



PULASKI
HEIGHTS
United Methodist Church

BECAUSE YOU GIVE 2025

A Church That Gives Back

Because you give, we share Christ's love with the world.

Inspire Love.
Embrace Christ.
Engage the World.

PULASKI HEIGHTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
4823 WOODLAWN DRIVE • LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS
72205

TABLE OF CONTENTS

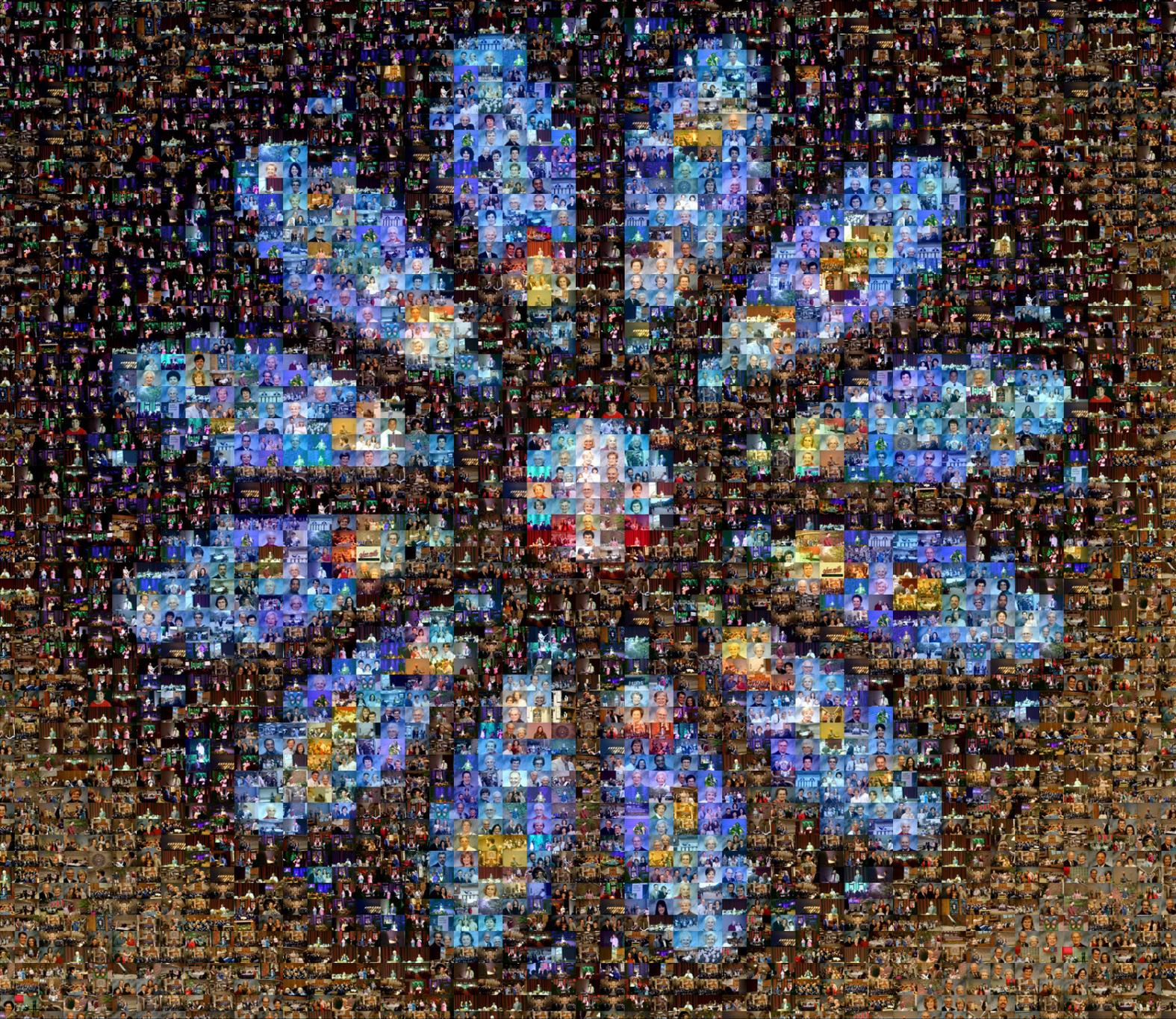
Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church
Because You Give 2025 Annual Report

