

Sermon "The American Flag" Katie Musgrave
The Thirteen Folds by Ron Tranmer Lauren Ford

Flag Folders Katherine Huffman and Euan Wright

Hymn "The Star Spangled Banner"
O say can you see by the dawns early light, what so proudly
we hail at the twilights last gleaming. Whose broad stripes
and bright stars, through the perilous fight, o'er the
ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming. And the
rockets red glare, the bombs bursting in air, gave proof
through the night that our flag was still there. O say does
that star-spangled banner yet wave, o'er the land of the free
and the home of the brave.

Joys and Concerns

Prayer

Offering/Doxology "God Bless America" UMH 95

Offertory Prayer

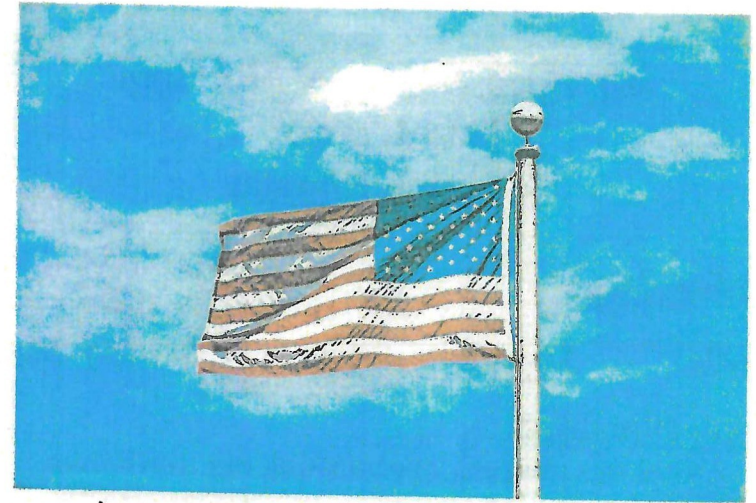
Passing the Peace

"One Nation Under God" Butch Phillips

Hymn "Let There Be Peace on Earth" UMH 431
Jackson

Benediction

Special Thanks to City of Fairmont, Mayor Anne Bolyard,
City Manager Travis Blosser and Ford Funeral Home



GATEWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JULY 5, 2026

301 Diamond Street, Fairmont WV 26554

Rev. Nici Masters, Pastor
Music Coordinator – Bev Slagle
Bell Choir Director – Val Huffman
July Head Usher – Rob Moore

Acolytes

Esme and Ollie Allen
Haeden and Kenslie Futton
Nora Rae Huffman

The Celebration of Worship

July 5, 2026

Order of Worship

Announcements

Prelude "America the Beautiful" Gateway Ringers

***Call to Worship**

L: We gather this morning appreciating our freedom to worship God.

All: May God continue to bless the Church of Christ in this land.

L: We draw near to the God who rules over all nations.

All: May God continue to bless our country and all the countries in the world.

L: We seek to live in harmony and peace together with all peoples on the earth.

All: May God continue to establish peace on earth and help us understand that it begins in our hearts.

L: Come, let us worship the Lord!

Opening Prayer

We gather today not only to worship You, but also to give You thanks for the blessings You have poured out on our land and our people. In the name of Jesus, we honor the United States of America - a nation built on Your truth, Your justice, and Your love. We praise You for the freedoms You have given us, the peace You have provided, and the hope You have placed in our hearts.

Lord, as we stand before You, we ask that Your Spirit fill this place. Let Your presence be felt among us, guiding our thoughts, calming our hearts, and uniting our spirits in one purpose: to glorify Your name. May our worship today be a

testimony of gratitude, a declaration of faith, and a call to live in the light of Your truth. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Children's Chat

Katie Musgrave

Special

"Why We Celebrate"

Rick Morgan

Song

"This is My Country"

arr. Jacobs

This is my country, land of my birth. This is my country, grandest on earth. I pledge thee my allegiance, America the bold, for this is my country to have and to hold. (x2)

Scripture Reading

Psalms 33:12

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom He has chosen as His heritage!

2nd Scripture Reading

Galatians 5:1

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

and from John 8:36

So if the Son set you free, you will be free indeed.

