



## June/July Newsletter 2022

**Park Hill United Methodist Church**

**5209 Montview Boulevard**

**Denver, CO 80207**

**303-322-1867**



Hi Park Hillers,

Instead allow me to first say thank you. Thank you for the opportunity, honor, and privilege to have served as your Lead Pastor these past five years. It has been an incredible journey. I will never be the same. I hope you feel the same. I know our community and world are better because of the work that God has done through us all. Thank you for allowing me to journey with you all during this time. Thank you for your generosity, your service, your gumption, and your faithfulness. Thank you for sharing your lives with me and for inviting me to be a part of yours.

Thank you for being willing not to just say the right things, but for being willing to put them into practice. Thank you for being a church that does so many things that others just simply aren't willing to do.

I hope you will look back on these five years or however long you have been with us with fondness and with pride. I believe on our best days we have served as a shining example of the best that church can be. I know there have been some bumpy days, but when we shined we shined! Own that. Be proud of that. Allow it to carry you forward in the work ahead that God has for you all.

A special thank you to all of you that have served in both formal and informal positions of leadership. Your dedication is inspiring and critical for the continued work and health of Park Hill UMC. A special thank you to our great staff as well. It has been a joy to work and serve with you all.

As we all look to the future, our respective work remains the same even if it takes place in different ways. As Paul says so well in Galatians above, "Let us never get tired of doing good." Oh for sure there have been days when I've been dog-tired (I've poured my heart and soul into serving as your Lead Pastor these past five years) and probably you've experienced those days too. However, I've continued on "doing good" and encourage you to do the same not simply because the Bible says to do so, but because it matters.

- It matters to Araceli and her family.
- It matters to all of those that lived in our Safe Outdoor Space.
- It mattered when we celebrated births and mourned the ending of lives together.
- It mattered when we gathered under candlelight to celebrate Christmas in-person and online.
- It mattered when we stood proudly singing the Hallelujah Chorus and Lift Every Voice and Sing.
- It mattered each year when we gathered with Temple Micah for our interfaith service or to provide a warm meal and space as part of the Womens' Homelessness Initiative.
- It mattered when bells were rung on Montview Blvd. or when we laid in a parking lot in Aurora.
- It mattered when we marched down Colfax, 23rd Ave, or Bruce Randolph.
- It mattered when Kenyan children had dinner and a warm hug and clothing.
- It mattered when we laughed together at an Easter Egg hunt or because you put me in jail when we celebrated our church anniversary together.
- It mattered when you were comforted by an encouraging word or challenged to try again.
- It mattered when we talked about mental health, racism, being a mult-cultural church, or welcoming people from across the economic spectrum.
- It mattered when late on a Christmas Eve service people worshiped with us virtually from Pennsylvania to Hawaii to Canada and beyond.
- It mattered when we gathered to study the Bible, talk about current affairs, or read a book together.



# Social Justice/Mission

It mattered. It all mattered. So, again, let us not stop doing good because it matters. It matters to me. It matters to you. It matters to others and most importantly it matters to God. After all, look at the bountiful harvest God has grown through us and the good work we have done.

Again Park Hillers, I simply say thank you. Thank you for the opportunity to lead and pastor you all. I will never be the same and am so grateful for the person and pastor I am today because of you all.

Sunday, May 22nd was my last Sunday as your Lead Pastor. I was grateful to see you and shake your hand or give you a hug to show you one last time my appreciation and that you matter to me, if you were there to worship in person. On Sunday, I referenced the Rascal Flatts’ song, “How they Remember You” as part of my sermon. It is a powerful song that I had on repeat throughout 2021. Check out the chorus below:

*Did you stand or did you fall?*

*Build a bridge or build a wall*

*Hide your love or give it all*

*What did you do?*

*What did you do?*

*Did you make 'em laugh or make 'em cry?*

*Did you quit or did you try?*

*Live your dreams or let 'em die*

*What did you choose?*

*What did you choose?*

*When it all comes down*

*It ain't if, it's how they remember you.*

My concern isn’t if you’ll remember me specifically. I’ve played (and sung) this song over and over because it is how I’ve tried to lead you all. I know that the work, the good we have done together with God, will leave a lasting memory and legacy longer than anything any of us could have done by ourselves. So as we move forward, I leave the this challenge for us all:

What did you choose? Or more importantly as we move forward, “What will you choose?”

My prayer for all of us is that we continue to choose love; to choose to do good.

Thank you Park Hillers. Thank you.

