

# THE WESLEY JOURNAL



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

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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...

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord:

You and I are part of a great fellowship. Wesley United Methodist Church is unique in the Lord's work and worship we have been able to accomplish together. We have been "family for each other" in all aspects of human life lived in the Lord: baptisms, weddings, funerals, as well as everyday life as a part of a faith community. It has been a very rare occasion when I need to come to you with a pastoral appeal, but that moment has arrived.

**"I**t has been a very rare occasion when I need to come to you with a pastoral appeal, but that moment has arrived. Dear friends, this summer has been an extremely difficult one..."

Dear friends, this summer has been an extremely difficult one, financially-speaking. While there

are a variety of possible reasons for why this might be so, the bottom line is that we have been struggling mightily to pay the bills for our operating budget. While people have been very generous in their contributions to Wesley Improvement Projects (WIP), youth trips, and other special

giving opportunities, our general giving has decreased suddenly and substantially. What that means is that Laura Waltrup, our church treasurer, has needed to "pick and choose" what gets paid and what doesn't. At this time, we are behind two months on our apportionment payments ("Mission Shares") to the Annual Conference. Pension and medical bills are a month behind at this time. A large (and unexpected) insurance payment has come due that we have been unable to pay. These are just some of the stressors upon our church coffers. There are others.

The Finance Committee met this past week, and we decided together that we would ask the congregation to please consider giving more to our operating budget. If everyone were to give even five more dollars a week, we would be in a better situation than we are. I wanted to be the one to write the letter, because I want to inform you about where we are and because, quite frankly, the financial situation is stressing me out. It is difficult to focus on preaching and ministry when I am concerned about the budget.

Denny and I give a tithe of our income to Wesley. It is our joy and privilege to do so. We also give above and beyond that to various opportunities as they arise. We see the money as belonging to God, and we are giving back what God has given to us already. Would you consider joining us in giving back to God an appropriate portion of what God has given to you? Please help us meet our financial responsibilities, so that we can re-focus our attention on mission and ministry. With gratitude, I am,

*Your Servant and Friend, Rev. Amy S. Lewis- Rill, Pastor*

## Inside This Issue:

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Condolences, Updating Contact Info., Reaching Out, Members to Keep in Prayer	2
"Thank You"s, Editor's Note, July/August Lectionary	3
Fall Women's Getaway, GriefShare Meetings & Breakfasts, Wesley (and Friends!) Book Club	4
Susanna Wesley House Gala Celebration Invitation	5
Boscov's Shopping Pass, Board of Child Care Christmas Store, Charge Conference for Wesley UMC	6
<b>New Member Classes</b> , Tween Scene Information	7
Youth Group Schedule: Fall 2019	8
Barn Dance Invitation	9
Small Groups: Check One Out!, Donations to Wesley UMC in Memory of Loved Ones, Planned Giving	10
Library Notes	11
July Administrative Council Minutes	12-14
August Calendar	15



### September Birthdays

- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Brylee Sims     | 14 Dawn Graf         |
| 3 Gwyn Montgomery | Landon Harmon        |
| 4 Craig Schubert  | George Sabol         |
| John Sies         | 15 Nicholas Davidson |
| 5 Logan O'Byrne   | 16 Matt Grice        |
| 7 Madison Harris  | 17 Jacki Grabowski   |
| Connie Wiegel     | 18 Dick Weaver       |
| Kristen Zuskin    | 21 Bryce Kuhn        |
| 9 Matt Lippy      | 23 Carol Pfoutz      |
| Donna Miller      | Margiana Senseney    |
| 10 Grant Martin   | 26 Wyatt Phillips    |
| Cade Schaefer     | Landon Thompson      |
| 11 James Hoffman  | 27 Graham Sowash     |
| Vincent Reilly    | 28 Stephanie Halley  |
| Jeff Zachman      | 29 Nate Halley       |
| 13 Craig Ejc      | Marley Rill          |
| Wilson Harris     | Trey Rill            |
| Zoe Ann Martin    | 30 Lisa Rill         |
|                   | Charlie O'Byrne      |

### September Anniversaries

- 6 Jason & Jessica Sellman
- 11 John & Janet Martin
- 14 Edgar & Jackie McLain
- 19 Jim & Bev Rill
- 21 Bob & Suzanne McCown



### Our Deep Condolences...

We offer our love and condolences to the family and friends of Geraldine R. Garrett, a beloved member of the Wesley UMC congregation, who passed into the arms of Jesus on Tuesday, July 30, 2019. May God hold you close as you remember Geraldine and celebrate her life.



### Updating Your Contact Info.

Please call Sandy Cole, Membership Secretary, at 410-876-5295 or send an e-mail to baldor1@comcast.net 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.

