

Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church

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**Worship Service every Sunday @ 10 a.m.**

# AUGUST 2024



Cover: 2024 VBS small group photos, silly versions are elsewhere in the newsletter.

The start of a new school year is just around the corner and with it comes a lot of new beginnings. For teachers and staff in a new school or school district, it means meeting lots of new folks and finding your way around the building, and learning a new schedule. For students, it might mean a different school, like middle school or high school or even college or vocational school. For parents, it probably means more expenses and learning new schedules. So we pray for all these changes and adaptations that will need to be made. And we pray for a successful and productive school year for all!



Vacation Bible School this year reminded me that some folks are excited to go to school and learn new things and meet new people. Some find it more of a challenge. That first night was not easy for several folks, meeting new people and doing activities in unfamiliar surroundings. And yet, as the week went on, there were a lot more smiles and joy coming from our campers! It turns out that going to a new place and meeting new people can be a lot of fun! And I thought having it at the end of July was a great time to schedule VBS. Summer activities are winding down, and we needed something new and different to do and learn. We need new challenges and what we learn through this is that God is with us through it all. God doesn't take away the challenges. God helps us find a way through the challenges.

My first college roommate was a stranger to me. She was very shy and self-conscious, and mostly just wanted to go back home. Homesickness is real! But as time went on, we got to know one another better and she was able to make more friends and soon we became good friends. She was a great listener and eventually, she became an elementary school teacher who helped lots of her students step out of their comfort zone to try new things. Yes, she did go back to her hometown to teach and we kept in touch all through the years.

So, I offer my best wishes and prayers to all who are about to go and do a new thing! We pray for students and parents, teachers, staff and administrators, bus drivers and cafeteria workers, custodians and secretaries.... all those folks who have such an impact on our lives, whether we realize it or not. May we all continue to grow and learn more in this wonderful gift of life and learning and may we remember that God is with us through it all.

Blessings to you all!

Pastor Marge

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

**Cooking group** will meet 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. at the church. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

Children are invited to **J.A.M. Sessions** (**J**esus **A**nd **M**e) during worship service. Following Children’s Time, they meet in the room just west of the kitchen.

**Administrative Council** meets Wednesday, August 14, 5:30 p.m. at the church. It is open to the congregation.



It’s August and that means **Back to School!** Be alert to kids walking to and from school, be prepared to stop for school buses, and pay attention to when school speed zones are in effect. First day of school in area schools



ranges from Monday, August 12 to Thursday, August 15. Be especially careful the first several days of school as everyone gets used to new routines!



We are collecting **socks and underwear** through the end of August for Seaman USD 345’s Logan Community Resource Room. Our annual competition makes this more fun. If you support K-State, please bring socks. If you support KU, please bring underwear. Pairs of each will be counted and the results will be shared. You decide, will it be

**Wildcats  
Stock Socks**

or

**Jayhawks  
Give Underwear** ???



**August at PHUMC**

[Online Calendar](#)

Aug. 1, 8:30a, Church Breakfast at Perkins  
 Aug. 6, Primary Election  
 Aug. 7 & 21, 5:30p, Cooking Group meets

Aug. 13 & 27, 9a, Sewing group meets  
 Aug. 14, 5:30p, Administrative Council mtg  
 Aug. 21, Newsletter ‘deadline’

Our next **All-Church Garage Sale** will be September 12-14. Proceeds will go to our Mission Projects. You are invited to collect items to donate to the garage sale!



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

Gladys Law      Mary Hudson

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

*Dear PHUMC Family,  
Thank you all so much for all of your help and support when Mom passed away. I don't know how we could have taken care of her visitation and luncheon without the help and love from our church family.  
Thank you for the prayers you sent Mom's way during her illness. Those prayers lifted Mom and our family on our hardest days.  
We are thankful for our faith and friends.*

*Love,  
Carrie & Travis, Mark & Donna, and our family*

*Many thanks to the congregation for the cards, good wishes and lovely flower arrangement for my birthday this year! I treasure you all!*

*Much love to you all!  
Pastor Marge*



Emily Moritz joined our church on July 7. Welcome!

