



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

3239 Carrollton Rd., Hampstead, MD 21074
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...

Happy New Year! As I contemplated what to write about for a brand new 2021, I was reminded of something Dr. Emora Brannan, the former Senior Pastor of Grace UM Church in Baltimore, MD told me. It seems that every morning, when he and his wife, Nancy, sat down to their oatmeal breakfast in the church's parsonage, he would turn to Nancy and say, "Well, I wonder what today will bring?" It is a good question. For pastors, one never really does know what will happen from one day to the next. I guess much of life is like that.

I do wonder what 2021 will bring. Since 2020 was a year very few could have predicted, it is tempting to think 2021 might be relatively easy. After all, as of this writing, Pfizer has rolled out its Covid-19 vaccine, and Moderna is set to do so any day now. Health care workers and first line responders are being inoculated, and it will be only a matter of time before the rest of us are able to do the same, should we choose. (For the record, Denny and I will be getting the vaccine the moment it becomes available to us.) With the adjustments, particularly in safety practices and technology, the pandemic has brought to our church, what will we keep and what will we let go? I do believe that worship should continue to be made available online, because we are reaching sectors of the population previously unknown to us. I look forward to a day when we sing indoors again and allow more people into the sanctuary at one time. I also very much enjoyed holding worship outdoors last summer. I know many of you did, too. Being the hands and feet of Jesus Christ should also be a "keeper." I look forward to some old and new ways to serve the community as the Spirit leads.

This will happen only if we are willing to relinquish our egos and opinions, listen to the perspectives of others and align ourselves with the work of God's Holy Spirit.

There will be further challenges, too. What will happen to The United Methodist Church (writ large) in 2021 concerning issues of human sexuality? How will our own congrega-

(Continued on Page 4)

Inside This Issue:

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Our Condolences, Updating your Contact Info, Family and Friends to Keep in Prayer	2
"Thank You"s	3-4
"From the Desk of the Pastor" Cont'd, News from the Book Club, Worship Sign Up!	5
A Testimony from Dana Walton	6-7
January Lectionary, Calling All College Students!, From the Editor	8
Collecting Items for the "Addiction Healing Center" at the WRM	9
Photos from the December 2020 Live Nativity	10-11
Library Notes	12
Wesley UMC Leadership—2021	13-14
January 2021 Calendar	15
How to Be Prepared for In-Person Worship	Back Page

Worship Services for January and Inclement Weather Policy



In January, we anticipate that worship will continue to be held indoors at 25% capacity by the directive of the Bishop. Services will be both in person and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel on January 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31.

Please remember Wesley UMC's inclement weather policy: If the Snow Emergency Plan is in effect in Carroll Co. at 6 AM, Sunday School will be cancelled. The 10 AM service will depend on the severity of the weather. In the event of inclement weather, a message will be left on the church answering service by 7 AM regarding services, but please use your discretion for the weather in your area. We don't want anyone getting injured!



- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Barbara Houck | 18 Drew Hohmes |
| 3 Dennis L. Rill | Dan Pfoutz |
| 4 H. Elsie Zumbrun | 19 Sandy Cole |
| 5 Kim Peake | Roy Rill |
| 6 Jan Kurtz | 21 Joshua Ejek |
| Aislinn Sowash | 22 Bradley Rill |
| 7 Bill Connor | 25 Ally Subock |
| Robert Houck | 26 Janet Martin |
| 9 Evan Mahosky | Darwin Sater |
| 10 George Davey | 27 Gary Wilmer |
| Donald Lippy | 28 Roger Daugherty |
| 11 Ryleigh Clagett | Irene Davis |
| 12 Chet Phillips | Sydnee Devincentz |
| Shirley Raver | Edgar McLain |
| 14 Zeke Halley | Keegan Rill |
| 15 Dot Benedict | Darilyn Thompson |
| 17 David Graf | Austin Wilson |
| Tracey Rill | 30 Scott Palmer |
| | 31 Aaron Horner |



- 5 Robert and Barbara Houck
- 6 Michael & Lee Ann Crochunis
- 20 Earl & Bonnie Christiani
- 25 Gregory & Courtney Horner

Our Condolences...

We offer our condolences to all of those who have recently lost loved ones. Of particular note, we remember the family and friends of James Walsh Needham, the father of Jan Kurtz, who passed away December 7, 2020; Forrest Crispin, Jr., who passed away on December 11; and Zelda Wilhelm, who passed away on December 12 at the age of 97. May God hold you close as you mourn the passing of your loved ones.



Updating Your 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.



Family and Friends 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

Stewart Graf
Longview Nursing Home
3332 Main St.
Manchester, MD 21102



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



What a JOY to read Wesley's Advent Devotionals! Thanks to all who wrote one or more inspirational message. Also, thanks to Betsy Sennett for her beautiful illustrations and to Jessie Sichel for creating a wonderful booklet for us all.

