



OFFERINGS & REFLECTIONS

WE'RE COMMANDED TO MAKE DISCIPLES



Dear Church Family,

Since 2019, I have answered more questions about *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* than any other time in my 33 years in ministry. These questions have challenged me to examine my calling as a United Methodist pastor and what I value as a servant leader.

I have been a United Methodist all my life. I have witnessed the good and the bad times of the denomination and personally in some the churches I have served. Through it all I have concluded that I am a Christian, who chooses to practice his faith in a United Methodist way. My choice is based upon the "Doctrinal Standards, General Rules and Theological Task" as set forth in our Book of Discipline. I believe our mission is that as Christ commands in Matthew 28:18-20, "To Make disciples of all nations."

I believe in the process for carrying our Our Mission as stated in Paragraph 122 (BOD 2016) and all that follows through paragraph 140.

The Preamble of our faith found under Social Principles states:

"We, the people called United Methodists, affirm our faith in God our Creator and Father, in Jesus Christ our Savior, and in the Holy Spirit, our Guide and Guard. We acknowledge our complete dependence upon God in birth, in life, in death, and in life eternal. Secure in God's love, we affirm the goodness of life and confess our many sins against God's will for us as we find it in Jesus Christ. We have not always been faithful stewards of all that has been committed to us by God the Creator. We have been reluctant followers of Jesus Christ in his mission to bring all persons into a community of love. Though called by the Holy Spirit to become new creatures in Christ, we have resisted the further call to become the people of God in our dealings with each other and the earth on which we live.

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WORSHIP COMMITTEE

As our Lenten series *Adam Hamilton's Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcast and Outlaws* comes to a close, we hope you have found it enlightening. Let us always remember that Jesus came to lift the lowly and how He brought the good news of God's kingdom to those who most need to hear it. As we study Luke and see Jesus' concern for those who were considered unimportant, we hear a hopeful and inspiring word for our lives today.



"How is it with your soul?". Especially during Holy Week, we encourage you to spend time in God's word, in prayer, in worship, and in fellowship with other believers. There are many upcoming opportunities to nurture your soul with worship and celebration.

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Holy Week

Palm Sunday - April 2nd, 9:00am & 11:00am

Maundy Thursday - April 6th, 6:30pm
 (communion in observance of the Last Supper)

Good Friday - April 7th, 6:30pm

Easter Morning - April 9th

Sunrise Worship 7:00am (breakfast following)

Easter Celebration 11:00am



Worshipping in Love



Growing in Love



Serving in Love

OFFERINGS & REFLECTIONS

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We affirm our unity in Jesus Christ while acknowledging differences in applying our faith in different cultural contexts as we live out the gospel. We stand united in declaring our faith that God's grace is available to all, that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Grateful for God's forgiving love, in which we live and by which we are judged, and affirming our belief in the inestimable worth of each individual, we renew our commitment to become faithful witnesses to the gospel, not alone to the ends of earth, but also to the depths of our common life and work."

I understand that we are not perfect in living a disciplined life, but through the grace offered to us in Jesus Christ we are heading toward perfection as we make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

See you in the pews. Meet you at the altar.



STAFF PARISH RELATIONS TEAM (SPRT)

The SPRT is pleased to announce that we have filled the pending vacancy of Financial Associate, and we look forward to introducing her to you in May! In the meantime, please do take a moment to wish Colleen Demmy well! She'll be in the office most Tuesday mornings in April. We will miss her, but are equally as excited for the next chapter of her professional career!

SPRT continues to search for a very part-time Nurse worker. This person is needed every other Sunday and Wednesday evening. Please share this need with those who you know, your social media, etc. Thank you!



Worshiping in Love

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

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Palm Sunday, April 2nd (9:00am & 11:00am) – Celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem with a celebration music and waving of palms. Special music by the Jubilate Ringers. Worshippers of all ages, as they are able, are invited to process into the sanctuary during the prelude and wave their palms in joyous celebration.

Maundy Thursday, April 6th (6:30pm) - Commemorate the last supper of Jesus with communion and reflection. We will join together at 6:30pm in the sanctuary to remember Luke 22: 19-20 Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' 20 And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.