Welcome Letter from Dr. John Robbins	04
Worship & Music	05
Children's Ministries	07
Youth Ministries	08
Young Adult Ministries	09
Primetimers	10
Adult Discipleship	11
Caring Ministries	12
Missions	14
Welcoming & Hospitality	16
Communications & Technology	17
PHUMC Foundation	18
How to Give	19

2025

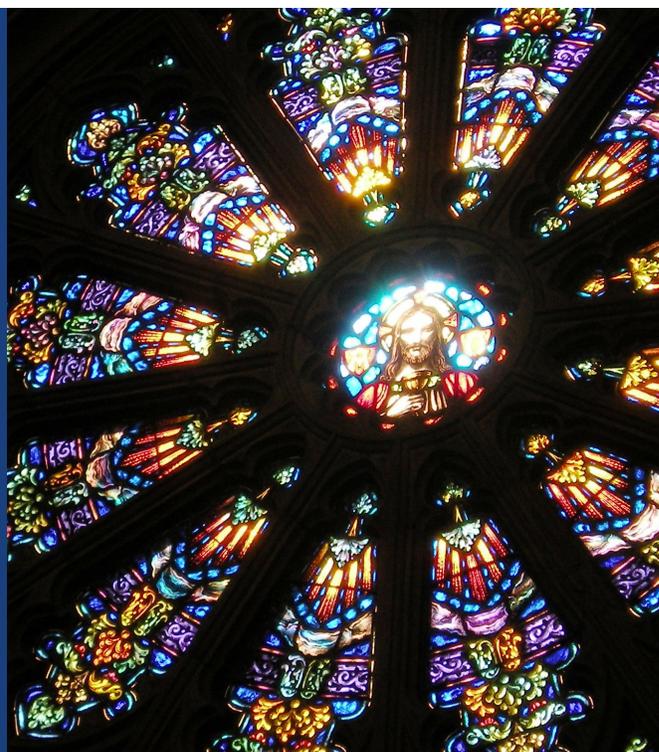
was a transformative year.

You are the reason.



The following pages provide a structured overview of our missions and ministries, and outline the ways that PHUMC inspires love, embraces Christ, and changes the world one person at a time.

THANK YOU FROM DR. JOHN ROBBINS



It has been another extraordinary year at Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church. By the grace of God, that has become the norm. Our achievements are all realized BECAUSE YOU GIVE.

I hope you read through the information in this booklet and look at many of the highlights from 2025, up to this point. You have much to be proud of as a part of this growing and thriving congregation.

For four consecutive years the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette has declared by popular vote that PHUMC is the Best Place to Worship in Central Arkansas. Not only that, but we were also chosen this year to be The Best Place to Work. That says a great deal about the strong reputation this congregation has across the state.

As we prepare for the end of 2025 and look forward to the new year, please do your part financially to enable us to reach our goal of paying in full all our financial obligations and responsibilities to reach people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ in as many ways as we can.

I want to thank all of you who support the work we do together. You are part of something extraordinary that God has honored time and again. BECAUSE YOU GIVE to the ministry budget and the capital campaign our future becomes brighter each day.

I am privileged to serve as one of your pastors and look forward to 2026 and all God has in store for the people called Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church!

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read "John Robbins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "J" and "R".

Senior Pastor



Worship & Music

Because You Give, We Worship Together

Because you give, we gather each week to worship God in spirit and in truth.

Through word, music, and sacrament, Pulaski Heights UMC continues to offer vibrant, Christ-centered worship that connects people to the heart of God.

Throughout the year, we celebrate the seasons of faith—from the quiet reflection of Ash Wednesday to the triumphant joy of Easter and the warmth of Christmas Eve Candlelight.

Thousands join us each week in person, online, and by broadcast to encounter the transforming love of Christ.

Our Chancel Choir continues to inspire our community in Classic Worship, sharing anthems and major works like our annual Lessons and Carols and collaborative Hymn Festival Concerts with other United Methodist congregations and guest ensembles such as the DFW Brass. The Adult Handbell Ensemble and Children's Choir enrich our worship life, while our Music Academy nurtures over a hundred students through private lessons in piano, strings, voice, and guitar. We also hired a dedicated Children's Choir Director to invest in children's participation in worship.

