



Pastor Rev. Dr. Wayne Wiatt

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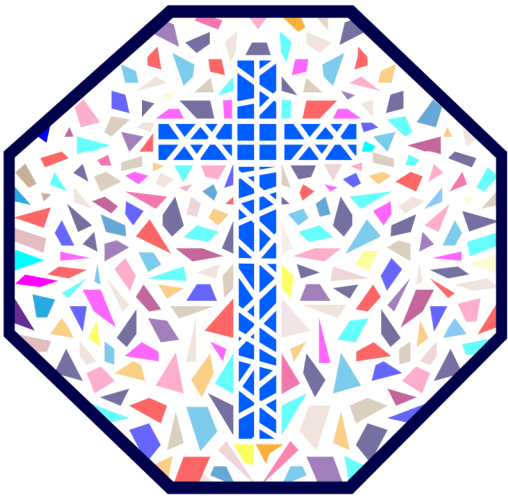
www.fumchighsprings.com



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 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) 2:30-6 pm Prayer Team Meeting 10:30 am Wednesday Night Dinners 6 pm Choir Practice 6:30 pm Third Wednesdays Knit Wits 9:30 am Second & Fourth Wednesdays Girl Scout Troop #2177 5:30 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 Third Saturdays Men's Group 12:00 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

May2026 | Volume 35| Issue 5

MAY EVENTS

Fri. 1st- Buncos Game Day 11:30 am-2:00 pm
Mon. 4th- New Joy Circle 6:30 pm
Wed. 6th- Mother's Day Dinner 6 pm
Thu. 7th- National Day of Prayer, noon (pg. 5)
Sat. 9th- Vitality Team Leader meeting 10 am
Mon. 11th- Friendship Circle 12:30 pm
Sat. 16th- Men's Group meeting 12 pm
Sun. 17th- Church Potluck Picnic 10:30 am (pg. 7)
Tue. 19th- Board Meeting 6:30 pm
Wed. 20th- Knit Wits 9:30 am
Thu. 21st- Family Life Meeting 6 pm
Mon. 25th- Memorial Day-office closed
Wed. 27th- Newsletter deadline

MAY BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

Marlyn Stamey-3rd
Keegan Bultemeier-4th
Jeanne Bingham-6th
David Stover-7th
Patti Gagnier-9th
Louise Krause-9th
Linda Hendricks-12th
John Salg III-13th
Terry Tucker-14th



Diann Alvin-21st
Lee Morrow-22nd
Waylon Hulbert-23rd
Bob Alvin-25th
Nancy Bowland-27th
Mary Reeves-27th
Remmi Hines-29th
Rachael Hines-31st

ANNIVERSARIES

Mitch & Kay Thomas-3rd
Don & Margot Alexander-8th
Jimmy & Leslie Haefner-10th
Bob & Diann Alvin-12th
Chuck Stewart & Carole Fernandez-14th



Jerry & Lynette Carris-18th
Jim & Lisa McClay-21st
Joe & Pat Carr-28th
Kevin & Sylvia Odom-28th
Ted & Judy Northway-29th
Kevin & Christina Smith-30th

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF HIGH SPRINGS FINANCIAL SUMMARY AS OF MARCH 2026

OPERATING ACCOUNTS		OPERATING RECEIPTS		Amt.
General Fund Checking		Budgeted		\$88,630
	12/31/2025	3/31/2026		
	22,633	49,241		
Savings-UM Foundation				
	12/31/2025	3/31/2026		
	38,138	38,522		
RESERVES		OPERATING DISBURSEMENTS		Amt. % Budget YTD
	12/31/2025	3/31/2026		
	88,294	83,748		
OTHER INV. (Scholarship)				
	12/31/2025	3/31/2026		
Scholarships				
	267,138	275,665		
Housing Allowance				
	259,724	263,248		
LIABILITIES (Short Term)				
	12/31/2025	3/31/2026		
	0	0		
		Net Change in Cash Balances		\$27,070

