

CAPITAL CITY METHODIST

It's Ya'll

Dear First Friends,

As the end of my first year of ministry with you nears an end and the second year begins, it's hard for me not to notice how satisfied I am in ministry these days. I ask myself: Why is that?

These are not easy times for the church. We are still experiencing the effects of the pandemic, the manifestations of our polarized culture, the numerical decline of mainline churches, and the schism within United Methodism. Many clergy are experiencing burn-out or near burnout. So why am I so satisfied?

I don't mean to say that I never feel any stress, or that I am never plagued with difficult moments or days, or that the church is in perfect condition. I am living neither in denial nor in a dream world.

But I am satisfied. I feel good about ministry. I feel good about the church. And I think I know why. It's y'all.

Julian DeShazier, senior minister of University Church in Chicago, wrote an article in the March issue of *The Christian Century* about clergy burnout. The title of the article was, "The little engine that needed collaborators."

Rev. DeShazier wrote, "The difference between a healthy ministry and a diseased one may very well be the difference between pastors who have functioning, collaborative systems around them and those who over-function alone."

So, it seems I'm satisfied because my day-to-day experience among you is a reflection of the former rather than the latter. In short, it's y'all.

It's y'all who visit women in the local jail, volunteer at the food pantry, teach children or youth or other adults in Sunday School, offer your musical gifts, lead ministry teams, serve on teams that choose scholarship recipients or search for and hire new staff members, visit members in the hospital, nursing homes, care centers, and their homes, make difficult decisions, care for our properties, pray and dream and talk about where God is calling FUMC, serve persons without housing through our GAP ministry, care for the technical and aesthetic elements of our two outstanding worship services, give out coins at the laundromat, quietly serve where you are needed, and a host of other things that grow God's kingdom and put flesh on our vision of seeking to glorify God, follow Jesus, serve others, and welcome everyone.

You all are as dedicated, committed, faithful, and all-in as any church I have served. Some of you are hard to keep up with, and that's all right with me.

I don't mean to suggest that some of you couldn't "kick it up a notch." That's true of every church. And if the Spirit is nudging you to do so, go for it, and please let me know how I can help. We need every gift every person has to offer.

But it's sure great to be part of a healthy, growing ministry. And it's still really great to be here.

So, props, kudos, hats off, and much love to y'all.

Faithfully yours,

Pastor Tom



June 1, 2023

**Glorify God
By
Connecting People
With
Jesus Christ
Through
Spiritual Nourishment
And
Dynamic Outreach**



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF FRANKFORT**

211 Washington Street

Frankfort, KY 40601

Office Hours: 8:30—3:00 M-T

www.fumcfrankfort.org

Twitter: @fumcfrankfort

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fumc.frankfort





The Class Acts Sunday School Class will be starting a new study on June 4 and all are invited to attend and participate. We will be reading and studying “The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry” by John Mark Comer. The class meets on the 2nd floor of the Averill House and we welcome all ages who are ready to learn, chat and have fun. The study will be great for all of us that are so busy in our everyday life it is sometimes difficult to slow down.

Did You Know?

Your church has a Permanent Endowment and Planned Giving Ministry. All funds donated and bequests to the church for endowment are invested with the Kentucky United Methodist Foundation and are available as needed. Recently 6 higher education scholarships were awarded from the designated accounts in our endowment. Also grants have been given from undesignated funds for our GAP Ministry to help those in need and the music and worship program for upgraded equipment. Additional grants will be given from time to time as needed and when funds are available. All these funds come from generous people in our congregation and extended church family.

Congratulations to our High School Graduates!

