



April 27, 2025

10:00 A.M.



Looking Back
1850

Moving Forward
2025



Welcome, We Are Glad That You're Here!

Anniversary Sunday, 10am

*** Stand as you are able**

Prelude "French Suite no. 6 Allemande" (Bach) *Garrett Harmon*

Welcome & Opening Prayer *Rev. Kathy Altman*

Introit "Surely the Presence of the Lord" (Lanny Wolfe) *Chancel Choir*

A Prayerful Litany upon the 175th Anniversary of Brook Hill Church (United Methodist)

Leader: Almighty and gracious God - Creator of the Universe, Bringer of Life and Salvation; the Hope and Sustainer throughout time: We are forever grateful for the service and sacrifice of ancestors, known and unknown, who envisioned a faith community here on this hill in Yellow Springs. We are filled with anticipation of what might yet take place through the people now assembled and the ministry yet to be discovered.

All: With respect for the past, we now live in the present, looking towards the future: O God of history and purpose.

Leader: With thanksgiving, we celebrate the Christian education that has taken place to prepare generations of children, youth, and adults to learn and live by the stories of Jesus. With joy in our hearts, we remember the walls of this, and previous sanctuaries, filled with musical praise and adoration. We are lifted by the laughter and feasting that has happened in moments of celebration and fellowship. We are blessed through the various pastors' preaching and the leadership of committed lay leaders who have modeled Christian maturity and service. In this place, we entered the divine mysteries of Baptism given and Holy Communion shared, each reminding us who we are and whose we are. We gathered here in this place to say goodbye to faith community friends through funerals and memorial services and welcomed new love through marriages and acknowledgements of new births.

All: With respect for the past, we now live in the present, looking towards the future: O God who is above and beyond time and place.

Leader: With appreciation and humility, we remember recent years of uncertainty because of the horrors of 9/11, of natural disasters, the uncertainty of living with and living through Covid-19, and the confusion of our Methodist roots being shaken and challenged. Through all of these events, O Lord, you have been with us. You have never left us. You have never forgotten us. You have always forgiven us. You have always loved us.

All: With respect for the past, we now live in the present, looking towards the future: O God the Cornerstone of our lives as individuals and as community.

Leader: With anticipation, we look towards the unrevealed tomorrow. As we greet longtime friends, we open wide the doors of our church to welcome strangers to join us on the journey of faith. With joy, we listen to scripture read and proclaimed, songs and anthems sung to Your glory, children recitations, youth offered questions, men and women in service to 'the least, the last and the lost,' with dialogue and discourse on the "Word made Flesh' that dwells with us and reminds us that "...neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.'

All: With respect for the past, we now live in the present, looking towards the future: O God of 1850, 1950, 2000, 2025, 2050, and beyond.

Leader: May we, the Congregation of Brook Hill United Methodist Church, on this day at this time ever remain, "Standing on the Promises of Christ, Our King, through eternal ages let His praises ring; Glory in the highest, we will shout and sing, Standing on the promises of God." May we, the women and men at the intersection of Yellow Springs, Indian Springs, Bethel, and Hamburg roads, become a gathering place for all persons who seek to grow in love of God and love of neighbor, all the while proclaiming, "God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power, crown thine ancient church's story, bring her bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour."

All: With respect for the past, we now live in the present, looking towards the future: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. In the name of the Creator, the Redeemer and the Sustainer. In the name of the one who was and is and is to come, the Almighty, now and forever. Amen and Amen.

Rev. Conrad O. Link, D.Min,

Pastor: Brook Hill Church 1992-2010

Anthem *"To God Be the Glory" (Fanny Crosby, arr. By Patti Drennan)*
Chancel Choir, Peg Bruckart and Dottie Winter - pianists

Preschool Recognition/Commemoration *Bambi Blackwell*
50 Years Preschool, 10 Years 2-year old program

*** Hymn #545 "The Church's One Foundation"**

Time of Sharing *Rev. Kathy Altman*
Letter from Bishop LaTrelle Easterling
Message from District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Eliezer Valentín-Castañón

Special Music *"Sing Your Praises to the Lord" (Rich Mullins)* *Garrett Harmon*

Time of Sharing *Rev. Dr. Dana Werts*

Recognition of Pastor Gary Hicks *Rev. Kathy Altman*
Community Mission Fund renaming *Tim Leber*

Special Music *"He's Still Working on Me" (Words and Music by Gary Hicks)*
(Recorded and Sung by Pastor Gary Hicks and the Brook Hill Praise Band)

A Prayer for the Church ~ On This Hill and Beyond *Rev. Dr. Dana Werts*

Time of Sharing *Rev. Dr. Dana Werts*

Offering Invitation *Rev. Kathy Altman*

Offertory *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"*
Garret Harmon & Quartet
(Matthew Bridges, 1851, rev. Godfrey Thring, 1874
music: George J. Elvey, 1868, setting by Don Zetterberg 2025)

*** Doxology Hymn #95 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

*** Offering Prayer**

Scripture

Acts 2:42-47 NIV

Kathleen Rogers

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Message

"Standing on the Shoulders"

Rev. Dr. Tom Connar

* **Hymn #117** **"O God Our Help in Ages Past"**

* Blessing

Song of Sending

"Lead Us on, O Lord" (Don Besig & Nancy Price)
Chancel Choir & Praise Team Singers

* Postlude

"French Suite no. 6 Gigue" (Bach)

Garrett Harmon

Our worship service has ended. Our service of worship begins.

