



**PULASKI
HEIGHTS**
United Methodist Church

THE TOWER NEWSLETTER

INSPIRE LOVE, EMBRACE CHRIST, ENGAGE THE WORLD

MARCH 2023

Dear Congregation,

We are going to try something creative this year for our Easter Sunrise service to be televised at 7:00am April 9, 2023, on KATV. As you are aware, we have struggled getting volunteers for many of our ministry opportunities, including our Sunrise service. It has also become much more difficult to secure people from across the community to participate. And as you know, we are at the mercy of the weather, as was the case last year when we had to cancel the service altogether. Since this event has not taken place in four years because of the pandemic and weather-related issues, we are attempting something that does not require lots of volunteers, a substantial budget, or being dependence on a morning without spring rainstorms.

However, the primary reason for trying something new is to involve other United Methodist Christians from across the state of Arkansas, not just local figures. This allows us to include smaller congregations, individuals, choirs, and additional participants who would very much like the privilege of being a part of something that unites us in the face of so much division. The way this will work is as follows:

We will be recording all participants in our sunrise service where their respective ministries take place. As a result, our media department will travel and record choirs singing in their local church setting, and we are asking clergy and laypeople who participate to be filmed where they are in ministry. I will be preaching from a special location as well. The intent is to enable our congregation and television audience to see and hear United Methodist Christians from across Arkansas participating in worship in celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This also allows us the opportunity to highlight congregations doing great work in the name of Christ who have never had the kind of exposure we can provide.

After each person/group is recorded, our great media team will put together a very moving and powerful worship experience for many to appreciate and enjoy. It will be a beautiful example of what happens when many voices proclaim, "He is Risen" together. I pray you will make every effort to watch at 7:00 Easter morning and then attend one of our five Easter services in person.

Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church has never shied away from trying new things to proclaim the name of Jesus Christ as far and wide as possible. This is another way to make that happen. Thank you for encouraging us to be creative in how it is we share the Good News with the rest of the world. We are grateful as a staff to be in ministry for you and with you.

Dr. John Robbins, Senior Pastor
Rev. Jay Clark, Executive Pastor
Rev. Kathleen McMurray, Pastor of Connecting Ministries and Worship
Dr. Jeff Hampton, Pastor of Caring Ministries
Rev. Abbey Maynard, Pastor of Community Ministries
Rev. Katye Chambers, Associate Pastor

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Drop-in Communion & Prayer
THURSDAY | APRIL 6
11AM-1PM | WESLEY HALL

Mawduy Thursday Service
THURSDAY | APRIL 6
7:00 PM | WESLEY HALL

A Service of Tenabrae
FRIDAY | APRIL 7
NOON | SANCTUARY
7:00 PM | SANCTUARY (FULL CHOIR)

March Staff Birthdays

ERIC COMPTON - MARCH 4
BROOKE HOBBS - MARCH 12

EASTER
with
PULASKI HEIGHTS UMC

STATEWIDE UNITED METHODIST SERVICE
7:00 am | KATV

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP 8:30, 9:45, 11:00 Sanctuary 8:30 Facebook, YouTube 10:30 KATV	CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP 9:45 and 11:00 Wesley Hall 11:00 Facebook, YouTube
---	--

APRIL 9TH, 2023
PHUMC.COM/EASTER



You may have noticed that a new water feature has been added at the west side of the Columbarium garden near Entrance 2. Joe Barnett of Little Rock Land Design created the area given in memory of Tommy Hodges by his family and friends. The pond is surrounded by a miniature Japanese maple, gardenia bushes, and a beautiful cross. The Pulaski Heights Methodist Church sign on Woodlawn now has lighting and

is anchored by gardenias behind with a stone-edged bed. Completing the area are five new emerald colonnade hollies and stonework along the sidewalk leading into the building. The update adds to the vision for the Garden as an area of worship and celebration and as a place to meditate and remember those members who have gone before us. Special thanks goes to Tommy's family - Carol Hodges, Cathy Hodges, and Anne, Kris, Harrison, Alex, and Walker Kashata.



This past month our Food Pantry gave out 125 bags for 335 people, including 12 new families! We gave out frozen Healthy Choice meals and Valentine's Day Cards in our bags. We also want to highlight one of our newest volunteers, Ed Sanchez-Hobbs (pictured above). Ed serves as one of our Spanish interpreters! We are so happy to have him volunteer with us!



Did you see our new PHUMC t-shirt or sweatshirt? You too can look as good as Buddy or Michael here! You can purchase one by going to bonfire.com/phumc-2023/ or calling the church office at 501-664-3600! The proceeds will go to help the youth department pay for their summer mission trips!



