



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...

I am going to make a confession. My confession is that I have been guilty of staring at the sky. "What on earth do you mean?" you ask. "You're being weird, Rev. Amy." "Yes, I am weird, but hear me out," I reply. The answer to why I am guilty of staring at the sky comes from the ending of one of two scripture readings from the same author that we read every year on Ascension Sunday, the Sunday before Pentecost.

"My confession is that I have been guilty of staring at the sky. "What on earth do you mean..." We seem to be in a state of suspended animation...

In Acts 1:1-11 and Luke 24:44-53, both written by St. Luke, Jesus is preparing to take leave of his disciples following numerous post-resurrection appearances. Indeed, it has been forty days since Jesus' resurrection, and the disciples are saying good-bye to

Jesus. The hope is that Jesus is going to come back one day but, in the meantime, the Holy Spirit is going to guide Christ's followers in their life and work. Just prior to returning to the Father, Jesus promises to send that Holy Spirit, and the disciples are told to wait for it. Jesus then takes his leave. Interestingly, this leads to two different responses. In the Acts passage, the disciples are left "gazing up toward heaven" (i.e. staring at the sky). To my reading, the disciples are fearful and confused, because Jesus has left them behind. Two men in white appear and ask the disciples why they're just standing there. They say, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way you saw him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11). Conversely, in the Gospel reading, Jesus' followers get back to the work of praising God. We read, "While (Jesus) was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God" (Luke 24:51-52). Which ending do you like better? "The Gospel ending," you reply. "I like the Gospel ending better, too," I reply.

Even knowing the preferable choice, I have been staring at the sky. While I don't feel like Jesus has left me alone, and while I am aware of the work of God's Holy Spirit everywhere around me, I have been fearful and confused lately. The denomination I have served for over thirty years is imploding. If the latest protocol is any indication, United Methodism is about to undergo a divorce. On one side are the Progressives and on the other side are the Traditionalists. We are poised to go our separate ways, pending the outcome of General and Annual Conferences this year. I have been through a divorce once before. No one wins in a divorce. I feel like the child of a divorce these days, watching two

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Tyler Rill | | |

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

Happy January Anniversary to:
Earl & Bonnie Christiani—January 20th

Happy January Birthday to:
Bonnie Christiani—January 1st

Updating Your Contact Info.

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

Congratulations to...

Rachel, Drew, and big sister Alaina York on the birth of Dylan Shane York on January 20, 2020, at 11:04 AM, PST. Dylan is the grandson of Michael Sichel and weighed in at 9 lbs. 7 oz. Welcome to the world, baby Dylan!

Change in Address

Elsie Zumbrun
Sunflower Hill Assisted Living
416 Uniontown Road
Westminster, MD 21158



Members to Keep in Prayer (Cards and Calls 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

Betty Horner
Golden Crest Asst. Living
4110 St. Paul Rd.
Hampstead, MD 21074
(410) 374-6219

Elsie Zumbrun
Sunflower Hill Asst. Living
416 Uniontown Rd.
Westminster, MD 21158

Patsy "Tootie" Harris
500 S. Houcksville Rd.
Hampstead, MD 21074

Charlie & Norma Beam
1304 Wesley Rd.
Finksburg, MD 21048

Kathe Lippy
421 Lee's Mill Rd.
Hampstead, MD 21074

Zelda Wilhelm
4826 Alesia Rd.
Manchester, MD 21107



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

Pastor's Message (*Continued*)

powerful forces going through mediation, and terrified of the outcome, wondering which "parent" I will be with at the end of it all. Trying to be a neutral, non-anxious presence to the congregation I love throughout the divorcing process has been extraordinarily stressful. I have been depressed and anxious. I hate every minute of this. I want to escape. I have been staring at the sky, and I haven't seen "men in white" anywhere.

It occurs to me that we, as a church family, are having a corporate moment of "staring at the sky." We seem to be in a state of suspended animation, not wanting to hire staff, reluctant to make any long term plans, "until we know what's going to happen in May" (when General and Annual Conferences take place). Should the protocol be approved, we will have until 2024 to decide, as a congregation, whether we want to go the Progressive route or the Traditionalist route. Ugh.

