahead. This July, let's remember that the greatest freedoms—hope, renewal, and unshakable love—are gifts that no circumstance can take away.

The heart of true liberty lies in promises kept and justice fulfilled. It's found not just in laws written on paper but in truth written on our hearts, guiding us to live with compassion and integrity. As we enjoy the blessings of this nation, we're also reminded that the most enduring freedoms come from living in right relationship with God and one another. Whether in times of struggle or celebration, we can hold fast to the promise that love and righteousness will always prevail.

Freedom shines brightest when it's shared. Just as light pierces the darkness, acts of kindness, mercy, and justice illuminate the world around us. This season, let's reflect on how we can use our own freedoms to lift others up—offering hope to the weary, welcome to the outsider, and grace to those in need. True independence isn't just about personal liberty; it's about ensuring that others can experience it too.

As we gather this July, may we celebrate not only the freedoms we enjoy as a nation but the eternal hope that anchors our souls. Let's live with gratitude for the past, courage for the present, and unwavering trust in the future. Whether in times of peace or challenge, may we always remember that the greatest freedom of all is the love that never fails. Happy Fourth of July!

With love and blessings,

Rev. Mark Schlasner

Annandale UMC Giving and Attendance

Giving –June 2025 Attendance –June 2025

June 1, 2025 \$2,947.00 29 - in-person

97 - online

\$20.00 Outreach Fund - Ice Cream Social

June 8, 2025 \$963.00 23 – in-person

\$290.00 Mission March - Apportionments

\$10.00 Outreach Fund - Ice Cream Social donation

June 15, 2025 \$2,654.24 29 – in-person

\$25.00 Apportionment Fund

\$10.00 4th of July Fund - donation

\$65.00 Special Sundays Offering Fund - Peace with Justice

June 22, 2025 \$747.00 21 - in-person 0 - online

\$75.00 4th of July Fund - donation

\$50.00 Outreach Fund – Ice Cream Social donation

\$207.78 Outreach Fund - Ice Cream Social Fundraiser

June 29, 2025 \$836.10 41 – in-person

94 - online

\$20.00 Fourth of July Fund donation

General funds needed each week: \$2,638.78

June income as of 06/26/25: \$13,787.55

June expenses as of 06/26/25: \$12,122.78

2025 apportionments = \$11,690.00

Apportionments paid YTD = \$1,315.00



July Worship Themes

July 6, 2025 Letter to the Exiles Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

July 13, 2025 Planting and Building Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

July 20, 2025 Messiah and New Covenant Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-18; 31:31-34

July 27, 2025 Greetings and First Vision Scripture Reading: Revelation 1:4-8



Coffee Fellowship Serving Groups

July 6, 2025: Garry & Linda Elfstrand

July 13, 2025: Need

July 20, 2025: Judd & Barb Owen

July 27, 2025: Audrey Jones



Usher Schedule

July 6, 2025: Shelly Anderson

July 13, 2025: Need

July 20, 2025: Need

July 27, 2025: Judd & Barb Owen



July Birthdays

Bekah Mix

Maverick Woyke

Stephanie Prinsen

AJ Sommers

Aria Woyke

Joseph Hill



Blood Drive - Friday, July 11, 2025

The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be held at our church on Friday, July 11 from 10:00am – 4:00pm.

Donors can schedule an appointment now by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).



Thanks to everyone who helped by working and donating items for the band concert and ice cream social on Thursday June 18th. It was very successful with nearly 100 people stopping in for ice cream and over \$200 raised in our Cash 4 Kids fundraiser to purchase school supplies for Annandale children. - Outreach Committee



Our July Mission March, which will be taken during the first hymn on Sunday July 13, 2025, will go to our Building/Maintenance Fund designated to the "Bell Tower Repair". Our bell tower is in much needed repair.



Join us for this year's National Night Out Party on Tuesday, August 5, 2025. Come out and meet your neighbors! Root beer floats will be served. Watch for more information coming!



4th of July Refreshment Stand

We will be selling grilled brats and hotdogs, chips, pop, and water at our refreshment stand on Friday, July 4 before, during, and after the parade. The parade starts at 10:00am.

Stop by and enjoy refreshments while watching the parade!



Stop by our Rummage Sale on Thursday and Friday, August 21 and 22 from 8:00am – 5:00pm. Donations can be brought to the church during office

hours and on Sundays starting July 13, 2025. We will gather items along the back wall of the Fellowship Hall. Any large unsold items will need to be picked up by the donor. Questions may be directed to Audrey Jones or Sally Smith.

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