

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

JANUARY 2025

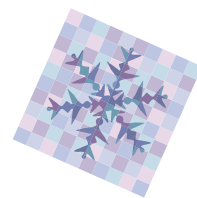
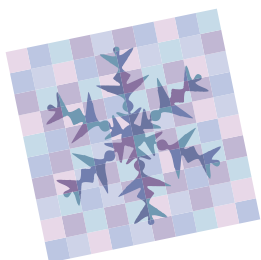
Worship Service every Sunday @ 10 a.m.

Share His Love in the New Year

A brand-new year, a chance to show,
God's love and grace where'er you go.
Each word, each deed, a light can be,
To share His love for all to see.

Don't fear to speak, don't hold back,
God gives the strength for what we lack.
Plant seeds of faith, let kindness shine,
Trust in His Spirit, His plan divine.

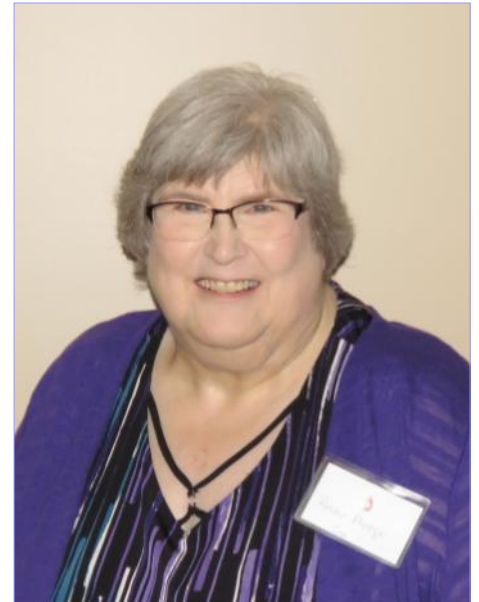
So step in faith, with heart sincere,
And share His Gospel through the year.
Through acts of love and words of praise,
Let your life reflect His ways.



Poem by Catherine Pulsifer, used by permission.

Many thanks for the cards, baked goodies and generous love offering that you shared with me over Christmas! You are all so kind and generous and that was certainly felt by me. It is a blessing to serve this congregation with a wonderful staff and volunteers.

Now we are looking at a whole new year and I'm sure many blessings are ahead for this congregation! We do still have some Committee positions that need filling for the coming year and more phone calls will be made. I hope your answer will be yes when you get a call!

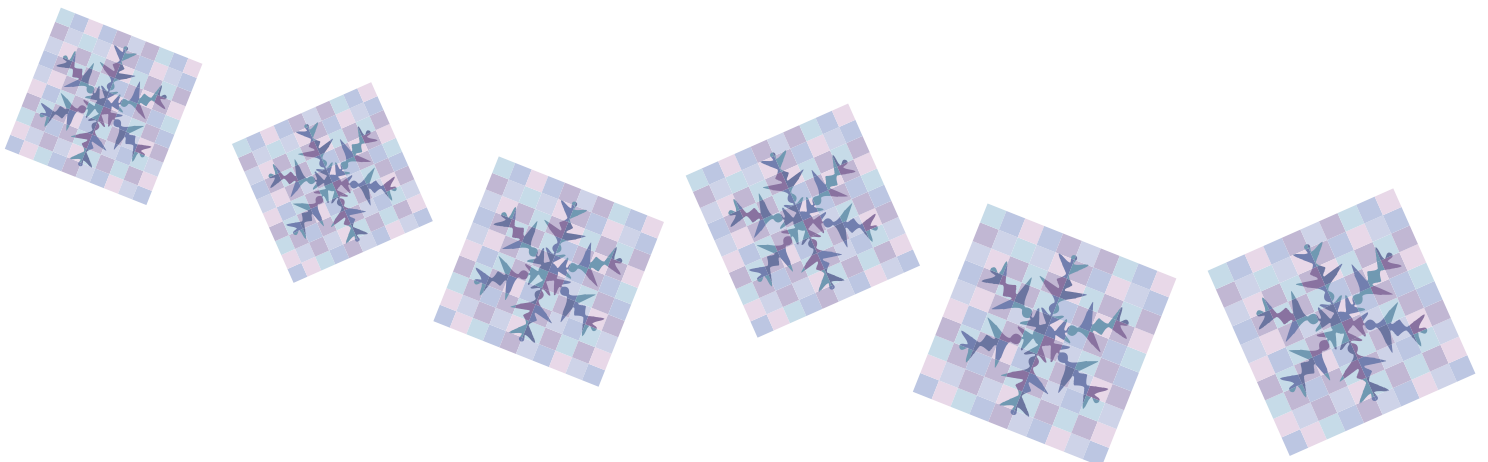


We begin the new year with a major winter storm alert. What the weather will bring us, we won't know until we look out the window to see what's happening. That so perfectly describes life, doesn't it? Sometimes we don't know what is coming until it's here. But we can take comfort in knowing that whatever storms arrive in our lives, God is with us and we are not alone.

