



# The Wesley Crier

A PUBLICATION OF WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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## What is Easter Season for? And what comes next?

By: Ask The UMC, a ministry of United Methodist Communications.



For Christians, Easter is not just one day - it's a season of 50 days, a week of weeks, derived in its length from the fifty days between Passover and Pentecost (which means fiftieth) in Judaism. Easter season begins at sunset on the eve of Easter and ends with Pentecost, the day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church (see *Acts 2*).

Easter season is more than an extended celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. In the early church, Lent was a season when persons who wished to become Christians were learning how to live the way of Jesus and preparing for baptism on Easter Sunday. Christians have referred to this time of formation as "catechesis" or "echoing the way of Jesus." The original purpose of the Easter season was to continue the formation of new Christians in the faith. Christians have historically referred to this formation process as "mystagogy" or "leading people into the mysteries."

Today, this extended season gives us time to rejoice and experience what we mean when we say Christ is risen and that we, as the church, are the body of the Risen Lord. It's a season for focusing on the core doctrines and mysteries of the faith and for preparing for the ministries the Spirit has empowered us to undertake in Jesus' name.

### ASK FAQs

Many churches use these weeks to teach the theology of the sacraments and help people discern their spiritual gifts and callings. Congregations may do this both through small group formation and as part of public worship. Ecumenical resources for both have been developed by the North American Association for the Catechumenate,

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also known as Journey to Baptismal Living, supported through the worship office of Discipleship Ministries. The season may culminate with a service of commissioning laypersons into ministry as part of the Pentecost celebration.

The season after Pentecost begins with Trinity Sunday and concludes with Christ the King/Reign of Christ Sunday. The purpose of this season is to support our common work of using the gifts we have been given in the name of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Because contexts for ministry can vary widely, the lectionary readings were chosen to permit more flexibility during this season. The three readings are not related to each other. Pastors and worship planners can create series that follow any one of the three different streams of texts (Old Testament, Epistle, or Gospel), whichever seems to be speaking into the missional context of the local church the best.



## THE POWER OF STILLNESS... (Part one)

By: Anthony Falkowski, Director Pastoral Care

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With all the changes in our world, our country, and our communities happening, I want to share two articles that give good counsel as the best way to handle the anxiety and stress being experienced. Next month's addition of *The Wesley Crier* will feature the second article.

Please read and practice.

Howard Thurman\* (1899-1981) offers instructions for practicing stillness and silent meditation:

*We must find sources of strength and renewal for our own spirits; lest we perish...It is very much to make certain concrete suggestions in this regard.*

*First, we must learn to be quiet, to settle down in one spot for a spell. Sometime during each day, everything should stop, and the art of being still must be practiced. For some temperaments, it will not be easy because the entire nervous system and body have been geared over the years to activity, to overt and tense functions. Nevertheless, the art of being still must be practiced until development and habit are sure.*

*If possible, find a comfortable chair or quiet spot where one may engage in nothing. There is no reading of a book or a paper, no thinking of the next course of action, no rejection of remote or immediate mistakes of the past, no talk. One is engaged in doing nothing at all except being still.*

*At first one may get drowsy and go to sleep. The time will come, however, when one may be quiet for a spell without drowsiness, but with a quality of creative lassitude that makes for renewal of mind and body.*

*Such periods may be snatched from the greedy demands of one's day's work; they may be islanded in a sea of other human beings; they may come only at the end of the day, or in the quiet hush of the early morning.*

*We must, each one of us, find [our] own peculiar art of being quiet.*

\*Howard Washington Thurman was an American author, philosopher, theologian, Christian mystic, educator and civil rights leader. For more information google Howard Thurman biography.

After practicing this process of "stillness", add a few extra moments of prayer and gratitude.

—Anthony Falkowski



# Mission Update

By: Carol Gambone, Co Chair



## Second Saturday Community Meal

This year Missions has a goal of "no repeat leads in 2025." What does that entail?

Each volunteer group or leader will serve one weekend in the entire year! We are so thankful for Larry Josefowski and Cheryl Scheir co-leading in January, Barbara Spangler leading in February and Eunice Craig leading in March. We are also thankful for the Trustees Committee for leading in April, The United Methodist Men the first week in May and Larry Josefowski leading the second week in May.

Open months include July, August, and November. We are so very happy to welcome all groups like Rotary and Moms Demand Action to our meal, and are thankful for their leadership as well. Special thanks to the Board of Trustees, Family Life, Tobi Hope-O'Brien, Solid Rock Baptist, and the United Women in Faith for helping Missions meet its "no repeat leads".

Interested in preparing and planning a meal? Contact Carol Gambone [psu\\_turtle@hotmail.com](mailto:psu_turtle@hotmail.com) to reserve your weekend.



## Food Handlers Course

By: Michele Dryda, Administrative Assistant



The State of Delaware requires us to have someone in the kitchen who holds a food-handler certificate during all events and the community meals.

A Conditional Volunteer and Food Employee Interview Form needs to be filled out by each volunteer once a year, and kept on file in the black file box located in the kitchen. This form requires the volunteer along with the food-handler certificate holder to sign off on it.

We encourage each committee/group that uses the kitchen to have at least one member/volunteer take the 360 Learn to Serve® Food Handler Certification course. Cost \$10, self-paced, and takes about two hours. Just click on the link below take the course, pass the test and you receive your certificate that day.

