

JOHN WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2024

The Partner

“Making a Joyous Noise!”

“¹ Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. ² Serve the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.”

— Psalm 100:1-2

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Church should be fun! Joyous! We should laugh a lot at church, smile a lot, and have a very good time together! When we do, we know what it is to serve the Lord with gladness and our joyful noises!

We have a lot to look forward to as we begin another program year!

We will enjoy our next Church Picnic this month, on Sunday, September 8, with delicious food and wonderful fellowship. I still have vivid memories of last year’s picnic and all the fun we had!

When we served our Cookout Lunch to the Community last July 13, we had a blast together! And it was one of those sweltering, hot days for our 12 noon to 2 pm lunch. We just had to pick the hottest part of the day to serve the lunch! Laugh out loud! Poor Richard Willson was out there grilling burgers on the hot sidewalk from 11:30 am to 2 pm! Poor Tony Williams, our new friend from Fresh Academicz and Smile Back Records, was on another hot sidewalk in our courtyard MC-ing the event, using his musical gifts, his “gift for gab,” and his loudspeakers to draw community folk to our social hall for lunch!

The thing is, for Richard and Tony, they weren’t “poor Richard and Tony,” out there suffering in the heat! Yes, they were hot, but they had a great time providing their services. The canopies keeping them in the shade helped, but mostly, they had a great time because they “served the Lord with gladness,” joyously caught up in the wonderful Spirit of the day. Those of us serving our guests inside in the Social Hall and its AC were having a great time, too! It was all joyous fellowship! Our guests were so thankful! Many of them helped serve and clean up! It was one of those special days here at church, full of Joy!

Did you know that since our church vote on June 23, our church

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leadership has been meeting more than weekly to follow through on the commitment we made as a church to continue our revitalization? We have renewed our planning and goal-setting for the growth in Ministry, Mission, and Revenue needed to secure our future. We have a long way to go, and our planning and goal-setting will include resourcing from our Annual Conference and the support of our District Superintendent.

I want you to know that already, our weekly meetings for brainstorming and planning have been full of joy! We have laughed a lot! We are excited! God is blessing our discussions with excitement about all of our possibilities! We look forward to our ongoing work! We look forward to the new things that are resulting and will result from it! And we look forward to sharing all of this with you!

As our schedules quicken with summer's end, please continue to make time for Joy! Please make time for Joyous moments with your family and friends. Squeeze as much Joy into your work as you can. And make time for yourself to enjoy those things that are unique to your gifts and interests.

We here at John Wesley will continue doing all we can to ensure that your experience here as a Disciple of Jesus Christ is full of Joy, so that church is fun and full of Joyful Noise!

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Doug

NEWS FROM MICAH'S BACKPACK

After what seemed like a very short summer, September is here. And students are back in school! That can only mean that it's time for Micah's Backpacks.

Once again we are signed up to deliver 20 bags a week to Ruth Ann Monroe Primary School. We are working on organizing the volunteers who pack and deliver the bags and we will be in contact with the school liaison for details concerning the deliveries.

The first Food Bank pickup will be on Thursday, September 12. And we will be shopping soon for the extras that are not available through the Food Bank.

The most important date will be September 19 when the first bags are delivered!

Thank you to everyone for all that you do to support this program. Micah's Backpack is a very successful program because of YOU!!

Enjoy the first days of fall!

Wilson Wright Circle I



CONNECTING FROM THE SHARING TEAM

Sharing Team met in August. Things are gearing up for fall.

- ◆ Our Church-wide Picnic at Marty Snook Park will be on Sunday, September 8. See detailed article elsewhere in this month's newsletter, including the sign-up form, which is due Sept. 3. Plan to join us.
- ◆ Service Team continues its summer/fall fundraiser for Sleep In Heavenly Peace, an organization that builds and delivers beds to children who are sleeping on the floor or sharing a bed. As of this writing, money has already been sent in to cover four beds. Let's try for four more. The quilting group has made 7 or 8 quilts this summer, which will also be donated.
- ◆ The Youth Group is starting to plan for the fall.
- ◆ John Wesley UMC will be helping HARC with a new program in the schools this fall. Lighthouse After-School program is scheduled to start in September and they are in need of volunteers. See Pastor Doug for more information.
- ◆ The first delivery of Micah's Backpacks will be the week ending September 20.
- ◆ Kitchen Committee thanks Wilson Wright Circle I for paying for the new stainless steel table in the kitchen.
- ◆ The Houses of Worship Tour will be back again this year for Christmas.
- ◆ Zoom Bible studies resume in September: Wednesday evenings and/or Thursday afternoons.