Anonymous

.....

What a beautiful sight our live Nativity was at Wesley! God smiled on us with unusually warm December weather and a lovely setting. Thank you to all who participated and those who brought their animals. A special Thank You to Janet Martin and Jan Graf who organized the service.

Anonymous

.....

Wesley Church Family;

Thank you sincerely for your kindness and expressions of thoughtfulness for the past few years to our Father, Bob Gunnarsson, Sr. We especially and profoundly appreciate all of the home cooked meals that were provided and delivered to him. All of the cards and kind expressions of sympathy are gratefully acknowledged and will always be remembered —

*The Families of Bob Gunnarsson, Sr.—
Dawn & Dale and Rob, Terry and RJ—Hanover, PA*

.....

Dear Wesley UMC,

NESAP Mission Statement ~ In Christian love, to provide crisis assistance to individuals and families with their physical, financial and emotional needs as an extension of the ministries of our congregations and to proactively partner clients and professionals in our community for continued education, working toward **self-sufficiency**.

Since 1984 The Northeast Social Action Program (NESAP) has been helping our neighbors in need by **"Inspiring Hope and Restoring Dignity"**. Thanks to people like you we were able to continue to answer the call throughout the current health and economic crisis. Even with all of our fundraisers cancelled and our Thrift Store closed for over two months we never stopped providing food and financial services to our neighbors in need. As of the end of the third quarter (Year-To-Date) NESAP has provided 2649 bags of food and \$79,369.00 in financial assistance. All of these services were provided to individuals and families in our local community. This crisis has been especially hard for the working poor, elderly, single parents and those dealing with mental illness/depression and addiction. Your donation helped them through this very difficult time.

Please keep the NESAP ministry, staff and volunteers in your prayers as we continue to navigate through whatever lies ahead. We have a new website that was donated by a local company where you can go to be updated on current NESAP events, store sales and volunteer opportunities as well as a link for online donations. www.nesapinc.org

We will get through this together! Thank you again for your generosity and God Bless!

Blessings, Donn Dietrich, Executive Director—NESAP

"Thank You"s Continued

NESAP would like to thank the individuals, families, churches, businesses, thrift store shoppers, volunteers and staff for supporting us in what has been a very unusual year for all. Throughout this health and economic crisis we have been able to serve our neighbors that needed help with food, school supplies, Christmas gifts and financial assistance. In many cases keeping the heat on and filling that empty kitchen cabinet. Due to the pandemic all of our 2020 in person fundraisers were cancelled, thankfully this community filled the gap and we didn't have to turn one person away that needed help. This was possible because of you!!!! NESAP is very Blessed to be part of this wonderful community. Stay safe and have a very Merry Christmas. GOD BLESS

*Blessings, Donn, Donn Dietrich, Executive Director,
North East Social Action Program (NESAP)*

Wesley Church helped 5 families (22 people) through the NESAP Holiday Program with a \$25 gift card from Weis per person and \$75 of various gift cards/presents per person. Plus \$100 gift card from Genova's was given to Longview, 2 Golden Crest, Sunflower, and Dove Center. Everyone was very appreciative of our thoughtfulness & kindness. Thank you to my Santa helper, Linda H., for helping deliver the gifts.

Outreach would like to thank those who have supported us throughout the year in various fundraisers, Take-out Tuesdays and just in donations. Without you we would not be able to do what we do.

Wesley UMC Outreach Committee

On December 15, 2019, I was diagnosed with Stage 4 Pancreatic Cancer spread to my Liver. Tomorrow marks the one year anniversary of that diagnosis. This is a monumental anniversary. I am grateful to be here one year later. I am grateful to the doctors, nurses and scientists working on and researching cancer. I am grateful to the doctors and nurses that have provided care to me over the past year. I am grateful for the treatments that were prescribed to remove the tumors. I am grateful to so many people that have reached out to support, help and pray for me and my family.

Today there is no evidence of the tumors that were on my pancreas and liver. I still need to be scanned approximately 4 times a year and, I have another scan coming up in January. There are no guarantees that I will continue to be evidence free of cancer, but I feel good today and I am grateful for the extended time I have been given.

I am looking forward to the Christmas holiday this season. Last year I was very sick on Christmas Day. Sick enough to the point of having to go to the hospital emergency room for fluids. I was in the middle of my first round of Chemotherapy during those days. This year I expect to feel good and to be able to celebrate with my family during the holidays.

Thanks to everyone for all of the support over the past year. This year has been one of growth and fulfillment. It may not seem possible. This year I have been able to grow closer to God and realize the love and fulfillment I have been able to receive and give.