<https://www.360training.com/course/anab-accredited-food-handler-training>

Once you receive your certificate via email, please forward the email to Michele in the church office.

# Christian Education

By: Joe Young, Director of Youth & Children's Ministry

## Seven Activities to Beat Boredom this Summer

From: [empoweredhomes.org](http://empoweredhomes.org)



The end of the school year is both exciting and chaotic. Those of us with school-aged kids are busy attending classroom celebrations, snapping pics at awards ceremonies, clapping at banquets, chaperoning dances, calming stressed teens as they cram for final tests, and maybe crying as we watch our child walk to receive a diploma. The final weeks of school are a whirlwind, and it feels like there is no rest for the weary, but hang in there, my friends, we can see the summer light at the end of the jam-packed school activity tunnel, and we are counting down the days! However, while I envision a fun, relaxing, loose-scheduled summer, I have learned that with no more school and lots of extra time often comes the dreaded phrase, "Mom, I'm Bored." After several years of frustration and yelling at my kids to "find something to do or I will find something for you," I have learned that a little bit of preparation goes a long way to beat summer boredom. Check out these seven activities to help beat boredom this summer:

### 1. Create a Detailed Summer Schedule

Transitioning from a rigid school schedule to a zero schedule at all is difficult, even for adults. Creating a detailed summer schedule and hanging copies around the house helps ease from schoolwork mode to summer relax mode. If you have older elementary or teenage children, meet as a family to discuss a daily schedule. Allow your kids to speak and express their goals or desires for the summer. We have found it helpful to create a daily, weekly, and monthly activity schedule. Kids love to look at the monthly calendar and see what is coming up. Hang it in the kitchen for everyone to see. You can also create a daily and/or weekly schedule to help keep each kid on task and organized.

**Scheduling Tip:** We use our summer schedule as a general guideline and means for staying on task, but we try to be flexible in allowing our kids to choose when they do certain tasks or activities. As they get older, kids should be encouraged to plan out and prioritize their days. For an in-depth look at creating family goals, check out [Five Tips for Pursuing Family Goals](#) or [Watch Goal Setting 101: How to Dream and Set Goals for Your Family](#).

### 2. Design a *Beat the Boredom Jar*

Rather than trying to come up with an activity at each declaration of boredom from my kids, I have discovered that having pre-planned activities or tasks helps take away my frustration and ultimately keeps the mood of our house more relaxed. Fill a jar with fun activities and helpful chores to encourage creativity and accomplishment.

### 3. Schedule Family Service Projects

Family discipleship through serving is incredibly powerful and summer is a wonderful time to schedule family service projects. Check in with local non-profit organizations to get information on their needs and schedule a time to serve together as a family once or even a few times. Moving in the direction of people in need opens our eyes to the world around us, often softening our hearts to love the least of these with God's incredible love. Serving together as a whole family allows parents the opportunity to lead by example with a servant heart and selfless influence. What could be a better way to beat the summer boredom than by serving others?

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#### 4. Adopt Pen Pals & Call Family Members

Technological advancements have allowed us to connect and communicate with friends and loved ones at an incredible speed. And while I am mostly glad we are not at the mercy of payphones, extra-long phone cords, and long-distance calling rates; I have to admit, *sometimes*, I miss handwritten correspondence and old-fashioned phone calls where I stretched the phone cord as long as possible to have a little privacy in my room. This summer, go old school and beat the boredom by writing notes or coloring pictures to send to a pen pal or two. Pen pals could be friends, or family members, or reach out to your church to request names and mailing addresses for nursing home shut-ins or missionaries. Also, plan to call friends or family members your kids don't normally get to chat with. Before they call, help them brainstorm some questions to ask so they can also learn good conversation skills while catching up. I mean, who doesn't love getting mail, checking in with grandma, and improving communication skills all at the same time?

#### 5. Host Themed Hangouts with Friends and Neighbors

Choose your favorite theme or fun thing to do and host a hangout with friends, family, or neighbors. Don't worry about being fancy or over-the-top. Keep it simple and focus on building connections. Plan the hangouts together as a family and ask others to pitch in for food or games. The hangout theme possibilities are endless – so have fun planning, prepping, and hanging out!

##### Theme ideas:

- Orange Food Picnic – Invite friends to pack a picnic that only contains orange food or whatever your favorite color is
- Water balloons & Watermelons
- Ninja Warriors Obstacle Course – host at the playground using the playground equipment for no clean up!
- Pop-Up Tea Party at the Park
- Host a Bake off, Cook off or Snack off
- Nerf-War Battle – Challenge your kids to create homemade targets or trick shots
- Bike Parade – glitz and glam those bikes up and ride around a park, neighborhood, or better yet, coordinate a parade at a nursing home

#### 6. Listen to Audio Books or Podcast Stories

Audio books and podcast stories are a great boredom buster at home or on the road. At home, my kids will color or play while they listen, and they love listening in the car. Check out your local library for ways to download free audiobooks. A quick Google search will highlight the best podcasts for families and kids.

#### 7. Teach a New Life Skill Every Week

Kids CAN often do so much more than we give them credit for. The summer is a great time to teach new life skills that will ease the load around the house, AND even better, prepare them for life as an adult. Set aside some time to brainstorm important life skills you would like your kids to learn, and then plan to teach a new skill once a week or as often as you see fit.