Good Friday, April 7th (6:30pm) - Experience the Passion with your senses. On this day of mourning, we reflect on the Crucifixion of Jesus. Begin in the Fellowship Hall where you are asked to read select scripture verses and then create an image from clay about what you read. These will be used in future worship. Then please go into the sanctuary for a time of reflection, meditation, and music.

Easter Sunday, April 8th we return to celebrate Jesus' resurrection! It is truly a day of celebration!

7:00am - Sunrise service begins at the three crosses in our cemetery. We'll transition to the cross at the front of the church inviting all who pass to be moved by the Holy Spirit. Fellowship with others over a light breakfast in the Fellowship Hall

11:00am – Celebration Service features a special guest brass ensemble along with the Chancel choir and the Core as we join our voices to Proclaim "Christ the Lord Has Risen Today!"

We are blessed with many brothers and sisters who share their gifts with PUMC. We invite you to utilize the Easter Celebration decorations to take family photos and share the good news with friends and family.

He is Risen – He Has Risen Indeed!



SMALL GROUPS

Senior Friends

We enjoyed a meal of traditional Irish food at our St. Paddy's Day party. Over 110 seniors and guest enjoyed the food, fellowship, and a program by the Carolina Copy Cats. Our very own Bill Ryder was able to sing his Johnny Cash song, a great surprise for all of us. Thanks to all who helped set up, decorate, and help Linda cook the meat. Thanks to all who helped with the cleanup too! There will not be a meeting in April but we plan to have a picnic at the home of Caroline Helms in May. See you then.



Single Ladies Lunch Bunch - Saturday, April 15th, 11:30am

Are you a single lady (of any age)? Do you like to eat lunch? We'll love to have you! We're meeting at Town Tavern (2000 Hwy. 160, Fort Mill) to enjoy each other's company. Contact Donna Schaefer at nordon50@aol.com or 704-604-2210.

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MUSIC AND WORSHIP ARTS

On Easter, to signify and honor Christ's resurrection, it is common for us to sing 'Christ the Lord is Risen Today', and you'll hear this great hymn on Easter morning both at services, but with different accompaniment and arrangement. Did you know this great hymn was written by Charles Wesley, the brother of our Methodist founder, John? As John was a great writer of sermons, Charles was a great composer of hymns. Charles has over 50 of his hymns in our United Methodist hymnal. Some of the other greats are 'And Can it Be', 'O For a Thousand Tongues', and 'Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus'. Another great hymn for Easter by Charles Wesley is 'Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise'. This hymn is strong and memorable as well, although we may not sing it quite as much. Here are a few lyrics from this great hymn of the faith:

"Hail the day that sees Him rise, Alleluia!
To His throne above the skies, Alleluia!
See! He lifts His hands above, Alleluia!
See! He shows the prints of love, Alleluia!
Hark! His Gracious lips bestow, Alleluia!
Blessings on His church below, Alleluia!"

We will be singing 'Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise' this Easter Sunday at 11am. We will also have guest brass musicians accompanying, along with Denise Harding and the choir. I hope this Wesleyan hymn, as well as 'Christ the Lord is Risen Today' is a blessing to you as you ponder Jesus' resurrection this Easter.

Our musical ministries are always open to new members! Feel free to email, call, or text either Mark Gannon or myself (dhodges@pumcfortmill.org or gantheman2014@gmail.com). In Christ, David Hodges



Worshipping In Love: Thank you to all of our children's music leaders! It is a blessing to hear these beautiful voices and hand chimes praising our Lord as a part of our worship.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Growing In Love: A great thanks to everyone who came to Easter Game Night. We had a great turn-out and much fun. Families and friends enjoyed the individual and group games, the crafts, the snacks, the egg hunt, and the Easter Story. We hope to see you at the next game night.



