

Monthly Newsletter

HARRISBURG UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH



A New Season Begins,

There's something about the beginning of a new season that invites us to start again.

Summer schedules begin to settle. School starts back up. Calendars fill. New routines take shape. Before long, what we choose to prioritize in August and September often becomes the rhythm that carries us through the rest of the year.

I think that's why I love this season so much. Not because life slows down (it usually speeds up actually) but because every new season gives us an opportunity to ask an important question:

Who is God inviting me to become?

Over the past several months, we've been walking together through the Gospel of John, watching ordinary people encounter Jesus. Some came looking for answers. Others came hoping for a miracle. Many simply came because they were curious. But time and again, Jesus invited them to something deeper. He invited hungry people to discover that He is the Bread of Life. He invited weary people to find life they could never create for themselves. He invited skeptical people to trust Him. And He invited followers to move beyond simply admiring Him toward actually walking with Him.

I have a feeling He is still extending that same invitation today. Maybe this fall is the season you return to worship more consistently. Maybe it's the year you finally join a small group or Bible study. Maybe it's the season you begin serving alongside others, invite a neighbor to church, or spend a few extra minutes each day opening God's Word.

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Pastor Brandon

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AUGUST 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 9:30am Mat Weaving
2 8:45am Prayer Team 9:30am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30 Coffee Fellowship	3 5:30-8:00pm VBS	4 10:00am Bible Study 5:30-8:00pm VBS	5 6:30am Men's Bible Study at Scooter's 5:30-8:00pm VBS	6	7	8
9 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:45am UWF Meeting	10	11 10:00am Bible Study	12 6:30am Men's Bible Study at Scooter's	13	14	15
16 8:45am Prayer Team 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Fellowship	17	18 10:00am Bible Study	19 6:30am Men's Bible Study at Scooter's	20 1:00pm Esther Circle	21	22 10:00am Town Hall Meeting
23 Fall Kickoff 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Fellowship	24 7:00pm Rebekkah Circle	25 10:00am Bible Study	26 6:30am Men's Bible Study at Scooter's 1:30pm Mary Circle 5:30pm Youth Kickoff Cookout	27	28	29
30 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Fellowship	31					

BIRTHDAYS

August 4 Ivory denHoed, Cole Patten
August 8 Cindy Slack
August 10 Chane Patten
August 11 Judy Fickbohm, Jamie Stucky
August 14 Dawn Patten
August 15 Diane Albers, Jim Slack
August 18 Peyton Moore, Tom Renner
August 21 Trudy Baird
August 22 Mykayla Vollmer
August 23 Jurnie Cuka, LaRae Zwart
August 27 Michele Hansen
August 30 Adam Larson

ANNIVERSARIES

August 2 Dale & Linnette Sandine
August 6 Travis & Erin Berg
August 9 Jim & Roxie Stoebner
August 11 Rick & Belinda Fink
August 22 Brian & Tammy Hass
August 25 Ken & Judy Fickbohm
August 31 Rob & Shelley Meier







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





All Church Town Hall Meeting

If you've read the cover article of this newsletter, you know that I believe we're stepping into an exciting new season as a church. And one of the things I love most about the Church is that God has never asked one person to carry His mission alone. Throughout Scripture, He calls ordinary people together, giving each unique gifts, perspectives, and experiences to accomplish far more than any one individual ever could.

That's why I'd like to invite you to an upcoming Church Town Hall. This isn't a business meeting or a conversation about budgets. It's an opportunity to pause together and ask an important question:

Where is God leading Harrisburg United Methodist Church next?

Over the past few years, we've seen God do some incredible things. We've welcomed new families, celebrated baptisms, served our community through Love Harrisburg, tried to host neighborhood block parties, filled our building with children during Vacation Bible School, and watched God continue to write new stories of faith in our congregation.

As we look toward the future, I don't want that vision to belong only to the staff or church leadership. I want it to become our vision.

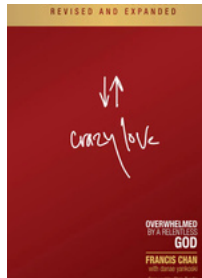
The Apostle Paul reminds us that we are one body with many members, each playing a unique and important role. Some lead. Some encourage. Some serve quietly behind the scenes. Some teach. Some pray. Some welcome. Every gift matters because every person matters. That's why your voice matters too.

Whether you've been part of Harrisburg UMC for decades or you've only recently started attending, I sincerely hope you'll join us. Your experiences, your ideas, your questions, and your prayers all help shape who we are becoming.

