

# PLEASANT HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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# JULY 2026

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



Vacation Bible School is fun!!



Welcome to July! Looks like our cooler temperatures are going to turn into actual summer heat and I hope that all of you have ways to beat the heat!

A couple of weeks ago, I shared a different interpretation of the 23rd Psalm in my sermon and several folks asked for a copy of it. So for those of you who asked, and those who may not have heard it, here it is again.

Toki Miyashina wrote a modern version of Psalm 23 that changes the image of the Lord as Shepherd into the Lord as Pacesetter. It goes like this:

The Lord is my pace-setter, I shall not rush:  
He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals,  
He provides me with images of stillness,  
which restores my serenity.  
He leads me in the way of efficiency,  
through calmness of mind;  
and His guidance is peace.  
Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day  
I will not fret, for His presence is here.  
His timelessness, His all-importance will keep me in balance.  
He prepares refreshment and renewal in the midst of activity,  
by anointing my mind with oils of tranquility;  
my cup of joyous energy overflows.  
Surely harmony and effectiveness shall be fruits of my hours  
and I shall walk in the pace of my Lord,  
and dwell in His house for ever.

Jesus told his disciples: "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

Don't forget Vacation Bible School is coming in a few weeks. Hope to see you and the children in your life at VBS!

Blessings to all of you,

Pastor Marge

The office will be closed Friday, July 3, in honor of Independence Day.

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



**BINGO! July 1, 6:30 p.m.**, come and enjoy Red, White, and Blue elephant BINGO! (What is "Red, White, and Blue elephant bingo", you ask? White elephant with a red, white, and blue theme, of course!)



**Register for  
Vacation Bible School  
and join your friends for a  
fun-filled week!**



Children in **preschool through elementary school** are invited to join us for a week of fun as we learn about Jesus and His impact on our lives.

Each evening will include:

- Exciting games
- Bible stories
- Singing and dancing
- Creative art projects



Scan the QR code or register at [Myvbs.org/phumc-vbs-2026](http://Myvbs.org/phumc-vbs-2026)

Through these activities, we'll discover the importance of Jesus' teachings and how they guide us every day.



**Mark your calendar!  
July 20-24  
6:00-8:00 p.m.**



We can't wait to share this special week of summer fun with you!

**Piecing Love and Warmth** sewing group is in need of:

1. Laundry soap and dryer sheets,
2. Little fleece blankets or yards of fleece,
3. White thread.

All donations are appreciated!



## Vacation Bible School

Our wonderful volunteer crew is planning for Vacation Bible School (VBS), July 20-24. Our theme, "Illumination Station", is all about shining a light on our faith. We have lots of opportunities for lots of volunteers:

- **Working with kids** - July 20-24 from 6-8 p.m. -- you will play hard, share your enthusiasm, and revel in the youth and energy that our kids provide.
- **Parking lot crew** - July 20-24 from 7:45-8:15 p.m. - you will work with parents, helping to get the right kids to the right places after VBS.
- **Adopt-a-prop crew** - all summer we will send people home with decorations to make and bring back. Do you want to help but don't know if you have stamina, patience, etc... to handle lots of little souls with big voices? This is a quieter way to help.
- **Decorating crew** - throughout the summer, come work with Elizabeth and her decorating crew.

We also will have a signup sheet for treasure sharing. For example, we will need lots of Christmas lights for our theme. Perhaps you would be willing to share your lights for a week of VBS. Be on the lookout for our sheet of 'needs.'

Don't forget our church **Garage Sale** Sept. 10-12. This is the same weekend as the Holy Smokin' Jamboree, so 46th Street will be hopping with activity. When you are doing your summer cleaning and de-cluttering, be sure to think about us as a place to take all those items that you are ready to send to a new home. We'll make it happen that weekend.