Stellar VBS - June 19th-22nd from 9:30-11:45am

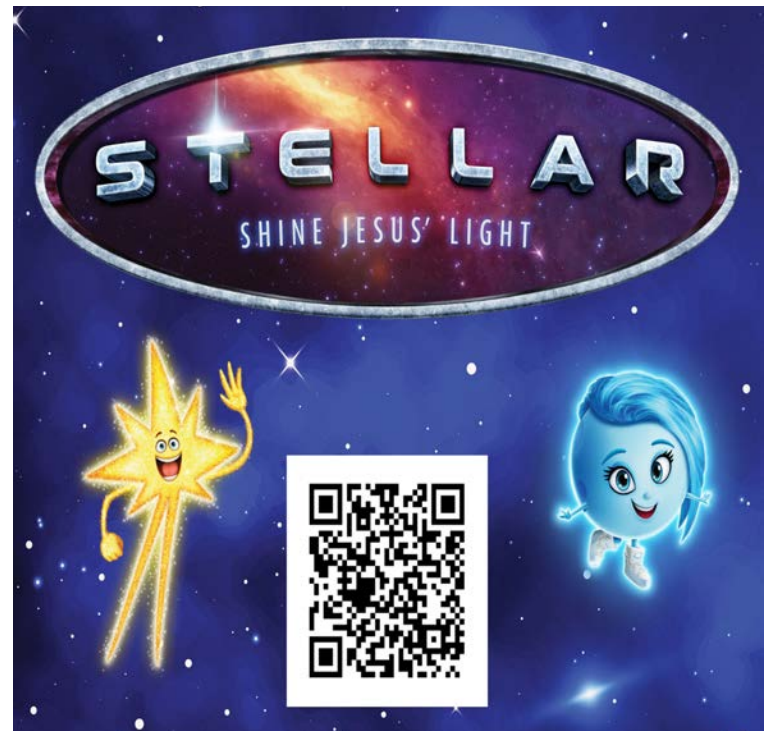
Launch kids on a cosmic quest where they'll have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world. Stellar rockets kids on an out-of-this-world adventure that's light years of faith-building fun. Registration for Vacation Bible School is now open. Follow the QR code to participate or volunteer.

Amplify Media

Philadelphia Church partners with Amplify Media to bring you free Christian video content for the entire family. Thousands of Bible studies, sermons, documentaries, and TV shows are available. To register for your free account, simply go to <https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify> and use the Congregation Access Code: **ZKXCTF**. You can also scan the QR Code.



CONGREGATION ACCESS
CODE - **ZKXCTF**



NURTURE COMMITTEE

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Thank You

My Dear Church Family,

A couple days before Mom went into the hospital, I had given her a stack of cards that were in the mailbox. They were all from members of the church letting her know they were praying for her. Mom was very weak at that point, but she slowly opened each card... and read. Then she began to cry. I said what's wrong Mom? She said, "How can I ever send thank you notes to everyone? I can't even write anymore!" My heart broke for her, but I assured her first that no one was expecting a thank you card, they just want to let her know she is loved. Then, I promised her I would put a note of gratitude in the bulletin or newsletter, letting everyone know how much she appreciated the precious words of love, prayers and encouragement. I had no idea then that she wouldn't be here to approve what I am writing now.

Mom loved her church family! She loved serving where and when

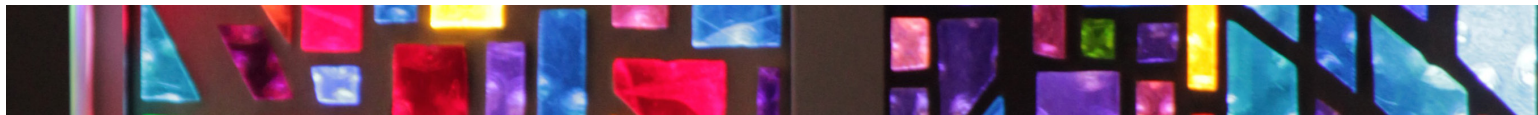
she could, and of course she loved hugging EVERYONE!! My heart is heavy. Yet I am filled with joy knowing Mom is pain free and HOME with our Lord and Savior! Hallelujah!!

Many thanks to all who visited her in rehab and the hospital, those who were able to celebrate her life with us, and who reached out with beautiful memories, prayers, and condolences. To Vickie Goddard for helping me with Mom the last couple weeks of her life. You are such a blessing. I also want to thank Linda Honeycutt for handling all the details of Mom's service! What a special gift you have!

