



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:

Our church is now in the season of Advent. In a spiritual way, we are preparing our hearts to ponder God's visit to us that happened a long time ago in Bethlehem. In the quiet of the night, absent of any media outlets issuing a "Breaking News" story, God becomes incarnate in a child who is given the name "Jesus;" which means 'the Lord

**J**esus' birth does not happen among media frenzy or great pomp and circumstance. Quite the opposite, really.

saves.' Jesus' birth does not happen among media frenzy or great pomp and circumstance. Quite the opposite, really. When Mary and Joseph approach the city, they are told there is 'no place at the inn.' So, Mary and Joseph take lodging in a place where animals are

kept. Mary wraps the child in swaddling clothes and lays him in a manger (a trough for animals to feed.) In utter humility and poverty, God breaks into our world.

It is good to remember that amid all the commotion and glittering lights of this season, the greatest gift we receive comes not in packages with pretty ribbons and beautiful bows. The greatest gift of Christmas comes as Emmanuel (God with us) – that God becomes flesh and dwells among us.

On Page 4 of this issue of The Wesley Journal is a schedule of the Advent/Christmas Season at Wesley. I invite you to join us for worship as we enter this holy season.

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Grace and Peace, Gary

Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love:  
Join Us for Advent and Christmas!

See the Advent and Christmas Schedule on Page 4





- |    |  |    |                                      |
|----|--|----|--------------------------------------|
| 5  | Celee Montgomery<br>H. Lee Smith                                   | 16 | Katherine Crochunis<br>Betsy Sennett |
| 6  | Cole Graf  | 18 | Jessica Sichel                       |
| 8  | Jaime Green (nee<br>DeVilbiss)                                     | 20 | Cheryl Gore                          |
| 11 | Bonnie Catron  | 21 | Cheyenne Graf<br>Wayne Rill          |
| 14 | Roxane Brewer  | 23 | Kyle Phillips                        |
| 15 | Michael Eastwood<br>Randy Kurtz<br>Madison Smith<br>Charlie Weaver | 26 | Logan Rill                           |
|    |  | 30 | Jonathan Elmo                        |
|    |  | 31 | James Rill                           |



- 16 Jason & Lana Montgomery
- 20 Eric & Laura Zilberman
- 26 Dan & Carol Pfoutz
- 29 Curtis & Cheryl Gore



### Our Condolences...

We offer our condolences to the friends and family of **Deanna Sies**, who passed away on Wednesday, November 23, 2022. May the Lord comfort John, her husband, and Dean, her son, as they mourn Deanna's passing and celebrate her life.

A memorial service will be held for Deanna in the new year. More information will be forthcoming.



### Updating Your Information

Please contact **Sandy Cole, Membership Secretary** by e-mail at [baldor1@comcast.net](mailto: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.



### 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.*



Dot thanks "the girls" for all the nice food they've been sending and the cards. She really appreciates them. The food has been so good, and she enjoys it when folks stay and talk.

***Dot Benedict***

A shout out to Calvin Lucy, our church custodian. Calvin puts forth much effort and takes great pride in keeping Wesley clean and sanitary. It's a building and job to be proud of!

***Anonymous***

God blessed us with beautiful weather today for our Fall Drive-Thru Chicken Dinner.

Thank you to all who helped on Thursday, Friday, and [Saturday].

The Thursday and Friday crews met and made the Potato Salad dressing on Thursday morning and Friday morning, put it all together :)

Thank you to Jeff and Dan Graf for bring the ole potato peeler which saves us lots and lots of time and for frying our chicken this afternoon along with Will. It was DELICIOUS!!!

Thank you to all the help:

- those in the parking lot "greeting our customers" and welcoming them in true Wesley Fashion!
- those who worked the assembly line (our TEENS did an excellent job!!), and to those who finalized the orders before sending them outside with our "runners"!
- those who cooked the corn (Melissa and Stacy)!
- to Jan Graf for taking all the calls and keeping our orders straight!!
- to those who made purchases we appreciate the sales!!! Hope you liked your meal!
- to those who served the chicken
- to those who ... helped to spread the word to their neighbors.
- to Cindy for collecting the money!
- to the women who ran the Bake Table and all of the "donators" who brought their goodies to sell!!

