



Wesley United Methodist Church,
www.wesleychurch-hampstead.org

3239 Carrollton Rd., Hampstead, MD 21074
wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org 410-374-4027

*Our **Vision** is to be a community filled with the **hope and love of Jesus**. Our **Mission** is to make disciples by growing & learning, worshiping & praying, and serving & connecting.*

From the Desk of the Pastor...

Friends:

January begins a New Year. The month of January derives its name from Roman mythology. Janus was a god of transitions, one known as an in-between god who straddles events from their beginning to their end. The Roman portrait of Janus depicts him having two faces – one looking back at the past and one pointing to the future.

“As we look at the past, what things do we need to jettison to help us face the future?”

The process of facing the future while looking back at the past is a good model for us during this time of transition at Wesley. **As we look at the past, what things do we need to jettison to help us face the future?** As we look towards the future, what important things do we need to hold onto from our

past which strengthen us in facing the future? If Wesley decides to have a congregational vote that determines whether to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church or not to disaffiliate, how will the decided vote effect Wesley’s ministry and what relational impact will it have on the life of the congregation? No doubt, this will require serious reflection and deliberate soul-searching from us.

Let us briefly look at the first question. **As we look at the past, what things do we need to jettison that will help us face the future?**

In the movie, *Delores Claiborne*, Delores (Played by the actor Kathy Bates) works cleaning the house of a wealthy elderly woman who lives alone. The woman wants everything done one way – her way – the right way. Delores describes her as a “prisoner of her own ideas.”

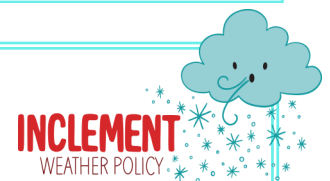
This can describe the church. We can find ourselves repeating the same patterns and ways of doing things. Over time, churches can become accustomed to doing things one way and one way only. From the past, we jettison only those

(Continued on Page 4)

Inside This Issue:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Birthdays, Anniversaries, Our Condolences, Updating Contact Info, Family & Friends to Keep in Prayer | 2 |
| “Thank You”s | 3 |
| “From the Desk of the Pastor” Continued, “From the Staff-Parish Relations Committee” | 4 |
| The Frank & Loretta Harris Music Scholarship | 5 |
| A Winter Soup Sale!, The Wesley Book Club, A Bracelet with Eternal Value... | 6 |
| United Methodist Men’s News, Troop 380 Auction Items, NESAP Needs | 7 |
| Current COVID-19 Guidelines, January Lectionary, Westminster Rescue Mission & Night-by-Night Shelter | 8 |
| The Harrell Library “Good News” - First Edition | 9 |
| Wesley UMC Leadership—2023 | 10-11 |
| November Administrative Council Minutes | 12-14 |
| January 2023 Calendar | 15 |
| January Worship Participants | Back Page |

Please Remember Wesley UMC’s Inclement Weather Policy:



If the Snow Emergency Plan is in effect in Carroll County at 6 AM, Sunday School and Fellowship Time will be cancelled. The 11 AM service will depend on the severity of the weather.

In the event of inclement weather, a message will be left on the church answering service by 7 AM regarding services, but please use your discretion for the weather in your area. We don’t want anyone getting injured!



- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Bonnie Christiani | Drew Hohmes |
| Barbara Houck | Dan Pfoutz |
| 3 Dennis L. Rill | 19 Sandy Cole |
| 5 Kim Peake | Roy Rill |
| 6 Jan Kurtz | 20 Taylor Miller |
| 7 Bill Connor | 21 Joshua Ejek |
| Paul Kemp | 22 Bradley Rill |
| 9 Evan Mahosky | 25 Brady Jansson |
| 10 George Davey | 26 Janet Martin |
| Donald Lippy | 27 Gary Wilmer |
| 12 Chet Phillips | 28 Roger Daugherty |
| 14 Zeke Halley | Irene Davis |
| Raelynn Rill | Keegan Rill |
| 15 Dot Benedict | Darilyn (Peake) |
| 17 David Graf | Thompson |
| Colton Horner | 30 Scott Palmer |
| Tracey Rill | 31 Charlotte Gyory |
| 18 George Brooks | Aaron Horner |



- | | |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 5 | Robert & Barbara Houck |
| 6 | Michael & Lee Ann Crochunis |
| 20 | Earl & Bonnie Christiani |
| 25 | Gregory & Courtney Horner |



Updating Your Info.

Please contact **Sandy Cole, Membership Secretary** by e-mail at baldor1@comcast.net or by phone at **410-876-5295** if your name, address, phone number or e-mail address has changed. Feel free to contact her with any other changes you require. Additionally, if you spot an error in the Directory, please let her know so she can correct it.

Our Condolences...

We offer our condolences to the friends and family of **Ed Lippy**, who passed away on Saturday, December 3, 2022. May the Lord comfort Ed's loved ones as they mourn his passing and celebrate his life.



Family and Friends to Keep in Prayer (Cards and Calls Welcome!)

**Rev. Amy Sarah Lewis-
and Denny Rill**
3674 Stewartstown Rd.
Stewartstown, PA 17363

Stewart Graf
Longview Nursing Home
Room 139
3332 Main St.
Manchester, MD 21102

Jean Colton
Longview Nursing Home
Room 214B
3332 Main St.
Manchester, MD 21102

Peggy Dovell
2322 Susanann Drive
Hampstead, MD 21074
(410) 374-0199

Dot Benedict
3860 Normandy Dr., Apt. 1D
Hampstead, MD 21074

Shirley Rytel
Manor Care Health Services
Kingston Court
2400 Kingston Court, Room 106
York, PA 17402



Have a New Neighbor? We can help welcome them home! Contact Reenie Harris at (410) 848-1121.



