

JOHN WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MAY 2025

The Partner

PASTOR:

Rev. Doug Hoffman
revdhoff@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF
MUSIC/ORGANIST:

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CHURCH SECRETARY:

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Inside this issue:

Pastor's Letter Continued; Annual Auction	2
Sharing Team Report	3
Trustees Property Committee	4
Sounds of John Wesley	5
Wednesday & Thursday Study	6
May 2025 Calendar; Kitchen Use	7
Cindy's Thoughts; National Day of Prayer	8
360 Readiness Survey	9
HCC Summer Concerts; News from Micah's Backpacks	10
HARC Hike for Hunger	11
Birthdays & Anniversaries; Graduates	12
Puzzle Page	13

"Ready?"

¹² "... I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus." - *Philippians 3:12-14*

A year ago, we were learning the results of a comprehensive self-assessment that we had completed as a church. We reviewed together what the assessment said about the health of our church leadership, our finances, the condition of our buildings and grounds, and the quality of our connection with our immediate community. Based upon this self-assessment, we voted as a congregation last June to maintain our level of investment in our ministry, mission, and staffing, for the sake of pressing on toward the goal of church revitalization.

Since the June, 2024 vote, our lay leadership has been hard at work setting goals for the planning and the execution of new ministry and the growth of current ministry, all for the sake of growing the vitality of our discipleship! As a result, we have begun a new midweek ministry, Wednesday Night Alive (WNA), that is off to an excellent start since its opening this past January. WNA has already nurtured the formation of a new, emerging Young Adult Fellowship. We have welcomed new ministry partners into our space and into our mission. Mark Smith has located his pretzel and nut business in our church. Tony Williams and his friend Derek Williams have moved their record label, Smile Back Records, into Rowe Hall. And most recently, Janessa Chapman has joined our Service Team and used our kitchen to offer her Sunday lunch feeding ministry, Lunches with Love! And Jay Trovato is back with Senor's Cookies!

It has been a rich blessing to experience all of this wonderful growth and the added vitality it has brought to John Wesley. In looking back at this last year of progress, we see that much of our new direction has been led and experienced by our laity who are active in leadership. We see that it is vital to engage more of our entire congregation in the venture we committed to last June!

"Pastor's Letter" continued on p. 2

Since last June, we have also been working more closely with our District Superintendent, Rev. John Wunderlich, and with our Annual Conference. That's great, because they want to help us get our entire congregation connected to our new direction, and they have resources to help us to do just that!



This month, you will have the opportunity to complete a short survey that was developed by the Rev. Dr. Bill Brown. The survey, titled "Readiness 360", will help us measure the readiness of our entire congregation to achieve the vitality we seek. It takes about 20 minutes to complete. There is another article in this issue of the Partner that gives more details. We will provide a period of 2 weeks in May for everyone to complete the survey. It is an online survey, and it is totally confidential. You will be given the codes to complete the survey at home on your laptop, home computer, or other personal device. OR, you may come to John Wesley on Sundays, May 11 or 18, after church, or Thursday afternoon, May 15, when we will provide a computer and members of our church to help you complete the survey.

We look forward to your having the opportunity to offer your views! It will help us discover how ready we are as an entire congregation to have success at the vitality we seek.

Like the Apostle Paul said about his ministry in his letter to the Philippians, we, too, press on toward the goals before us and toward the prize of God's heavenly call from our Lord Jesus Christ! Thank you for your part in helping us be ready!

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Doug

IT'S HERE!!

WILSON WRIGHT CIRCLE I

ANNUAL AUCTION

"MAKE IT BAKE IT

SEW IT GROW IT"



TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025 @ 6:00 pm

JOHN WESLEY UMC SOCIAL HALL

BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!!

CONNECTING FROM THE SHARING TEAM

Sharing Team met in April.