The \$\$\$ amount will be announced in the near future. All of our proceeds for the Chicken supper go directly to Wesley Church.

We sold over 250 dinners and delivered 26 meals to the Westminster Rescue Mission!

Again, thank you all for helping to make this supper a success. I appreciate all who volunteered their time to help us out!





**December 4, 2022: The Second Sunday of Advent.**

**Sermon Title: "A Little Dab'll Do Ya! - Really?" Matthew 3:1-12**

- The United Methodist Men are having a Pancake Breakfast to raise funds for their group's ministries. Have a yummy breakfast in exchange for a free-will offering.
- The Outreach Committee is hosting Christmas Caroling at local homes. Come and join in on the "merry" following our 11 AM Worship Service.
- Last Sunday to order Poinsettias (orders due Friday, December 9).
- 11 AM Traditional Worship Advent Wreath Reading and Lighting: Denny & Rev. Amy Rill



**December 11, 2022: The Third Sunday of Advent**

- The Outreach Cookie Walk will be held before and after the 11 AM Worship Service. Bakers and buyers needed!
- **The Wesley UMC Chancel Choir will be offering a Christmas Cantata, singing the sounds of the season. All are welcome at this 11 AM Worship Service.**
- 11 AM Traditional Worship Advent Wreath Reading and Lighting: Cindy Myatt, Peggy Horner, Cheryl DeVilbiss, & Linda Hollman



**December 18, 2022: The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

- The Sunday School Pageant will be presented by Christian Education during the 11 AM Worship Service. Come and hear the beloved story again.
- "Christmas Families" gifts due.
- 11 AM Traditional Worship Advent Wreath Reading and Lighting: Connie Weigel, Madison & Molly Smith



**Saturday, December 24, 2022: Christmas Eve**

- 4 PM: Family-friendly Christmas Eve Worship Service with Electric Candles. **Sermon: "God News for You! Luke 2:1-7.** Advent Wreath Reading and Lighting: The Kurtz Family
- 11 PM: Traditional Christmas Eve Worship Service with Candle Lighting. **Sermon: "God's Unlikely Entrance." Luke 2:1-7.** Advent Wreath Reading and Lighting: The Waltrup and/or Wilmer Families



**Sunday, December 25, 2022: Christmas Day**

- *No Sunday School*
- 11 AM Traditional Worship Service of Lessons and Carols

## 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](mailto:lharris994@sbcglobal.net)

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

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### 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





## Current COVID-19 Guidelines...

At this time, the community level for Carroll County is “Low,” 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!

## December Lectionary... GET INTO THE WORD!

**December 4 (2nd Sunday of Advent—Peace):** Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12

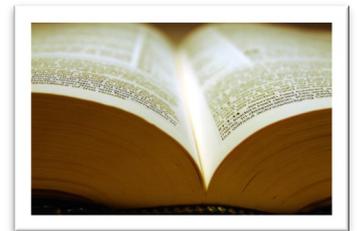
**December 11 (3rd Sunday of Advent—Joy):** Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 1:46b-55; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

**December 18 (4th Sunday of Advent—Love):** Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25

**December 24 (Christmas Eve—Christ):** Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

**December 25 (Christmas Day):** Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12); John 1:1-14

**December 31/January 1 (Watch Night/New Year):** Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; Psalm 8; Revelation 21:1-6a; Matthew 25:31-46



## 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!

## Notes from the Outreach Committee



The **Soup Sale** was deliciously successful. Thank you all who volunteered to make soup & goodies and those who purchased soup. You are the best!



**Christmas Families:** Wesley is sponsoring 3 families this Christmas. The families could use our help to make their Christmas much nicer. There is a Christmas Tree in the back of the church with tags on it. Please take one or more tags and purchase the gift. Wrap the gift and place tag on package and bring back to church by Sunday, December the 18th.



