

# The Wesley Journal

Wesley United Methodist Church  
3239 Carrollton Road  
Hampstead, MD 21074



410-374-4027 ~ [www.wesleychurch-hampstead.org](http://www.wesleychurch-hampstead.org) ~ [wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org](mailto: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, worshiping & praying, and serving & connecting.

*Rev. Dr. Melissa Rudolph ~ Lead Pastor ~ 833-622-7862 ext 2*

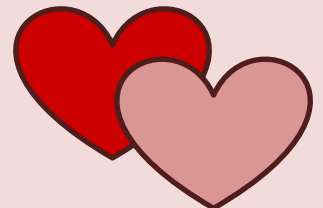
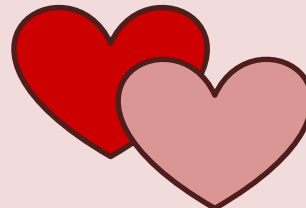
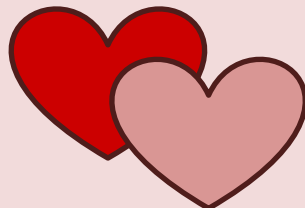
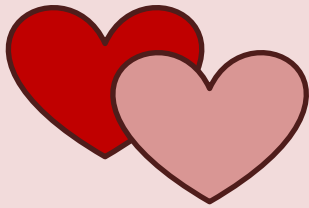
*Rev. John B. Rudolph, Sr. ~ Associate Pastor and Youth & Kid Ministries 833-622-7862 ext 3*

*Rev. Jerry Gautcher ~ Associate Pastor ~ Caring Parish Ministries ~ 833-622-7862 ext 4*

*David Stawick ~ Visiting Homilist*

*Andy Davenport ~ Lay Preacher*

*Rev. Cindy Caldwell ~ Associate Minister*



Love is patient, love is kind.  
It does not envy, it does not boast,  
it is not proud. It does not dishonor  
others, it is not self-seeking,  
it is not easily angered,  
it keeps no record of wrongs.

**1 Corinthians 13:4-5**





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## *Birthdays*

- 1** Heather Sater
- 3** Megan Myatt
- 4** Daniel Graf  
Kristen Reilly  
Mason Waltrup
- 5** Alayna Mahosky
- 6** Amanda Huges Hannon
- 7** Jennifer Ejik
- 9** Haydn Schaefer
- 11** Dan Baumiller, Jr.  
Tyler Rill
- 14** Cheryl Hughes  
Jason Martin  
Heather Schaefer
- 16** Sterling Davis  
Patricia Sater
- 18** Gladys Smith
- 23** Jeffrey Graf
- 28** Lana Montgomery

## *Anniversaries*

- 1** Dennis & Rev Amy Sarah Lewis-Rill
- 4** Dean & Roxane Brewer
- 11** Ben & Carolyn (Graf) Whetsell
- 12** Patrick & Kristen Reilly
- 29** John & Stephanie Halley

### **Inside This Issue:**

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**Deadline for the March issue of  
The Wesley Journal  
is **Tuesday, February 25****

Please email your news to  
[wesley@wesleychurch-  
hampstead.org](mailto:wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org)





### Caring Parish Collection—January/February

This month's Caring Parish donation drive is for the "Cold Weather/Night by Night Shelter" in Westminster.

At participating locations, we are collecting travel sized hygiene products and cold weather accessories.

|             |                     |
|-------------|---------------------|
| Shampoo     | Hats                |
| Conditioner | Gloves              |
| Lotion      | Scarves             |
| Toothpaste  | Socks               |
| Toothbrush  | Hot Hands (warmers) |
| Soap        | Lip Balm            |
| Deodorant   |                     |

Any questions or for more information, call Pastor Jerry Gautcher  
883-622-7862 ext. 4 or email [pastorjerry@nccpumc.com](mailto:pastorjerry@nccpumc.com).