##### Boredom is Normal

We have all been bored at some point in our lives. Rather than express frustration when your kids say, “I'm bored,” remember boredom is an incredible foundation for creativity. It does not mean you have to

over schedule your kids; however, you can leverage the opportunity to help your kids learn, grow, and create. Challenge them in new and fun ways to take their boredom and turn it into Summer Fun!

**Nursery** - 9:30 am Worship Service only.

Nursery care available during the 9:30 worship services by an adult that has completed the Safe Gathering Class. We gather in Grace Fellowship Hall before the 9:30 service begins.

**Sunday School** - All classes meet at 9:30. The last day of Sunday School will be Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>.

Children's Sunday School (K-4th grade) meets in Grace Fellowship Hall

Youth Sunday School (5th - 8th grade) meets in Grace Fellowship Hall

High Sunday School meets in the Parlor on the 1st & 3rd Sunday

### Youth Group

Regular meetings (6<sup>th</sup> grade thru 12<sup>th</sup>) are from 3 - 5 pm on Sunday in the Student Ministry Center (SMC).

## Safe Gatherings

By: Michele Dryda, Administrative Assistant

**Safe Gatherings** is an online abuse prevention program that screens and educates staff and volunteers to help prevent abuse of children, youth, and vulnerable adults in group settings.

In order to work with children and youth here at Wesley UMC you must take this class. To start the Safe Gatherings process, go to <https://safegatherings.com/app/get-started>.

When you follow the link to get started, you will need to select:

- **Language Preference** (English or Spanish)
- **Type of Organization** - (Church)
- **Denomination** (Methodist)
- **State where your church is located** - (Dover)

In the next field, Organization name, type *Wesley*. In the dropdown menu, select the Organization name where you are seeking approval to serve, again, *Wesley*.

Individuals can login to their account at any time to check the status of their application.

Each applicant upon successful completion of the Safe Gatherings application, background and reference checks, and online training program, will receive documentation of approval, valid for three years, and will have continued access to the online training program for one year.

The class takes about 1.5 hours. All costs are covered by the church.



# The Prelude...Time to Worship

By: Sherry Roscoe, Director of Music

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*Psalm 95:6* states, “O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker”. The Psalms are filled with verses such as these that focus our minds and hearts on worshipping our Lord and God.

I wonder sometimes if we approach the beginning of worship services on Sundays in this way? Our services at Wesley are structured to provide us a time to think on the Lord and His goodness through the use of music in the form of the Prelude. This is a time specifically provided for our focus. It is not about the performance of the piece that is being played, but more about getting ourselves settled in, clearing our minds, and thinking on the worship of the one who deserves that and so much more during the next hour (and beyond)!!

Whether the Prelude is played on the organ, offered by the Handbell Choir, or is another instrumental selection, all are designed to provide space for our busy minds and hearts. Time to settle. Time to give thanks. Time to pray. In a world that rushes so much, I would encourage each of us to pause the world during the Prelude. Give yourself time to “Be still and know that I am God.” Use that time to reflect instead of catching up with neighbors (think coffee hour!), working on your to-do list, or thinking about what is coming up next. See and feel how the Lord works in your heart during the worship hour by setting the stage for HIS presence.

## Summer Hymn Sing

By: Michele Dryda, Administrative Assistant

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Watch the bulletin for an insert about our hymn sing. Fill out three of your favorite hymns from our hymnals; you have three hymnals to help you make your selections.

Each Sunday beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>, worship will start at 9:20 am with singing three hymns individuals have selected as their favorite hymns. We may sing the whole hymn or just selected verses, depends on the length of the hymn.

Please answer the questions so we can learn more about why you chose those particular hymns, etc.

**“I will sing of Steadfast Love and Justice, to you, O Lord, I will make Music. Psalm 101:1.”**



# Pecometh Summer Camp 2025

By: Michele Dryda, Administrative Assistant

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Pecometh Summer Camp begins on June 22, 2025. Registration is open now! Looking for an unplugged environment where your campers will build their faith, character and independence? Allow them to experience a genuine, inclusive community at Camp Pecometh's Christian summer camps. Campers make memories for a lifetime and come back year after year after experiencing attending Pecometh.

From day camps to half and full weeks of overnight camps for Kindergarten through 11<sup>th</sup> grade, there's a program for all interests. Camps offered in 2025 include: Counselor-in-Training, Heart-4-Art, Late Night with Jesus, LEAD, Leaps of Faith, Mini Camp, Music and Drama, On the Water, Presto!, Riverside, Senior High, Splashdown, Summer Respite for Adults with Disabilities, That's Not Camp, Trail Blazers, Friends and Family Camp.

For program descriptions and information about registering for Summer Camp 2025, visit: <https://pecometh.org/summer-programs/>.

**WESLEY UMC PARTIAL or FULL SCHOLARSHIPS** will be given to members of Wesley Church/Sunday School. Take advantage of early registration. Camps fill up quickly.

The DEADLINE FOR REQUESTING FULL OR PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE MAY 15<sup>th</sup>. To receive a scholarship you must call Sally Verma (674-0508) or e-mail Sally at [sjverma@comcast.net](mailto:sjverma@comcast.net) with the child's name and camp date BEFORE MAY 15<sup>th</sup>.

## WESLEY SCHOLARSHIP INSTRUCTIONS

1. Mail your registration form and deposit to Camp Pecometh.
2. When you receive a confirmation of your camp date, please notify Sally Verma. (Even if you do not plan to use the scholarship, please call Sally so we may know all the children who will be attending camp.)
3. Each camper will deduct the amount of the scholarship from the balance due on his or her confirmation card and send that amount to Camp Pecometh on the due date. (Sally will call you after May 15<sup>th</sup> and tell you the amount of the scholarship.)

