

JOHN WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JUNE / JULY 2023

The Partner

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revdhoff@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF
MUSIC/ORGANIST:

Stephen Pompa
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skcollins1_13@msn.com

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“New Things This Summer!”

*“And the one who was seated on the throne said,
“See, I am making all things new.”*

— Revelations 21:5

Healthy churches take a break during the summer. We catch our breath. We encourage and rejoice with our members as they go on vacations and spend valuable time alone or with family and friends doing their favorite things and going to favorite places. An important way we encourage and support our members in this way is that we take a break ourselves! We don't adequately support self-care unless we model it!

At the same time, healthy churches remain active in the summer and ensure that ministry momentum is sustained. While we want, when possible, for valuable volunteers to get a break from the grind of their weekly responsibilities, we want everyone in our church family to continue their growth as disciples and be nourished from unique ministry opportunities that the summer presents. As we see above, Jesus is busy “making all things new”, and that doesn't stop in the summer, so we surely want to be a part of it!

There are at least 2 new things this summer through which Jesus will be making us new!

One of these new things is that we as a congregation will begin to ponder and discuss together what direction we will choose to follow as a church family. Since last November, a team including me, 4 lay leaders from our church, and 3 other clergy from our district has met regularly to thoroughly assess both the current condition and also the potential of our church. I wrote about this

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"Pastor's Letter" continued from p. 1



assessment in more detail in my Pastor's Message in last November's Partner. This assessment is based on Paragraph 213 of our Book of Discipline and is titled, "A Process for Assessment of Local Church Potential." That's a long title, so we've been calling this process "213."

All of our 213 work will lead to OUR CONGREGATION making a choice about where we go from here. Based on our assessments, the 213 Team is preparing a list of possible COURSES OF ACTION that we may take. This summer will present opportunity for US ALL to learn the different options, become more fully informed, and offer our feedback. We will NOT rush this vital decision about the course of action we choose. After taking valuable time this summer to digest our options, we will gather ALTOGETHER in the fall to complete our discernment and to make our decision.

A second new thing this summer will be our first "Family Festival" taking place each Thursday evening in July. Modeled after Vacation Bible School, a primary intent of this summer program is to invite, welcome, and meet new children and their families from our community. Our Family Festival is offered weekly on Thursdays in July, to make it more manageable and accessible to our volunteers. We are also joining with Grace UMC, just a mile away in West Hagerstown, to offer our Festival. Grace will host the Festival on July 6 & 20. John Wesley will host on July 13 & 27. Participating children and their families will attend at both sites, and our volunteer team will serve at both sites.

Each evening will begin at 5 pm with a short meal for the kids, their families, and our volunteers. We'll continue until 7 pm with a series of music, activity, games, and arts and crafts that will keep the kids moving and having a ball. Each evening will have a Bible-based theme and message. The themes and messages will be taught through each meal, song, activity, game, and artistic expression.

Please prayerfully consider how you will be a part of our Family Festival. It promises to be a rich fellowship between our church family and our family of neighbors. How would you like to help? ... with the meal? ... with the games? ... with music? ... with arts and crafts? ... with registration? ... with a food donation? ... with a monetary donation? ... with your presence, sitting in a chair, and cheering the kids on? Whether or not you join us in any of the ways above, you will bless us by praying for this new ministry!

May you be richly blessed this Summer with the variety of ways our Jesus is "making all things new"!

~ Pastor Doug

Make It Bake It Auction

Thank you to everyone who participated in the annual auction!

It was a fabulous success...bringing in over \$350 for Holly Place.

And don't forget to save the date for next year's auction:

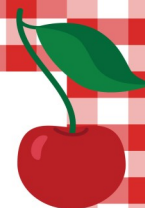
Tuesday, May 21, 2024 @ 6:00 pm
John Wesley UMC Social Hall
Hope to see you all there!