**We are collecting items through Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>**



*Our thoughts and prayers  
go out to the family  
and friends of  
Pastor Jeff Odom,  
John Morrison,  
Grace Lane  
&  
Janie Dell  
who recently passed*





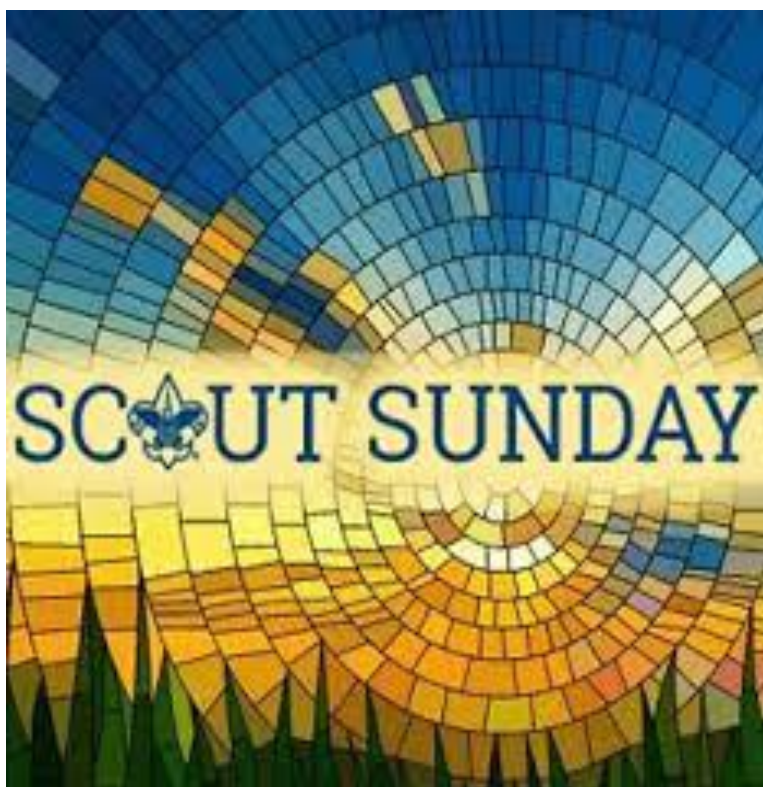
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**Worship Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 25**  
**@ 1 pm**



**United Methodist Men**

Tuesday, February 18  
At Dutch Corner @ 8 am



*February 2, 2025*



Wesley United Women in Faith met on January 16 in the social hall. There were nine members in attendance. Our program for January was on Co-Creating. We shared how some of us are very creative people and others are followers and need help. Our Scripture was from Luke 1:26-45.

We approved our budget for the 2025 year. We agreed to donate to UMCOR for the California fire relief and Shepherd Staff building fund.

We talked about doing a sewing kit to add to the older girl Christmas boxes and also a hygiene kit for young women.

We will meet again **Thursday, February 20th at 11:00 am in the social hall.** We invite all the ladies of NCCP to join in our meetings. Please call the Wesley church office if you have any questions @ 410-374-4027.

Connie Wiegel  
President



## MEETING MINUTES



Wesley United Methodist

Administrative Council Meeting

January 22, 2025

Members present: Pastor Melissa Rudolph, Dave Hudgins, Jan Kurtz, Linda Yost, Jonathan Yost, Brenda Hess, John Sies, Janet Martin, Brenda Kennedy, Michelle Hudgins, Connie Wiegel, Dean Brewer, Jackie Otwell, Linda Hollman

Pastor Melissa opened the meeting with prayer.

### Committee Reports

#### 1. Staff Parish Relations Committee: Brenda Hess

- The SPRC met on Jan. 8th, 2025, at 7:00 pm via zoom
- 5 SPRC members were in attendance along with Pastor Melissa Rudolph
- Meeting Focus was Pastor's Goals for the new year
- Pastor Melissa discussed her goals for 2025. She stated that she will be working to bring our NCCP community together. As well as adding more lay speakers to the NCCP churches.
- Brenda asked Pastor Melissa about the July BWC changes and how Wesley might be affected. Churches will be consolidated into church Hubs. She stated that she does not think the NCCP churches will be affected by this change.
- Brenda asked Pastor Melissa about pastor evaluations that typically take place in the fall. She stated that someone would notify me about attending a pastor evaluation meeting to join the other NCCP SPRC church committees to perform pastor evaluations. I was never contacted. Pastor Melissa stated that no pastor evaluations were performed by any of the NCCP SPRC's church committees this past year. Pastor Melissa stated that she performed a self-evaluation on herself.