With love and appreciation,

*Pastor Nathan, Lead Pastor*

## Juneteenth Parade



On Saturday June 18, Park Hill UMC marched together in the Juneteenth Parade in Historic Five Points. Walked from Manual High School to Welton Street where there was music, food and many items for sale. Thank you Park Hill for representing Park Hill UMC!

## Pride Parade 2022



**PRIDE** is Sunday, June 26th. Our church is marching from Cheesman Park at 9:30 a.m. Let's show our PHUMC Pride at Denver's largest Queer Pride. The parade is THE fundraiser for The Center to provide services all year for local LGBTQIA communities. This year 600,000 people are expected to attend with 250 Pride entries. The Parade is at capacity so we were lucky to get in but so far we do not know if anyone from our church is coming. We are assigned the BLUE #34 section of Cheesman Park and everyone participating, even kiddos, must get a wristband from Jen Baker, who will be waiting in this area from 8:15 a.m. The Parade begins at 9:30 but given our order we may start more like 9:45 or 10 am. However, for safety, there is no joining our group once we are marching Any questions contact Jen at 720)612-1148 or [pbandjennybanana@gmail.com](mailto:pbandjennybanana@gmail.com).

## Ring, Justice, Ring!

On the two-year anniversary of the murder of George Floyd, Park Hill UMC honored his memory with a bell ringing ceremony, juxtaposing beautiful chimes with a solemn remembrance of a terrible act of violence.



Nearly 40 passionate people were present on the anniversary, ringing bells for nine minutes and twenty-eight seconds to acknowledge the time George Floyd was restrained and ultimately killed. “As a follower of Jesus Christ and a believer Black Lives Matter, I honor Mr. Floyd’s memory in my heart often and could not miss this opportunity to make a statement in such a public way,” stated one participant in the bell ringing ceremony. The Ringers will continue to ring every Monday at 12:00 on the Montview side of the church. Please join us!



## Park Hill Parade

On Monday, July 4, Park Hill UMC will walk the neighborhood Park Hill Community Parade with our Children’s Center staff, families, and children. Mark your calendars, and watch for more information to come!



# Pastor Nathan Adams: Five Years at Park Hill UMC!



Annual Conference



Vacation Bible School



Carrying the torch,  
leading the  
MLK Parade



Providing sack lunches for homeless  
Senior Citizens during pandemic



Trunk or Treat



Book Drive for Hallett Academy



Discussion on "Blackish"  
Sermon Series



Being Honored by the  
Center for Health and Hope



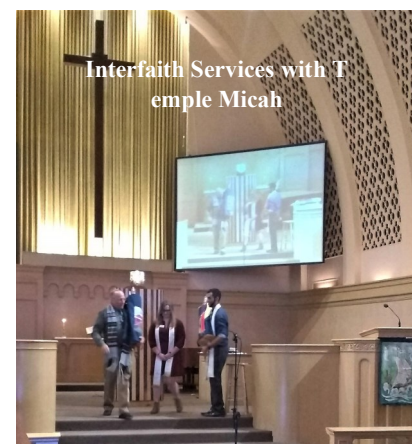
Serving in Kenya with the Center for  
Health and Hope



Home for the Holy Days



Marching with Church Community in Pride



Interfaith Services with T  
emple Micah



Raising money for LGBTQ  
at Triangle Denver



Holiday Dinner for  
SOS Residents



Leading Worship



Serving in Kenya with  
Center for Health and Hope



Providing Meals for  
Homeless Senior Citizens



Celebrating Daryl's  
Graduation



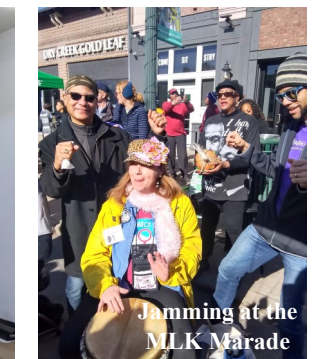
Churchwide Meeting and  
Potluck



Serving in Kenya with  
Center for Health and Hope



Providing "Drive Through  
Communion"