Dear Congregation,

We have been blessed that Rod Hocott came out of retirement to begin our Midyouth program. Rod has informed me and Ellen that he will be retiring in May of this year. When Rod and I first talked about launching the Midyouth program beginning in 2018, it was very scary and a huge change that both of us knew needed to happen. All that hard work has paid off. Our Midyouth program has survived through Covid and is now thriving. Thank you, Rod, for being you and being a great team player.

Be on the lookout for information on how we will celebrate Rod, and watch our Roundtable Podcast in mid-February as Michael, Ellen, and Daniel interview and reminisce with Rod about his time in ministry.

-Rev. Jay Clark, Executive Pastor

TUTORS NEEDED FOR WAKEFIELD ELEMENTARY!



Email jstewart94@gmail.com
Call 501-664-3600

It is not unusual for tutors to have to leave our program mid-year due to either planned or unplanned circumstances. For that reason, we are recruiting tutors for the rest of this school year to maintain our current level. And, of course, we are always happy to expand our program to additional students! If you have an extra hour or two per week and want more information on what being a tutor in our program entails, please send an email to Janet Stewart at janetstewart94@gmail.com. Thank you so much for considering this worthy mission!

After a two-plus year hiatus, our tutoring program at Wakefield Elementary is going strong again this school year. We are so happy to be back in the school and partnering with the wonderful school staff in giving students a boost in their reading skills.



Thank you everyone for helping us collect business attire for college students! We had over 80 people donate clothes, bags, shoes, and more professional wear to Hendrix College! We know the students will be very appreciative.

PHUMC Raney Series Presents: Teach Us to Pray Spiritual Retreat

April 28th and 29th at PHUMC
Event is free, but registration is required.
Registration opens in early March




Rev. Victor Resendiz Dr. Jerry Webber

Save the Date! April 28th and 29th the Raney Series presents "Teach Us to Pray Spiritual Retreat" at PHUMC. We'll learn about prayer as a lifestyle and a spiritual practice. The retreat is free, but registration will be required. Registration opens early March 2023. Go to phumc.com/raney to learn more!

FROM THE HOSPITALITY DESK

Hi church family! As part of hospitality on Sunday mornings, we have offered donuts, juice, coffee, and water for many years. A few weeks ago, we moved the donuts to the skybridge that connect our two worship spaces. The hope is to have these goodies in a neutral place between the two worship venues and encourage fellowship as one community as people go to Sunday School. Our vision as you grab a donut on your way to Sunday School is that you'll introduce yourself to a new face. You may even meet someone you should invite to your Sunday School class!

I know that change is never easy. But let's try this and see if we can make it work. I want us to be good stewards and this includes using our budget wisely. Donuts will be out in the skybridge after the conclusion of the first service. Feel free to email me if you have any questions.

Love in Christ,
Emily Argue Stotts
Director of Welcoming and Hospitality



In January we commissioned 11 Stephen Ministers in worship! Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church has trained over 165 Stephen Ministers to serve our congregation and the community, by providing one-to-one care to those experiencing all kinds of life circumstances. (L to R): Dr. Jeff Hampton, Carole Ann Provin, Jerry Wilson, Edwina Wilson, Linda Powell, Donna Morey, Dr. John Webber, Karen Sullards, Anna Lee Pittman McSpadden, Laurie Laing, Regina Hampton, Lesa Booker, Norma Knutson, Not Pictured: Judy Miller (connect campus).



JOIN US

FOR OUR CANCER FRIENDS LUNCHEON

March 8th @ 11:30 AM
WESLEY HALL

Sign up by calling the church office at 501-664-3600 or phumc.com/cancer-friends.

Join us for our next Cancer Friends Luncheon on Wednesday, March 8th at 11:30AM in Wesley Hall! The program will highlight Home For Healing and will be presented by Director Kristin Trulock.

"The Home for Healing offers support to parents of NICU infants, individuals and their caregivers undergoing cancer treatment, and caregiver of individuals who are in intensive care units by providing convenient and free lodging in a peaceful and restorative environment. Their guests may include adult and teenage cancer patients and their caregivers, parents of infants in the neonatal intensive care unit, and family members with a loved one in ICU."

Registration is required. Cost for the meal is \$10. RSVP by going to phumc.com/cancerfriends, calling the church office at 501-664-3600, signing up at the welcome desk, or signing up in the Church App! Cost is \$10/person!



In an effort to be more hospitable to our visitors, we've updated our guest gifts! It includes an insulated tumbler, wristband, and fridge magnet with information about PHUMC! If you invite a guest to church or see someone new, invite them to take their gift!

If you'd like a tumbler, they are available for purchase for \$10 and wristbands are available for \$1. Just go to the Welcome Desk or contact Emily Stotts at estotts@phumc.com or 501-664-3600!