· Brenda felt since Wesley has only been part of the NCCP since July 2024 we should wait until November 2025 to perform a pastor evaluation.

## 2. Trustees: Dean Brewer

· Snow removal

o Chris Weaver and boys from the farm shoveled the church sidewalks after the snowstorm.

o Lippy family plowed out the church parking lot

· Regarding new floor tile in the Fellowship Hall, a small, representative group of women from the church will review and choose the tile color from Carpet Workshop in Finksburg to coordinate with the knotty pine walls in the Fellowship Hall.

· Linda asked Gary about the tank's purpose that he drains monthly in the basement. It is a pressure tank that keeps chemicals flowing within the water softening system.

· Dean asked Pastor Melissa whether she had heard from the Baltimore-Washington Conference about a go ahead to separate our cemetery as a new LLC from the church. She will contact our D.S., Rev. Dr. Ann Laprade, to ask the Buildings and Locations Committee about this.

· Regarding the HVAC system in the Sanctuary, the electrical portion was installed improperly, causing a heating failure in December. It needs to be updated with a new breaker box and appropriate equipment. The church was charged \$7,645.00 for the electrical work. After some discussion, and a follow-up phone call by Dean, the electrician returned the above \$7,645.00 to the church. Dean wants to use Tim Kyle, of TK Electric Heating & Cooling in Westminster which will cost \$10,000-\$12,000. The returned funds will go towards the above cost. Dean plans to ask Tim Alisea, of Alisea HVAC for the balance, as Tim was aware of the improper electrical installation.

· Dean has contacted Mike Grote, Electrician, to upgrade the kitchen breaker box and install some new outlets in the kitchen, for a fee of \$850.00. Dean has also discussed with him installation of a brighter light (LED) for the parking lot light pole. Once the inside electrical work is completed, the Fellowship Hall ceiling will be painted. Dean painted the inside of the door near the light switches. The flooring will be installed last.

· With renting out the Fellowship Hall in mind, Dean would like to replace the current tables in the Hall with lighter ones. Some of the current ones could be moved to the Choir room to replace the old ones in that room.

· Matt Otwell requested use of the Fellowship Hall for some meetings of the Maritime Explorers. Pastor Melissa stated that this youth-age group is in covenant with the NCCP, similar to the Scouts. There will be no charge for use of the Fellowship Hall for these meetings.



- Gary met with Tim Rill and discussed repair and painting of the trim around the stained-glass window in the front of the church. This will be taken care of this coming spring.
- Gary worked on the snowblower and got it working. It is in the basement under the kitchen and can be used to clear the church sidewalks as needed.
- The Trustees will clean out the furnace room and remove un-needed equipment.
- Linda will contact Dawn regarding the final cost of repairing the furnace in the Education wing.
- Next meeting: Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM.

### 3. Finance Committee: Dave Hudgins, Church Treasurer – Reports available

- 2024 Summary – came in ahead of the Budget
- General weekly giving came in a little below budget
- Expenses ran a little below budget
- In good shape from a cash standpoint
- Our Conference apportionments will double in 2025 from last year – projecting a deficit
- Fellowship Hall improvements will also be a cost
- Dave annotated some information from the 2023 budget to compare with present budget.
- Receipts from Christmas Bazaar – \$5350.82. Half going to General Fund, other half divided among Outreach, UMM and United Women in Faith. \$891.80
- Statistics Report for the Conference is in process and is due near the end of January
- Finance Committee will meet Wednesday, February 19 @ 7 pm via ZOOM

### 4. United Methodist Men's Group: Dave Hudgins, President

- Met in December
- Cancelled January breakfast meeting due to bad weather.
- Will provide a meal to the Westminster Rescue Mission in the next month or so.
- The UMM will support the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. 5 – 7 p.m.



o Pastor Melissa said that a number of churches throughout the parish hold Shrove Tuesday pancake suppers. She likes to do a Pancake Supper Crawl, hitting all or most of them.