Sharing Team will not be meeting in September. Therefore, the next scheduled meeting will be held Monday, October 14 – open to anyone who would like to attend. Sharing Team meetings are held via Zoom.

Blessings,

Barb & Greg Hoover



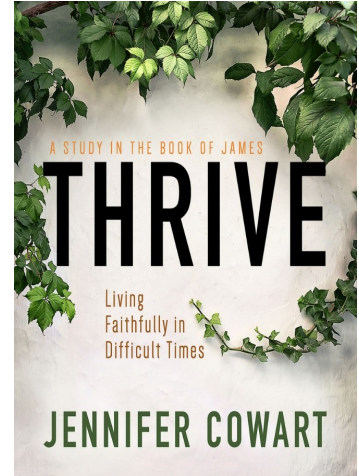
HAGERSTOWN'S MUMMERS' PARADE

Save the date — October 26! We will be reserving seats to view the Mummers' Parade again this year. The Youth will be selling all kinds of yummy concessions. So plan to join us for this annual Hagerstown tradition! Tickets will go on sale October 1st.

WEDNESDAYS HEAVENLY LIVING WORKSHOP

We have an opportunity to engage in an 6-week Zoom discussion (Meeting ID: 828 4006 3526 Passcode: 404756) each Wednesday evening from 7:00 pm until 8:00 pm beginning September 11, 2024. Please join us!!!!

**“A Study in the Book of James—Thrive:
Living Faithfully in Difficult Times”**
By Jennifer Cowart

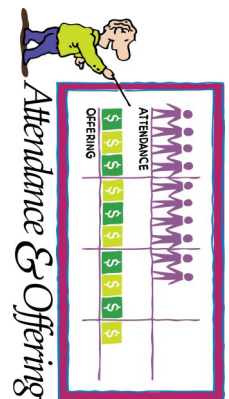


In *Thrive*, author and teacher Jen Cowart helps us develop the habits and attitudes necessary to thrive, whatever our circumstances. Discussion Topics:

1. Endurance - Embracing obstacles as a means to maturity. September 11
2. Wisdom - Using a heavenly perspective on earthly issues. September 18
3. Action - Living a life where actions match faith. September 25
4. Control - Taming the tongue. October 2
5. Humility - Developing the attitude of Christ. October 9
6. Prayer - Exercising the power tool of the faith. October 16

Attendance & Offering Report

<u>Date</u>	<u>In-person</u>	<u>Online</u>	<u>Total Attendance</u>	<u>Total Offering</u>
July 28	36	3	39	\$1,615.00
August 4	46	3	49	1,935.00
August 11	36	6	42	2,488.38
August 18	31	4	35	1,750.00
August 25	32	3	35	1,095.00



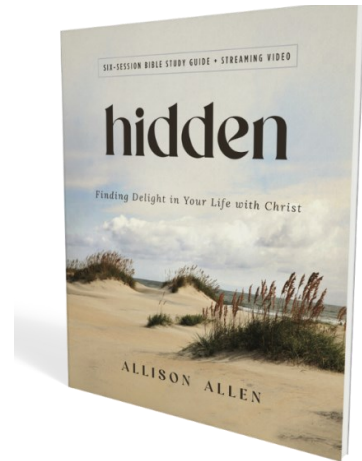
~~ Blessings, Sheila & Sherry

THURSDAY ZOOM STUDY

We have an opportunity to engage in a Zoom discussion (Meeting ID: 828 4006 3526 Passcode: 404756) each Thursday from 2:30 pm until 3:30 pm beginning September 12, 2024. Please join us!!!!