Thank you and God bless. John Halley

From the Pastor's Desk (*Continued*)

tion be affected? I grumble often about how we are enduring a global pandemic, only to be forced into yet another situation which could prove divisive and destructive to our church family. I will not lie...I hate the very thought of what this could do to us. One of the reasons I have been dragging my feet about choosing an Administrative Council Chairperson for 2021 is because, with one exception, the Lord has not brought to my mind an ideal, unbiased yet capable candidate for the position who will put the will of the entire church before his or her own personal inclinations. I covet your prayers. It is my belief that we need to covenant together, as a church, to remain together as one throughout a difficult season. This will happen only if we are willing to relinquish our egos and opinions, listen to the perspectives of others and align ourselves with the work of God's Holy Spirit. Wesley Church has been through storms before. We will weather this one, too, if we refuse the Evil One the opportunity to divide and conquer us.

I wonder what 2021 will bring? Only God knows. May our purposes and practices be in alignment with God's will, come what may.

Yours in Christ Jesus, Rev. Amy

News from the Book Club

Wesley Book Club plans to meet in the Fellowship Hall for the months of January, February and March, 2021 on the **last Tuesday of each month**. The meeting time has been changed to **1:00 pm** (instead of Noon). The meeting dates are as follows: **JANUARY 26th, FEBRUARY 23rd and MARCH 30th**. You can choose to bring your lunch & drink ... or eat before you come. If anyone wants to bring a dessert, please feel free to do so.

Our January selection is: [THIS TENDER LAND](#) by William Kent Krueger .

Our February selection is: [THE WONDER BOY OF WHISTLE STOP](#) by Fannie Flagg.

Our March selection is: [BRAVE GIRL QUIET GIRL](#) by Katherine Ryan Hyde.

Happy reading! Reenie Harris  

Sign Up for Worship Today!



As COVID-19 numbers increase, causing the sanctuary attendance limit to lower, signing up for worship services has become essential. Our goals are to make sure we have enough space for all who attend and to be able to contact all who attend a worship service in the event that there is a concern we need to pass along.

Please visit our website at www.wesleychurch-hampstead.org and click on the "Sign Up Genius" box to sign up for the upcoming worship service. You can also respond to the Sign-Up Genius emails sent out to the congregation every week or give Jess Sichel a call at 410-374-4027.

If we should exceed the maximum occupancy of the sanctuary or if you would be more comfortable elsewhere, the service is being livestreamed in the Fellowship Hall and on our YouTube Channel. We hope you can join us!

A Testimony from Dana Walton, Recently Baptized at Wesley UMC

I grew up going to Wesley Church. I walked in the door for the first time in many years, August 25, 2019, took a breath, and along with the familiar scent of the sanctuary, all the memories of love and belonging flooded into me. As I sat in the pew, listening to "You Say,"

*I keep fighting voices in my mind that say I'm not enough
Every single lie that tells me I will never measure up
Am I more than just the sum of every high and every low?
Remind me once again just who I am, because I need to know, ooh oh*

*You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
And You say I am held when I am falling short
And when I don't belong, oh, You say I am Yours
And I believe, oh, I believe
What You say of me
I believe*

the words resonated in me and for the first time as an adult, I felt cradled in the hands of Jesus. I left the service and made it a point to return to Wesley when our travel allowed. I wanted that feeling back. Even though I had the desire to feel Jesus's love, I was busy doing all my tasks and never stopped to think what it required of me to receive that feeling. Life continued and I kept in my busy-ality life.

From my time at Wesley, I knew God and I also learned that Jesus is love and that he loves us. During my middle school years, our family left Wesley and we attended the Baptist church which left me feeling fearful of God. I remember being in the pews and thinking, "I don't think God is calling me to go up front. But maybe I better go up? Because what if I die tonight?" From high school on, church attendance was intermittent. I was married in a church and all 3 of my children were baptized. I always felt, there was something missing. By what my son's Godfather wrote, I knew he knew God in a way different than I knew, but I wasn't inquisitive enough then to find out what it was.

Another time I felt the "something more" was when I was younger and babysitting. There were 2 families and in their home there was a different warmth and love of the Savior than I knew. Also, our neighbors, the Baker's had the same warmth and love of God abound in themselves and in their home. Again, I was curious but did not take any actions to seek the peace and love they had as a result of their relationship with God.

Fast forward to 2019: was blessed to be in town for A NIGHT OF HOLIDAY MUSIC and see Wesley filled to capacity with the joy of music (& lights!) fill the sanctuary. It was a monumental night and once again I felt the Spirit I felt back at the August piano and keyboard concert. Because of my time at Wesley, I started seeking churches in the Augusta area. I used to think praying and observing the beauty of the world was enough, but thanks to being around Billy and others I knew there was something I was missing.