In January PHUMC had the great pleasure to host the Installation Service for our new Arkansas UMC Bishop, Laura Merrill. Over 400 faithful United Methodists gathered in our Sanctuary, and many more gathered online to commune together and welcome Bishop Merrill.

Our PHUMC choir provided the music and a meet-and-greet reception was held in the Gym. We are so thankful for our connectionality as United Methodists and look forward to the next few years under Bishop Merrill's Leadership.



March Primetimers Luncheon

You're invited to join us for the Primetimers Luncheon on **Thursday, March 16th** (notice the different date) in the gym. The Mount St. Mary's Chorale Belles will provide our entertainment!

RSVP by going to phumc.com/primetimers, calling the church office at 501-664-3600, signing up at the welcome desk, or signing up in the Church App! Cost is \$10/person! If you have any questions, contact Bev Villines at bvillines@phumc.com!

JOYS AND CONCERNS

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY IS

EXTENDED to Boo Jennings and family in the death of his brother, Alston Jennings; to Stacey Carr and family in the death of her father, Phil Carter; to Wendy Efird and family in the death of her father, Rev. Gene Efird; to Janet Jones and family in the death of her sister, Julianne Honey; to Jim Campell and family in the death of his wife, Lyda Campbell; to Linda Andries and family in the death of her sister, Gloria Cleveland; and to Claude Cousins and family in the death of his mother, Jo Ann Henslee, to the family and friends of Donnie Duch in his recent death; to Warren Simpson and family in the death of his brother, J.D. Simpson III; to Fran Carter, Casey Carter and family in the death of their mother and grandmother, Mary Lee McHenry; and to Freddie Nixon, Aubrey Nixon, and family in the death of their husband and father, Rev. Vic Nixon

WE CELEBRATE THE BAPTISM OF

Evergreen Marie Krehbiel, child of Marinna and Nate Krehbiel; and George Chandler, child of Grant and Victoria Chandler, and grandchild of Tori and Dumas Garrett.

WE CONGRATULATE

Stormie Stephanie Primm & Scott Eason on their recent wedding, and Anna Claire Hunter & Taylor Gene Vocque on their recent wedding

WE CELEBRATE THE BAPTISM OF

Baylor Elizabeth Brabham, child of Stacey and Jake Brabham

WE REJOICE IN THE BIRTH

of Harper Joe Moll; child of Corey Moll & Sarah Odom, and grandchild of Karen & Joel Moll.

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Carole Cleveland, Nicholas Jaegar, Sarah and Murray Burton, Donna and Stephen Epps, Jeremy, Angel, and Caiah Dunlap.

PALM SUNDAY APRIL 2ND

CHILDREN WILL BE INVITED TO PROCESS WITH PALMS IN WORSHIP.

CONTACT PLENTZ@PHUMC.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

Return Service Requested



[phumc.com/facebook](https://www.facebook.com/phumc.com)



[phumc.com/youtube](https://www.youtube.com/phumc.com)

Visit us at [phumc.com](https://www.phumc.com)

Contact Information

Website: www.phumc.com • (501) 664-3600
Fax: 664-4835 • Email: phumc@phumc.com

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

PHUMC Easter Egg Hunt

Allsopp Park
Saturday, April 8 @ 10:30 AM
Email plentz@phumc.com for
more info



SAVE THE DATE



Vacation Bible Camp

JUNE 19-23
9:00 AM - 4:45 AM
FOR RISING KINDERGARTEN - 4TH GRADE

Dear Church Family!

Our church has undergone a Brand Definition Initiative. After taking multiple surveys, speaking with leaders across the state, getting staff input, and working with a consulting firm, we've given ourselves a clearer picture of who we are. What this means: you'll see some changes in the language we use, the words we say, our signage, and more! We aren't going to be changing our name or logo at all. If you're interested in learning more, you can email me at mmcmurray@phumc.com! I am happy to speak to small groups and Sunday school classes!

-Michael McMurray, Director of Communications

PHUMC FINANCIAL UPDATE

Below is a summary of PHUMC operating budget for the period January 2023.

Member Contributions	\$ 234,383
PHUMC Foundation Contributions	\$ 20,000
Other Income	\$ 7,743
Total Income	\$ 262,126
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 359,769
January Tithe Payment*	\$ 25,438
Total Expenses	\$ 385,207
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (123,081)

*Each United Methodist Church pays in a tithe or apportionment to its Annual Conference to help support the Annual Conference, the Jurisdictional Conferences, the General Conference, and other global ministries. The Arkansas Conference requires each United Methodist Church in the state to pay 10% of the income received in a month.