

Monthly Newsletter

HARRISBURG UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH



Hello Church Family,

July is a month when we naturally think about freedom. We celebrate the blessings of living in a country where we enjoy remarkable liberties. We give thanks for those who sacrificed so that those freedoms could be ours. It is good and right to do so. But every Independence Day also reminds me that Jesus speaks about another kind of freedom.

When most of us think about freedom, we think about having more choices, fewer restrictions, and the ability to do whatever we want. Yet Jesus offers something far more surprising. He says, "Whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake... will save it."

At first, that sounds backwards. How could surrender possibly lead to freedom? But maybe you've experienced it before.

Have you ever noticed how exhausting it is to always feel like you have something to prove? To keep everyone happy. To make the right impression. To make sure your life measures up. We spend so much of our lives trying to hold everything together that we forget Jesus never asked us to carry that weight in the first place. He simply says, "Follow me."

The freedom of the gospel isn't just freedom from sin. It's freedom from believing everything depends on us. It's the freedom to trust that because Christ has already secured our identity, we don't have to.

And I wonder if that's exactly the kind of freedom our community needs to see.

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This month, some of us will host a Project Block Party. Others will sign up to volunteer at VBS. Some will invite a neighbor to church, share a meal with someone who's in need of a friend, or simply make time for a conversation they otherwise wouldn't have had. None of those things earn God's love. They flow from it.

When we're no longer consumed with building our own lives, we're finally free to invest in someone else's. That's what discipleship looks like. It's simply making room for God to love people through us.

My prayer is that July won't just be a month where we celebrate freedom as Americans, but where we experience freedom as followers of Jesus. The kind of freedom that opens our hands, loosens our grip on ourselves, and helps us notice the people God has already placed right in front of us.

Who knows? Maybe your backyard, your driveway, a cardboard box, or a simple invitation to worship will become the place where someone encounters the love of Christ.

That's the kind of freedom worth celebrating.

Pastor Brandon Dunham

Missions News



June “Love Harrisburg” Service Recap

Thank you to all who participated in our quarterly Love Harrisburg Worship Service last month. One hundred personal dignity kits were assembled which included: toothpaste and toothbrushes, body wash, shampoo, washcloths, shaving cream, razors and Band-aids. The kits were distributed at the Nightwatch Canteen as almost half of the people served by the Canteen either live on the street or in a shelter.

Additionally another mat was completed for Midwest Street Medicine and we're already closing in on finishing another!

JULY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 6:30am Men's Bible Study at Scooter's	2	3	4
5 8:45am Prayer Team 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Fellowship	6	7 10:00am Tuesday Morning Bible Study	8 6:30am Men's Bible Study at Scooter's	9 11:00am Esther Circle meets at All Day Cafe	10	11 9:30am Mat Weaving
12 9:30am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Coffee Fellowship	13	14 10:00am Tuesday Morning Bible Study	15 6:30am Men's Bible Study at Scooter's	16	17	18
19 8:45am Prayer Team 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Fellowship	20	21 10:00am Tuesday Morning Bible Study	22 6:30am Men's Bible Study at Scooter's	23	24	25
26 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Fellowship	27	28 10:00am Tuesday Morning Bible Study	29 6:30am Men's Bible Study at Scooter's	30	31	

BIRTHDAYS

July 1 Rob Meier
July 2 Hudson Hillman
July 6 Barb Lundquist
July 7 Cindi Slack
July 8 Joyce Harris
July 10 Bo Rotert
July 11 Emma Kuiper
July 17 Dillon Drake, Gary Rae
July 18 Payton Pickering, Dale Sandine
July 19 Josh Cunningham, Everit Schild
July 22 Gavin Jones, Bonnie Renner
July 23 Matt Semmler
July 24 Ashley Dunham
July 25 Ember Semmler
July 26 Travis Berg
July 29 Lance Bushar
July 30 Lowell Satterlee
July 31 Violet denHoed

ANNIVERSARIES

July 11 Todd & Erica Stahl
July 16 Jim & Paula Slack
July 29 David & Angie Nelson



Monday, August 3rd - Wednesday, August 5th 5:30pm - 8:00pm

Get ready for a one-of-a-kind adventure at Harrisburg UMC's "The Great Cardboard VBS!" Join us August 3–5 from 5:30–8:00pm for three exciting evenings filled with music, games, Bible stories, and hands-on creativity as kids help build the stories of Scripture out of cardboard. Dinner will be served each night at 5:30pm, with our opening celebration beginning at 6:00pm.

Throughout the week, kids will discover that God is creative, that we are made in His image, and that God invites us to use our gifts to serve and bless others. From building a giant cardboard creation mural to creating self-portraits and community projects, every night will be packed with imagination, faith, and fun.

Kids are invited to bring their creativity (and their friends) for this unique VBS experience where we'll build, play, worship, and grow together. Registration is now open, and we can't wait to build with you!





What if loving your neighbors was as simple as throwing a party? This summer, we're inviting every church family to consider hosting a Block Party. We'll provide the inflatable, yard games, grill, and other supplies... you simply provide the neighborhood and the invitation.

The goal isn't to host the perfect event. It's to create space for relationship. Think about the people who live on your street. The family you've waved to but never really met. The kids who ride their bikes past your house. The neighbors you've been meaning to invite over. A block party creates a simple, relaxed opportunity to share a meal, laugh together, and begin building friendships that can last long after the inflatable is packed away.

Would you prayerfully consider hosting a block party this summer? It could be one of the simplest (and most meaningful) ways to share the love of Christ with your neighborhood.