Jessica Fehr	Franklin County
Audrey Gilbert	Frankfort High
Ava Goins	Franklin County
Bella Hardison	Franklin County
Alanna McCrystal	Western Hills
Alyssa McCrystal	Western Hills
Natalia Esteve Maturana	Western Hills
Brayden McMurray	Western Hills
Isabelle Powell	Franklin County
Canyon Thomas	Craft Academy, Morehead State University
Eva Zwerver	Franklin County

Our scholarship recipients for 2023 are:

Izzy Hardison: Ruth Spurrier- \$1000
 Grace Trent: Crossthwait- \$500
 Dorothy Hanson- McChesney- \$1000
 Ella Kays- Pewitt \$1000
 Audrey Gilbert- Sublett- \$1500
 Matthew Meyer – Dollars for Scholars \$1000

Come As You Are

By Donna Guerr

Provided by Cleland White

The billboard near the highway displayed a photograph of a young Muslim woman with a head covering. The caption read, “We are fully inclusive.” I felt a tinge of offense at the community college’s ad. Why the push to accept Islam? Then, Jesus spoke to my heart saying, “I am fully inclusive.” The contrast between the words of Jesus and my reaction to the billboard left me stunned. I felt his bigotry.

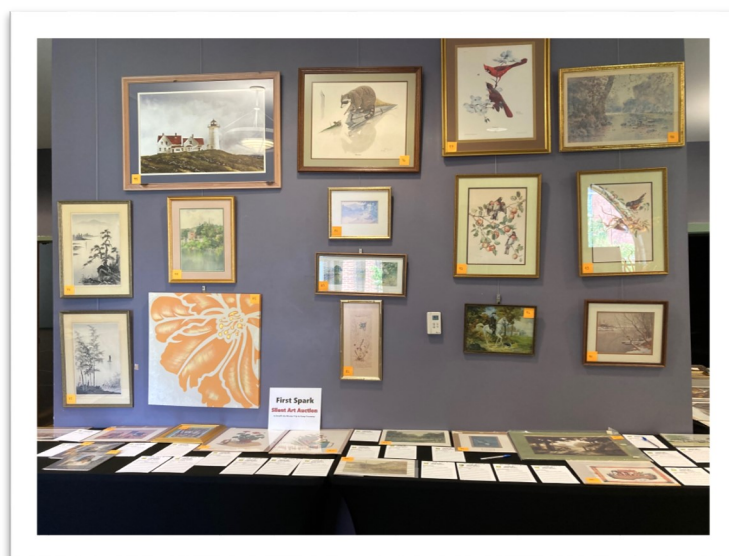
Jesus is unbiased: he unreservedly welcomes every human being regardless of religion or background. But I like the Pharisees of Jesus’ day, I was demanding that people meet certain criteria in order for God to receive them and love them. God deeply loves and values every person, and the Son of God paid the ultimate price for all people.

God invites us to come as we are. In the embrace of God’s extravagant love and acceptance there is redemption, forgiveness, and peace. This is the good news for all!





Kids Night Out
Saturday, June 10
5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Infants to 5th Grade
Bring your supper and drink
Crafts, games and snack
Donations accepted to



T-Shirt Sales to Benefit Youth Mission Trip

Don't miss the opportunity to buy a ***Be Kind First*** t-shirt in a variety of cute colors. Proceeds will benefit the youth mission trip in July, and the t-shirt's message will continue to bless our church every time you wear it! Shirts are \$20 each and you can find the sale table in Gallery Hall every Sunday until we sell out.

Youth Art Auction Through June 4

Thanks to everyone who donated beautiful artwork for the Youth Silent Auction! If you haven't been upstairs in the Wesley Center to see the auction offerings, stop by and place a bid! Funds raised by the auction will benefit the youth mission trip to Camp Crossway in Pawnee Oklahoma. Winners will be contacted after the auction closes at

GAP Serves a Growing Community

The God Answers Prayers through Compassionate People (GAP) ministry continues to serve our homeless community. With the unfortunate closing of the Simon House, we expect to see additional unhoused neighbors.

We have been blessed by the generous commitment of our United Women of Faith as women's circles have prepared Welcome Boxes for the newly housed members of this community. As unhoused individuals qualify for housing, the joy of having an apartment is tempered by the emptiness of their new space. Having lived place to place, often in cars and tents, these newly homed individuals struggle to assemble kitchen and bath supplies to allow them to really use their new apartment. Three boxes have already been delivered to grateful individuals.