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.



On July 7, John Wilson provided special music for Communion.

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

**Quarter Tube**

Have you noticed a tube in the foyer filling with quarters? All money put in the tube is used to support the Youth program. Thank you for any donation you choose to make!!



Scams abound. Sometimes emails are made to look like they are from a specific person but are not from the correct account. Sometimes email accounts may be hacked and emails come from the correct account but are not really from the account owner.

Occasionally, you may receive an email purporting to come from Pastor Marge (or from the church office or even from the Bishop) asking you to do something strange – like run to the store and purchase gift cards for us but not to drop them by the office, just email us the numbers...

Please know that we are not and will never solicit gift cards by phone or email. This is a pretty common thing these days as several clergy (even the Bishop) have been targeted by this scam. If anyone receives such an email, just delete it. So sorry for this inconvenience.




Remember the June cover with the pictures of kids and the caption, "Some of our Education Sunday honorees when they were younger. Can you identify any of them?" For those who have been wondering, here are the answers to who is who. From upper left: Jace, Dalton, Hannah, Jackson, Caleb. Row 2: Jessica, Ayla, Laynee, Benjamin, Brinley. Row 3: Caleb, Hannah, Jessica, Jace. Row 4: Hannah, Jace, Hannah, Brinley, Caleb. Yes, some of the kids were in there more than once!

Some of our Education Sunday honorees when they were younger. Can you identify any of them?

**Pleasant Hill UMC Staff**

<b>Pastor:</b>	<b>Pastor Marge</b> , <a href="mailto:pastor@pleasanthillumc.org">pastor@pleasanthillumc.org</a>
<b>Office Administrator:</b>	<b>Deb</b> , <a href="mailto:admin@pleasanthillumc.org">admin@pleasanthillumc.org</a> or <a href="mailto:phumctopeka@yahoo.com">phumctopeka@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Youth Director:</b>	<b>Michelle</b> , <a href="mailto:youth@pleasanthillumc.org">youth@pleasanthillumc.org</a>
<b>Custodian:</b>	<b>Jill</b> , <a href="mailto:admin@pleasanthillumc.org">admin@pleasanthillumc.org</a>
<b>Praise Band Coord. &amp; Adult Bell Choir Dir.:</b>	<b>Kelly</b> , <a href="mailto:praise@pleasanthillumc.org">praise@pleasanthillumc.org</a>
<b>Organist:</b>	<b>Mary S</b>

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!

<b>Birthdays This Month</b>			
	Ella Caudill	8/3	Jessica Herrick 8/19
	Barbara Slimmer	8/4	Michael Smith 8/21
	Santina Harrison	8/6	Todd Domer 8/23
	Evelyn Van Hove	8/16	Linda Smith 8/23
	Marc Serrano	8/18	Janet Brecheisen 8/25
	<b>Anniversaries This Month</b>		
Rodger & Morgan Fry	8/4	6 years	
Doug & Priscilla George	8/19		
Marvin & Mary Smith	8/19	58 years	
Kevin & Annie McDowell	8/31	22 years	
Chris & Lee McManaman	8/31	33 years	

<b>Financial Update</b>							
Thank you to all our generous donors!	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	<b>Jan-June</b>
General Fund Received	\$9,668	\$9,591	\$26,625	\$17,674	\$12,856	\$7,928	<b>\$84,342</b>
General Fund Spent	12,173	10,655	12,727	9,703	10,598	11,142	<b>\$66,997</b>

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.

We have plastic **Gift Cards** available in the church office for many retail and eating establishments - just right for all kinds of things. Most are \$25 face value, some are \$10 face value, a few are \$100 face value. Visit the church office during the week to purchase.

You purchase the card at face value, \$10, \$25, etc., and our church earns a small percentage of the face value of each card sold from the card retailer. Not only do they make nice gifts, but they are an easy way to keep personal information safe while shopping.







A new automatic door mechanism was installed mid-month on a front door. This was made possible through the RE and Roberta Henley Memorials.

Lots of kids love taking silly pictures. Here are the silly versions of the VBS small group photos on the cover.