This was most evident when I was able to be in town and watch the Praise Team practice. I would hear the same words, yet I could tell they felt them different than I did. I sat in the pew wondering, "What is it that they have that I don't?" I could sense Billy, Jess, Paul, Lisa and Lana had "something" more and they heard the words in a much more meaningful way. Since I knew of God but didn't really know God, I also noted their prayers were relevant and changing and said at times in earnest, and not the repetitive type prayer I said for decades with only slight variation.

Once again, though I noticed the difference, I did not actively seek to discover what that "something" was. I got closest the day Billy and I went to Wesley the first Sunday it was closed due to COVID. We sat quietly for a while, then Billy looked up and around and exclaimed, "Isn't this the most beautiful church!?" "Yes, it is." I asked him to explain the story behind each stained glass because I didn't remember. I recall thinking, *I still have never read the Bible. I should do that.* as Billy explained in detail the meaning behind each stained glass painting.

(Continued on Next Page)

Testimony (Continued)

Not long after that Billy passed away and I found myself in a deep dark place. For quite a while, I felt formless. I struggled to get through each day. My mom gave advice that became my default when all I wanted to do was hide "Sing *Jesus Loves Me*" That song sustained me. Thankfully, God put Alyse Resh in my path. She told me, God placed it on her heart to give me a call. I wasn't sure what she meant but I was happy to hear from her (17 years ago we were neighbors). She called me and we set up a day and time to meet for a walk. I now realize the evil one attempted to prevent our meeting. On my way to meet her, the truck stalled and I couldn't get it started. I called Alyse to tell her not to leave her house, but the call failed. I tried one more time and it started. I was on a time limit because I had a conference call in 1 hour. I then drove to the wrong park. I texted Alyse, 'I parked near the bathrooms', and she wrote back, 'there aren't any bathrooms.' Despite the struggle, we met nonetheless for a brief walk. Alyse listened and shared and she prayed with me before leaving. That was the first time I felt a prayer rise up to heaven. I led the conference call in the parking lot of Panther Park (a park where Billy & I shot baskets). Alyse came back and placed the book Jesus Calling in the passenger seat.

Reading Jesus Calling I found comfort in the devotions and the references to scripture got me to open the Bible. Via Zoom, I took a Starting Point class and began learning about God.

On a Sunday, I planned to do what I usually do, go for a long bike ride and take in the beauty of this world. I kept getting the sense that that was not what I needed to do. So I slowed down and listened more. That became the first time I opened the Bible without prompting from anyone or anything else. And I began reading the Gospel. I never went for a bike and thanks to listening to the Spirit, I gain so much more than the benefits of a 60 mile ride.

I began to understand who Jesus was and what he did. I realized that knowing Jesus is more than knowing he was born in a manger and died on a cross. In fact, at that time, I thought, his being born from the virgin Mary was the big deal. It wasn't until after reading the Gospel that I realized it is the cross that matters most. The fact that he bore all our sins and died on the cross and was resurrected. I started reading more of the Bible and then went back and reread Matthew, Mark, Luke & John. My understanding deepened. I was still grieving deeply from Billy's death, which also raised my struggle with losing my dad. Though from this grief, I was getting to know God, I was hating myself for it taking another death to wake me up to God. I felt ashamed that I didn't realize who God was when my dad passed away. One day, feeling very lost and unguided, fell to the floor and cried out, "God! I need you!" Immediately, I heard Him say, "I've been here all along." And I felt his arms wrapped around me.

Prior to this it was the parable of the lost sheep spoke loudest to me. I realized that God didn't care that I was now seeking Jesus. He wasn't keeping score. He wasn't shaming me for not seeking a relationship with him after my dad died, I was. I now realize it was probably the accuser putting those thoughts in my head as well. "Why did it take this long?" "Why bother now?" I now know all those thoughts were not from God. God was happy I turned so that I could see him and he loves me the same as all his children.

Since accepting Christ as my Savior and really knowing God I have experienced numerous blessings. He has continued to put people in my path. Lisa Kemp spent an entire afternoon with me sharing her faith journey and the story of the prodigal son, which opened the door to me realizing what I shared above, that God has no time and as long as we seek him, he is waiting and wanting us to find him but we have to initiate the seeking. One day I prayed for a connection, for someone to reach out to me. Within a handful of days, I received a text from an acquaintance from 8 years ago. We since have zoomed, texted and talked and she too has helped me on my faith journey. I've prayed to God and asked for help from small to large things – and he has answered – our bunny was found...alive. My daughter's horse recovered from a potentially mortal colic (& it didn't require the anticipated surgery), I received healing of a severely strained muscle, my retainer appeared, a just right song played, I turned to just the scripture I needed to read. God hears and answers our prayers. I've been praying for a friend's grandson who is battling leukemia. He is 4 years old and wanted to be able to go home. I found out that right after prayer and laying on of hands with the grandad sitting in for his grandson, the numbers declined and Luca was going able to go home. Hallelujah! Our God is good. I now know why Mrs. Audrey and Mrs. Kathy always sung a little different than any other choir directors I had. They both had that joy, joy, joy down in their heart. I thank the Lord that I have that joy too.

