

CAPITAL CITY METHODIST



December 26, 2024



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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fumc.frankfort

Everyone



Dear First Friends,

I hope the twelve days of Christmas which began on December 25 will be filled with grace and peace for all of you. And I pray that Epiphany, the season of Christ's fuller revelation to every corner of the world, will make us ready for a deeper sense of how Christ will be calling First United Methodist Church to do God's holy work throughout all of 2025.

In his prologue, John the evangelist announces that "The true light, which enlightens **everyone**, was coming into the world." (John 1:9, emphasis added) Jesus the Christ is the true light which enlightens **everyone**. Christ is the light who was, and who is, and who is to come.

At First United Methodist Church, our theme for 2025 will be **EVERYONE**. Look for the spirit of the word **everyone** to permeate what we do—from worship, to outreach, to education and spiritual formation, to finances, to leadership, to how we think and pray about our unfolding ministry and the future of First United Methodist Church.

Last Fall, as we engaged in our *Stepping Into the Future* listening sessions, we discerned a few key values that drive our ministry. 1) We want to be a welcoming, grace-filled place for **everyone**. 2) We want to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world. And that takes **everyone**—all of us. 3) We want to be a people and a place where **everyone** can experience belonging in downtown Frankfort. Please watch and listen for more about our unfolding, understanding and implementation of God's vision for us rooted in these values.

You will find our 2025 Leadership Roll in this edition of our monthly newsletter. You will see that new leaders will be joining seasoned leaders in caring for the work of our ministry teams. But the ministry of the church is, and will be, not only the work of our leaders, but of **everyone**.

In the coming year, we will seek to live out God's vision for us rather than running frantically in every direction. This will call for **everyone** in our congregation to have a voice and a place in our unfolding ministry. When our vision is clear and **everyone** finds a place and a voice, when we stop and take time to listen to God and one another, we will live and grow and serve together with our cups full rather than empty. To that end, be on the lookout for something new—specific ways you will be invited to join church leaders as we bring together team work, listening, and prayer.

"The true light, which enlightens **everyone**, was coming into the world." This is the good news into which we will seek to live more deeply with growing joy as we look toward the brightness of a brand new year with new ways of doing ministry and new possibilities on the horizon. I am grateful that all of you are willing to work, listen, and pray for the sake of whatever particular portion of Jesus' ministry in this world will be assigned to us. I trust you will join me as we pray for one another and for the Holy Spirit to lead and fill us and **everyone**.

Faithfully yours,
Pastor Tom



Start the New Year on the Right Track!
Ladies Group Fitness
for All Levels and Ages!
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
Wesley Center
5:30 am
 $\frac{1}{2}$ off for FUMC members-\$50
Contact Shellie Wingate 502-682-5079
for more information



Financial Report Through November 30, 2024

Receipts	\$752,435.99
Paid Expenses	\$752,041.12
Needed to Meet Budget	\$832,453.4

Checks received in the church office dated on or before December 31, will be counted on your 2024 contribution statement even if they arrive a few days late.



United
Women
in Faith

All women of the church are invited to come to United Women in Faith's first meeting in 2025 on Monday, January 27, at 11:30 am 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.

UNITED METHODIST MEN will gather for its first session of 2025 on Monday, January 6, in Asbury Hall. A delicious meal prepared by Karen and Roy Nance will begin the session at 6:00 pm. Following will be a program by our speaker, author Stephen M. Vest, who will talk on his book, "George Graham Vest--The Life and Times of Dog's Best Friend", which focuses on his famous ancestor and his deep ties to historic Frankfort and more.

Start 2025 off right! It's your chance to not miss a meeting of UMM all year! If you are a man of any age in the Methodist church, come and enjoy our mission-minded ministry.



Martin Luther King Day Service

**Speaker: Rev. L. Rodney,
Bennett Pastor of Second Baptist Church
Mayslick, Kentucky**

Sunday, January 19, 2025

5 pm

**First Presbyterian Church
416 W. Main Street, Frankfort, KY**

Youth News

During Advent, our youth spent time capturing images of light. These will be shared on our FUMC Frankfort Facebook page during the 12 Days of Christmas. ENJOY!



