



Interim Pastor Rev. Dr. Wayne Wiatt

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## 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  
N.A. 7 pm

### Mondays

"The Way Out"-Women's AA 12 pm  
Kids' Club (K-5) 2:30-6 pm  
**First Mondays**  
New Joy Circle 6:30 pm  
**Second Mondays**  
Friendship Circle 12:30 pm

### Tuesdays

Kids' Club (K-5) 2:30-6 pm  
Men's Breakfast 7 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

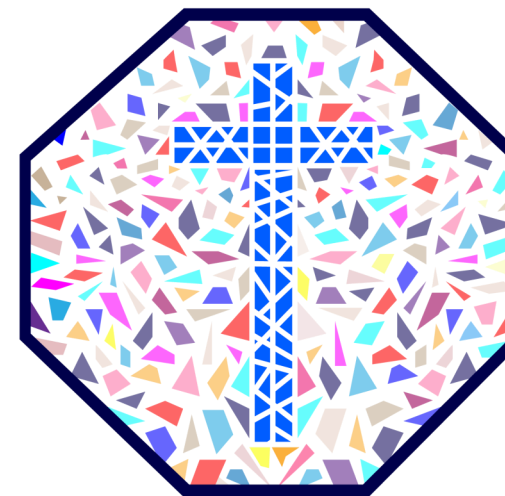
### Fridays

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

March 2026 | Volume 36 | Issue 3



## MARCH EVENTS

**Mon. 2nd**- New Joy Circle 6:30 pm  
**Fri. 6th**- Buncos Game Day 11:30-2 pm  
**Mon. 9th**- Friendship Circle 12:30 pm  
**Tue. 17th**- Board Meeting 6:30 pm  
**Wed. 18th**- Knit Wits 9:30 am (pg. 5)  
St. Patrick's Dinner 6 pm (pg. 5)  
**Thur. 19th**- Family Life 6 pm  
**Sat. 21st**- Church Vitality Team meeting 10am (pg. 9)  
**Tue. 26th**- Newsletter deadline

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

### BIRTHDAYS

Dee Boyles-1<sup>st</sup>  
Niki Brigman-5<sup>th</sup>  
Dana Lynch-7<sup>th</sup>  
Connie Piper-7<sup>th</sup>  
Kylie Deckard-11<sup>th</sup>  
Alice Martin-12<sup>th</sup>  
Kay Thomas-19<sup>th</sup>

Nala Hines-21<sup>st</sup>  
Douglas Johnson-21<sup>st</sup>  
Casey Glant-25<sup>th</sup>  
Chuck Stewart-26<sup>th</sup>  
Tim Gagnier-27<sup>th</sup>  
Aubrey Kerwin-31<sup>st</sup>  
April Woodard-31<sup>st</sup>



### ANNIVERSARIES

Dennis & Margaret Hogue-20<sup>th</sup>

*Happy Anniversary!*



## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF HIGH SPRINGS FINANCIAL SUMMARY AS OF JANUARY 2026

| OPERATING ACCOUNTS       |            |           | OPERATING RECEIPTS            |  | Amt.                         |
|--------------------------|------------|-----------|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| General Fund Checking    |            |           | Budgeted                      |  | \$37,011                     |
|                          | 12/31/2025 | 1/31/2026 | Local Missions                |  |                              |
|                          | 22,633     | 40,777    | Unbudgeted Giving             |  | \$293                        |
| Savings-UM Foundation    |            |           | Misc.                         |  | <u>\$3,006</u>               |
|                          | 12/31/2025 | 1/31/2026 | Total                         |  | <u>\$40,310</u>              |
|                          | 38,138     | 38,522    |                               |  |                              |
| RESERVES                 |            |           | OPERATING DISBURSEMENTS       |  | Amt. % Budget YTD            |
|                          | 12/31/2025 | 1/31/2026 | Worship                       |  | \$1,033 38.26%               |
|                          | 88,294     | 92,144    | Christian Ed and Discipleship |  | \$28 0.50%                   |
|                          |            |           | Missions                      |  | \$293 3.66%                  |
|                          |            |           | Support Systems               |  | \$9,893 4.36%                |
| OTHER INV. (Scholarship) |            |           | Congregational Vitality       |  | \$26 1.53%                   |
|                          | 12/31/2025 | 1/31/2026 | Facilities                    |  | \$8,464 16.84%               |
| Scholarships             |            |           | Apportionments                |  | <u>\$2,045</u> <u>8.34%</u>  |
|                          | 267,138    | 267,872   | Total                         |  | <u>\$21,782</u> <u>6.81%</u> |
| Housing Allowance        |            |           |                               |  |                              |
|                          | 259,724    | 259,234   |                               |  |                              |
| LIABILITIES (Short Term) |            |           |                               |  |                              |
|                          | 12/31/2025 | 1/31/2026 | Net Change in Cash Balances   |  | <u>\$18,528</u>              |
|                          | 0          | 0         |                               |  |                              |