The very favorite **Cookie Walk** will take place on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, after Sunday School and the Worship Service. As always, we cannot have a successful Cookie Walk if it not for YOU. Please volunteer to make a batch of homemade cookies (and don't forget to purchase cookies! Remember this is a fundraiser for Outreach mission projects we do throughout the year.) Any questions, call Cindy Myatt (410) 596-5391.

## The After-Church Lunch Bunch: Next Stop — Greenmount Station



The After-Church Lunch Bunch (ACLB) is a group of church members and friends that usually meets on the fourth Sunday of each month at a local restaurant. **All are welcome!** The December ACLB luncheon will be held **early on the third Sunday, December 18th (following the worship service)**, at **Greenmount Station**. The address is **1631 N. Main St., Hampstead, MD 21074**. Questions? Contact Reenie Harris at (410) 848-1121 or [ichdeh@comcast.net](mailto:ichdeh@comcast.net).

## 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](mailto:ichdeh@comcast.net) or (410) 848-1121.

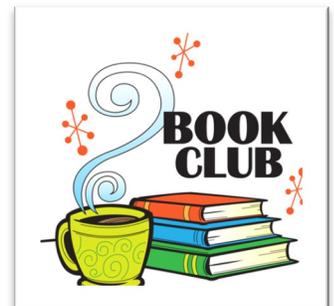
Here are the next two **Book Club Reading Selections and Meeting Dates; all are welcome!**

**Meeting DECEMBER 29, 2022:**

IRISH COUNTRY YULETIDE by Patrick Taylor

**Meeting JANUARY 26, 2023:**

FINDING DOROTHY by Elizabeth Letts



## United Methodist Men



The Wesley UMM will be serving a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, December 4th, from 9:00am to 10:40am in the Social Hall. Good will donations will go toward our outreach.

The next meeting of the UMM will be on January 16th, 2023. All men are welcome!

## Thank You from the UWF...



Wesley's United Women in Faith would like to thank everyone who provided and purchased from the bake table at the chicken drive-thru supper. With your help, we are able to continue to support our mission program. You are all the best.

*Thanks again. UWF*

## 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		

## Inclement Weather Policy

### 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!



## Minutes from the United Women in Faith: November 17, 2022

Wesley UWF met; there were 8 women in attendance.

Connie presented the Response moment taken from the United Women in Faith Response Magazine November/December issue.