If you have kitchen or bath items that you would like to donate, please bring them to the church office. We welcome used items that are fully functional as well as new supplies. We need things like can openers, silverware, pots and pans, cooking utensils, even cookbooks. We are pleased to offer anything that you think someone who is newly homed can use. We cannot accept donations of large/bulky items or furniture due to storage and moving issues.

GAP also offers personal comfort items like shampoo, bar soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Right now, our needs include sheets, lightweight blankets, towels, backpacks, and dog food. With allergy season upon us, pain relief and allergy medicines are also very welcome. We currently have enough toothbrushes and toothpaste, but can always use deodorant and shampoo.





Good News from the Kings Center

In this time of uncertainty and global fear, it is good to know that there exists a safe place for the children of South Frankfort. And it is thriving! Thirty to forty children stream off the bus from Second Street School at 2:45, ready for a snack and to connect with friends about their day. Our director, Deneen Petty, welcomes them with hugs and then keeps them busy with activities that encourages them to be kind, be responsible, be patriotic, be healthy, and to give back to the community in the way of service.

Since the children range from first grade to eighth grade, Deneen has three assistants to help keep all the children engaged in various levels of activities. Of course, homework help, journal writing and reading remain central to each afternoon. Deneen also works closely with the Women's Auxiliary at the VFW to instill patriotism. This spring the kids traveled to the Vietnam Memorial to say the Pledge of Allegiance and sing the National Anthem for an event honoring the veterans. They were sent a Thank You Note from the Governor's Office!

The 4H program from KSU did several events with our kids over Spring Break. Besides starting all the plants for their raised bed vegetable garden, they brought an incubator with twenty-two eggs. The children had to keep records of the temperatures and the humidity for 21 days. When they hatched there were squeals of delight. Deneen made sure a local farmer received the chicks so the kids wouldn't fight over them! HA!

The Capital City Retired Teachers provided funds for the teens to continue ***Let's Talk About It***, a zoom show with teen led interviews. One of our new assistants is a communications major at KSU who will be helping them with this. Other South Frankfort friends, Leah and Ricky Redden conducted a fund raiser called ***Making A Way With Merrick***, in memory of their son. The goal was to fill the Kings Center bus with supplies. This will keep us in paper towels, toilet tissue and Kleenex for a year!!!!

(The Kings Center is a ministry started by First Church member Randy Bacon and serves children throughout Franklin County at no cost. We thank you for supporting this community center for over 25 ye

Youth Mission Trip to Camp Crossway



Our youth will head to Pawnee, Oklahoma and Camp Crossway for a mission trip the week of July 4th. The plan was to rework a climbing wall and do other repairs around the camp, but disaster struck and their administration building burned to the ground. They lost so much, everything from tractors to craft supplies. It may change the focus of our mission trip but we are grateful to be of service to this Christian camp devoted to indigenous tribes.



First United Methodist Church
Frankfort, KY
2023 Leadership Roll
(update 5/24/23)

Members of the Church Council appear in bold type.

Church Council Chair	Philip Sturgill
Church Council Vice Chair	Cleland White
Church Council Recording Secretary	Sabrina James
Lay Leader	Bill Elam
Lay Members to Annual Conference	Arba Kenner, Leanne Scott
Alternate Lay Member to Annual Conference	Kay Scott
Congregational Care	Betty McNees
Stephen Ministry Team Leader	
Prayer Team Leader	Ginny Smith
Age Level Coordinators:	
Children's Coordinator	April Trent
Youth Ministry Team Leader	Greg Hardison
Young Adult/College & Higher Education	Robbie Clements
Senior Adult Ministry Team Leader	Arba Kenner
United Women in Faith President	
United Methodist Men President	Byron Brewer
United Methodist Youth Representatives	Missy & Greg Hardison
United Methodist Children's Home	Jonelle Soporowski
Library/Archives History	Gayle Alvis
Senior Pastor	Rev. Tom Corum
Minister of Education	Rev. Tonya Kenner
Director of Music & Worship	Josh Golden