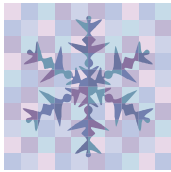
A reminder is appropriate here that our winter weather policy will be in effect. If Seaman schools are cancelled due to weather, the church activities will be cancelled. If it becomes necessary to cancel a worship service, that decision will be made by the trustees, administrative council chair and the pastor. Notification will be made by WIBW-TV, KSNT-TV and our Facebook page. In any event, please do not risk your life to come to church. Every effort will be made to provide an abbreviated worship service on Facebook Live, as long as we have electricity and internet.

Stay warm and safe in this new year, and may God bless you all!

Pastor Marge



Administrative Council meets Wednesday, January 8, 5:30 p.m.
It is open to the congregation.



Youth Group will meet January 5, 12, and 26.
Everyone in grades 6-12 is welcome!

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 (Jesus And Me)** during worship service. After Children's Time, they meet in the room west of the kitchen.

Cooking group will not meet in January. They will meet again in February.

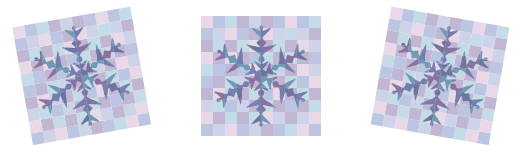
Bell Choir rehearses on Thursdays at 6 p.m. Interested in joining? Chat with Kelly Neiman or attend a rehearsal.

In Case of Inclement Weather:

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

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

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



Birthdays This Month

Nick Nicolay	1/2	Marvin Smith	1/13	Sutton Fry	1/25
Michelle Caudill	1/3	David Neiman	1/14	Dorothy Tefft	1/28
Clifford Hurst	1/3	Linda Griffiths	1/18	Madison Feleay	1/31
Gregg Williams	1/3	Hannah Caudill	1/20	Priscilla George	1/31
Dennis Smerchek	1/4	Rick Colton	1/20	Kim Smerchek	1/31
Zack Wilson	1/4	Chloe Flowers	1/20	Debbie Taylor	1/31
Linda Lanning	1/5	Kendra Cochran	1/23		
Brayden Cochran	1/12	Danette Martin	1/24		



Anniversaries This Month

John & Linda Reed	1/2	54 years
John & Dorothy Holt	1/26	68 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!

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

Adam Van Hove Garry Critchlow Larry Barnes John Schlink

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

Thank you for the gifts.

Nathan

Thank you for the puppy.

Emmie

*Thank you for the blanket,
lego set, and the puppy
stuffed animal.*

Ariah

*Thank you so very
much for all the gifts.
I love them.*

Mae

Thank you for the gifts. I needed a new shower caddy.

Elvis

Celebrate!

Celebrating the good stuff, large or small

- Olivia Jimenez, granddaughter of Marcia Ransdell, graduated cum laude from KSU with a BS in Business Administration with a minor in Management and a focus in Data Analytics. Congratulations!
- Barrett Fry recited Luke 1:30-33 on Christmas Eve Eve and on December 29. Well done!



January at PHUMC

[Online Calendar](#)

Jan. 1, New Year's Day, Office closed
 Jan. 2, 8:30a, Church Breakfast at Perkins
 Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 6p, Bell Choir rehearsal
 Jan. 5, 12, 26, Youth Group meets

Jan. 8, 5:30p, Administrative Council mtg
 Jan. 15, Newsletter 'deadline'
 Jan. 21-23, Leadership Training by Zoom
 Jan. 29, Kansas Day

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

Organist:

Mary S



Keep Hope Alive
event was December 1. Several gifts were wrapped (above) for Alpha Christian Children's Home. 80 Bags of Hope (shown below artfully arranged in the sanctuary) were packed for the Topeka Rescue Mission. Those who attended Keep Hope Alive were treated to cookies and Christmas trivia.