**Anniversaries in July**

Kyle & Kendra Cochran	7/12	23 years
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**July at PHUMC**

July 2, 8a, Church Breakfast  
July 3, Office Closed  
July 4, Happy Independence Day!  
July 8, 5:30p, Administrative Council  
July 14, 28, 9a, Sewing Group  
July 15, Newsletter 'deadline'  
July 20-24, Vacation Bible School  
July 26, VBS Sunday

**Birthdays in July**

Taylor Harrison	7/1
Taytum Searles	7/1
Serenah Saulsbury	7/6
Daryl Jepson	7/9
C. J. Flowers	7/10
Jim Boughn	7/11
Camden Fry	7/13
Atlas Henry	7/14
Barrett Fry	7/18
Deesie Jackson	7/18
Pastor Marge Cox	7/22
Joy Jepson	7/25
Ken Tidball	7/25
Nova Fitzgerald	7/26
Brian Smith	7/29

*I want to thank our church and the facility for a great place for me to celebrate my 90th. It was a beautiful place to decorate and so many of my friends stated, 'What a lovely church!!'*

*Thanks again,  
Dee*

The office is open Monday - Friday 9:30-11:30 a.m. Please enter through the door by the office on weekdays.

**Hymn Suggestions:** we have sheets in the gathering area for you to write down hymn suggestions for worship services. We will also use these as suggestions for a **Hymn Sing on August 30.**



**Special Music:** You are invited to provide Special Music this summer. Sign up in the foyer for any date through August 30.

After Children's Time, children are invited to **J.A.M. Sessions (Jesus And Me)** in the room west of the kitchen.

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



Mary Smith, organist,  
and John Wilson, song leader.



John Wilson played and sang "Open My Eyes, That I May See" on June 14.



Above, Children's Time June 21,  
and at left, the kid's making  
Father's Day cards in JAM.

**Pleasant Hill UMC Staff**

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

## EFT and Online Giving

Have you considered **EFT** giving (**Electronic Funds Transfer**)? It is a way for you to be in control of your giving without having to do anything once it is set up. You select whether you want to contribute once or twice per month (1st and/or 15th) and how much, and we initiate the transfer for you. If you want to change your EFT details, you just let Joy Jepson or Deb Mannell know. We will soon have a card that you can put in the offering plate each week to symbolize your check. See the display in the foyer coming in mid-July.

EFT giving provides positives for both our Church and givers:

- It saves you from the check-writing hassle and expense of ordering more checks and it keeps your contributions regular, even if you aren't able to attend. You are not tied down to any particular time frame, and you can still donate in other ways if you choose. Also, you can be sure you are giving the amount of money you intended to give, so you don't discover at the end of the year that you didn't meet your giving goal.
- The Church benefits from givers who contribute through EFT, because it provides a predictable monthly income for meeting our Church's financial obligations.

If you would like to start giving by EFT, you can use the EFT form on the next page in this newsletter or ask in the office for a form. They will also be available from the display in the foyer coming in mid-July.

**Online giving** is another way to donate, whether you are in church or not. On our website, under the "Donate" tab, are donate buttons for General fund and Vacation Bible School. You can give through PayPal, Venmo, or by credit or debit card with no PayPal or Venmo account necessary. On Sundays we also put this QR code - to go directly to the Donate page - on screen and in the bulletin:



If you have questions, contact Deb in the office. Thank you for your support of PHUMC as we work to further our mission and ministry.

**EFT AUTHORIZATION FORM**

Authorization Agreement for Automatic Withdrawal of Funds



**Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church**

Effective date of Authorization \_\_\_\_\_

Type of authorization:

- New authorization       Change banking information  
 Change Donation amount       Discontinue electronic donation       Change Donation Date

Last Name	First Name
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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City	State	Zip
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Date of first donation: ____/____/____	Frequency of donation: <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Monthly 1 <sup>st</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly 1 <sup>st</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly 15 <sup>th</sup>	Amount General Fund \$ _____
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Special Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

Please debit my donations from <u>my</u> : <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (attach a voided check)	Routing Number: _____ Account Number: _____
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**I authorize Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.**

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please place completed form in offering plate, mail to church, or leave at office.**

**Questions? Talk to Joy Jepson or Deb Mannell.**

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/) 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.

Facebook may delete those older than a month at any time.



To donate by credit card, 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 donation page such as is shown at right. Enter the amount here and choose the option you want from the buttons at the bottom of the page.



You can also donate to Vacation Bible School through a button on the "Donate" page!

If you are interested in giving by **automatic withdrawals**,

you can use the EFT form in this newsletter or ask in the office for a 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 will have offering cards to put in the offering plate indicating a gift by EFT or online. See the display in the foyer by mid-July.