



January 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

Office Hours:

9:00 am—3:00 pm M-T

www.fumcfrankfort.org

Twitter: @fumcfrankfort

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CAPITAL CITY METHODIST

And We're Off...

Dear First Friends,



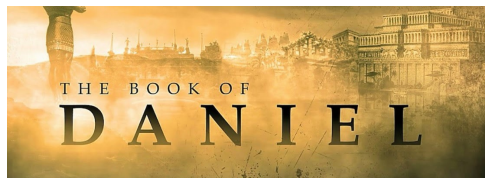
2025 is off and running! We are making room for *everyone* to share in vital and life-changing ministries. As the weather improves, we can only do more! But love and light are all around us. I want to share briefly just about a few vital matters that are in the air.

- In 2024 we welcomed 16 new members to FUMC, including 7 from our Confirmation Class.
- Our in-person worship attendance is on the rise—from 160 in 2022, to 165 in 2023, to 170 in 2024. We celebrated 8 baptisms. The total number of persons involved in Christian formation groups grew from 181 in 2023 to 228 in 2024. We estimate that 200 people in our congregation were involved in mission/community ministries and that individually and collectively our congregation served 4,000 persons through community ministries for outreach, justice, and mercy.
- Financially, in 2024 our giving slightly exceeded our expenses, though our Church Council made a very difficult decision in July to suspend outreach payments to numerous ministries. We are committed to restoring our full support to those ministries in 2025. Together we also gave \$300,000 toward our mortgage principal, bringing our balance to under \$1 million.
- Lent will begin with Ash Wednesday on March 5 and will continue through Holy Week April 13-19. Our pastoral and music staff are already praying, talking, and putting shape to what we trust will be a meaningful and Spirit-led journey to Easter. Oh... and there will be a Mardi Gras Celebration on Tuesday March 4!
- Finally, through a new Collaborative Leadership Model, *everyone* is encouraged to participate in our monthly Church Council meetings, which will follow a new format of prayer and reflection, ministry area reports, and a time of focused working conversations that will flow organically from our ongoing work and allow us to continually listen for the Holy Spirit's leading. This will truly be a new way of listening, working, and leading *with everyone at the table*. Please plan to attend our first meeting of the year on Sunday, February 2, from 1:00-2:30 pm. We need you!

Faithfully yours,
Pastor Tom

**Church Council for Everyone
Sunday February 2, 1:00-2:30pm
Susanna Room!**

Come and participate in a new way of being church, including:
a time of reflection and prayer
a streamlined business meeting
a time of conversation about how God is leading us
Everyone is called, everyone is needed!



Bible Study on the Book of Daniel (part one)

Join Rev. Dr. Leanne Hadley for this study of Daniel and explore how his story can speak to us today. His is a story of life falling apart and how he coped and thrived with God's help. If you or a loved one have been through any change this past year, this will be an especially important study for you.

Dates: Thursdays, Feb. 6, 13, 20 and 27

Place: Susanna Room

Time: 10 am – 11:30 am

Save the Date! - Anna's Friends

Anna's friends is a group for men and women who have lost a spouse. Our next meeting will be Saturday, February 22. Please watch your email and bulletin for more information. If you have a friend who would like to join us, please ask them.



Youth Art Auction Coming in March

The new year is here and our youth are planning their activities. This year, in keeping with our theme of *Everyone*, our youth will focus their missions on reaching out to those who need the love of God. They are in the process of deciding where God is calling them to be in mission and service this summer!

Because our Youth will be discerning in such an intentional way, we want to make sure that they have the support they need.

We will be raising money to help pay for supplies and gas for the bus with our annual **Silent Art Auction** this March. If you have artwork that you would like to donate, you can bring it to the church office or call Abbie Meyer (502 696-4244 or Meyer.Abbie@outlook.com) to arrange for a pick up. We're excited for the new year and opportunities to share our love with our community.

