



September 21, 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

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CAPITAL CITY METHODIST

Wednesday Communion

Dear First Friends,

I am so grateful to be your pastor and to share alongside you in such a rich and wholistic ministry. Together we are pursuing our vision to glorify God, follow Jesus, serve others, and welcome everyone. If First United Methodist Church did not exist in Frankfort, its absence would be felt. But because of FUMC, people are growing in their love of God and neighbor. Faith is nurtured and people are served in tangible ways both near and far. I have reasons every day to give thanks for you.

I want to use this space to highlight an opportunity that is perhaps less familiar to some of you. Every Wednesday at 11:00am, we hold Prayer, Devotions, and Communion in the Rogers Chapel, just off the narthex (entry) into the sanctuary.

There is a small but faithful band of folks who attend regularly. I know they would love to welcome you.

Typically, we begin by going over the most recent prayer list and moving to a time of prayer. (Well, actually, we begin with a time of informal chit-chat, and then we go on to the prayer list...)

Next, we have a brief devotion. Recently we have begun to read the Letter to the Ephesians reflectively as our devotion. It's a bit of a different style than we are used to, but if all goes well, we will continue to read through from the beginning to the end. The Letter to the Ephesians has much to offer by reminding us of God's immeasurable grace toward us and how we live together in peace in light of that grace.

Then we share in Holy Communion, ending with the Lord's Prayer and saying together, "This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalm 118:24)

Recently, one of our regular attenders who has been recovering from surgery called just as we were ending our time together, and we were able to talk with her, encourage her, and pray with her.

I know that many of you are working or at school on Wednesdays at 11:00am. Perhaps you will remember those of us who are gathered in prayer and/or lift a prayer of your own during that time.

I hope that those of you who are available during that time will consider joining us. You won't be sorry you did. I always leave refreshed and renewed.

Again, I am grateful for all of you, for your daily faithfulness, and for your commitment to Christ particularly through the ministry and mission of First United Methodist Church. It is one of the best churches around, if you ask me, and there has never been a better time to endeavor to glorify God, follow Jesus, serve others, and welcome everyone.

Faithfully yours,
Pastor Tom



Engage!

What?

An opportunity to:
engage with one another as a church community
engage more deeply with God
engage matters of prayer and church leadership

When & where?

Sunday Evenings—September 10—October 15
5:00-5:45 pm Supper in Asbury Hall
(\$8 13 & up, \$5 5-12, free 4 & under, \$20 per family)
5:45-7:00 pm Small Groups

SMALL GROUP OPTIONS

Children: *Learning to Live Like Jesus*—with Rev. Tonya Kenner, April Trent, Pattie Blythe, and Nicole Young in the Susanna Room; Bible stories of Jesus' life with crafts and lots of interactive activities to learn about Jesus' life, leadership and love.

Youth: First Spark Youth with Cameron Kenner in the Lighthouse

Adults (choose one):

Great Prayers of the Christian Faith with Revs. Jack Brewer and Richard Smith in the Sanctuary; This six-week focus will be first on The Lord's Prayer, and then, as sessions allow, introductory insights on The Serenity Prayer. The resource will be Rev. Smith's book, *Great Prayers of the Christian Faith*. Copies can be purchased for \$15 with all proceeds going to our GAP Ministry, and can be picked up in the church office or available at the first session.

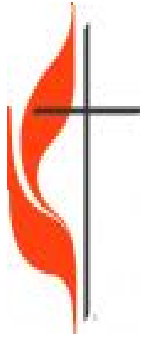
Canoeing the Mountains with Rev. Tom Corum in Asbury Hall; What does effective church leadership look like in a rapidly changing world? We will share in a study and discussion of *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory* by Tod Bolsinger. Copies can be purchased for \$15 and can be picked up in the church office.

Who?

You, of course! And invite a friend!

Why?

Because we need God and one another.
Because we're hungry for physical and spiritual food.
Because we can!



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WITNESSING SINCE 1790 IN THE CAPITAL OF KENTUCKY

September 18, 2023

Dear First United Methodist Church Family,

How quickly 2023 is slipping away! Fall ministries are under way, and Advent is on our radar! Back for another round is our Sunday night series, ENGAGE! It was a huge success in the spring, drawing around seventy people each night, and we hope you are attending this fall series. Confirmation Classes have begun with seven students.