Thank you to all our Wesley Family for your prayers, notes, and calls since Deanna's passing.

John and Dean

I wanted to thank the carolers who visited Curtis and [me] on Sunday. We were both touched by the singers as neither of us have had that experience before. Thank you so much.

Cheryl Gore

On behalf of the staff of Wesley UMC, thank you for the wonderful gifts given to us by the congregation during December. Your thoughtfulness, generosity, and remembrance are very much appreciated. Year after year, you have been kind in your appreciation giving to Wesley staff and pastors. Hopefully, we give back through service to you and to our Lord throughout the year. May you be blessed as you have been a blessing!

With gratitude, the Wesley UMC Staff

A huge **THANK YOU** to Laura Waltrup for serving as Wesley's treasurer for the past eleven years! Her dedication and expertise are much appreciated! Big shoes to fill...

Anonymous

Brothers and sisters of Wesley Church,

Thank you so much for all the love you shared with me for a postponed Clergy Appreciation Month. It was really unexpected, and it was such a wonderful outpouring of kindness for me! It is a pleasure and blessing to serve with you all as co-laborers in the vineyard for the gospel of Jesus Christ. I want to send you all my greatest thanks for making my first months of being clergy such a joy.

Love in Christ, Rev. Matt Sichel

Awesome carolers came to visit today... thanks!

Marty Joiner

"Sleep in Heavenly Peace"

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. John 1:14"

Christmas blessings to you and yours ~

The Board & Staff of Pregnancy Support Center of Carroll County (Feliz Navidad...A., Laura, Jenny, Swuretha, Karen)

"From the Desk of the Pastor" Continued from Page 1...

things that prevent our spiritual growth toward a greater love of God and love of our neighbors; such things as prejudice based on fear and a lack of understanding and an arrogance made possible by the void of humility.

Of course, it would be unwise to discard all that is in the past. We are indebted to those who have gone before us. There is a lot of good in the past and we need to build on their accomplishments.

This leads us to the second question. ***As we look towards the future, what important things do we hold onto from our past which will strengthen us in facing the future?***

Responding to this question leads us in various directions. However, I would like for us to specifically look at theology and beliefs. Many questions at our Open-Forum held on December 3rd centered on doctrine and beliefs. They are important questions. ***On January 14, from 1- 3pm, at Wesley Church a presentation by Rev. Joe DiPaolo will be on the Global Methodist Church (GMC), a new denomination that began May 1, 2022.*** (Details of the event are in this newsletter.) Our beliefs will be one of the topics addressed in his presentation. I am planning to attend on January 14th so I can listen and learn more about the GMC.

The late Bishop Yeakel often reminded us that every clergy person appointed to a local church becomes the *"theologian-in-residence."* I, too, believe our core tenets of faith are essential to understanding who we are and to knowing whose we are. ***So as your appointed pastor, I will be giving a presentation on Saturday, February 4, 2023, at Wesley Church from 1-3 pm*** to address why I think it is important to stay in the ***United Methodist Church*** and provide reasons why I have come to this conclusion. On a personal note, I want you to know that in doing this, I do not belittle the faith of those who may disagree with me. Disagreement happens in every church. When approached with humility and agape love, working through our disagreements can lead us to deeper questions about our faith and provide us an opportunity to understand each other.

So, what will the New Year bring for Wesley during this time of transition and change? The answer to this question will depend on the decisions we make. The good news, however, is we can face the challenges before us by placing our trust and faith in the God who sends us his Son, Jesus. We do not place our trust in Janus or any of Rome's pantheon of gods. Rather, we can claim the sacredness of our past, the availability of God's Spirit working through us in the present, and trust that the future of promise and eternal hope is in God's hands. We follow Jesus who comes as God's gracious gift that is both timely and timeless. Therefore, these words from the book of Hebrews bring us assurance, knowing that *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever"* (Heb. 13:8).

Grace and Peace, Gary

From the Staff-Parish Relations Committee:

Wesley Church continues to discern the future of our congregation with regard to "Stay or Go" and the United Methodist Church. Our next opportunity for education about the choices ahead of us will be a presentation about the Global Methodist Church (GMC). On Saturday, January 14, from 1-3pm, we will be hearing from the Rev. Joe DiPaolo, currently the pastor of First UMC in Lancaster, PA and a member of the Wesleyan Covenant Association Global Council, who will be introducing us to the GMC.

The Wesleyan Covenant Association is the body which set in motion the formation of the GMC. The GMC is the new traditionalist Wesleyan denomination which began on May 1, 2022, as a connection for churches which have disaffiliated from the United Methodist Church and would choose a denomination that is focused on the authority of Scripture, classical Wesleyan theology, and traditional orthodox Christian beliefs. Come out and hear about one of the options available for Wesley Church should we approve disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church. There will be a time for questions and answers following the presentation.

The Frank and Loretta Harris Music Scholarship

The **Frank and Loretta Harris Music Scholarship** program has been established in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Harris in dedicated thanks for their lifetime of love and support of music and musicians of Wesley United Methodist Church. Their loyal encouragement has provided musical experiences and opportunities for Wesley members to perform within the church services and in the local community.