#### 5. Christian Education- Jackie Otwell,

- Continue to follow the KidsX program and supplement
- Christmas Pageant happened. Is a right-of-passage for the children
- 15 students (5 families) attend regularly in Sunday School
- Grades 4-6 made Thank You cards for the Humane Society to give out to adopters of animals
- Participated in the NCCP First Annual Cookie Decorating Contest. Won for best costume!
- Plan monthly themed Sunday School gatherings for the children.
- Thanks to all Sunday School Teachers and for the White Board
- Pancake crawl sounds like fun for the Sunday School children
- Assembled goodie boxes for the Christmas boxes. Families were very appreciative.
- Sunday School asked to donate the Homeless Bags to Night-by-Night Shelter.

#### 6. Outreach- Jan Kurtz, Chairperson

##### · Treasurer's Report –

o Linda just had Treasurer's books transferred to her as the new Treasurer this week. She and Cindy Myatt visited Truist Bank and completed the paperwork. Cindy will stay on the bank records as Member/Assistant Treasurer. No report is available this month.

o The final amount to be received from the Bazaar is \$891.80.

##### · Christmas Families

o The families were very grateful for the Christmas gifts that Wesley gave them.

##### · Meals

o Bonnie Catron is stepping down as Meal Coordinator. Patty Harris will be taking her position.

o We continue to provide meals for Tracy Rill and family through the end of January.

- Soup Sale

- o Linda suggested that instead of a soup sale, which is a multi-day, work-intensive event for many of our members, that we have a Baked Potato Luncheon (with hot dogs) instead. After some discussion, it was decided to hold this luncheon on Sunday, February 23, 2025 after worship, instead of a soup sale.

- o Pastor Melissa informed us that there is a parish-wide event, a Chili Cook-Off competition at Greenmount UMC which involves chili, soup, and dessert-tasting. This event raises money for the Cold Weather Shelter in Westminster and is taking place on Sunday, February 2nd, at 4 p.m. Janet plans to bring some crab soup for tasting and to sell.

- College Students – Gift Cards

- o Jan will find out from Vicky the names of our college students and when to send them the gift cards.

- Westminster Rescue Mission Meals

- o UMM may donate a meal or funds sometime in February. Outreach will occasionally do a meal. Hopes to get Greenmount UMC involved.

- Easter Baskets

- o Will discuss at the February Outreach meeting

- Night By Night Shelter

- o Janet is taking over any parish donations as they come in to Wesley. It was suggested to also donate the homeless bags put together in the fall by Wesley Sunday School children. A number of the bags are still in the Sanctuary and need to be distributed.

- Wesley Pantry – Connie

- o Connie and others continue to stock the pantry. She will check to see if anything has frozen in this cold winter weather.

- New Business

- o Janet asked for prayers for the Westminster Rescue Mission. Land and a farm have been found for the Women's Shelter, however, there is objection by many of the neighbors. There were two open forums scheduled to be held at Crosswinds Church on Rt. 27 on Monday evening, January 13th and Thursday morning, January 16th. Wesley church members were invited to attend and lend their support. The Public meeting was horrendous, a personal attack on Stephanie Halley, CEO. Need to pray.

o Prayers are requested for Rev. Burt Lane and Family on the passing of his mother, Grace Lane. Also, for Marge Odom on the passing of Rev. Jeff.

o Michelle asked for prayers for her niece, Nicole, whose home burned down in the California fires.

· Next meeting – Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 6 p.m. via ZOOM.

## 7. Worship: Janet Martin

· Met on January 13, 2025. Discussed having social gatherings with our new Pastors in members' homes to get to know them, and for them to get to know us more. Linda Yost and Pastor Melissa are working out dates and hosts for these gatherings.

· Will use the collection plates from now on instead of the baskets

· Ash Wednesday Service – 7:00 p.m. – Entire parish will be invited. Choir will provide music

· Palm Sunday – Choir Cantata

· Stations of the Cross at Wesley on April 18, 2025. Entire parish will be invited. Will ask other churches to set up a station or two. Jan will bring this up at the Caring Parish meeting in February.

· Sunrise Service – May join with Greenmount UMC

· Easter lilies will be available to order.

· Next meeting will be scheduled soon.

· Drum set will be moved to “music room” downstairs. Calvin and Janet are working on that.