Delivering the Bags of Hope. They were gratefully received by the Topeka Rescue Mission.

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

Have you signed up to get **Dillon's Community Rewards** sent to our church? Just go online to dillons.com/communityrewards. Search for Pleasant Hill UMC. Confirm your choice and start earning cash for PHUMC. Questions? Contact the church office or Mary Smith.

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!!



Gift Cards

Plastic gift cards are available in the church office during the week. Electronic gift cards are available through Mary Smith. We sell the cards at face value but we receive a discount when we purchase them. Some of the cards we usually carry are shown below.

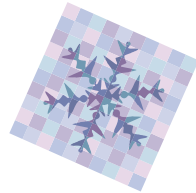




J.A.M. session attendees decorated a bunch of Christmas cards in December!

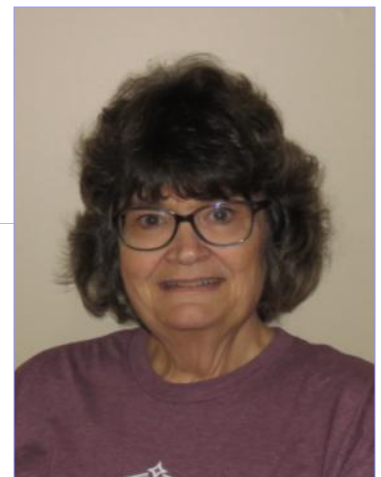
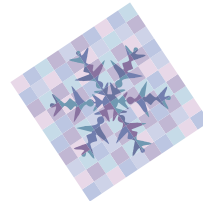


Rev. Larry Buss was our guest speaker on December 29. He brought us the message "Where Could Jesus Be?"



Advent candle lighters this year:

- December 1, Praise Band
- December 8, Lewis & Debbie Taylor
- December 15, Kevin & Annie McDowell
- December 22, Daryl & Joy Jepson
- December 23, the Fry family
- December 24, Elaine Worden and family



Kelly Neiman was our guest speaker on December 22. She talked about four Songs of the Season: "The Holly and The Ivy", "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day", "I Saw Three Ships", and "O Christmas Tree". John Wilson led the congregation in singing three of the songs. Bell Choir, below, played "O Christmas Tree".





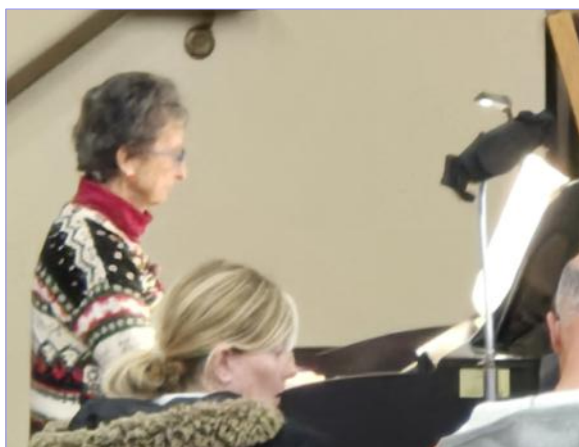
Christmas Eve Eve (December 23) and Christmas Eve (December 24) services were services of Lessons and Carols, included communion, and ended with "Silent Night" sung by candlelight.

On December 23, Bell Choir and Praise Band brought some of the music, Kevin Feleay sang "O Holy Night" accompanied by Mary Smith, and Mary played the organ for several hymns.

On December 24, Barb Slimmer provided all the music on the clavivova. Both were blessed evenings.

Photos of Barb on the clavivova and the candlelight singing on December 24 are on the next page.





Barb on the clavichord and the candlelight singing of "Silent Night" on December 24.

Local Church Leadership Training

The Congregational Excellence Team would like to extend an invitation for you to participate in an informational session for the chairs of the following committees.

- Administrative Board, Tuesday, Jan. 21
- Trustee Committee Chair, Jan. 21 or 22
- Finance Chair, Jan. 21
- Nominations Committee, Jan. 22
- Lay Leaders, Wednesday, Jan. 22
- Staff Pastor Parish Committee Chair (SPRC/PPRC), Thursday, Jan. 23
- One Board (Simplified Accountability Structure), Thursday, Jan. 23



The workshop sessions will be via Zoom, from 7-8:30 p.m. CT. An experienced Lay Person will facilitate each session along with a district superintendent. The facilitators will help explain the "why" of our committee ministry.