#BuildingCommunityInThisCommunity





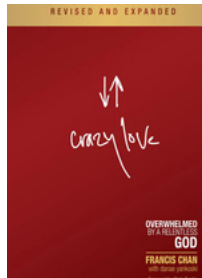
FAITH & FAMILY NIGHT



A great evening was enjoyed at the ballpark as a group from HUMC attended Faith & Family Night on Wednesday, June 17. Everyone enjoyed fellowship, food, and fun while cheering on the Canaries. The night ended on a high note with a Canaries victory!



HUMC Small Groups



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Meetings are at 10:00am in the Fireside Room next to the Fellowship Hall. We are currently reading "Crazy Love" by Francis Chan.



Wednesday Morning Men's Study

Meetings are at 6:30am at Scooter's Coffee located on 85th and Minnesota. We are jumping into the Old Testament this year and invite you to bring your Bible!

Memorial Garden

The HUMC Memorial Wall and Prayer Garden was created as a place to honor and remember loved ones through the placement of memorial plaques. It also provides a peaceful space for reflection and prayer for our church family, friends, and visitors.

We will be placing an order for memorial plaques at the end of June. If you would like to purchase a plaque, please complete the form available on the table in the narthex and return it to the church office with payment of \$150. Donations of plants or flowers to help beautify the Prayer Garden are always welcome and appreciated.



July reminds us that while sin has consequences, God's desire is always to restore His people and renew their worship.

Week 26 – A Heart for Worship

June 29: 1 Chronicles 13-15
June 30: 1 Chronicles 16-17
July 1: 1 Chronicles 18-20
July 2: 1 Chronicles 21-23
July 3: 1 Chronicles 24-26
July 4: 1 Chronicles 27-29

Weekly Reflection

- What does David's preparation for the Temple reveal about his heart for God?
- Why do you think worship receives so much attention in Chronicles?
- How can your everyday life become an act of worship?

Week 27 – A Kingdom at its Height

July 6: 2 Chronicles 1-3
July 7: 2 Chronicles 4-7
July 8: 2 Chronicles 8-9
July 9: 2 Chronicles 10-11
July 10: 2 Chronicles 12
July 11: (Catch Up)

Weekly Reflection

- What does the dedication of the Temple teach us about God's desire to dwell with His people?
- How does success become a spiritual danger for Solomon and Rehoboam?
- Where is God inviting you to remain humble?

Week 28 – Seeking the Lord

July 13: 2 Chronicles 13-16
July 14: 2 Chronicles 17-20
July 15: 2 Chronicles 21-23
July 16: 2 Chronicles 24-25
July 17: (Catch Up)
July 18: (Catch Up)

Weekly Reflection

- What differences do you notice between kings who seek God and those who ignore Him?
- How does prayer shape the story of King Jehoshaphat?
- What helps you seek God consistently, not just in times of crisis?

Week 29 – Hope After Exile

July 20: 2 Chronicles 26-28
July 21: 2 Chronicles 29-30
July 22: 2 Chronicles 31-33
July 23: 2 Chronicles 34-36
July 24: Ezra 1-2
July 25: Ezra 3-5

Weekly Reflection

- What stands out about the reforms of Hezekiah and Josiah?
- Why is the return from exile such a significant moment in Israel's story?
- Where have you experienced God bringing renewal after a season of loss or wandering?

Year to Date Giving 2026 & Year to Date Profit/(Loss) 2026

YEAR TO DATE GIVING - 2026													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Total Budget	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$275,000
Actual Giving (4100 Total)	\$18,294	\$14,250	\$20,215	\$24,029	\$42,221								\$119,010
Giving as a % of Budget - MTD	79.83%	62.18%	88.21%	104.85%	184.24%								43.28%
Projected Total Giving	\$18,294	\$14,250	\$20,215	\$24,029	\$42,221	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$279,426
Giving as a % of Budget - YTD	79.83%	71.01%	76.74%	83.77%	103.86%								103.86%

YEAR TO DATE Profit/(Loss) - 2026													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Revenue													
Income	\$18,294	\$14,250	\$20,215	\$24,029	\$42,221								\$119,010
Total Revenue	\$18,294	\$14,250	\$20,215	\$24,029	\$42,221	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$119,010
Gross Profit	\$18,294	\$14,250	\$20,215	\$24,029	\$42,221	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$119,010
Expenditures													
5100 Administration Expense	\$781	\$707	\$507	\$556	\$597								\$3,148
5200 Building and Grounds	\$6,523	\$3,998	\$4,373	\$5,201	\$4,366								\$24,461
5300 Church Staff	\$18,958	\$15,869	\$15,410	\$16,140	\$15,520								\$81,897
5400 Dakotas Conference	\$4,383	\$2,378	\$1,853	\$2,628	\$3,124								\$14,365
5500 Program Ministry	\$152	\$321	\$204	\$332	\$0								\$1,009
5600 Youth Activity	\$354	\$825	\$590	\$320	\$1,590								\$3,679
Total Expenditures	\$31,149	\$24,098	\$22,937	\$25,177	\$25,197	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$128,559
Net Operating Revenue	(\$12,855)	(\$9,848)	(\$2,721)	(\$1,148)	\$17,023	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$9,549)
Other Revenue													
6001 Revenue - Miscellaneous													\$0
6100 Donor Restricted Fund IN/(OUT)	\$138	(\$278)	(\$167)	\$792	\$627								\$1,112
8800 (Into)/Out of Restricted Funds	(\$138)	\$278	\$167	(\$792)	(\$627)								(\$1,112)
Total Other Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Other Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Revenue	(\$12,855)	(\$9,848)	(\$2,721)	(\$1,148)	\$17,023	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$9,549)

Online giving

Did you know HUMC offers online giving and text-to-give?

They're easy to use and secure! You can give a gift of support online at:

<https://harrisburgumc.breezechms.com/give/online>

Or give via text message by texting the amount you would like to give to:

(605)702-6954

Thank you for reading!

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