## MARCH WORSHIP SERVICE VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

### 1st

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

Flowers - none

Scripture Reader -Judy Northway

Communion- Margaret Patterson, Susan Walker

### 22nd

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

Flowers- Norma Mitchell

Scripture Reader -Margaret Hogue

### 8th

Usher/Greeter -Nanette Dougherty, Dana Lynch,  
Chester & Margaret Patterson

Flowers - none

Scripture Reader-Margaret Patterson

### 29th

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

Flowers- none

Scripture Reader -Volunteer needed!

### 15th

Usher/Greeter - Nanette Dougherty, Dana Lynch,  
Chester & Margaret Patterson

Flowers-none

Scripture Reader-Dana Lynch

Interested in volunteering?

Please sign-up at

Connection! Central!

Pastor’s Page

“A Holy Lent”

I didn't grow up observing Lent, but as I grew in my faith over the years, it has become one of the most meaningful seasons of the Christian Year for me. I love the Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline in our United Methodist Church:

*The early Christian observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration there should be a forty day season of spiritual preparation. During this season converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins and had separated themselves from the community of faith were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to participation in the life of the Church. In this way the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the need we all have to renew our faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to observe a holy Lent; by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word. (United Methodist Book of Worship, p. 322).*

As a young adult, I began by "giving something up" for Lent - (Candy, Bread, TV); but as I matured, the idea of "taking on something" for Lent appealed to me even more. I would take on a special Lenten Study or join in a local service project to help those in need. One of my favorite acts of service one year was delivering Meals on Wheels to seniors in our community who were homebound and often very lonely.

Whether you choose a discipline of giving up or taking on something during this Lenten Season, may it give you a new perspective on your personal discipleship during these 40 days leading up to Easter, and help you celebrate the power of the Resurrection in your life and in the life of our church and community.

P. S. I will be in the Pastor's Office, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday (10am - Noon) for "Open Office Hours". I would love for you to stop by so that I can get to know you better!

I love being your pastor for this season,

**Rev. Dr. Wayne D. Wiatt**  
**Interim Pastor**

CHURCH VITALITY TEAM  
LEADERS’ MEETING  
SATURDAY, MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup> 9:30 AM

All Church Vitality Team Leaders are encouraged to bring your thoughts and ideas for building up the whole body of Christ.  
We will have these meetings bi-monthly.



Upcoming meeting dates:  
May 9<sup>th</sup>  
July 11<sup>th</sup>  
September 12<sup>th</sup>  
November 14<sup>th</sup>



**Calling  
Volunteers!**

**We need worship service  
volunteers**  
**Please sign up at  
Connection Central!**  
**Thank you & God bless!**



## Lay Leader Message

### “Preparation for Easter”

We entered the Lenten season this year on February 18, Ash Wednesday. For Christians this should be a time of confession, self-denial and prayer, in remembrance of the way that Christ Jesus gave himself up to die for our sins. Some of us make intentional decisions to give something up for Lent: chocolate, sweets, caffeine or other small pleasures. Some people fast regularly as a reminder that Jesus fasted in the desert for forty days.

In her message to us on Sunday, Feb. 22, Rev. Catherine Fluck Price mentioned that one could also take something on for Lent, like volunteering or Bible study. Whether you take something on, or give something up, the important thing is to remember and appreciate what Jesus went through for us. His human suffering was horrific, but through it, we gained salvation, the greatest gift of all.

What are you doing this year to be mindful of Jesus’ self-denial and prepare for the Resurrection celebration? It is almost spring outside. Some trees are shedding leaves like crazy, and sprouting new, light green ones. Flowering trees are starting to show off their new blossoms. This should also be a time of renewal for our spirits, in parallel with the natural world. I like to think I am shedding sins and doubts instead of leaves and getting ready to burst forth in new growth. I’m hoping to trade old, worn-out habits (like judging and pride) for shiny new ones (acceptance and humility).

I encourage you to think about any habitual sin (regardless of size) you want to shed and what you want to sprout in its place. Start small, one sin at a time for best results.



**Acts 3 (ESV):** <sup>19</sup> Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, <sup>20</sup> that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus.