Social anthropologists use the term "liminality" to describe a state when we aren't who we once were and we aren't who we're becoming. We're somewhere in the middle. The disciples experienced liminality when Jesus left them at Ascension and they were awaiting the Holy Spirit. The people of Wesley Church are experiencing liminality between a "united" Methodist Church and the "new expressions of Methodism" that will occur after our denomination splits. We're in suspended animation, stuck in a wilderness of our denomination's own making. I don't know about you, but I'm sick of staring at the sky, waiting for May 2020 or June of 2024, or any other date when we'll be in the custody of one parent Methodist or another.

I propose that, for our collective sanity and for the sake of God's Kingdom, that we get back to work, helping to establish that Kingdom on earth. I urge us to get back to the work of making disciples for Jesus Christ. I urge us to love one another in word and deed. I urge us to be "continually in the temple, praising God." Our denomination will do what it will. No doubt about that. I urge us to remember that we are children of God first, no matter what the divorcing powers tell us. Let's stop staring at the sky, my brothers and my sisters. We are God's children, and God's work must be done, regardless.

Love, Rev. Amy



Thank you Wesley!

"May the Lord reward you for all you have done. Ruth 2:12"

Dear SPRC & Wesley church,

Thank you so much for your generous gift to us at Christmas! It is such a blessing to be a part of your worship and it is an extra blessing to know that Wesley values and appreciates our offering of time and gifts!

Thank you from the Wesley Praise Team—Lisa, Paul, Bill, Jason, Don, Lana, & Stephanie

A special shout out to Gordon Benson who has made numerous trips from Hanover to Wesley UM this fall and early winter. He's trimmed back blooms and shrubs, edged our flower beds, and dressed up the mulch.

Looking forward to seeing the fruits of your labor in the spring and summer. Thanks, Gordon!



Authorities are warning people about writing dates in 2020. If you are writing the date on any legal or financial documents (including checks), make sure to use the full "2020" for the year, not the abbreviated "20." This is fraud protection, keeping someone from adding numbers after the "20" (such as "2019.") The date change could cause changes to obligations, etc. So, spell it out!

February Lectionary... GET INTO THE WORD!



February 2: Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

February 9: Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12); Psalm 112:1-9 (10); 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16); Matthew 5:13-20

February 16: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

February 23 (Transfiguration Sunday): Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

February 26 (Ash Wednesday): Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

In Case of Inclement Weather...



Please remember Wesley UMC's inclement weather policy: if the Snow Emergency Plan is in effect in Carroll Co. at 6 AM, Sunday School and the 8:45 AM Contemporary Worship 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 as to the weather in your area. We don't want anyone getting injured!

Lenten Devotional: Happening Now! Let the Spirit Move You...

Two years ago, the Wesley UMC family came together to develop a 2018 Lenten Devotional. It was a hit, and we would like to do the same thing for this Lenten season. A list of scriptures has been created for this purpose. They are connected to the 2020 theme of "Holy Spirit/Prayer." There are 82 scripture options; we will need 47 devotionals. 1

Here's what you do:

1. Review the scriptures and choose one (or more!) to write about. The scriptures are in the church office on the large closet doors; just sign your name next to your choice(s). (You can also email Jess at wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org or visit our Wesley Facebook Group to get the list.)
2. Contact Jess with the scripture(s) you choose.
3. Pray, ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance, and proceed to write a short devotional (Upper Room/Our Daily Bread-style) centered around the Holy Spirit and/or Prayer.
4. **Email, mail, or give a paper copy of your devotional to Jess on or before Friday, Feb. 14th (Valentine's Day).**
5. Consider writing another devotional if you are so led!



Thank you so much for your participation. The devotional should be completed by either Shrove Tuesday or Ash Wednesday. May God bless your thoughts and writings!

Scout Sunday: Come Share a Lasagna Lunch with the Scouts!



February 9th is Scouting Sunday!

We love our Scouts! Wesley UMC will show some of that love when we gather with the Boy and Girl Scouts on Sunday, February 9, during our 11 AM Worship Service. Following the service, **all are invited (and encouraged!)** to partake of a lasagna luncheon. We will be having two lasagna options (meat sauce and veggie), salad, bread, and dessert.

RSVPs are not required, but welcome! Contact Jess Sichel at (410) 374-4027 or wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org.

Help us celebrate our Girl and Boy Scout Troops here at Wesley by joining in the celebration!

Confirmation Classes: Starting March 1st

Dear Confirmation Age Friends:

Do you want to join Wesley United Methodist Church? Do you want to confirm the promises made on your behalf by your parents when you were baptized? If you haven't been baptized yet, would you like to be? If you answered yes to any or all of these questions, you might like to take confirmation classes between March 1st and the end of May. In confirmation classes, you will learn what it means to be a Christian, and especially a United Methodist Christian. It will be an interesting and fun part of your spiritual journey. You will know so much when you are confirmed at Pentecost on May 31, 2020. I promise! It is a wonderful experience you will never forget.

