



September 2, 2025



I often have the privilege of sitting with people in difficult life experiences. Things like a cancer diagnosis, the death of a child or spouse, or news that a loved one died by suicide. Other times people are heartbroken because of political realities that threaten the rights of immigrants, women or LGBTQIA+ people. As people process these painful realities, sometimes I hear questions like, "Why did God let this happen?" or statements like "God must have a plan."

Behind these statements is an assumption that if something happens in our lives, then God willed it. The problem with this is that when bad things happen, we tend to look for someone to blame. We end up blaming God or ourselves or even other people.

This is normal, because the theology we have been taught and even the worldview our culture has given us makes these assumptions. However, I wonder if there is a different way to process and make sense of life and God's role in it.

I'll always remember when my theology about this started shifting. I was on a flight trying to ignore the other passengers around me by reading a book. However, my book was a theology book and the person sitting next to me was a religion professor, so he was interested in the topic and started asking me questions.

I was in my late twenties and he was about my age. We started talking about theology and his religion classes and soon, he was sharing with me that his wife had received a terminal cancer diagnosis. He was struggling. He didn't understand why this was happening to her at such a young age. He was grieving the life they dreamed of but would not have and he was grieving changes in his marriage because of her illness.

As we talked, he said he was struggling to believe in a God who would do this or even allow this to happen. He had always been taught that God is all-powerful, all-knowing, all loving, and good. And if he imagined a human scenario in which there was an all-powerful, all-knowing, all loving and good parent with their child and there was a person with a gun in the same room. And the person with the gun pointed it at the child and pulled the trigger, he believed that the parent (if they had the powers we ascribe to God) would reach in and catch the bullet so that it did not strike the child.

This was the first time that it dawned on me that when we refuse to compromise on God's power, what we end up compromising is God's love and goodness. Perhaps God is not as powerful as we have been taught. Perhaps it's not that God won't or that God doesn't.

Maybe it's that God can't.

These are the kinds of questions we are going to grapple with together during worship in September. Join us on Sundays at 9:00 or 10:15 am.

Peace, Pastor Jill

CHURCH SERVICES

9:00 am Worship - Traditional
(online & on site)

10:15 am Worship - Contemporary
(online & on site)

Online Services can be found on our Facebook page, Apple TV, Roku, YouTube or on the website at: collegehillumc.org.

Sunday, September 7
Sermon Series: God Can't
Sermon: God Can't Prevent Evil
Rev. Bev Baumgartner—Preaching

Sunday, September 14, 2025
Sermon Series: God Can't
Sermon: God Feels Our Pain
Rev. Jill Sander-Chali—Preaching

Sunday, September 21, 2025
Sermon Series: God Can't
Sermon: God Works to Heal
Rev. Jill Sander-Chali—Preaching

Sunday, September 28, 2025
Sermon Series: God Can't
Sermon: God Needs Our Cooperation
Rev. Jill Sander-Chali—Preaching

College Hill
United Methodist Church
A Reconciling Congregation
Phone # - (316) 683-4643
Webpage - www.collegehillumc.org

Wise in the Ways of the Spirit,
Bold in the Ways of Justice,
and Graceful in relationships
with all Creation.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

September 6

4:00pm Be The Board Children's Event

September 7

11:15am Youth After Church

1:30pm Staff Parish Comm.

September 8

5:30pm Trustees Meeting

6:00pm Meditation Group

6:15pm Finance Meeting

7:00pm Church Council

September 9

6:00pm Marketing Meeting

6:15pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

September 14

11:30am Faith Sister's Book Club

September 15

6:00pm Meditation Group

September 16

6:15pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

September 17

5:30pm African Dinner hosted by
Pastor Jill, Rev. Dr. Chali and Mapalo

September 20

12:00pm Youth Mission Day

September 21

4:00pm Putting Your House in Order
Estate Planning Workshop

September 22

6:00pm Meditation Group

September 23

6:15pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

September 24

5:30pm—Wednesday Night Dinner

6:00pm—Social Justice Wednesday

September 25

6:00pm Mission Committee

September 29

6:00pm Meditation Group

September 30

6:15pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

SOCIAL JUSTICE WEDNESDAYS

COLLEGE HILL
UNITED METHODIST
PRESENTS

INTERGENERATIONAL

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANT ISSUES

Join us as we talk about Social Justice, let's come together to address and raise the awareness of these issues!

6 Wednesday nights beginning September 24, 2025

5:30 - Dinner - Free Will Donation

6:00-7:00 - Sharing and Discussion

EVENING HIGHLIGHTS:

- Activities for children, youth and adults.
- Advocacy Information
- Community Engagement

ALL ARE WELCOME

September 24 - Homelessness

October 1 - Food Insecurity

October 8 - LGBTQIA

October 15 - Immigration

October 22 - Women's Reproductive Rights

October 29 - Racial Justice

MADE POSSIBLE
BY A GRANT FROM
THE KANSAS METHODIST
FOUNDATION

More Info at: collegehillumc.org
2930 E. 1st Street, Wichita, KS.
316.683.4643

COLLEGE HILL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
not your ordinary church

Estate Planning Workshop

PUTTING YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER

SUNDAYS

- September 21**
- October 12**
- November 16**
- 4:00-5:30 pm in the Parlor**

A few chumites have already taken the course, here's what they had to say.