Blessings,
Wilson Wright Circle I

CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, September 10
Halfway Park
Pavilion 4
(same as last year)
All are invited!!



FLOWER ARRANGING AT CREATIVE SATURDAY

Flower Arranging will be the topic at Creative Saturday on June 17, 10 am to noon. Everyone is welcome to see what April Zentmeyer and Connie Lenhart have to show us. Each participant is asked to bring a bunch of flowers from your garden or the grocery store plus 2 containers.

You will decide which container to use when you hear what April and Connie have to tell us. You will take a beautiful arrangement home using your own flowers with a few additions from the workshop. The fee for the day is \$2.00 to cover extra supplies.

Flower arranging has been requested by a number of people, and I am sure you will find it to be a fun experience with two of my teacher friends who happen to be flower smart. They have participated in the Art In Bloom Exhibition at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, creating arrangements to interpret works of art.

To register, call or text Barb Diefenderfer at 301-667-0456 or e-mail at 8weaverbarb@gmail.com. I look forward to having you join the creative fun!



TENT DRIVE

Unfortunately, we have many homeless people in this county. Not just here in Hagerstown, but all over this nation. We can't help everyone, however, we can help those in our city and county. Help us, help them! They are in need of tents and camping supplies. You can also make monetary donations directly to John Wesley UMC and they will purchase tents and other supplies.

We have over 200 homeless in this city. Can we help them all? Probably not. Help us reach out to them and show them Jesus. This will be an ongoing mission throughout the spring, summer and possibly fall season.

JOHN WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
129 N. POTOMAC STREET
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740

DROP OFF IS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9 AM TO 2 PM.

CONTACTS ARE:
LARRY 301-788-4672
CHURCH OFFICE - KAREN 301-733-0391

OUR MISSION IS TO HELP THE HOMELESS AND ADDICTED. WE CAN'T
DO THIS WITH UT YOUR HELP.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND ASSISTANCE.

LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT

If you have questions, concerns or an item the Leadership Team should be discussing, please share them with us!

The Leadership Team met on May 15, 2023 and addressed the following topics:

- The Summer Family Festival will be held Thursday evenings in July;
- Final photos are being collected and an in-house church directory is getting closer;
- We have begun boosting some of our posts to the church Facebook page with a huge increase in the number of persons making positive connections;
- Some of the savings from discontinuing our advertising in the Herald Mail were redirected to purchase of an annual membership on the Visit Hagerstown website (Washington County’s Tourism site) which we hope will generate additional connections and networking opportunities.



The next Leadership Team meeting will be on Monday, June 19, 2023 in the Wesleyan Room. All are welcome. Please direct any questions to Jim Fritsch, the chair, or to the church office.

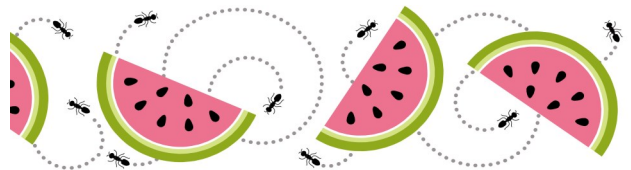
BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the United Methodist Church

Please pray for Pastor Doug and Jenny Suddueth who will be representing John Wesley at the Annual Conference on May 31st-June 3rd. Also for Richard Willson, lay member of the Board of Ordained Ministry; Calleigh Hoffman and Joanna Suddueth representing our Cumberland-Hagerstown District. The theme of this year’s session is “All About Love.”

Attendance & Offering Report

| | | | |
|-----|----|----|-------------|
| May | 7 | 57 | \$ 3,211.31 |
| May | 14 | 48 | 1,616.80 |
| May | 21 | 42 | 1,395.26 |

Blessings, Sheila & Sherry



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION

There is too much violence in the world today, but we can only help our city right now. Help me by starting with the women and children. In January of this year, there were 91 cases of sexual violence alone. That does not include any of the other forms including the newest one which is aimed mostly towards teenagers called Dating Violence. We need to stand together and stop this violence as a whole. To do so I am starting a campaign called the **Domestic Violence Commission** to collect funds and other needed supplies for one of the top centers in Hagerstown for battered women and their children, C.A.S.A. I ask that you stand with me to help stop this epidemic and to save lives now and in the future. This campaign starts now and will run until the end of September when everything raised will be donated in October. Then it starts again.