Above is the 2024 VBS Group photo. Below is the silly version.



At left, Counselor Sam and Firefly Lu from Camp Firelight. Below, Bronson makes a donation to the Stuff the Bus campaign, collecting school supplies for the needy.

PHUMC and VBS campers donated a LOT of school supplies: numerous backpacks, notebooks, folders, markers, crayons, pencils, and so much more!! Thank you to all who donated!!









Sunday, July 28 was VBS Sunday. Pastor Marge thanked Linda Smith and Kelly Neiman for all their hard work organizing and leading VBS this year. The campers sang songs they'd learned (along with fun movements) and two campers and one volunteer read the lessons from the week. Following the service, an indoor picnic of hot dogs and chips was served with cookies, s'mores in a cup, and ice cream cones for dessert.





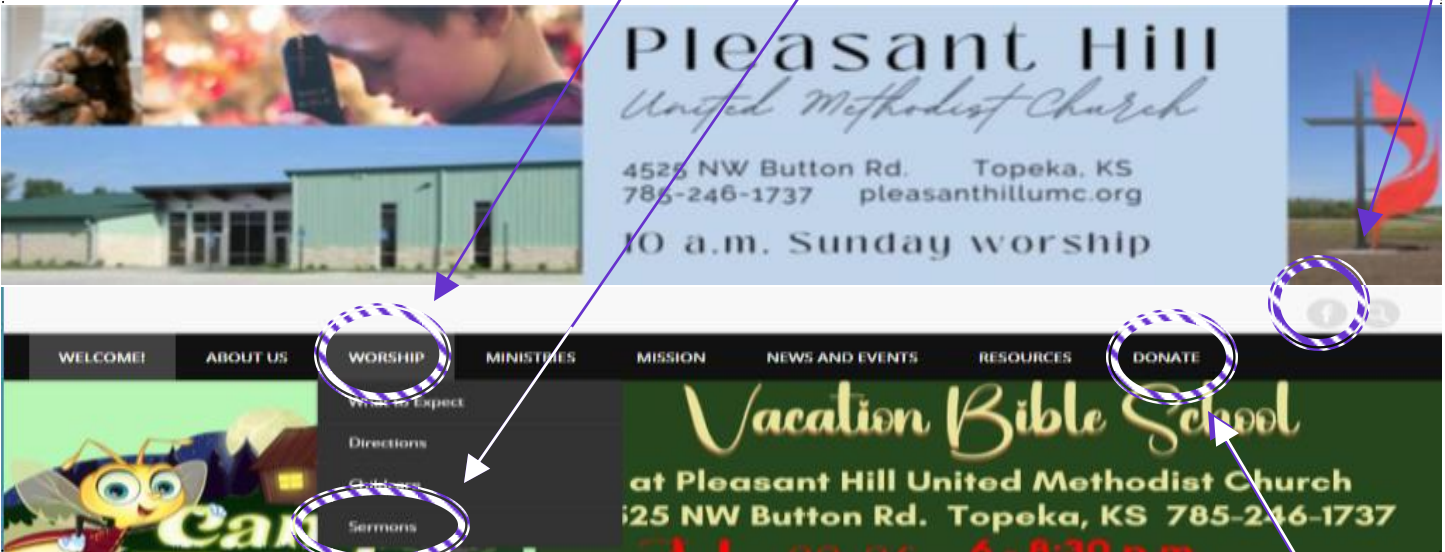


Gary Slimmer served in the US Air Force 1959 - 1963. On June 26, 2024, Gary was presented with a beautiful Quilt Of Honor for his service. Gary is rightly proud of the quilt!



A Facebook account is not necessary to **watch the Sunday morning service online**. Simply go to our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/PleasantHillUmcTopeka/](http://www.facebook.com/PleasantHillUmcTopeka/), click on "Videos", and click on the video. On our website, [www.pleasanthillumc.org](http://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](http://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!**

**Pleasant Hill UMC**

4525 NW Button Rd., Topeka, KS 66618 785-246-1737 [www.pleasanthillumc.org](http://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.