E-Mail: [campinfo@pecometh.org](mailto:campinfo@pecometh.org) - Fax: 410- 556-6901, Tel: 410-556-6900

Mailing Address: Camp Pecometh, 136 Bookers Wharf Road, Centreville, Md. 216117

Webpage: <http://www.pecometh.org/summer-camp>

# UNITED METHODIST MEN

By: Jim Skeans

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The United Methodist Men are planning their Annual Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, May 3, during Old Dover Days, in Grace Fellowship Hall. Breakfast will be served from 7 am - Noon.

Tickets may be purchased in advance: \$11 in advance, \$12 at the door, children ages 7-12 - \$6, and children 6 and under are free. Tickets available from any UMM member and in the church office.

We would appreciate your help, if you are available to lend a helping hand, on Friday evening, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 5 pm, to set-up, and/or, help on Saturday during the meal, from 7 am - 12 pm. We can use your assistance to make this event a success. Please contact Jim Skeans at (302) 678-0974, if you are able to help.

The chart below was provided to us by Holy Cross Food Pantry. The food we collect goes right to Holy Cross on the first Wednesday of the month. We collected 290 pounds of food in April.

Holy Cross Food Pantry gave out the Easter Dinner turkeys/hams on Tuesday, April 15 and the food Wesley donated on April 2 all went into the Easter boxes.

| FY Total       | Total # of Households | Total # Adults | Total # Children | Unduplicated # Of Households | Unduplicated # Of Adults | Unduplicated # Of Children | Households First visit Since 7/12/24 |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>2024-25</b> |                       |                |                  |                              |                          |                            |                                      |
| July           | 89                    | 189            | 193              | 66                           | 68                       | 121                        | 66                                   |
| August         | 72                    | 162            | 135              | 27                           | 61                       | 53                         | 93                                   |
| September      | 93                    | 204            | 199              | 35                           | 81                       | 75                         | 128                                  |
| October        | 106                   | 249            | 277              | 35                           | 83                       | 38                         | 163                                  |
| November       | 304                   | 721            | 696              | 185                          | 424                      | 432                        | 348                                  |
| December       | 217                   | 561            | 479              | 75                           | 193                      | 175                        | 423                                  |
| January        | 92                    | 200            | 141              | 30                           | 61                       | 28                         | 453                                  |
| February       | 122                   | 290            | 279              | 46                           | 92                       | 103                        | 499                                  |
| March          | 97                    | 203            | 199              | 49                           | 94                       | 124                        | 548                                  |
| April          |                       |                |                  |                              |                          |                            |                                      |
| May            |                       |                |                  |                              |                          |                            |                                      |
| June           |                       |                |                  |                              |                          |                            |                                      |
| <b>TOTALS</b>  | <b>1192</b>           | <b>2779</b>    | <b>2598</b>      | <b>548</b>                   | <b>1157</b>              | <b>1149</b>                | <b>2721</b>                          |

Next time you're headed to the grocery store, bulk up your shopping list with a few of these non-perishable items from [Feeding America's](#) wish list. They are items food pantries—and your neighbors in need—can really put to good use.

Applesauce, Canned Beans, Canned Chicken, Canned Fish (Tuna and Salmon), Canned Meat (SPAM, Ham, Chicken, Roast Beef), Canned Vegetables, Cooking Oils (Olive or Canola), Crackers (all types), Dried Beans, Dried Herbs and Spices, Fruit (canned or dried), Granola, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Meals in a Box, Nuts, Pasta, Peanut Butter and Jelly, Ramen Noodles, Rice, Shelf-stable/Powdered Milk, Soup, Stew, Chili, Whole Grain Cereals.

When purchasing items for a food bank, try to avoid junk food, items with glass, which can be broken in transit, things that need can openers or special equipment (pop-top cans--whether for veggies, meat or fruit-are a plus). Now all that is left to do is shop, donate and feel good knowing you've helped stock a home with nutritious and filling groceries. Many hands... equals great work!

# UNITED WOMEN in FAITH

By: Mary Ann Evans, President

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The United Women in Faith are having a "Bake Sale" in conjunction with the Men's Pancake Breakfast on May 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Grace Fellowship Hall from 8am to noon. We are asking for your support by baking an item for us to sell. We welcome candy, cakes, cookies, cupcakes, brownies, muffins, pies or whatever baked goods you want to make! All items should be brought to the church kitchen before 4pm on Friday 5/2. All proceeds from our event are donated to projects that benefit women, children and youth.

Even though we, as so many organizations now-a-days, continue to have declining membership, we still hold four separate Circle meetings every month, and two Unit meetings a year. All women are invited to attend a Circle meeting - try them all and see which one fits your schedule the best! *Contact the leader or call MA Evans.*



## Barbara Circle

Vicki Stoops - 734-2125  
Shirley Mundorf - 363-0543  
meets 2<sup>nd</sup> **Tuesday** of month  
in church parlor at 3:00 pm

## Mary Martha Circle

Mary Ann Evans - 383-0841  
meets 2<sup>nd</sup> **Thursday** of month  
in church parlor. Gather at 12:30 pm  
Meeting at 1:00 pm

## Sylvia Circle

Helene Zeman - 674-0167  
meets 2<sup>nd</sup> **Saturday** of month  
at the home of Helene at 2:00 pm

If you would like to be an At-Large Member, support us financially and only attend Unit meetings (held twice a year), please contact MA Evans. Our next Unit meeting will be in June.