Meanwhile, our Modern Worship Team continues to create powerful and participatory worship experiences each week. From designing seasonal stage sets and visuals to leading heartfelt music that invites all generations to praise, their ministry continues to grow. This year, our modern musicians led special services like the All-Saints Service of Remembrance and Young Adult Worship Night to engage congregants outside of regular worship. They continue to help mentor the phyouth Worship Team as those students learn to lead with confidence and purpose.

Behind the scenes, our Pew Crew, Altar Guild, ushers, greeters, communion servers, and production volunteers ensure that every worship service reflects excellence, care, and hospitality.

Worship at PHUMC continues to inspire love, embrace Christ, and engage the world—one song, one prayer, one life at a time.



**TOTAL ATTENDANCE
NUMBERS**

1,236,175



**WORSHIP SERVICES
OFFERED**

170



**MUSIC & WORSHIP
VOLUNTEERS**

228



**MUSIC ACADEMY
STUDENTS**

114

Children's Ministries

Because You Give, Children Grow in Faith

Because you give, our children are learning what it means to love God and love others.

In 2025, children & volunteers traveled to Egypt during Vacation Bible Camp, learning the story of Joseph through games, art, and music. Families waved palms beside a live donkey on Palm Sunday, sang in worship with the Children's Choir, and shared laughter at Preschool Playdates and our Trunk-or-Treat!

We continued one of our most cherished traditions, Third Grade Bible Study, presenting a new Bible to each 3rd grader followed by a class helping them and their families learn how to read God's word together. Each week, children grow in faith through Sunday School, Wednesday Nights, and special missions.

“Jesus loves me and He’s always near me and it is important to always be kind to others and help them.”



CLARK STEWART

Age 10

Children By The Numbers

The spiritual growth and learning of our children is a top priority here at Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church.

Thanks to you, we're able to accomodate hundreds of children each year for worship, special services, and outreach events.

68 Children participated in Wednesday Night classes babies – 4th grade.

52 Children and parents have attended Preschool Playdates.

243 Children, youth, and adult volunteers participated in this year's K-4th grade Vacation Bible Camp.

35 Bibles presented to our third grade children.

320 Children and parents attended the Easter Egg Hunt along with youth volunteers.

892 Children and families attended Trunk-or-Treat.

Youth Ministries

Because You Give, Youth Lead and Serve

Because you give, our youth are growing in faith, service, and leadership every day.

This year has been full of energy, learning, and transformation for our phoyouth! From retreats to mission trips, our students have discovered what it means to live out their faith in real and meaningful ways.

Spring brought Veritas, a statewide youth conference that gathered hundreds of students from across Arkansas for worship, small groups, and powerful moments of connection. In the summer, a new Leading and Learning Pilgrimage took students to Birmingham, Montgomery, Memphis, and Little Rock to explore justice, leadership, and the history of the Civil Rights Movement—helping them understand what it means to lead with compassion and courage in today’s world.

In June, forty-two youth and eleven adults traveled to Jonesboro for Ozark Mission Project—the largest OMP camp ever held! They built wheelchair ramps, painted homes, tackled yardwork, and built friendships grounded in service. Closer to home, our Midyouth students spent Service and Learning Days volunteering with our Food Pantry, Clothes Closet, and Camp Tanako—serving their neighbors and learning that faith comes alive through action.

New this fall, our senior high and 7th grade youth participated in a local Service Retreat—a day of hands-on mission in partnership with Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP). Students built and delivered beds for children and families in need throughout our community, learning that discipleship means meeting others where they are and serving with love and purpose.

Throughout the year, weekly gatherings, small groups, and Bible studies have created spaces for students to ask big questions, form lasting friendships, and deepen their relationship with God. Senior Sunday and the PHUMC Foundation’s scholarship presentations celebrated graduates who are ready to shine their light in the world, and ongoing youth worship leadership has helped many students discover their call to ministry.

“Because of this church, I learned that faith isn’t just about belief—it’s about action.” - Kris G., 9th Grader

Because you give, our youth are becoming compassionate, courageous disciples who serve God and neighbor everywhere they go.