Thank you Rev. Amy for supporting and performing my baptism. And thank you congregation of Wesley United Methodist Church for witnessing and supporting my proclamation of faith and new life in Jesus.

January Lectionary... GET INTO THE WORD!

December 31/January 1, 2021 (Watch Night/New Year's Day): Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; Psalm 8; Revelation 21:1-6a; Matthew 25:31-46



January 3, 2021: Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:(1-9), 10-18

January 6, 2021 (Epiphany): Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

January 10, 2021 (Baptism of the Lord): Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

January 17, 2021: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20); Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

January 24: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

January 31: Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

Calling All College Students!



If you have a student in college, whether it be far from home or attending a community college, please contact Vicky Wilmer at wilmervicky@gmail.com with their mailing address.

We would like to keep in contact with them throughout the year. Also if your student was on our list before, please contact Vicky to make sure that we have all of their updated information.

From the Editor...



From the Editor

Hello to all of our readers! Just a few notes:

- Don't forget to turn your Journal submissions in by the fifteenth of the month.
- Submissions for the bulletin should be turned in by Wednesday.

Thanks for your help with keeping the congregation informed!

Jess Sichel



**Do you or a neighbor need a face mask? Let us know!
Contact Vicky Wilmer at wilmervicky@gmail.com or 443-340-7703.**

Collecting Items for the "Addiction Healing Center" at the WRM

Please consider helping Wesley Outreach collect items needed for the
"Addiction Healing Center at Westminster Rescue Mission"



If you would like to contribute, review the list below. Purchase your choice of items and place them in the box in the Social Hall entranceway. Some items can be "gently" used. If you have questions, please contact Pam Phillips at 410-596-0777.

We are excited to let you know that Wesley will be receiving a "Mission Blue Bin" in the near future. We will be inviting the community to "drop off" clothing and shoes for the Mission at Wesley Church. The Mission will be responsible for emptying the Bin.

Men's Items:

Size 10.5 - 13 men's sneakers
Work Boots sizes 9.5, 11 & 11.5
Winter coats (Large +) (*Can be "gently" used*)
XL and XXL boxers & briefs (*must be new in package*)
Long sleeve shirts sizes XL and XXL
Deodorant

Casual dress shoes - sizes 10.5 – 13
Large, XL ,XXL, hoodies & jackets
Shower shoes (flip / flops) all sizes
Jeans size 44 and up
Disposable razors

We also always have a need for the following recovery literature:

- **AA Big Book 4th Ed. (hardcover)**

Link: https://www.amazon.com/Alcoholics-Big-Book-ALCOHOLICS-BIG/dp/Boo1TKoWo8/ref=sr_1_5?crd=1STJIZGNZ9J6F&dchild=1&keywords=aa+big+book&qid=1602698536&sprefix=aa+big+book%2Caps%2C146&sr=8-5

- **NA Big Book (hardcover)**

Link: https://www.amazon.com/Narcotics-World-Service-Office/dp/1557767343/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=NA+big+book&qid=1602698710&sr=8-1

- **Life Recovery Bible (paperback)**

Link: https://www.amazon.com/Life-Recovery-Bible-Personal-Size/dp/1496427580/ref=sr_1_3?dchild=1&keywords=life+recovery+bible&qid=1602698735&sr=8-3

- **12 Steps and 12 Traditions (paperback)**

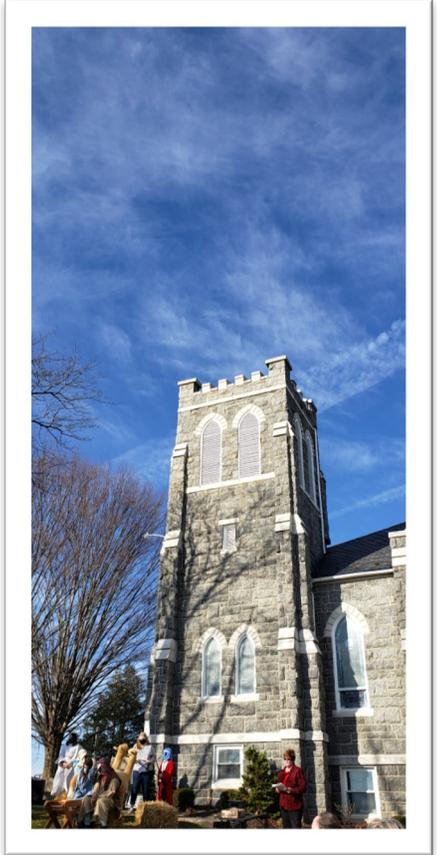
Link: https://www.amazon.com/Twelve-Steps-Traditions-Alcoholics-dp-0916856291/dp/0916856291/ref=mt_other?_encoding=UTF8&me=&qid=



