

## Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church

4525 NW Button Road

Topeka, KS 66618-2507

(785) 246-1737

[WWW.PLEASANTHILLUMC.ORG](http://WWW.PLEASANTHILLUMC.ORG)

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PLEASANTHILLUMCTOPEKA/](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PLEASANTHILLUMCTOPEKA/)

Email: [ADMIN@PLEASANTHILLUMC.ORG](mailto:ADMIN@PLEASANTHILLUMC.ORG)

or [PHUMCTOPEKA@YAHOO.COM](mailto:PHUMCTOPEKA@YAHOO.COM)

# DECEMBER 2024

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



### Mission Collections in 2024

- PHUMC collected over 600 pounds of soup and crackers in the Soup-er Bowl drive.
- Over \$300 in gift cards were sent to Alpha Christian Children's Home for spring break fun.
- PHUMC collected over 50 jars of peanut butter or jelly and over 130 boxes of macaroni and cheese to take to the Logan Community Resource Center this spring.
- A huge amount of school supplies was collected through VBS and the congregation.
- K-State fans brought 1160 pair of socks and KU fans brought 254 pair of underwear for the Socks and Undies competition.
- Piecing Love & Warmth made 633 blankets this year for homeless/displaced kids in the area. Piecing Love & Warmth received \$1,089 from the special offering in March.
- The garage sale brought in just over \$3,000 for missions!
- 74 coats and a lot of other keep-warm items (hats, scarves, etc.) were donated during our coat drive!
- Harvest of Blessings final total: \$2,061 was given to UMCOR for US Hurricane Disaster Response and Recovery Relief. \$1,311 came from Harvest of Blessings and \$750 came from Missions from the garage sale proceeds.

Bags of Hope from last December. New Bags of Hope will be packed December 1!



As I write this, folks are in the midst of cleaning, cooking, decorating and traveling in preparation for Thanksgiving. We are anticipating family and friends coming to share a meal, or watch a football game, and a good visit.

I'm reminded of other times of preparation and anticipation: preparing for vacation and anticipating seeing new sights and doing different things. Preparing for surgery or medical procedure and anticipating hearing results of a positive nature. Preparing for and anticipating graduation and whatever comes ahead, whether a job or more schooling. Preparing for and anticipating other major life events like marriage, new babies, new jobs, or moving from one place to another and many more.



In the church, during this season of Advent that we begin on December 1, we are preparing for the coming of our Savior, who comes not on a big white horse and carrying a sword, but in the form of a baby. We are preparing our hearts and minds to receive this child, and to embrace the love, peace, hope and joy that such a momentous event brings. We will light the Advent candles, sing the joyous songs we love so well, soak in the beauty of the lights and decorations and gather gifts to share with those who are not as blessed as we are with material goods. Even as we shop for gifts for our loved ones and dear friends, we remember those who are homeless and hungry, those who do not have family and friends who love them, those who do not have access to the health care, food and shelter that we enjoy. We try to do that throughout the year, but in our humanity, we sometimes forget about them at times.

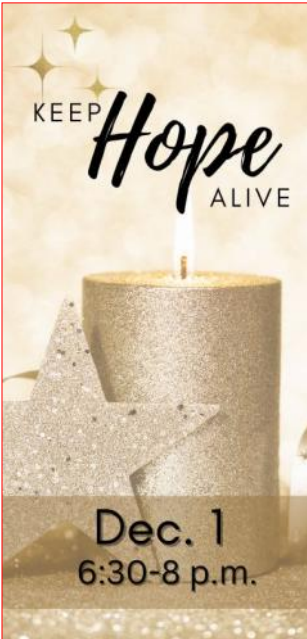
So for us, too, Advent is a time to regroup, prepare and anticipate a new year and a new life of loving our neighbor as ourselves, bringing the peace of Christ to all we know. Church is a place of grace, filled with folks with willing and caring hearts who want to offer forgiveness and love to one and all. May we all try a little harder this year to be the whole persons that Christ would want us to be, the folks for whom Christ gave His life. Hope to see you all in worship in December!

Blessings to you and yours this Advent season! Merry Christmas!

Pastor Marge

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

**Administrative Council** meets Wednesday, December 11, 5:30 p.m.  
It is open to the congregation.



**Keep Hope Alive** event is December 1 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. We will be packing our Bags of Hope for the Topeka Rescue Mission, wrapping gifts for Alpha Christian Children's Home and playing some crazy fun Christmas trivia. Come enjoy cookies and fellowship for this event sure to get you in the holiday spirit.

**In Case of Inclement Weather:**

If Seaman Schools are closed due to inclement weather, the church office is also closed.

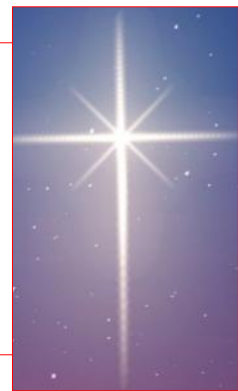
If our worship service is cancelled due to the weather, it will be listed on WIBW and KSNT.