### ~ Reaching Out ~

Andy Smith is on extended assignment. You can drop him a line or send him a card at:

**Andy Smith**  
**CAOC\ISRD\TGTS**  
**Unit 61224**  
**APO AE 09309-1224**

### Members to Keep in Your Prayers (Cards Welcome!)

**Anna Faye Jenkins**  
 Golden Crest Asst. Living  
 4110 St. Paul Rd.  
 Hampstead, MD 21074

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



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



Dear Church Family,

I want to thank everyone for the thoughts, prayers, cards, communications, and visits during my health issues in June. The love and concern helped a lot.

*Thanks again, Roger Daugherty*

Our heartfelt thanks for all the love and support shown to Miss Geraldine and our family in years past and following her recent death. She always felt a part of the Wesley family, even though she hadn't been able to attend church. The cards, calls, and frequent visits kept her connected to a church and people she loved. What a remarkable woman!

*God bless! Linda Garrett Hollman and Family*

## Editor's Note



Hello, Wesley Church,

I'd like to extend my apologies and my appreciation. First, the apology—you may have noticed that the September Journal issue is coming out rather late this month. This is not a trend to be continued, and things should be back to usual moving forward. That being said, the October Journal submissions will be due about the time this issue comes out (the 15th of the month). Thanks for helping me put together each issue.

Second, my appreciation. Our family was hit by a couple of different illnesses in July and August. Thank you to all of the people who prayed, sent well wishes, or otherwise showed their care and concern. The timing of our illnesses was a God-thing, as we were all still able to go on our family's memorial trip to Canada in memory of Matt's mom, Suzanne Sichel. Thank you again for your thoughtfulness.

*May God bless you as you have been a blessing! Jess Sichel*

## July / August Lectionary... GET INTO THE WORD!

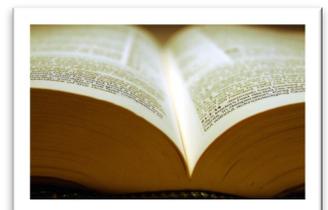
**September 1:** Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14

**September 8:** Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; Philemon 1-21; Luke 14:25-33

**September 15:** Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10

**September 22:** Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; Psalm 79:1-9; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

**September 29:** Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15; Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16; 1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31



## Register TODAY! The Fall Women's Getaway

A weekend away from it all, with some of your favorite girls. What could be better?  
Strengthening relationships and coming back fully refreshed!  
Sisters in Christ



Friday, October 25 — Sunday, October 27, 2019

Cost: \$155.00

Location: Camp Eder, 914 Mt. Hope Rd., Fairfield, PA, 17320

You won't want to miss it! Sign up TODAY! Limited spaces available!  
Send your name, phone number, email address, and \$25.00 non-refundable deposit to hold your spot!  
Make checks payable to: Connie Wiegel (Balance due September 15, 2019)

## GriefShare Meetings and Breakfasts



Another 13-week session of GriefShare for Fall has begun. The sessions will run through December 10th with Nov. 19th devoted to "Surviving the Holidays."

Also, GriefShare members and friends will continue to meet once a month throughout the year for breakfast. Anyone who is interested in joining them for breakfast or wants to know more about GriefShare sessions is most welcome.

The breakfast group is next scheduled to meet on **Tuesday, September 24th, at 9:30 AM** at Dutch Corner Restaurant in Manchester at 9:30 am.

## Wesley (and Friends!) Book Club



The Wesley Book Club is open to everyone both inside and outside of our church — come out and bring a friend! **The group will have most of its upcoming meetings at 12:30 PM at MJ's Café & Baking Co. (2965 Manchester Rd, Manchester, MD 21102.)**

- ↪ The September selection is ***Where the Crawdads Sing*** by Delia Owens. The meeting will be on September 26th.
- ↪ The October selection is ***The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning*** by Margareta Magnusson (all about decluttering.) The meeting will be on October 24th.
- ↪ The November selection is ***Let's Roll*** by Lisa Beamer (Todd Beamer's wife—Flight 93, Sept. 11, 2001.) The meeting will be on November 21st.
- ↪ The December selection is ***Loving Frank*** by Nancy Horan (the story/diary of a love affair between Mamah Borthwick Cheney and Frank Lloyd Wright.) The meeting will be on December 26th. *Location TBD.*

Questions about the Book Club? Give Reenie a call at (410) 848-1121.

**Susanna Wesley House Gala Celebration — You Are Invited!**

June 14, 2019

United Methodist Women

Dear Friend,

The mission of the Susanna Wesley House, Inc. is to assist women in need and their dependent children by providing a safe, clean home and to ensure a viable program for the residents to obtain independent living. This year the SWH is celebrating *100 years in Mission* in serving women, children and youth. To commemorate this milestone, the Board of Directors is hosting a Gala on September 21, 2019. This exciting and informative event will be held at Martin's West, 6817 Dogwood Rd, Baltimore, MD 21244 from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. We will have a DJ to provide great music, a Christian comedian to lift our spirits, and our own Bishop LaTrelle Easterling will be in attendance and speak some words of welcome.