To the CORE band, WOW! You nailed it!!! To Pastor David for sharing such beautiful words of Grace! To Greg for handling all the audio/video for us.

Mom would have been so proud!! and I am grateful, and humbled...
The Lord bless and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Numbers 6: 24-26 (NRSV) Amen

Your Sister In Christ,
Kelley Candee



UNITED METHODIST MEN

Men in the Mirror

MEN IN THE MIRROR

A time of spiritual renewal for men

Men in the Mirror - Saturday, April 15th, 7:30am.

Topic: What Will You Leave at the Cross? Join us for discussion and fellowship. Men and teens welcome. Ben Himes is facilitating, Fellowship Hall, biscuits and coffee provided.

Fellowship Dinner - Tuesday, April 18th, 6:00pm

Join us for a casual evening of fellowship over a delicious dinner. After dinner, we will discuss our plans for the Strawberry Festival.

Strawberry Festival - Saturday, May 6th

We'll serve our famous Pork Chop Sandwiches and other delicious foods. The festival is only one day only this year, so please consider being a part of this fundraiser and outreach. It is a major source of revenue for our Giving Program that helps to support our yearly retreat as well as missions both inside and outside of PUMC.



Gun Safety - Friday June 9th, 6:00 - 8:00pm

Marshall Burns, Firearms Instructor for South Carolina Highway Patrol will lead our instruction. This is the time to buy your ammunition - don't wait until the last minute.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Bethel Men's Shelter Overflow

From February 26th to March 12th you may have noticed that the fellowship hall was set up with 25 cots. Or you may have wondered why you spotted a trailer in the parking lot. This was because Philadelphia UMC rose to a call and participated as an overflow shelter to assist Bethel Men's Shelter.

This shelter is part of Bethel UMC in Rock Hill which serves as a men's shelter 365 days of the year. Typically, beds are provided to 30 men. During the winter months this number jumps to 75 men in need. Bethel is not equipped to house this many men so they have developed an overflow shelter where they work with local area churches to provide space so no man is turned away.

Bethel provided all the cots, bedding, and an overnight security officer as a host. Eight different volunteer drivers from Philadelphia drove a BUMC bus each evening and early morning to transport the men back and forth between Rock Hill and Fort Mill so that many could get to their places of employment. The organization and flexibility of Bethel Men's Shelter made this mission an easy partnership. The men set up and broke down their cots each day that Philadelphia needed to use the fellowship hall and maintained a neat and tidy atmosphere. Trustees Chair Gary Brocius, went above and beyond to greet the men every day to assure that the building was satisfactory and the men were comfortable.

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MISSIONS COMMITTEE

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Serving in Love

Jeremy Inman had the privilege of being a volunteer driver. He said everything went smoothly each night he drove. He was touched by the sense of community he saw between the men. One man that used a walker never needed to request assistance. His fellow neighbors were right there to carry his bags, help him down the bus stairs, and get his cot. They were always willing to lend a hand wherever needed.

Overall, the Bethel Men's Overflow Shelter was a successful ministry. PUMC was able to continue to support our homeless community. Philadelphia is blessed with many volunteers always open to serve. The Overflow Shelter was appreciative of Philadelphia's efforts and has already requested that we serve alongside them again next season. The missions committee plans on continuing to be the hands and feet of Jesus and answering the call. Look for upcoming opportunities in the weekly bulletin in the future. There is information in the Coffee Connections Room for ongoing donations of items for the shelter. Sign up to be informed of our next chance to serve at the shelter in person.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

In April, our Financial Associate, Colleen Demmy, is leaving for other career opportunities. We'd like to thank her for the excellent financial support she's provided during her time in the role. SPRT has worked quickly to source applicants, complete interviews and extend an offer. We're excited to announce that Mayra Leon has already joined our staff and will shadow/train with Colleen for a few weeks. Please welcome her to PUMC as you have the opportunity. Thanks to Molli Moon and the SPRT for moving so quickly to fill this critical position.

In financial housekeeping news, PUMC's annual audit was completed in March and no material issues were found. Thanks to Larry McDonald and Mark Clark for performing the audit.

