



Pastor Todd Hurley

17405 NW US Highway 441

High Springs, FL 32643

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www.fumchighsprings.com



Weekly Schedule for First United Methodist Church of High Springs

Sundays

"The Way Out" A.A. 7:30 am
Choir Practice 9:45 am
Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship Service 10:30 am
Youth Group 4-6 pm

Mondays

"The Way Out"-Women's AA 12 pm
Kids' Club (K-5) 2:30-6 pm
First Mondays
Friendship Circle 12:30 pm
New Joy Circle 6:30 pm
Third Mondays
W.A.C.O.S. 6:30 pm

Tuesdays

Kids' Club (K-5) 2:30-6 pm
Men's Breakfast 7 am
Chair Yoga 9:30 am
"Off Our Rockers" Games 2 pm
"The Way Out" A.A. 6:30 pm

Wednesdays

Kids' Club (K-5) 1:00-6 pm
Prayer Team Meeting 10:30 am
Wednesday Night Dinners 6 pm
Choir Practice 6:30 pm

Second & Fourth Wednesdays

Girl Scout Troop #2177 6:30 pm

Thursdays

Kids' Club (K-5) 2:30-6 pm
"The Way Out" A.A. 6:30 pm

Third Thursdays

Family Life Team 6:00 pm

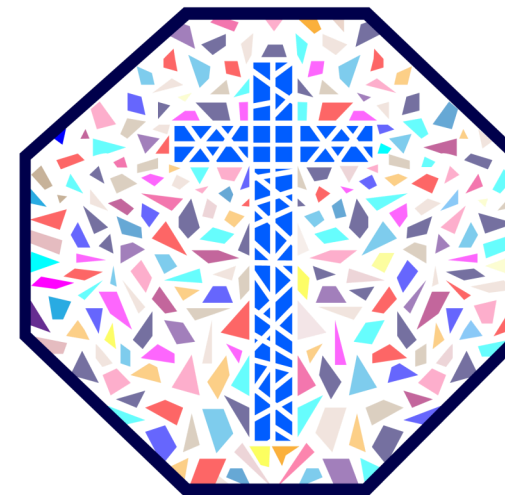
Fridays

Kids' Club (K-5) 2:30-6 pm
"The Way Out" -A.A. 6:30 pm
-N.A. 6:30 pm

First Fridays

Buncos Games 11 :30 am-2 pm

Newsletter



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
HIGH SPRINGS

October 2025 | Volume 35 | Issue 10



OCTOBER EVENTS

Mon. 6th - New Joy Circle 6:30 pm
Friendship Circle 11:30 am

Mon. 13th- Columbus Day-Office closed

Wed. 15th- Residing Hope Dinner with Pie & Cake Auction (pg.6)
Knit Wits meeting 9:30-10:30 am (pg. 8)

Thu. 16th- Family Life Meeting 6 pm

Mon. 20th- W.A.C.O.S. 6:30 pm

Tue. 21st- Board Meeting 6:30 pm

Sun. 26th- Fall Festival 5-7 (pg. 8)
Acolyte Training (pg. 7)

Mon. 27th- Annual Charge Conference 6-7:30 pm

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

Asher Smith-2nd
Mary Williams-3rd
Nanette Dougherty-4th
Becky Doris-6th
Marilyn Harder-6th
Mike Casey-8th
Melvin Meece-8th
Gerry Hoover-9th
Jason Hoenisch-11th
J.W. Woodard-11th
Stephanie Hornbuckle-12th
Mary Coleman-13th



Norma Mitchell-16th
Evy Hoenisch-18th
Noreen Sirera-19th
Ron Harder-24th
Margaret Patterson-25th
Millie Schlicht-28th
Marilyn Johnson-29th
Bob Coleman-30th
Evie Miksa-30th
Joe Fielding-31st
Ted Northway-31st