That said, confirmation is a serious step. It will require a commitment on your part, and there are some rules that go along with the process. First, if you have already signed up for spring sports and sports are the most important thing to you, you probably won't want to take confirmation classes. Preparing to join a church takes a lot of time and confirmation will need to be a priority. Second, you must be available on a couple of weekends when we take field trips, you will need to visit three churches outside of the United Methodist tradition, and you will need to be in church every single week. Third, you will need to attend class every week. We will probably meet after school, and you might be a little tired. There are only two (2) excused absences allowed. Fourth, you will need to find a mentor who will "travel" the confirmation journey with you. This is someone you admire in the church, who will pray for you and help you learn about what it means to be a Christian. Fifth, and perhaps most importantly, confirmation should be something YOU want to do. If your parents are making you do it, you won't enjoy the process nearly as much. Please think about and pray about whether this is the right step for you and the right time to do it.

There will need to be at least three students in a class for confirmation classes to happen this year. Please let me know by e-mail: revamys@aol.com if you are interested. We will probably meet on Wednesday afternoons, right after school, and will finish up in time for you to go home for dinner and schoolwork. I am so looking forward to getting to know you better, and helping you learn what it means to be a United Methodist Christian. I hope to hear from you soon!

Blessings and grace,

Rev. Amy Sarah Lewis-Rill, Pastor



Pancake Breakfasts: Comin' Right Up!

The United Methodist Men have selected to contribute to support the Carroll County Veterans Independence Project. To help fund this contribution, they are offering Pancake Breakfasts asking only for free will donations. The next breakfast is:



February 16, 2020

Serving will be from 9 to 11 AM
in the Fellowship Hall.

Please come for comradery, enjoy pancakes, sausage, juice, and coffee, and help provide support for the Veterans Independent Project. Thanks!

P.S. — Mark your calendars for an additional pancake breakfast on March 15.

GriefShare Session Starting February 18, 2020

Our next 13-week sessions will begin **February 18, 2020**, and run through **May 12, 2020**.

How GriefShare Works...

It may be hard for you to feel optimistic about the future right now. If you've lost a spouse, child, family member, or friend, you've probably found there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel.

This can be a confusing time when you feel isolated and have many questions about things you've never faced before.

GriefShare groups meet weekly to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life. Each GriefShare session has three distinct elements: a video seminar with experts, support group discussion with focus, and personal study and reflection.



When to Join a GriefShare Group

You are welcome to begin attending the GriefShare group at any session. Each is "self-contained," so you do not have to attend in sequence. You will find encouragement and help whenever you begin. You will be able to continue with GriefShare through the next 13-week cycle and view any of the videos you have not seen.

The Wesley UMC GriefShare group will continue to have our monthly Breakfasts and/or Dinners. For February, the meeting will be on:

Date: February 18 (Tuesday)

Time: 9:30 am

Place: Dutch Corner, Manchester

I hope you can all make this date.

Love & blessings, Reenie Harris & Bonnie Catron

After-Church Lunch Bunch



The After-Church Lunch Bunch (ACLB) is an informal gathering of folks who go out to lunch after the 11 AM service once a month.

This month, the ACLB will be meeting for lunch (or brunch) on:

February 23, 2020 at 12:30 PM

Meet at **Olive Garden** in Westminster, MD

All are welcome to join in!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper / Ash Wednesday Service



This year's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be on **Tuesday, February 25, 2020, from 5 to 7 PM**

The meal will include pancakes, sausage, applesauce, juice, and coffee. The cost? A free-will donation to support the Youth! Come out and have some fun time together. Then...

Come out the next night for our Ash Wednesday Worship Service

Wednesday, February 26, 2020, at 7 PM

as we begin the season of Lent—a time to reflect upon the things in our lives which separate us from the Lord.

Come, Holy Spirit, and reveal to us those things in us which stain us and bring us to a time of awakening and renewal.



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 its upcoming meetings at 12:30 PM at MJ's Café & Baking Co. (2965 Manchester Rd, Manchester, MD 21102.)**

- ↪ The February selection is ***The Giver of Stars*** by Jojo Moyes. The meeting will be on Thursday, February 27th.
- ↪ The March selection is ***Ordinary Grace*** by William Kent Kreuger. The meeting will be on Thursday, March 26.