Thank you for continuing to be faithful in giving to support the ministries of Brook Hill! We couldn't do it without you! We are partnering with God, investing in God's kingdom work, and reaping the blessing of generosity as we experience the faithfulness of God to provide all we need to be the Church of Jesus Christ.

Thank you to all those who excel in this grace of giving!



For those who prefer, Electronic Giving is available by texting "brookhillgive" to 833-245-6424, on our webpage, QR code, or your offering can be mailed in.

Brook Hill Church- Ministers Who Have Served From 1928- Present

Lewistown Charge

C.W. Lockhard	1928- 1932	Pastor
L.J. Moor	1932- 1934	Pastor

Urbana Charge

Biggs W. Elliott	1934- 1937	Pastor
Chas. M. Robinson	1937- 1940	Pastor
J.W. Briscoe	1940- 1943	Pastor

Trinity Charge

Henry Lumb	1943- 1945	Pastor
F. Bailey Phelps	1945	Student
James Hall	1945- 1946	Pastor
Thomas Morgan	1946- 1949	Pastor
L.G. Stewart	1949- 1952	Student
Herbert L. Doggett	1952- 1956	Pastor
Harold Ammons	1956- 1959	Pastor
James Bellamy	1959- 1963	Pastor
Joseph Sheridan	1963	Student
Lyle Ashby	1963- 1964	Pastor

Went Station

(No longer a part of a Charge)

William Pittman	1964- 1966	Student
Weller Lewis	1966- 1967	Student
C. Lewis Robinson	1967- 1971	Pastor
Carl B. Rife	1971- 1981	1st FT appointed Pastor
Thomas N. Connor	1981- 1992	Pastor
Conrad O. Link	1992- 2010	Pastor
Byron Brought	1995- 1998	1st Associate Pastor
Janet Detiker Wilson	1998- 2001	1st Female Assoc. Pastor
Gaye Smith	2001- 2003	Pastor
Linda Warehime	2003- 2012	Assoc. Pastor/ 2018-2022 Visitation Pastor
Gary Hicks	2008- 2021	1st Outreach Pastor
Kenneth Walker	2010- 2014	Pastor
Wade Martin	2014- 2019	Pastor
Dana Werts	2012- Present	Assoc. Pastor, Interim Lead, Lead Pastor
Jennifer Mauras-Rivera	2019- Present	Pastor of Shalom Hispanic Ministry
Josh Gillen	2021- 2022	Assoc. Pastor
Dawn Brooks-Thorps	2021- 2022	Assoc. Pastor
Kathy Altman	2022- Present	Assoc. Pastor

Pastor Interns

Jeff Zalatoris
Dawn Brooks-Thorps
Ralph Carver

It is hard to imagine what it was like in 1850 when Brook Hill was just beginning. Through the years the congregation has grown and expanded to be the message of hope for our community and beyond. Many lives have been touched, families supported, faith journeys strengthened, as the landscape continually changes both inside and beyond the church walls. We are called to be disciples, who make disciples, who live and love like Jesus.

This church has seen many pastors, associates, staff members, and dedicated volunteers all sharing their gifts and talents. I feel so incredibly blessed to be a part of the continuing legacy of Brook Hill.

Looking back and appreciating the past to me includes looking toward the future. What are the next faithful steps for this church body to undertake? What mission fields are we being called to in this day and time? How are we continuing to share the love of Christ in every way to our neighbors and beyond to the ends of the earth?

Our world continues to experience conflicts, challenges, hardships, and pain. Our calling is to share the light of Christ in every way – through our words, our actions, our very lives.

Thank you Brook Hill, for 175 years of service! I look forward to being a part of this next phase of our ministry together!

Rev. Dr. Dana Wertz
Lead Pastor

Rev. Kathy Altman
Associate Pastor



Former Pastors



Rev. Carl Rife
1971-1981



Rev. Dr. Conrad Link
1992-2010



Rev. Dr. Tom Connor
1981-1992



Rev. Ken Walker
2010-2014



Rev. Dr. Wade Martin
2014-2019

And Associate Pastors



Rev. Byron Brought
1995-1998



Rev. Gaye Smith
2001-2003



Rev. Linda Warehime
2003-2012



Rev. Dawn Brooks-Tharps
2021-2022