We are asking for your help with this celebration by donating a gift basket to be part of our silent auction. Some themes can include movie night, spaghetti dinner, gardening, books, stationery, candles, bath accessories, teas, coffees, fall decorations, Christmas ornaments, baby gifts, children's toys, and so on. Let your imagination fly!

Please contact Cheryl Bryant, Executive Director/Grant Writer at [susannawesleyhouse@verizon.net](mailto:susannawesleyhouse@verizon.net) or 410-837-3787 to confirm your donation *and* to request tickets for this celebration. We are asking for a donation of \$65.00 per person, with tables of 8 or 10 available. Invite your friends and loved ones for an enjoyable evening. This is our main fundraising event for this year and your participation will help us together to further the mission of faith, hope and love in action for women, children and youth.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Grace and Peace,

*Sabrina White*

Sabrina White

President, Susanna Wesley House, Inc. Board of Directors

**100 Years of Service Gala Celebration  
You are invited!**

The Susanna Wesley House:  
Celebrating 100 years of mission service to women and children.

**Saturday, Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019, from 1 to 5 PM**  
Scrumptious Lunch Buffet, Music, Comedy, Vendors, and Silent Auction

**Tickets \$65:** See Brenda Hess or Linda Yost for ticket information

**Martin's West:** 6817 Dogwood Rd., Baltimore, MD 21207

## Shopping Pass for Boscov's — "Friends Helping Friends"



Now is the time to get your Discount Shopping Pass for Boscov's! **Shopping passes are on sale now and are \$5 each, all of which benefits the UMW.** In addition to other perks on the designated shopping day, receive up to 10 to 25% off most items.

Purchase your shopping pass from a Wesley UMW member today! Contact the church for details at 410-374-4027 or [wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org](mailto:wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org)

**Shopping Date:** Wednesday, October 16, 2019

**Where:** All Boscov's Locations

**Time:** 8 AM to 11 PM

## Board of Child Care Christmas Store



Now One of the great things we do as a church is provide assistance to the Board of Child Care in their ministry to children and families.

With the holidays coming up soon, you can help! The Christmas store is in need of new or nearly new items. This would be a great time to "regift." The store provides a place for the kids to shop for their families

and loved ones. Each child is given \$5.00 to spend and items are priced at 5, 10, and 25 cents. They have a great time shopping!!

General items needed (NO CHRISTMAS-THEMED ITEMS, PLEASE):

- |                 |             |            |            |                                   |             |            |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Stuffed Animals | Wallets     | Baby items | Toys       | Jewelry                           | Games       | Hair Items |
| Bath Gel        | After Shave | Purses     | Toiletries | Tee Shirts                        | Baby Lotion | Socks      |
| Baby Books      | Deodorant   | Toothpaste | Hand Cream | Body Washes, soaps, & soap dishes |             |            |

Donations may be brought in at any time through mid-November. If you would like to help stock the store, please give Betty Barr a call at 410-374-0828.

## Charge Conference for Wesley UMC

You are invited to join in conferencing with the body of Wesley UMC members on:

**Wednesday, October 23, 2018 at 7 PM**  
**at Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church Social Hall**  
**15301 Dover Rd., Reisterstown, MD 21136**

Part of the business of this meeting will include voting, and those members of Wesley UMC who are present will represent a quorum from the church, so make sure your voice is heard!

If you have any questions in advance of the conference, please contact the church office via phone at (410) 374-4027 or by email at [wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org](mailto:wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org). **Thank you** for participating!



## New Member Classes ~ September 22 and 29 & October 6



New Member classes will be held between worship services on three Sunday mornings: September 22 and 29 and October 6, 2019. Rev. Amy will be the instructor, and classes will meet in her office. **Please contact her by phone at 443-604-5245 or by email at [revamys@aol.com](mailto:revamys@aol.com) as soon as possible** if you are interested in joining our church so that we may order you a membership book. **Welcome to Wesley UM Church!**



# “FALL” INTO THE TWEEN SCENE @ WESLEY

4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join the Tween Scene this fall! On alternating months, tweens will join Youth Group for a gathering or hit the road for an outing with Jr-Highers. More details to come, but don't miss out! Mark the calendar now!

### FAMILY PICNIC

@ Wesley  
September 8<sup>th</sup>  
5.00 – 7.00pm

### CORN MAZE

@ Local Homestead  
Produce  
October 26<sup>th</sup>  
6.30 – 8.30pm

### YOUTH GROUP

@ Wesley  
November 3<sup>rd</sup>  
6.00 – 8.00pm

### CAROLING & COOKIES

@ Wesley  
December 8<sup>th</sup>  
after worship

Questions?

Contact Stephanie Halley  
[stephanie@wesleychurch-hampstead.org](mailto:stephanie@wesleychurch-hampstead.org)  
443.803.7372



The logo features the words "youth group" in a stylized, lowercase font with arrows pointing up and down through the letters. Below it, the word "SCHEDULE" is written in white capital letters on a red rectangular background with a downward-pointing arrow.

