



## OFFERINGS & REFLECTIONS

### A NEW CHAPTER: REFLECTING ON OUR JOURNEY TOGETHER



Dear Friends,

As we turn the page to a new chapter in our church's story, let us draw inspiration from Joshua 1:1-9. Just as Joshua was called to lead after Moses, we too are called to move forward with strength and courage. "My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses."

#### God's Timeless Directive

The Lord's words to Joshua resonate with us today: "Be strong and courageous. Be very strong and courageous. Be careful. Be strong and courageous and do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." These divine instructions guide us as we reflect on our shared journey and look to the future.

**Celebrating Our Growth** - Over the years, we have worked together in love with Christ and one another:

- Raised up new leadership
- Welcomed new families
- Improved our financial stewardship
- Increased attendance post-COVID, with giving up for the first time in ten years

**Our Community** - We've embraced new ways to connect and serve:

- Online worship experiences
- Small group studies
- Community presence initiatives
- Monthly men's fellowship gatherings

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## HOMECOMING 2024

We welcomed Pastor Becky Shirley, her daughter Michelle and grandson Joey on Homecoming Sunday. She shared a touching message around our vision statement to worship, grow, and serve in love. The over 200 in attendance looked through the countless photo displays to see themselves or family members and relive special memories. We were proud to honor our senior members with flowers and special seating. We recognized our oldest member,



*continued on page 3*



Worshipping in Love



Growing in Love



Serving in Love

# OFFERINGS & REFLECTIONS

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**Living Our Faith** - Our congregation has embodied Christ's love through:

- Welcoming the homeless
- Building beds for those in need
- Serving meals to the hungry
- Supporting local and global missions

Toni and I are profoundly grateful for the privilege of serving alongside you. Philadelphia United Methodist Church will forever hold a special place in our hearts, and you will remain in our prayers. May God continue to bless and guide this congregation as you move forward in faith, hope, and love.

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



**A Heartfelt Farewell** - As we part ways, we carry with us:

- Cherished memories of laughter and tears
- A deepened respect for one another
- The blessings of shared experiences

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

### WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>

Holy Communion joins us in Christian unity. This sacrament invites us to focus on the holiness of communion with God and one another. On World Communion Sunday - United Methodists, in conjunction with other denominations and believers worldwide, participate in communion to recognize our unity in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.



## INFANT BAPTISM

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, we celebrated the baptism of 5-month-old Ethan James Staub with proud parents Ryan and Kaylin. It was a blessing for many of their family and friends share in this special day. It is our prayer that Ethan is nurtured within his church family and comes to honor and love God as he grows. May we all see through this covenant act that it is only through the grace of our loving Father that we are saved.



## ALL SAINTS DAY

Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>

Please submit your pictures of loved ones that have gone onto the church triumphant that we may include in a video to remember and celebrate. Prayers for all who have lost loved ones this past year. May God comfort and bless you. Email your pictures to Nic at: [Nicolas@pumcfortmill.org](mailto:Nicolas@pumcfortmill.org). Picture deadline is October 21<sup>st</sup>.

## VETERAN'S DAY

Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>

We would like to recognize members of our congregation and their families who have or are serving in the military. Please send your name, picture, and your branch of service, so we can thank you for your service. Email to [Nicolas@pumcfortmill.org](mailto:Nicolas@pumcfortmill.org) by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



### Serving in Love

With all the changes and transitions currently happening at PUMC, our worship volunteers (especially with sound, livestream and slides) are more important than ever to help us maintain a worship space where all can see and hear the Good News of God. Don't let inexperience stop you! We offer training and it's really easy. Youth and older elementary are welcome. Thank you to all who serve with the gifts God has bless you. Please check out the link to serve during either worship service: [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1rkAlMdpab6AdIx4Yl6C-Le\\_bh4qOvHbNJZn7RFTJwak/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1rkAlMdpab6AdIx4Yl6C-Le_bh4qOvHbNJZn7RFTJwak/edit?usp=sharing) or email Pam Brenwald, [pambrenwald@gmail.com](mailto:pambrenwald@gmail.com).



