

The Wesley Journal



Wesley United Methodist Church
3239 Carrollton Road, Hampstead, MD 21074
Phone 410-374-4027 – www.wesleychurch-hampstead.org
Church Office Email: wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org

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

From the Desk of the Pastor...

Friends:

For many of us, the New Year is about making resolutions. We make a promise to give up certain destructive behaviors and practice positive ones.

Of course, the resolution many of us make after the holidays is to lose weight. After indulging ourselves with too much food, desserts, and candies, the extra pounds do add up.

Keeping resolutions is indeed difficult. If you are like me, you probably have had your share of broken promises. Sometimes we produce clever ways to sidetrack our promises.

Janice Walsh submitted a story to Christian Reader. She said that her husband had a sweet tooth. This concerned her after she just made a delicious batch of chocolate chip cookies. She was about to go on an errand, but she didn't want her husband eating the cookies while she was away. To discourage him, she taped a verse from scripture on the wrapped goodies, "*Everything is permissible for me' – but not everything is beneficial.*" (1Cor. 6:12)

When she returned home, to her dismay she found half of the cookies gone and another verse attached to the plate, "*The righteous eat to their heart's content, but the stomach of the wicked goes hungry.*" (Proverbs 13:25)

Left to our own devices, we often do find ingenious ways to circumvent our New Year's resolutions. That's why the church is important. The community of faith is needed to help us live out the promises we have made to God and to one another. As one person once said, "*I go to church to join with others in a response none of us would have made by himself or herself, a shared response to a shared Word.*"

As the New Year is upon us, we have many blessings for which to be thankful: a loving congregation, a charge to keep, and a God who loves us so much to send us the very best . . . the One born in Bethlehem.

I am looking forward to our shared ministry and a New Year of hope and promise. Amen.

Grace and Peace,
Gary

Inside This Issue:

From the Desk of the Pastor	1
Birthdays & Anniversaries	2
Family & Friends – Prayer	2
Prayer List & In Memoriam	3
Night by Night Shelter	4
Wesley's Food Pantry	4
Inclement Weather Policy	4
United Methodist Men	5
United Women in Faith	5
Christmas Bazaar	7
Vacation Announcement	7
Admin Council Minutes	8
Lay Leadership Committee	10
January Calendar	13
Worship Participants	14

Deadline for the February 2024 issue of The Wesley Journal is Friday, January 19th. Please email your news to wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org.



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



If any names should be added to or removed from the birthday and/or anniversary list, please call or email the church office.



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

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

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

Shirley Rytel
15 Pheasant Ridge Rd.
Hanover, PA 17331

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

John and Stephanie Halley
30 Fitzhugh Avenue
Westminster, MD 21157

Prayers Especially for Individuals / Families:

- For Bonnie Catron's friend, Becki who is having a lung biopsy this week.
- For Glenn Elseroad's wife, Ruth who was admitted to the hospital for shortness of breath and fatigue.
- For Vicky Wilmer's brother, David as he recovers from a heart attack.
- For Ms. Wilma who continues to recover from surgery.
- For Tyler Moyer who just lost his mother to cervical cancer.
- For Jeff Chaney who is recovering from heart bi-pass surgery.
- For the family of Martha Harris who passed away December 7, 2023.
- For the family of Dot Benedict who passed away November 22, 2023.
- For John Halley as he has chemo treatments for the next several months. Keep his family in prayer as well.
- For all those who are going through cancer.
- For all those who have had loved ones pass away recently.
- For Israel, Palestine, Ukraine and Russia.
- For our elected officials & leaders, that they may follow in God's way, and for the next "Great Awakening" of the Holy Spirit in our churches and communities.

Prayer requests will remain on this list for four weeks. Unless another request is received, their name will be removed. If, at any time, you would like to add to or remove someone from this list, please contact Melissa Cregger, the Administrative Assistant at wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org or call the church office at 410-374-4027.

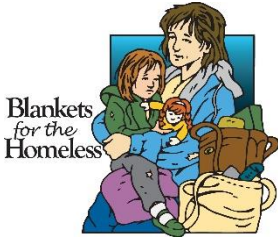
Dear God,

*We ask for your mercy and grace for **Martha Harris** as she passes from this life into eternity.*

Please bring her into your loving arms and grant her peace and rest.