# Fall 2019

## ALL YOUTH

## SPECIALS

Sept

- 8<sup>th</sup> - Youth Group Family Picnic @ Wesley, 5 - 7pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Destination Unknown

- 13<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> - Sr High Girls Study, 6pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> - Sr High Guys Night Out

Oct

- 6<sup>th</sup> - Youth Group @ Wesley 6 - 8pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Destination Unknown

- 11<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> - Sr High Girls Study, 6pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Sr High Guys Night Out
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Jr High/Tweens @ Corn Maze, 6.30 - 8.30pm

Nov

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Youth Group @ Wesley 6 - 8pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> - Destination Unknown

- 8<sup>th</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> - Sr High Girls Study, 6pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Sr High Guys Night Out

Dec

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Youth Group @ Wesley 6 - 8pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Destination Unknown

- 8<sup>th</sup> - Jr High/Tweens - Caroling
- 13<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> - Sr High Girls Study, 6pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Sr High Guys Night Out

Every week

- Bible Study @ the CAVE 9.45am
- Worship @ 8.45am and 11am

Stephanie Halley  
[stephanie@wesleychurch-hampstead.org](mailto:stephanie@wesleychurch-hampstead.org)  
 443.803.7372

in 2020

- February 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> - ROCK (in Ocean City)



Wesley U.M. Church  
INVITES YOU TO A

~ GAMES ~ DJ ~  
FOOD & DRINK FOR  
PURCHASE

# BARN DANCE

TO SUPPORT WESLEY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

FOGGY BOTTOM FARM

415 S. Houcksville Road, Hampstead, MD 21074

SATURDAY — OCTOBER 12, 2019

4 PM — 8 PM



\$15.00 per PERSON  
\$40.00 per FAMILY



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For information or tickets, call:  
Linda Yost 410.239.0429

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## Small Groups: Check one out!



This fall, we are actively seeking new participants for the small group ministry at Wesley UMC – and we hope you'll be a part of it! Small groups help congregation members:

- ✧ Connect on a more personal level
- ✧ Build up one another
- ✧ Journey through life together
- ✧ Further relationships with God

Small groups are gatherings of 8 to 12 people who meet under a confidentiality covenant (what happens in the small group *stays* in the small group.) Sometimes, a meal can be involved, and the groups at Wesley usually center around a particular study for a time.

We currently have two small groups that meet on Monday evenings. There are also individuals interested in starting a daytime small group, which would need five to eight more people. If you would like to learn more or join a group, please contact Laura Waltrup at 410-961-8425 or [waltrups@gmail.com](mailto:waltrups@gmail.com) or Jason Montgomery at 443-207-4717 or [montgo@gmail.com](mailto:montgo@gmail.com). We hope that these small groups will help individuals, and the congregation as a whole, grow stronger in relationships and faith. Life can be a challenge, and spiritual support is important in the Christian walk. Come see how God might use a small group in your life and for the world!

## Donations to Wesley UMC in Memory of Loved Ones



When a loved one passes, many times family and friends make donations to Wesley UMC in memory of that person. There are many ways to give to our church including our Wesley Improvement Projects (WIP) Fund, the longer term Building Fund, Orphan Stone Repairs and of course, the Memorial Fund. In addition, an Endowment Fund was created in late 2018 for the purpose of accumulating a principal balance over time through donations and bequests in the hopes that it will someday produce an income stream off the interest earned. Donors can designate funds given in memory of a loved one as they wish. And families of a loved one who has passed can designate a specific purpose for how donations are used, such as the Lucy Harrell Scholarship Fund and Linda Rill Playground. However, a change was made as agreed upon by the Memorial Committee and affirmed through a vote by Ad Council on 2/27/2019. All donations received in memory of a loved one that does not indicate a specific designated fund or purpose, will be split equally between Memorial Funds and Endowment Funds. This change went into effect in March 2019. Should you have any questions, please contact the church Treasurer, Laura Waltrup at 410-961-8425.

## Planned Giving

*"It is not enough to look back. We need to look forward. There is much that needs to be done (children taught, the sick visited, those who mourn to be comforted, and those in trouble to be helped). Wesley is to stand as a beacon to the love and power of God; its members are to be rays spreading out to give light in a dark world"*

– Excerpted from Material Prepared for Wesley's Bicentennial (1987)

Wesley has a rich history, a wonderful present, and a future full of promise. How can we, living in the present, help plant the seeds for our church's future? Consider remembering our Wesley UMC in your Last Will and Testament. Planned giving is one way to provide a legacy to your commitment to Christ, helping Wesley to continue to stand as that "beacon to the love and power of God." Talk to your family. Talk to your advisors. Learn more. One source of information on planned giving is the Mid-Atlantic United Methodist Foundation, Inc. You can find them on the web at [maumlegacy.org](http://maumlegacy.org). At Wesley, feel free to contact Lee Ann Crochunis or Laura Waltrup, Finance Committee.