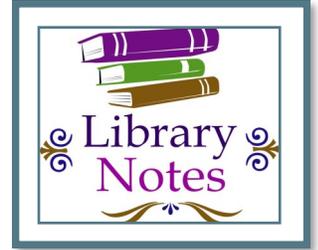


- Embracing Renewable Energy-Inspired by United Women in Faith, Kent United Methodist in Kent, Washington installed solar panels on their church roof, these solar panel are projected to offset three-quarters of the church's annual energy consumption. This was possible through a \$102,000 Grant from Puget Sound Energy. More than \$954,000 has been awarded this year to 13 non-profits, tribes and other community groups. To promote solar power among organizations serving low-income, Black or Indigenous people and people of color. Solar arrays across these 14 locations will help to generate roughly 514,000 kilowatt-hours annually. According to Puget Sound Energy that would power more than 50 average households a year. During the state's most recent biennial legislative session, which ended in March, lawmakers passed a bill that established an incentive program to fund the installation of solar panels in certain buildings across low-income communities.
- Reading program/ Education for Mission list of books available in the Response Magazine. List will be posted on the UWF bulletin board. Our unit also has older read reading program books from previous years. Anyone interested in obtaining books, contact Connie Weigel.
- Annual United Women in Faith Baltimore Washington Conference Celebration took place via Zoom on October 22, 2022. – the theme for the **meeting** was "**Acting Boldly**". Linda Yost and Connie Wiegel attended. Linda reported on the ceremony. There was a total of 89 women were in attendance. Linda shared the devotional given that day, the topic was "Deborah" Judges 4:4-9, she was described as a woman, wife, prophetess, poet, leader, and a judge whose actions and words consistently pointed to God.
- October Meeting minutes were accepted by group as is.
- October Treasurer's Report -Connie gave a brief overview in the absence of Jackie Grabowski. The bake table made \$472.00 during the drive thru supper. Jackie will update Treasurer's report when she returns from vacation. Food from the supper was donated to the Westminster Rescue Mission a total of \$160.00 in food was provided by the UWF
- Prayer Calendar- Reenie reported no birthdays this month on this date.
- Correspondence- Connie reported no correspondence.
- We will meet next on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am, for our Christmas gathering at Clay and Cindy Myatt's home. Everyone will bring a dish to share in fellowship with a gift exchange.
- UWF will host our Italian theme luncheon on January 15<sup>th</sup> after church service featuring Ziti, salad, Italian bread, drink, and dessert all for \$10.00. Congregation is invited to eat in or carry out. Donations will be used for UWF missions.
- Coat Drive- asking our congregation to donate any unwanted, nearly new /slightly used coats to help provide coats to the needy in our communities. Donations will be accepted until December 8<sup>th</sup>. Donations help to support UWF missions.
- Save the Children project discussion revisited. A motion was accepted by our group to give a donation to help provide new books for children in communities where recent major flooding conditions occurred, with and loss and damage in West Virginia and Kentucky.
- Linda Hollman proposed a project need to help Shirley and David [...] in their time of need. Shirley is 56 years old, and she resides in a rehab center in York, PA. Shirley is suffering with bone cancer, her seventeen-year-old son, David, is currently living by himself; he has special needs. Shirley's family and friends help to attend to Dave's needs. After much discussion it was decided to provide a donation to the family to help David with food or other needs. A motion was accepted by our group to provide a donation of money that will be distributed to a family member that takes care of David's groceries in intervals as needed. The UWF will be sending flowers to Shirley in rehab to lift her spirits.

Meeting adjourned in prayer at 11:00am.

*Meeting minutes submitted by Brenda Hess, Wesley UWF Secretary*

"Each year, millions of people go in search of the real spirit of Christmas. True, some want to find it only so they can try to package it and sell it. But others gaze at the Christmas tree, the presents, and all the decorations and wonder: *What is all this really about?* Sure, we know the *story* of Christmas, but what is the *spirit* of Christmas we hear so much about? Does it exist? And if so, how can we hope to find it?"



We looked for some books for our readers to peruse about Christmas—books to feel the spirit of Christmas and the joy of anticipation of the coming of our Savior! **These are now on the coffee table for you to find easily!**

*Windows on Christmas* by Bill Crowder (261) *Windows on Christmas* will revolutionize your appreciation of Christmas as you look at the events surrounding the birth of Christ from six different perspectives: the angels and the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, Simeon and Anna. See what they saw. Feel what they felt. Learn from their responses to these wonderful and powerful events.

*Christmas Miracles* by Jamie C. Miller (240) At Christmas, our hearts are touched by reports of wondrous occurrences that make us stop, reflect, and hope. This luminous book shares true accounts of Christmas miracles—inspiring events that happened to real people at Christmastime—including: "The Stranger": A gentle, mysterious Christmas Eve visitor awes a family. "Christmas Saved My Mother's Life": A rabbi tells how his mother, fleeing the Holocaust, is spared on Christmas Eve. "First Christmas": Newlyweds take part in a Christmas pageant—and receive a lesson in timeless love.

*In Search of the Real Spirit of Christmas* by Dan Schaeffer (232) Christmas seasons come and go, often leaving us with vague pangs of regret. Why does the Christmas spirit seem so elusive? What is the real Christmas spirit anyway? Even those who know the Reason for the season can find themselves wondering if they've missed something. Dan Schaeffer understands that familiarity can rob us of the glory of Christmas. We become immune to the Story's real power. But Schaeffer also has some help for us. He even has advice for what to do when it doesn't feel like Christmas.

*Christmas: Reflections on the Joy of the Season* by Heather Russell-Revesz (800) Peace. Joy. Love. Nowadays our daily lives are so rushed and harried that often "the most wonderful time of the year" turns into "the most stressful time of the year." The collection of quotes gathered in *Christmas Reflections on the Joy of the Season* will hopefully remind readers what the holiday season is all about.