We also pray for those who are left behind, especially her family, that they would find comfort and hope in your presence and the promise of eternal life. May Martha's soul rest in peace and enjoy the fullness of your love.

In your precious name we pray. Amen.



The Night by Night Shelter needs blankets and breakfast-to-go items. There is a tub on the bench in front of Fellowship Hall to place the blankets. Thank you so much!

Wesley's Food Pantry Needs

The shelves in our food pantry have been emptying out quickly. While there is a sign on the front of the pantry door directing visitors to go to another local food pantry, the need is still great. Please keep the pantry in mind when shopping. We could use some meal ideas such as pasta sauce, beef stew, pancake mix and syrup, (etc.) as well as canned veggies, laundry soap, cleaning supplies, and other non-perishables. *[Make sure the food you donate is not expired and is unopened.]*

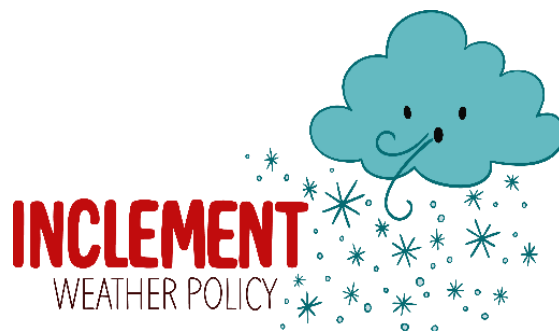


We look forward to continuing this ministry for our community. Thank you for all your help filling our pantry shelves. Wesley is the best!!!!

Wesley's Inclement Weather Policy

If the Snow Emergency Plan is in effect in Carroll County at 6:00 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 machine by 7:00 AM regarding the service, but please use your discretion for the weather in your area. We would rather you keep yourself safe and not get hurt!



Wesley United Methodist Men

UMM Group will meet for breakfast on Tuesday 1/16 at 7:30am at the Dutch Corner Restaurant in Manchester.



Wesley United Women in Faith

The women met on 11/16/2023 at 11:00 a.m.

Our meeting started at 11:10 a.m. and was conducted by Connie Wiegel, President of Wesley United Women in Faith.

There were 10 women in attendance. Jan Graf, Michell Hudgins, Jackie Grabowski, Betty Barr, Brenda Kennedy, Brenda Hess, Linda Yost, Connie Wiegel and Ruth Elseroad.

Our United Women in Faith Purpose was recited.

Response Moment topic was World Thank offering. This year's Thank Offering from our members will help UWF Missions around the world, where needed. Thank Offering taken up.

Our 2024 UWF Program book should be delivered in December.

The September meeting minutes prepared by Brenda Hess were read by Connie Wiegel.

The Treasurers' Report was presented by Jackie Grabowski. The current total in the UWF bank account is \$2, 766.81. Report was approved by women and will be filed for audit.

Linda Yost is working on our Poinsettia order for the Christmas season. There is a new vendor. Linda will see that information is added to bulletin or announced during worship services with information about ordering plants.

UWF Prayer Calendar-Linda Yost will be sending out birthday greetings via emails to active and retired missionaries affiliated with UWF and General Board of Global Ministries, current staff and retired mission personnel that have birthdays in December.

Connie thanked all the women that contributed to the Wesley Food Pantry, donations have been low. There is a lot of need for food in the local area.

December's meeting will be on December 21st at 11:00 p.m. We will meet for a Ladies Tea at Janet Martin's home. Everyone is asked to bring a \$10.00 Christmas gift to share in a gift exchange. Everyone is asked to RSVP a week before.

Ushers are needed for December 10th worship service. Service will be outside, weather permitting. Baskets will be used.

Prayer request and concerns were shared by UWF women.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 12:06 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by Brenda Hess.