## Library Notes



“But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God.” ---Acts 20:24 (NLT)

In the past, we have dedicated this newsletter to children and youth, moms and dads, but what about the revered wise ones of our congregation? Now is the time! We appreciate your stories, wisdom, advice, memories, and knowledge of the grace we have been given through Christ. We have listed some texts about growing old, imparting accumulated knowledge, and celebrating a life well-lived with our God.

**Information in parentheses indicates where library items are shelved.**

*A Life God Rewards* by Bruce Wilkinson (232). Jesus revealed a direct link between what you do today and what you will experience after you die. Wilkinson shows you what Jesus said about God’s plan to reward you in eternity for what you do for Him today. This will help to unlock the power and potential of your life, and you will live with the unshakable certainty that what you do today matters forever.

*Ruth Bell Graham: Celebrating an Extraordinary Life* by Stephen Griffith (920). From a small village in China to a mountaintop in North Carolina, the light of Ruth Bell Graham can be traced through the lives of those who knew and loved her. This is a unique portrait of one of America’s most revered and influential Christian women as seen through the eyes of those who knew her best.

*Chicken Soup for the Grandma’s Soul: Stories to Honor and Celebrate the Ageless Love of Grandmothers* by Jack Canfield (240). Whether you’re a veteran grandma or a Nana-to-be, this collection of stories will warm your heart and make you laugh about the universal experiences of being a grandmother: the phone call that announces your baby will become a mom herself; the first time you hold the most beautiful grandson or granddaughter in the world; and the day you’re on baby-sitting duty and realize that major issues are minor infractions best solved with love instead of lectures. This book celebrates the memories we make and the times we cherish with grandmothers: the women who can both spoil and be stern; who provide unconditional love and invaluable wisdom; who can share sage advice while sharing an ice cream.

*The Golden Hours* by Edna Hackett Oliphant (800). This is a collection of poems, thoughts, and words of wisdom, compiled during her later years spent at Presbyterian Home of Maryland.

*It’s Taken Years to Get This Old* by Karen O’Connor (269). You’re wiser, your life is a bit more settled, and you get to spoil your grandkids. Getting older offers these advantages...and at least one more: senior moments to smile and laugh about. Popular speaker and humorist, Karen O’Connor, takes a lighthearted look at the “perils” of growing older, such as ordering a Coke and fries at a bank drive-thru.

*Nearing Home* by Billy Graham (232) Scripture is filled with examples of men and women whom God used late in life, often with great impact—Noah, Abraham, Moses, Elizabeth, and Anna, to name a few. They were ordinary men and women who discovered that the latter years of life can be some of the most rewarding and fulfilling. In this moving narrative, [Billy Graham] reflects on his life and contemplates what God still has in store for him.

*My Favorite Senior Moments* by Karen O’Connor (269). Ah, those senior moments we dread...and yet laugh about. Gentle humorist Karen O’Connor tickles your funny bone in these senior moments that also highlight the many blessings of living long. You’ll chuckle and want to share these stories that reveal the sunny...and funny sides of life.

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.

Donated items may be left stacked on the library desk. **Please** leave a paper with your name and the names of the donated items so that we can give you proper credit. Remember that we only take items suitable for a church library. The librarians reserve the right to determine suitability.

Please leave the stepladder used for reaching books on higher shelves in the corner visible near the closet doors.

**Bonnie Catron and Nan Lishman, Librarians**

## Administrative Council Minutes • July 24, 2019

**Attendees:** Mike Eastwood, Lee Ann Crochunis, Brenda Kennedy, Matt & Jess Sichel, Vicky Wilmer, Jan Kurtz, Linda & Jon Yost, Brenda Hess, John & Janet Martin, John Sies, Kim Peake, Denny & Amy Rill, Jason Montgomery, Cynthia Davey, Pam Phillips, Stephanie Halley, Jason Martin, Laura Waltrup, Lisa Kemp

The **Meeting opened** at 7 PM. **Devotions** were presented by Linda Yost based on "Reflection Book" by John Wesley, which is the continuing message of Wesley and selections of his own writings. "The House of Religion – What is the Love of a Christian?" was the reflection shared. The idea was that love for our fellow man knows no bounds. 1 Peter 3:8 – "And now this word to all of you. You should be like one big happy family... Be kind to others and the Lord will bless us for it." The group then said The Lord's Prayer.

The **minutes from the May meeting** are in the [July/August] Journal. No corrections were raised, and a motion to approve the minutes was raised. All in favor; none opposed.

