

Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church

4525 NW Button Road,
Topeka, KS 66618-2507
(785) 246-1737

WWW.PLEASANTHILLUMC.ORG

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PLEASANTHILLUMCTOPEKA/

Email: ADMIN@PLEASANTHILLUMC.ORG

or PHUMCTOPEKA@YAHOO.COM

Worship Service every Sunday @ 10 a.m.

JULY 2023



Annual Conference in Omaha is always something I look forward to. You see, ministers begin their journey to ordination in a local church. After approval by the local church, candidates go through a few years of interviews, education, background checks, psychological assessments to make sure that folks are competent and fit to serve a local congregation. Once we are ordained as Elder in the United Methodist Church, church membership transfers to the annual conference, instead of a local church. Clergy are appointed by the bishop and cabinet to serve local congregations, but we are set apart from the congregations we are appointed to serve. Appointments typically are for one year at a time, from July 1-June 30. I am happy to report that I have been reappointed to serve Pleasant Hill UMC for the coming year on a half-time basis. I look forward to working with you in the coming year!



Some of you may be wondering what happens at the Annual conference, and you will be getting a summary of the activity soon. I can give you a brief overview. It is actually a lot like what happens at our local church conference, only on a larger scale. We hear and read reports from agencies that work with the conference...like reports from Saint Paul school of theology, all the conference camps and campus ministries, the board of pensions, etc. We have worship services honoring our deceased clergy and spouses and it is at the annual conference that we ordain clergy. We elect committees and officers and) we approve the budget for the conference, after some education about what all these numerous line items cover. We have a legislative session, where we consider and vote on petitions brought by individuals, local churches, and conference committees. We approve changes in bylaws to our church foundations in Kansas and Nebraska, and ask questions of conference leadership on a wide range of issues. There are luncheons, dinners, and of course, snacks, because what church meeting can take place without snacks? Surrounding our meeting hall (this year a hotel ballroom) are displays from various folks...individual camps, insurance reps, seminaries, campus ministry, youth ministry and so on. At those tables, you can collect information...a flyer, a button, a pen or notepad, and often, a peppermint or piece of individually wrapped chocolate. Did I mention snacks?

We did have nice padded chairs this year to sit in, and it turns out that even the nicest padded chair can become a bit hard over three and a half days of sitting. The highlight for me is worship services and time to visit with my friends and colleagues.

One of the highlights of this conference this year were moments of great humor. Someone came up with some great "commercials" that were shared here and there in the business sessions, usually right before a break or meal time. They were a lot like commercials on TV and a few light moments make a world of difference!

Next year's conference will be in Kearney, NE, and you are more than welcome to attend either online or in person!

Blessings to you all!
Pastor Marge

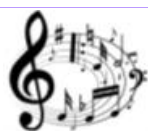
If the office does not have your birthday and anniversary dates, or if you are unsure whether the office has the information, please send to phumctopeka@yahoo.com. Thanks!

Birthdays This Month					
Tailor Harrison	7/1	Atlas Henry	7/14	Joy Jepson	7/25
Marilyn Colhouer	7/6	Barrett Fry	7/18	Ken Tidball	7/25
Serenah Saulsbury	7/6	Deesie Jackson	7/18	Butch Rea	7/28
Daryl Jepson	7/9	Elaine Worden	7/19	Brian Smith	7/29
C. J. Flowers	7/10	Pastor Marge Cox	7/22	Patricia Wilson	7/31
Jim Boughn	7/11	Josephine Mauk	7/23		

Celebrate!

Anniversaries This Month

Kyle & Kendra Cochran	7/12	20 years
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Praise Band will be taking several Sundays off this summer. We'd love to have **special music** those days – contact the office if you would like to provide music!

Congregational Care is hosting an **all-church Diaper Shower** for the **Harrison & Fry families**: Bring diapers for the new babies throughout the month of July. We have a special place for them in the foyer.



Administrative Council meeting is 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 12. It is open to everyone.

July at PHUMC [Online Calendar](#)

July 4, Independence Day, office closed	July 12, 5:30p, Administrative Council meeting
July 6, 8:30a, Church Breakfast at Perkins	July 19, Newsletter 'deadline'
July 11 & 25, 9a, Piecing Love & Warmth	

Celebrate!

Celebrating the good stuff, large or small

- Kourtney and Dylan Crowder have a son, Kolton William, born May 24, 5 lb. 11 oz., 18 inches long. He is the grandson of Lisa and Rod Crowder, great-grandson of Kay Crowder.