ANNIVERSARIES

John & Cara Salg-10th
John & Noreen Sirera-11th

Happy Anniversary

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF HIGH SPRINGS				
FINANCIAL SUMMARY				
AS OF AUGUST 2025				
OPERATING ACCOUNTS		OPERATING RECEIPTS		Amt.
General Fund Checking		Budgeted		\$203,723
	12/31/2024	8/31/2025	Local Missions	\$582
	43,079	42,670	Unbudgeted Giving	\$1,774
Savings-UM Foundation		Misc.		\$3,636
	12/31/2024	8/31/2025	Total	\$209,715
	16,797	37,734		
RESERVES		OPERATING DISBURSEMENTS		Amt. % Budget YTD
	12/31/2024	8/31/2025	Worship	\$1,089 25.93%
	54,752	52,562	Christian Ed and Discipleship	\$2,741 46.85%
			Missions	\$1,774 18.67%
			Support Systems	\$138,149 78.43%
OTHER INV. (Scholarship)			Congregational Vitality	\$207 8.45%
	12/31/2024	8/31/2025	Facilities	\$36,049 64.48%
	255,797	251,898	Apportionments	\$9,179 42.32%
			Total	\$189,188 68.61%
LIABILITIES (Short Term)				
	12/31/2024	8/31/2025	Net Change in Cash Balances	\$20,527
	0	0		

OCTOBER WORSHIP SERVICE VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

5th
Usher/Greeter - Nanette Dougherty, Dana Lynch,
Chester & Margaret Patterson,
Noreen Sirera

Flowers - none
Scripture Reader -Margaret Hogue
Communion- Margaret Patterson, Susan Walker
Leslie Haefner

12th
Usher/Greeter -Nanette Dougherty, Noreen Sirera,
Russ & Susan Walker

Flowers - none
Scripture Reader- Judy Northway

19th
Usher/Greeter - Nanette Dougherty, Dana Lynch,
Noreen Sirera

Flowers- Judy Northway
Scripture Reader-Jennifer Jones

26th
Usher/Greeter -Nanette Dougherty, Dana Lynch,
Noreen Sirera

Flowers- none
Scripture Reader -Dana Lynch

Interested in volunteering?
Please sign-up at
Connection Central!

Christian Friends! -Carol Daugherty

The previous story explained about the move from Alabama to Florida in search of a place where a woman and her family could feel at home. This is the rest of the story.

For the past two Sundays she and her family, brood of youngin's, attended the First United Methodist Church (FUMC). She had tried the Baptist church but it reminded her of her childhood; one of complications, new locations, and difficult times. Since her mother, brother and his family attended the Baptist church she felt obliged to attend with them. The two or three times she attended, she felt out of place. So, she and her "brood" began attending the FUMC.

She would sit in the balcony with her boys and relax, listening to the choir, the congregation, and the Pastor. She felt her stress level decrease as the tension in her shoulders subsided. She felt as if the whole of the Angel Choir was attending, hovering in the ceiling, looking down, enjoying the flow of positive energy and friendship.

After the service, a few members of the choir came up to her and welcomed her and her boys to the church. She was introduced to several other church members and when people started leaving, a man named Bill, his wife Claudia, and their friend Connie, came up to her and asked if she would like to join their "dinner party". She asked for clarification and they explained that every week eight members of their "party" would travel to the next person's house and have dinner. So, they explained, every Sunday the party would travel to another members' house and that they rotated through the membership every week. Would she like to join? Of course she would. Upon giving her answer they explained that dinner would be at her house the following Sunday! Oh...kay! She could do this! No one from her previous church family had ever asked to come to her house for dinner before. She was a little worried she could not do it, but the positivity still lingered in the air and she decided to give it a try.

This was the beginning of an amazing journey that this woman is still on. She and her husband met many new church members and enjoyed many dinners with them all. After twenty years the friendships are still going strong. Some friends are in Heaven, some have moved in with their children, and some are closer than ever. Just this week she and her husband will meet with Bill and Claudia, two of their closest friends. Dinner and conversation will be on the menu.

{This special couple just celebrated their 58th anniversary and 20 of those years have been spent with her and her family.}

God bless Christian Friends. Selah!

Carol Daugherty

Pastor's Page

"The Love Bug"

If you've read my last two newsletter segments, you'll know 2 things about me: I think in songs and I love God's creation. So, when the sudden inundation of lovebugs emerged from the earth, I first thought of George Jones (look it up if you haven't heard it) and then I wondered why in the world did God create the Plecia nearctica. Perhaps there is a message for us here as we discover more.