Mary Ann Evans, President - 302-383-0841

*Thank you again for your support!*



# Search Class

By: Eunice Craig

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It's time to come check out Search Class! What have you been waiting for?! Consider continuing your faith journey with Search Class. All are welcome!

We meet in the parlor between worship services at 8:35 am to 9:25 am. Join us for light refreshments and fellowship. A brief video introduces the topic we are studying followed with discussion time led by a class facilitator. Participant handbooks are available.

Here are the lessons planned for May. We will complete the last two parables in Josh Scott's book, *Parables, Putting Jesus's Stories in their Place*.

On May 18, we will begin a new series *The New Testament You Never Knew*, by N.T. Wright and Michael F. Bird. In August, we will select a new series for the fall.

May 4 "The Wedding Party" from Josh Scott's book, *Parables, Putting Jesus's Stories in Their Place*.

May 11 "The Worker's in the Vineyard" from Josh Scott's book, *Parables, Putting Jesus Stories in their Place*.

May 18 "The Books of the New Testament", from N.T. Wright and Michael F. Bird's book, *The New Testament You Never Knew*.

May 25 "The World Of Jesus and the Apostles" from N.T. Wright and Michael F. Bird's book, *The New Testament You Never Knew*.

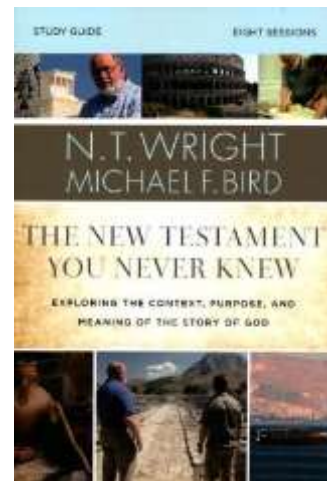
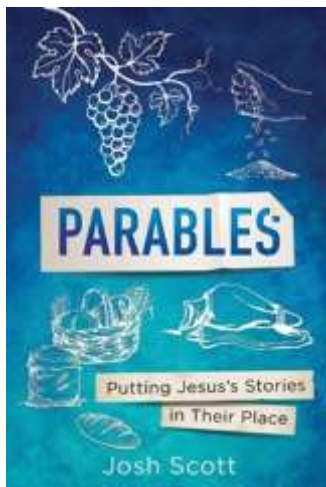
Search Class will meet once a month this summer on the fourth Sunday of the month.

June 22 "The Life and Death of Jesus" from N.T. Wright and Michael F. Bird's book, *The New Testament You Never Knew*.

July 20 In lieu of a class, a summer picnic will be hosted at the home of Barb and Tom Spangler, 173 S. Shore Drive, Dover, from 2-5 pm. Bring a covered dish to share. All are welcome. RSVP to Barb at [estepbarb@aol.com](mailto:estepbarb@aol.com).

August 24 "The Ministry of the Apostle Paul", from N.T. Wright and Michael F. Bird's book, *The New Testament You Never Knew*.

September 7 Fall session begins. A new study series will be selected.



# WESLEY PRESCHOOL AND PLAY CARE

By: Oveta Fullman, Director

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Wesley will be participating in **Dover Days on May 3, 2025!** Come visit us and meet some of our amazing staff and enjoy the community festivities. We hope to see our current families and connect with new ones, too!

The week of **May 5 through 9** is **Staff Appreciation Week**, in which it is a joy and a privilege to honor all of our outstanding Preschool/Play Care staff for the superb job they do in helping our children grow and learn. We are blessed to have such an outstanding staff.

**Wednesday, May 7** is “Pastries for Parents,” to honor our parents.

**Family night** scheduled for **Thursday, May 15, 2025** at 6 pm.

We’re excited to announce that **Chapel Graduation** will take place on **Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 12:30 pm**. Over the next several weeks, students will be practicing during class to prepare for this special event. We look forward to sharing this meaningful moment with our Wesley families! It’s almost time to celebrate a major milestone!

Our **Preschool Graduation** will be held on **Thursday, May 22, 2025 at 6 pm**. We can’t wait to recognize our graduating students for all their hard work and growth this year. Ceremony details will be shared soon — stay tuned!

**Play Care** will be closed **Monday, May 26, 2025** in observance of Memorial Day and will reopen at regular time on **Tuesday, May 27, 2025**.

Our **Summer Session** kicks off on **Monday, June 2, 2025!** We are excited for a season full of learning, laughter, and sunshine.

**Summer Registration has Opened!** If you know any families looking for quality care, please refer them to us. We would love to welcome new friends into our Wesley community!