Christmas Bazaar

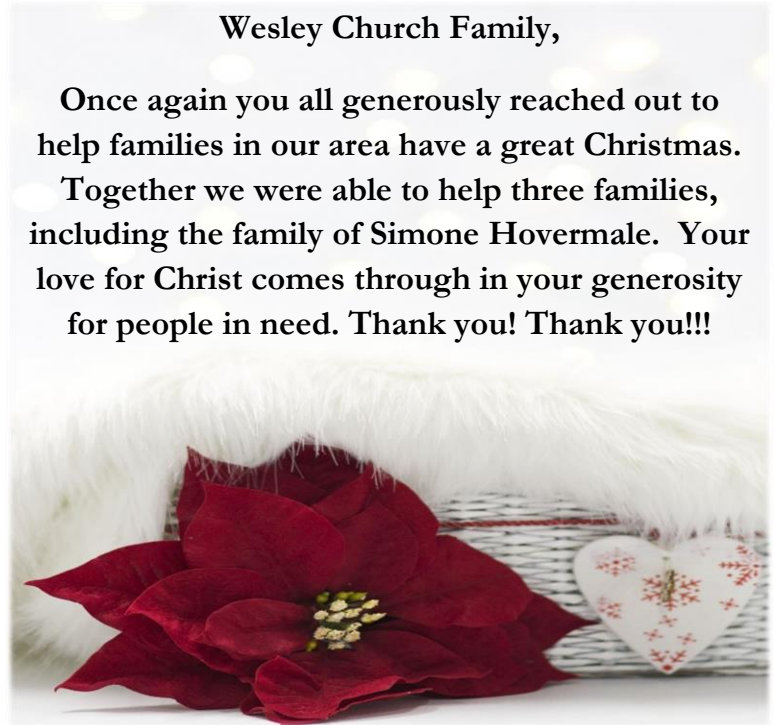
I am so excited to be able to share with you that together we were able to raise \$6,221.77 through our Christmas Bazaar. By working together with God’s help and guidance, we were able in two short months to put together a very successful Christmas Bazaar. People who attended or were vendors were surprised that this was our first Christmas Bazaar in over 30 years. Thank you everyone for pulling together! Great job Wesley!!!

Our date for next year will be **November 2nd, 2024**.

Mark your calendars!

Here is a break down:

Bake Table	\$ 854.75
Food	\$ 1,620.20
General Donations	\$ 470.00
Hall Crafts	\$ 1,374.00
Library Crafts	\$ 676.65
Silent Auction	\$ 927.00
Vendor Tables	\$ 525.00
Expenses	\$ (225.83)
Grand Total	\$ 6,221.77



Wesley Church Family,

Once again you all generously reached out to help families in our area have a great Christmas. Together we were able to help three families, including the family of Simone Hovermale. Your love for Christ comes through in your generosity for people in need. Thank you! Thank you!!!

**Pastor Gary will be on vacation from
December 26 to January 2, 2024.**

**Rev. Jerry Wicklein will be covering pastoral
emergencies. His phone number is 410-925-8333.**



Administrative Council Minutes

November 29, 2023

Present: Brenda Kennedy, Michelle Hudgins, Jonathan and Linda Yost, Scott Palmer, Dennis Rill, Connie Wiegel, Jen Ejek, John Sies, Linda Hollman, Janet Martin, Jan Kurtz, Brenda Hess, Laura Waltrup

Jan Kurtz, Ad Council Chairperson, opened with prayer.

Staff Parish Relations Committee: Linda Yost, Chairperson, reported for SPRC.

- New Administrative Assistant: Melissa Cregger. Will begin on Monday, December 4. Will have church office hours Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Has prior church office experience.
- Had ZOOM meeting with Rev. Ann Laprade, District Superintendent, Laura Waltrup, Treasurer, Brenda Hess, incoming SPRC Chair, Dave Hudgins, incoming Treasurer, and myself on November 15, 2023, regarding Wesley finances. Discussed the following:
 - Paying 25% of Mission Shares (Apportionments) in 2024. Stepping up each successive year as able, financially. We are not required to pay back the Mission Shares we owe from June, 2023 – December, 2023.
 - Based on Wesley's income, it was recommended that Pastor Gary reducing his appointment at Wesley to half-time, beginning January, 2024 through June 30, 2024. He will then end his appointment with Wesley.
 - Beginning July 1, 2024 – the possibility of Wesley having a part-time pastor; becoming a two-point charge; or being included in a multiple-point charge, for example, the North Carroll Cooperative Parish.
- Laura is composing a letter regarding the Mission Shares Step-Up Plan to be sent to our District Superintendent.

Questions ensued. Discussion on Mission Shares. They are based on our church expenses.

Trustees: No Report

Pew Report: Janet Martin said only 2 whole pews and 3 half pews are left. She will confer with Pastor Gary regarding a dedication in January. There have been \$15,000 in donations.

Wesley's Christmas Bazaar report: Cleared over \$6,000. Discussion. Had the perfect weekend and good weather.