*Christmas Poems* by David Stanford Burr (800) Christmas is a season of celebration and remembrance, and its moods are as varied as the songs, stories, and poems it has inspired. From the joyous exaltation of "Deck the Halls" and "Angels We Have Heard on High" to the quiet reflection of John Clare's "December" and William Wordsworth's "Skating," *Christmas Poems* is a treasury of Christmas meaning, magic, and memories.

**\*\*\*\*\*NEWS FLASH!!!** Reenie Harris will be taking over the library in the new year! Wait until you hear and see all of her great ideas! Until she brings all the donations up-to-date, please don't bring in anything new. Thanks so much!

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 your last name. When you return a book, find the card, put the return date on the card, and put the card in the pocket of the book. You can stack books on the shelf beside the yellow box or on the desk; the librarians will re-shelve them. Please return borrowed items within 6 months.

*Bonnie Catron and Nan Lishman, Librarians*

## Outreach Committee Meeting Minutes • November 9, 2022

**Attendees:** Vicky Wilmer, Linda Yost, Janet Martin, Michele Hudgins, Jan Kurtz, Connie Wiegel, Madison Smith, Pam Phillips, Cindy Myatt

**Treasurer's Report:**

- October donations for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter paid.
- Operation Christmas Child will be the only larger expense

**2023 Budget for Outreach:** Approved

**Meals:** Dot Benedict

**Soup Sale:**

- We had 89 quarts of soup.
- We could use some more rolls.

**College Student Program:** Vicky identified 13 students who are in college and gift cards have been sent.

**Christmas Families:**

- We will be helping 4 local families.
- Kim will make the tags.
- Cindy will talk to the Boy Scouts will take one family as they have offered to help.

**Operation Christmas Child:** Wesley has packed 31 boxes.

**Food Pantry:**

- The pantry is filled; people are using it.
- Jan will ask Jessie to provide flyers on Advent to put in the pantry

**NESAP Thanksgiving Food Drive:**

- Janet will take care of delivery on Nov. 21.
- Jan will send out email reminding everyone to bring in their food donations.
- NESAP is really low on food.

**Meals for Rescue Mission:**

- November – UWF – Chicken dinner on Saturday
- December – Freezer Meal – Ziti. Michelle, Cindy and Connie will make Ziti. Bring bread and green beans. Madison and Connie will take it over.

**Cookie Walk:** Will take place on Dec 11<sup>th</sup>.

- Cookies will be in the kitchen and people will select from the window.
- We will accept free will donations.

**Baked Potato Luncheon Carryout:** Jan 29<sup>th</sup> (Snow Date: Feb 5<sup>th</sup>)

**Night by Night Shelter:** Janet is bringing something every other week. They are servicing about 30 people a night.

**WRM:** Is having a meeting at the church and requested breakfast. We will provide Breakfast Casseroles, Orange Juice and something sweet.

**\*\*\*Next meeting on January 11 at 6:00.**



## Administrative Council Meeting Minutes • October 26, 2022

**Attendees:** Jan Kurtz, Brenda Kennedy, Reenie Harris, Rev. Matthew Sichel, Connie Wiegel, Lee Ann Crochunis, John Sies, Jen Ejck, Dennis Rill, Michelle Hudgins, Vicky Wilmer, Jonathan Yost, Rose Sichel, and Jessica Sichel.

**The meeting was opened in prayer** at 7:03 PM by Rev. Matt.

**The next meeting** will be via ZOOM on November 30th at 7 PM. Meetings from November through March will be via ZOOM; Jess Sichel will set this up.

**A correction for the Charge Conference Minutes** was raised: the Outdoor church pantry was established by the Outreach Committee.

### **Finance Report:** Budget

- The proposed budget is underfunded. In addition to other things, a bookkeeper needs to be hired. There is concern from several in the group that the budget is not balanced.
- Lee Ann noted that the budget is very large and doesn't balance; she said that it is good practice to have a balanced budget. That being said, the budget is just a plan. Michelle said that she does not see an alternative. Vicky Wilmer stated that we need to be wise in spending.
- Denny Rill noted that the \$7-\$8,000 listed for the [sanctuary] air conditioning is not accurate. The figure is about doubled. The new estimate received recommended heat pumps.
- The question was raised as to whether we raise the budget or not. Michelle said that we could adapt the budget as we go along.
- A vote was taken, for which 8 were in favor, 4 abstained, and none voted against.