On Sunday, January 5, the Youth will meet in the Lighthouse for an Epiphany (Three Kings) Feast from 5-7 pm. Please bring a dish to share.



At Home Communion

Rev. Dr. Leanne, Associate Pastor, is planning to intentionally visit our Homebound Members during the month of January. She would also be honored to bring communion to anyone who can no longer come to church. If you or your loved one would like to receive communion, please let Leanne know: 719-930-3598 or email: leanne-hadley@fumcfrankfort.org.



A Shout-Out and Huge Thank You *by Rosie Doerting*

The church grounds have been so pretty this year, aided by so many hard working helpers. Some church members planted flowers in pots, some pulled weeds, others spread mulch, including adding fresh mulch before Homecoming Sunday. One person donated a much needed hose! The flowerpots had to be watered weekly, sometimes daily in those hot dry weeks. There were no complaints, no one backing out of their weekly watering, despite sometimes brutal heat. I tried to keep a list and I am sorry if your name is not on my list and should have been. I apologize in advance. But here goes:

Many thanks to Abbie Meyer, Adrienne Willis, Corky Herbert, Nancy and John Howard, Stephanie Stafford family, Roy Nance, Mary Pat Dobbins, Jonelle Soporowski, Jessica Tillet, Jana Sturm, Ronnie Nolan, Eric Kennedy and Brayleigh, Judie Blake, Ruth Derrington, Mike Whitaker, Suzanne and Fred Spencer.

I would be watering during my week and people walking past would comment on the flowerpots. We never know when something as simple as a pretty bloom can make someone smile and lift them up. Thank you again, one and all.

Cricuts Who Care

A new opportunity for Congregational Care is being offered. Cricuts Who Care will meet monthly and make cards to be sent to our homebound members. They will meet Tuesday, January 14, from 6-8 pm in the Wesley Center, Room 110. Join us. Supplies are provided.

**2025 Church Leadership Teams
First United Methodist Church
Frankfort, Kentucky**

Members of the Church Council appear in bold type.

Church Council Chair	Elly Gilbert
Church Council Vice Chair	Cleland White
Church Council Recording Secretary	Sabrina James
Lay Leader	Bill Elam
Lay Members to Annual Conference	Arba Kenner Donna Jackson
Alternate Lay Member to Annual Conference	Kay Scott
Stephen Ministry Team Leader	
Prayer Team Leader	
Age Level Coordinators:	
Youth	Tori Brown
Young Adult/College & Higher Education	Susan Coblin
Senior Adult Ministry Team Leader	Arba Kenner
United Women in Faith President	
United Methodist Men President	Byron Brewer
United Methodist Children's Home	Jonell Soporowski
Senior Pastor	Rev. Tom Corum
Associate Pastor	Rev. Dr. Leanne Hadley
Director of Music & Worship	Dr. Beth Wilson

Staff-Parish Relations Team

Chair: John Gilbert	Vice Chair: Phillip Shepherd	Secretary:
2025	2026	2027
Valerie Smith	Susan Coblin	David Sturm
Phillip Shepherd	Danny Maggard	Nancy Graham
John Gilbert	Kay Scott	Susan Buffin
Lay Member to Annual Conference: Donna Jackson, Lay Leader: Bill Elam		

Lay Leadership & Nominations Team

Chair: Pastor Tom Corum		
2025	2026	2027
Jane Orr	Stephanie Stafford	Karen Nance
Susan Coblin	Bobbye Brown	Eric Kennedy
Shelley Mauer	Holly Brunson	Charlie Bradshaw

Finance Team

Chair: Jana Sturm	Vice Chair:	Secretary:
2025	2026	2027
Ashli Watts	Caroline Powell	Don Hughes, Jr.
Steven Pewitt	Phil Huddleston	Tori Brown
Jana Sturm	Jill Burton	Ronnie Nolan
Pastor, Lay Member to Annual Conference (Arba Kenner), Church Council Chair, Staff-Parish Relations Team Chair, Board of Trustees representative, Lay Leader		

Treasurer: David Salyers

Assistant Treasurer: Jim Jackson

Financial Secretary: (voice w/o vote)

