

# CAPITAL CITY METHODIST

## Abundantly Far More

Dear First Friends,

Grace and peace to you all in the power and in the name of Jesus Christ.

You will soon receive a letter in the mail from our Church Council updating you on our current financial situation as a congregation. I want to encourage you to read that letter prayerfully and without panicking. Prayer sets our hearts and minds on God and what is possible with and because of God. Panic lights up those areas of our brain that cause us to act too quickly out of fear, run away, get our dander up, or simply freeze in our tracks.

In recent months I have been referring to the word *power* as it is taken from the Greek word *dunamis*, meaning *dynamite*. Remember with me these words from the first chapter of Paul's letter to the Ephesians:

<sup>15</sup> I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love<sup>1</sup> toward all the saints, and for this reason<sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup> so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup> God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup> And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

A risen Christ means a renewed world, a new order, where what seems impossible becomes possible, where God "is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine..." (Ephesians 3:20b) A risen Christ expands our prayers and stretches our imaginations.

Over thirty-six years of pastoral ministry, I have discovered that virtually any time there is a large gap between giving and expenses, a flurry of opinions and ideas begins to fill the air. If only we tried this. If only we did that, like another church I know about. You know, we used to do this other thing and people would flock to the church in droves. We have to cut something. We need to make people feel guilty. We have too much property and we need to sell some of it.

It's time to stop, breathe deeply, and listen to God. Not just about our finances, but about where God is leading us in ministry. So, let's resolve this moment to stop, breathe deeply, and listen to God. God will never lead us to where we cannot go (even if we can't see it yet), and God will never call us to do what we cannot do (even when we think we can't do that much). God's dreams for the church are always just right. Our dreams, while nearly always based on good intentions, are often inwardly-focused and/or the byproduct of our limited human wisdom.

(continued on page 2)



July 30, 2024

**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

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Please continue to watch FUMC communications for organized and intentional opportunities to listen to God and discern together what God is saying to us, where God is leading, what specific portion of Jesus' ministry has been assigned to First United Methodist Church of Frankfort.

For now, I will give scripture, and particularly these words from Ephesians 3, the last word, urging you to pray verses 16-21 every day for First United Methodist Church:

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. <sup>16</sup> I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you maybe strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit <sup>17</sup> and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. <sup>18</sup> I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled withall the fullness of God. <sup>20</sup> Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Faithfully yours,  
*Pastor Tom*



## Happy Anniversary

The children of Lorenzo and Myvanwy Eads want to wish them a "Happy 70th Anniversary".

## Thank You

*Thank you does not seem adequate for the celebration of my retirement from Frankfort First UMC. The worship service, the gifts and the wonderful potluck were appreciated. Thank you to all who made it possible.*

*When I came to Frankfort, Paul and I brought along seven month old Catelynn. Our thirty-four years of life and ministry together have included our family living in Danville, Shelbyville and Frankfort. Our family grew with the births of our sons, Quentin and Cameron. My call to ministry moved from diaconal ministry to ordained deacon. I am thankful for the opportunities the church gave me for continuing education as well as allowing me to serve in various roles in the district and conference while being in ministry with children and adults in the church.. The church has been there for us through many ups and downs with the deaths of our four parents, our own illnesses and injuries, our children's graduations and weddings plus the birth of our first grandchild. We realize our journey is not over and we plan to keep Frankfort First part of that journey after some time away. Please continue to pray for us as we are praying for you and our church!*

*Thank you again!  
Tonya*

## Welcome Dr. Elizabeth Wilson to Frankfort FUMC!

Elizabeth (Beth) L. Wilson, D.M.A., is honored and delighted to begin serving Frankfort FUMC as Director of Music and Worship beginning in August. Dr. Wilson is a sought-after conductor-educator and current Lecturer in Choral Music for the University of Kentucky. Beth just completed her ninth year as Conductor of the 90-voice SATB choir, UK Choristers- featured performing choir at the Kentucky Music Educators Association Conference in 2021 and 2022. Additionally, Beth teaches courses in choral music education methods and conducting, oversees student teachers, and serves as faculty advisor for Blue Note. Dr. Wilson's philosophy of using choral music to foster better humans through a community of excellence has translated to years of invitations as an honor choir conductor, interest session presenter, clinician, and adjudicator- most recently as a featured conductor at Carnegie Hall in April 2024.

Previously, Beth has served as Choir Director at Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church, Conductor of Youth Choir/Clinician at Montreat Worship & Music Conference, Conductor of Georgia Tech Women's Choir, Director of Student Musician Development for Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, as well as a choral music educator in Cobb County, GA, for nine years. Currently, Beth serves as President of Kentucky ACDA and is former KYACDA College/University R&R Chair and GAACDA Treasurer; she has also served on two ACDA Southern Region Conference Planning Committees. Beth was named KMEA 2020-2021 District 7 College/University Teacher of the Year. Dr. Wilson earned the DMA in choral conducting from University of Kentucky, MM in choral conducting from Georgia State University, and BM in music education from University of Georgia.