- Deb and Matt Mannell legally adopted Santina Harrison on June 22. They are so pleased!
- Santina and Tailor Harrison welcomed their new daughter, Olenna Marie, on Friday, June 23, 5 lb. 3 oz., 18-1/2 inches long. Her big sister, Atlas, is excited, as are grandparents Deb and Matt, and great-grandma Joyce Mannell. All are home and doing well.



On to Eternal Life: Members of our church and extended church family who passed on to Eternal Life in the past month:

Steve Lock Alex Baumgartner Gary Stewart Larry Lesline

Gene Vann Jim Miller (not the member of our church) Kacky Webb

Even though we know they are gone to a better place, we still miss them here with us.

I want to thank everyone for their cards, phone calls, and prayers during my recent surgery. I am doing great with a few limitations.

Dorothy Tefft



Some of our flower pots have been adopted - Thank You!



5 adult leaders and 12 scouts attended Camp Cornhusker in Nebraska and did very well in June. It was the only Troop that had all scouts attend chapel and was recognized at week's end with several flag banners and awards for their adventures. They were even recognized for a spotless campsite throughout the week with a perfect score-which is a tall task for anyone who has ever been to scout camp.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Feleay, Chartered Organizational Rep for Pack and Troop 193



Lay Person Annual Conference Report

By Linda Smith, PHUMC Lay Person

Business completed during the Great Plains Annual Conference included voting on the following resolutions.

- Support for creating a geographic regional conference structure that simultaneously holds core doctrinal commitments in common and allows contextual differentiation. **Approved**
- Update guidelines to eliminate conflicts of interest within councils, boards and committees which occurs when immediate family members serve where a conference employee is accountable. **Approved**
- Increase racial-ethnic clergy and laity in conference leadership on committees, teams, and boards. **Approved**
- Building Bridges, Not Walls that establish recommendations to reduce injustice and inhumanity at the borders, to take a stance for more humane treatment, and to treat people with dignity and respect. **Approved**
- Extend the deadline for disaffiliation until after the 2024 General Conference. **Failed**

Comments shared by the youth in the Church of 2050 Focus session:

- They want the church to include all people and to love all people.
- They will continue to focus on social justice, activism, and community engagement.
- Thanks to the church of 2023 youth are given the platform to continue to grow these areas of focus as the years progress.
- The youth are not afraid to stand up for what is right and as 2050 grows closer they will have more influence on what is right.
- If the next generation (our elementary and younger children) are pushed away will there be a church in 2050?
- The church of 2023 needs to help create the next group of leaders in order to continue to the church of 2050.
- There has been change in the UMC and many churches are more accepting than they used to be. However, there are still churches where youth don't feel safe or welcomed. There are instances where mental health issues are considered as just teenage drama.
- When this generation of youth take over leadership in the church near 2050, there will be different types of voices in power. The church will grow stronger and with their faith in God, He will give them strength to grow the church and to serve Him.
- They shared messages and shed tears missing their friends who attended last year but are part of disaffiliated churches this year.
- The church will change a lot in 27 years but it will still have all the love, hope and caring it has right now.
- As the church becomes more inclusive there will be an increase of youth and family involvement.
- The church isn't the pastors, it is the people. The church is what is left when the building burns down and the pastor skips town.

More information about the conference and sessions can be found on the conference website:

www.greatplainsumc.org/annualconference

Education Recognition Sunday was June 4. We celebrated those who have graduated or were promoted from:

Kindergarten: Aria Stuckenschmidt, Waylon Walder

6th grade: Austin Marteney, Myra Saulsbury, Olivia Serrano, Tenley Walder

8th grade: Brayden Cochran, Kaylyn Hiebsch, Avery Jepson, Greer Jepson, Jillian Walder, Chloe Wilson

12th grade: Jon Davis, Lauren Feleay, AJ Grutsch, Jude Jimenez, Ian Law, Sydni Schreiner, Lindsey Smith

Higher: Sam Feleay, AAS in Electric Power Generation Dealer Service Technology from South Georgia Technical College

Jordan Saunders, Certificate in Auto Collision Repair from Washburn Institute of Technology

See more information on those who graduated from 12th grade or higher on the next page.



Lauren Feleay



and Dalton Johnson received scholarships.

(Dalton is the great-grandson of John & Dorothy Holt.)

Congratulations to the Scholarship Recipients and to all who graduated or were promoted!

Adult Sunday School is offered every Sunday at 9 a.m. in room 201 (SW corner of the sanctuary.)