- * On April 2, which was our week to host the Wednesday evening community Lenten event, we served dinner to over 70 people, followed by a worship service in our sanctuary. A big thank you to everyone who helped with that event.
- * The Micah's Backpack program continues to serve 20 children each week at the Ruth Ann Monroe School. For the first week in May, we will be providing 32 additional bags for school counselors who make home visits.
- * Lunches with Love, spearheaded by Janessa Chapman, continues to happen every Sunday morning in our kitchen. If you can help after church, see Janessa, or someone on the Service Team.
- * JW Service Team is preparing a Spring Fling dinner, scheduled for Sunday, May 4 from 2:00 – 4:30 in our Social Hall. This is a community meal extension of Lunches with Love. They are looking for volunteers to help with the event.
- * Coffee Fellowship continues to be enjoyed between Sunday School and Worship Service on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Coffee Fellowship this month is May 11, hosted by the Youth Group.
- * Wednesday Night Alive events resumed on April 30 - meal at 6:00, followed by worship, and programming in the Social Hall.
- * The Zoom HLW Bible Study on Wednesdays @ 7:00 resumed on April 30 with a new series: "CREED — What Christians Believe and Why" by Adam Hamilton. This is part of the programming of WNA in-person, or you can also join by Zoom.
- * The Zoom Bible Study on Thursday @ 2:30 continues with the series: "Invitation to the Gospel of John."
- * UMW Wilson Wright Circle 1's annual "Make It, Bake It, Sew It, Grow It" auction will be held on Tuesday, May 20 @ 6:00 in the Social Hall. Everyone is welcome for a fun evening!
- * Save the Date: September 14 for the annual church picnic .

Sharing Team will be taking a break in May. Therefore the next scheduled meeting will be held June 9 @ 7:00 pm via Zoom – open to anyone who would like to share ideas.

Blessings,
Barb & Greg Hoover



TRUSTEES PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustees Property Committee met in April. We have several in-house projects that are nearing completion and several projects on the schedule with contractors.

The courtyard garden has come alive! The grass has come in thick and green. Mulching has taken place. Tulips have been blooming in the middle of the garden – they managed to survive and find their way through the sod.



We are happy to report we survived the horrific storm the night of April 19 with very little water or other damage. Storms such as that are always a concern for our lovely, old building.

Projects nearing completion include:

- ◆ We have converted the first floor Ladies restroom into a 2-stall Ladies restroom and a single unisex restroom, by expanding into the utility closet area. Therefore, a new utility closet has been relocated on the first floor, near the Men's restroom. We still need a plumber to hook up the mop sink and some finishing work.
- ◆ New Basement Area Storage Closet – just needs some finish work.
- ◆ A space in the Custodian's office has been framed up for a new storage area for the Service Team.

Projects scheduled in the near future include:

- ◆ Repairs to kitchen floor due to previous water damage from ice machine.
- ◆ Brick and mortar repairs to the gable of 131 N. Potomac and stonework repairs to some of the stonewalls. Gruber-Latimer has us now tentatively on the schedule for the first of June.
- ◆ A dip in the rear parking lot and some other concrete repairs to be addressed. Some filler has been added to lessen the dip.
- ◆ We will be getting a quote from Heidler Roofing to address the flat rubber roof on Rowe Hall. Some pinholes were repaired over the winter, but the rubber is starting to pull away from the sides.
- ◆ TG Services will be replacing the boiler at 131 N. Potomac Street with a total heat pump system.

Routine maintenance and repair items continue to happen daily, weekly, and monthly...and unexpectedly.

Take Care, Stay Safe, and God Bless.

Barbara Hoover, Chair
Trustees Property Committee

THE SOUNDS OF JOHN WESLEY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

We thank those of you who elected to choose The Sounds of John Wesley to receive your Lenten Fundraiser Celebration offering. All of the remaining work revolves around the organ and the ongoing need for repairs and updating.

Currently our organ is insured for a \$1,404,000 replacement cost. The organ was built by M.P. Moller in Hagerstown in 1921, and subsequently rebuilt by Moller in 1942 and 1963. The organ was again rebuilt by the Reuter Organ Company in Lawrence, KS in 1993, but was not completely releathered at that time. Therefore the reason for a lot of this recent work we have had done, or are expecting to have done in the near future.

We set it up in phases according to priority. Phase I and Phase II have been completed, and also the replacement of a rectifier. A second rectifier in the console will probably need replaced in the near future. Work already completed in Phase I and Phase II totaled \$34,700.00.

To quickly summarize where we are, using the updated prices in 2024, future work would include:

Rectifier replacement in console	500.00
Phase III Expression Motor replacement	12,700.00
Phase IV Peterson Combination Action	<u>15,000.00</u>
FUTURE WORK TO COMPLETE	\$ 28,200.00

Our last “report card” noted the overall condition of the organ as - Good: occasional problems; no anticipated repairs. However, there are two pedals that recently have been having some issues and do not play. In order to correct that problem, we are looking at both chests needing to be releathered. Our organ company, Lewis & Hitchcock (aka Lawless) is evaluating what might be involved and the cost, which would then be added to the figure shown above.