**Averages 120 students
per week**

5th - 12th Grade
Senior High Youth



**Averages 15 students
weekly**

12th Grade
Sr. High Bible Study



**45 students went
through the
Confirmation process**

7th Grade
Confirmands



**555 students
participated in our
youth basketball league**

7th - 12th Grade
Youth Basketball League

Young Adult Ministries

Because You Give, Young Adults Find Belonging

In 2025, our Young Adult Ministry (ages 18–40) continued to grow as a place of belonging, faith, and purpose. From monthly Happening Hours and game nights to service projects at Stewpot and Ozark Mission Project, young adults found community and faith in action. What started as a few small gatherings has grown into a network of more than 70 participants who laugh, learn, serve, and worship together.

“This ministry has given me lifelong friendships and a deeper faith. It’s a space where we can be ourselves and grow together.” - Michael M.

Through small groups, study opportunities, and fellowship events, young adults are finding their own place in the life of the church. Special Young Adult Worship Nights have offered opportunities to connect with God and one another in meaningful and creative ways—through prayer, music, storytelling, and reflection designed specifically for their generation.

Through this ministry, young adults are discovering how to integrate faith into everyday life and leadership within the wider church. Because you give, PHUMC continues to nurture a vibrant ministry that bridges faith and friendship, helping young adults grow into compassionate, engaged disciples who will lead the church for years to come.



PRIMETIMERS

Because You Give, our church is growing

Because you give, our adults 55+ continue to find friendship, purpose, and joy through our vibrant Primetimers ministry.

Each month, an average of 60 adults gather for luncheons, movie days, and trips to Arkansas favorites like Charlotte's Eats and Sweets, Star City, and Keo. These gatherings are filled with laughter and connection—reminding everyone that community and faith have no age limit.

Beyond fellowship, Primetimers are a deeply caring group who support one another through life's joys and challenges. Over 90 people attended our Annual Veterans Luncheon, a special event that celebrates and remembers PHUMC veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice.

The Primetimers' spirit of service and friendship extends far beyond their gatherings. Whether sharing a meal, writing a note of encouragement, or lending a hand, they embody what it means to Inspire Love, Embrace Christ, and Engage the World.

Because you give, older adults in our congregation continue to find belonging, joy, and purpose through lasting friendship and faithful service.

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

***Because You Give,
Adults Connect and Grow***

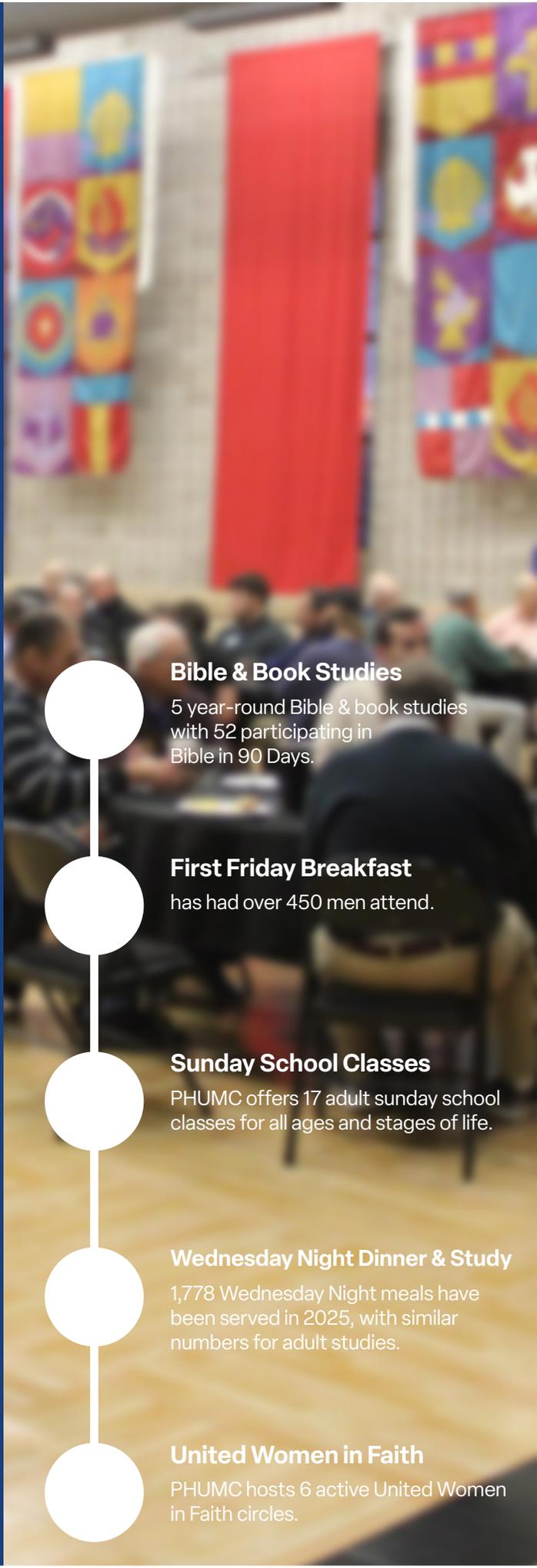
Because you give, adults at Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church are deepening their faith and finding connection through study, service, and community. From long-standing Sunday School classes to brand new small groups, adults at every stage of life are learning to follow Jesus more closely and love their neighbors more fully.