### **Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)**

- Linda Yost, SPRC Chairperson, submitted the following report:  
The SPRC of Wesley UMC reports on the disaffiliation process (separating from the United Methodist Church) as follows:
  - A Sub-Committee was formed from the SPRC to compile information and educate the congregation on the process involved for Wesley UMC to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church.
  - Pastor Gary has been in contact with our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Ann Laprade, who provided him with the detailed process that a church needs to go through, step-by-step, to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church.
  - After the Ad Council voted to go ahead with this process, this sub-committee organized three showings of the required webinar, "Stay or Go" which gave viewpoints and information regarding both the United Methodist Church and the Global Methodist Church.
  - Required book discussions of "Living Faithfully – Human Sexuality and the United Methodist Church" have been scheduled for three Mondays in November (both afternoon and evening sessions.)
  - An "Open Forum" has been scheduled for Saturday, December 3, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. for members of Wesley to ask questions regarding the disaffiliation. Pastor Gary will facilitate this forum, along with members of the SPRC. Rev. Dr. Ann Laprade will be available to answer questions as well.
  - A representative from the Global Methodist Church will be invited to speak to the Wesley congregation within the next couple of months.
  - A church conference will be called, likely in the early spring, for members to vote to disaffiliate or not. All votes are to be in person. No absentee balloting is allowed.
  - There will be more information forthcoming as we work our way through the process.

Your SPRC continues with its regular work of reviewing staff performance and filing Charge Conference forms.

There has been a proposal to hire a part-time Treasurer/Bookkeeper for Wesley. The SPRC will assist Laura Waltrup, current Treasurer, with the hiring process.

*Respectfully submitted, Linda S. Yost, Chairperson, SPRC*

*(Continued on Next Page)*

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- A description of the bookkeeper position is being/has been drafted. Laura can help with the advertising. A vote was taken about the bookkeeper position, for which 11 voted "yay," 1 abstained, and none voted against.
- John Sies asked if the bookkeeper description mentioned being eligible to be bonded and signing privileges; it does.

#### **Trustees:** Denny Rill

- As previously discussed, Denny informed us of the cost of another camera. The new estimate is \$2943.19, which is about \$1,300 or so higher than the original estimate without the additional camera. Ad. Council had "capped" the total expense at \$2,500. Discussion ensued about camera coverage and cemetery vandalism/crime.
- A vote was taken about raising the "cap" to include the additional camera. 12 voted in favor, none were against, and none abstained.
- The Westminster Rescue Mission asked to use our facility here at Wesley and were approved for free use. Stephanie Halley will unlock the facility.
- The roof is in "limbo" between insurance and the contractor. There will not be a replacement of the metal roof, which was recommended. Hopefully, the roof will soon be done.
- Work at the Parsonage is ongoing. Ceiling tiles need to be installed (the framework is there). November 19th, help is needed to cut and put up the tiles.
- The HVAC system will be expensive; Trustees is pursuing a second quote.

#### **Christian Education:**

- The Fall Harvest Celebration went well (photos needed)
- There will be an Advent Carnival [Nov. 27th]
- The Christian Ed. team is looking at old programs from many years ago trying to find something different for the pageant, which will be 12/18/2022.

#### **Outreach:** (Please see minutes in November 2022 Journal)

- Last Sunday was the final Sunday to order soup from the Outreach Soup Sale, which will be on November 6th (this coming Sunday). Bread will be available, too.
- Operation Christmas Child boxes (and postage) are due November 6th, as well.
- The NESAP Food Drive donations will be taken over the Monday before Thanksgiving.
- Wesley is sponsoring "in-house" Christmas families this year—families that are known to the congregation. Extra things can be donated to NESAP.
- On December 4th, there will be local caroling to the homebound.
- On December 11th, the Cookie Walk will be held in the kitchen (order from the kitchen window). Folks are needed to make cookies and buy cookies.
- UM Student Day: Outreach has thirteen college student names. \$25 gift cards may/will be sent in the mail to support them. The decision has been made not to report the names and information for the college students to the Conference.
- The outdoor food pantry is stocked and used.