The scholarships are open to Wesley member applicants of any age who are studying or planning to study music through private lessons and school lessons. All disciplines are welcomed, including voice, piano, organ, brass, woodwinds, strings, percussion, and composition.

They are also designed to partly include instrument repairs if needed.

Applicant members may also be pursuing college degrees or other suitable dimensions of the practice of musical craft after graduating from high school.

Each year, the recipients should be able to perform several times at Wesley Church during regular worship services or special occasions, of course in coordination with the Music Department. A dedication to musical leadership as a member of Wesley is an important goal to help to ensure that quality church music will be continued for the next generations.

The scholarships usually begin with gifts of \$400-\$1000, depending on the level of study. Each candidate is carefully considered in all aspects which combine to identify that person, their ability, level and dedication. Renewal of awards is considered yearly and strongly encouraged.

Applications will be accepted until January 15, 2023. Below is an application outline, with suggestions to be considered by the applicants as to how they view themselves, Wesley church, and their musical journey. Please address a **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION** in the form of an email to:

Larry Harris: lharris994@sbcglobal.net

I also may be reached 24/7 by text or call at: **330-360-9948**

APPLICATION GUIDELINES: *(Applicant has freedom to design this content.)*

- Your name, age, musical instrument or voice, number of years of study, teacher's name(s)
- Your home address/email/phone
- Your experience so far in the musical programs at Wesley/your school/community/other
- What are your short-term musical goals? Long-term goals?
- Any other things of interest you would like me to know about you
- Questions for me to answer for you

As a 65-yr. member of Wesley Church, I want to thank each and every member for your continued support of fine quality music, music participation and musical leadership.

It will keep OUR faith alive, as it has for me for 77 years.

Larry F. Harris

Professor of Music, Youngstown State University, Youngstown, OH
Director of Music/Organist, First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown



A Winter Soup Sale!



Sunday, January 29, 2023

(Snow date Sunday, February 5th)

Pre-orders will begin January 8th!
Watch your church bulletin and email for the selection of soups.

Seafood soups will be \$12.
All other soups will be \$10.
Rolls/breads will also be for sale.

Please contact Cindy Myatt at (410) 596-5391 or candcmyatt@gmail.com by Jan. 22nd to place your order.

The Wesley Book Club: Upcoming Dates, Times, and Readings

Wesley Book Club meets at MJ's Café & Baking Co. in Manchester, MD, on the last Thursday of each month at **12 Noon**. All are welcome! Contact Reenie Harris with questions at ichdeh@comcast.net or (410) 848-1121.

Here are the next **Book Club Reading Selections and Meeting Dates; all are welcome!**

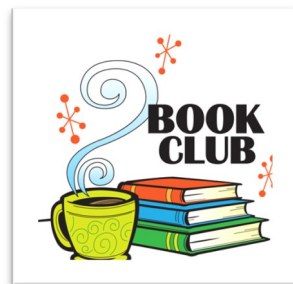
Meeting JANUARY 26, 2023: FINDING DOROTHY by Elizabeth Letts

Meeting FEBRUARY 23, 2023: THE INN AT OCEAN'S EDGE by Colleen Coble

Meeting MARCH 23, 2023: FILE M FOR MURDER by Miranda James (Cat in the Stacks, #3)

Meeting APRIL 27, 2023: LESSONS IN CHEMISTRY by Bonnie Garmus

Happy reading! Reenie Harris  



A Bracelet with Eternal Value... Words from The Least of These Ministries



When we learn something, there is value in the lesson that is so much more than the knowledge we gain. Lives can be impacted when we pass on that knowledge to others. Our ministry staff recently held an activity with about 70 kids in Batey Santa Maria. The event focused on God's plan of salvation for His children. "It fills me with great joy and emotion to be able to teach that story of the plan of salvation with the children of Batey Santa Maria," said Ricardo, our Ministry Manager. He recalls learning this lesson when he was "very little." Ricardo led the event, along with Wilton, Pastor Ramón, and leaders from the local church. The event included worship, prayer, reading from the bible, and activities. Each child attending the event received an 'Evangelism Bracelet' that has several different colored beads, each representing an element of God's salvation plan. The bracelets were donated by a mission team earlier this year. "I remember a group of Missionaries that used to come with Steve Hull taught us how to make similar bracelets that symbolized the plan of salvation and told us the meaning of each color," Ricardo said. "It was an effective way to keep that story of salvation in our mind and heart." The kids were challenged to share the plan of salvation with their parents and neighbors, explaining the meaning of each color. Ricardo reports that by the end of the event, kids were sharing with one another about what they had learned!

United Methodist Men's News...



The UMM held a fine November meeting. Commissioner Dick Weaver provided his final state of the county address. Dick focused on areas that he is proud of and happy with where we're at as Carroll County. These included many things such as AAA bond rating, veterans affairs support, and education, to name a few.

Thanks to all who supported the UMM Pancake Breakfast on Dec 4th. Proceeds go towards our outreach. We will be finalizing where we want to focus in early 2023.

No December meeting. Next meeting is Monday, January 16th at 6:30PM in the fellowship hall. Dinner, meeting and devotion are planned. Specific program/speaker TBD.

**The Troop 380 Auction is Back On Schedule!
Donations are Being Accepted...**



Wesley's Scout Troop (Troop 380) is having its annual auction on:

Saturday, March 4th!