Finally, the Finance Committee is focusing on how we can highlight the importance of increasing giving in the church and at the same time how we can provide financial education to the church and the community. Some of the things that are being planned are 1) a Dave Ramsey Financial Peace course, 2) a Finance/Accounting professional to come to the church to provide information about legacy giving and other personal finance topics, 3) educating and simplifying automated giving to the church. More details and timing should be announced next month. In the meantime, if you have any questions about giving, please email colleen@pumcfortmill.org. Thank you for your continued financial support of our missions and ministries.

Bethel Men's Shelter Dinner

"We need more meatloaf, more green beans, more potatoes!!" Those were continuous calls from the servers to the kitchen helpers! What a great evening March 28th was at Bethel Men's Night Shelter! The men asked for and received meatloaf (beef, venison, and turkey) accompanied by green beans, mashed potatoes, tomatoes, muffins, and banana pudding. Some men tried all three types of meatloaf! They loved the meal and kept praising our wonderful cooks! Numbers were down more than expected - we served about 50 men plus staff - so the leftovers were be frozen and will be used to supplement a meal on a night for which they have no sponsor. Breakfast bags were filled with donations from the congregation and were passed out on the morning of March 29th. We also provided a "grab box" (individual packs of cereal, raisins, crackers, trail mix, etc.) that men could select an item from - they really liked being able to select what they wanted!



A special thank you to the United Methodist Men for providing the funds for the turkey and beef and to Karla and Blair Preston for providing the venison! Also, thanks to those who cooked, donated food items, and served at the shelter as well as those who provided clothing, towels, tennis shoes, and personal items which we delivered to the donation center.

Our next opportunity to serve will be in the May timeframe. God is good for moving so many of the congregation to support this ministry!



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWF)

Winthrop Wesley

The Wesley Foundation at Winthrop University has long proclaimed "Welcome!" to students - but its front door, directly across the street from campus, has said "Welcome if you can use steps." One of our core values is including people often excluded, and after meeting students on campus using wheelchairs, Director Rev. Charlie Farnum realized we needed a ramp for our front entry.



United Women in Faith

We have covered 75% of the cost for the ramp via grants, but still have a remaining balance over \$4,000. Donations from local churches are requested to help us cover the balance. Gifts may be sent to: Winthrop Wesley, 406 Stewart Ave, Rock Hill, SC 29730. Please designate "New Ramp" in the memo line. Thank you for your support of our student ministry. For more information, contact charlie@winwes.org

Ladies Summer Soirée Thursday, May 18th, 5:30pm

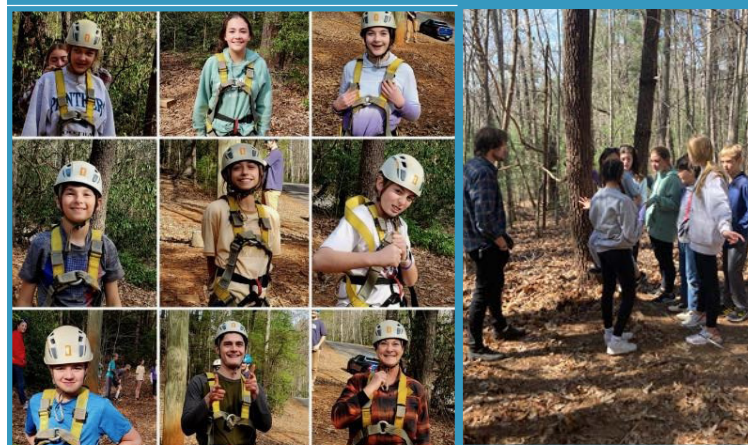
Women, girls, friends, neighbors, and relatives are invited for dinner, a craft, some fun and an ice cream social. Cost is a mere \$5. Reservations will be required for food preparation. More information to come after Easter.