# HOMECOMING 2024

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Helen Nicholson, and youngest, Ethan Staub. Our praise team, CORE, combined with our chancel choir to provide both contemporary and traditional songs during worship. CORE provided two worship songs, and the chancel choir provided a hymn and anthem. Selections included 'Honey in the Rock' by CORE and 'Down By the Riverside' by the choir. It was a joyous worship service full of praise. It was nice to see those who were once children in these halls return with children of their own and those who have moved away return home to visit with their church family. We broke bread together over a delicious potluck meal and laughter was heard throughout the afternoon. Thanks to all who helped make it a great day!



## MISSIONS COMMITTEE

### SERVE AT BETHEL MEN'S NIGHT SHELTER

Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>

We are expecting around 65 homeless men for a home cooked meal of pintos, vegetable soup, salad, cornbread and brownies. Opportunities include preparing food, purchasing needed items, helping serve the meal or working in the kitchen behind the scenes. We are also collecting breakfast bars (the soft kind like Nutra-Grain), fruit cups, bottled water, used small devotionals and restaurant utensil packages for breakfast bags. Please scan the QR code or sign up in the Coffee



Connections Room. Contact Eugenia Taylor,

[taylorj@comporium.net](mailto:taylorj@comporium.net) with questions.

### SPREAD THE WARMTH - ANNUAL COAT DRIVE

Clean out those closets! Please donate new or clean, gently used jackets, hats and gloves in the Coffee Connections Room through October.

Your donations will be taken to two York County agencies. The Haven Men's Shelter serves homeless men 18 to 70 years old and Tender Hearts which cares for men, women and children.



## STAFF PARISH RELATIONS TEAM (SPRT)

The month of October brings many mixed emotions for the members of the SPRT and our congregation. We said farewell to two of our beloved staff – Greg Millett & Mark Gannon. They are both moving on to new challenges, new opportunities and we wish them only the best! Pastor David's last Sunday with PUMC is October 6<sup>th</sup>. He will be retiring from Ministry and moving back to the Greenville, SC area. He and Toni are excited to be close to their precious family again and excited about the future opportunities that retired life will bring. We will miss you both dearly! I know Mrs. Linda will be reaching out soon to have you rejoin us on a future Homecoming Sunday and we can't wait!

The members of the SPRT cannot thank these folks enough for their leadership, their faithfulness to our church and their assistance to help grow the missions and ministries of PUMC! Please, if you haven't, reach out to all three and be sure to tell them thank you and good luck!

With all things, a season of change like this brings new opportunities, new talents and new moments to continue to grow as a church. At this time, due to budget constraints, we will not be backfilling Greg's position. This means we need dedicated volunteers more than ever! Greg did a great job stabilizing our systems and making the process easier. He's even written

PUMC @  
Catawba Fest

ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

October 12 - 10 am - 6 pm

Join Evangelism as we share the light of Christ at the Annual Catawba Fest.

Sign up to help or contact Amanda

Burns for more info



us a guide to help us. Please prayerfully consider helping us during this period of transition, by flipping slides, facilitating our Facebook stream or running the sound board.

David Hodges and Denise Harding will be stepping in to lead the CORE while the SPRT determines a path forward regarding leadership of this service. Please thank David and Denise for their assistance during this interim period of transition!

Lastly, PUMC has been appointed an interim Pastor and his first day will be Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, and his first Sunday in the pulpit will be October 20<sup>th</sup>. Please join me in welcoming Reverend Larry Dimick and his wife is Jan. They live in York, SC and will be with us until June 25, 2025. They are very excited to join our church family for this interim period. Please stay tuned for more information.

As SPRT is focused on Staff and the relationship between our congregation and Staff, we thank you for your support, conversations, ideas, prayers, patience and support of the members of the SPRT during the last few months. We appreciate this and would ask that you continue to pray for us, our church and the future opportunities of PUMC. We have an AMAZING staff doing amazing work helping us make Disciples of Christ!