MAY WORSHIP SERVICE VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

3rd

Usher/Greeter -Nanette Dougherty, Noreen Sirera,
Billy Mitchell, Jessica Hontz
Flowers - none
Scripture Reader -Jimmy Haefner
Communion-Sharon Fielding, Leslie Haefner,
Brian Hontz

10th

Usher/Greeter -Nanette Dougherty,
Billy & Norma Mitchell
Flowers - None
Scripture Reader-Margaret Hogue

17th

Usher/Greeter -Nanette Dougherty, Noreen Sirera,
Billy Mitchell
Flowers - None
Scripture Reader-Margaret Patterson

24th

Usher/Greeter - Nanette Dougherty, Noreen Sirera,
Billy Mitchell, Jessica Hontz
Flowers- Carolyn Black, Rhonda Rogers
Scripture Reader-Sharon Fielding

31st

Usher/Greeter -Nanette Dougherty, Noreen Sirera
Flowers- none
Scripture Reader -Dana Lynch

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

“Peace & Love”

Easter came in quietly this morning. Very few birds were singing, and only my silly dog was making any sounds that others could hear. To her, today was just another day; to me? a day of miracles. I imagine, two millennia ago, the morning broke about the same way. I was given 6 baby opossums on Good Friday. Along with those little babies, I was taking care of 5 cats, 2 dogs, a baby bunny, 2 adolescent squirrels, and 2 unreleasable squirrels. Add that to two beautiful grandchildren (for the day), to run around Gainesville with me, playing and having fun; just spending Easter Saturday together. With families busier than me I try to fit in the holidays that work for everyone. When Papa is out of town, the holidays are spent more in tune with today's busy lives. Clint Eastwood once stated, "improvise, overcome and adapt". (This has been my motto for many years and has served me well.)

I do not expect our children to accommodate Papa and I. I cannot imagine the difficulty of raising children in today's world. With new technology exploding exponentially every day, how is one expected to keep up? These new parents are handling all of this and they have found a way to relax and still keep their children safe, online and off. So consequently, Papa and I have to adjust the way we look at holidays. Jesus's birth (Christmas) altered the world...Jesus's death and resurrection, Easter, altered each life. With both of these Holidays that we celebrate, there is love. Love conquers all, including schedules, absences, and busy lives. When one looks at Jesus's life like this, spreading love as well as spreading his word, it puts the holidays into a different perspective. Why do our children have to accommodate us? Why can we not accommodate them? As long as we are able, we will go where they are. We will give them our love and the love of God when we visit. We will embrace them and their children with the love that Jesus gave us and celebrate with hugs and kisses and contemplation. We will learn about our children's jobs and busy schedules while we also learn our grandchildren's struggles with school and their daily activities...all while we visit and relax.

Jesus did not have us all come to hear him speak, He came to us to give us his Word. So, come to church if you can make time to do this...stay home and rest if you need to. Be still and know that God is there for you...in church as well as in your busy life. he doesn't need a holiday to embrace you; he only needs you to embrace him in whatever you are doing. Seek and you shall find his peace; in a quiet backyard swing, listening to your dog bark, or while feeding baby opossums. Whatever your day brings, Celebrate Easter in your heart. Be in the moment and remember that God is with you always...even unto the ends of your busy week. God Bless you and keep you May his face shine upon you May you know his peace and his love May parents come to see you so you can rest Remember the love your parents and Grandparents give is a tiny speck of what God has for you.

Happy Easter! Selah

Carol Daugherty

The Pastor's Page- “A Mother's Day Reflection”

When growing up in north Florida, not only did I have a wonderful birth mother, I also had about 3 extra mothers who nurtured me and cared for me during my childhood and adolescence. They were without a doubt, an extension of my own family and gifted mother.

Miss Rena Cochran lived in Cherry Lake and was unable to have children of her own but “adopted” several children in the community that she loved with abandonment and unconditionally. I have wonderful memories of picking blackberries and catching fire-flies with Miss Rena until dusk sent me home at the end of an adventure-filled day. She was filled with joy and love that overflowed into me and several other children in need of a little extra attention and care from time to time.