Beth lives in Lexington with her husband of 23 years - Ken (high school sweethearts), their children - Drew (15, rising 10<sup>th</sup> grader at Henry Clay HS) and Anna (12, rising 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Christ the King), and their dogs - Coco and Daisy. While she grew up in the presbyterian church, she and her family attend Good Shepherd Episcopal in Lexington. Beth felt immediately called to be a part of the inspirational Frankfort FUMC upon meeting the committee, choir members, Roy, Tom, and Leanne - what a special place: to worship, belong, and make music unto God!



## Conference News

The Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference has overwhelmingly approved the new Episcopal areas and set them for the next 4 years. As part of this, the Kentucky Annual Conference and Central Appalachian Missionary Conference will be sharing a bishop with the Tennessee Western Kentucky Annual Conference. With this new setting of the Episcopal areas it will be the first time the state of Kentucky has been served by the same Bishop.

**2024-2028 Episcopal Areas**

- 1) Alabama-West Florida and North Alabama
- 2) North Georgia and South Georgia
- 3) Kentucky, CAMC and Tennessee-Western Kentucky
- 4) Virginia
- 5) North Carolina
- 6) Western North Carolina
- 7) South Carolina
- 8) Mississippi
- 9) Florida
- 10) Holston (sharing a bishop with NEJ)



The Kentucky Annual Conference will have a new bishop starting September 1. David Graves, currently serving as bishop of the Alabama-West Florida and South Georgia conferences, was assigned to the new episcopacy area of Kentucky, the Central Appalachian Missionary Conference, and the Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference. The new area will formally be known as the Kentucky-Tennessee Episcopal Area.

Bishop Leonard Fairley, who has served in Kentucky since 2016, was assigned to the South Carolina Conference.



## Mortgage to Ministries

About two months ago, Ashli Watts presented to those attending the GNN service and Paul Mauer presented to those attending the 11:00 service information about “Mortgage to Ministries” - the new program put in place to pay off our mortgage on the Wesley Center building. This effort will enable us to use more of our resources to help those in need and expand our ministries rather than continue to pay interest on our loan.

The congregation’s response to the program has been fantastic! In approximately two months, we have received 33 pledges totaling more than \$237,000. What a wonderful response! Even more exciting is -- we continue to receive more pledges every week!! Some gifts are one-time gifts, and some are spread over 3, 4 or 5 years. Some are for the average amount per person described in the brochure, some are for more and some are for less. Our goal is for *everyone* to participate in this effort, whether your contribution is all at once or over a period of time. Everyone’s financial situation is different, but hopefully each of us can participate.

To those who have responded - THANK YOU! Your contributions are already helping pay down the principal and lower the amount of interest we must pay. To those of you who have yet to submit a pledge card, please prayerfully consider doing so. If you didn’t receive a pledge card in the mail or have misplaced yours, additional pledge cards will be available in the narthex and outside the doors at GNN on the information table.

Remember, if each of us does a little, no one will need to do a lot. We will continue to provide updates on our progress. Thank you all for your contributions to the Mortgage to Ministries Program.



## Adam Hyatt Memorial Charity Event Benefits GAP

The GAP Ministry (God Answers Prayers Through Compassionate People) was invited to participate in the *Adam Hyatt Memorial* charity event recently. The event honors Adam Hyatt, a beloved teacher at Franklin County High School, who died in a terrible car accident 5 years ago. His family keeps his memory and legacy of caring alive by encouraging the community to donate to worthy causes in his honor. The GAP Ministry was deeply honored to be selected this year to receive donations in his memory.

The event was held in the outdoor classroom at FCHS, built in his honor in 2023. For three hours, individuals came bringing gifts of Kroger cards, food items, and an assortment of personal care items to ease the burdens of homelessness in Franklin County. We filled two cars with donations and received \$450 in Kroger cards to support this community ministry.

We want to thank Kari Hyatt and her family, friends, and Adam’s former students for their generosity. If you wish to help, we welcome your donations of \$20 Kroger gift cards, personal grooming supplies or individually packaged food items for the brown paper bags. An Amazon wish list has been established at the following link: [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3A9JG9XYMR3YQ?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3A9JG9XYMR3YQ?ref=wl_share).

All donations are deeply appreciated, but our congregation is reminded that a gift to GAP is not a substitute for our faithful giving to the church’s ministry budget. Donations to GAP are above and beyond our regular Church giving.





Condolences to MOLLY ALEXANDER in the recent death of her mother.

