



# THE TOWER NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 167, NUMBER 9 LOVE GOD, LOVE NEIGHBOR, CHANGE THE WORLD SEPTEMBER 2021

## WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Dear Congregation,

In service to our mission statement, Love God, Love Neighbor, Change the World, we are moving forward in all areas of ministry. As a result, we are excited to announce that we will begin children and youth Sunday School starting on **Sunday, October 3rd!** Childcare will be provided for worship and Sunday school (9 am – Noon). Everyone working with children and youth will be required to have been vaccinated.

In addition, as of Sunday September 12th, we will no longer have worship attendance restrictions. It has limited our capacity to open our doors to all who choose to worship here. Quite frankly, our worship attendance numbers in all services have been well below our maximum allowed to maintain a safe and healthy environment. We will still have appropriate measures to maintain a safe worship experience. We will continue to wear masks while in our facilities. If you are immuno-compromised, even if you have been vaccinated, we encourage you to stay home and watch our services online or on television.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [phumc@phumc.com](mailto:phumc@phumc.com) or 501-664-3600.

We hope that you can join us for worship, my Wednesday Night Bible Study, or our new Midweek Meditation.

Dr. John Robbins  
Senior Pastor

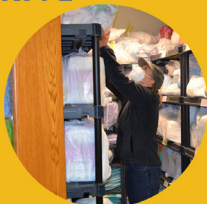
### SPRIT OF ARKANSAS DIAPER DRIVE

Help Us To Reach The Goal

**25,000 DIAPERS!**

Drop off at PHUMC or Edwards Food Giant/Cash Saver locations!

Learn More at [phumc.com/diaperbank](http://phumc.com/diaperbank)



## DIAPER BANK

This month the Central Arkansas Diaper Bank is teaming up with Edward's Food Giant and KATV (Channel 7) for the Spirit of Arkansas Diaper Drive. Donations of diapers are accepted in any size and quantity. Open packages of diapers are also accepted. Diapers can be dropped off at select Edward's locations or at the PHUMC main desk (Entrance 1) or the Donation Station outside of Entrance 7 off of Lee Avenue Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 7:30pm and Sunday 8:00am to 12:00pm.

We are hoping to collect over 25,000 diapers during the month of September! Learn more at [phumc.com/diaperbank](http://phumc.com/diaperbank)!

## SOCKTOBERFEST

Join us for our 2nd Annual Socktoberfest! We are collecting identical socks for the Community Men's Prison Center, the Compassion Center, who provides beds for 40 women and 200 men nightly, and Jericho Way Day Resource Center. Last year we were able to collect 1,000 socks. This year, we'd like to collect twice that!

Bring your sock donations to the Welcome Center at Entrance 1 or bring them to the Donation Station outside of Entrance 7 off of Lee Avenue! Contact Bev Villines at [bvillines@phumc.com](mailto:bvillines@phumc.com) or 501-664-3600 if you have any questions



## FOOD PANTRY

Our Food Pantry Ministry continued to distribute food as well as vaccines this month! 122 bags of food to 84 families! In addition we administered 13 vaccines!

Bring food donations to Entrance 7 off of Lee Avenue from 7:30am-7:30pm Monday-Friday! Or bring food with you on Sundays when you come to church! Our Food Pantry currently needs chicken noodle soup, other soups, canned pasta with meat, peanut butter, canned corn, and canned pasta sauce.

PHUMC WANTS YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR

# PHUMC PHOTO DIRECTORY

*Help us capture our church family*

Oct. 12-16  
Nov. 10-13  
Nov. 22-23

Sign up at [phumc.com/directory](http://phumc.com/directory)



For the first time in seven years, we are creating a church photo directory and it wouldn't be complete without you! Sign up for a time for you or your family to take a photo with one of the Universal photographers! When you sign up you will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and directory. Because of Covid, we are also allowing congregants to submit a photo for \$15. You will receive a directory as well with your photo submission. Go to [phumc.com/directory](http://phumc.com/directory) to sign up. Contact Michael McMurray at [mmcmurray@phumc.com](mailto:mmcmurray@phumc.com) with any questions!