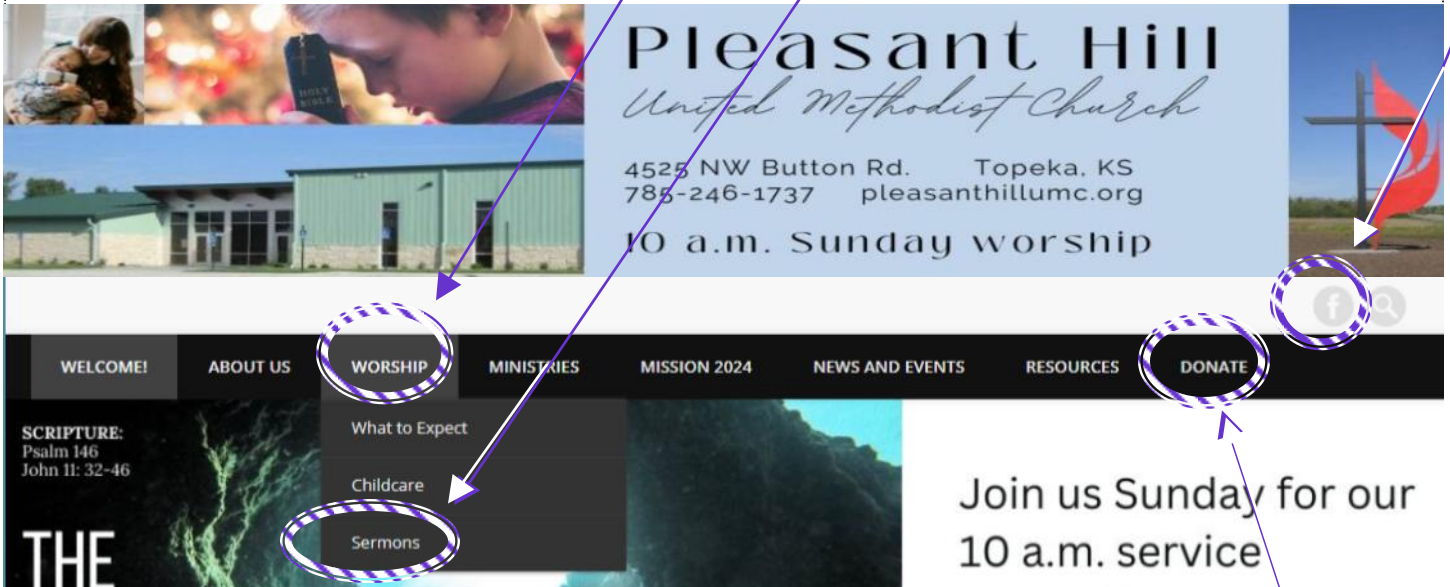
Register at <https://gp-reg.brtapp.com/LocalChurchLeadership25>

Recordings of each session will be available for those unable to join at the confirmed time.

If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Jeff Clinger, Great Plains Director of Congregational Excellence by email: jclinger@greatplainsumc.org; by phone at 785-272-9111 or Jeanie Leeper, Lay Leadership Coordinator by email jleeper@greatplainsumc.org or by phone 308-380-7223.

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

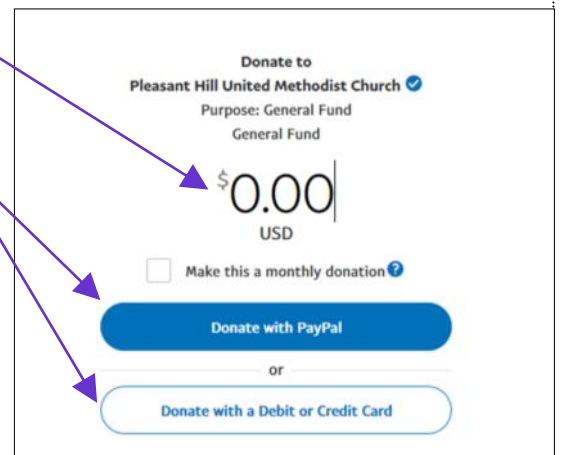
You can find the service on the Facebook page by 10 a.m. on Sunday. Later in the week, you can also start from our website, click on "Worship", then "Sermons", then, on the Sermons page, click the link to the Facebook video you want to watch.



To donate through **PayPal**, go to our website, www.pleasanthillumc.org, 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

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

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