Jamming at the  
MLK Parade



Swinging at AIDS Golf  
Tournament



Safe Outdoor Space



Blessing of the Animals



Making Headlines



Men's Bible Study



Marching in Juneteenth



# Financial Report Q1 2022

April, 2022	2022		2022						
	Monthly		Year to Date						
			Variance	Actual w/o					
	Actual	Budget	w/o Pooled and investments	Pooled Funds & Investments	Budget April 2022	Variance w/o Pooled and investments			
Pledges & Contributions	\$ 54,175	\$ 41,119	\$ 13,056	\$ 224,697	\$ 228,438	\$ (3,740)			
Building Use	\$ 4,218	\$ 3,517	\$ 702	\$ 13,615	\$ 14,067	\$ (451)			
Total Income	\$ 69,924	\$ 57,481	\$ 12,444	\$ 274,100	\$ 279,350	\$ (5,250)			
Total Expenses	\$ 68,358	\$ 71,822	\$ (3,464)	\$ 280,452	\$ 282,311	\$ (1,858)			
Income over Expenses	\$ 1,566	\$ (14,342)	\$ 15,908	\$ (6,353)	\$ (2,961)	\$ (3,392)			
Income April exceeded expenses by about \$1600.00									
Pledges + Contributions were \$13,000 over budget and only \$3740 less than budget through end of April.									
Bottom line budget expectation in April is a deficit of about \$3000.									
Whereas, we are about \$6400 less income than expenses at the end of April, close to budget.									
Please contact us with your comments, questions or concerns.									
Ruth Ann Russell, Volunteer Church Treasurer, 303.726.6632, ra-russell@comcast.net									
Austin Spires, Chair of Finance Committee									

## New Member: Homer Turner



“I was born into a Southern Black Baptist church 82 yrs ago in Memphis My father and grandfather were deacons at St. Jonh’s Baptist church. I actively participated in Sunday School. Church was community, social and spiritual.

I attended a predominantly Black Congregational church with my aunt while living in Chicago, and a variety of churches for two years in Boston. In Detroit I attended a middle class Black Baptist church with another aunt.

I served as a lieutenant in the Army for two years, where I attended services with a variety of chaplains. Also worked with our battalion orphanage. After the military I worked for GE in Cleveland for two years and attended a diverse Lutheran Church. For the next seven years I lived in CT and DC attending med school, internship and residency. I attended church sporadically

due to school/clinical schedules.

I moved to Denver for a fellowship in child psychiatry and began attending Park Hill. I met Joanne, my wife, thru the CMC. Joanne is catholic and I attended services with her and continued with Park Hill. We have a grown up daughter, Kerry. We were all involved in church community and were participants in the churches’ sandwich line for those in need. During the pandemic, the services at Park Hill were supportive and encouraging. I have always been drawn to the diversity and progressive nature of the church and decided to become a member. I’ve retired from psychiatry, and currently live in Evergreen, with Joanne and our two terriers.”

*Welcome Homer!*



Jackson Stockman was baptized on May 15, 2022. Jackson is the son of Ben and Kristin Stockman, brother of big sister Dorothy, and grandson of Gary and Nori Stockman. Congratulations to the whole family!



Edén O'Grady and Somers O'Grady were baptized on May 22. Edén and Somers are the children of Emily Brager and Allison O'Grady, and have a big brother, Milo. Congratulations to the whole family!



Cameron Kelsen-Penney was baptized on May 8. Cameron is the son of Amber Penney and Zach Kelsen, and has a big sister, Kinsey. Cameron's grandparents are Dave and Sherri Penney. Welcome into the PHUMC family, Cameron!



# Worship Information



Summers can be busy for us all. Vacations. Family gatherings. Outings in the mountains or prairies. So many fun things to do outside or with others. We will continue to worship and praise God together this summer. Join us each Sunday, 10 am MDT, either online (YouTube or Facebook) or at our Montview Campus for singing, praising, praying, and hearing God’s Word read and proclaimed.

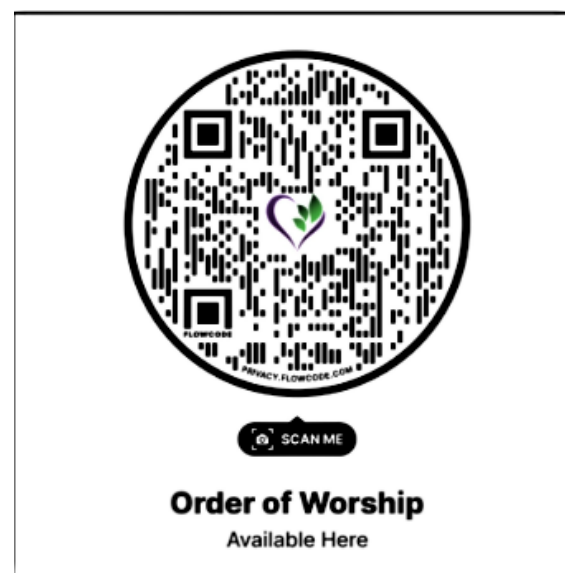
## Church Giving Options

Thank you for your faithful giving during these difficult times! There are four main ways you can give:

- In person: Drop your gift in the boxes in the back of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings
- Regular Mail: Mail checks to 5209 Montview Blvd. Denver, CO 80207

Online: Visit [phumc.org](http://phumc.org) then click the “Give” link at the top of the page. Follow the instructions.