No doubt you have seen them...or at least hit a few with your car. They literally emerge from the ground twice a year: once to usher in summer and once to usher in fall. Their lives are short and literally full of mating. Adult males wait for the females to emerge, and they instantly begin their airborne dance of being stuck together. This unity lasts for only 3 days. Then the female lays 350 eggs and dies. The male die only a few days later. The lovebugs whole adult life covers less than a week. But what an impact they have upon us, or, I should say, what an impact we have on them.

Their short lives are cut even shorter with our speeding shuttles of metal and plastic careening into their blissful existence and thereby ending it. What is further interesting about the lovebug is that they do not pose a harm to any other creature. But what about my car, Pastor Todd? I'm glad you asked. What damages the paint on our cars is the females' eggs which, when baking in the sun, turns from neutral into acidic in just a few days. So, it's important to get that off ASAP.

What's any of this got to do with Jesus?! Again, glad you asked. Jesus made this statement in John 13:34-35 (NIV) "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." We, who have accepted Christ as our Lord and Savior, should be loving one another in a way that makes a kingdom impact. We should be so full of love that whenever someone sees us, they are shown a glimpse of the unconditional love of God. Instead, most of us are crawling around in the ground not taking flight. What do you mean, Pastor Todd? Glad you thought that. Allow me to explain.

The lovebug larvae live in the ground for 360 days of the year. They emerge to show the world love for less than a week. Are you living in the soil like a larvae by not sharing the love of Jesus with others? Are you only emerging here and there for short spurts only to get smashed on a windshield (figuratively of course) and then retreat to the soil? Or are you living life on full display of God's love 365 days a year no matter the traffic of the world? Be like the lovebug and not so much like the larvae. Love one another as Christ has loved you.

See you in flight! Pastor Todd

Lay Leader Message

"Laity Sunday: Help Wanted"

Laity Sunday for the United Methodist Church (UMC) in 2025 will fall on October 19. This day celebrates the ministry of all lay Christians in the UMC, often observed by having lay persons lead worship services. It is a time to reflect on what it means to be a lay witness and to live out one's faith in community.

The quadrennial (four year) theme for 2025-2028, "Together By Grace!" was set by the Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders. For 2025, the specific theme is "Be Strong in the Spirit" with a focus on Ephesians 3:16. This year, I will be giving the message again, and I'd really like to involve others in the worship service. If you would like to say a prayer, do the call to worship or participate in any other role, please contact me (352-514-7993).

Thanks! And God bless you all!
Margaret Hogue

Ephesians 3:16 NIV

"I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being."



Something New for a healthier you!

Each Tuesday we will have Chair Yoga at 9:30 am.

For more info, please contact Sharon Fielding at (352) 278-0111.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

FALL FESTIVAL

**BOUNCE HOUSE | GAMES | KONA ICE*
CAKE WALK* | TRUNK-OR-TREAT****

OCTOBER 26, 2025 AT 5 - 7 PM

FREE ENTRY*

17405 NW US HWY 441 High Springs

www.fumchighsprings.com

***Select items and activities are available for a fee**

**** Trunk-or-treat will begin at 6:30 PM**



From the Knit Wits

The Knit Wits, our HSFUMC prayer shawl team, will be meeting on **Wednesday, October 15th from 9:30-10:30 a.m.** We knit or crochet during this social time, and bless any new shawls or lap robes that have been completed.

Anyone who would like to join us is always welcome. We have many shawls ready to give, so if you know someone who could use a warm embrace, please contact Jennifer Jones: 607-423-8947

**MEN'S
BREAKFAST
7:00 AM**

TUESDAYS

**AT BEV'S CAFE'
HIGH SPRINGS**

Acolyte Training

October 26th - Following Service

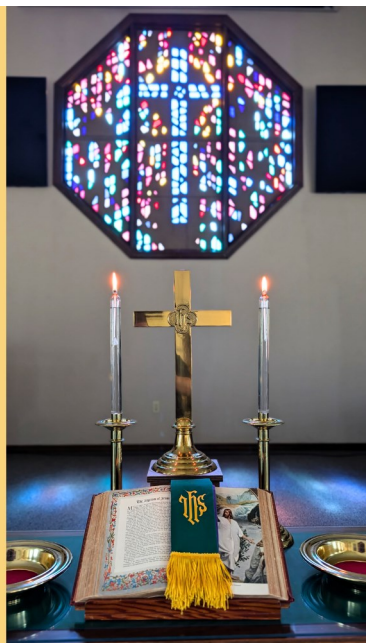
Training is open to all children,
3rd grade and up.