Good Reads & Conversation

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



Maryland Easy Enrollment Health Insurance Program

This tax season, Marylanders will be able to sign up for health coverage through an innovative new pilot program. Beginning in 2020, you can indicate on your tax return if you would like the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, the state agency that runs Maryland Health Connection, to estimate your eligibility for coverage. This selection launches an easy process that will help you enroll.

How it works:

On your 2020 Tax Forms 502 and 502B, you must indicate whether you, your spouse, and/or your dependents have health insurance coverage.

If you are uninsured, then select to authorize the Comptroller to share information from your tax return with the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE) to determine pre-eligibility for free or low-cost health care coverage.

After filing your taxes, MHBE will send you a letter indicating whether you are preliminarily eligible for coverage through Maryland Health Connection (Maryland's health insurance marketplace) and asking you to take further steps to confirm eligibility and enroll.

To complete enrollment, you can visit MarylandHealthConnection.gov, call 855.642.8572, or receive free in-person assistance from trained experts throughout the state.

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. At Wesley, feel free to contact Laura Waltrup, Finance Committee.



Wesley UMC

Oyster and Fried Chicken Supper!

Saturday, March 21, 2020 · 12 pm – 5 pm
 With Seatings on the Hour and Half-Hour through **4 PM**

Fried Oysters and Chicken, Corn, Green Beans, Homemade Cole Slaw
 and Potato Salad, Applesauce, Rolls, Dessert & Beverages



Age 13 & up.....	\$27.00
Age 6-12.....	\$10.00
Under 6.....	FREE
Carryout.....	\$27.00



- Reservations Accepted (see below)
- NEW - Credit & Debit Card Payments Accepted on Site with \$1.00 service fee per ticket purchased.
- Mobility-Challenged Accessible
- Two Dining Rooms Available for Fast Service
- Silent Auction
- Baked Goods Table
- Carryout Includes 6 Oysters, 2 Pieces of Chicken, Sides, & Dessert or 5 Pieces of Chicken / No Oysters
- Groups/buses welcome; however, please call to schedule a seating time!

***** Reserve Your Tickets!!!*****



You won't have to wait in line for hours! Call Cindy today at **1-410-218-9303**
 to reserve your tickets and seating time!

While we make every effort to seat you at your requested time, it is not a hard reservation and you may need to wait for a few minutes while we change the dining rooms over from one seating to the next. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your time so that we may get you checked in and seated as close to your seat time as possible.

Wesley UMC • 3239 Carrollton Road, Hampstead, MD 21074
 (Corner of Wesley & Carrollton Roads)

www.wesleychurch-hampstead.org • (410) 374-4027

Library Notes

"Great marriages do not just happen; they require discipline, sacrifice, and effort. The best marriages are found only when we discover God's purposes, plans and principles as they relate to the relationship between a man and a woman. It is the discovery of these ideas that opens the door to the kind of love that lasts a lifetime." ----From *Making Love Last a Lifetime*

This month of February can be a cold and bleak one, weather wise, filled with dark and gloomy days. Let's think instead of celebrating the aspect of love this month, using Valentine's Day as a springboard. Let's read about strengthening our relationships with those we love!



Please note that we have a collection of donated inspirational pamphlets on the shelf next to the violets: *Strength and Grace, Our Daily Bread, and Mornings With Jesus*. You may take them to keep and read at your leisure!

Information in parentheses indicates where library items are shelved. * some books may be in your home, getting cozy.... could you check to see if they need to be returned?? Thanks so much! *****

Christian Family Living by Hazen G. Werner (173). Practical theology and advice about living as a Christian family. Beginning with the importance of the family and continuing with various aspects of family life, Werner emphasizes the importance of having God in the home. Part of the Basic Christian Books series.

Kiss & Tell: Truths That Will Transform Your Marriage by Donna Gibbs (173). Marriage is hard. A great marriage is even harder. It takes sweat, tears, and sometimes grinding of teeth to make the marriage you want. Call it gravity if you'd like, but without some very specific, intentional maintenance, most marriages begin to self-destruct. Well over half of couples in America divorce after allowing this downward trend to spiral out of control. According to Proverbs 24:26, "an honest answer is like a kiss on the lips." So, consider yourself "kissed" because *Kiss and Tell* exposes the truth about marriage. In a lovingly direct, honest, humorous, and simple manner, Gibbs reveals the difficulties in everyday relationships, as well as practical strategies to marriage success and satisfaction.