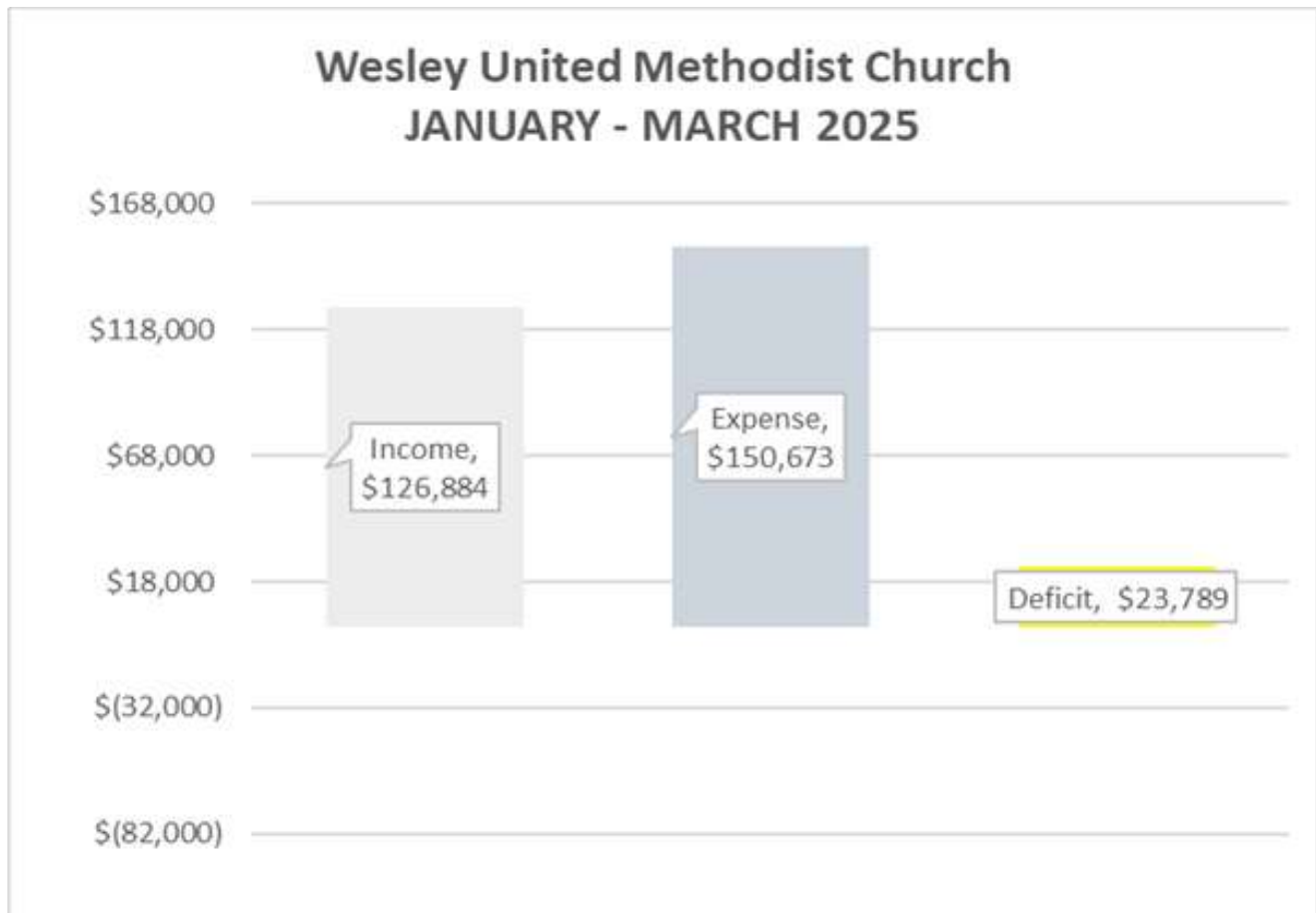
All of us at Wesley Preschool/Play Care wish you and your family a safe, healthy, and happy summer.

## Wesley United Methodist Church General Fund Financial Position from January 1 to March 31, 2025

By: Marian Hudson, Treasurer

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Listed on the chart below, you will see the total Income was \$126,884.00 and our expenses totaled \$150,673.00. This left us on March 31, 2025, with a deficit of \$23,789.00.



Over the years, our church was blessed with various gifts/endowments, entrusted to the watchful eyes of the Board of Trustees, which has continued to grow over the decades.

However, without that funding, we would be unable to take the regular draw that is in the budget. If we have to take a special draw, we risk our future by spending down our capital.

That is why we ask you to pray about how you can support Wesley Church. If you have not filled out a pledge card, it is not too late. You can fill one out online on Realm, or pick up one from the church office.

We support many missions in our community and throughout the world. If you have filled out a pledge card already, we thank you - and if not, we humbly ask for you pray about filling one out today.

# Redner's Receipt Tapes

By: Susan Neidig, Save-A-Tape Coordinator

Wesley participates in the Save-A-Tape program at Redner's and we need your help!

Last month we had 34 Redner's receipts totaling \$711. They had all been cut-off beneath the bar code and cannot be redeemed for the Save-A-Tape offer. We must have the whole register tape and you must have scanned your Redner's Rewards Card. Also, we have had register receipts turned in that were too old to turn in. We can only turn in receipts that are no more than three (3) years old.

Please deposit your whole Redner's receipts in the red collection containers located at the South Entrance Door, on the table outside St. Paul's Chapel and the kitchen window counter outside of Grace Fellowship Hall.

Thanks so much.



You must scan your Rewards Card for the receipt to have the scan bar on it.



Receipts not eligible to be sent the last time due to the whole receipt not being there.

Please Do Not cut the receipt. Thank You!