Contacts: Heather 240-928-0387
amyliara0618@gmail.com or
Aleah 240-500-4923.



SHARING TEAM REPORT

Sharing Team met in May... here are some of the things we want to share.

- Church Clean-Up Day is scheduled for Saturday, June 3, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Lunch will be provided. Volunteers are needed.
- UMW Sunday is August 27. Plans are being worked on. There will be an Ice Cream Social following the service.
- The next Creative Saturday will be “Creating a Flower Arrangement” to be held on June 17.
- Pastor Doug shared plans for a summer program to be held in July on Thursday evenings, partnering with Grace UMC. Watch for more details.
- The Youth Group is planning for some fun things to do over the summer months. This fall will include a retreat and the Mummies’ Parade.
- Sherry Fritsch, Parish Nurse, plans to resume the blood pressure screenings again during Coffee Fellowship time. Watch for informational health related articles in the upcoming Partner newsletters.
- Summer Ice Cream Socials are planned for June 18, July 16 and August 27, following the worship service.
- Save the date for the Church picnic: Sunday, Sept 10 at Halfway Park, Pavilion 4 (same as last year)
- The newly formed Committee on Relief is currently heading up a Tent Drive and a collection for CASA in the fall.

Sharing Team continues to be a valuable tool for coordination and support of the many smaller groups. Our next meeting will be held on Monday, June 12 @ 7:00 via Zoom. Call the church office or Barb & Greg if you would like to receive the Zoom link.

Blessings,

Barb & Greg Hoover



WESLEYAN CLASS SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Wesleyan Class will continue meeting during the summer months.

We have a short devotion, a prayer and a hymn, followed by a lesson. The lesson book will be available as a guide, or the class leader may just pick a topic or a person that has been of interest to them and share with the class, opening it up to discussion. We’re hoping that others who don’t normally teach might want to share during this time.

We invite and would love for others to come and join us. The youth are also invited to join us for the summer.

Starting June 4, class will begin at 9:00 on Sunday mornings and will finish up in time for the 10:00 worship service.

Blessings to you.



CHURCH CLEAN-UP DAY

Saturday, June 3

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

We still need volunteers!
Come help us clean up our church!

Inside and Out!



Notice on Parking in the Broad Axe Lot



Due to the recent purchase of and the construction work at the building next door to the Broad Axe, we have been asked to refrain from parking in this lot. The Broad Axe is allowing us to park in their lot on Sundays only as long as we are gone by 12:00 pm. We will pass on more information as we get it, moving forward. Thank you for not parking in that lot area at this time. The former City Market House Lot is still currently available for parking.

NEWS FROM MICAH'S BACKPACK

The 2022-2023 school year has come to an end. The last backpack delivery will be made on June 1. Thank you to the packers: Carol, Kay, Barb and all the ladies in Circle 7. Thank you to the drivers: Linda, Buck & Judy, Jim, Ryan, Donna & Edward. Thank you, Christopher, for being the muscle helping out with the food pickups, shopping and stocking the shelves. And, thank you to everyone for the continued donations that make this project possible.



We have had a very successful year and are already working on the plans for the 2023-2024 school year. The first food bank pickup will be Thursday, August 31!!

Blessings and Enjoy the Summer!!