The Troop is seeking good condition or better family treasures and used items that you might like to donate (no upholstered items, please!)

If you would like to coordinate a pick-up for heavy items, please email or call Bob Frey at bob.frey@exitresults.com or (410) 960-9555.

Thank you for your support!

NESAP Needs



As we move closer to the Holiday season, we are receiving more request for help. At this point, our food pantry inventory is very low. If you have the resources to help, our pantry receives donations Monday through Saturday from 9 AM to 2 PM at our Hampstead location at 1046 S. Carroll Street (or you can place them in Wesley's collection box by the Fellowship Hall). PLEASE SHARE. God Bless and Thank You.

Items needed (in date/not expired) OR DONATION OF GIFT CARD:

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Instant Potatoes | Jell-O | Pudding | Stuffing | Ramen Noodles |
| Canned Potatoes | Breakfast Bars | Juice/Other Drinks | Pasta Sides | Jelly |
| Canned Chicken | Other Meats | Mixed Vegetables | Helper | Soup |
| Canned Fruit | Applesauce | Brownie Mix | Shampoo | Dish Detergent |
| Diapers (Size 4, 5, & 6) | Paper Towels | Laundry Detergent | | |

Current COVID-19 Guidelines...



At this time, the community level for Carroll County is **"MEDIUM,"** meaning that **we should stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines and get tested if we have symptoms. People may choose to mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.**

We are currently "mask optional" at Wesley; this is dependent on the conditions surrounding us regarding COVID; if the numbers increase again, we may need to re-mask. Please use your discretion as to whether or not you feel comfortable attending services, and thank you for your help in protecting each other! If you or someone close to you has been exposed to COVID and/or you have been in the church building while possibly contagious, please notify Jan Kurtz at jan.kurtz@gmail.com or by phone at (443) 340-6497. Thank you!

January Lectionary... GET INTO THE WORD!

January 1: Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23

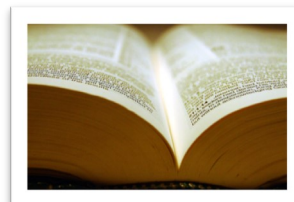
January 6 (Epiphany of the Lord): Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

January 8 (Baptism of the Lord): Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

January 15 (Human Relations Day): Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42

January 22: Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23

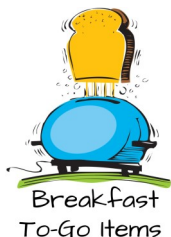
January 29: Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12



Westminster Rescue Mission & Night-by-Night Homeless Shelter



The Mission continues to accept monetary donations towards bottled water. Please give your contributions to Vicky Wilmer, Janet Martin, or Jan Kurtz. You can also mail them to the church clearly labeled "Westminster Rescue Mission – Water." This will be an ongoing ministry/mission.



Outreach is also continuing to collect **donations of breakfast-to-go items for the Night-by-Night Shelter.** There is a box in the back of the sanctuary for your donations, which can include things like soft granola bars, fruit cups, mini muffins, peanut butter crackers, cheese crackers, pop tarts, etc. Shelter guests often do not have the opportunity for breakfast, and this will be an ongoing need. Thank you so much for your donations!

First Edition
January, 2023

THE HARRELL LIBRARY GOOD NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

WHAT'S THE GOOD NEWS?

Welcome to the first edition of "The Harrell Library Good News". As disciples of Christ, we are to spread the "Good News" ... the news being that JESUS loved us so much that he died for our sins - He was resurrected - He lives - He is with us - and we can look forward to spending eternity living with Him in our Heavenly home.

A BIG THANK YOU to Bonnie Catron and Nan Lishman for the past five years of dedication and service in their roles as Librarian to The Harrell Library. We wish them the very best as they pursue other ventures. A job well done.

As your new Librarian, my goal is to also spread "Good News" about what is happening in our church library. I'm going to suggest some reads each month, which I will pull off the shelves and place on the coffee table in the center of the room. I will be referring to these selections as "Coffee Table Reads". Should you choose one of these selections, just sign it out by following the directions shown below. As I learn my way around the nooks and crannies, I want to take you along with me on my new venture as we discover just what treasures are stored and filed among the shelves of The Harrell Library.

DID YOU KNOW?

There are 1,963 books displayed on the shelves in The Harrell Library.

COFFEE TABLE READS FOR JANUARY, 2023

LIVING FAITHFULLY - Human Sexuality and The United Methodist Church

Writers: Jill M. Johnson - freelance writer and Dir. Of Inviting Ministeries at Bethany UMC in Austin, TX; Dave Barnhart - Pastor of Saint Junia UMC in Birmingham, AL; Rebekah Jordan Glenapp - an ordained Deacon in the Memphis Conference; Alex Joyner, Dist. Superintendent of the UM churches on Virginia's Eastern Shore.

The 4 chapters in this book gives you honest, well-informed and grace-filled conversations about matters occurring in the United Methodist Churches regarding homosexuality, same-gender marriage and the ordination of LGBTQ persons.

We have 8 copies of this book - 4 placed on the Coffee Table in the Harrell Library and 4 in the back of the Sanctuary.

We ask that you read and return in a timely fashion so that they can be shared and available for others to read.