**Do Not Cut Receipt below the Scan Bar.**

# May – A Focus on Self-Care and Mental Wellness

By: Donna Wilkinson Josefowski, Evangelism

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For the last few years in May, we have focused on mental health as a congregation. This year's focus will be on self-care in regard to mental wellness, including a weekly calendar as a way of **promoting mental health awareness and encouraging regular self-care practices**. It will include daily activities focused on mindfulness, relaxation, exercise, healthy eating, and connecting with others. Resources for accessing professional mental health resources will also be available.

Below is the focus for each week this month. Look for more details in the Bulletin and online on ways to participate:

**Week 1: Mindfulness and Gratitude** (prayer, meditation, gratitude journaling, nature walk)

**Week 2: Physical & Spiritual Well-Being** (Bible study, rest and recharge, volunteer opportunities)

**Week 3: Connection and Support** (small groups, online prayer, check-in with others)

**Week 4: Reflection and Planning** (what worked, goal setting, self-care plan, and more)

Here are some general suggestions for self-care:

- Care for your body
- Move and stretch
- Connect with loved ones (at least 10-15 minutes per day with friends or family)
- Limit your exposure to the news
- Use creative outlets (journaling, writing, crafts, and more)
- Simplify and streamline your tasks

**Looking forward to having a peaceful and joyous month of May!**



| Sun  | Mon   | Tue  | Wed  | Thu  | Fri   | Sat  |
|--|---|--|--|--|---|--|
|  <h1>MAY 2025</h1>   |   |  |  | <b>1</b><br>6 pm SPRC<br>6 pm Evening Prayer   | <b>2</b><br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6:30 pm ACA Mtg.                                 | <b>3</b><br>7 am – Noon Pancake Breakfast<br>11 am - Noon Community Meal   |
| <b>4</b><br>8 am Worship<br>8:35 am Search Class<br>9:30 am Worship<br>9:30 am Sunday School<br>10:30 am Fellowship<br>3 pm Youth Group                                    | <b>5</b><br>1 pm UMW Board Meeting<br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6 pm Pickleball  | <b>6</b><br>7 am Men's Bible Study<br>9:30 am Staff Mtg.<br>6 pm Evening Prayer  | <b>7</b><br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6 pm NA                             | <b>8</b><br>7 am - Moms Demand Action<br>12:30 pm Mary/Martha Circle<br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6 pm Bell Choir<br>7 pm Chancel Choir | <b>9</b><br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6:30 pm ACA Mtg.                                 | <b>10</b><br>12 pm (Noon) Community Meal<br>2 pm Sylvia Circle             |
| <b>11</b><br>8 am Worship<br>8:35 am Search Class<br>9:30 am Worship<br>9:30 am Sunday School<br>10:30 am Fellowship<br>3 pm Youth Group                                   | <b>12</b><br>June Honeycutt Svc.<br>11 am Visitation<br>1 pm Funeral Svc.<br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6 pm Pickleball | <b>13</b><br>7 am Men's Bible Study (Breakfast)<br>11:30 am Women to Women Lunch<br>3 pm Barbara Circle<br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6 pm Missions Mtg. | <b>14</b><br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6 pm NA<br>7 pm Lenten Bible Study | <b>15</b><br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6 pm Bell Choir<br>7 pm Chancel Choir  | <b>16</b><br>6 pm Preschool Family Night<br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6:30 pm ACA Mtg. | <b>17</b><br>12 pm (Noon) Community Meal<br>3 pm Grace Notes Piano Recital |
| <b>18</b><br>8 am Worship<br>8:35 am Search Class<br>9:30 am Worship<br>9:30 am Sunday School<br>10:30 am Fellowship<br>3 pm Youth Group<br>3 pm Grace Notes Piano Recital | <b>19</b><br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6 pm Pickleball   | <b>20</b><br>7 am Men's Bible Study<br>9:30 am Staff Mtg.<br>12:30 pm Preschool Chapel Graduation<br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6:30 pm Trustees         | <b>21</b><br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6 pm NA                            | <b>22</b><br>6 pm Preschool Graduation<br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6 pm Bell Choir<br>7 pm Chancel Choir                               | <b>23</b><br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6:30 pm ACA Mtg.                                | <b>24</b><br>12 pm (Noon) Community Meal                                   |
| <b>25</b><br>8 am Worship<br>8:35 am Search Class<br>9:30 am Worship<br>9:30 am Sunday School<br>10:30 am Fellowship   | <b>26</b><br><b>Church Office &amp; Play Care Closed</b><br>5 pm Pickleball   | <b>27</b><br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>7 pm Church Council Meeting  | <b>28</b><br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6 pm NA                            | <b>29</b><br>6 pm Evening Prayer   | <b>30</b><br>6 pm Evening Prayer<br>6:30 pm ACA Mtg.                                | <b>31</b><br>12 pm (Noon) Community Meal                                   |