## 8. United Women in Faith: Connie Weigel, President

· Met on Thursday, January 16th, at 11 a.m. and approved Budget for 2025

· Discussed some mission projects for Feb., March and April

· Decided to support UMCOR for the California fires and Shepherd Staff Building Fund for their new building in a different location.

· Nine ladies attended

## 9. Pastor Melissa Rudolph

- Working on dates for gatherings in small groups. Two in Feb. and two in March. Talk back sessions. Pastors are always available to visit and schedule a chat in members' homes. Can call Aidan in the main office.
- Have not heard about hubs. Cooperative parishes are already in the hub-configuration. May have other churches added, but have not heard. Have a handful of churches in the outlying community.
- Note in Announcements - Thank you from the pastoral staff for the Christmas gifts. Very grateful for the monetary gift which helped the Malawi church. Sent kids to Zoo on Christmas, finished project to insert glass in the windows in the church, new chairs, upgrade security. Gifts added up to about \$3,000 parish-wide. She is working on a slide show. There will be a trip over to Malawi. Maybe in 2025, but it's an election year, and all transportation costs are higher. Want to finish the basketball court project, then the Malawi Governing Body of Basketball will certify it. It is one of two or three courts in the country. Will put up rims and nets. Microcredit program in the works. Alex Obrecht is starting an initiative to send 100 bicycles over. Now have 55. Helps folks over there to get to work and other places they need to be.

Looking forward to the upcoming Lenten services. All churches come together. Maybe the Confirmation class can help out with the Stations of the Cross. Are still looking for Mentors for each confirmand. Classes are held every 2 years.

10. Dean warned everyone to watch for scams, as he has received some that appear to be from members.

11. In addition to the Congregational Email, Linda had Cherie set up a separate gmail block to send it out separately along with the Congregational Email. Now Comcast emails are bouncing again. Will continue to work on this. Have asked for help from Infopathways, but hasn't helped much. Will likely do a separate email block for the Comcast emails are bouncing again. Will continue to work on this. Have asked for help from Infopathways, but hasn't helped much. Will likely do a separate email block for the Comcast emails.

Pastor Melissa closed the meeting in prayer.

Next Meeting: February 26, 2025

Respectfully submitted:

Linda S. Yost, Secretary



**Wesley will be hosting**  
**Ash Wednesday**  
**with Communion**  
**March 5 @ 7 pm**



**Outreach**  
**Baked Potato & Hotdog Lunch**  
**Sunday, February 23 after service**

*"Thank you to Jackie Otwell for her enthusiastic leadership of our Children's Sunday School programs. Also, a Shout Out for the efforts of all the Sunday School teachers. Everyone enjoyed the Christmas pageant and the children were excited about and proud of their participation."*



*Rev. Jeff Odom went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Monday, January 6th. He faithfully served Wesley Church from 1993-2004.*



*If you would like to make a memorial donation, Jeff requested that gifts be given to Steps of Hope – Guatemala. He was deeply involved & committed to this ministry that brought hope for a better life through the education of the 150 children who attended this remedial program.*

*Your check can be made out to Steps of Hope – Guatemala with "In Memory of Jeff Odom" on the memo line.*

*Send your check to  
Steps of Hope  
2208 Rockwell Avenue  
Catonsville, MD 21228*



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*To our Wesley Church Family,*

*We are tremendously grateful for your gifts to us this Christmas. Not only were we able to bless our Ntchisi church in Malawi, but the added kindness of gifts for us was very touching. We give God thanks for your love, thoughtfulness and generosity!*