Children are invited to **One Room Sunday School** during worship service. Following Children's Time, they meet in the room just west of the kitchen.



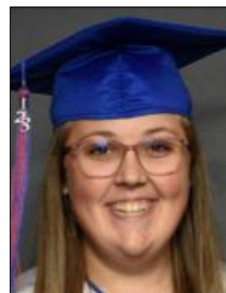
Salute to Veterans

For Veterans Day we will have a display about veterans in or connected with our congregation. If you are a veteran or have family who are, please submit photos and information to the office. (If you submitted photos and information in the past, don't worry, we still have them.)

Photos taken while in uniform are not required. If you prefer (or cannot find a photo taken while in uniform), you are welcome to submit a photo taken while in civilian clothes.

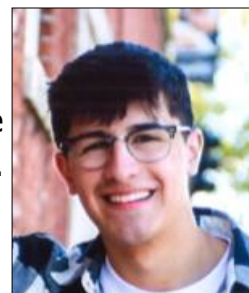
Please provide photo, name, birth date, death date if applicable, service dates, war in which served if applicable, and connection to our congregation. Photos and information can be turned in to the office or emailed to phumctopeka@yahoo.com. Physical photos will be scanned and returned.

Lauren Feleay graduated Seaman High School. She plans to attend Washburn Institute of Technology for an Early Childhood Professional Associates degree then Washburn University in Elementary Education.



AJ Grutsch graduated Wabaunsee High School. He will be attending Kansas State University in Mathematics and Mass Communication. He is the grandson of Linda and Glen Smith.

Jude Jimenez graduated Free State High School in Lawrence. He will attend the University of Kansas. He is the grandson of Marty Ransdell.



Ian Law graduated Seaman High School. He also graduated Washburn Institute of Technology in Information Systems Technology. He will attend Washburn University in Computer Science. He is the son of Carrie Law, grandson of Gladys Law.

Lindsey Smith graduated Seaman High School. She will attend the University of Kansas in Business. She is the daughter of Michael and Angie Smith, granddaughter of Mary and Marvin Smith.



Jon Davis graduated from high school. He plans to attend Highland Community College. He is the son of Nathan and Becky Davis.

Sydni Schreiner graduated from high school. She plans to attend Kansas State University. She is the daughter of Scott and Jill Schreiner.

Sam Feleay graduated South Georgia Technical College with an AAS in Electric Power Generation Dealer Service Technology. He plans on getting a bachelor's degree in either electrical engineering or business administration while continuing education and work through Foley Equipment as a technician.



Jordan Saunders graduated from Washburn Institute of Technology with a certificate in Auto Collision Repair. He will be working as a painter at Laird Noller. He is the son of Sherick and Christine Saunders.

ST LOUIS!!!!!! AMAZING!!!!!!

By Michelle, Youth Director

Our week was spent serving the inner city of St Louis. We served at St Louis Food Bank, Feed My People, Lydia's House, Humans of St Louis, Waymaker's Chapel, and many more. The experiences we saw were interesting and very unique. There were 4 other youth groups at the site the same week. We met youth and adults from Minnesota, Iowa and Oklahoma. The different accents from those in the north and us from the "south" was hilarious. Our group learned what "YOU ARE HERE" represents. We are to be here for God, with God. Not allowing the outside influences to affect or take away from our relationship with God and our faith. This is a tough practice, working on it in small steps is a great way. The youth will be giving testimony about the trip soon.



Rocky Railway Vacation Bible School took place June 12-16. Twenty children participated in songs, games, crafts, and a Bible story. The Education Committee also organized a chance for the children to sing Friday night and at the VBS Sunday Service. Thank you to all the volunteers.



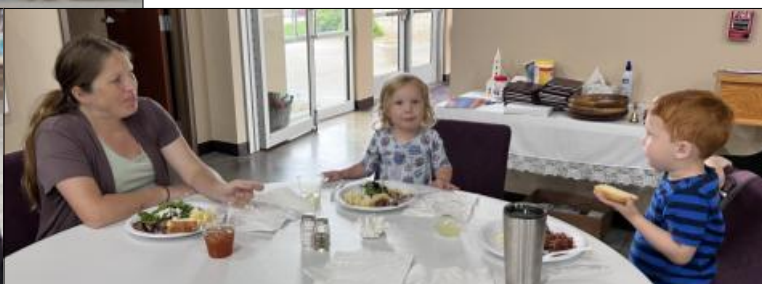


Outdoor Worship and Potluck Picnic

PHUMC had an outdoor service and potluck picnic on Sunday, June 11. Forty-three people attended. It was windy, a little chilly, and threatening rain, but it went ok. John Wilson provided the regular music and also special music, singing "Hymn of Promise" after the sermon. We weren't able to stream the service live but it was recorded and posted later.