### Outreach:

- Minutes published in July/August Journal.
- A speaker is coming from the Health Dept. on August 21st to speak about Opioid addiction, especially in Carroll County and in our area. This is open to community and will be in the Sanctuary; Vicky desires all in this room and beyond to be there. From that meeting, we will make decisions as a church as to what our next steps are regarding the subject.
- The Church Picnic will be August 25<sup>th</sup>. A sign up will be in the back of the church starting this week. Jess needs to talk to Vicky about the outreach mailers coming.
- Advertising in the Northern News will be done by Jason. Pam asked if advertisement could be done on the Carroll County Cable Channel.
- **Outreach is also collecting School Supplies and will take them the first Sunday in August or first Monday (in by August 4<sup>th</sup>) to NESAP. There are two big bins in the back of the church marked School Supplies.**

### Christian Ed.:

- A smaller group will be meeting after the Cherokee trip to discuss curriculum changes.
- Teachers are getting lined up and shuffled around.
- Last year, there were two Sundays with combined Sunday Schools (all ages; one before Advent and one on Palm Sunday). This year, Stephanie is looking at doing four of these events this coming year. She will be proposing to Sunday School teachers that we use the model of stations, where there is a cooking station, craft station, etc. The Sundays will be at harvest time in Oct., the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent, the beginning of Lent, and Palm Sunday.
- **Adult Sunday School:** Plans are in the works to have some of the same offerings and some different offerings.
- This will be a confirmation year; at this time, there are three candidates. The class will start at the end of January (before Lent) and go through Pentecost.

**Youth:** Junior Youth Group (4-6 grades) Good year to do it. Sr. High girls are helping to lead the younger group. Will be on the youth calendar and brought to next Ad. Council.

**Finance:** Laura sent an email out to the Ad. Council ahead of time, but will answer questions.

- Cash flow is tight; it is tighter than normal. Expenses have been cut, but income is down. We do not usually recover until November's supper. The amount that we have in the bank to pay bills is down. We've been tracking all year about \$8-9,000 low in income and cash flow.
- There has not been a recent Finance meeting.
- It will soon be budget season.

### Trustees:

- The Trustees understands where we are financially. WIP funds are different from the regular budget; however, they have been "derelict" in getting the ladies room done. It will be done shortly. The decision on flooring needs to be made, then the bathroom can be put together.
- After that, it would be great to redo flooring from the stair tower to the Fellowship Hall; however, this depends on finances. It would also be great to get new tables and chairs (this was brought up in the town hall meeting.) At the next meeting, the Trustees will consider if that makes sense. WIP consider asking the congregation to help us replace the flooring as a fundraiser like the Window Warrior project (18/22 windows "sold.")
- The fuel oil tank is still not hooked up; the tank is in, but the "plumbing" from tank to furnace has to be redone. John has not pushed the company on it. This part of the bill is approx. \$3-400. Shipley noticed the leak and informed us; we had to fix once we knew about it.

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- Pam to John Martin: thanks for putting the huge expense of the fuel tank on his personal credit card to buy us 30 days to pay for the cost. He will be reimbursed; this is a red flag for finances. Borrowing the money from WIP was discussed with the understanding that this is NOT a capital expense. Comment from John Sies: There have been times in the history of this congregation when the treasurer had to make decisions about which bills needed to be paid at what time. There is no secret that at one time or another, we have robbed Peter to pay Paul. We got through it; there was no great stressing; it was done because it was necessary. **Linda Yost made a motion to take the money from WIP (borrow the money) to pay back John for the tank expense; seconded by Stephanie. All in favor; none opposed; none abstained.**
- The A/C in the Education Wing needs signs and proactive turning on and off.

**UMW:** Minutes will be forwarded out.

- UMW is still collecting Box Tops for Education for the Board of Child Care (Betty Barr.) They are used for educ. materials, etc.
- The UMW will be having a Boscov's Coupon Sale (\$5 for discounts; Sale Date: Wednesday, Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>.)
- The Susanna Wesley House Gala is open to all (with tickets—see Linda Yost.) It will be on September 21st from 1 to 5 pm. The Susanna Wesley House is a national mission organization in Baltimore.
- Fall Supper (November 9, 2019) – Please help support the UMW through the Christmas Table & Bake Table.
- Mission U – Linda & Connie will be attending.
- Spring Supper – An Organizer/Facilitator is needed to take the reins of this supper. There are folks who would help, but there is no one to lead the event.

**UMM:** No recent meeting.

- Sponsored Lemonade on the Lawn with ice cream.
- The men have been asked to cook for the church picnic; awaiting reply.

**Worship:** Will be meeting August 4th, 2019

- There has been a meeting with Rev. Amy to create a calendar for the year. The group will be working through the calendar at the August 4th meeting.
- There will be a new service on December 21st (a Saturday). It will be a "Longest Night/Blue Christmas" service. More details on the calendar.
- Linda Yost informed us that the Choir is having a party at Jan Graf's on August 22nd. If you would like to come and join the choir, Jan Graf would welcome you with open arms.