If you purchased a poinsettia to decorate the church, you may take it home after the worship service on December 24. Thank you!



Invite your family and friends and join us **Christmas Eve Eve** (December 23) at 7 p.m. and/or **Christmas Eve** (December 24) at 5 p.m. for a service of lessons and carols.



**Youth Group** will meet Dec 1, 8, 15, and 22. Everyone in grades 6-12 is welcome! On December 1, they will help with the Keep Hope Alive event.

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

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

**Bell Choir** rehearses on Thursdays at 6 p.m. Interested in joining? Chat with Kelly Neiman or attend a rehearsal.

**Cooking group** meets the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the church. Anyone interested is invited to attend.



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

Bellamae Saunders      Cathy Enneking      Clark Gilmore

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

*Dearest Pleasant Hill Family,  
Thank you for sending the monthly Sunday School package! We do them every weekend. We miss you all but love being back in South Dakota.*

*All the best,  
Jay & Hazel, Maverick, Evelyn*

*Thank you so much for the gift cards, that was so generous. We will enjoy. It was a pleasure to be able to provide some comfort to our church members in their time of need.*

*Thanks again,  
Linda Lanning*



*74 coats and a lot of other keep-warm items (hats, scarves, etc.) were donated during our coat drive! Thank you to all who donated!*

*Harvest of Blessings final total: \$2,061 was given to UMCOR for US Hurricane Disaster Response and Recovery Relief. \$1,311 came from Harvest of Blessings and \$750 came from Missions from the garage sale proceeds.*

*Thank you to everyone who donated!*

**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!!



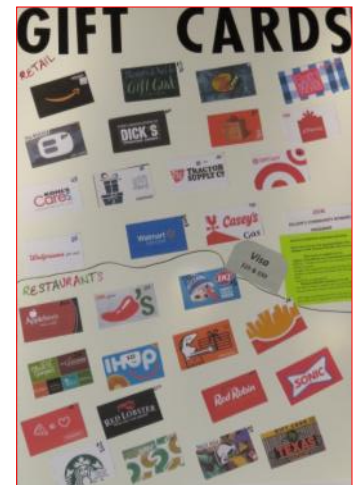
**December at PHUMC [Online Calendar](#)**

Dec. 1, First Sunday of Advent  
Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, Youth Group meets  
Dec. 4, 5:30p, Cooking Group meets  
Dec. 5, 8:30a, Church Breakfast at Perkins  
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 6p, Bell Choir rehearsal  
Dec. 11, 5:30p, Administrative Council mtg  
Dec. 18, Newsletter 'deadline'

Dec. 23, 7p, Christmas Eve service  
Dec. 24, 5p, Christmas Eve service,  
Office closed  
December 25, Christmas Day,  
Office closed  
December 31, New Year's Eve,  
Office closed

**Gift Cards**

Pick up a list of cards available for sale on the table in the foyer. There is a larger list of cards that we can order if you would like. Cards that are available electronically are designated with an "e". Those are also available.



- We are selling gift cards in the foyer **following worship service**.
- Currently you may purchase plastic cards on Sunday morning or during the week at the church office. New cards this year are Tractor Supply and The Buckle.
- Electronic cards may be purchased at any time by contacting Mary S. or Deb.
- At Christmas time there are some companies that have \$5 and \$10 cards available. Just check the lists, or ask Mary & she can help you.
- Mary plans to order cards December 6 – that’s Friday - so if there are specific cards you would like, just contact the church office or let Mary know.



<b><u>Birthdays This Month</u></b>					
Shawn Herrick	12/3	Jahnnie Brake	12/21	Cory Flowers	12/24
D.J. Knight	12/4	Ray Dupree	12/21	Gayle Smith	12/24
Lori Rea	12/6	Roxann Williams	12/21	Dick Newell	12/27
Myra Saulsbury	12/8	Chloe Wilson	12/21	Jill Schreiner	12/29
Emma Dowd	12/12	Mary Shepherd	12/23	Cathy Brake	12/30
Marguerite Pond	12/14	Hazel Van Hove	12/23		

<b>CELEBrate!</b>	<b><u>Anniversaries This Month</u></b>		
	Jim & Jeanetta Boughn	12/3	59 years
	David & Kelly Neiman	12/8	40 years

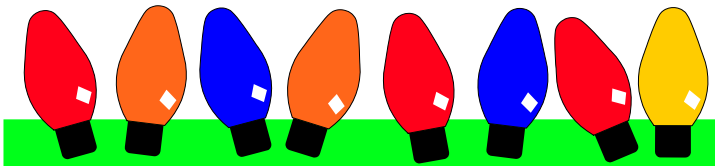
If the office does not have your birthday and anniversary dates, or if you are unsure whether the office has the information, please send to phumctopeka@yahoo.com. Thanks!



Remembrance of Saints: November 3 was All Saints Sunday. Congregants were invited to light candles during the service in memory of loved ones who passed away during the last year - and were welcome to light candles for those gone longer as well.