Our Sunday School classes continue to thrive, offering places of belonging and spiritual growth for hundreds each week. These classes not only study Scripture but also serve together—packing care bags for Wakefield Elementary and supporting missions throughout Little Rock and the world. Wednesday Nights at Pulaski Heights continue to be a cornerstone of adult discipleship. With Bible studies, topical classes, and spiritual formation groups, adults gather to grow in faith and friendship. This year, we even pivoted to cooking our own meals in-house, thanks to our new Kitchen Coordinator, Heather Doherty, whose delicious homemade dinners have created both cost savings and community at every table.

Beyond Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights, adults are connecting in new and meaningful ways. The PH Singles Small Group continues to provide friendship and fellowship for singles ages 35–70. Whether bowling, sharing a meal, or serving together, this group reminds us that discipleship is best lived out through relationships with others. Our United Women in Faith continue to learn, fellowship, and support one another and the community.

A highlight of 2025 has been the launch of the PHMen's Ministry—a vibrant and growing space for men of all ages to connect through faith and fellowship. From First Friday breakfasts featuring inspiring speakers to service projects and outdoor gatherings, PHMen is building community and encouraging one another to grow as spiritual leaders at home, in the church, and in the world. Our regular PHDads at Two Rivers Park brings together fathers and father figures and their children for prayer, donuts, and time outdoors—simple moments that build lasting bonds.

Across every age and stage, discipleship at Pulaski Heights is flourishing. Adults are gathering to study Scripture, ask hard questions, and live out their faith in daily life. Because you give, adults find purpose, companionship, and joy in Christian fellowship.



Bible & Book Studies

5 year-round Bible & book studies with 52 participating in Bible in 90 Days.



First Friday Breakfast

has had over 450 men attend.



Sunday School Classes

PHUMC offers 17 adult sunday school classes for all ages and stages of life.



Wednesday Night Dinner & Study

1,778 Wednesday Night meals have been served in 2025, with similar numbers for adult studies.



United Women in Faith

PHUMC hosts 6 active United Women in Faith circles.



CARING
MINISTRIES
2025

Because You Give, We Care for One Another

Caring Ministries remain at the heart of PHUMC's mission to love and serve one another. Every call made, card sent, and visit shared reminds our community that no one walks alone.

Groups like Walking the Mourner's Path, Cancer Friends, and Helping Hands offer hope and healing for those facing grief, illness, or isolation. One participant of Walking the Mourner's Path, said, "I was initially apprehensive about trying it, but I discovered profound comfort in the program. It became a beacon of hope for me—illuminating the promise of divine solace during one of the most challenging times of my life."

From comforting a grieving heart to providing respite care for caregivers, Caring Ministries embody Christ's compassion in action. Each week, 28 volunteers gather to serve in Helping Hands, offering fellowship and meaningful activities for participants living with memory loss. Dozens more deliver meals, make hospital visits, and send hundreds of caring cards each year.