Board of Trustees	Chair:	Vice Chair:	Secretary:
2025	2026		2027
Jim Surbeck	Joe Meyer		Adrienne Willis
Fred Spencer	David Lawhorn		DJ Wasson
Paul Mauer	Diane Nelson		Mary Pat Dobbins

Permanent Endowment & Planned Giving Ministry Committee

Chair: Greg Burton	Secretary:	
2025	2026	2027
Greg Burton	Marcey Broderson	Kenny Graham
Robin Lawhorn	Rosalie Gray	Glenda Lynn
R.B. Brown	Pat Bacon	Dick Smothermon

Christian Education Team	Chair: April Trent	
Olivia Thomas	Steph Sorrell	Abbie Meyer
Mary Pat Dobbins	Leanne Scott	April Trent
Tori Brown		

Congregational Care Team	Co-Chairs: Sylvia Elam & Pat Smith	
Mim Martin	Margaret Maggard	Cheryl Meyer
Ann Benoit	Sandy Jackson	Tim Simpson
Pat Smith	Carl Gray	Sally Smothermon
Sylvia Elam		

Outreach Team	Co-Chairs: John Heltzel & Jill Burton	
Corky Herbert	Cyrus Jaques	Marcey Broderson
Amy Snow	Sabrina James	Jill Burton
Nancy Watkins	Andrew Baker	Jeremy Steele
Heather Steele		

GNN Design Team Jana Sturm Abbie Meyer Mary Pat Dobbins Cheryl Meyer

Emergency Management Team	Chair: Stefan Brunson	
Danny Maggard	Junior Lewis	Phil Huddleston
Karen Criswell	Daniel Snow	Sabrina James
Paul Kenner	John Heltzel	David Sturm
Stefan Brunson	Cheryl Meyer	

Communication, Technology, & Media Team	Co-Chairs: Scott Meyer & Lisa Keeter	
Steven Thomas	PK Compton	Scott Meyer
Lisa Keeter	Gregory Meyer	Stephen Meyer
Greg Ramey	Helen Hall Abney	Lucas Hart
Ex. Officio: Administrative Assistant		

Library Team: UWF First Readers Group

Archives & History Team: Chair:
Patty Yeast, Roy Nance, Jim Surbeck, Fran Salyers, Sylvia Elam, Gayle Alvis (advisory)

Fine Arts Committee: Chair: Phyllis Rogers
Roy Nance, Steph Sorrell, Phyllis Rogers, Kay Scott

Frosty 5K Success

The Frosty 5K race to benefit the Honduras Medical Mission went off on December 1 in *frosty* weather! The snowy start didn't deter hardy runners and our own Steven Meyer finished first overall despite racing with his arm in a cast! The race was only possible thanks to the support and generosity of tireless volunteers who set up/took down race equipment, announced race results, offered drinks and were ready to provide first aid, if necessary. The Frosty 5K is our biggest fundraiser for the Honduras Medical Mission and our two established medical clinics. Our church also provides direct support each year to keep those clinics locally staffed all year long.

At the race, Sabrina James organized a bake sale to fund new defibrillators and replacement pads/batteries for existing defibrillators that we've already taken to Honduras. She hopes to raise \$1200 to purchase a high-quality Zoll AED that has extra feedback (in Spanish). This best-quality AED greatly increases the odds that the AED user will save the life of someone in cardiac arrest. In addition, a specialized "training AED" would be available at a 50% cost break if we can afford the high-quality AED. Dr. Elmer, a dedicated dentist who funds his dental clinics by teaching CPR to medical staff, will receive the training new device.

Many thanks to those of you who baked goodies, bought cookies and helped explain to the crowd the importance of Automatic External Defibrillators. Donations are still needed.

God is Answering Prayers, Thanks to YOU!

In 2024 the GAP (God Answers Prayers Through Compassionate People) Ministry was deeply blessed. Since our beginning two years ago, we've witnessed to 323 individuals, including children. This year alone, we saw 143 new homeless neighbors. Our budget has remained stable this year thanks to the benevolence of our congregation and the commitment of our church.

We are deeply grateful for those of you who have dropped Kroger cards in the offering plates, sent packages from the GAP Amazon Click-List, and knitted warm winter hats. We've been blessed with donations to our Welcome Home room that provides free household supplies to individuals who are newly housed or in a housing emergency.