While the worship service was held outside, the potluck picnic was moved inside. That made it much more comfortable, and it was easier to eat when the food wasn't blowing off the plates.



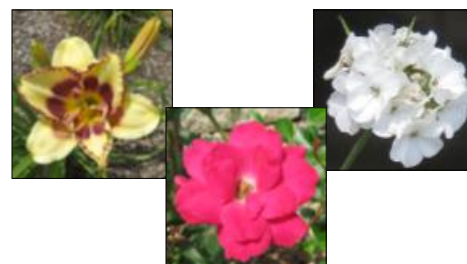
If you have been visiting and would like to **join our church**, please talk to Pastor Marge after service or contact the office during the week.

We have plastic gift cards available in the church office for many retail and eating establishments, such as Amazon, Menard's, Target, Wal-Mart, Walgreen's, McDonald's, Sonic, Starbucks, Subway, Chipotle, Taco Bell, Chili's, & many more. Visit the church office during the week to purchase.



On June 4, the Bell Choir thanked Kelly Neiman for directing and for being such a good sport with a small group. The Bell Choir will begin meeting again this fall.

The Congregational Care Team will bring **Holy Communion** after morning worship on the first Sunday of each month to congregants who are unable to attend Sunday morning worship service. Please call the office by 11:30 a.m. the Friday before if you would like to receive communion.



Cover: Flowers around the church building

Pleasant Hill UMC

4525 NW Button Rd., Topeka, KS 66618 785-246-1737 www.pleasanthillumc.org

The office is open Monday - Friday 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Please enter through the west door (by the office) on weekdays.

Pleasant Hill UMC Staff

Pastor:	Pastor Marge , pastor@pleasanthillumc.org
Office Administrator:	Deb , admin@pleasanthillumc.org or phumctopeka@yahoo.com
Youth Director:	Michelle , youth@pleasanthillumc.org
Custodian:	Jill , admin@pleasanthillumc.org
Praise Band Coord. & Adult Bell Choir Dir.:	Kelly , praise@pleasanthillumc.org
Organists:	Mary S and Marty R

A Facebook account is not necessary to **watch the Sunday morning service online**. Simply go to our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/PleasantHillUmcTopeka/ and click on the video. On our website, www.pleasanthillumc.org, a link to our Facebook page can be found here.

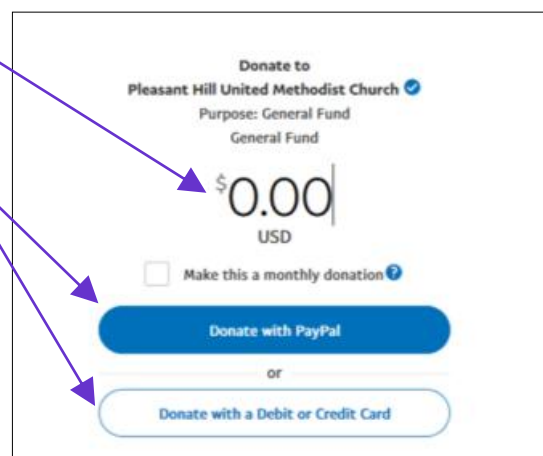
You can find the service on the Facebook page by 10 a.m. on Sunday. Later in the week, you can also start from our website, click on "Worship", then "Sermons", then, on the Sermons page, click the link to the Facebook video you want to watch.



To donate through **PayPal**, go to our website, www.pleasanthillumc.org, and click on "Donate". This will bring up a page with a donate button for General Fund (shown below left). Click on the 'donate' button on this page and it will bring up a PayPal page such as is shown below.



Enter the amount here and choose the option you want from the buttons at the bottom of the page.



If you are interested in giving by **automatic withdrawals**, please ask Deb in the office for an EFT form.

You are always welcome to **drop off** or **mail** donations to the church:

Pleasant Hill UMC, 4525 NW Button Rd., Topeka, KS 66618.

We are always grateful for our generous donors!

We ask for donations of money or items for a lot of reasons and sometimes we ask pretty often.

It can be overwhelming if you don't know one important fact:

We don't expect you to give to everything!

We make you aware of lots of opportunities through-out the year; you decide which ones touch your heart and what support you choose to give.