**God bless you all!**  
**Margaret Hogue**

**He is Risen**

**JOIN US FOR AN**  
**Easter**  
**EVENT FOR THE FAMILY**

**CRAFTS - SNACKS - EASTER BUNNY AND AN EGG HUNT!**

**10:30AM | APRIL 4, 2026**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
1740S NW US HWY 441 | HIGH SPRINGS

**funchighsprings.com**

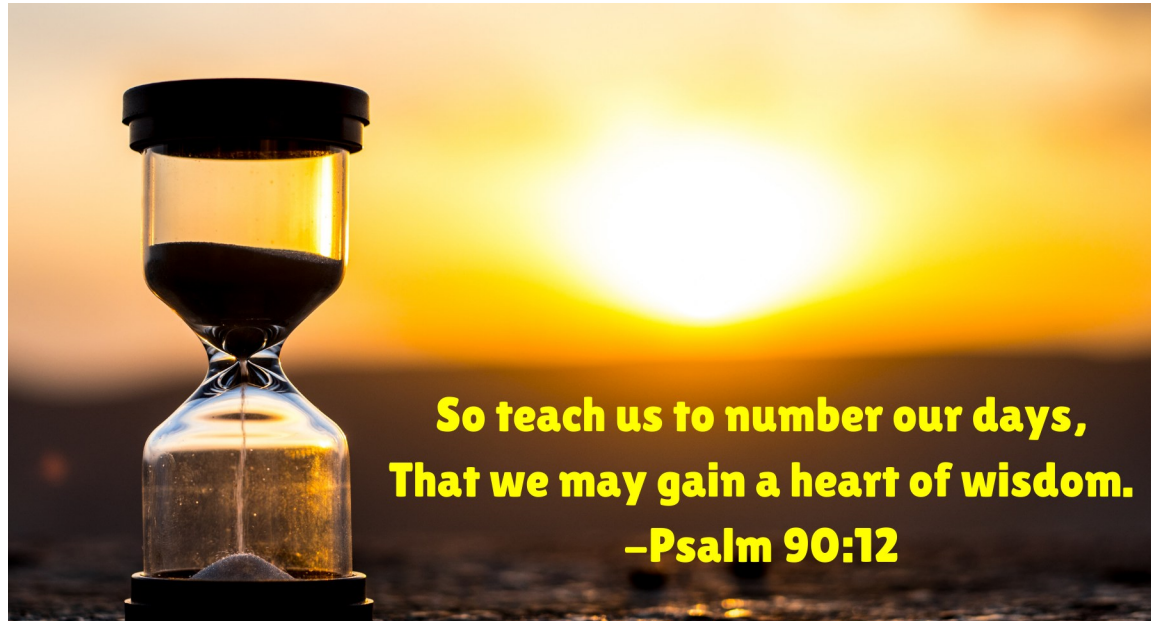
**Easter Candy Donation Request**

**WE ARE IN NEED OF EASTER CANDY (ANY KIND) AND SOME PREPACKAGED SNACKS AND JUICE BOXES FOR OUR ANNUAL EASTER EVENT.**

**PLEASE PUT DONATIONS IN THE MARKED BASKET, LOCATED IN THE MAIN HALL, NEXT TO THE DONATION STATION BY SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

**CRAFTS - SNACKS - EASTER BUNNY AND AN EGG HUNT!**  
**10:30AM | APRIL 4, 2026**



**HSFUMC FOOD PANTRY**  
Pantry needs for the month:  
**March's Food Pantry Donation**  
focus is **Coffee & Tea.**

In addition, all grocery items, reusable grocery bags,  
and monetary donations are always welcome.  
Please leave donations in the bins  
at Donation Station. Thank you!



# Join us for our St. Patrick's Dinner Wednesday, March 18th

Featuring  
New Joy Circle & Don Alexander's  
Famous Corn Beef & Cabbage  
and Dessert!



Happy  
St. Patrick's  
Day



*From the  
Knit Wits*

The Knit Wits, our HSFUMC prayer shawl team, will be meeting on  
**Wednesday, March 18th 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, contact:  
**Jennifer Jones: 607-423-8947 jenbjones76@yahoo.com**

## Ways you can give:

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

Thank you!



# breeze

[hsfumc.breezechms.com](http://hsfumc.breezechms.com)

Are you on **Breeze**?  
We use **Breeze** as our church's management software system to stay in contact with our members. Please contact Ann at the office to be added to our **Breeze** account,  
[hsfumc441@yahoo.com](mailto:hsfumc441@yahoo.com)

Future plans

Ideas

Budget

  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**TUESDAY**  
**March 17th**  
**6:30 pm**