The Five Love Languages: How to Express Heartfelt Commitment to Your Mate by Gary Chapman (173). Are you and your spouse speaking the same language? Chapman reveals how different people express love in different ways. In fact, there are five specific languages of love: quality time, words of affirmation gifts, acts of service, and physical touch. Here is a key to understanding each other's unique needs. Apply the right principles, learn the right language, and find the satisfaction and joy of being able to express your love – and feeling truly loved in return.

Words for the Wedding: Creative Ideas for Choosing & Using Hundreds of Quotations to Personalize Your Vows, Toasts, Invitations & More by Wendy Paris (600). A romantic proposal, An Original Invitation. An inspired vow. A witty toast. This unique guide can help you express yourself and make your wedding as eloquent as it is elegant. There are creative ideas, suggestions, and hundreds of quotes from a wide range of sources including ancient Greek playwrights, classical philosophers, Biblical scribes, poets, humorists, and movie stars.

Making Love Last a Lifetime by Adam Hamilton (173) In this thoughtful, inspiring book, Adam Hamilton offers some keys to helping you develop a healthy, satisfying, and successful marriage. He draws on insights from surveys of over two thousand single and married persons, from experiences shared by couples he interviewed, from reflections based on fifteen years of counseling individuals, and couples, and from his own experiences in marriage. Most importantly, he draws on insights from the Bible to help you make love last a lifetime.

Love and Respect by Dr. Emerson Eggerichs (173) What do you want for your marriage? Want some peace? Want to feel close? Want to feel valued? Want to experience marriage the way God intended? Then why not try some *Love and Respect*.

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. Also, 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

Notes from the Wesley United Methodist Women

The UMW met on Sunday January 26, 2020. 7 women were in attendance.

We reviewed our 2019 budget to see where we needed to make changes for our 2020 UMW budget draft. In the end, a drafted 2020 UMW budget was agreed upon and voted to be accepted as documented.

Our women will work together to meet our budgeted Missions: Mission Givings, Designated Gifts, Conference Projects and our local Special Community Missions by providing UMW meetings every other month after worship service. We will continue our efforts to fund our missions through UMW dues, fundraising activities, and by incorporating a new fundraiser to help achieve our mission focus and initiatives.

Our UMW worship will be held on Sunday February 2nd; Linda Yost will give sermon.

UMW president provided a list of what the UMW Chair is responsible for and what other UMW officers and other responsibilities for UMW group women perform. This information was sent to Jessie, our church secretary.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday March 15th after the 11:00 worship service. Our 2020 Call to Prayer and Self Denial program will be presented.

United Methodist Men's Minutes • January 13, 2020

After prayers by Stan, we had a meal prepared by: Randy and Gordon (Entrée), John (Salad), Gordon (Dessert and Beverages). Tonight's dinner was open to the entire church family.

Devotion: Stan provided devotions based on the story of Abraham and the definition of Hebrews — "crossover" from old ways to new or a conversion.

Secretary's Report: No report for the December meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Jon reported that we now have \$934 excluding tonight.

Old Business:

- January 19th Pancake breakfast [later cancelled due to weather]:
Dave will get 2 more boxes of pancake mix and 150 sausage; Denny will get 2 gallons of orange juice; Gordon will get more paper goods, if needed; Randy will get a gallon of milk; John will get a quart of blueberries. We agreed that we have ample syrup and butter at this time. Future breakfasts are still on schedule as follows: February 16th and March 15th.
- Next meeting (February 10th), Dieter will provide a Bob Hope clip on entertaining the troops. Jeff will provide a Golf talk for the April meeting. Entrée - Stan, Salad - Mike, Desert and Beverage - Jim, Devotions - George

New Business:

- Randy noted that the UMM is responsible for fellowship snacks before the traditional service for the month of February.
- The program for tonight was open to the entire church as we had a presentation from the Carroll County Health Department on drug abuse.

Rummage Sale! Coming Soon to Wesley UMC...



Wesley Outreach will be holding a rummage sale on
Friday and Saturday, April 17 & 18.

This winter, so that cabin fever doesn't set in, start cleaning out your basements, attics, and closets—or just declutter. We will accept donations of clothing, household items, baby/children items, jewelry, books, CDs, VHS tapes, tools, small furniture, etc. **(PLEASE: ONLY CLEAN, USABLE DONATIONS.)**

We will accept donations the week of the rummage sale (Monday, April 13, — Thursday, April 16). If needed, we can provide help with pick-up. Any questions? Contact Cindy at (410) 596-5391 or candcm Wyatt@gmail.com.