Images from the 2020 Wesley UMC Live Nativity

The Live Nativity held on Sunday, December 13, 2020, brought with it a lovely day filled with the sights and sounds of a farmyard. Over 100 people attended, including a number of individuals who are not regular Wesley attendees. Much effort was put forth by the congregation to create this opportunity for gathering the community in a special way. There were cookie bakers, cookie takers, planners, teachers, livestock owners and handlers, Sunday school class students, pray-ers, communicators, picture-takers, and more! Thank you to anyone and everyone who had a hand in spreading the message of Jesus' birth to the community, and thank you for providing a bit of "normalcy" in a difficult time. May God add His blessing for weeks to come on the reach of this special event.





Library Notes



******Important to remember!! We have CDs of past church services available for you to take home and listen to, if you cannot make it to our service on a Sunday. No need to check out the CDs, just bring them back when you are finished with them.******

We are pretty confident that all of us are looking forward to a new and different year in 2021. Less sickness, less stress, more good news, and much more peace. Know that our Father will walk with us through all of our moments and give us strength and courage. He knows what we need even before we think it. Above all, let's remember who is in charge and look to Him for worship and to express our JOY in having been saved by Jesus!

If you are looking for texts about miracles, angels, and heaven, we have some suggestions:

90 Minutes in Heaven by Don Piper (236) On the way home from a conference, Don Piper's car was crushed by a semi that crossed into his lane. Medical personnel said he died instantly. While his body lay lifeless inside the ruins of his car, Piper experienced the glories of heaven, awed by its beauty and music. Ninety minutes after the wreck, while a minister prayed for him, Piper miraculously returned to life on earth with only the memory of inexpressible heavenly bliss. His faith in God was severely tested as he faced an uncertain and grueling recovery. Now he shares his life-changing story with you.

Angels by Billy Graham (231) Somehow it has always been easier for people to believe in demons than in the brighter side of the unseen world—the world of God's protecting angels. Yet. "...angels have a much more important place in the Bible than the devil and his demons," says Dr. Billy Graham in this best-selling classic. With over a million copies sold, *Angels* records the experiences of Dr. Billy Graham and others who are convinced that at moments of special need they have been attended by angels.

Chasing Heaven by Crystal McVea (236) On December 10, 2009, Crystal McVea was being treated in a hospital for pancreatitis. Her heart stopped pumping for nine minutes before doctors managed to revive her. In those nine minutes, she went to heaven, stood with God, and was forever changed. Before she left heaven, God told her to share her experience. Ever since Crystal's incredible experience occurred, her life has been profoundly different. She has been completely transformed and has become a brand-new person in every conceivable way—heart, mind, soul, and spirit. By dying, Crystal learned how to live.

Embraced By The Light by Betty J. Eadie (236). At the age of thirty-one, Betty Eadie died in a hospital after undergoing surgery. The events that followed have been called "the most profound near-death experience ever." Her life was changed forever. Her experience was so powerful that it remains with her every hour of each day. In sharing it, she hopes that it may touch the hearts of others, bringing them closer to the Love that awaits us all.

Miracles and Other Wonders by Charles Sellier (233). The marvelous events described in this book actually happened. In story after story, you will discover how the lives of ordinary people are saved – or changed forever – by the intervention of something that can only be called a miracle. Beginning with the author's own moving experience in the mountains of Utah to mysterious feats that defy time and death itself, all of these real-life accounts are strange, wondrous, and true.

Touched By Angels by Eileen Freeman (231) In this enlightening book, the author movingly recalls her personal encounters with angels, and shares what she has learned about who they are and why they are so concerned about the human race that they frequently come to earth to help us. She offers illuminating eyewitness accounts of men, women, and children who have also been touched by these celestial beings.

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.

Bonnie Catron and Nan Lishman, Librarians

Wesley UMC Leadership • 2021

"Listen, my son, accept what I say, and the years of your life will be many.

"I instruct you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths.

"When you walk, your steps will not be hampered; when you run, you will not stumble." Proverbs 4:10-12

Thank you to all who have given their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to Wesley UMC. Below are our 2020 leaders. Please welcome both new and returning and support them as best you can in the coming months. May God bless us as we work to be in His will!