Hymn

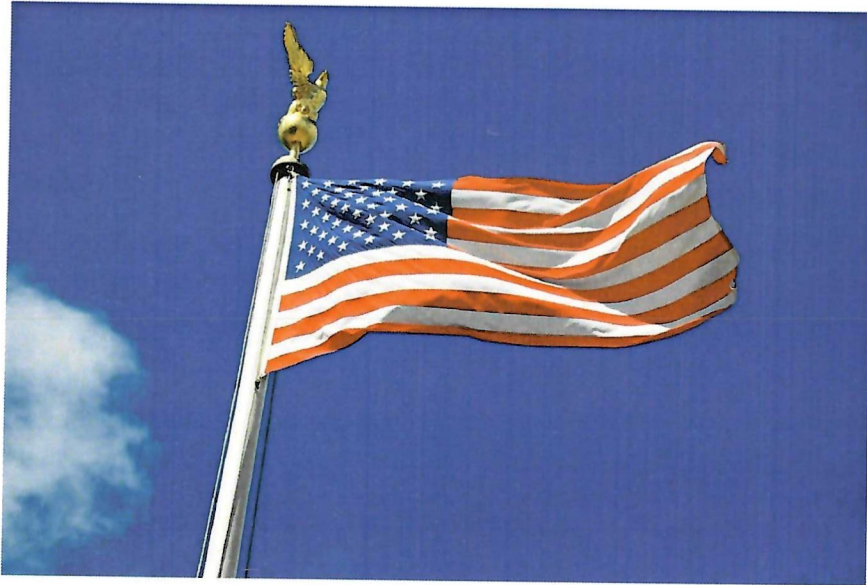
"This Land is Your Land"

Guthrie

(Chorus) This land is your land, this land is my land, from California to the New York Island. From the redwood forests to the Gulf Stream waters, this land was made for you and me.

As I went walking that ribbon of highway, I saw above me that endless skyway. I saw below me that golden valley, this land was made for you and me. (Chorus)

When the sun comes shining, then I was strolling and the wheat fields waving and the dust clouds rolling. The voice was chanting as the fog was lifting, this land was made for you and me. (Chorus)



The Thirteen Folds by Ron Tranmer

The FIRST fold represents the symbol of life.

The SECOND stands for life eternally.

The THIRD is made in honor of all veterans who have died in the fight for the right to keep us free.

FOUR reminds us of the weaker nature of mankind and our never-ending need for God above. We'll turn to Him for guidance in times of peace and war. May we always be right in the cause for which we fight; but America's our country, right or wrong.

Fold FIVE is a tribute to the country we call home. We will defend and fight to keep it strong. May we always be right in the cause for which we fight; but America's our country, right or wrong.

SIX – a symbol of our hearts, for it is there we pledge allegiance to our flag as we stand tall. A nation under God, and through Him indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. The SEVENTH for armed forces; each and every branch, who protect our country from the enemy. On ocean, ground, or in the sky...victory will be our cry and the stars and stripes will wave from sea to sea.

Fold EIGHT is a tribute to those who gave their all in the valley of death so far away. The bravest of the brave, who now lie in their grave, that we might ever see the light of day.

Fold NINE is for mothers and for all of womanhood and for the love of our land they resonate. With devotion they have made the character of men and women who have made this country great.

TEN is for all fathers who have lost sons and daughters and yet, with pride, hold their heads up high. Freedom's price to them is clearer. Our flag even dearer, and its presence makes the strongest of them cry.

The ELEVENTH fold is for our right to worship as we please in a land God has given you and me.

Fold TWELVE gives honor and all glory to our God and represents what is eternity.

In fold THIRTEEN, the final fold, stars are uppermost. That they face to the heavens is a must; for it reminds us we're a nation devoted to our God, and founded by the words, "IN GOD WE TRUST, The piece of flag remaining is tucked in nice and tight and holds the thirteen folds in place for keeps. Reminiscent of a mother, who as though for one last time is tucking in her precious child who sleeps.