JUST AS I AM - The Autobiography of Billy Graham

Billy Graham has touched the hearts and souls of millions with his message of faith. For the first time ever, he tells his lifetime story. He looks back at it all with down-to-earth warmth and candor - remembering his daily farm upbringing, his early preaching experiences, and the overwhelming international response to his public ministry based on his unshakable belief in Christ. Dr. Graham maintains an unimpeachable reputation and powerful presence by managing his organization scrupulously, limiting his personal earnings, and urging cooperation rather than competition among all religious people. Discussing his relationships with various heads of state and his influence in impressing the need for God's help.

THE LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER by James Michael Pratt

Peter O'Banyon's life changed forever when his family was killed in a car accident. Sent to live with his Uncle Billie, the keeper of the Port Hope Lighthouse in Massachusetts. From Billie he learns the secret of keeping love alive - even when tragedy strikes. World War II takes Peter away from the lighthouse and his wife, Anna, but he isn't prepared for the ravages of war and the brutality that can kill a man's soul. Peter is tested even further when he returns home and faces a tragedy that almost destroys him. Moving, poignant, hopeful and heartbreaking.

SIGNING OUT AND RETURNING A BOOK

Our Library is for you to use and enjoy. Remember to sign your name and date to the card found in the back of the book. File the card in the yellow box under the letter that begins with the **Author's last name**. When you return a book, retrieve the card from the yellow box, put the return date on the card and place back in the pocket in the back of the book. Returned books can be placed on the shelf the yellow box or on the desk. The Librarian will re-shelve them. Please return borrowed items within 6 months.

HAPPY READING!

Reenie Harris, Librarian

Wesley UMC Leadership • 2023

"Listen, my son, accept what I say, and the years of your life will be many.

"I instruct you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths.

"When you walk, your steps will not be hampered; when you run, you will not stumble." Proverbs 4:10-12

Thank you to all who have given their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to Wesley UMC. Below are our 2023 leaders. Please welcome both new and returning and support them as best you can in the coming months. May God bless us as we work to be in His will!

Administrative Council

Chair: Jan Kurtz

Recording Secretary: Jess Sichel

Treasurer: Laura Waltrup (Jan.) **Position Open**

Lay Leader: **Position Open**

Pastor: Rev. Gary Sheffield-James

Worship Chair: Janet Martin

UWF President: Connie Wiegel

Trustees Chair: Dennis Rill

Historian: Matt Sichel

Visitation Committee Chair: Reenie Harris

Lay Member to Annual Conf.: Linda Yost

Lay Leadership (Nomin.) Chair: Rev. Gary Sheffield-James

Christian Education Chair/Co-Chair: Jennifer Ejk, Jackie Otwell

At-Large: Bonnie Catron, John Sies, Gary Wilmer, Brenda Kennedy, Scott Palmer, Linda Hollman

Vice-Chair: Lee Ann Crochunis

Membership Secretary: Sandy Cole

Finance Chair: Michelle Hudgins

Financial Secretary: Jonathan Yost

Memorials Comm. Chair: **Position Open**

Outreach Ministry Chair: Vicky Wilmer

UMM President: Dave Hudgins

Cemetery Committee Chair: Dennis Rill

Communications Committee Chair: Sandy Cole

SPRC Chair: Linda Yost

UMYF Representative: Rose Sichel

Board of Trustees: Chair: **TBD**

Vice-Chair: **TBD**

Secretary: **TBD**

Class of 2023: Dennis Rill, Jim Watkins, **Position Open**

Class of 2024: Lee Ann Crochunis, Gary Wilmer, Dean Brewer

Class of 2025: Phillip Daugherty, Chet Phillips, Roger Daugherty

Non-Voting Member: *Need* (Sexton); **Lay Member to Annual Conference:** Linda Yost

Building Committee (Rolls up to Trustees): Chair: Denny Rill Secretary: *Need*

Members: (Trustees Rep) **Position Open**, Matt Sichel, Laura Waltrup

Endowment Fund Committee (Rolls up to Trustees): Chair: Laura Waltrup Secretary: *Need*

Treasurer: Andy Smith **Trustees Liaison:** **TBD** **Finance Liaison:** Jonathan Yost

Members include: Jeff Horner, Cindy Myatt

Finance Committee: Chair: Michelle Hudgins

Financial Secretary: Jonathan Yost **Treasurer:** Laura Waltrup (term ends January 2023)

Committee Members: John Sies, Jason Martin, Dave Hudgins, Denny Rill

Ex-officio: Lay Member to Annual Conference (Linda Yost), SPRC Representative (Roger Daugherty), Trustees Chair (Denny Rill)

Capital Fundraising Committee (Rolls up to Finance): Chair: Linda Yost

Members include: Finance Representative (**TBD**), Trustees Representative (**TBD**), Sandy Cole

Outreach Ministries: Chair: Vicky Wilmer

Members: Cindy Myatt, Betty Barr, Jan Kurtz, Janet Martin, Clay Myatt, Jackie Otwell, Matt Otwell, Pam Phillips, Dian Rowe, Betsy Sennett, Connie Wiegel, Linda Yost, Norma Beam, Chet Phillips, Madison Smith

(Continued on Next Page)

Wesley UMC Leadership (*Continued*) • 2023

Staff Parish Relations Committee: Chair: Linda Yost

Class of 2023: Kim Peake, Linda Hollman, Linda Yost

Class of 2024: Reenie Harris, Dave Hudgins, Norma Lou Beam

Class of 2025: Roger Daugherty, Matt Otwell, Brenda Hess

Ex-officio: Lay Member to Annual Conf. (Linda Yost) and **Lay Leader (Need)**

Education Committee:

Christian Education Team Chairperson: Jennifer Ejk

Christian Education Team Members: Patty Harris, Jackie Otwell

Teachers/Assistants: Bonnie Catron, Lisa Kemp, Davona Palmer, Linda Yost, Rev. Matt Sichel (*Commissioned Deacon*)

Committee on Lay Leadership: Chair: Rev. Gary Sheffield-James

Class of 2023: Connie Wiegel, **Position Open**, John Sies

Class of 2024: Gladys Smith, Pat Daugherty, Jim Watkins

Class of 2025: **Position Open**, Charlotte Gyory, Jan Kurtz

Worship Committee: Chairs: Janet Martin

Communion Steward: Linda Hollman

Chancel Choir Director: Jan Graf

Praise Team Leaders: Lisa Kemp

Organist: Jeff Horner

At Large: Linda Yost, Kim Peake

Children's Choir:

Liturgist / Usher / Greeter Coordinator: Janet Martin

Altar Guild: Brenda Kennedy, Sandy Cole, and Peggy Horner

Church Secretary: Jess Sichel

Memorial Committee: Chair: **Position Open**

Committee Members: Ruth Rill, Brenda Benson, Gordon Benson, Lee Ann Crochunis, (*previous chairpersons?*)

At Large: Michelle Hudgins (Finance Chairperson)

Cemetery Committee: Chair: Dennis Rill Treasurer: Laura Waltrup

Members: Joan Porterfield, Jan Graf, Wayne Horner, Carl Rill, James Watkins, John Sies

Small Groups: Coordinators: Laura Waltrup, Jess Sichel

Communications: Chair: Sandy Cole

Members: **Need**, Matt Sichel & Rose Sichel (Church Sign)

Church Administrator: Jess Sichel

Visitation Committee: Chair: Reenie Harris

Members: Sandy Cole, Jacki Grabowski, Betsy Sennett, Linda Yost, Barbara Sater

Membership Committee: Chair: Sandy Cole

Members: Denny Rill, Jessica Sichel, Laura Waltrup

Church Librarian: Reenie Harris

Certified Lay Servants: Linda Yost

Primary Liaison, Maryland Faith Health Network (MFHN): Sandy Cole

Administrative Council Meeting Minutes • November 30, 2022

Attendees: Jan Kurtz, Rev. Gary Sheffield-James, Rev. Matt and Jess Sichel, John Sies, Connie Wiegel, Denny Rill, Michelle and Dave Hudgins, Jen Ejk, Vicky Wilmer, Reenie Harris, Laura Waltrup, Janet Martin, Scott Palmer, Lee Ann Crochunis, and Linda and Jonathan Yost.

The meeting was opened in prayer at 7:09 PM by Pastor Gary.

Finance Report: No Treasurer's Report

Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)

- Just prior to this meeting and during the first part of this meeting, there was an Open Forum planning meeting.
 - The group is hoping for a good attendance.
 - There are a lot of questions and is a lot of information.
 - Breakfast goodies will be served in the hall first, then there will be a bit of worship and a Question and Answer session in the Sanctuary
- At a previous Administrative Council meeting, we moved to education the congregation. Now, in a new motion, are we going to move forward to vote?
 - It was mentioned that as representatives, we should talk to people and see what the thoughts of the congregation are.
 - We have not yet agreed to go to a vote to stay with the UMC or leave the UMC and go elsewhere.
 - Lee Ann asked if there are people who do not want to vote. Pastor Gary and Linda Yost affirmed that there are.
 - A relatively low number of people (20-25) participated in our recent education activities (book discussions, "Stay or Go" webinar viewing). It was also noted that individuals may be educating themselves separately.
 - Dave asked if it is up to the Administrative Council to determine if we vote. The answer, given by Linda Yost, was "yes," as we are the governing body. Per the District Superintendent, Ann LaPrade, there is no precedence for the D.S. being involved.
 - The Administrative Council must agree to call for a vote. If a vote is called, the deadline to vote is April 30th.
- Some questions were raised concerning the Open Forum:
 - Vicky Wilmer asked if the session will be recorded as requested. Discussion ensued on whether or not and how to record/transcribe/ZOOM the session. [The Open Forum was recorded and uploaded to YouTube on a limited view-ability, meaning individuals must have the link to view the recording. To obtain the link, please contact Linda Yost. Additionally, Jess and Matt Sichel will be working on seeing about a transcription of the YouTube video.]
 - Discussion continued on the process of the presentation of the questions, some of which have already been submitted and sorted through and some of which will be brought in-person by the gathering. Discussion was also held about the format of the Open Forum—will there be a panel? If a question is asked, will multiple panelists be able to share perspectives?
- On January 14th, Joe DiPaolo from the Global Methodist Church will give a presentation at Wesley UMC.
- Reenie Harris, our incoming librarian for the Harrell Library, asked if copies of the "Living Faithfully" book (there are eight in the Library) should be advertised to the congregation; this idea received a positive response and Reenie was encouraged to let people know that the books are available. Reenie will send out an email.
- **About the vote to call for a vote: The Administrative Council decided to vote whether or not to call for a member vote to stay or go at the January Ad. Council meeting.**
- Linda Just filed the last Arena form (Pastor's Evaluation).
- The SPRC has one more staff person to review.

Trustees:

- The roof work is done except for some flashing. The cost was \$51,000 (insurance paid around \$50,000).