|                     |    |                      |    |                   |    |
|---------------------|----|----------------------|----|-------------------|----|
| Margaret Prouse     | 1  | Janet Hart           | 13 | William Holden    | 23 |
| Jim Skeans          | 1  | Thomas Weeks, Jr.    | 13 | Donna Himelberger | 24 |
| Amanda Wilgus       | 1  | Paula Everett-Leslie | 14 | Jeff Lord         | 24 |
| Jim Ferguson, Jr.   | 3  | Elizabeth Morris     | 14 | MaryAnn Dashiell  | 25 |
| Elizabeth Horsey    | 5  | Logan Yenchik        | 15 | Spencer Young     | 25 |
| Tobi Hope-O'Brien   | 6  | Robert Reed          | 16 | William Zeman     | 25 |
| Cathy Fuller        | 7  | Donna Josefowski     | 17 | James Devine      | 27 |
| Carol Gambone       | 9  | Beckett Devita       | 18 | Joe Young         | 27 |
| Jamie Yoder         | 9  | Kathy Lawson         | 18 | Kathy Kowalick    | 29 |
| Zachary Huffman     | 10 | Miles Howard         | 19 | Cara Zeman        | 29 |
| Wayne Kulhanek, Sr. | 10 | Mel Warren, Jr.      | 19 | Nicky Satterfield | 30 |
| Edward Alexander    | 11 | Fred Dismore         | 20 | Elsie Carr        | 31 |
| Ralph Deats         | 12 | Gracia Malone        | 21 | Russell Harrison  | 31 |
| Sharon Reed         | 12 | Pat Tietbohl         | 21 |                   |    |
| Patrick Devine      | 13 | Denise Devine        | 23 |                   |    |



|                              |      |
|------------------------------|------|
| Kyle & Crystal Brooks        | 5/04 |
| Robert & Barbara Reed        | 5/12 |
| James & Pat Skeans           | 5/12 |
| Ed & Iva Hazlett             | 5/13 |
| Rob & Sally Iracane          | 5/21 |
| Steve & Elena Mason          | 5/23 |
| Aron & Constance Beninghove  | 5/27 |
| Alan & Nancy Stokes          | 5/28 |
| Jon & Louise Andrews         | 5/29 |
| Nicholas & Allison Bumgarner | 5/29 |

# Family Life Update

By: Michele Dryda, Family Life Committee Member

On April 19, 2025, the Family Life Committee hosted the Annual Easter Egg Hunt with over 50 children and 50 adults participating. The Easter bunny made his appearance and posed for photos to be taken.

Joe Young and the youth hid the 1000 Easter Egg in the grass surrounding Biggs Museum and the State House as families gathered in Grace Fellowship Hall. Mardi greeted everyone and offered a prayer before guiding the anxious children and adults to the location.

After the children found the 1000 Easter eggs and had an opportunity to have their picture taken with the Easter Bunny, the crowd headed back to Grace Fellowship Hall for cupcakes, cookies, beverage and an animated children's movie *The Easter Story*.



Family with youngest participant



Johnson Family

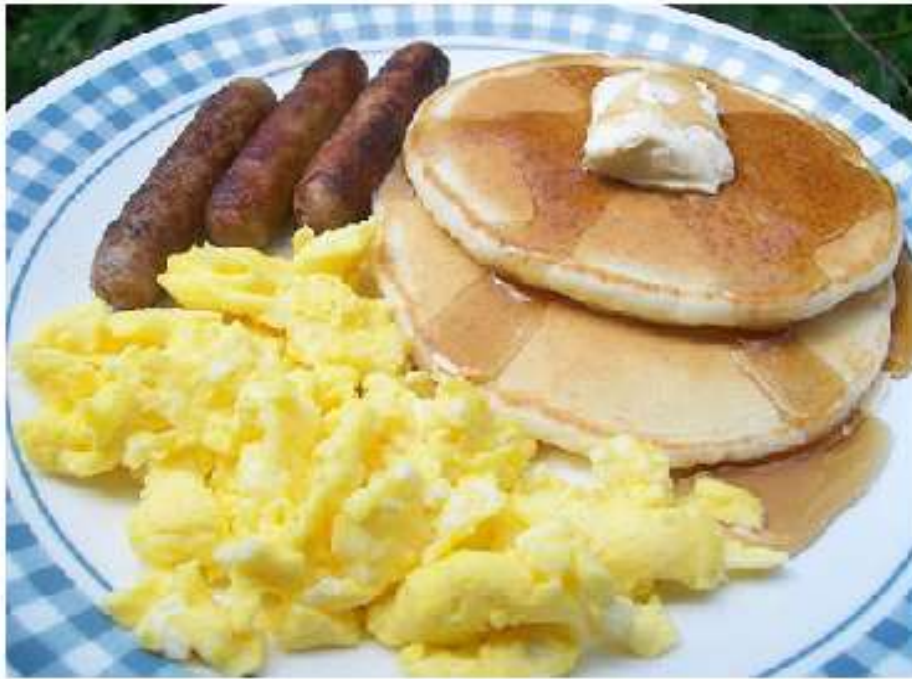


Gathering Eggs



Watching Movie

**PICKLEBALL:** Pickleball is still going strong with a fluctuating number of people coming every week. Join us on Monday evenings in Grace Fellowship Hall from 6-8 pm for fun, exercise, fellowship and playing Co-ed Pickleball. All ages, and all skill levels are invited. Beginners are more than welcome. If you do not want to play, just come out and root on your favorite players. With scheduling conflicts, graduations and vacations on the horizon, we will still meet through the summer. See you on Monday Evenings!



**United Methodist Men's Annual Pancake Breakfast**

**Wesley United Methodist Church**

**Grace Fellowship Hall**

**Saturday, May 3, 2025**

**7:00 am - 12:00 Noon**

**All You Can Eat!**

**Adults**

**Children**

\$11.00 in advance    7-12 yrs. old \$6.00

\$12.00 at the door    6 yrs. & under Free

**Proceeds Benefit Missions to help people in need**

**United Women in Faith** will have a Bake Sale  
in conjunction with the breakfast.