PHILLY YOUTH GROUP (PYG)

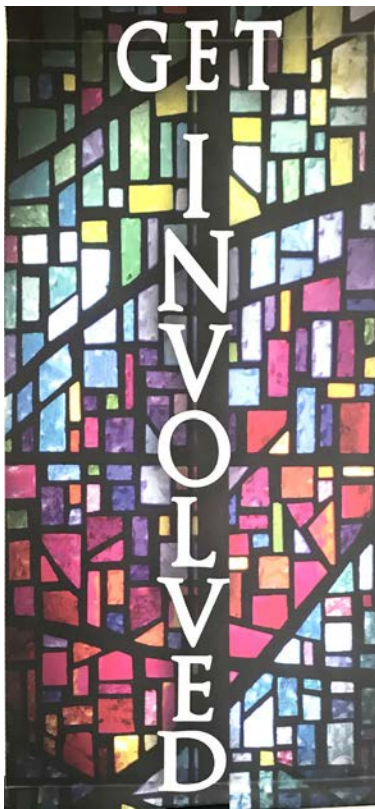
Greetings Church! The main event this month for the Philadelphia Youth Group was us going to the Youth Retreat to Asbury Hills. Asbury Hills is a place for adventure, relaxation, and spiritual growth. The retreat activities were both fun and thought-provoking. We had time for team building, a giant swing, and other fun activities. We also had plenty of opportunities for reflection through group discussions and worship sessions. The peaceful surroundings of Asbury Hills added to the serene atmosphere that allowed us to connect with ourselves on a deeper level.

What stood out the most about our experience at Asbury Hills was how much we learned about the Holy Spirit and how God is always with us through God's Spirit. The retreat gave us a chance to reflect on our lives and our relationship with God. Overall, it was a great experience, thank you church family for supporting us in making these events possible. Looking forward to the next opportunity.

Put May 21st on your calendar and plan to join us for a very special service at 11am. The youth will lead our worship time, our confirmands will join the church, and we will recognize our graduates. If you are the parent of a graduate, please contact Holly Johnson bowersholly18@gmail.com so we can get their information.



APRIL - MONTH AT A GLANCE



Date	Event	Time
Sun, April 2	Children's Clang Buckets	11:00am
Sun, April 2	Palm Sunday	9:00am & 11:00am
Thur, April 6	Maundy Thursday	6:30pm
Fri, April 7	Good Friday	6:30pm
Sun, April 9	Easter Sunrise	7:00am
Sun, April 9	Easter Celebration Service	11:00am
Mon, April 10	Church office closed for Easter	
Sat, April 15	Men In the Mirror	7:30am
Sat, April 15	Single Ladies Lunch (Town Taver FM)	11:30am
Tue, April 18	Men's Dinner	6:00pm
Every Wednesday	Joyful Noize	4:30 - 5:15pm
Every Wednesday	Youth Handchimes	5:15 - 6:00pm
Every Wednesday	CORE - praise band	5:30pm
Every Wednesday	Handbells	6:00pm
Every Wednesday	Chancel Choir	7:15pm

A BEAD AND A PRAYER

Join us to make your own set of prayer beads to keep or give away.

Tuesdays, March 21st or 28th
6:30-7:30pm

or

Tuesday, April 4th
10:30-11:30am

Facilitated by Toni Taylor

5734 Morris Hunt Dr. Fort Mill, SC 29708

Please email, tonirtaylor@gmail.com to register for the date you want to take the class. Classes are limited to 8 people. All materials provided.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCIAL REPORT

\$14,110 is needed each week to meet our annual budget of \$733,741

As of 3/26/23, \$150,267 has been received and \$149,133 has been spent in the General Budget and Building Funds.

\$37,640 cash available to support ministries and missions.

\$909,108 Loan balance for Building and Parsonage.

WAYS TO GIVE TO PUMC

Online Giving:

Visit pumcfortmill.org to set up and manage your one-time and recurring gifts.

GivePlus Text:

Text 844-281-2004, with the amount you want to donate, to make one-time or recurring contributions.

Mobile App Giving:

Search your app store for "GivePlus Church" and download the GivePlus app to make one-time or recurring contributions.

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Staff

Senior Pastor - Rev. David Taylor
Director of Music Ministries - David Hodges
Contemporary Worship Leader - Mark Gannon
Director of Children & Family Ministries - Nic Gold
Director of Youth Ministries - Jonathan Johnson
Office Manager - Denise Watson
Financial Associate - Colleen Demmy
Media/Audio Visual Specialist - Greg Millett