JAMES RUSSELL passed away July 27 at Stewart Home and School following a battle with prostate cancer that had metastasized. There will be a service at Stewart Home and School at a date to be announced, with more information as it becomes available.

## Looking to Make a Difference?

The United Women of Faith have cleaned our kitchen. It's organized and it looks great! But, there's a *big* need for someone to check the kitchen weekly for stray coffee cups or an occasional dish that got left behind unwashed. Recently, we found a couple dishes soaking in the sink that had been there long enough to attract fruit flies! A quick response eliminated the problem.



In addition, we often pop something in the refrigerators after a meal. Salads just don't keep for a week. Cakes eventually mold, and things like catsup, salad dressing or chocolate milk have a shelf life. If you could spare a few minutes once a week to check the kitchen and make those hard decisions to discard items that shouldn't be eaten or run the little dishwasher with a few cups, we could really use your help!

If you're willing to lend a hand, contact Abbie at [Meyer.Abbie@outlook.com](mailto:Meyer.Abbie@outlook.com) or 696-4244.

## Youth Group Kick-off Swim Party!



On Sunday, August 11, we will begin Sunday night Youth Ministry with a swim party at Janna and David Sturm's home from 5-7 pm. Friends are welcome!

Parent's watch your email for more details.

## Looking for a Place to Grow Spiritually? Join the Children and Youth Teaching/leading Team

When we engage in teaching and leading children and youth, we will discover that *we, the adults*, are changing and growing as much as they are! We have a great group of adults who have stepped up to work with our children and youth. We are excited to explore ways we can create spaces where children, youth and families will continue their spiritual growth.

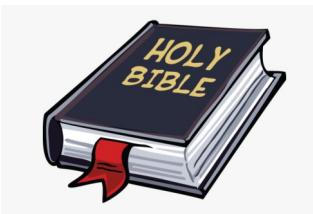


Join us! We'd love to have you as part of this team! For more information or to volunteer, call Leanne Hadley (719-930-3598).

## Back to School Blessings for Children, Youth and School Staff Members!

On Sunday, August 4, at both services we will be blessing our children, youth and school staff members as they begin a new school year. It will be a special time for all of us!

## Third Grade Bible Presentations and Lunch with our Pastors- Sunday, August 23, at Both Worship Services



We are honored to present each of our third graders with a Bible of their own! It is an important milestone in a child's life. And from 12:15 – 1:30pm, Pastors Tom and Leanne would like to have lunch and a time of

“getting to know your Bible.” Please RSVP to Leanne asap@ 719-930-3598.

## Anna's Friends

Anna's Friends (A group for anyone who has lost a spouse) will meet Saturday, August 17, 12:00pm, at Limewater Restaurant. If you have lost a spouse or significant other and would enjoy the company of those who have traveled the same road, please join us for food, laughter and support!

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

211 Washington Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
502-227-7430  
www.fumcfrankfort.org

### Rev. Tom Corum

- Pastor

### Leanne Hadley

- Associate Pastor

### Beth Wilson

- Director of Music and Worship

### Chris Powell

- Director of Contemporary Worship

### Roy Nance

- Organist

### Cameron Kenner

- Youth Director

### Jessica Tillet

- Administrative Assistant

### Diana Gregory

- Newsletter Editor

## Church Directory

We have begun gathering the photos and information for a new church directory. The information in the church database has not been updated in several years, so now is the time.

We are committed to keeping everything super simple. There will be no big portrait company, long wait times for pictures or cumbersome surveys to complete. Updating our records and producing a new directory will be straightforward.

When you come to church on one of the listed Sundays, you can review and update your information, and we will have someone take an individual or family snapshot. If we don't have your information, we will have blank information you can fill out. As I said, we are going to keep it super simple.

When we are done, we will produce a PDF copy of the directory to email to everyone participating. We have no intention of posting the information online. If people want to purchase a printed copy of the directory, we will see if we can get a volume discount from a local printer.

So, pick your Sunday if you want to dress up, or stop by when you can on one of the Sundays listed. We will be set up upstairs before GNN at 8:30 and downstairs in Gallery Hall before the 11 o'clock service at 10:30.

If you are homebound and want to be included in the directory, contact Jessica in the church office (502-227-7430 or ([info@fumcfrankfort.org](mailto:info@fumcfrankfort.org))), and we will see what we can do. We want everyone to be included.

If you would like to submit your own photo – you can send it to John Heltzel at [jwsh57@gmail.com](mailto:jwsh57@gmail.com) Subject: Church Directory Photo. You will still need to update your information for the database, and we can work that out.

We will also visit each Sunday School class to take group photos sometime in September. Once we select a date, we will announce it.

We are planning to have everything concluded by the end of September. We plan on collecting photos on the following Sundays:

- 11 August
- 15 September
- 18 August
- 22 September
- 25 August
- 29 September
- 8 September