Sunday School classes are on the move, literally! Thanks to the hard work of many volunteers, the Wesley Center Sunday School rooms have been cleaned and painted. The Chapel Class, Upper Room Class, and Class Acts are now occupying the back hallway in the Wesley Center. The children's rooms and the nursery have been moved to better accommodate their needs. The Men's Sunday School Class has moved to the second floor of the Wesley Center. And the SAGE, Covenant, and Friendship Classes continue in their usual locations.

Week after week we are seeking to live out our vision to glorify God, follow Jesus, serve others, and welcome everyone. Musical groups, caregiving groups, women's circles, United Methodist Men, Wednesday devotions and Holy Communion, Bible studies, and ministries with children, youth, and older adults are flourishing. This summer saw our Youth Mission Trip to Oklahoma and the seamless transition to a new Youth Director. Together we are helping to fund life-enhancing and life-changing ministries locally and globally, a group of youth use our gym to play basketball weekly, and we are serving our neighbors without housing four days per week through our GAP Ministry. Vibrant worship is happening every Sunday, and we continue to welcome new persons into our church and ministry.

Through the beginning of September, the cost of our ministry exceeds our giving by about \$37,000. Our mortgage balance as of August 30th is \$1,291,149 with a monthly payment of \$17,500. Unfortunately, our rate went from 3.5% to 6.5% in June causing more of our payment to go toward interest. But we are making strides and will continue to do so with your faithful giving.

Other than dropping your donation in the Sunday offering plate, you can give many ways to the church: online at fumcfrankfort.org/give, by using the QR code in the weekly bulletin/announcements, through the U.S. Postal Service, and/or through stock donations by calling the Kentucky United Methodist Foundation at 859-977-0400 or making a charitable donation from an IRA. You can even make a donation directly to the church's mortgage by designating "debt reduction" for your contribution. Any questions about donating can be directed to Julie Clouse, our financial secretary, at julie@rexclouse.com.

Thank you ever so much for your ongoing faithfulness.

Yours in Christ,
Jana Sturm
Jana Sturm, Finance Team Chair

Tom Corum
Rev. Tom Corum, Pastor

Concerns and Celebrations

Welcome New Members

First United Methodist Church is delighted to welcome STEPH SORRELL and ADRIENNE WILLIS who united with our congregation during GNN worship on September 10. We are glad to welcome these two women and look forward to the ministry we will continue to share together.

Wedding

Congratulations to Emily Wilkerson and Alden Glenwood on their marriage on Saturday, September 16. Emily is the daughter of Lewis and Kim Wilkerson.

Rev. Jack Brewer Honored

The Frankfort Interfaith Council recognized our former pastor, Jackson Brewer, with the 2023 Ruby Layson Award for promoting the interfaith qualities of justice, compassion and human kindness. Jack has been a community leader who has served as chairman of the Frankfort-Franklin County Ministerial Association for many years. He has been an advocate and strong supporter of the local interfaith council since its formation. The local interfaith council has members from the Christian, Islamic, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, Baha'i, Unitarian Universalist, Quaker and Rastafari religions.

Jack was recognized at the recent session of the Kentucky Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church for his leadership and outstanding work in the ecumenical community.

Our Organist Begins his 46th Year

Roy and Karen Nance moved to Frankfort September 1, 1978, when Roy began serving as Minister of Music and Organist, following a tenure by Dennis McCardle and Ruth Mason. The music program grew and was recognized by the community, Kentucky Annual Conference and beyond for its outstanding quality of worship and music. In addition to its choral program for all ages, the program added a community Music Day Camp in the summer for children, handbell choirs, instrumental ensemble, liturgical dance, Madrigal Singers and Chautauqua series of August Sunday evening programs.

Roy retired in 2013 after thirty-five years of full time work. He continues to serve as organist at the church. Karen coordinated the children's choirs and directed First Care, childcare program. Their children, Amy and Adam, and families live in Frankfort.

Our Sympathy To . . .

. . . Trevor Hanson in the death of his Dad, John.

. . . Connie White in the death of her mother.