A cornerstone of PHUMC's caregiving outreach is Stephen Ministry, now in its 30th year at Pulaski Heights. Since its founding, over 180 Stephen Ministers have been trained to offer one-on-one spiritual and emotional care to those walking through life's most difficult seasons—illness, loss, transition, or loneliness. This year, under Dr. Jeff Hampton's leadership, PHUMC commissioned a new class of Stephen Ministers, and training continues for the next generation of caregivers.

Because you give, we are able to be the hands and heart of Christ—showing compassion, offering comfort, and reminding one another that God's love never lets us go.

Caring Ministry *By the Numbers*

- **165** Stephen Ministers trained to offer one-on-one care.
- **28** volunteers serve weekly in Helping Hands Respite Care.
- **530** cards sent through the Cards & Notes Ministry.
- **14** prayer intercessors lift hundreds through daily prayer.
- **1,600** Prayer Shawls/Blankets given out.

Missions

Because You Give, We Serve Our Neighbors and the World

Because you give, Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church continues to be the hands and feet of Christ—serving our neighbors near and far with compassion, dignity, and hope.

This year, our Food Pantry has experienced tremendous growth, serving over 1,000 individuals each month through regular distributions, walk-ins, and community partnerships. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we now provide not just food staples, but also fresh meat, vegetables, and milk—ensuring every family receives balanced, nourishing meals. The Food Pantry also partners with UAMS Cancer Institute, the Teen Pregnancy Clinic, and Inspiration Day Treatment to meet critical food needs for vulnerable families across Little Rock. As need continues to rise, our “Judy Bag” collections help sustain this vital ministry year-round.

Our global mission reach continues to shine through our 25-year partnership with Salud y Paz in Guatemala. In summer 2025, two PHUMC medical and surgical teams provided care to remote Mayan communities—bringing essential medical treatment, supplies, and Christ’s love to those with little access to healthcare. Our medical team treated 308 patients, offering diagnostics and medication, while our surgical team performed 84 life-changing operations, from repairing hernias to restoring eyesight and mobility. Even after returning home, team members remain connected—reviewing reports and consulting with local physicians to ensure lasting care. Together, we are changing lives in both body and spirit.

Closer to home, our Wakefield Elementary partnership continues to thrive. More than 40 volunteers tutor students each week, while church members provide food support to dozens of families, back-to-school supplies, and Christmas gifts to over 250 children.

And in a beautiful testament to faith and perseverance, our Afghan Refugee Ministry celebrated a major milestone this year—the Sadiqi family received their green cards. Nearly four years after arriving in Little Rock, the family has fully embraced life in the U.S., with Mohammed continuing English classes at UALR, Salima sharing her sewing and baking skills with others, and the children thriving in school. Their journey has been supported by dozens of PHUMC volunteers who have helped with tutoring, transportation, and friendship along the way. This achievement marks not just a new chapter for the Sadiqis, but a lasting reminder of how love and community can transform lives.

Other missions—like the Central Arkansas Diaper Bank, Clothes Closet, care bags, and Green Team—continue to embody our church’s call to “Inspire Love, Embrace Christ, and Engage the World.” Each effort reflects a community united in serving God by serving others.

Because you give, Pulaski Heights UMC continues to be a church whose compassion reaches beyond its walls—to kitchens, classrooms, and clinics around the world.

From Hillcrest to Guatemala, your generosity is transforming lives.

- Food Pantry: Serves over **800** people per month.
- Diaper Bank: Over **150,000** diapers distributed this year to 300 children monthly.
- Wakefield Elementary: **46** tutors help students read each week; school supplies and holiday gifts provided to over **200** families.
- Salud y Paz (Guatemala): **308** medical patients and **84** surgeries provided through PHUMC teams.





WELCOMING & HOSPITALITY

*Because You Give,
Everyone Feels at Home*

Every smile, handshake, and cup of coffee at Pulaski Heights UMC is welcoming. From the first-time visitor to the lifetime member, our Hospitality Team embodies Christ's invitation: "Come as you are."

This past year, our team—alongside ushers, greeters, and the faithful Pew Crew—has helped make PHUMC a place where everyone feels at home. The Pew Crew works quietly and consistently behind the scenes to ensure our Sanctuary and Wesley Hall are ready for worship each week. From straightening hymnals and replenishing attendance pads to setting up baptisms and special services, their care makes every Sunday possible. Recently, when pews were temporarily removed to increase accessibility, the Pew Crew worked late into the night preparing the space so that worship could go on without interruption. Their dedication is hospitality in action.