Finance Committee: Business at hand is to approve the Budget for 2024. Laura reviewed it. We may be eligible for a tax credit for 3 quarters from 2021. Have a CPA firm reviewing this. No guarantee. Could be \$20,000. May not know until the end of 2024. Recommendation that we move forward knowing that we will not have a full-time pastor from Jan – June 2024, and not sure about a full-time pastor from July-Dec. 2024. Some folks think we need to build up a surplus.

Laura moved to approve the Recommended budget. All Ad Council members were in favor.

No Lay Leadership Report

Education: Jen Ejk reported that the Christmas Pageant and Live Nativity will be held outside, weather permitting. Joint Children's Sunday School on 12/17 in Pre-School Room

Outreach: Finished Operation Christmas Child. There are tags listing gifts hanging on a small Christmas tree in the Sanctuary for members to take and purchase for a needy family for Christmas. Christmas Caroling is planned for this Saturday. Will visit Betsy Sennett; Marty Joiner; Norma Beam; Jean Colton.

12/17 Cookie walk in Fellowship Hall

Worship:

Dec 3rd Advent begins

Dec 10 Children's program and outdoor nativity

Dec 17 Cantata

Dec 24 Christmas Eve

- Family service 11 am
- Candlelight service 11 pm

Dec 31 Lessons and Carols

United Women in Faith: 5-Star Unit. 4 new members this year. Met for the monthly meeting in November. On Dec. 21st Janet Martin will host a Christmas Tea at her home for United Women in Faith members.

Grief Share: Had Blue Christmas and will meet again on Dec. 5.

Library Report: Reenie Harris is giving up Library Chair. Need a new Chair.

Unfinished Business: Still having trouble with Congregational email being bounced by gmail.

New Business:

Martha Harris contracted COVID and was moved to the Covid room at her facility.

It was asked if the Administrative Council will have a Planning Retreat. Jan will think about it.

Ad Council will meet via ZOOM for January and February. Maybe March.

Next meeting January 24, 2024. Jan closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda S. Yost



News from Lay Leadership (Nominations) Committee

The Lay Leadership Committee worked very hard through the fall of last year to prepare and perfect its report to the Church Conference. The Wesley UMC Leadership Roster for 2024 is included in this newsletter.

We express our thanks to the committee for their efforts and to all those who stepped forward to serve Wesley Church. However, we still have some leadership positions that are open for those willing to serve. They are as follows:

Lay Leadership Committee – (three positions)

Trustees Committee – (two positions)

Staff Parish Relation Relations Committee (two positions)

Membership Chair

Visitation Chair.

If you are interested in serving any of the positions that remain open on the Leadership Roster for 2024, please contact Pastor Gary either by cell 410-963-8618 or email- pastorgary@wesleychurch-hampstead.org.

Wesley UMC Leadership • 2024

- "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 2024 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: **Position Open**

Treasurer: Dave Hudgins

Lay Leader: **Position Open**

Pastor: Rev. Gary Sheffield-James

Worship Chair: Janet Martin

UWF President: Connie Wiegel

Trustees Chair: Dean Brewer

Historian: **TBD**

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: Jackie Otwell, Jennifer Ejik

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

Vice-Chair: **Position Open**

Membership Secretary: **Position Open**

Finance Chair: Michelle Hudgins

Financial Secretary: Jonathan Yost

Memorials Comm. Chair: **Position Open**

Outreach Ministry Chair: Vicki Wilmer

UMM President: Dave Hudgins

Cemetery Committee Chair: Dennis Rill

Communications Committee Chair: **Position Open**

SPRC Chair: Brenda Hess

UMYF Representative: **Position Open**

Board of Trustees: **Chair:** Dean Brewer **Vice-Chair:** **Secretary:** **Position Open**

Class of 2024: Randy Kurtz, Gary Wilmer, Dean Brewer

Class of 2025: Ryan Day, **Position Open**, **Position Open**

Class of 2026: Dennis Rill, Linda Yost, Donald Lippy

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**, **Position Open**, **Position Open**

Endowment Fund Committee (Rolls up to Trustees): **Chair:** **Position Open** **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:** Dave Hudgins

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

Ex-officio: Lay Member to Annual Conference (Linda Yost), SPRC Rep. **Position Open**, Trustees Chair (Denny Rill)

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

Members include: Finance Representative (**TBD**), Trustees Representative (**TBD**), **Position Open**