“Hidden: Finding Delight in Your Life with Christ”

by Allison Allen



You do not have to perform anymore. You are hidden in Christ and need nobody's favor. We live in a world that tells you that visibility is value, that recognition is your greatest reward. Even though we know it's empty, so many of us are enslaved to this culture of performance and people-pleasing, earthly accolades and social media likes.

As a former actor, Allison Allen knows what it is like to feel like she had to perform—not only for others, but even for God's favor.

In this video Bible study, you are invited to let go of the pressure you feel and lean into the freedom of your inherent value in Christ. Throughout these sessions, you will spend time in the forgotten corners of Scripture and get to know some of the most hidden, least remembered people in the Bible.

What do they have to tell us about a life that does not seek to be seen?

Sessions:

1. Hidden Treasures - September 12
2. Where All Good Things Are Found - September 19
3. Choosing Excellence Over Exposure – September 26
4. What Lies Beneath the Surface of Our Lives – October 3
5. Out of Hiding – October 10
6. From Strength to Strength – October 17





Annual Picnic

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN-UP!
JW CHURCH PICNIC
Sunday, September 8
Marty Snook/Halfway Park - Pavilion #4



We have the same pavilion as last year – Pavilion #4 – but a different month. This year our picnic is being held on September 8; the same day that the fall schedule resumes.

Pavilion #4 is the last pavilion back (and easily accessed off of Bower Avenue, if you're coming from that direction). There is parking right there by the pavilion, the area is pretty flat. There is also playground equipment at that pavilion.

The committee has been working on plans; the time will be 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm, as in the past. We plan to have chicken again and a special cool treat from the Christ Cream truck after the meal. Some vespers and hymns, and as always, fun and games and good fellowship.

Chicken, drinks, and place settings will be provided. Bring a dish to share.

Please let us know if you are planning to attend. We will try to accommodate your choice of chicken pieces. So complete the form below or call the church office. Reservations are due by Tuesday, September 3.

~ Your Family Life Committee ~

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE! DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR JOHN WESLEY T-SHIRT.



JWUMC CHURCH PICNIC – Sunday, September 8
2:00-5:00 pm – Marty Snook/Halfway Park – Pavilion #4
Chicken, drinks, and place settings provided – Bring a Dish to share!

Name: _____

No. Adults: _____

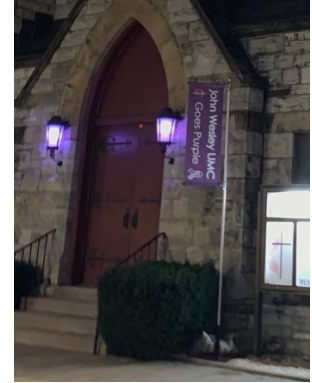
Children's names and ages: _____

Please note your Fried Chicken preference:

_____ Breast _____ Wings (2) _____ Thigh _____ Leg

JOHN WESLEY GOES PURPLE!

September is Addiction Awareness Month and it's time to "go purple"! Washington Goes Purple has been working to help educate our youth and community about the dangers of prescription pill misuse and other drugs and alcohol. Did you know 91 or more people die every day from heroin or prescription painkiller overdose? Washington Goes Purple is a substance misuse awareness education movement to encourage our community and youth to stand up against substance abuse.



18% of high school students report taking a prescription drug without a prescription and perceive fewer risks associated with misusing or abusing prescription stimulants than did their peers in 2009. We also know that in areas with high percentages of depression, there are high percentages of overdoses. Unfortunately, when an estimated 75-82% of heroin users begin with prescription painkillers, it's time to talk honestly to them and help #preventaddiction in the future.



John Wesley will be participating in some awareness activities. Each Sunday in September our bulletin cover will be purple with a church-wide "Wear Purple" on [Sunday, September 22](#).

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE FUNDRAISER

WHAT
Supply beds and bedding to children of families who can't afford beds!

WHEN
Now throughout the fall months





TRUSTEES PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

As usual, the Trustees Property Committee is always busy; there is always something going on, or something that needs done.

We have a lot of projects to finish and some repairs to be addressed as we move into the fall.