I also am thankful for Miss Mamie Cotton and miss Bel, my godmothers who consistently showered me with gifts and attention on birthdays as well as making a special effort to be front and center on my wedding day! Regular cards of congratulations and support flooded my mailbox on a monthly basis, often addressed with fancy real ink with calligraphy!

Mother's Day always calls me to remember these wonderful women of faith who loved me as their own and became an extension of what Erma Bombeck writes below. This Mother's Day, may we all take a moment to give thanks to God for these wonderful mothers who have touched and shaped our lives...

Thank you, Erma Bombeck, for your genius in helping us pay tribute to the wonderful gift of motherhood.

When God Created Mothers-by Erma Bombeck

When the Good Lord was creating mothers, He was into his sixth day of “overtime” when an angel appeared and said, “You’re doing a lot of fiddling around on this one.” And the Lord said, “Have you read the specs on this order?

She has to be completely washable, but not plastic;

*Have 180 movable parts... all replaceable;

*Run on black coffee and leftovers;

*Have a lap that disappears when she stands up;

*A kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love affair;

*And six pairs of hands.”

(continued pg. 4)

“More Than a Meal”

By Amity Hoenisch

Thank you church family! Through your generosity, we continue to open our community food pantry twice a month, serving on average between 20 and 30 unique family units each month. 100% of the food and groceries we are able to give out comes from this amazing church family. We certainly help put food on the table for many in need, but what happens at the pantry is so much more than a meal. Families that visit our pantry are struggling with loss of loved ones, serious medical diagnoses, job loss, and loneliness. Our church family offers light in their darkness.

Due to feedback from the church, around the beginning of the year, we switched to a suggested monthly donation item, however that hasn't quite worked as well as we had hoped. To be candid, donations have been down and the needs of our community have increased. Thus, the mission team has decided to switch back to regularly announcing the most needed items. We will post the list in the weekly bulletin and the list will remain the same for 4 weeks.

Please note, the list we post is just for suggested items based on the demand in the pantry. **ALL** unexpired grocery donations are welcome. In addition, monetary donations can always be made by directing your donation specifically to the food pantry, as are reusable grocery bags. (Unfortunately, we do not have space in the pantry for the large bundles of plastic grocery bags.) A great way to help is to pay attention to buy one get one/ 'BOGO' sales at our local grocery stores. You may not need 2 bottles of ketchup but we can always use your extras!

We are coming up on a critical time for families in our community living with food insecurity. Children that currently eat breakfast and/or lunch at school each day will soon be home for the summer, thus drastically increasing the need for food in the home. Please keep the pantry in mind as you shop. The families visiting our pantry are beyond grateful for your donations.

In addition, if you are looking for a truly rewarding way to get involved in our church family, please consider signing up to volunteer with the pantry. We always need people willing to label and put donations away as well help biweekly on Wednesdays welcoming guests to the pantry. If you feel called to be the hands and feet of Christ by serving in our food pantry, please reach out to me personally at church or email HSFUMCfood@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued generosity—and may God bless you for helping make this ministry so *much more than a meal*.



Meet our new Pastor!

Pastor John Kelsoe

beginning July 1st.

Hello everyone, It is a true joy to be appointed at First United Methodist Church of High Springs Florida. My family and I are excited about joining an exciting community that is passionate about making disciples of Jesus Christ. My wife Stephanie and I have been married for 3 years and we have two beautiful daughters. Victoria is 11 years old, she is an avid reader and plays volleyball. Ana Grace is 9 years old, she loves art and is a fantastic baton twirler.

Sports are a big deal in the Kelsoe household. We enjoy watching New England Patriots football and Atlanta Braves baseball. During the summer season, Stephanie and the girls love going to the beach. Along with our daughters, we also have a Goldendoodle named Moe and a new English Springer Spaniel named Pollie.