As of March 31, we had a balance of \$14,685.00 in the fund to put towards accomplishing the needed repairs when it becomes necessary. That figure does not include the recent Lenten donations.

The estimate figures shown above do not include a contingency for routine maintenance or unexpected repairs. The organ is very sensitive to temperature and humidity and gets tuned twice a year; once in the summer, once in the winter.

We thank the congregation for your continued support of the Sounds of John Wesley Capital Campaign. We thank you for your prayers, your commitment and your generosity to make this happen to keep our magnificent organ in quality condition. We also remind you that there are Sounds of JW envelopes included in your monthly giving envelope packet, or you can specify in your online giving.

“Whatever you do, do all things to the glory of God”

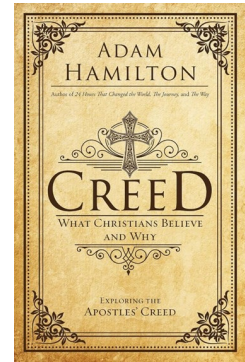
Barbara Hoover,
for The Sounds of John Wesley UMC Task Force

WEDNESDAY HEAVENLY LIVING STUDY

We have an opportunity to engage in a 6-week Zoom discussion (Meeting ID: 828 4006 3526 Passcode: 404756 Phone: 1-301-715-8592) each Wednesday evening from 7:00 pm until 8:30 pm beginning April 30. Please join us!!!!

Creed: What Christians Believe and Why

By Adam Hamilton



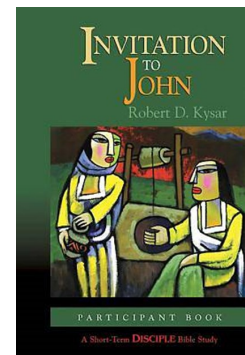
Explore what Christians believe, why they believe, and why it matters through the Apostles Creed. We're all searching. Sometimes the search is easy: simply type a question and the answer pops up. But sometimes our questions are complicated, and the answers are difficult to see and harder to articulate. How do we discover and examine the truths that give meaning and purpose to life? Adam Hamilton believes that some powerful answers are contained in the Apostles' Creed, an early statement of foundational Christian beliefs. In this book, Hamilton considers important questions of life, reality, and truth. He explores not only what Christians believe, but also why they believe it and why it matters.

2. Jesus Christ – May 7
3. Holy Spirit – May 14
4. The Church and the Communion of Saints – May 21
5. The Forgiveness of Sins – May 28
6. The Resurrection of the Body – June 4

THURSDAY ZOOM STUDY

We finish this opportunity to engage in a Zoom discussion (Meeting ID: 828 4006 3526 Passcode: 404756 Phone: 1-301-715-8592) each Thursday afternoon from 2:30 pm until 4:00 pm. Please join us!!!!

Invitation to the John: **Short-Term Disciple Bible Study**



The invitation from Christ is: "Come and see, Follow me." Experience the magnificent passages in John including the I AM statements (I am the truth, the life and the way, I am the living water and more). Revisit stories only told in John's gospel including Nicodemus, Mary Magdalene and the raising of Lazarus.

Session titles and scripture:

10. Believing Without Seeing (John 19–20) – May 1
11. Do You See Him? (John 21) – May 8



- 1st: 8:30am, Men's Breakfast
- 1st: 2:30pm, Zoom Study - "John" #10
- 4th: 9:00am, Sunday School for all ages
- 4th: 10:30am, Worship with Communion
- 4th: 12:00pm, Lunches with Love
- 4th: 2:00pm, Spring Fling Meal
- 7th: 5:15pm, Choir Rehearsal
- 7th: 6:00pm, WNA Meal
- 7th: 7:00pm, HLW - "Creed" #2
- 8th: 2:30pm, Zoom Study - "John" #11
- 8th: Church Congregational Email of Survey
- 11th: 9:00am, Sunday School for all ages
- 11th: 10:00am, Coffee Fellowship
- 11th: 10:30am, Sunday Worship
- 11th: 12:00pm, Lunches with Love
- 13th-15th: Annual Conference
- 14th: 5:15pm, Choir Rehearsal
- 14th: 6:00pm, WNA Meal
- 14th: 7:00pm, HLW - "Creed" #3
- 18th: 9:00am, Sunday School for all ages
- 18th: 10:30am, Sunday Worship
- 18th: 12:00pm, Lunches with Love
- 19th: *Partner* deadline
- 19th: 6:30pm, Leadership Team
- 20th: 6:00pm, Wilson Wright Circle I AUCTION
- 21st: 10:00am, Susanna Circle
- 21st: 5:15pm, Choir Rehearsal
- 21st: 6:00pm, WNA Meal
- 21st: 7:00pm, HLW - "Creed" #4
- 22nd: Survey Deadline
- 25th: 9:00am, Sunday School for all ages
- 25th: 10:30am, Sunday Worship
- 25th: 12:00pm, Lunches with Love
- 26th: Church Office Closed for Memorial Day
- 28th: 5:15pm, Choir Rehearsal
- 28th: 6:00pm, WNA Meal
- 28th: 7:00pm, HLW - "Creed" #5