#### **Worship:**

- November 6th: All Saints' Sunday
- November 13th: Veteran's Sunday
- November 27th: First Sunday in Advent
- December 11th: Christmas Cantata
- December 18th: Christmas Pageant
- December 24th: 4 PM Nativity and Electric Candles; 11 PM Candlelight
- December 25th: No Sunday School; Worship Service will be Service of Lessons and Carols
- January 1st, 2023: No Sunday School; Holy Communion [this has changed—Holy Communion will be on January 8th, as Pastor Gary will be away on January 1st]

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**GriefShare:** Reenie Harris

- Going really well; everyone is benefiting. One more person joined, so there are five now.

**Visitation:** Reenie Harris

- Visitation is signing and writing messages in cards and signing them out. At the next meeting (11/2), they will be doing Thanksgiving cards.
- Reenie caught the committee up on some of the folks Visitation is working with.

**After-Church Lunch Bunch:** The next meeting will be at China Manor [Nov. 27th—fourth Sunday]

**Book Club:** The next meeting will be tomorrow and will be on *A Life without Water* by Marcie Bolden

**United Women in Faith:** Met last week.

- The group will have a baked goods table at the supper.
- Last Saturday, the Conference celebration was held by ZOOM. It was led by Linda Yost, and there were around 140 women participating. There was also a missionary. It was noted that Linda's term as Conference President is over.
- The UWF is coordinating a coat drive. Cindy Myatt and Linda Hollman are working on this. The coats may be for Westminster Rescue Mission, and if not there, then for Second Chance
- January 15th: Italian Luncheon Fundraiser
- Boscov's Coupon Sales raised \$380.
- The group will be at the Myatt home for a Christmas celebration in December.

**Deacon's Report:** Rev. Matt Sichel

- Matt's supervisor at Asbury Theological Seminary is off of sabbatical; they spoke this week. An outline for his dissertation is put together, and he is waiting for approval.

**New Business:**

- The Church Supper is coming up. Lots of help and lots of purchasing of meals are needed. Advertising is happening, but more can be done. Friday, 11/11, potato help will be needed.
- We were happy to have the Westminster Rescue Mission here for the Pancake Breakfast and the Worship Service!
- Reenie Harris will be the new Harrell Librarian beginning January 1st, 2023. Matt and Reenie will discuss the computer in the Library.
- It was noted that we need to work on using the label microphone during worship services.

The meeting was closed in prayer at 8:06 PM by Rev. Matt.

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A report was emailed in prior to the meeting, but not lifted up at the meeting. It is included below:

**UMM Update:** Dave Hudgins

- Great meeting on 10/17, which featured Dean Brewer discussing abuse of vulnerable adults.
  - Successful pancake breakfast on 10/23. Thanks to all who participated and helped out.
  - UMM providing Greeters for 10/30 service.
  - Next UMM meeting scheduled for 11/21 with Commissioner Dick Weaver providing the state of the county.
- .....