Outreach Ministries: **Chair:** Vicki Wilmer

Members: Cindy Myatt, Betty Barr, Jan Kurtz, Janet Martin, Pam Phillips, Chet Phillips, Connie Wiegel, Linda Yost, Chet

Phillips, Madison Smith, Peggy Horner

Wesley UMC Leadership (*Continued*) • 2024

Staff Parish Relations Committee: Chair: Brenda Hess

Class of 2024: Linda Hollman, Dave Hudgins, Norma Lou Beam

Class of 2025: **Position Open**, Matt Otwell, Brenda Hess

Class of 2026: Jeff Zachman, Cheryl Gore, **Position Open**

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

Education Committee:

Christian Education Team Chairperson: Jackie Otwell

Christian Education Team Members: Patty Harris, Jennifer Ejik

Teachers/Assistants: Davona Palmer, Linda Yost, Brenda Hess, Pastor Gary

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

Class of 2024: Gladys Smith, John Sies, **Position Open**

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

Class of 2026: Jan Graf, Jan Kurtz, Roxane Brewer

Worship Committee: Chairs: Janet Martin

Communion Steward: Linda Hollman

Chancel Choir Director: Jan Graf

Praise Team Leaders: **Position Open**

Organist: Jeff Horner

At Large: Linda Yost, Kim Peake, Rev. Amy Lewis-Rill

Children's Choir:

Liturgist / Usher / Greeter Coordinator: Janet Martin

Altar Guild: Brenda Kennedy, Charlotte Gyory, and Peggy Horner

Memorial Committee: Chair: **Position Open**

Committee Members: Ruth Rill, Brenda Hess, (previous chairpersons?)

At Large: Michelle Hudgins (Finance Chairperson)

Cemetery Committee: Chair: Dennis Rill Treasurer: **Position Open**

Members: Joan Porterfield, Jan Graf, Wayne Horner, Carl Rill, John Sies, Charlotte Gyory

Small Groups: Coordinators: **Position Open**

Communications: Chair: **Position Open**

Members: **Need**, **Position Open** & **Position Open** (Church Sign)

Administrative Assistant: Dawn McFadden

Visitation Committee: Chair: **Position Open**

Members: **Position Open**, Jacki Grabowski, Linda Yost, Barbara Sater

Membership Committee: Chair: **Position Open**

Members: Denny Rill, Jan Kurtz, **Position Open**

Church Librarian: **Position Open**

Certified Lay Servants: Linda Yost

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30 AM Sunday School
 10:30 AM Fellowship Time
 11:00 AM Worship



January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Happy New Year</i>	2	3 Trustees 7pm	4 Choir 7pm	5	6
7 Baptism of the Lord Regular Worship Schedule Holy Communion	8	9	10 Outreach Committee Mtg 6pm Staff Parish Relations Comm. 7:30 pm	11 Choir 7pm	12	13
14 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany Regular Worship Schedule	15	16 UMM Breakfast 7:30 am Dutch Corner Restaurant	17	18 United Women in Faith 11 am Choir 7pm	19	20
21 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany Regular Worship Schedule	22	23	24 Administrative Council Mtg. (Time TBA)	25 Choir 7pm	26	27
28 4th Sunday after the Epiphany Regular Worship Schedule	29	30	31			

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP



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

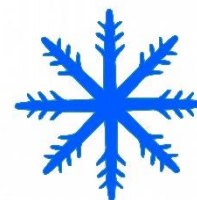
Phone: (410) 374-4027
 Email: wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday
 9am – 2pm

Worship Participants for December:

- January 7: **Greeters**—Dennis Rill and Randy Kurtz **Liturgist**— Rev. Amy Sarah Lewis-Rill, **Acolyte**— *Need*, **A/V Team**— *Need*
- January 14: **Greeters**—United Women in Faith, **Liturgist**—Linda Yost, **Acolyte**— *Need*, **A/V Team**— *Need*
- January 21: **Greeters**—Cheryl Gore & Brenda Kennedy, **Liturgist** — Laura Waltrup, **Acolyte**— *Need*, **A/V Team**— *Need*
- January 28: **Greeters 11 AM**—Jan & Randy Kurtz, **Liturgist** — Linda Hollman, **Acolyte**— *Need*, **A/V Team**— *Need*

The Wesley Journal January 2024 Issue



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