Text to Give: Text the amount you’d like to give to 877-959-7806 then follow the prompts.



# Senior Support Services Mission Meal



Once a month, since 2000, a group of volunteers from Park Hill UMC provides nutritious meals to 80 homeless or food vulnerable Senior Citizens. This program is called the Senior Support Services Mission Meal (SSS Mission Meal). The SSS Mission Meal started in 2000, after the Senior High Mission Trip to Seattle. After a week of working in feeding programs, the Youth were so filled with the spirit of service that they were determined to do something in their own community. After a planned soup kitchen at Montview Presbyterian fell through, they decided that our church community should join a group of Park Hill churches who were committing to provide one meal a month to Senior Support Services.

Senior Support Services (SSS) was established in 1976 when six churches in downtown Denver came together to assist low-income and homeless seniors who were being displaced by downtown redevelopment. As the need grew, their services expanded. In 1979, they began to provide day shelter, coffee, one hot meal per day and case

management services to assist seniors in obtaining benefits and finding affordable housing. Located at 18th Avenue & Emerson Street, they provide a full range of services – one-stop shopping – are provided for hungry and homeless seniors.

Before the pandemic, the Mission meal was a 2-day a month commitment, with the meal being prepared on the 2nd Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall kitchen, refrigerated, and re-heated on the 2nd Thursday and delivered and served hot at the Center. For the past two and a half years, during the pandemic, volunteers have been preparing “Sack Suppers” at home. They are delivered to the church on the 2nd Thursday, where they are collected and delivered to the SSS. Seniors are served a hot lunch and able to pick up a sack supper. the meal is served, we return to the kitchen to clean.



We serve approximately 80 homeless and low income Senior Citizens per month. Funding for the dinner comes through fund raising. In the past, the money has come from poinsettia and lily sales, a “Soup-Er Bowl” collection, and the pumpkin patch. The cost is approximately \$150/month. During the pandemic PHUMC member and singer/songwriter Kelley Triplett held a parking lot concert to raise funds for the dinner.

Although the program started out as a Youth activity, all volunteers are welcome and encouraged to participate. If you’ve been looking for a Mission opportunity to make a difference in somebody’s life, consider participating in the SSS Senior Mission Meal! The meal is served on the 2nd Thursday of the month. Contact Dawn Givens at [dawn@lilipurl.com](mailto:dawn@lilipurl.com) to participate.



## Children and Youth

The Children and Youth are busy this summer! We just wrapped up Vacation Bible School, Justice Camp and the Mid-High Mission Trip. Here is our schedule:



**June 30** - Paddle Boarding with other Youth Groups. RSVP with [tory@phumc.org](mailto:tory@phumc.org) before June 28/Tuesday.

**July** - Mr. Tory will be on unpaid leave for a “mini-sabbatical”

**July** - Jeanelle will be painting the new upstairs Youth Room. If you’d like to help, email or call her - info in the last two Family Emails.

**July 31-Aug. 5** - Middle School Social Justice Week with Montview Presbyterian

**August 7** - Youth gather weekly again, during the sermon time in worship.

**August 11** - Possible Water World Day with other Youth Groups.

**September 30** - Pumpkin Unloading - bring your friends and we’ll feed them pizza :-)

**October 1-31** - Pumpkin Patch Volunteering 3:00-Sunset weekdays, 10am-Sunset weekends.

## Members and Visitors!

Welcome Members and Visitors We have a Christian Education Hour at 9:00 for Sunday School and Bible Study. At 10:00 AM we have a Unified Worship Service. Immediately after Sunday service we have an in-person and an online in-depth discussion on that morning’s theme and topic from worship. Please join and grow with us! We have returned to in-person service with masks and social distancing. However, we continue to worship online as well. You can access the livestream of worship each Sunday at 10:00 AM by visiting [www.phumc.org/livestream](http://www.phumc.org/livestream).



## Mission Statement

Because Christ calls us to love all people, we live out our faith through discipleship, diversity, acceptance, social justice and mission. Come grow your spirit with us!

## Welcoming Statement

As an inclusive community of faith, Park Hill United Methodist Church is a n open and affirming congregation, embracing diversity, service, unconditional acceptance, and the care and support of all people in the name of Jesus Christ.. We invite all people to join our congregation in ministry and worship, including those of every race, ethnicity, language, age, physical or mental ability, gender identity, sexual orientation, political affiliation, socio-economic class, marital status, and faith history.