Outreach Committee Minutes • January 8, 2020

Members present: Jan Kurtz, Davona Palmer, Vicky Wilmer, Rev. Amy, Janet Martin, Linda Yost, Jason Montgomery, Cindy Myatt, Pam Phillips

Treasurer's Report: Ended with a good balance. Paid donation commitments for January.

Faith Feast: Dian. Next Jan 24th. Dian and Connie sharing responsibility.

College Students: Sent boxes out in December. Will send out new boxes early March.

Cookie Walk: \$326

Baked Potato Luncheon: Jan 26 snow date Feb 2nd

Christmas Families: Cindy. Sponsored 4 families (22 people). Gave gifts and bibles. Families were very appreciative of gifts.

Narcan training here at the church: January 13 with UMM. Dinner at 6 and training at 7:30.

Homeless Outreach: January 10th, 4-6. Four people from Outreach. Exploratory visit. Give out packets. Feb 7th next visit.

Alpha Pregnancy Bottles: Feb 1 – ask Bonnie

Easter Baskets: March 22nd (Easter is April 12th)

Green Turtle: Matt Otwell

Pies/Tarts/Cobblers: Kim

Activity Sheet signup

Put homeless bags together after meeting

Rummage Sale: April 17-18, 8-2 on Friday, 8-2 on Saturday, Price to sell.

New Business

- **Mission work** — possibly working with Habitat for Humanity
 - ↳ Restore opening in Carroll County
 - ↳ Building homes in Taneytown this summer
- **Drug awareness training offer** — work with youth as well as rest of church

Next Meeting: February 12th

Notes from the Administrative Council Planning Retreat • January 11, 2020

The meeting was convened around 8:30 AM by Pam Phillips. There was a grace said and breakfast commenced. The meeting opened at 9:01 AM. Pam began with a series of icebreaker questions, with each person answering a different question. The questioning wrapped up with a show of hands that 2/3rds or so of the group are introverts and 1/3rd are extroverts. Following the opening activities, a number of committees gave reports regarding their activities from the past year, etc.

Some of the following are highlighted from the reports/discussion:

- John Halley is on a medical leave of absence; a CaringBridge site has been set up online for news of the Halley family journey; Calvin (a relative) has been working with John as Sexton and will continue to serve with John providing oversight. SPRC will be contact Calvin to see how he is doing and what we can do for him. That being said, all groups that meet at Wesley should take care of the facilities (turn out lights, tidy up the rooms, lock the outside doors, etc.) **If you notice a need, please communicate through Trustees.** Trustees has divvied up responsibilities with Linda Yost being the Chair of the committee. These responsibilities will be circulated.
- An Executive Council has been formed and has met once at Pam Phillips' home. The role of the committee, mostly, is to discuss/handle certain topics before they come to Ad. Council. The committee currently consists of Pam Phillips, Laura Waltrup, Linda Yost, Rev. Amy Lewis-Rill, Matt Sichel, and Jess Sichel. They meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 5 PM and start with a meal. The meeting lasts until about 6:45 PM. Things that were discussed at the first meeting were Stephanie's job description and holding on the plan to hire someone at this time, Youth, Christian Ed., the Church Calendar, the Spring Supper, etc. The next meeting will be Feb. 11, 2020.
- Some upcoming dates to note are: Youth at Rock 2/7-9/20; Shrove Tuesday 2/25 from 5 to 7 PM; Christian Ed. Meeting 1/21 at 7 PM; Worship Meeting 2/8/20 at 9 AM; Scout Sunday and Luncheon 2/9/20 11 AM to 1 PM; Boy Scout Auction 3/7/20; Spring Supper 3/21/20 (Fried Oyster and Fried Chicken Supper); Last Day of Sunday School 5/31/20; Summer Schedule Begins 6/7/20; Graduate Sunday/Father's Day 6/21/20; VBS 6/22 through 6/26/20; Mission Trip 7/6-12, 13/20 (Cherokee, NC).
- There was a press release on 1/3/20 regarding a group of leaders from across the UMC representing a variety of theological positions and roles who met with a professional mediator and signed "A Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation." Basically, the move represents a powerful part of the UMC leadership that has agreed on separation. This would still need to go before General Conference in May for approval or rejection. It does seem that the UMC will be separating into at least two churches; however, it is important to remember that everybody will come out on the other side and not to be alarmed. The Judicial Council will need to review the plan for constitutionality. Many are trying to avoid another event similar to what happened at last year's Special Session in St. Louis. For more details, please see Matt Sichel (popsichel@hotmail.com or (443) 278-3440.)
- Outreach – Davona and Vicky will co-chair outreach this year. Vicky provided an extensive list of the activities of the Outreach Committee for 2019.
- Membership – Sandy Cole is the go-to person for contact information and other membership needs. [If you have new contact information or need contact information/membership details, please contact Sandy Cole directly.]
- UMW – the first meeting of the UMW will be after the Baked Potato Luncheon on 1/26/20. While active, they will be voting on how they want to go with the UMW in the future, taking a look at the future of the UMW at Wesley. UMW Sunday is 2/2/20.
- Finance – has been working on/meeting goals, such as improved communication, training replacement(s), transitioning donor information into Servant Keeper, etc. A Finance Chair is needed.
- The Endowment Fund is doing well; however, the group met last in late 2018. The Harrell family has provided details on their intent and wishes for campership money use and administration.
- Camperships – on that note, there are Campership monies available. UMC camps for the Baltimore-Washington Conference include West River, Manidoken, and Harmison. RVR is also nearby (not a UMC camp.)
- Information Technology Committee – George Davey has been confirmed to be the 2020 Chair of the IT Committee. There is an Audio/Visual Support email address: avsupport@wesleychurch-hampstead.org.
- We have an updated address for Elsie Zumbrun; however, we need confirmation that it is okay to do so before publishing.