Administrative Council

Chair: TBD

Recording Secretary: Jess Sichel

Treasurer: Laura Waltrup

Lay Leader: TBD

Pastor: Rev. Amy Sarah Lewis-Rill

Worship Chairs: Janet Martin

UMW President: Connie Wiegel

Trustees Chair: Linda Yost (*vote in January*)

Historian: Matt Sichel

Visitation Committee Chair: Reenie Harris

Lay Leadership (Nomin.) Chair: Rev. Amy Sarah Lewis

Lay Member to Annual Conf.: Matt Sichel

At-Large: Bonnie Catron, Cynthia Davey, John Sies, Gary Wilmer, Brenda Kennedy, Janet Martin

Vice-Chair: TBD

Membership Secretary: Sandy Cole

Finance Chair: Michelle Hudgins

Financial Secretary: Jonathan Yost

Memorials Comm. Chair: Cheryl DeVilbiss & Linda Hollman

Outreach Ministry Chair: Vicky Wilmer

UMM President: Randy Kurtz

Cemetery Committee Chair: Dennis Rill

Communications Committee Chair: Sandy Cole

SPRC Chair: Linda Yost

UMYF Representative: Rose Sichel

Christian Education Chair: Jennifer Ejk

Board of Trustees: **Chair, Vice-Chair:** Linda Yost (*vote in 01/21*) **Vice-Chair:** (*vote in 01/21*) **Secretary:** (*vote in 01/21*)

Class of 2021: Gary Wilmer, Mike Sichel, Linda Yost

Class of 2022: Gordon Benson, Phillip Daugherty, Pam Phillips

Class of 2023: Bryce Davey, Dennis Rill, Jim Watkins

Non-Voting Member: Need (Sexton); **Lay Member to Annual Conf.:** Matt Sichel

Building Committee (Rolls up to Trustees): **Chair:** Denny Rill **Secretary:** Rev. Amy Sarah Lewis-Rill

Members: Mike Sichel, Pam Phillips (Trustees Rep), Matt Sichel, Laura Waltrup

Endowment Fund Committee (Rolls up to Trustees): **Chair:** Laura Waltrup **Secretary:** Rev. Amy Sarah Lewis-Rill

Treasurer: Andy Smith

Trustees Liaison: TBD

Finance Liaison: Jonathan Yost

Members include: Dolores Bennett, Jeff Horner, Cindy Myatt

Finance Committee: **Chair:** Michelle Hudgins

Financial Secretary: Jonathan Yost **Treasurer:** Laura Waltrup

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

Ex-officio: Lay Member to Annual Conf. (Matt Sichel), SPRC Representative (TBD), Trustees Chair (Linda Yost, *vote in 01/21*)

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

Members include: Finance Representative (TBD), Trustees Representative (TBD), Kathy Miller, Norma Beam, Dian Rowe, Sandy Cole

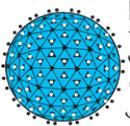
Outreach Ministries: **Chair:** Vicky Wilmer

Members: Davona Palmer, Cindy Myatt, Betty Barr, Jan Kurtz, Janet Martin, Jason Montgomery, Clay Myatt, Jackie Otwell, Matt Otwell, Pam Phillips, Dian Rowe, Betsy Sennett, Sallie Taylor, Connie Wiegel, Vicky Wilmer, Linda Yost, Chet Phillips, Madison Smith, Nanette Lishman