The recent heavy rains uncovered a few water issues that will need to be addressed. After a downpour in May, we had water in the attic at 131 N. Potomac, and some areas in the church building that we needed to keep an eye on. Heidler Roofing made some repairs at 131, but also recommended having someone repair mortar and loose bricks on the north side at the peak. We are in the process of getting prices for that work. This more recent storm (the remnants of Hurricane Debbie) caused additional water issues. There was flooding in the basement of Rowe Hall, which appeared to be coming in from the floor drain. At the church the window well on the south side basement area was also filling up and not draining properly. Both drains will be checked for any blockage. There was water that came in on the balcony level up the steps from the Wesleyan Room. Heidler was in to make repairs to that roof, where the two roofs meet.

In addition to the water issues....

~ Church Building at 129 N. Potomac Street ~

- * The Courtyard Memorial Garden project is ready for concrete and sod. We had to wait until the draught was behind us. A memorial plaque has been ordered to acknowledge all of the memorial garden gifts over the years.
- * A new ceiling fan has been installed in the Conference Room.
- * A new fan motor was replaced in one of the sanctuary A/C units.
- * New, more functional thermostats for A/C have been installed for the three units in the Social Hall.
- * The walls have been painted in the basement area, and a large corner storage area has been created. We are getting prices for replacement baseboard heaters that had to be removed due to age. Flooring will be a future consideration; in the meantime temporary repairs have been made. Hope and Gratitude NA Group continues to use that area for their meetings.

TRUSTEES PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT - CONTINUED

- * A new 2-sink counter and cabinet to be installed in the first floor Ladies Room. Plans are being reviewed for renovations to create a separate single unisex restroom on that floor.
- * Due to issues in the past with the ice maker, the floor has been compromised and will need some repair work.
- * There is a rather noticeable dip in the small parking lot to the rear which will need to be addressed before winter.
- * Upgrades have been made to the wi-fi in the building. New Light Metropolitan Community Church was having problems with their live stream. In addition to running a cable to the Chapel, we found units that were old and needed to be replaced with upgraded equipment.

~ **Rowe Hall, located to the rear of 129 N. Potomac Street** ~

- * The work being done in the basement of Rowe Hall is almost complete.
- * New exterior light fixtures to be installed on the front of the building.

~ **131 N. Potomac Street (former parsonage and office)** ~

- * When the company comes to give us an estimate on the brick and mortar work, we will ask them to look at the stone wall in the rear of 131 where the mortar is coming loose. And also the stone wall by the staff parking lot on the south side of the church.

~ **Parsonage on Hamilton Blvd.** ~

- * Fence and gate work have been completed at the Parsonage. The concrete pad at the grill area and steps at the rear should be finished soon.

~ **Building Use** ~

- * Kitchen - Do you remember the smell of cookies baking in the kitchen? Jay Trovato, aka Senor's Cookies, has put in a request to return to baking in our kitchen. We are currently in talks with him about coming back.

Take care, stay safe, and God Bless!

Barbara Hoover, Chair

Trustees Property Committee

Happy September Birthday

- 5th: Francis Brown
Erin Moyer
Bennett Will
- 6th: Carol Divelbiss
- 7th: Caitlyn Donley
- 8th: Rikker Chapin
- 13th: Sally Divelbiss
- 15th: Zachary Kimmel
- 16th: Craig Nilson
- 17th: Sarah Saunders
- 19th: Marcus Peters
- 20th: Anna Marschner
- 22nd: Dana Grimm
Rev. Patrick Ricker
- 27th: Patricia Eckard
- 29th: James McMurtrie
Richard McNew
Sam Murray
- 30th: Judy Peters
Amy Rowan

Happy September Anniversary

- 1st: Norris & Barbara Diefenderfer
- 1st: Richard & Betty Willson
- 6th: Butch & Linda Sappington
- 8th: Steve & Kathleen Miles
- 11th: Major & Vangie Osborne
- 14th: Pastor Doug & Donna Hoffman
- 16th: Greg & Barb Hoover
- 19th: Wade & Debra Markell