Wilson Wright Circle I



June

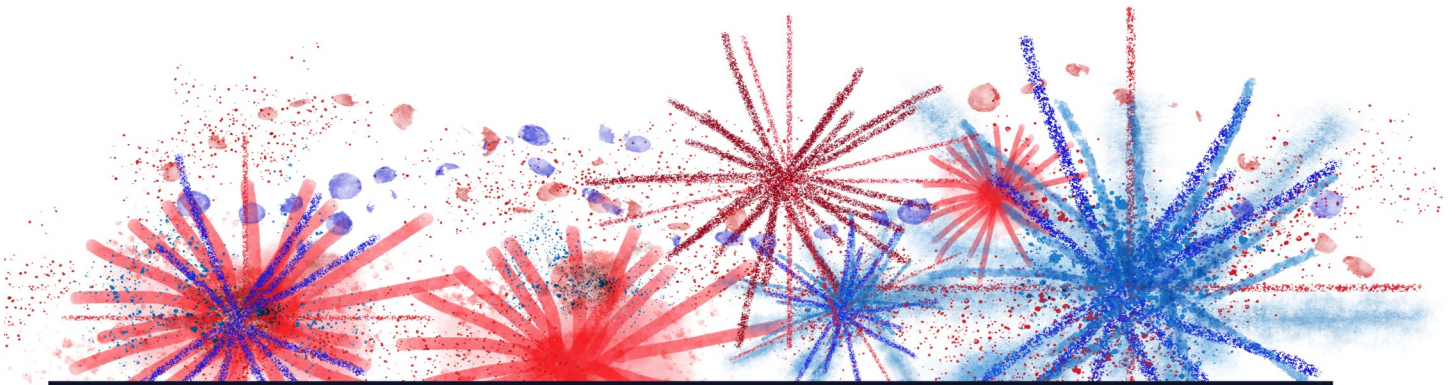
- 1st 8:30am, Men's Breakfast
- 3rd: 9:00pm, Church Clean Up Day
- 4th: 9:00am, Wesleyan Class
- 4th: 10:00am, Sunday Worship
- 5th: TBD, JW COR
- 8th: 8:00am, 213 Meeting
- 10th: TBD, HARC Walk
- 11th: 9:00am, Wesleyan Class
- 11th: 10:00am, Sunday Worship
- 12th: 7:00pm, Sharing Team
- 15th: 7:00pm, Trustees Property Team
- 17th: 10:00am, Creative Saturday
- 18th: 9:00am, Wesleyan Class
- 18th: 10:00am, Sunday Worship
- 18th: 11:15am, Ice Cream Social
- 25th: 9:00am, Wesleyan Class
- 25th: 10:00am, Sunday Worship

** Pastor Doug is on vacation June 17th through June 30th. Rev. Pat Ricker will supply preach on June 18th.



July

- 2nd: 9:00am, Wesleyan Class
- 2nd: 10:00am, Sunday Worship
- 4th: Office Closed — Independence Day
- 6th: 8:30am, Men's Breakfast
- 6th: 5:00pm, Family Festival
- 9th: 9:00am, Wesleyan Class
- 9th: 10:00am, Sunday Worship
- 13th: 5:00pm, Family Festival
- 16th: 9:00am, Wesleyan Class
- 16th: 10:00am, Sunday Worship
- 16th: 11:15am, Ice Cream Social
- 17th: *Partner* deadline
- 20th: 5:00pm, Family Festival
- 23rd: 9:00am, Wesleyan Class
- 23rd: 10:00am, Sunday Worship
- 27th: 5:00pm, Family Festival
- 30th: 9:00am, Wesleyan Class
- 30th: 10:00am, Sunday Worship



Happy June Birthday

- 1st: Christopher McAdams
- 3rd: Bob Jones, Linda Kayser
Adam Peters
- 4th: Linda Sappington
- 5th: David McCain, Brock Payne
- 6th: Donald Wright
- 8th: Kevin Grimm
William Johnson
- 11th: Douglas Heck
Brad O'Conner
- 12th: Jadah Blair
- 13th: Matthew Giles
- 16th: Lorene Gillespie
- 18th: Debra Markell, Erica Shaw,
Joyce Stanley
- 20th: Shawn Rowan
- 22nd: Greg Hoover
Shirley Shaffer
- 24th: Larry Suddueth, Joe White
Donna Zimmerman
- 30th: Brent Hoover
Octavio Cesar Mesner