Our spirit of welcome extends far beyond Sunday mornings. Over **3,600** meetings, weddings, and community events were hosted on our campus this year, bringing more than **75,000** people through our doors. Each week, outside groups like Al-Anon and neighborhood associations find safe and supportive spaces here to meet and grow. In addition, we host leadership conferences, nonprofit gatherings, weddings, concerts, and family celebrations—each one a reminder that our church is more than a building; it's a living, breathing community center of grace.

Because you give, Pulaski Heights remains a church that opens its doors wide with grace, joy, and radical hospitality—offering Christ's love to everyone who walks through them.

COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY



Because You Give, Our Church Reaches Farther

Our Communications and Technology ministries continue to expand PHUMC’s reach—sharing stories of faith, service, and community with excellence and creativity.

Over the past year, we’ve modernized our digital infrastructure with major technology upgrades, including expanded high-speed internet access throughout the entire church campus. These improvements have enhanced reliability for worship livestreams, classroom presentations, and the many community groups who meet within our walls each week.

From livestreamed worship to online devotionals, podcasts, and social media storytelling, our message of faith and hope reaches far beyond Woodlawn Drive. Each week, thousands join PHUMC through broadcast and digital platforms, connecting to worship and mission no matter where they are in the world.

Behind the scenes, our Communications Team continues to innovate—designing fresh, accessible materials that reflect our church’s welcoming spirit. We’ve helped launch new ministries, supported growing programs, and created digital tools that help our congregation stay informed and engaged.

We also celebrate being named “Best of the Best Place to Worship” for the fourth year in a row—a testament to the vibrant, creative, and faith-filled community that thrives here at Pulaski Heights.

Because you give, our message of love, faith, and hope continues to reach far beyond our walls—touching hearts, transforming lives, and connecting people to Christ.

*Thanks to you,
we are the most-
watched United
Methodist Church
in all of the
United States!*



PHUMC FOUNDATION

Because You Give, Your Legacy Lives On

The PHUMC Foundation continues to sustain and strengthen the ministries of Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church through faithful stewardship and long-term financial growth. With your generosity, we can extend Christ's work far beyond the annual budget—ensuring that the ministries you love today will thrive for generations to come.

In 2025, the Foundation supported worship, missions, education, and care in powerful ways. From scholarships that invest in the next generation of leaders to grants that sustain music, caring, and hospitality ministries, the Foundation helps our congregation live out its purpose to support the missions and ministries of PHUMC.

This year, we celebrated the addition of three new endowments, continued strong investment growth, and provided significant distributions to Pulaski Heights ministries and missions.

By the Numbers

Total Assets Managed: *Over \$16 million.*

Total Endowments: *60 funds supporting PHUMC ministries and missions and 40 individual funds supporting PHUMC.*

New Endowments Established in 2025:

- *T.J. and Inez Rainey Lectureship Endowment*
- *Skarda Family Interfaith Endowment*
- *Jo Knight Welcoming & Hospitality Endowment*

Total 2025 Distributions: *Over \$318,000.*

These distributions directly benefit the church through:

Local and International Missions including interfaith activities, Guatemala missions, and local mission efforts.

New robes for the Chancel Choir and support as they represent PHUMC throughout the state.

Financial support for ongoing facility improvements - specifically the new elevator in the main building.

Continued sponsorship of the Rainey Lecture Series bringing internationally-recognized theologians to Little Rock.



Together, We Make Ministry Possible

Every story in these pages is made possible through your generosity. When you give to Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church, you join God's work of transformation—right here in Little Rock and around the world.

Thank you for your continued support and faithfulness.

Your gifts sustain worship, nurture children and youth, feed families, care for neighbors, and extend grace to all.

Because you give, we share Christ's love with the world.

Ways to Give:

- **Online at phumc.com/give**
- **Text "PHUMC" to 73256**
- **Mail your gift to the church office**
- **Place your offering in worship**

PULASKI HEIGHTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Because You Give Annual Report 2025

4823 Woodlawn Drive • Little Rock, Arkansas • 72205

www.phumc.com