Dear FUMC family,

A little more than ten years ago Greg felt called to lead the youth program at FUMC. When he shared this with me, I knew that it was something we should do together since our gifts and talents are opposite. Greg is enthusiastic and outgoing and remarkable and encouraging our youth to build relationships with each other and most importantly with God. I, on the other hand am a tender hearted introvert and a planner. Together we found a balance that worked.

FUMC took a chance on us and we are eternally grateful. It changed our lives and became a family mission for us. Since we both have demanding full time jobs, our vacations became youth mission trips and retreats. Our days off and family time revolved around planning events, activities, mission projects, Bible lessons, and meals. We appreciate the love, support, and prayers that we have been given over the years. Whenever we felt lost, discouraged, uncertain, God always showed up in big ways. And we cherish our shared experiences and relationships with the youth and their families.

It was a difficult decision to step down as youth leaders. We thought and prayed about it and ultimately came to the conclusion that it was time for us to step aside for someone else to breathe new life into the program. It was a full circle moment for us when Cameron Kenner appeared as one of the applicants.

Cameron was in our youth group when we started. He has grown up attending FUMC and was one of the youth who helped come up with the name "First Spark". The youth chose that name because they wanted to be a light in our church, community, and their schools to point people toward Jesus. We love Cameron and couldn't be happier for him to step into our role as FUMC's new youth leader. We hope that FUMC will continue to offer Cameron the same love, support, and grace that we were given as we grew into our role. With that being said, Cameron is just one person. We had two of us. If your heart is telling you that working with the youth is something that you should do, we highly encourage you to take a step in that direction. It could just change your life for the better. You will not regret it!

In closing we just want to express how much we love our church, our youth, and their families. Our lives have been incredibly enriched by this experience. Our faith has grown and we have learned far more from our youth than they ever learned from us. Thank you for taking a chance on us.

*Much love,
Greg and Melissa Hardison*

October Birthdays

1 Madeline Clements
Graham MacDonald

2 Mim Martin
Fred Spencer

3 Marcey Broderson
David Lawhorn

4 Andrew Baker
Amy Snow
Steph Sorrell
Gary Wilkins

5 Elizabeth Friedly Ernst
Melissa Hatchell
Rebecca Lowe

6 Debbie Briggs
Lori Hamm

7 Patty Capito
Rosie Doerting
John Suter

9 Owen Clements
Sherry Whitt

10 Reid Mitchell
Thomas Quarles
Patti Sebastian

11 Ethan Beward
Willie Lile

12 Rosemary Center
John Graves
Madison Graves
James Robb
Marcia Woodyard
Bryan Kendall Wayman

13 John Covington
John Heltzel

14 Lynn Grogan
Shawn Foley

15 Glenda Lynn

16 Roe Rogers
Andrea Southworth

17 Dara Bass
Melba Leach
Chris Powell

18 Alex Sturm
Patricia Perry

20 Brandon Hurley
Cynthia Lowe

21 Christopher Collett
Larry Epley
Alex Hardison
Madeline Stewart

22 Annie Beck
Marjorie Moore
John Moreland
Jimmy VanMeter

23 Kathryn McCrystal
Brian Stafford
Joe Whitt

24 Sierra DeMers

25 Sue Flener
Morgan McDonald
Valerie Smith
Bill Ed Warman

26 Asher Scott

27 Hailey Chambers
Angie Disponette
Audrey Gilbert
David Herbert
Henry Lawson
David Vence
Jamie Williams

29 Natalie Hughes

30 Alex Whitt

31 Donnie Estill





A new Sunday School year has begun and we are excited to invite returning and new members to our classes. A lot of volunteer work has gone into creating new updated spaces for classes in our Wesley Center. Sunday school classes meet from 10 to 10:45 each Sunday.

Children's classes meet in the Wesley Center first floor.

Nursery: Room 110

Childcare Workers: Nicole Young and Patti Blythe

Preschool, Kindergarten and First Graders: Room 108

Teachers: Jill Burton, Mendy Covington and Holly Brunson.

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Second through Fifth graders: Room 115

Teachers: Elly Gilbert and April Trent.



Little Church meets during the 11:00 worship service in Room 108 with rotating volunteers along with Ms. Patti and Ms. Nicole.

Youth classes meet in the Light House, our youth building next to the sanctuary. The middle school and high schoolers will begin together each week with breakout groups as needed. Teachers include Cameron Kenner, Donna Jackson, Olivia and Stephen Thomas.