Happy June Anniversary

- 2nd: Edwin & Barbara Crider
- 6th: Pete & Iris Kresge
- 7th: Brian & Nancy Moyer
- 8th: Jerry & Jenny Bullington
- 15th: Sam & Frances Brown
- 24th: Robert & Virginia Fennel
- 25th: Danny & Peggy Seiler
- 26th: Kevin & Debra Hoover
- 27th: Patrick & Lauri Ricker
- 28th: Wally & Barbara McClure
- 30th: Jack & Becky Mesner

Happy July Birthday

- 1st: Michael Fritsch
- 2nd: Sherry Fritsch
George Stone
- 3rd: Robert Mann
- 4th: Steven Miles
- 6th: Sue Baker
Jenny Suddueth
- 8th: Barbara Diefenderfer
Iris Harnage
- 9th: Joan Ullery
- 12th: Helen Stone
- 14th: Anna Deavers
Aleah Kimmel
Katherine McCain
- 15th: John Keyser,
Owen Pompa
- 19th: Jerry Bullington
- 21st: Wanna Lee Haught
- 25th: Carole Keyser
- 26th: Rizzo Chapin
- 27th: Juanita Grimes
- 29th: Barbara Crider
- 30th: Kelly Giles
Mary Licht
- 31st: Jim Fritsch

Happy July Anniversary

- 2nd: Michael & Robin Deavers
- 7th: George & Joyce Lynch
- 12th: Jim & Sherry Fritsch
- 17th: Marcus & Judy Peters
- 18th: Larry & Jenny Suddueth
- 27th: George & Helen Stone

PUZZLE PAGE

A timeless timeline

Explore your history while compiling this family timeline.



What you need:

- Paper
- Clear tape
- Ruler
- Pencil

What you do:

1. Tape together at least 3 sheets of paper horizontally.
2. Draw a straight line across the center of the long paper. Label dates at regular intervals to keep the information organized. For example, each page you add could represent 10 years.
3. Gather information for the timeline. Start with your birth year and memorable events in your life. Interview family members to learn what year they were born and when key things in their life happened. Include notes and photos.
4. Add pages as needed. Carefully roll up the timeline to keep for generations to come.



Puzzle!

Complete this crossword with names of biblical fathers. Use the references for help, if needed.

2. His 3 sons helped him build an ark (*Genesis 6:10*)
3. His youngest son, Jacob, tricked him into giving away a birthright (*Genesis 27:30*)
5. The Father of our Lord (*Ephesians 1:3*)
7. His sons were not like Samuel; they were wicked (*1 Samuel 2:12*)
8. David's best friend and the father of Mephibosheth (*2 Samuel 9:6*)
11. Father of Cain, Abel and Seth (*Genesis 4:25*)
12. He was married to Mary, mother of Jesus (*Matthew 1:20-21*)
13. Father of Jonathan; Israel chose him as their first king (*2 Samuel 9:6*)

Answer: DOWN 1. David, 4. Abraham, 6. Jacob, 7. Elkanah, 8. Jonathan, 11. Adam, 12. Joseph, 13. Saul, 9. Boaz, 10. Jesse; ACROSS 2. Noah, 3. Isaac, 5. God, 7. Eli

JOHN WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

JUNE / JULY 2023 *PARTNER*

VISION STATEMENT:

*“We strive to be a Christ Centered Church, advancing the Kingdom of God
by nurturing and ministering to all peoples.”*

MISSION STATEMENT:

*“Our Mission is to make disciples for Jesus Christ through: Vibrant Worship, Christian Fellowship,
Spiritual Growth, Loving Service, and the Sharing of God’s Word.”*