KITCHEN USE

Be sure you have signed up for use of the kitchen on any specific day/time. We now have some outside groups using our kitchen, in addition to WNA and Lunches with Love, so it is important to coordinate those schedules.

Thank you,
Kitchen Committee

Also a reminder to sign in and then out on the log sheet. And when you leave, please leave the kitchen as clean (or cleaner) than when you arrived.

A PRAYER FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Dear Lord, thank you for the blessings of children and families. Help us rely on you for guidance, patience and even-temperedness throughout our days.



We pray that our children will love you, worship you and serve you with their God-given gifts. Grant us the wisdom to know how to influence them to live godly lives. Prevent us from provoking our children to anger and from manipulating or nagging them.

Fill our households with abiding love and respect. And help us all be united in purpose to do your will. In the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

MY THOUGHTS - A PEEK INSIDE

Time is quickly flying by since I started this consulting position in February, but with each week I continue to see possibilities. Now I'm not going to tell you a fairy-tale and lead you to believe that everything is wonderful. That would be misleading as there are obstacles and difficult decisions that need to be made; however, I will tell you that with an open heart and an open mind there are unique opportunities on the horizon.

With that in mind, I'd like to encourage everyone, who considers John Wesley their home church, to participate in the Readiness 360 Survey developed by the Rev. Dr. Bill Brown through his office of Innovative Church Vitality. This survey was recommended by your District Superintendent, John Wunderlich and by the 213 Report. It will help all of us understand John Wesley from the inside out – your readiness for ministry. It will help us see where we really need to improve and where we are already positioned to do God's work in this place and time.

I can tell you from experience, as my home church Benevola UMC took this survey, that the outcomes of the survey are very accurate because the results are compiled from your answers. This survey is not someone else's opinion of your church's readiness, but it is your opinion of your church's readiness to engage in new and innovative ministry.

If you do not have a computer or access to one, there will be a computer after church set up in the Wesleyan Sunday School Room on Sundays May 11th & 18th. If you can't make those, I will be at the church on Thursday, May 15th from 1:00 – 2:30 PM in the Wesleyan Classroom to assist you with this survey. If you want to set a time, please call Karen Stamper, your church's Administrative Assistant, at 301.733.0391, and let her know that you'll be coming. She'll let me know to save you a place. The survey takes about 20 minutes.

I look forward to everyone participating! Please don't wait to do it as the survey link is only open for two weeks – May 8 through May 22nd.

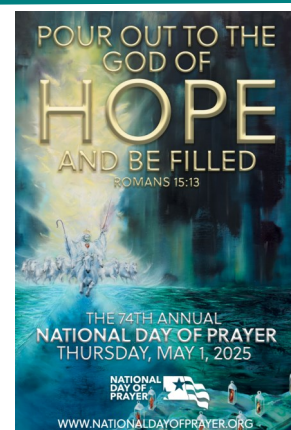
With a grateful heart!

Cindy Reeder
Church Vitality Consultant



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IS THURSDAY, MAY 1ST

The National Day of Prayer is an annual day of observance designated by the United States Congress and held on the first Thursday of May when people are asked "to turn to God in prayer and meditation." The president is required by law to sign a proclamation each year, encouraging all Americans to pray on this day.