(Continued on Next Page)

(Continued from Previous Page)

- There is a problem with the lighting in the Sanctuary. Gary Wilmer (and other(s)) have checked / will check out the lights, which seem to be a switch and burned out light bulbs.
- The light and the ceiling in the Fellowship Hall bathroom are coming down as a result of the roofing going on.
- In December, Trustees will meet on Tuesday, December 6th, instead of Wednesday, December 7th.

Christian Education:

- The Advent Carnival on November 27th went well. There were lots of kids, the Chrismon tree was decorated, attendees made Advent wreaths, and participants made a blank for handing out to the community.
- The Christian Ed. team is beginning pageant preparations. The pageant will be on December 18th; Christian Ed. will be sticking with the normal program.
- **Note from Worship:** Kim Peake purchased glow lights for the family Christmas Eve service!

United Methodist Men:

- The UMM met November 21st. It was a good meeting with food and fellowship. Dick Weaver gave his last "State of the County" address, which included things he is happy/proud about.
- The UMM will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast from 9 AM to 11 AM on December 4th for a free-will offering.
- The UMM will not meet in December; they will meet the third Monday in January.
- The UMM did not realize that they are scheduled to have fellowship time for December. The first Sunday is covered, and UMM will work on the other Sundays.

Outreach: (Please see minutes in December 2022 Journal)

- Outreach met November 9th.
- Thanks to all for your participation in the Soup Sale. Things went very well. 89 quarts of soup were made.
- Thirteen college students received gift cards.
- Outreach is sponsoring four local families for Christmas.
- 33 Boxes—more than last year—were collected for Operation Christmas Child. Most of the postage was covered.
- The Wesley Outreach Food Pantry has seen lots of use. We should be mindful of the cold months.
- Food donation collection was taken over to NESAP on November 21st. NESAP and Shepherd's Staff are both VERY low.
- Outreach is working with the Westminster Rescue Mission. Chicken Dinner meals were taken over; the December meal is in planning.
- The Outreach Cookie Walk is December 4th in the Wesley UMC kitchen. If you would like to bake cookies, please contact Vicky Wilmer or Cindy Myatt.
- January 29th: [a Baked Potato Luncheon was scheduled for January 29th; however, it has been cancelled. Instead, there will be a second Soup Sale that weekend.]
- An Advent flyer needs to be put in the Outreach Food Pantry—folks are invited to attend any services.

GriefShare: Reenie Harris

- The group is small, but it is very good.
- Next week will be the last meeting of this session.
- The next session will be in the Spring.

Visitation: Reenie Harris

- Visitation is meeting next Wednesday and will address Christmas cards for the homebound and those in the bulletin.
- Reenie caught the committee up on some of the folks Visitation is working with.

Worship: Jan. 14th, 2023, meeting from 1 to 3 PM may need to be rescheduled [has since been tentatively cancelled]

- Christmas Eve Services: 4 PM (Family) and 11 PM Candlelight
- December 25th: No Sunday School; Worship Service will be Service of Lessons and Carols. Liturgist and Greeters are/[will be] covered.
- January 1st, 2023: No Sunday School. Also, Holy Communion will NOT be on January 1st. Instead, it will be on

(Continued on Next Page)

(Continued from Previous Page)

January 8th.

- December 4th, 2022: A group of about five so far is scheduled to go caroling. Singers are needed.
- Special Music on Christmas Eve Service has been a discussion.
 - Will Isaac Sichel play? Rose Sichel and Matt may play a duet on Christmas Eve (Matt will ask Rose).
 - Alayna Mahosky—will she play? Someone can contact her via email.
 - More music can be used in the 4 PM service hopefully; Janet will check with Lisa.
- There will not be a Live Nativity this year; perhaps on another year.
- Dave Hudgins asked about moving the hours on Christmas Day and New Year's Day to 10 AM. Jess Sichel and others stated that this would not be a good idea at this time (hours already published; changing the hours may confuse congregants).

Lay Leadership

- Lay Leadership will start looking for a Treasurer with a restructured job description. Both Michelle and Laura know people who do bookkeeping. Laura is planning on going through January; there is no urgency. God has stepped up. Laura owes information to the committee about the job description.
- **The updated Lay Leadership Roster was provided to the Administrative Council. There were a number of updates upon which to be voted. A motion to accept the updated Lay Leadership Roster was raised. The vote to accept was unanimous.**

United Women in Faith: Met in November.

- The UWF is coordinating a coat drive. Nice coats, any size or shape is being accepted. Donations will be taken through December 8th. The donations will be given to Second Chance.
- The UWF have a new mission: The Save the Children project. The UWF has given \$200 for new books for flooded areas in West Virginia and Kentucky.
- The UWF will be helping a family for Christmas that is connected to the church with gifts and money.
- On December 15, the UWF will meet at the Myatt's home for a Christmas Party [this was cancelled due to illness].
- January 15th: Italian Luncheon Fundraiser. \$10—eat in or carry out. [Date tentatively changed to 2/26/23.]