## PHILLY YOUTH GROUP (PYG)

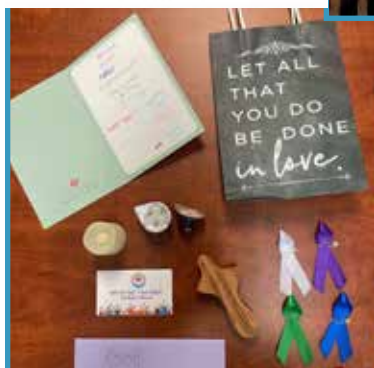
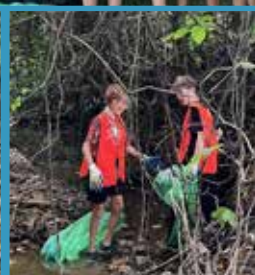
PYG had a September full of service ministry! Mission Wednesdays started on select Wednesdays from 6:15-7:15pm. Youth created worship bags for the worship team that will be given out to shut ins. They contained liturgical ribbons, communion, a wooden cross, candle, and handwritten cards. September also marked a year of PYG adopting a stream in Fort Mill. That means we finally received our sign! You can find it in front of Harris Street Park. Recent, heavy storms caused quite a bit of erosion exposing a lot of glass. Some of our incredibly strong youth were able to remove what may have been old brick pilings that weighed in at over 50 pounds each up the embankment. 710 pounds of total trash was cleaned out of the stream! It was an impressive cleanup!

Students decided that for a fun October activity, they would like to go to an escape room. Sign up on the BAND app to join us Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. At Trunk R Treat (Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>), the youth will set up their own trunk and hand candy out to children in the community.

PYG has grown in the last year. We have great attendance on Sunday nights which is exciting but challenging. We need at least 1 adult chaperone to assist me in order to have PYG safely. We also need a meal provided. If you could support PYG by serving youth it would be greatly appreciated and a lot of fun! I am happy to answer any questions you may have. I hope you'll join us! Contact Jessica Inman [jessica@pumcfortmill.org](mailto:jessica@pumcfortmill.org) or 910-833-0752



**VOLUNTEER**  
AS AN ADULT LEADER  
OR TO  
BRING A MEAL TO PYG



## TRUSTEES COMMITTEE

The trustees want to thank Pastor David for his guidance, for his encouragement, and for his prayers in our committee meetings. May God bless Pastor David as richly as he has blessed us.

The trustees are working with a plumbing contractor and the York County Water and Sewer department to find the location of an obstruction in our sewer line. Once this obstruction has been removed, we will be able to use the Sunday School Wing bathrooms again. Your donations to the general fund go towards repairs like these. Local teenagers have been using our lumber to access the

roof of our green storage container to party. The lumber has been removed and taken to a local landfill. Hopefully this will stop the parties on top of the green storage container. The trustees have scheduled two days next week with Greg Millett to continue work on the Wi-Fi/Church Security project.

Your donations have allowed us to install seven new emergency lights in our sanctuary, one new exit fire door in the fellowship hall, and three new smoke duct detectors. Thank you for your monetary support.

## NURTURE COMMITTEE

### SENIOR FRIENDS

**Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am**

All those 55+ years young are invited to join us the 2nd Tuesday of each month. In October, we will meet in the fellowship hall for a covered dish meal and a program by Danielle Holmes on the Anne Springs Close Greenway.

Pictures to the right show us enjoying a meal, each other's company, and Jack Smith's "Oldies" musical program that was a stroll down memory lane by with songs from the 50', 60's and 70's.



### SINGLE LADIES' LUNCH BUNCH

**Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am**

If you're a single lady, we'd love for you to join us for lunch and fellowship at Salmeri's in Fort Mill - Contact Donna Schaefer at [nordon50@aol.com](mailto:nordon50@aol.com).

## CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES

### VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER

This Fall, the kids of PUMC have been learning Bible lessons based on *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* by C.S. Lewis. We set sail in uncharted waters in search of the seven lost lords of Narnia. Along the way, we learned to "Do everything without grumbling" (Philippians 2:14), that "If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us" (1 John 1:9), and "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature" (2 Corinthians 5:17). We've also made wooden ships, Narnia buttons, and dragon masks.

### TRUNK R TREAT

**October 27<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 - 6:30pm**

Invite your friends, family, and neighbors. Children of all ages are invited to come to the church parking lot in their Halloween costumes and receive candy from the different decorated trunks. Hot dogs and drinks are free. Special prizes for the best decorated cars. We need decorated trunks and donated candy. If you can help, contact Nicolas Gold, [nicolas@pumcfortmill.org](mailto:nicolas@pumcfortmill.org)

Six Steps to Decorating a Trunk

Step 1: Sign up to decorate your car trunk by telling Nic.

Step 2: Choose a theme. *Hint:* Google Trunk-or-Treat ideas.

Step 3: Decorate!

Step 4: Buy some candy and put it in a bowl!

Step 5: Arrive to the church parking lot on the 27<sup>th</sup> by 4:30pm.