Adult classes meet all over our campus.

The Friendship Class meets in the Todd House Wood Parlor, located on the corner of Washington and Wapping, with Rev. Richard Smith serving as the main teacher with mainly retired singles and couples.

The Covenant Class is made up of people with high school to young adult age children and meet on the first floor of the Averill House, located beside the Wesley Center.

The Chapel Class meets in room 121, Wesley Center, and is made up of retired couples and singles.

The Upper Room, meets in room 120, Wesley Center, and is made up of singles and couples..

The Class Acts meets in room 119, Wesley Center, and is made up of people with children and youth.

The Sage Women's Class meets in Room 206, Wesley Center.

The John Browning Men's Class meets in room 207, Wesley Center.

All classes are open to new members and you are encouraged to visit several classes to find the one that is right for you. Contact Rev. Tonya Kenner with questions about classes.

A BIG Thank You to United Women of Faith



Last month, the United Women of Faith held a shower for GAP friends who are transitioning from being homeless to their first apartment. Many of these individuals have been living in vehicles or tents, so they have little to set up in a new apartment. The GAP ministry began collecting dishes and cookware to give these newly homed friends a good start.

The ladies of the UWF donated kitchen, bed and bath items, as well as cleaning supplies to meet these needs. We've set up a room in the Todd House so that individuals can "shop" for items that meet their needs. We're excited to add this component to our GAP ministry and grateful beyond words to our United Women of Faith for their generosity.

Current needs for the GAP Ministry:



Small bottles of pain killers (ibuprofen, acetaminophen, etc.)

Band-Aids

Toilet paper

Small flashlights (winter darkness is coming)

Backpacks, duffle bags, etc.

Small dish soap

Hair brushes or combs

Nail care

Reading glasses

Winter gloves, scarves, hats

Snack bag supplies - small cans chicken, tuna pouches, single serve peanut butter, SPAM, breakfast bars/pop tarts, single serve raisins/applesauce, snack nuts, etc.

The GAP Ministry is reaching almost 50 homeless individuals every month with financial assistance, supplies, prayers and encouragement. Our church is living our vision as we seek to glorify God, follow Jesus, serve others, and welcome everyone.



Living Longer and Loving It This Fall

There is still time to sign up to go to the Louisville Zoo on Friday, September 22, with the Triple L (Living Longer and Loving It) fellowship group. Contact the church office or Rev. Tonya. Meet at the Walgreen West parking lot at 9:00 with \$10 cash for gas money. Each person will pay their own admission (\$13.25) at the gate. We will stop somewhere on the way back for a late lunch. Our October plans are to eat lunch out and walk the Big 4 Bridge in Louisville on October 19. The annual Thanksgiving Buffet trip to Beaumont Inn is Friday, November 17.

Anna's Friends in the Fall

The Widow/widower Fellowship group, Anna's Friends, goes to Lexington on Saturday, September 23 to see the Mary Todd Lincoln House and to have lunch. Meet at the Brighton Park ATM at 10 with \$5 cash for gas money plus bring your admission money of \$15 and your lunch money. Contact Judie Blake or Rev. Tonya if you plan to come. On October 21, we will travel to Our Best Restaurant for lunch and a fall foliage drive.

Season of Creation Festival

Next Sunday, September 24, First Baptist Church has invited us to join them for their Season of Creation Festival from 12 to 2 in their Fellowship Hall. Our First In Serving Him (FISH) group will be walking over from church if others want to join us. The Festival includes a local resource fair and environmental education materials.



On Sunday, September 24, our Go4th! activity is a Drive Through Blessing of the Pets from 2 to 3 in Catfish Alley with Rev. Tonya and Pastor Tom. You are invited to stop for a quick prayer with your pet. On Sunday, October 22, a church-wide picnic is planned at Happy Jack's Pumpkin Farm at 5:00 with fun and games for the children led by First Spark.

The November Go, 4th! will be a Thanksgiving Potluck and Advent Learning on Sunday, November 26 at 5.

Free Money for Church by Swiping your Kroger Card

There's a free and easy way to give money to FUMC just by swiping your Kroger Rewards card when you shop. All you have to do is sign-up.