Staff-Parish Relations Team

Chair: Stefan Brunson	Vice Chair: Patricia MacDonald	Secretary: Eric Kennedy
2023	2024	2025
Fran Salyers	Patricia MacDonald	Mike Whitaker
Kay Scott	Stefan Brunson	Valerie Smith
Brandon Hurley	Eric Kennedy	Phillip Shepherd
Lay Member to Annual Conference: Leanne Scott		Lay Leader: Bill Elam

Lay Leadership & Nominations Team **Chair:** Pastor Tom Corum

2023	2024	2025
Ronnie Nolan	Jill Burton	Ginny Smith
Jennifer Tracy	Travis Trent	Susan Coblin
Paul McNees	John Gilbert	Shelley Mauer

Finance Team **Chair:** Jana Sturm Vice Chair: Stephanie Stafford Secretary: Stephanie Stafford
2023 2024 2025
Stephanie Stafford Charles Smith Ashli Watts
Erika Hancock Guy Goodner Steven Pewitt
John Covington Melinda Nunley Jana Sturm
Pastor, Lay Member to Annual Conference, Church Council Chair, Staff-Parish Relations Team Chair, Board of Trustees representative, Lay Leader
Treasurer: David Salyers
Assistant Treasurer: Jim Jackson
Financial Secretary: Julie Clouse (voice w/o vote)

Board of Trustees **Chair:** Joe Meyer Vice Chair: Paul Mauer Secretary: John Gilbert
2023 2024 2025
John Gilbert Mary Pat Dobbins Jim Surbeck
Joe Meyer Donna Jackson Fred Spencer
Rosie Doerting Melissa Toppass Paul Mauer

Strategic Planning Team **Chair:** Shelley Mauer Vice Chair: Abbie Meyer
Tom Corum, Audrey Gilbert, Elly Gilbert, John Heltzel, Donna Jackson, Jim Jackson, Patricia MacDonald, Shelley Mauer, Abbie Meyer, Kathy Moreland, Ronnie Noland, Phillip Shepherd, Cleland White.

Outreach Team **Chair:** John Heltzel Vice Chair, Secretary
2023 2024 2025
Corky Herbert Lisa Keeter John Heltzel
Larry Epley Elly Gilbert Amy Snow
Nancy Watkins Andrew Baker Marcey Broderson

Worship Team **Staff Representatives:** Josh Golden, Chris Powell
Traditional Service Design Team GNN Design Team
R.B. Brown Jana Sturm
Rosie Doerting Abbie Meyer
Karen Nance Mary Pat Dobbins
Ginny Smith
Cheryl Meyer

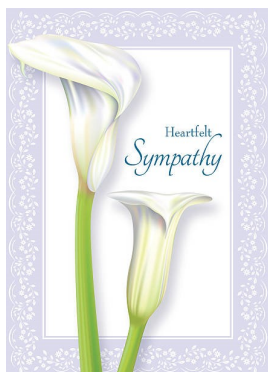
Permanent Endowment & Planned Giving Ministry Committee
Chair: Don Hughes Jr. Vice Chair: Emily Powell
2023 2024 2025
Emily Powell Rosemary Center Greg Burton
Jack Brewer Don Hughes Jr. Robin Lawhorn
Marcey Broderson Lindsey Briggs R.B. Brown

In-Reach Team **Chair:** Vice Chair, Secretary
2023 2024 2025
Mim Martin Margaret Maggard Cheryl Meyer
Ann Benoit Sandy Jackson Tim Simpson
Pat Smith Carl Gray Sally Smothermon
Minister of Education

Emergency Management Team **Chair:** Cheryl Meyer Vice Chair, Secretary
2023 2024 2025
Danny Maggard Junior Lewis Phil Huddleston
Karen Criswell Daniel Snow Sabrina James
Paul Kenner John Heltzel David Sturm