360 READINESS SURVEY CALENDAR



Thursday, May 8, 2025

- Congregation will receive an email from the office on the morning of Thursday, May 8th with a link to log into the survey.
- Participants must use a code that will give them access to the survey.
- The email will include a list of times that the survey can be taken at the church (see detailed schedule listed below):
 Sunday, May 11
 Thursday, May 15 (by calling the church office)
 Sunday, May 18

Sunday, May 11, 2025 – 11:30 AM – 12:30 noon

- Pastor Doug will make an announcement to the congregation encouraging them to take the survey on line at home at their convenience or in the Wesleyan Classroom on a Laptop that will be set up for their use.
- Richard Willson will have the laptop set up and ready for congregants to take the survey. He will be nearby if the person has questions

Thursday, May 15, 2025 – 1:00 – 2:30 PM

- Cindy will be set up in the Wesleyan Classroom for anyone wishing to take the survey. Folks can call Karen if they want a specific time.

Sunday, May 18, 2025 – 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

- Pastor Doug will make another announcement to the congregation encouraging them to take the survey on line or in the Wesleyan Classroom on a Laptop that will be set up.
- Richard Willson will have the laptop set up and ready for congregants to take the survey. He will be nearby if the person has questions

Thursday, May 22, 2025

- Survey officially ENDS!! Online access will not be available after this date.

Monday, June 23, 2025 @ 6:30 PM

- Dr. Bill Brown will travel to John Wesley and meet with the Leadership Board only. He will explain the survey results and help JW understand their readiness for innovative evangelism. Bill has asked that we allow him 60-90 minutes of time.

Note: Richard Willson will be available with his laptop to go to the homes of those without email so that Homebound folks can access the survey. Please contact Richard directly if you would like Richard to come to you.

With a grateful heart!

Cindy Reeder
Church Vitality Consultant

Our prayers and sympathy
are extended to:

... the Wagner Family on
the death of

Dr. Trumer Wagner

on March 28, 2025



... the Gerberich Family on
the death of

Terry Gerberich

on April 5, 2025

Join the HCC Alumni Association for the
20th Annual

**RED, WHITE
& BLUE**
CONCERT SERIES

dedicated to the memory of the late
Col. Ronald "Wayne" Taylor

FREE LIVE MUSIC
@ THE HCC ALUMNI AMPHITHEATER

MAY 18 · 6:15 PM
U.S. ARMY SIX STRING SOLDIERS

JUNE 1 · 3:00 PM
U.S. NAVY COMMODORES

JUNE 15 · 3:00 PM
U.S. NAVY SEA CHANTERS

JULY 3 · 6:15 PM
229TH ARMY BAND

AUGUST 16 · 6:15 PM
AIR FORCE CELTIC AIRE

SEPTEMBER 19 · 6:15 PM
U.S. ARMY BLUES BAND

*Schedules are
subject to change
by the U.S.
Military.

Concerts are FREE
and open to the public!
Concessions are available for
purchase; no outside food or
drink will be permitted.

For more
information, call
240-500-2346.

HAGERSTOWN
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

NEWS FROM MICAH'S BACKPACKS

It's hard to believe that the 2024-2025 school year is coming to an end! There are only five more sets of bags to be delivered. By the last week in May, we will have packed and delivered over 750 backpacks since the end of September.

We were able to accomplish this with our great group of volunteers — Donna and Edward Whitt, Buck Shipley and Judy Shorb, Jim Fritsch, George Stone, Linda Sappington, Christopher Younker, Barbara Diefenderfer and all the ladies in Circle 7, and our great group of volunteers from the ARC of Washington County — Judy, Jen, Raven, Matt and Logan.

And of course this was all possible because of the continued monetary and food donations from everyone.

We are looking forward to the new year starting in September 2025.

THANKS FOR A GREAT YEAR AND ENJOY THE SUMMER!

WILSON WRIGHT CIRCLE I





Three distance options:

- ➡ **4K** (2.5 miles)
Individual \$45; Families \$75
- ➡ **10K** (6.3 miles)
Individual \$55; Families \$95
- ➡ **Half-marathon** (13 miles)
Individual \$65; Families \$115

OR...

Up for something bigger?

Challenge Hike

Join us **Saturday, May 17**
for 20 miles on the AT!
Details on our website



For complete details and to Register:
harccoalition.org/hike
or scan the code
Register online through May 30



Benefitting HARC programs
Micah's Backpack
Refugee Welcome Network



The Ed Poling Memorial **HARC HIKE** for Hunger & Hope

2025 – Our 13th year!

Saturday, May 31

on the C&O Canal Towpath

Check-in location for all hikers:

Shepherd's Spring Camp & Retreat Center
16869 Taylors Landing Rd., Sharpsburg, Md.