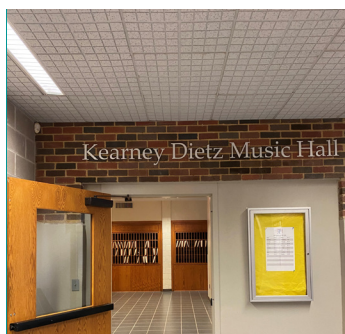
## Wonderfully Made

Loved by God

Help preteens learn they are wonderfully made with this faith and sexuality education program. Wonderfully Made is a two day human sexuality class for **youth in 5th grade**. *Wonderfully Made* provides the opportunity to not only ask questions about growing up, but to get faith-based answers as well.

Sessions:  
January 22-3  
February 26-27  
March 5-6

Classes are \$50 per youth and there is a mandatory parent meeting via Zoom. Learn more and sign up at [phumc.com/wonderfullymade](http://phumc.com/wonderfullymade).



## MUSIC MINISTRY DEDICATION

Please join us for the dedication of two rooms in our Music/ Arts Suite. We will pay tribute to Kearney Dietz and the late John Roberts by naming the Choir Rehearsal Hall and Music Library in their honor. Join us on Sunday, **October 3rd at 10:15a.m.** in the Great Hall (Gym). We hope to see you there!



## OCTOBER FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE!

The **October Food Pantry Challenge** starts Sunday, October 3 and runs through Sunday, October 24. The challenge encourages families to read Scripture, pray at mealtime and collect food together for four weeks in October. Choose the same day each week for activities together or a day that works best for your family.

**Week 1:** Challenge foods: Green beans or corn - Bible verse: Matthew 25:35

Mealtime Prayer: Loving God, we pray for cooperation and support for life saving assistance to people struggling from food insecurity and hunger in our community and around the world. Send life-giving rains at just the right time, create good conditions for families to grow food for their survival, and cease conflict so your children will no longer go to bed hungry each night. Amen.

**Week 2:** Challenge foods: Cornbread or stuffing - Bible verse: John 6:35

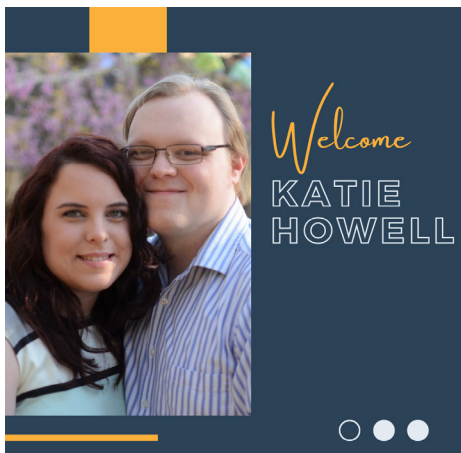
Mealtime Prayer: Almighty God, it is difficult to see children suffer, especially from hunger. We pray for you to give children across the world daily bread today and help our schools stay open despite COVID outbreaks. We pray for those children who count on schools every day to receive needed meals through school meal programs as well as instruction that helps them grow and learn each day. Thank you for our schools, teachers and administrators and for the children they serve. Please keep our Arkansas children safe, healthy and strong. Amen.

**Week 3:** Challenge foods: Cranberry sauce or pumpkin - Bible verse: Luke 6:21

Mealtime Prayer: Lord, thank you for allowing our church to serve so many families through our food bank. Thank you for the team that runs the food bank and every family who will donate food this month. Please draw near to our church as we serve you in new ways and away from group gatherings and our normal routines. Give us strength to find you and feel your Spirit with us every day. Bless our donations and every home they touch. In Christ's name. Amen.