February Schedule

- **Sunday, Feb. 2: 5-7:00 pm (Lighthouse)**
We have compiled and will be revealing the results of our Youth Ministry Vision and Purpose! I think you will be excited to see what you all discerned together!
- **Sunday, Feb 9: No Youth Ministry (Enjoy the Superbowl with your Family)**
- **Sunday, Feb. 16: 5-7:00 pm (Lighthouse)**
How do we talk to others: Holy Listening
Making a set of Holy Listening Stones
- **Sunday, Feb. 23: 5-7:00 pm**
How we talk to others: Holy Listening 2

F.I.S.H. (First in Serving Him)

Thanks to Holly Brunson, April Trent and Tonya Kenner, our FISH will be ministering to our congregation and community! On Sunday, February 16, at 12 noon, we will gather for Pizza lunch in the Susanna room and then make and deliver Valentines to our church members who live in assisted living homes. Parents, please watch your email for more information.

Church Finances

by Jana Sturm

2024 presented many challenges to First Church financially. As the new finance chair, I am happy to report that our donations surpassed our expenses. Donations to the general budget totaled \$830,719 while expenses totaled \$827,495. We also had \$300,000 donated to the mortgage principal. However, we finished over \$77,000 under our 2024 budget. However, we did make sacrifices. In July the church suspended all mission payments to our local ministries, and we halted our mission covenant payments to the United Methodist Church. With your generosity, we hope not to need to do this in the future.

2025 holds many exciting possibilities for FUMC to partner with God in God's work of love and reconciliation in the world. Our 2025 budget is set at \$887,642 with \$106,500 toward missions/dynamic outreach; \$11,205 for spiritual nourishment including youth, children and senior adults; \$29,500 for worship and glorifying God which includes music, Sunday School, and Bible studies; \$372,798 for the trustees for the mortgage payment, maintenance on the buildings and utilities; and \$367,639 for support which includes staff salaries.

If you have any questions about the finances of the church, feel free to reach out to me at janadsturm@gmail.com or Pastor Tom.

Please Note Date Change!



United
Women
in Faith

All women of the church are invited to come to United Women in Faith's first meeting in 2025 originally scheduled for January 27. In order that members may celebrate the life of Clara Wade that day, the meeting has been changed to **FEBRUARY 10 at 11:30 in Asbury Hall**. After a lunch of soup and sandwiches prepared by the executive team, Sara Hall from Save the Children Action Network will speak to us about national efforts to help children. Donna Jackson will give an update about our conference level child advocacy actions. Arba Kenner will lead a brief pledge service, followed by a short business meeting. We hope to see you there.



The United Methodist Men are currently set to meet Monday, February 3, at 6:00 p.m. in Asbury Hall for their next session. The evening will start with a meal prepared by Karen and Roy Nance, followed by a program by Rev. Andrew Singh of Georgetown First United Methodist Church. He will give his testimony of faith -- and we may even have a little Bluegrass music along the way.

Please keep your eyes on our Church news regarding weather for the date. Be aware and be safe.

Homeless Suffer in Bitter Weather

Winter put the bite on our GAP (God Answers Prayers through compassionate people) Ministry. A combination of holidays and icy roads meant that our GAP program was closed for several days during December. Our January numbers reflect those we missed during December.

We had a generous donation in December that allowed us to provide Christmas presents to homeless families. Despite their desperate circumstances, several struggling families received the joy of Christmas blessings this year.

In December, the GAP Ministry received a generous donation from the First Christian Church Bible Buddies, as well as a grant from our friends in Tennessee who see the good work we are doing with our Frankfort homeless.

We are deeply grateful for the warm gloves, hats, scarves and socks that many of you have sent (or made by hand!) in response to our plea. These items leap off the shelves of our GAP "store." As temperatures dipped below freezing, our unhoused friends greatly appreciated being able to look through our assortment of winter gear to select items that fit their heads, hands and needs.