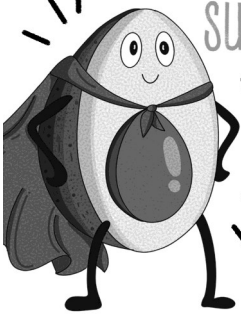


- 1st: 9:00am, Wesleyan Class
- 1st: 10:00am, Sunday Worship
- 2nd: Church Office Closed
- 4th: 5:15pm, Choir Rehearsal
- 5th: 8:30am, Men's Breakfast
- 8th: 9:00am, Wesleyan Class
- 8th: 10:00am, Coffee Fellowship
- 8th: **10:30am**, Sunday Worship
- 8th: 2:00pm, Church Picnic
- 9th: 6:30pm, Leadership Team Meeting
- 11th: 5:15pm, Choir Rehearsal
- 11th: 7:00pm, HLW - "Thrive"
- 12th: 2:30pm, Zoom Study - "Hidden"
- 15th: 9:00am, Wesleyan Class
- 15th: **10:30am**, Sunday Worship
- 16th: *Partner* deadline
- 17th: 6:00pm, Wilson Wright Circle I
- 18th: 10:00am, Susannah Circle
- 18th: 5:15pm, Choir Rehearsal
- 18th: 7:00pm, HLW - "Thrive"
- 19th: 2:30pm, Zoom Study - "Hidden"
- 22nd: 9:00am, Wesleyan Class
- 22nd: **10:30am**, Sunday Worship
- 25th: 5:15pm, Choir Rehearsal
- 25th: 7:00pm, HLW - "Thrive"
- 26th: 2:30pm, Zoom Study - "Hidden"
- 29th: 9:00am, Wesleyan Class
- 29th: 10:30am, Sunday Worship
- 30th: 6:30pm, Leadership Team Meeting

PUZZLE PAGE

a Brainy breakfast

Add a smart start to your school day with



superfoods that promote a healthy body and mind.

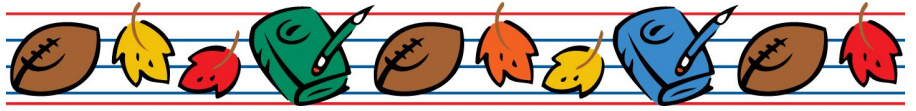
What you need:

- Large bowl
- 1 medium avocado
- 3 hard-boiled eggs
- Salt
- Whole wheat toast
- Pumpkin seeds, chopped
- Adult help



What you do:

1. Mash the avocado in the bowl.
2. Chop the eggs into cubes and add to the bowl.
3. Add salt to taste. Mix well.
4. Spread over two pieces of toast.
Top with chopped pumpkin seeds.
5. Adjust this recipe with your favorite flavors. Add herbs, "everything bagel" seasoning or hot sauce.
6. Refrigerate leftovers in an airtight container.



Puzzle!

Find and circle all the words horizontally. Then, starting on the top line and moving across from left to right, read John 6:35 (NIV). Put the words in order on the spaces below to complete the Bible verse.

JOHN 6:35

WORD LIST

am and be believes bread comes in whoever
hungry go life me me never to never the the of will
will thirsty whoever

T	E	I	R	S	U	V	W	A	M	X	Y	Z	A	B	T	H	E	I
J	K	L	M	B	R	E	A	D	N	P	O	F	Q	R	L	I	F	E
D	W	H	O	E	V	E	R	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
B	C	D	F	C	O	M	E	S	G	H	I	J	T	O	K	L	M	E
N	W	I	L	L	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	N	E	V	E	R	V	W
Z	Y	Z	B	C	A	G	O	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
M	H	U	N	G	R	Y	N	A	N	D	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V
W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	W	H	O	E	V	E	R
M	N	O	B	E	L	I	E	V	E	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A
V	W	X	Y	Z	I	N	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	M	E	U	V	W	X	Y	A	B	C	D
D	E	F	W	I	L	L	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	N	E	V	E	R	A	B	C	D	B	E	D
F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	T	H	I	R	S	T	Y	O	P	Q

"I _____

_____"

-John 6:35, NIV

Answer: "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6:35, NIV

JOHN WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

SEPTEMBER 2024 *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.”*