**Week 4:** Challenge foods: Sweet potatoes or mashed potatoes - Bible verse: Psalm 146:6-7

Mealtime Prayer: Holy Father, you are our loving Creator and maker of heaven and earth. Help us to trust you and know that you are in control of all things. Please hear the prayers of your people and give comfort to the hungry in our city. Give them strength, and let them feel your presence in their lives. Thank you for loving all of your creation wholly and completely. Amen.



## WELCOME KATIE!

We would like to welcome our newest addition to our staff, Katie Howell! Katie is the Administrative Assistant for Music, Worship and Adventures in the Arts. She has 9 years of experience working in the United Methodist church. Katie holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She is a member and soloist with the Arkansas Chamber Singers. Katie is married to her loving husband of 5 years, Drew Howell. In her free time, Katie likes to craft, go to concerts, learn archery, and play with her bulldog Lucy. Welcome Katie! You can contact her at [khowell@phumc.com](mailto:khowell@phumc.com) or 501-664-3600!



Thanks to our generous church, we surpassed our goal for *Give A Kid A Chance* and raised \$22,163.64 for Wakefield Elementary School!

We are able to provide children with school supplies, back packs and uniforms as well as show our appreciation for the staff! We are so blessed by our congregation's generosity.



## Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church Cancer Support Group via Zoom

"More than a listening ear and an understanding heart, Cancer Companions bring the gifts of prayer, scriptures and devotions to lift up cancer families in their time of need. Cancer Companions is a Christian cancer support group that also offers one to one meetings."

Sponsored by Pulaski Heights UMC Cancer Friends Ministry.



**Dr. Elaine McNiece, Co-Facilitator**

*"I learned of PHUMC Cancer Friends nine years ago when my daughter was diagnosed with cancer. They continue to support us through multiple recurrences as a survivor. I attended Cancer Friends meetings for several years to give to others the same level of love and care that we have received. I hope to continue in the rich tradition of PHUMC reaching out to those with cancer and their families."*

Elaine is the Chairperson of PHUMC Cancer Friends



**Linda Jones, Co-Facilitator**

*As a member of PHUMC for almost 56 years and a staff member for 12 years, I have compassion for cancer survivors and their families. Our Cancer Friends Support Group members are very loving, caring, giving and supportive."*

Linda is the Administrative Assistant for PHUMC Caring Ministries

**Sign Up: [www.cancercompanion.org/pulaski-heights](http://www.cancercompanion.org/pulaski-heights)**  
**Dr. Jeff Hampton, Staff Representative**  
**[jhampton@phumc.com](mailto:jhampton@phumc.com) • (501) 664-3600**  
**Monthly • 2nd Wednesday via Zoom • 5:00-7:00 pm**

## THE BOOK OF REVELATION BIBLE STUDY

LED BY DR. JOHN ROBBINS  
WEDNESDAYS-5:45-6:30 PM  
IN PERSON & ONLINE

## Midweek Meditation

WEDNESDAYS | 12:05PM | SANCTUARY

Join us on Wednesdays for a new worship experience! Every Wednesday in the sanctuary from 12:05-12:30pm you will have a new opportunity for spiritual engagement with a short noon-time service called Midweek Meditation! This will be a simple time of spiritual reflection, renewal and Holy Communion led by our pastors!

We hope to see you there!

## third grade BIBLES

SUNDAY,  
OCTOBER 17  
11:00 AM



TOP  
PARKING  
DECK



Family Promise of Pulaski County is a wonderful organization helping temporarily homeless families stay together. It is part of the national organization that combats family homelessness. Since 2005 PHUMC has assisted FPPC by providing shelter and meals for these families here at the church 4 weeks each year. The last time we hosted was in January 2020 - before Covid-19.

Things have changed with churches no longer able to provide shelter. Instead FPPC is now renting 3 apartments in North Little Rock where 3 families stay until they find jobs and save enough money to be able to get out on their own again. Churches are still providing their breakfast/lunch food and evening meals. PHUMC is doing this for the weeks beginning on these Sundays: September 26, December 26, March 27, 2022 and June 26, 2022.