We've developed closer ties and new liaisons with others in our community who serve the homeless. We've strengthened relationships with the Franklin County Sheriff's office, The Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky, our local schools, community churches, Fresh Start, and others. We strive to be good stewards of the resources you've shared and work to ensure we don't duplicate services provided by others.

Thanks to Connie Jones, 2025 will see the start of a new initiative. We currently serve fifteen homeless children each month. As a former classroom teacher, Connie is honoring the lifetime legacy of her husband, David Jones, and his servant heart. She is launching The David Project in coordination with GAP to provide new items to our homeless children with a focus on reading. The David Project will be housed on the second floor of the Todd House in a room that welcomes children. We give thanks for Connie's vision and also for the generous gift from Paul and Betty McNees to ensure our homeless children have Christmas presents to open this year.

In exciting news, our GAP staff is thrilled to welcome Tonya and Paul Kenner in 2025. Tonya will be working directly with the homeless and Paul will be helping with our emerging laundry ministry, among other things! GAP looks forward to 2025 and the opportunities it will bring to serve our growing homeless community. We are blessed to have a caring church community who epitomizes Deuteronomy 2:7, "Surely the LORD your God has blessed you in all your undertakings".

Current Needs:

Kroger cards (\$20 denomination)

Amazon items: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3A9JG9XYMR3YQ?ref_=wl_share

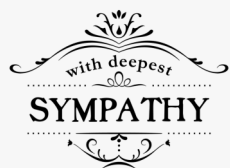


It's Going to be a Warm January!

We are collecting warm hats, gloves, socks and handwarmers for our GAP Ministry Friends during the month of January! Please drop off your donations at the main office (Todd House) or the Front Desk at the Wesley Center.

January Birthdays

1	Larry Oberlin	16	George Geoghegan Janetta VanderMeer	25	Rachel Hughes Paula Miller
3	Greg Ramey Mark Alexander		Andrew Howard Rickey Lewis, Jr.	27	Norman Honaker Scott Vitatoe
5	Ryder Alvis	17	Marilyn Davis Holly Brunson	28	Jackson Nance
6	Richard Smith Andrew Deaton	18	Diana Kelley Mike Gill Liam Stafford	29	Phillip Sturgill
7	Roger McCann Melissa Steward	19	John Howard Lee Troutwine	30	Brady Sturm
8	Brenda Rice Kristie Rudmann Alex Bruser	20	Lynn Baker Amanda Jones Leanne Scott	31	Danny Maggard Lois Powell
10	Cleland White Karen Nance Tonya Kenner Bradley Kays Molly Hanson	21	Ava Goins James Hale Madeline Powell Noah Strunk		
11	Mark Hughes	22	Leah Hughes Robin Lawhorn Judie Miller		
12	Liz Ramey	24	Tina Bailey Matthew Doerting Saundra Epley Mary Powell Caroline Rhodes Charlotte Rhodes		
13	Emily Vence				
14	Betty Ratliff				
15	Mike Sebastian Jeff Hancock John Welch				



Our condolences to Betty McNeas and family on the death of her husband,
PAUL MCNEES, on November 9.

Births

Congratulations to Grant and Arden Hughes on the birth of JULIA JEAN HUGHES born on November 22. The proud grandparents are Nini and Don Hughes, Jr. The great grandmother is Julia Hughes.

CHANDLER BROOK GREGORY was born on December 5 to Austin and Kennedy Gregory. Grandparents are Travis and Kathryn McCrystal and the great grandmother is Diana Kelley.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Frankfort, KY 40601

502-227-7430

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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*

Sunday, December 29

Fifth Sunday Combined Service

10 am

Asbury Hall



Join us Sunday as we move through the Twelve Days of Christmas and continue celebrating the birth of Jesus! Since this is a 5th Sunday, we will gather as one body for a combined worship service.

Rev. Dr. Leanne Hadley will be preaching and we will sing, pray and spend time together!



Chancel Choir will not meet Wednesday, January 1, 2025, but will begin convening/ rehearsing as usual Sunday, January 5, 2025, at 10:30 am and again Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at 6:30 pm. Thank you for your service to our church, Choir!