"KMF offering this course provided the encouragement I needed to get my financial house in order. Tyler was a joy to work with and he made the process easy." **Anne Harris**

"Putting Your House in Order" provided us a systematic approach and connected us to legal expertise that provided a thorough process of updating our estate planning documents. It was painless, kind of fun, and gave us peace of mind that everything is in order. We've already been able to use some of the tax-advantaged ways to enhance our giving." **Brent and Carol Shelton**

WHAT TO EXPECT

This three-session class offered in collaboration with Kansas Methodist Foundation (KMF) covers:

- Estate Planning
- Legacy Giving
- Memorial Planning

Each session provides useful information and resources to guide you in putting your plans in place. Sessions will be held in-person at CHUM with personal zoom conversations between sessions to help you get your plans in place.



For questions, please contact Tyler Curtis
at tyler@kansasmethodistfoundation.org.

Scan the QR Code to register.
Childcare is available for
inperson sessions.



CHUM BLESSING BOX

September Food Drive

HEY, LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!
EACH WEEK OF SEPTEMBER, WE ARE GOING
TO COLLECT DIFFERENT ITEMS
FOR THE BLESSING BOX. LET'S SEE HOW MANY OF
EACH ITEM WE CAN COLLECT.

SEPT. 1-7

VIENNA SAUSAGE, TUNA AND CHICKEN

SEPT. 8-14

CEREAL AND FRUIT CUPS

SEPT. 15-21

NON REFRIGERATED PUDDING
AND PEANUT BUTTER CUPS

SEPT. 22-28

PORK AND BEANS, CANNED PASTA

THE BEST ITEMS ARE INDIVIDUAL SIZES,
NON-REFRIGERATED AND PRECOOKED.

These items can be placed on the shelves
in the hallway by the office.
If you would like to make a
monetary donation,
scan the QR code
and select Blessing Box.



YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday Mornings

10:15am on 2nd Floor

No Youth Sunday School the first
Sunday of each month.

All youth, 6th -12th grades, come join us
as we gather together
in our classroom on 2nd floor.
Contact Rev. Bev Baumgartner
with questions.

bev.baumgartner@collegehillumc.org

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

for 3 years old through 5th grade

Sunday Mornings @ 10:15am

No Children's Sunday School the first
Sunday of each month.

CHUM Nursery

The CHUM Nursery is available on
Sunday mornings for children
ages 6 weeks to 5 years.

It is available from 8:45 - 11:15 am.

The nursery is located on
the main floor across from
Fellowship Hall.

Contact Jodi Rice with questions:

jodi.rice@collegehillumc.org

Quarter Pole collection will be used for Laundry Love

The quarters we collect will be used to
purchase laundry supplies and then also
handed out to individuals washing their
laundry at the laundry mat.

There is a collection pole outside the office
when the office is closed.

Let's support this great ministry.



Youth OUT AND ABOUT

MISSION ACTIVITY VOLUNTEERING AT

WICHITA **Medical Loan Closet**

SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

12:30-2:30PM

Meet at the church parking lot on 12:30 pm.
We will carpool to Medical Loan Closet, volunteer there
for about 1.5 hours, and then return to church by 2:30 pm.
You are welcome to meet us at the closet, 6655 E Harry St,
at about 12:45 if you do not wish to carpool from church.

Scan the
QR Code and let us
know you're
coming



CHUM NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline to submit information for the
newsletter is by Noon the Thursday before.
Newsletters are emailed on Monday
morning. Please submit all information to:
brian.sutton@collegehillumc.org

Address Service Requested

**WEDNESDAY
NIGHT
YOUTH**

COME JOIN US

CHUM youth will meet weekly beginning Wednesday, September 17 and concluding October 29, 5:30-7pm.

5:30 - Dinner
6:00-7:00 - Sharing, Discussion & Activities

WE'LL MEET IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
AND UPSTAIRS IN ROOM 203. JOIN US!

If you haven't already filled out a Consent and Waiver form for 2025-2026, please follow the link that pops up after you've submitted this form to let us know you're coming.

**ALL ARE
WELCOME**

Scan the QR Code and let us know you are coming.



CH COLLEGE HILL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
not your ordinary church

Questions?
Contact
bev.baumgartner@collegehillumc.org



**AUTHENTIC
AFRICAN CUISINE
& MORE**

SEPTEMBER 17
5:30-7:00PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL

- Pastor Jill, Pastor Chali, Mapalo and a few of their friends are cooking up a feast to share with you!
- There will be food from Zambia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Zimbabwe and a few surprises from Nepal, Pakistan and Laos. Gluten free and Vegan options available.
- Come and share a night of food and fellowship.
- A few highlights of the menu... plantains, mandazi, pinto beans, sweet potatoes, chicken, jollof rice, curry, dal and much more.

**PLEASE RSVP BY MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 15
SCAN THE
QR CODE TO RSVP**