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- GriefShare will begin a new 13-week session on 2/18/20. Nancy, Bonnie, and Reenie will be heading it up on Tuesday nights from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. GriefShare has also been meeting for breakfast/dinner once a month.
- Worship would like to see more enthusiasm for Worship (sort of an in-reach – feeding the sheep within our midst.) The meetings for 2019 were not quite what the leadership was working towards, but the hope is that focusing on spiritual enrichment would be more successful this year – things like getting to the root of Scriptures for the year and to the theme of the month, etc. Also noted was the attempt to work on blended services to promote unification of the congregation, with the acknowledgment that people feed in different ways.

The meeting then transitioned: taking all the barriers and structures off, what does Wesley look like for 2020? What do we want to see as individuals, then as committees?

- Christ Centered Worship (songs, preaching, liturgy)
- Holy Spirit-filled and rooted in prayer
- Prayer. Advertise “Open Church” time (i.e., Wednesday from 6 to 7 PM) for prayer, soft music, prayer suggestions. Start small with participation in World Prayer Day/National Day of Prayer.
- VBS – reach out to participants throughout the year
- Getting our chairperson responsibilities together and emailing them to Sandy (Communications) to compile
- Lenten Devotional on the Holy Spirit (Jess and Rose Sichel); Lenten Study (Linda Yost)
- “Excellence” – Beautiful Experience
- Not self-appointed, but God appointed
- Thank you note for concert (Capital Fundraising)
- Need to use microphone in church
- Theological
- Invitation (altar call)
- Healing Service

We separated into groups and were given different questions to answer:

Group 1: What can we do to reach more people in 2020? More communication outward: newspaper, flyers, open prayer time, praying over people, word of mouth. Alternative service or events: something like the Gathering Table or open church for prayer. Connecting spiritually at events: praying over people at suppers. Intentional focus on evangelism: handing out Bibles at Faith Feast. Connect with local organizations: Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce.

Group 2: What can we do to increase our attendance? Reach out to children: have stuff for kids all of the time (more often), have a community for children. Stop arguing: right now, with the divisions in the UMC, it can be difficult to feel like we can invite people to church into that division. Prayer corner in Journal, prayer vigils, offer prayer service, prayer partners, prayer witness, book suggestions. Invitation to Church: Facebook, follow up with people that come out to visit; Music/Choir interaction to be spiritually fed, vibrant how we approach music to pull people in. Altar calls. Praying for people and with people when there are opportunities or circumstances.