Hospitality Stops ♦ Celebration Luncheon
Music ♦ Prize Drawings ♦ Family-friendly

2-1 Match by God's Grace Fund!

Every dollar raised over the \$200
suggested fundraising goal for each
participant will be matched 2-1

REGISTER BY **MAY 11** FOR A
\$10 DISCOUNT & GUARANTEED T-SHIRT!

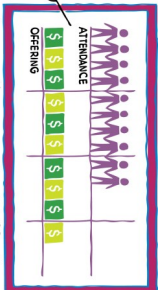
Attendance & Offering Report

Date	In-person	Online	Total Attendance	Total Offering
Mar 30	37	2	39	\$ 1,185.20
April 6	40	3	43	1,780.20
April 13	61	-	61	1,459.54
April 20	36	1	37	1,350.20
April 27	53	-	53	2,020.20

~ Blessings, Sheila & Sherry



Attendance & Offering



Happy Birthday

2nd: Matthew Bowman
Stephen Pompa
4th: Kathy Bell
6th: Marilyn Boring
8th: Karen Nilson
11th: Calleigh Hoffman
12th: Richard Thorpe
14th: Reggan Chapin
16th: Barbara Ewald
18th: Barbara McClure
22nd: Cory Hoffman

22nd: Nancy James
Dorothea Loser
Ginger Pembroke
24th: JoAnn Bousum
25th: Lilah Kimmel

Happy Anniversary

11th: David & Louise Wine
17th: Histon & Marie Tolbert
20th: Robert & Kathy Bell

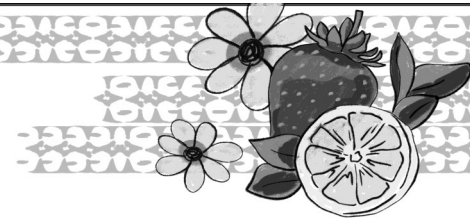
(If your birthday or anniversary is this month and does not appear on this list or appears incorrectly, please call the church office or email us at jwumcmd@yahoo.com and let us know. Thank you!)

We'd like to recognize persons that members of our church family will be celebrating who are graduating this month and next. If you have a family member graduating this spring, please let Sheila know through an email (skcollins1_13@msn.com), call (301-791-6824) or contact the church office.



Graduate's Name _____ Graduating on _____
from _____ with a degree in _____ and is the
(son/daughter/grandchild, etc.) of _____.
The graduate plans to _____.

PUZZLE PAGE

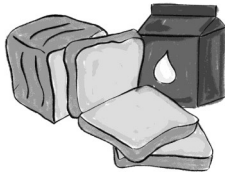


Teatime treat

Make these sweet sandwiches for a Mother's Day tea party.

What you need:

- 4 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 3 Tablespoons powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 6-10 strawberries, washed and sliced
- 6 slices of white bread
- Cellophane
- Adult help



What you do:

1. With an electric mixer, whip the cream cheese in a bowl until fluffy.
2. Add cream, powdered sugar, and lemon juice. Continue whipping on high speed until mixture is stiff.
3. On each slice of bread, spread a layer of the mixture. Then arrange some sliced strawberries on top.
4. Place the sandwiches together, with filling on the inside.
5. Wrap tightly in cellophane. Chill for two hours so the filling sets.
6. Trim off crusts with a serrated knife. Cut sandwiches in squares or triangles. Serve and enjoy!



A NOBLE EXAMPLE

Proverbs 31 describes a God-honoring woman. How are the women in your life like her? How can you follow their example?

Directions: Use the word bank to complete all the Bible verses. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete Proverbs 31:30, NIV.



WORD BANK

bread, household, women, laugh,
children, clothed, speaks, husband, tongue



She is _____ with strength and dignity;
she can _____ at the days to come.

She _____ with wisdom,
and faithful instruction is on her _____.

She watches over the affairs of her _____
and does not eat the _____ of idleness.

Her _____ arise and call her blessed;
her _____ also, and he praises her:

"Many _____ do noble things,
but you surpass them all." Proverbs 31:25-29, NIV

Charm is _____eptive, and be_____ty is fl_____eting; but a
woma_____ w_____o f_____rs the Lo_____d is to be prais_____d.

Proverbs 31:30, NIV

Answers: clothed, laugh, speaks, tongue, household, bread, children, husband, women, Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Proverbs 31:30, NIV



JOHN WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

MAY 2025

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.”*