Step 6: Enjoy watching the kids in their costumes!



## UNITED WOMEN in FAITH (UWF) SPECIAL RECOGNITION PIN

Holly Johnson received the UWF Special Recognition Pin at Homecoming. Holly received this pin for her dedication to serving God and PUMC. She can be seen doing anything from counting to leading children's Bible study to serving as vice-chair of evangelism. She has never let her physical illness



stand in the way of her servant mindset. Holly is always a cheerful giver with her time and talents and truly loves God and her church family. Pictured with her are her mother and step-father, Teresa and Bill Brown. They were delighted to surprise Holly and share in her special day.

## UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM)

### Men In The Mirror

**Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:30am, Fellowship Hall**

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." -Proverbs 27:17. Jeremy Inman will lead the discussion. Bring a friend and join us every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday morning for biscuits, coffee, fellowship, and biblical discussion.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

PUMC continues to manage ministry expenses very closely and ended September with a cash position of just over \$22,800.

The congregation's generous contributions of just over \$49,300 together with \$8,777 transferred from the Capital Endowment exceeded monthly expenses. However, giving remains volatile with over 75% of contributions in September received during the weeks of September 8th and 15th. By comparison, PUMC received less than \$4,000 per week on September 1st, 22nd and 29th.

With the continued uncertainty in giving, the Finance Committee agreed to utilize Capital Endowment monies to make the church's October 1st mortgage payment of \$8,776.53 to ensure payroll and other expenses will be met during October. The Capital Endowment includes two sources of funds. The first are monies gifted to the church for use by the Trustees on improvements or maintenance of church property. Approximately \$25,000 cannot be spent (permanent gift) and \$19,000 is available for projects. The pending HVAC replacement and repair to water line issues to repair the fellowship hall bathrooms would far exceed this amount. The second source of funds includes monies received

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (OCC)

Christmas is coming... well at least OCC is! Through small, basic gifts in a shoebox, children all over the world are bathed in the love of Jesus Christ and the door is open for them to learn and accept Him as their savior. October is our collection month. Suggestions: scissors, coloring books, toys, soccer ball (with manual air pump), toys, harmonicas, games, dolls, stuffed animals, sewing kits, fishing kits, tools, clothes. Drop off donations in the Coffee Connections Room. Our goal is 375 boxes this year!! To make shopping easy and to buy in bulk, we have a QR code to an Amazon wish list.



If you prefer, monetary donations are always needed!! Cash donations pay for "wow" items for the boxes and help with shipping (\$10/box). Designate online donations to 'OCC shoeboxes' on the memo line of a check.



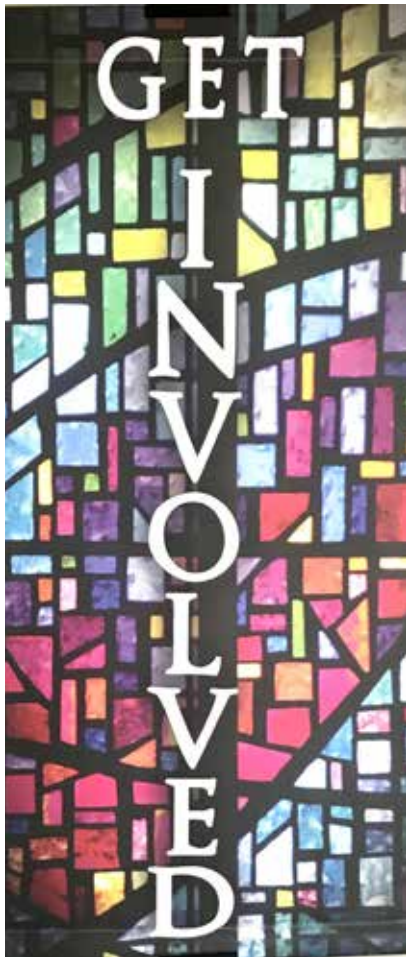
## PANCAKE PACKING PARTY Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> 4:30-6:30pm - Fellowship Hall

Let's get packing! This is the really fun part! Invite your friends and neighbors for this family activity. We provide a yummy pancake dinner where donations go to cover the box shipping costs. If you have any questions or if you'd like to volunteer on the 6<sup>th</sup>, please contact Cindi Cahaly, [cahaly@comporium.net](mailto:cahaly@comporium.net).

specific to right-of-way and landscaping reimbursements associated with the 2023 property sale to the SCDOT for the Highway 160 Interchange Project. After the referenced transfers, \$17,000 remains available from this source of funds.