I look forward to getting to know everyone and working alongside a great ministry team. Again, we are so excited to be coming to First United Methodist Church of High Springs! May your hearts be filled with a spirit of excitement in these coming weeks!

God bless,
Pastor John Kelsoe



*From the
Knit Wits*

Our HSFUMC prayer shawl team next meeting is
Wednesday, May 20th 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

MEN'S GROUP

BIBLE BASED

FELLOWSHIP

HSFUMC's Men's Group will be meeting the
3rd Saturday of each month
at noon in the Fellowship Hall.

Next meeting May 16th.
Interested in finding out more?
Please contact Jimmy Haefner:

352-316-6171

05.17.26 | 10:30 am - 3:00 pm
CHURCH POTLUCK PICNIC

Join us at Poe Springs for our annual church picnic!
Bring your favorite covered dish, a camp chair, and don't forget your swimsuit and towel.



Poe Springs Park Clubhouse | 5.17.26 | \$6/vehicle entry fee



**In remembrance and honor
of those who gave all, the
Church office will be closed.
Memorial Day,
Monday 25th**

**MEN'S
BREAKFAST
7:00
AM
TUESDAYS**
AT BEV'S CAFE'
HIGH SPRINGS

(Pastor's Page continued from pg. 2)

The angel shook her head slowly and said, "Six pairs of hands... no way."
"It's not the hands that are causing me problems," said the Lord. "It's the three pairs of eyes that mothers have to have."

"That's on the standard model?" asked the angel.

The Lord nodded. "One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks, 'What are you kids doing in there?' when she already knows. Another here in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't but what she has to know, and of course the ones here in front that can look at a child when he goofs up and say, 'I understand and I love you' without so much as uttering a word."

"Lord," said the angel, touching His sleeve gently, "Go to bed. Tomorrow..."

"I can't," said the Lord, "I'm so close to creating something so close to myself. Already I have one who heals herself when she is sick... can feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger... and can get a nine-year-old to stand under a shower."

The angel circled the model of a mother very slowly. "It's too soft," she sighed.

"But she's tough!" said the Lord excitedly. "You cannot imagine what this mother can do or endure."

"Can it think?"

"Not only can it think, but it can reason and compromise," said the Creator.

Finally, the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek. "There's a leak," she pronounced. "I told You! You were trying to push too much into this model."

"It's not a leak," said the Lord. "It's a tear."

"What's it for?"

"It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness, and pride."

"You are a genius," said the angel.

The Lord looked somber. "I didn't put it there," He said.

God bless! Rev. Doc. Wayne Wiatt

*The Hospitality Team's
Mother's Day Ham Dinner, May 6th, 6 pm*

Thankful for all the women of the church, for all you do!

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| • Choir members | • Volunteers | • Encouragers & confidants |
| • Teachers/mentors for our children | • Visitation | • Prayer Garden keepers |
| • Ushers | • Prayers | • Food Pantry |
| • Cooks & Bakers | • Card ministry | • Cleaning |
| • Scripture readers | • Meal sharing | • Knitting/crocheting |
| • Money counters | • Lay Leader | • Decorations |
| • Team/group leaders & members | • Office Coordinator | • Choir director |
| • Musicians | • Bus drivers | |

**NATIONAL DAY
OF PRAYER -
THURSDAY,
MAY 7, 2026**

Please join us for
a time of prayer on
National Day of Prayer
at **12 noon on Thursday,**
May 7, 2026.

See you in the sanctuary.



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.com
- *Scan the QR Code here



*Thank
you!*

**LANDRUM CHEW
SCHOLARSHIP**

Annual Scholarship applications are open now!
Deadline is 4 pm Thursday, June 18, 2026.

Info and form are available online
[https://hsfumc.breezechms.com/form/
scholarship2376](https://hsfumc.breezechms.com/form/scholarship2376)

or Scan the
QR Code here



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We use **Breeze** for 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,
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