Current acolytes and parent/guardian
attendance is also requested.

Each child who completes the training will
receive a certificate and a pin to wear
during their Sundays of service.



Questions? Email April at hsfumcfamily@gmail.com



BUILDING FUND DONATIONS NEEDED!

GOAL-\$75,000

Current funding needed
for a new roof.

The estimated cost for a
new roof is \$75k.

We currently have
\$28,390 in our fund.
Please help us reach our
goal to get our new roof!



\$28,390



First United Methodist Church of High Springs

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[Facebook.com/HighSpringsFUMC](https://www.facebook.com/HighSpringsFUMC)

Office hours: Monday-Thursday 10am-3pm

Pastor Todd: (443)783-4522 | email: revtoddhurley@gmail.com

Office hours: Mon-Thu 9am-2pm (availability may vary)



We ♥ our
Volunteers

Calling Volunteers
for our worship service

- *Welcome Team Ushers/Greeters
- *Flowers
- *Scripture Reading
- *Monthly Communion

Please sign-up at
Connection Central.

"For we are God's fellow workers;
you are God's field, God's building"
-1 Corinthians 3:9



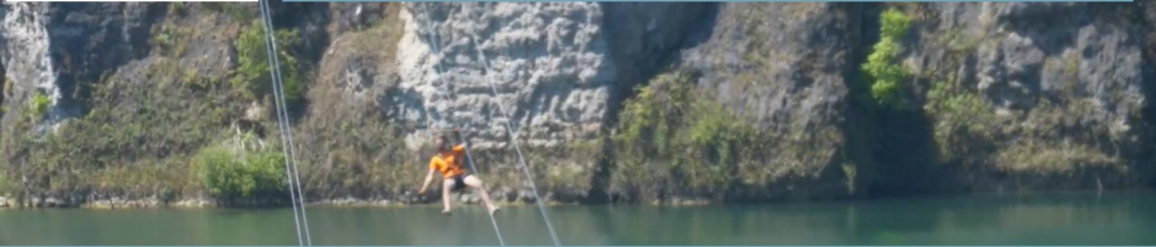
Calling Volunteers for
Family Life's Fall Festival!
Sunday, Oct. 26th 5-7:30 pm

We need Greeters, Booth attendants, Bakers,
Trunk or Treat participants, Set-up and Break-down.
Please sign up at Connection Central.



Fellowship on the Fly!

Sunday, Nov. 2nd 1pm



Come join us for a fun time at Florida's longest zipline! Zip! at Haile Quarry is offering our church members a special discounted rate. Please sign up at Connection Central or scan the QR code. Preregistration, signed waiver, and payment is required for the best rate through the church and to insure the best possible experience! Deadline to sign up is Oct. 28th. More info at: <https://www.ziphailequarry.com>



HSFUMC FOOD PANTRY

Our Food Pantry is open Wednesday by appointment only via email: hsfumcfood@gmail.com

Please check our weekly bulletin and Monday email blast for a list of current needs.

Contact Amity Hoenisch for more information and how you can help!

Friday, Oct. 31st Happy Reformation Day!

Reformation Day is celebrated on October 31 and recognizes the day German monk Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Wittenberg Church in 1517.

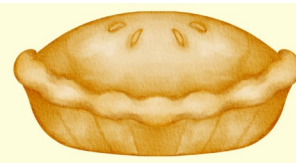


Faith alone, Scripture alone,
Christ alone, Grace alone,
Glory to God alone

Ways you can give:

- *Offering plate during Worship Service
- *Online giving via church website: www.fumchighsprings.com
- *Mail to our address:
17405 NW US Highway 441
High Springs, FL 32643
- *Office Wall Mailbox
- *Through Breeze or
Scan the QR Code here

Thank you!



Residing Hope Fried Chicken Dinner with Pie & Cake Auction

Wednesday, Oct. 15th, 6pm

"It's For the Children"
Proceeds will go to Residing Hope.

Tickets: \$10 / Kids 10 and under \$5
See a Friendship Circle Member or visit the church office for tickets.