Ultimately, the solution to PUMC's financial challenges includes reducing expenditures on the order of \$60,000 to \$80,000 per year to meet current levels of contributions. After considering alternatives, Church Council made a formal request to the Rock Hill District to consider the sale of the parsonage in favor of a housing stipend for future pastors. This action, which ultimately requires approval by the Congregation, could result in up \$70,000 per year in expense savings to PUMC through eliminating the Church's mortgage as well as expenses and ongoing maintenance of that property. Church leadership is awaiting guidance from the District and Conference. Once provided, more specific information regarding the sale, expense reductions and approval process will be shared with the congregation.

Thank you again for all you are doing to support the missions and ministries of PUMC!



## OCTOBER - MONTH AT A GLANCE

Date	Event	Time
Wed, Oct 2	PYG Mission Wednesday	6:15 - 7:15 PM
Sun, Oct 6	Pastor David and Toni Reception	10:00 - 10:45 AM
Tue, Oct 8	Senior Friends	11:30 AM
Wed, Oct 9	PYG Mission Wednesday	6:15 - 7:15 PM
Thur, Oct 10	Bethel Men's Shelter	5:00- 8:00 PM
Sat, Oct 12	Catawba Fest	10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Tue, Oct 15	United Women of Faith Circle	10:30 AM
Sat, Oct 19	Men In The Mirror	7:30 AM
Sat, Oct 19	Single Ladies' Lunch Bunch (Salmeri's)	11:30 AM
Sun, Oct 27	Trunk R Treat	5:00 - 6:30 PM
Every Wednesday	Joyful Noize (K - 5th grade)	4:15 - 5:00 PM
Every Wednesday	Philly Chimes (3rd grade and up)	5:15 - 6:00 PM
Every Wednesday	Beginner Bells (K - 2nd grade)	5:15 - 5:45 PM
Every Sunday	PYG	5:00 - 6:30 PM
Every Wednesday	CORE - praise band	5:30 - 7:00 PM
Every Wednesday	Adult Jubilate Ringers	6:15 - 7:00 PM
Every Wednesday	Chancel Choir	7:15 - 8:15 PM

**FORT MILL CARE CENTER**

*October Pantry List*

**CHICKEN/TUNA  
BEANS  
BOXED MEALS  
SOUP  
VEGETABLES  
FRUITS  
JAM  
CANNED PASTA  
PANCAKE MIX & SYRUP**

**DROP OFF IN THE  
COFFEE CONNECTIONS ROOM**

**STEWARDSHIP & FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**September 29, 2024**

\$12,412 is needed each week to meet our annual budget of \$645,406,  
we received \$6,378 this week

\$423,681 has been received towards the General and Building Funds

\$453,439 has been spent from the General and Building Funds

\$16,276 Cash Available to Support Church Expenses,  
Missions & Ministries

\$709,272 Loan balance for Building

**Ways to Give**  
Cash & Checks accepted every Sunday during Offering!  
Visit us at [www.pumcfortmill.org/give/](http://www.pumcfortmill.org/give/)  
Via Zelle App - [gifts@pumcfortmill.org](mailto:gifts@pumcfortmill.org)  
Transfer Stocks, Bonds, Brokerage Assets  
Mail or Drop-off your gift during regular office hours.  
**Have questions about giving?**

Please contact PUMC's Interim Financial Associate, Colleen Demmy at  
[accounting@pumcfortmill.org](mailto:accounting@pumcfortmill.org)

**Mailing Address**  
2764 Pleasant Road  
Suite A, PMB 11804  
Fort Mill, SC 29708

**Contact** 803-548-0102  
Office Hrs: Mon - Thurs  
9am - 12:30pm  
[info@pumcfortmill.org](mailto:info@pumcfortmill.org)  
[www.pumcfortmill.org](http://www.pumcfortmill.org)

**Visit**  
1691 Hwy. 160 West  
Fort Mill, SC 29708

**Staff**

Senior Pastor - Rev. Larry Dimick  
Director of Music Ministries - David Hodges  
Director of Discipleship & Children's Ministry - Nic Gold  
Director of Youth Ministries - Jessica Inman  
Office Manager - Denise Watson  
Financial Associate - Colleen Demmy