Wesley UMC Leadership (Continued) • 2021**Staff Parish Relations Committee: Chair:** Linda Yost**Class of 2021:** Roxane Brewer, Ruth Rill, Reenie Harris**Class of 2022:** Linda Yost, Roger Daugherty, Matthew Otwell**Class of 2023:** Ruth Rill, Cherie Hughes, Linda Hollman**Ex-officio:** Lay Member to Annual Conf. (Matt Sichel) and Lay Leader (*Need*)**Education Committee:****Christian Education Team Chairperson:** Jennifer Ejk**Christian Education Team:** Patty Harris, *TBD***Teachers/Assistants:** Brenda Benson, Bonnie Catron, Rose Hohmes, Lisa Kemp, Nan Lishman, Janet Martin, Davona Palmer, Linda Yost**Committee on Lay Leadership: Chair:** Rev. Amy Sarah Lewis-Rill**Class of 2021:** Gladys Smith, Pat Daugherty, Jessica Sichel**Class of 2022:** Jennifer Ejk, Stephanie Halley, Jan Kurtz**Class of 2023:** Cynthia Davey, Nan Lishman, John Sies**Worship Committee: Chairs:** Janet Martin**Communion Steward:** Linda Hollman**Chancel Choir Director:** Jan Graf**Praise Team Leaders:** Lana Montgomery and Lisa Kemp**Organist:** Jeff Horner**At Large:** Linda Yost, Peggy Horner, Kim Peake**Children's Choir:** Cynthia Davey**Usher / Greeter Coordinator:** *Need***Altar Guild:** Cynthia Davey and Peggy Horner**Memorial Committee: Chair:** Cheryl DeVilbiss and Linda Hollman**Committee Members:** Brenda Benson, Gordon Benson, Lee Ann Crochunis**At Large:** Michelle Hudgins (Finance Chairperson)**Cemetery Committee: Chair:** Dennis Rill **Treasurer:** Laura Waltrup**Members:** Joan Porterfield, Jan Graf, Wayne Horner, Chet Phillips, Carl Rill, James Watkins, John Sies**Small Groups: Coordinator:** Jason Montgomery**Members:** Laura Waltrup, Rev. Amy Sarah Lewis-Rill, Jess Sichel**Communications: Chair:** Sandy Cole**Members:** *Need*, Matt Sichel & Rose Sichel (Church Sign); **Church Administrator:** Jess Sichel**Visitation Committee: Chair:** Reenie Harris**Members:** Betty Barr, Sandy Cole, Jocelyn Davey, Jacki Grabowski, Betsy Sennett, Rev. Amy Sarah Lewis-Rill, Linda Yost, Barbara Sater**Membership Committee: Chair:** Sandy Cole**Members:** Rev. Amy Sarah Lewis-Rill, Denny Rill, Jessica Sichel, Laura Waltrup**Church Librarians:** Nan Lishman, Bonnie Catron**Certified Lay Speakers:** Linda Yost, Matthew Sichel**Primary Liaison, Maryland Faith Health Network (MFHN):** Sandy Cole

JANUARY 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Worship Schedule: Worship services are being held indoors and in-person at 10 AM.</p>	<p>will also be live-streamed for those unable to participate in person.</p>	<p>Office CLOSED</p>	<p>Office CLOSED</p>	<p> <i>New Year's Eve</i></p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>3 10 AM Contemporary Worship Service</p>	<p>4 <i>Register for Worship!</i> <i>(1/10 Worship Service)</i></p>	<p>5 Office Drop-In 1 to 3 PM Trustees 7 PM</p>	<p>6 Office Drop-In 1 to 3 PM Trustees 7 PM</p>	<p>7 Office Drop-In 1 to 3 PM</p>	<p>8 Office CLOSED</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10 10 AM Traditional Worship Service</p>	<p>11 <i>Register for Worship!</i> <i>(1/17 Worship Service)</i></p>	<p>12 Office Drop-In 1 to 3 PM Outreach 6 PM SPRC 7:30 PM</p>	<p>13 Office Drop-In 1 to 3 PM Outreach 6 PM SPRC 7:30 PM</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 Office Drop-In 1 to 3 PM <i>February Journal Submissions Due Today!</i></p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17 10 AM Contemporary Worship Service</p>	<p>18 <i>Register for Worship!</i> <i>(1/24 Worship Service)</i></p>	<p>19 Office Drop-In 1 to 3 PM Finance 7 PM</p>	<p>20 Office Drop-In 1 to 3 PM Finance 7 PM</p>	<p>21 Worship Meeting 7 PM (Zoom)</p>	<p>22 Office Drop-In 1 to 3 PM</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 10 AM Traditional Worship Service</p>	<p>25 <i>Register for Worship!</i> <i>(1/31 Worship Service)</i></p>	<p>26 Office Drop-In 1 to 3 PM Administrative Council 7 PM</p>	<p>27 Office Drop-In 1 to 3 PM Administrative Council 7 PM</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Office Drop-In 1 to 3 PM</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31 10 AM Contemporary Worship Service</p>						

SCHEDULE OF



WORSHIP

“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.” *James 4:7-9a, 10 (NRSV)*

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.

How to Be Prepared for In-Person Worship:

- DO:** Register your plans to attend each Monday via Sign-Up Genius or a phone call or email to Jess Sichel
- DO:** Bring your Bible!
- DO:** Wear your facemask
- DO:** Use hand sanitizer when you arrive and when leaving
- DO:** Stay 6 feet apart
- DO:** Stay home if you are experiencing any symptoms of illness (and use our online virtual worship options!)
- DO:** Carefully decide if you are at risk, and if so, seriously consider staying home and worshipping online (We don't want anyone to become ill!)
- DO:** Praise God for each other and for being with us through these difficult times. Alleluia!

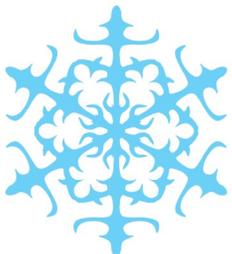
Wesley United Methodist Church

3239 Carrollton Rd.

Hampstead, MD 21074

The Rev. Amy Sarah Lewis-Rill, Pastor

Address Service Requested



The Wesley Journal

January 2021 Issue