June Birthdays

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Mark Kendall | 13 Bill Scott
Laura Turner | 23 Campbell Goins
Noah Preston Reed |
| 2 Jennifer Goins Graves
Raye Hurley | 14 Jimmy Bailey
Bob Capito
Casey Lewis
Emmett Thomas | 24 Elly Gilbert
Julia Hughes |
| 3 Kennedy McCrystal
Kim Wilkerson | 15 Rick Moreno
Jonell Soporowski
Jim Vittetow | 25 Bill Ayer
Eric Lowe |
| 4 Thomas Baker
Joe Burgess
Monica Chism
Donna Jackson | 16 Steven Criswell
Elaine Lewis | 26 Beth McDonald |
| 5 Tom Knight | 17 Brenda Baldwin
Sarah Rhodes | 27 Lara Barbour
Cate Collett
Ron Hazelett
Vicki Easterly |
| 6 Helen Chadwick
Scott Meyer
Alison Simpson
Katherine Thomas | 18 Lisa Friedly | 28 Mike Whitaker |
| 7 Fran Crumbaugh | 19 Sally Smothermon | 29 Carolyn Fugate
Ella Kays
Lisa Keeter |
| 8 Meredith Goins
Melissa Toppas
Skye Hanson
Ella Hurley
Joyce Wilcher | 20 Daneen Lee
Aaliyah Simpson | 30 Ron Alvis
Max Kurtz |
| 10 Debbie Raine
Barbara Teague
Logan Thomas | 21 Paula Alexander Sucher
Rhonda Deaton
Patti MacDonald | |
| | 22 John Lile | |



Our sympathy to the family of **Marcia Burton**, including her children Beth Sturm, Sandra Burton and Greg Burton. Mrs. Burton passed away on May 11.

Our condolences to Hannah Drake, Megan Gorham and Palmer Drake in the death of their father, **John Drake** on May 31. His service will be in our sanctuary on June 7.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

211 Washington Street

Frankfort, KY 40601

502-227-7430

www.fumcfrankfort.org

Rev. Tom Corum

- *Pastor*

Tonya Kenner

- *Minister of Christian Education*

Josh Golden

- *Director of Music and Worship*

Chris Powell

- *Director of Contemporary Worship*

Roy Nance

- *Organist*

Greg & Melissa Hardison

- *Youth Directors*

Jessica Tillett

- *Administrative Assistant*

Diana Gregory

- *Newsletter Editor*

Vacation Bible School

June 22-25, 2023

Experience the Abundant Orchard

Ages three to rising fifth graders are invited to be a part of Vacation Bible School. Sixth graders through adults are invited to volunteer. We will be learning about ways God has provided food Here is the schedule:

- Thursday, June 22, 7:00-9:00 Church-wide pool party at Juniper Hills
- Friday, June 23, 5:00 – 7:30 supper, Bble story, crafts, recreation and snacks with focus on Hospitality (Genesis 18:1-15 when Abraham and Sarah prepare a meal for unexpected guests).
- Saturday, June 24, 9:30 to 2:00 with themes related to Obedience (Exodus 13:3-10 when the Hebrew people ate a quick meal before leaving Egypt) and The Miraculous (Exodus 14 when God provided manna and quail in the desert).
- Sunday, June 25, 10:00 to 12:00 during Sunday School and 11:00 worship with the theme Hunger (1 Kings 18:8-16 when a poor mom shared her food with Elijah). Then at 12:00, our celebration closing will include a church-wide potluck in Asbury Hall at noon and then we will fill Blessing Bags for the homeless.

During the weekend, we will be collecting items for Blessing Bags with the church invited to help us. Our goal is 200 bags (some for each family/individual and the rest for the GAP ministry).

Requested donations:

gallon zip lock bags for items	adult socks
small packages of baby wipes	small bottles of hand sanitizers
small packages of band-aids	mini water bottles
small bottles of sunscreen	lip balms
toothbrushes/toothpastes	dental floss
travel sized soaps	travel sized deodorants
travel sized shampoos/conditioners	female hygiene products
\$10 gift cards to fast food or Kroger or Walmart	