Pastor's Report: Pastor Gary Sheffield-James provided a report prior to the meeting:

- **Vacation** – December 26th to January 2nd. Pulpit Supply – January 1st, 2023, Linda Yost will be preaching.
- **Rev. Matt Sichel** (*Commissioned Deacon*) will be covering any pastoral emergencies during this time. You can contact him either by cell – 443-278-3440 – or email – popsichel@hotmail.com.
- **Lay Leadership Committee** At our Church Conference, Wesley's Lay Leadership Report was deferred to be voted upon at the next Administrative Council. (Draft of Lay Leadership Roster submitted.) *Open Positions* – Church Treasurer (revised job description submitted), Lay Leader, Memorials Chairperson, 1 Position on Trustees, 2 positions for Lay Leadership Committee (nominations), etc.
- An **Open Forum** will be held on Saturday, December 3rd, from 9 am to 11 am at Wesley. District Superintendent, Ann Laprade, will be present to listen to the questions that are provided by those who will attend and those who have provided questions prior to the forum.
- **Attended 4 sessions** based on the book "*Living Faithfully: Human Sexuality and The United Methodist Church*".
- *Pastor Gary also provided an Advent and Christmas Worship Schedule, which was published in the December 2022 issue of The Wesley Journal.*

New Business:

- Vicky Wilmer announced that the Fall Supper net income was \$3,022.25 (up \$500). Thanks to all who donated, came, and so forth.
- **Deadlines for The Wesley Journal are now FIRMLY the 15th of the month prior.**

The meeting was closed in prayer at 8:12 PM by Rev. Matt.

Respectfully Submitted by Jess Sichel, Recording Secretary

UPCOMING Events

JANUARY 2023



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <p>1</p> <p>Regular Worship Schedule: 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship Time 11 AM Traditional Worship</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>3</p> <p>Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall 6:30 to 8 PM</p> | <p>4</p> <p>Office Drop-In 2 to 4 PM Trustees 7 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM</p> | <p>5</p> <p>Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7 PM</p> | <p>6</p> <p>Office Drop-In 2 to 4 PM</p> | <p>7</p> |
| <p>8</p> <p>Regular Worship Schedule</p> | <p>9</p> <p>Potluck Dinner 6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall Small Group Discussion Harrell Library 7:30 PM</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>11</p> <p>Office Drop-In 2 to 4 PM Outreach 6 PM SPRC 7:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM</p> | <p>12</p> <p>Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7 PM</p> | <p>13</p> <p>Office Drop-In 2 to 4 PM</p> | <p>14</p> <p>Presentation on Global Methodist Church by Joe DiPaolo; Church and Hall Reserved 12 to 4 PM</p> |
| <p>15</p> <p>Regular Worship Schedule <i>(UWF Italian Luncheon Postponed until 2/26/23)</i> Harris Scholarship Applications Due! February Journal Submissions Due!</p> | <p>16</p> <p>UMM Meeting 6:30 PM</p> | <p>17</p> | <p>18</p> <p>Office Drop-In 2 to 4 PM Finance 7 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM</p> | <p>19</p> <p>UWF Meeting 11 AM in Fellowship Hall (tentative) Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7 PM</p> | <p>20</p> <p>Office Drop-In 2 to 4 PM</p> | <p>21</p> |
| <p>22</p> <p>Regular Worship Schedule—Contemporary Worship Outreach Soup Sale Orders Due!</p> | <p>23</p> <p>Potluck Dinner 6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall Small Group Discussion Harrell Library 7:30 PM</p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25</p> <p>Office Drop-In 2 to 4 PM Administrative Council via ZOOM 7 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM</p> | <p>26</p> <p>Book Club at MJ's Café & Baking Co. 12 PM <i>(No Chancel Choir Rehearsal)</i></p> | <p>27</p> <p>Office Drop-In 2 to 4 PM (tentative)</p> | <p>28</p> <p>Hall and Kitchen Reserved—Soup Sale Prep.</p> |
| <p>29</p> <p>Regular Worship Schedule Wesley UMC Outreach Soup Sale! <i>(Hall & Kitchen Reserved)</i></p> | <p>30</p> | <p>31</p> | | | | <p>The services will also be live-streamed for those unable to be in person. Visit our website to view the current service.</p> |

SCHEDULE OF



WORSHIP



We're on the Web! Visit us at:
<https://wesleychurch-hampstead.org>

Phone: (410) 374-4027
 Email: wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org

Office Drop-In Hours: See Calendar Inside!

We seek to be a community filled with the hope and love of Jesus.

Worship Participants for January 2023:

- January 1:** Greeter—Dave Hudgins, Liturgist—Michelle Hudgins, Acolyte—Will Otwell, A/V Team—Matt Otwell, Music—The Chancel Choir & Organist Jeff Horner, Special Music—Alayna Mahosky and Tim Anderson
- January 8:** Greeters—UWF, Liturgist—Rev. Matt Sichel, Acolyte—TBD, A/V Team—TBD, Organist—Jeff Horner, Special Music—Isaac Sichel
- January 15:** Greeters—Brenda Kennedy & Sandy Cole, Liturgist—Rev. Stanley Harrell, Acolyte—TBD, A/V Team—TBD, Music—The Chancel Choir & Organist Jeff Horner
- January 22:** Greeters—Jan & Randy Kurtz, Music—Wesley UMC Praise Team, Praise Team Leader—Lisa Kemp, Acolyte—Will Otwell, A/V Volunteer—Matt Otwell
- January 29:** Greeters—Roxane & Dean Brewer, Liturgist—Jess Sichel, Acolyte—Isaac Sichel, A/V Volunteer—TBD, Organist—Jeff Horner



Wesley United Methodist Church
 3239 Carrollton Rd.
 Hampstead, MD 21074
 The Rev. Gary Sheffield-James, Interim Pastor
 Address Service Requested