*Respectfully Submitted by Jess Sichel, Recording Secretary*

# DECEMBER 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>Regular Worship Schedule:</u> 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship Time 11 AM Worship Service</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>			<p><sup>1</sup> Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7 PM</p>	<p><sup>2</sup> Office Drop-In 3 to 5 PM</p>	<p><sup>3</sup> <b>Disaffiliation Open Forum</b> 9 to 11 AM (Breakfast Snacks)</p>
<p><sup>4</sup> <b>2nd Sunday in Advent: Peace</b> UMM Pancake Breakfast 9 to 11 AM</p> <p><b>Regular Worship Schedule:</b> 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship Time 11 AM Traditional Worship Christmas Caroling Following Worship</p>	<p><sup>5</sup></p>	<p><sup>6</sup> GriefShare in Library 6:30 to 8:30 PM Trustees 7 PM</p>	<p><sup>7</sup> Visitation at J&amp;P's Restaurant 12 PM Office Drop-In 12 to 2 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM</p>	<p><sup>8</sup> Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7 PM</p>	<p><sup>9</sup> Office Drop-In 12 to 2 PM</p>	<p>10</p>
<p><sup>11</sup> <b>3rd Sunday in Advent: Joy!</b> Regular Worship Schedule Christmas Cantata During 11 AM Worship Service Cookie Walk!</p>	<p><sup>12</sup> Potluck Dinner 6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall Small Group Discussion Harrell Library 7:30 PM</p>	<p><sup>13</sup> Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall 6:30 to 8 PM</p>	<p><sup>14</sup> Office Drop-In 12 to 2 PM <b>SPRC 7:30 PM</b> Boy Scouts 7:30 PM</p>	<p><sup>15</sup> <b>UWF Meeting at Myatt Home 11 AM</b> Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7 PM <b>January Journal Submissions Due!</b></p>	<p><sup>16</sup> Office Drop-In 12 to 2 PM</p>	<p>17</p>
<p><sup>18</sup> <b>4th Sunday in Advent: Love</b> Regular Worship Schedule with Christmas Pageant During 11 AM Worship <b>After-Church Lunch Bunch at Greenmount Station Following Worship</b></p>	<p><sup>19</sup></p>	<p><sup>20</sup></p>	<p><sup>21</sup> Office Drop-In 12 to 2 PM <b>Finance 7 PM</b> Boy Scouts 7:30 PM</p>	<p><sup>22</sup> Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7 PM</p>	<p><sup>23</sup> Office Drop-In 10 AM to 12 PM</p>	<p><sup>24</sup> <b>4 PM Family Christmas Eve Service</b> <b>11 PM Candlelight Christmas Eve Service</b></p>
<p><sup>25</sup> <b>Christmas Day! Alleluia!</b> 11 AM Lessons and Carols Traditional Worship Service (No Sunday School)</p>	<p><sup>26</sup></p>	<p><sup>27</sup></p>	<p><sup>28</sup> Office CLOSED</p>	<p><sup>29</sup> Book Club at MJ's Café &amp; Baking Co. 12 PM</p>	<p><sup>30</sup> Office CLOSED Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7 PM</p>	<p>31</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](mailto: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 December:

- December 4:** Greeters—Sandy Cole, Dean & Roxane Brewer, Liturgist—Rev. Matt Sichel, Acolyte—Will Otwell, A/V Team—The Sichels, Music—The Chancel Choir & Organist Jeff Horner, Advent Wreath: Denny & Rev. Amy Rill
- December 11:** Greeters—UWF, Liturgist—Rev. Stanley Harrell, Acolyte—Isaac Sichel, A/V Team—The Sichels, Music—The Chancel Choir & Organist Jeff Horner, Advent Wreath: Cheryl DeVilbiss, Cindy Myatt, Peggy Horner, & Linda Hollman
- December 18:** Greeters & Liturgist—Christian Education, Acolyte—Will Otwell, A/V Team—Matt Otwell, Music—Jeff Horner, Organist, Advent Wreath: Connie Wiegel & Madison and Molly Smith
- December 24 (4 PM):** Greeters—Jan & Randy Kurtz, Music—Wesley UMC Praise Team, Praise Team Leader—Lisa Kemp, Acolyte—Will Otwell, A/V Volunteer—Need, Advent Wreath: The Kurtz Family
- December 24 (11 PM):** Greeters—Wilmer Family, Liturgist—Rev. Matt Sichel, Acolyte—Isaac Sichel, A/V Volunteer—The Sichels, Music—Jeff Horner, Organist, Advent Wreath: Waltrup Family (Wilmer Family)
- December 25:** Greeters—Mike & Lee Ann Crochunis, Liturgist—John Sies, Acolyte—Need, A/V Volunteer—Need, Music—Jeff Horner, Organist

The Wesley Journal December 2022 Issue



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