Online

<https://www.kroger.com/account/community/rewards>

Once you have logged in or created an account go to:

My account

Select Community Rewards on the left side of the screen

Select Enroll

Select Frankfort First United Methodist Church in the search bar and hit enter

All done!



Kroger Ap

Open the App

Click on the 3 lines in the top left corner

Click Rewards

Click Community Rewards

Search organization—Enter Frankfort First United Methodist Church

Select enroll

All done!



Free

CPR/AED class

Fundraising event for

Donations
Appreciated

Honduras

Medical/Dental Mission Trip

Frankfort First United Methodist Church
Savanah Room
211 Washington Street
Frankfort, KY

Sunday October 15, 2023

2:00-5:00pm

For registration
Call/Text
419-283-1499
or email

HealthandSafetyArl@gmail.com



Pancake Breakfast



United Methodist Men's

Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, October 7

8:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Wesley Center's Asbury Hall

Ministry Moment—KSU Wesley Foundation

God is actively working at Kentucky State University Wesley Foundation. The university extended an invitation for the Wesley to collaborate during many of the Freshman Bred Week activities and Welcome Week. God paved the way for numerous opportunities as Pastor Jessica and her team joined hands with the Student Life Office. As the freshmen settled in, Jessica and her team were there, grilling hot dogs as a warm welcome. The ensuing Wednesday, they furnished games and refreshments for the Freshman Yard Party. A week later, information about the Wesley was distributed during the activities fair. Following that, popcorn and snow cones were served for an open-air movie night, and they hosted a "water wars day," complete with a slip 'n slide, dunk tank, and water balloons. The final touch to the welcome week was a heartfelt worship service and barbeque at the university's amphitheater. Here, students came forth to share their insights on flourishing in college, followed by a collective prayer session. One significant highlight was a student who chose to dedicate her life to Jesus, while several others sought prayer. The week concluded with a cozy fire-side evening, complete with s'mores, after the inaugural football match. Through these events, many new bonds were formed with students. Their first regular ministry week wrapped up successfully with their signature events - "Sundaze food and worship" and "Thursday Pancakes, Bible, and Jesus (PBandJ)." Several attendees now consider the Wesley as both a spiritual haven and a home.

Pastor Jessica always looks forward to the onset of every semester, cherishing the moments when she can reconnect with students and hear their tales of God's workings in their lives. Just recently, she had a poignant conversation with a student who underwent a challenging summer due to family disputes. This young woman chose to revisit the church, accepting Christ and undergoing baptism. The student was eager to discuss her readings from the Bible with Jessica to make sure that what she heard from God was really God. She shared about how God was speaking to her about Him being her first love and making sure that her fire for him didn't diminish. This student will be sharing her story with the community soon.

As the semester is only beginning, Pastor Jessica humbly requests your partnership in prayer. The university has approached them to lead a worship service for the homecoming kick-off. She hopes that this service shines as a beacon to both KSU and its returning alumni. Moreover, there is an upcoming fall retreat at Aldersgate Camp and Retreat Center from Oct 6-8. Prayers are sought for students to deepen their connection with God, for the Holy Spirit to enact life-altering transformations, and for those feeling unloved, anxious, or burdened with academic pressures to find solace and support. Lastly, let us pray for students to surrender wholeheartedly to Jesus and to inspire others to do the same.



Financial Report

Giving through 9/14/2023	\$540,571
Expenses through 9/14/2023	\$591,260
Needed to meet Budget 9/14/23	\$727,587
Mortgage Balance	\$1,275,103



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*

Chancel Choir Holds in House Retreat

Josh Golden, choir director and doctoral candidate at the University of Kentucky, is leading a retreat for the Chancel Choir, Saturday, September 23, 10:00-3:00, and Sunday, September 24, 3:00-5:00. The Saturday session will include music through the Christmas season. Sunday's time will be devoted to work on Part One of Handel's *Messiah*. The choir plans to present this work on Sunday, December 17, at 5:00. They will be accompanied by orchestra, organ, and harpsichord.



If you have not been a member of the choir or you are interested in singing *Messiah*, plan to be a part of this retreat. Lunch will be provided on Saturday.

The Honduras Volunteers in Mission Team is having a zoom meeting on Sunday, September 24, at 4:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5679777154>

Meeting ID: 567 977 7154

Passcode: 3302317