The needs are great and winter isn't over yet. Current needs:

- \$20 Kroger cards
- Warm weather accessories: winter hats, gloves, scarves, and socks.
- Supplies for our Brown Paper Bags that provide a single day's worth of food: individual pouches or pop top cans of SPAM, chicken, Beanie Weenies, Vienna Sausage; pudding cups; individually packed cookies and chips; and Hot Hands pocket warmers.
- Supplies for our GAP "Store:" lotion, chap-stick, small flashlights, small bottles of allergy and cold medicines, purse size cough drops and tissues, toilet paper and dog food (we repackage both of these for backpacks), nail files and clippers, hair brushes
- Amazon items: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3A9JG9XYMR3YQ?ref_=wl_share

February Birthdays

2	Alisa Friedly Reed Dorothy Hanson	12	Sara Callaway Samuel Stafford Travis Trent	24	Nancy Collett Jane Kelly
3	Joseph Alexander Ben Hurley Karen Kinman	14	Logan McDonald	26	Charleigh Deaton
5	Nicole Burgess Glenna Hughes	15	Mary Arp Will Doerting Betsy Powell Emma Stevenson	27	Wanda Meeks Gregory Meyer Lyda Parker Moore Gena Stokley
6	Byron Brewer Bob Wilcher	16	Owen Powell Samuel Stafford April Trent	29	Diana Gregory Grace Trent
7	Margaret Doyle Jan Wahrer	17	Bill Elam		
8	Mendy Covington Ben McDonald Emily Powell	18	Laura Leigh Goins		
10	Earl Arp Jack Barnes Matthias Jones Kim Suter	19	Max Alexander		
11	Ashley Lawhorn Courtney Sturgill	21	Nancy Schaffner Adrienne Willis		
		22	Catherine Clements		
		23	Graham Clements Ruth Derrington Mallory Toppass		



Our sympathy to the family of CLARA WADE who passed away on January 20. Clara is survived by two daughters, Shari Randle and Paula Wade.

We express our condolences to Mitzi Gray and family in the death of her mother, BETTY GRAY on January 24.

Thank You

Dear Church Family,

Our family wants you to know how much you have meant to us during a very sad time in our lives. After Paul passed it was a bleak time, but your calls, cards, visits and food sustained us, and your prayers were an uplifting factor. Thank you.

We are so grateful to all who prepared the luncheon after the funeral. It was so appreciated by everyone. So much delicious food, and love as well as time was a bright light in our dark day.

Thank you to all, and God bless you.

*The Paul McNees Family,
Betty, Lisa, Bill Ed, grandchildren
and great-grandchildren*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

211 Washington Street

Frankfort, KY 40601

502-227-7430

www.fumcfrankfort.org

Rev. Tom Corum

- *Senior Pastor*

Rev. Dr. Leanne Hadley

- *Associate Pastor*

Dr. Beth Wilson

- *Director of Music and Worship*

Chris Powell

- *Director of Contemporary Worship*

Roy Nance

- *Organist*

Jessica Tillett

- *Administrative Assistant*

Diana Gregory

- *Newsletter Editor*



Restoring our Parsonage to a Home!

(A Note from Leanne and Trustees)

We are pleased to announce that Rev. Dr. Leanne Hadley will be moving into the parsonage (The Averill House). We believe that having one of our pastors being present on our campus will strengthen our impact as a “downtown church desiring to be the hands and feet of Jesus.”

The Trustees are in the process of making some needed repairs and improvements on the parsonage. We will keep you updated as we move along and there will be many things that we will be asking you do as we restore our parsonage.

Free Book February"

As we prepare the Averill House for Leanne to move in, we need to relocate some resources that have been stored in the butler's pantry. To do this, we need to clear bookcase space in our Library. We are inviting everyone to help us during "Free Book February". Please visit our Library and take books that interest you. There are fiction, biographies, devotion, church history, and many other categories of adult books.

The library is located in the Todd House (the white brick building) first floor. Office hours are Monday-Thursday 9:00-3:00. As of Sunday, February 9, 2025, please visit the Library and take books that apply to you.

Contact the church office if you have questions or need to schedule a special time to visit the Library.