**Rev. Amy:** On July 1st, Rev. Amy started her 30th year of ministry in the UMC.

- Charge Conference will be on October 8th, 2019, at 7 PM at Pleasant Grove UMC.
- There will be an August meeting of a/the subcommittee of the Lay Leadership Committee. A huge slate of officers is rolling off; we could also talk about the Ad. Council format as it is or whether we want to have a different model. Might be the right moment to do that in August to help avoid burnout for members. This will be ahead of the probably two nominations meetings starting in September.
- It was noticed that in the past, folks have discussed another form of organization as approved by the Book of Discipline. We have been very administratively heavy, traditionally. There was a motion that we refer the question on organizational structure to the Lay Leadership Committee, to come back at the August Ad. Council meeting (on August 28th at 7 PM) to provide us a report of what the options are. Matt made the motion; Jess seconded it. All were in favor; none opposed; none abstained. If there is a new form of organization to be taken, it would begin in January of 2020. Ad Council would approve the new form.

**Lay Member to Annual Conference:** Linda Yost will not be returning as a Lay Member to Annual Conference. Matt may be moving out of the role of Lay Member to A/C because he will possibly be moved to clergy this coming A/C.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Motion to Escrow Apportionments:** Lee Ann Crochunis, as an individual, not as Finance Chair, but representing others in the congregation who are interested in the issue being presented, brought forth a motion that dealt with the Human Sexuality question. Traditionally, the Book of Discipline as it exists has rules specific to ordaining / commissioning candidates who are practicing homosexuals [LGBTQIA]. At the Special February General Conference Session, there were amendments to Book of Discipline, but the current stance on the issue was confirmed. Our Baltimore Washington Conference (BWC) violated the Discipline in two cases [since then.] The Recommendation/motion was to say as a church that the Conference went against the Book of Discipline, and as an outward sign of that, Wesley UMC would hold apportionments aside and send a letter to the Bishop to this effect. An additional note is that due to the personal disagreements individuals have with the BWC, some giving has been diverted away from the General Fund; there are, however, also viewpoints in support of the BWC's actions.

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The conversation that followed was thorough and detailed. Some of it touched on the following:

- **What do apportionments pay for through the UMC?** **A:** Multiple funds: General Conference, Jurisdictional Conference, Annual Conference. Things like World Service, General Boards of the UMC, Africa University, conference budgets, etc.
- **What happens to our money?** **A:** 68% goes to Mission and Ministry; 32% is Administrative. The local church pays the BWC, which takes that and pays their budget. Part of their budget is a large chunk to Jurisdictional Conference. JC does the same thing for the General Conference.
- **Have we ever withheld apportionments before?** **A:** Yes: Between 1860 and 1868, Wesley withheld apportionments because it disagreed with the position of the United Methodist Church on slavery.
- **What would this group want to see from the BWC in order to release apportionments put into escrow?** **A:** "As such time as the actions have been corrected" (per the motion); this could mean different things. The Book of Discipline changed, the Annual Conference won't do it again, the persons (Bishop or individuals commissioned/ordained) tried.
- **Have charges been brought up on the Bishop?** **A:** No. Then why do we have the right to find her guilty and punish her if others have not?
- **From where did this originate?** **A:** From a group of people within this church, not local churches. However, it is being discussed in other areas like Hereford, Little Orleans, and Oakdale UMCs. It was noted that many, many churches withhold apportionments [around the General Conference on both sides of the issues.]
- **Would we not have to call a congregational meeting to decide this?** **A:** No. The UMC is not a congregationally-run church, but is led by the Administrative Council, made up of individuals chosen by the church and confirmed at Charge Conference.
- **Does the Book of Discipline say when we have a right to withhold apportionments?** **A:** In fact, it is given as the [local] church's first responsibility to pay apportionments, and it would be a direct violation of Rev. Amy's ordination for her to advocate withholding them.
- **Is the BWC meeting anytime soon to discuss a position?** **A:** The BWC has determined at the 2019 Annual Conference that it will go against the Book of Discipline. It has already taken a stance and implemented it.
- **What action can the BWC take against our church if we don't pay?** **A:** Bishops change, so each thing is different, but it could result in looking like we can't afford a full-time clergy person could become part-time, part of a charge, etc.

Some of the thoughts brought up in the conversation include:

- Apportionments are like tithing; the money is God's. We are all sinful human beings, but that doesn't warrant not tithing. There are other ways to protest.
- It probably won't ever be corrected; the trend is showing signs that the UMC will change in structure—what do we do with apportionments in escrow at that time?
- This motion seems to be premature and like wielding apportionments as a weapon when we haven't had conversations as a church about this.
- There is no system of accountability for the UMC the way it is today, which frustrates many. The bishops can't be held accountable by other jurisdictions—just those bishops in their own jurisdiction. There is no other way for a church to dissent.
- The motion is about a rule and rule-breaking, not necessarily about our feelings.
- Is it right to violate the Book of Discipline to protest someone else breaking the Book of Discipline?
- Rev. Amy is vehemently opposed to not paying apportionments per paragraph 340.2E – pg. 277 of the 2016 Book of Discipline.