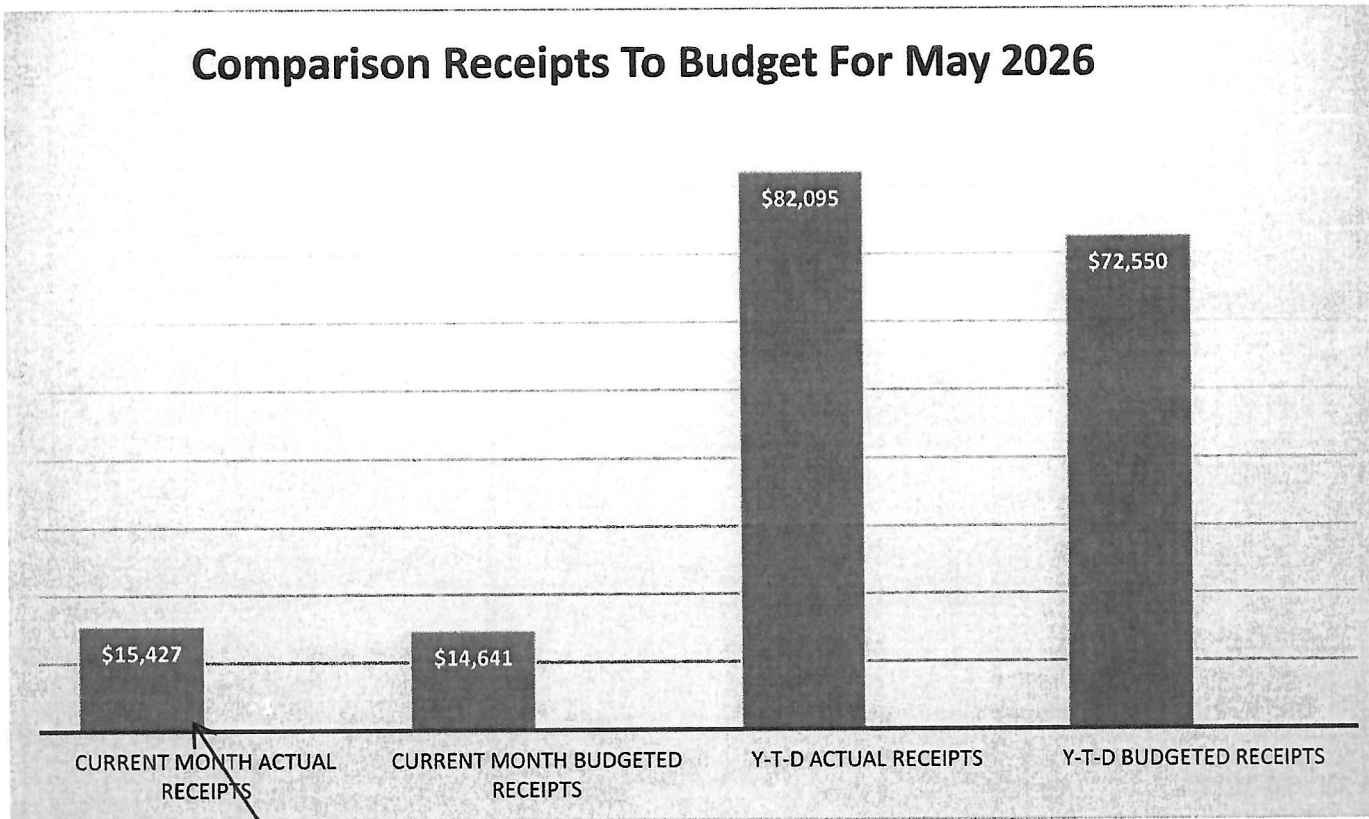
**Gateway United Methodist Church
Financial Activity Summary
For the Period Ended May 31, 2026**

	Current Year		Prior Year		Difference		
	Current Period	Y-T-D	Current Period	Y-T-D	Current Period	Y-T-D	
Operation Receipts	25,426.50	100,365.92	10,513.01	59,408.49	14,913.49	40,957.43	68.94%
Operation Expenditures	<u>(26,441.30)</u>	<u>(95,861.47)</u>	<u>(15,385.17)</u>	<u>(69,793.44)</u>	<u>(11,056.13)</u>	<u>(26,068.03)</u>	
Operation Profit	<u>(1,014.80)</u>	<u>4,504.45</u>	<u>(4,872.16)</u>	<u>(10,384.95)</u>	<u>3,857.36</u>	<u>14,889.40</u>	
Apportionment Payments	15,000.00	22,500.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	17,500.00	
Percent of Total Apportionment	52.70%	79.04%	14.38%	14.38%			
Bank Balance End of Period	16,318.12		10,280.47		6,037.65		

Includes \$10,0000 deposit for Mothers Day Car Show.

Two separate apportionment payments made in May. \$10,000 payment and \$5,000.

Comparison Receipts To Budget For May 2026



Does not include
\$10,000 from
Mothers Day Car
Show. Car show
shown in Special
Fund Raisers.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Faye Dodd, Rusty Freeland, Mary Beth Furbee, Carol Hall, Ezra Hall, Lisa Kerns, Jeff Kerns
Linda Lomicka, Charlotte Merriman, Dan Ross, Madalee Wilson, Kay Young

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 4 – Independence Day
July 12 – Prayer Team
July 15 – Dinner/Church on the Green -5pm-7pm
July 25 – GUMM Breakfast

JUNE ATTENDANCE

June 7 – 82
June 14 – 61
June 21 – 62
June 28 – 91

ATTENTION ALL SINGERS

Anyone who would like to sing for the cantata is invited to attend rehearsals each Wednesday evening at 6pm.

Gateway Contact Information

Church Office Phone – 304-363-7847
Pastor's Phone – 219-242-4678
Pastor's email – nicimasters@yahoo.com
Church E-mail – gatewayumc@gmail.com
Website – gatewayumc-wv.org
YouTube Link – <https://youtube.com@gatewayumc.wv>

Loose Change/Food Pantry Collection

Loose change (coins only) – Honey Bags
Items for June – peanut butter
Items for July – shampoo/deodorant