November 5 was election day. Our church is a polling place, they were set up for a lot of voters - and they had a lot of voters! Turnout here was over 80%!



On November 10, Kevin presented a thank you gift to Linda Lanning for her years of service in charge of Funeral Dinners.



November 10 was Veterans Sunday. In addition to a slide show during the worship service, a display about veterans associated with our church was set up in the foyer.

**Pleasant Hill UMC Staff**

**Pastor:**

**Pastor Marge**, [pastor@pleasanthillumc.org](mailto:pastor@pleasanthillumc.org)

**Office Administrator:**

**Deb**, [admin@pleasanthillumc.org](mailto:admin@pleasanthillumc.org)  
or [phumctopeka@yahoo.com](mailto:phumctopeka@yahoo.com)

**Youth Director:**

**Michelle**, [youth@pleasanthillumc.org](mailto:youth@pleasanthillumc.org)

**Custodian:**

**Jill**, [admin@pleasanthillumc.org](mailto:admin@pleasanthillumc.org)

**Praise Band Coord. & Adult Bell Choir Dir.:**

**Kelly**, [praise@pleasanthillumc.org](mailto:praise@pleasanthillumc.org)

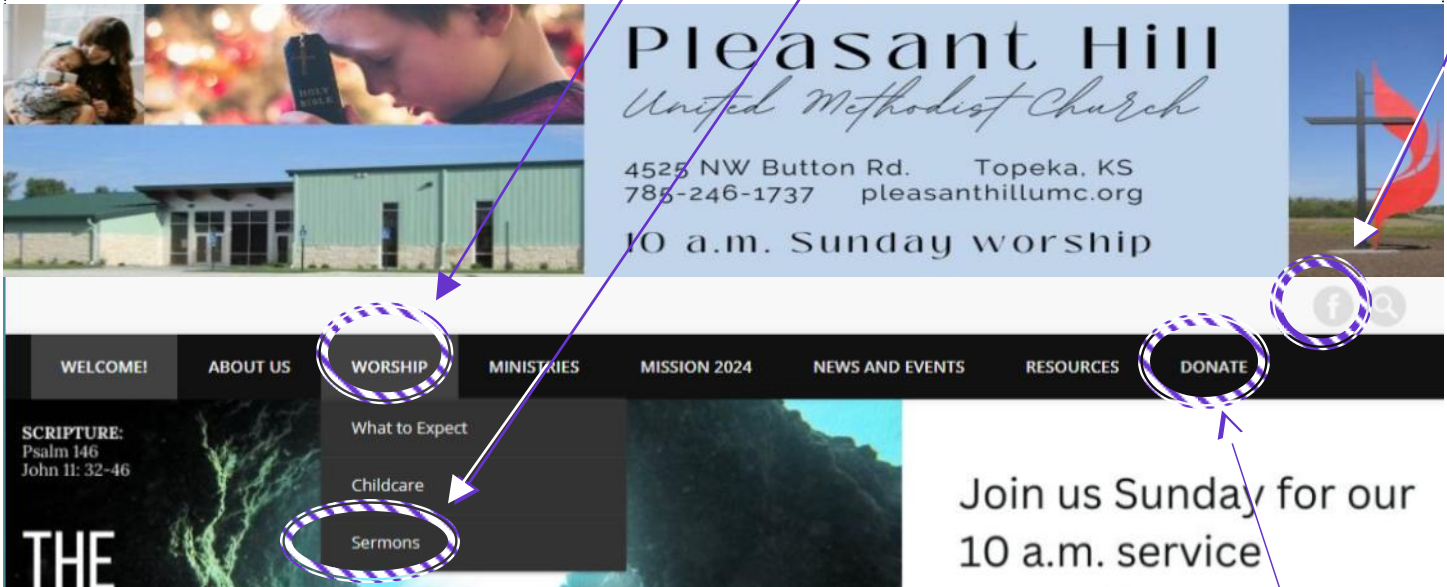
**Organist:**

**Mary S**



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 is here.

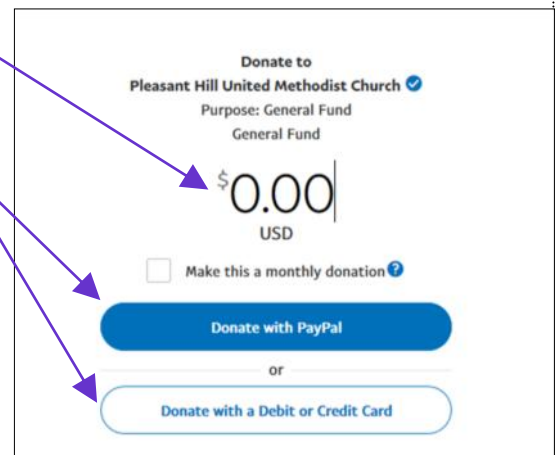
You can find the service on the Facebook page by 10 a.m. on Sunday. Later in the week, you can also start from our website, click on "Worship", then "Sermons", then, on the Sermons page, click the link to the Facebook video you want to watch.



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.