Group 3: How is Wesley connecting to people in our community? NESAP – Janet Martin on Board, reports to Outreach, Mailings, Banners, Partnership with Westminster Rescue Mission – even provide rides for folks to church, WTTR/“Free” Papers/Advertise more, Reach out and invite other churches to Wesley events, Wesley Facebook page – how can we post?, Invite a friend to church, Give a free ticket to supper to those who attend our church service once a month for six months, open our facility to mom’s groups and clubs, Offer safe space for worship at convenient time to migrant workers, Ask for in-kind donations for dinners, etc., i.e. oyster sponsorships, rolls, etc.

Our 2019 goals were things like communication, ministry development, the ability to reach online folks and youth, and communicating with VBS participants throughout the year. We discussed how we dealt with the goals. Also discussed was the question of who does what? Hand-offs should be happening between former and new committee leaders. Also, we should be publishing/communicating what the committees should be doing. To that end, we will be putting together a Church Administration Directory (leadership directory; previous attempts at this were known as the Wesley Wall of Who’s Who.) Each committee should list what the group members should be doing and email that information to Sandy Cole by the last Wednesday of the month.

Note: Have some grace with folks when you think it should be obvious that something should have been done. Not all job descriptions are well-known.

For 2020, we will focus on awakening and prayer and the Holy Spirit.

Holding another Administrative get-together was suggested.

The Administrative Council will meet in January on the 29th at 7 PM. The meeting was closed in prayer at 2:15 pm by Rev. Amy.

Notes Respectfully Submitted by Jess Sichel



FEBRUARY 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Regular Worship Schedule: 8:45 AM Contemporary Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School	10:45 AM Fellowship Time 11 AM Traditional Worship <i>Nursery Care During All Services</i>					1 Rev. Amy Away
2 UMW Sunday Choir Room Reserved (Scouts) 1 to 4 PM	3 Girl Scouts 6:30 to 8 PM Rev. Amy Away	4 Girl Scouts 6:30 to 8 PM	5 Office Drop-In 1:30 to 3:30 PM Visitation at J&P's Restaurant 12 PM Praise Team 6 PM Trustees 7 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM	6 Chancel Choir 7 PM	7 Office Drop-In 1:30 to 3:30 PM "Rock" (Youth)	8 Worship Meeting (Phillips Home) 9 AM
9 Scouting Sunday! All Are Invited to a Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall 12 PM "Rock" (Youth)	10 UMM at 6:30 PM	11 Executive Committee Dinner & Meeting 5 PM	12 Office Drop-In Hours 1:30 to 3:30 PM Praise Team 6 PM Outreach 6 PM SPRC 7 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM	13 Chancel Choir 7 PM	14 Office Drop-In 1:30 to 3:30 PM	15 <i>March Journal Submissions Due!</i>
16 Pancake Breakfast! 9 AM to 11 AM "Rock" (Youth)	17	18 GriefShare Breakfast at Dutch Corner 9:30 AM Girl Scouts 6:30 to 8 PM GriefShare 6:30 to 8:30 PM in Harrell Library	19 Praise Team 6 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM Secretary Away	20 Chancel Choir 7 PM	21 Faith Feast at St. John's UMC, Hampstead	22
23 <i>Fellowship Hall Reserved (Palmer)</i> After-Church Lunch Bunch—Olive Garden, 12:30 PM	24 Capital Fundraising Meeting 7 to 8:30 PM	25 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5 to 7 PM GriefShare 6:30 to 8:30 PM in Harrell Library	26 Office Drop-In 1:30 to 3:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service 7 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM	27 Lenten Bible Study 10 to 11:30 AM Book Club at MJ's Café & Baking Co., 12:30 PM Chancel Choir 7 PM	28 Office Drop-In 1:30 to 3:30 PM	29

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

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

Office Drop-In Hours: See Calendar Inside!

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

February Worship Participants

	<u>Ushers/Greeters</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Junior Church</u>
Feb. 2 8:45AM 11 AM	Scott & Davona Palmer UMW	John Sies	Rose Sichel	Brenda Benson
Feb. 9 8:45 AM 11 AM	Janet & John Martin Brenda Hess & Betty Barr	Linda Yost	<i>Need*</i>	Jan Kurtz
Feb. 16 8:45 AM 11 AM	<i>Need*</i> Dan & Carol Pfoutz	Linda Hollman	Cheyenne Graf	Brenda Benson
Feb. 23 8:45 AM 11 AM	<i>Need*</i> Brenda Hess and <i>Need*</i>	Michael Eastwood	Isaac Sichel	Rose Hohmes

* If you would like to sign-up for these opportunities for service, please contact Jess in the church office via email at wesley@wesleychurch-hampstead.org or by phone 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