If this truly is a new season, then let's enter it together with open hands, expectant hearts, and confidence that the God who has faithfully led us this far is not finished with us yet.

Meeting will be August 22nd at 10am-11:30am, with a breakfast to be served as well.

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 August. 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.



Old Testament Reading Plan

August reminds us that even after failure and loss, God is always in the work of rebuilding, restoring, and renewing His people.

Week 30 – Rebuilding the House

August 3: Ezra 6-7

August 4: Ezra 8-10

August 5: Nehemiah 1-2

August 6: Nehemiah 3-4

August 7: Nehemiah 5-6

August 8: Nehemiah 7-8

Weekly Reflection

- What obstacles do God's people face as they rebuild?
- Why does spiritual renewal accompany physical rebuilding?
- Where might God be rebuilding something in your own life?

Week 31 – A Faithful Remnant

August 10: Nehemiah 9-10

August 11: Nehemiah 11-13

August 12: Esther 1-2

August 13: Esther 3-5

August 14: Esther 6-8

August 15: Esther 9-10

Weekly Reflection

- Even though God's name is never mentioned in Esther, where do you see Him at work?
- What do Nehemiah and Esther teach us about courageous faith?
- How have you experienced God's faithfulness in ways that were only clear in hindsight?

Week 32 – Wrestling with Suffering

August 17: Job 1-3

August 18: Job 4-7

August 19: Job 8-10

August 20: Job 11-14

August 21: Job 15-18

August 22: Job 19-21

Weekly Reflection

- What questions about suffering resonate most with you?
- What assumptions do Job's friends make about God?
- How do you respond when life doesn't make sense?

Week 33 – Trusting the God Who Speaks

August 24: Job 22-24

August 25: Job 25-31

August 26: Job 32-34

August 27: Job 35-37

August 28: Job 38-39

August 29: Job 40-42

Weekly Reflection

- How does God's response to Job reshape your understanding of suffering?
- What do these chapters teach us about humility and trust?
- Can faith remain strong even when every question isn't answered?

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	\$35,438	\$21,759						\$176,207
Giving as a % of Budget - MTD	79.83%	62.18%	88.21%	104.85%	184.24%	154.64%	94.95%						64.08%
Projected Total Giving	\$18,294	\$14,250	\$20,215	\$24,029	\$42,221	\$35,438	\$21,759	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$22,917	\$290,790
Giving as a % of Budget - YTD	79.83%	71.01%	76.74%	83.77%	103.86%	112.33%	109.84%						109.84%

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	\$35,438	\$21,759						\$176,207
Total Revenue	\$18,294	\$14,250	\$20,215	\$24,029	\$42,221	\$35,438	\$21,759	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$176,207
Gross Profit	\$18,294	\$14,250	\$20,215	\$24,029	\$42,221	\$35,438	\$21,759	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$176,207
Expenditures													
5100 Administration Expense	\$781	\$707	\$507	\$556	\$597	\$557	\$338						\$4,043
5200 Building and Grounds	\$6,523	\$3,998	\$4,373	\$5,201	\$4,366	\$3,762	\$3,205						\$31,428
5300 Church Staff	\$18,958	\$15,869	\$15,410	\$16,140	\$15,495	\$15,435	\$15,435						\$112,742
5400 Dakotas Conference	\$4,383	\$2,378	\$1,853	\$2,628	\$3,124	\$4,975	\$4,555						\$23,895
5500 Program Ministry	\$152	\$321	\$204	\$332	\$0	\$197	\$740						\$1,946
5600 Youth Activity	\$354	\$825	\$590	\$320	\$1,643	(\$2,415)	\$0						\$1,317
Total Expenditures	\$31,149	\$24,098	\$22,937	\$25,177	\$25,226	\$22,510	\$24,274	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$175,371
Net Operating Revenue	(\$12,855)	(\$9,848)	(\$2,721)	(\$1,148)	\$16,995	\$12,928	(\$2,515)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$835
Other Revenue													
6001 Revenue - Miscellaneous													\$0
6100 Donor Restricted Fund IN/(OUT)	\$138	(\$278)	(\$167)	\$792	\$627	(\$1,137)	\$173						\$147
8800 (Into)/Out of Restricted Funds	(\$138)	\$278	\$167	(\$792)	(\$627)	\$1,137	(\$173)						(\$147)
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)	\$16,995	\$12,928	(\$2,515)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$835

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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