The discussion took a turn towards having communication with the congregation. Kim Peake said that we have to aggressively address putting the conversation out there. Even if the church splits down the middle, we **MUST** be talking about it and deciding where we stand. The two small groups at Wesley met together to discuss the question of human sexuality, and Laura Waltrup did a great job of leading us in the conversation. It helped the participants get a broader view of the issue. Laura said that we are not doing our job if we are not taking into account the feelings of the parishioners. We all have a responsibility to really try to understand both positions. Finding out what other people think helps us be more caring and respectful and helps the situation become less like a "camp" situation. Matt Sichel said that he assisted with bringing the motion here tonight, and that he would be willing to table it as long as we discuss it and keep on discussing it. A second was needed to table the motion, which Vicky Wilmer did. **The vote to table the motion was 17 for, 4 against, and 0 abstaining.**

From there, the Council discussed how to encourage/create areas of conversation for the issue. Some things suggested included holding classes twice a month on Sunday mornings with two or three educated people leading the group; praying about it and coming back together to work it out based on the Word of God; being open, but structured; using the resource[s] used in the small groups; lunch and discussions once a month, etc. **Send ideas for how to discuss the issue to Pam; if interested in creating the discussion structure, talk to Laura.**

We stood, held hands, and prayed, closing the meeting at 9:07 PM. The next meeting is August 28th at 7 PM.



# SEPTEMBER 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Last Sunday of Summer Schedule; Combined Worship Service	2	3 Girl Scouts 6:30 to 8 PM	4 Visitation Meeting, J&Ps Restaurant, 12 PM Office Drop-In 1:30 to 3:30 PM Trustees 7 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM	5 Chancel Choir 7 PM	6 Office Drop-In 1:30 to 3:30 PM	7
8 Regular Worship Schedule Begins	9 UMM at 6:30 PM	10	11 Office Drop-In 1:30 to 3:30 PM Outreach 6 PM SPRC 7 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM	12 Chancel Choir 7 PM	13 Office Drop-In 1:30 to 3:30 PM	14
15 October Journal Submissions Due	16	17 Girl Scouts 6:30 to 8 PM	18 Office Drop-In 1:30 to 3:30 PM UMW 6:30 PM Finance 7 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM	19 Chancel Choir 7 PM	20 Office Drop-In 1:30 to 3:30 PM	21 Susanna Wesley House Gala (see advertisement) 1 to 5 PM
22 New Member Class (9:45 AM) Community Hymn Sing at Immanuel Lutheran 3 PM Fellowship Hall Reserved—Palmer	23	24 Office Drop-In Hours 1:30 to 3:30 PM	25 Office CLOSED Ad. Council 7 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM	26 Book Club at MJ's Café & Baking Co. 12:30 PM Lay Leadership Committee 6 PM Chancel Choir 7 PM	27 Office CLOSED	28
29 New Member Class (9:45 AM)	30 Capital Fundraising Meeting 7 to 8:30 PM Carroll Co. Schools Closed		<b>Regular Worship Schedule:</b> 8:45 AM Contemporary Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School	10:45 AM Fellowship Time 11 AM Traditional Worship Nursery Care During All Services		

SCHEDULE OF



WORSHIP

**Regular Worship Schedule**

- 8:45 AM** Contemporary Worship Service
- 9:45 AM** Sunday School/Bible Study
- 10:45 AM** Fellowship Time
- 11 AM** Traditional Worship Service AM



We're on the Web! Visit us at:  
[www.wesleychurch-hampstead.org](http://www.wesleychurch-hampstead.org)

**Phone:** (410) 374-4027

**Email:** [wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org](mailto:wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org)

**Office Drop-In Hours:** See Calendars Inside!

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

**September Worship Participants...**

	<u>Ushers/Greeters</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Junior Church</u>
Sept. 15 8:45AM 11 AM	Janet & John Martin Reenie Harris & <i>Need</i>	Mike Sichel	<i>Need</i> Isaac Sichel	Brenda Benson
Sept. 22 8:45 AM 11 AM	<i>Need</i> Gladys Smith & Barb Sater	Linda Hollman	<i>Need</i> <i>Need</i>	Rose Hohmes
Sept. 29 8:45 AM 11 AM	<i>Need</i> <i>Need</i>	Michael Eastwood	<i>Need</i> Lyla Montgomery	Laura Waltrup

\* If you would like to sign-up for these opportunities for service, please contact Jess in the church office at (410) 374-4027. Thanks!



**Wesley United Methodist Church**

3239 Carrollton Rd.

Hampstead, MD 21074

The Rev. Amy Sarah Lewis-Rill, Pastor

Address Service Requested



The Wesley Journal: *September Late Late Late Issue*