Do you want to be more involved in mission work? Here's your chance! We need a new PHUMC Family Promise coordinator! Our wonderful church member Gwen Efird did an amazing job in that position for many, many years. She passed the torch to me about a year before the pandemic hit and I have served as interim coordinator ever since. It's time to have a REAL coordinator so if you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact Church receptionist, Pat Dillahunty at 664-3600 or [pdillahunty@phumc.com](mailto:pdillahunty@phumc.com).



## JOYS AND CONCERNS

### OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY IS

**EXTENDED** to Emily Cox and family in the death of her grandfather, Rev. Ben Jordan; to Sunny Krowski, Denise Richmond, Debbie Brown and their families on the death of their mother, Clarice Schellinger; to the family and friends of Lloyd Mobley in his recent death; to Ashley Newman, Cole Dodson, and Luke Moseley and family in the death of their husband and father, Chad Dodson; to Bill King and family in the death of his mother, Robbie Sue King; to Barry Capps and family in the death of his father, Reggie Capps; to Tricia Pfeifer and family in the death of her mother, Mary (Evelyn) Baird; to Arline Jackson and family in the death of her great-granddaughter, Evelyn Simpson; to Mark Ramm and family in the death of his brother, Tim Ramm and the death of his mother, Mary Ann Ramm; to Billie Rutherford and family in the death of her sister, Jean Hill Churchill; and to Chance Hollingsworth and family in the death of his mother, Kay Hollingsworth

**WE REJOICE IN THE BIRTH** of Sutton Ellise Barnes, child of Payton and Chase Barnes and grandchild of Tanya and Lowry Barnes; of Harvey Cashion Couch, child of Lizzy and Patrick Couch and grandchild of Cynthia and Bobby East; of McIlroy Hawkins Parker, child of Anne-Elise and Brad Parker and grandchild of Misty & Drake Hawkins; of Georgia Noel Childers, child of Annie and Adam Childers and grandchild of Cindy and Kevin Burns; and of Rowdey Ellis Hines, child of Anna and Daniel Hines.

**WE CONGRATULATE** Alicia Albright and Eric Mann on their recent wedding.

**WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS** Louis Gornatti, Brenda Scalici, and Jean Ann Phillips

## SEPTEMBER STAFF BIRTHDAYS

**BEV VILLINES - SEPT. 26**  
**STACEY HIGHTOWER - SEPT. 30**

**Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church**  
**4823 Woodlawn**  
**Little Rock, Arkansas 72205**

**Return Service Requested**



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### Church Office Hours:

Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

You are welcome to utilize our available spaces during the week for gatherings, as long as reservations have been made at [phumc.com/espace](http://phumc.com/espace). At this time, masks are required for all who enter.

## BAPTISM

John Scott Robbins, child of Caroline and Jay Robbins



### PHUMC FOUNDATION UPDATE

The Andre and Louise Rollefson Caring Ministries Endowment and the Jimmy P. Spradley Facilities Maintenance Endowment were established in recent months. The PHUMC Foundation is grateful to the Rollefsons and the family and friends of Jim Spradley for these gifts. The earnings from these endowments will allow PHUMC to continue in Ministry NOW and for many years to come.

## Young Adult Small Group

### CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS

Happening Hour is morphing! We will still have Happening Hour on the first Tuesday of every month, but we are excited that other Tuesdays we will be having a more intentional Young Adult Small Group. Based on your feedback through our survey, this group will focus on supporting one another in our faith journeys. We will meet Tuesdays at 7pm at a different member's house each week. If you have any questions or would like to get involved, email Pastor Kathleen at [kmcmurray@phumc.com](mailto:kmcmurray@phumc.com) or call her at 501-978-0531. Hope to see you there!