*Pastors Melissa, John & Jerry*

## 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

**John and Stephanie Halley**  
30 Fitzhugh Avenue  
Westminster, MD 21157

**Cindy Myatt**  
16 Lookout Court  
Gettysburg, PA 17325

## Prayers For Individuals & Families

- Joy!! – Tracy Rill has finished her cancer treatments
- Joe, cousin of Roxane Brewer, for healing from 5-way bi-pass surgery
- Joan, friend of Linda Hollman who has cancer and needs to determine next steps
- Rev. Amy for healing & relief from pain after falling onto her knees in the ice & snow and after a 2<sup>nd</sup> fall
- Robin, friend of Pastor Melissa, who is having heart complications as a result of cancer treatments
- Westminster Rescue Mission Women's Recovery Site who has settlement this week and for the neighbors to have a change of heart and accept this program
- Victims of the California fires
- Continued progress in hostage return and ceasefire in Israel & Gaza
- Rob Miller who is having health issues and may lose his home
- Sophia, a 2 ½ year old with brain stem tumor & undergoing tests at Hopkins
- Family & Friends of Grace Lane (mother of former Pastor Bert) who recently passed away
- Dan Graf's friend, Janie Dell, who passed away & is missed by the 4-H community
- Chip Weaver, for continued healing after ACL surgery
- Family & Friends of Rev. Jeff Odom, who recently passed
- Richard Brewer, Dean Brewer's brother, as he goes through cancer treatment
- Continue to pray for Jill, Tina, Christy, Lance & Annie who are battling cancer
- Irene Tracey who is dealing with lung cancer
- The Residents and Staff at the Westminster Rescue Mission
- All those who are going through cancer treatments or in hospice
- Victims & families of the war in Ukraine.



**NOTE:** Prayer requests will remain on this list for 4 weeks. Unless another request is received, their name will be removed. If, at any time, you would like to add or remove someone from this list, please contact **Cherie, Administrative Assistant** at [wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org](mailto:wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org), call the church office at 410-374-4027 or leave a message in the Admin's inbox in the office.

**Sunday Schedule**

9:30 AM – Sunday School

10:30 AM - Fellowship

11:00AM – Worship

# February 2025



| Sunday  | Monday | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday  | Saturday |
|---|--------|--|--|--|---|----------|
|   |        |  |  |  |   | 1        |
| <b>2</b><br><b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After the Epiphany</b><br><b>Scout Sunday</b><br>Sunday School,<br>Fellowship &<br>Worship | 3      | 4  | 5  | 6<br>Maritime<br>Explorer<br>6 pm<br>Choir<br>7 pm | 7   | 8        |
| <b>9</b><br><b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After the Epiphany</b><br><b>Communion</b><br>Sunday School,<br>Fellowship and<br>Worship  | 10     | 11   | 12<br>Outreach<br>6 pm<br>Trustee<br>7 pm via<br>Zoom<br>Boy Scouts<br>7:30 pm | 13<br>Choir<br>7 pm                                | 14<br> | 15       |
| <b>16</b><br><b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday After the Epiphany</b><br>Sunday School,<br>Fellowship and<br>Worship                     | 17     | 18<br>UMM<br>Breakfast<br>Dutch Corner<br>8 am | 19<br>Finance<br>7 pm via<br>Zoom<br>Boy Scouts<br>7:30 pm                     | 20<br>UW Faith<br>11 am<br>Choir<br>7 pm           | 21  | 22       |
| <b>23</b><br><b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday After the Epiphany</b><br>Sunday School,<br>Fellowship and<br>Worship                     | 24     | 25<br>Worship<br>Committee<br>1 pm             | 26<br>Ad Council<br>7 pm<br>Boy Scouts<br>7:30 pm                              | 27<br>Choir<br>7 pm                                | 28  |          |



## 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](mailto:wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org)

Office Hours: Tue & Fri 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

## Worship Participants for February

### February 2

**Greeters:** Mason Watts & Aiden Tiffe

**Worship Leader:** Jeff Zachman

**Liturgist:** Brody Frey & Gabe Malveaux

**Offering:** Edgar Kirby & Chaz Hood

**Acolyte:** Need

**Organist:** Jeff Horner

### February 9

**Greeters:** Linda Hollman & Brenda Hess  
(UWFaith)

**Worship Leader:** Linda Yost

**Acolyte:** Need

**Organist:** Jeff Horner

### February 16

**Greeters:** Dennis Rill & Randy Kurtz

**Worship Leader:** Rev. Amy Sarah Lewis-Rill

**Acolyte:** Need

**Organist:** Jeff Horner

### February 23

**Greeters:** Jan & Randy Kurtz

**Worship Leader:** Jeff Zachman

**Acolyte:** Need

**Organist:** Jeff Horner

### Wesley United Methodist Church

3239 Carrollton Rd.

Hampstead, MD 21074

The Rev. Dr. Melissa Rudolph, Lead Pastor

Address Service Requested



The Wesley Journal **February** Issue