



The Wesley Crier

A PUBLICATION OF WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.WESLEYUMC-DOVER.COM

☎302-678-9626 ☎302-678-9627

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Clouds, Wind, Fire & Mystery

All three of the special Sundays; Ascension, Pentecost, and Trinity Sunday fall in the month of May this year. The date of each of these celebrations is calculated counting forward from the date of Easter. All together, they wrap up the Easter season before we move into “ordinary time”. (More about that in June!)

First, we remember the Jesus' Ascension. After the resurrection, and some time spent with the disciples, the gospel of Luke records that Jesus was “taken up into heaven”. Mark tells us also that he then “sat down at the place of honor at God’s right hand”. In Christ then, who is for all time wholly human and wholly divine, we are heart-to-heart with God. We are redeemed; our relationship is restored.

Pentecost is about wind and fire, announcing the presence of the Holy Spirit. The wind roars, but it does not destroy. The fire illuminates, but it does not burn. In this world we can't control wind and fire. We can't touch them, though we use them as we can to cook and to travel. The Spirit also always remains beyond our grasp, quite literally, and completely free. At Pentecost we see that the Spirit is for us, and brings gifts and direction, but will not destroy us.

Trinity reminds us that as much as we know about and have experienced the divine presence in history and in our own lives, there are and will always be mysteries that we simply cannot fully comprehend. Every illustration falls short, because there is nothing else that is like God, there is no other God.

All of these celebrations, layered together through these three Sundays outline the core of our faith. Christ redeems us, the Spirit accompanies us, and God loves us.

Pastor Christine



Director of Nurture & Visitation Corner

By: Darlene Wade

All Children are invited to attend the next children's message on Sunday, May 17th at 9:30 am service. Please spread the word to your friends, family, and neighbors that Wesley will have a children message every 3rd Sunday of the month at the 9:30 am service. Wesley church would love for God's word to spread to as many you people as possible! For more information contact Darlene Wade at darlene@wesleyumc-dover.com.

A promotional flyer for a birthday celebration. On the left is a large pink cupcake with white frosting, colorful sprinkles, and a lit sparkler. The background is a light blue gradient with a starburst effect. Text on the right provides details for the event.

**JOIN US FOR
WORSHIP & TO
CELEBRATE OUR
90 & OVER
BIRTHDAYS**

Sunday, May 17, 2026
9:30 am (worship)
10:30 am (celebration)

Wesley United Methodist Church
209 S. State Street
Dover, Delaware 19901

RSVP to Darlene @ 302-678-9626
darlene@wesleyumc-dover.com

The Wesley Branches has planned the 90 and over Birthday Celebration which will be held on May 17th. Your help is needed to make this celebration a success! Please contact Darlene Wade at darlene@wesleyumc-dover.com if you are interested in helping.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Mission Update

By: Carol Gambone, Co-Chair



THANK YOU!

We would like to thank all who participated in our Mama Tola fundraiser. Together, Wesley raised \$1,347.00 that will go toward all the efforts for the Mama Tola School in the Congo. Susie Keefer, who recently spoke at Wesley about her mission trips and personal impact made by the Mama Tola School, is also so pleased with our fundraising! Thank you all again and look for Susie to come back to Wesley to present very soon!

Volunteers needed:

We would love to have you serve our second Saturday community meal here at Wesley! Come join a team of volunteers who prepare and serve 60-80 folks a hot meal on the second Saturday of each month. The meal is served from 12-1 and clean-up is completed around 1:30. Contact Carol Gambone at psu_turtle@hormail.com to join our volunteer list.

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.

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.

2026 Summer Hymn Sing

By: Michele Dryda, Administrative Assistant



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 7th, 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, depending on the length of the hymn.

Please answer the questions so we can learn more about you.

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



The Prelude...Time to Worship

By: Sherry Roscoe, Director of Music



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 Special Music

By: Sherry Roscoe, Director of Music

We are quickly approaching the end of the season for all Wesley UMC choirs. During the summer months, we have several volunteers who provide musical selections in the place of these groups. These sign-ups will be taking place soon.

If you are musical and would like to offer some type of selection during these months, please feel free to contact me so we can discuss this. There are many vocal and instrumental possibilities! Maybe you can't commit to a choir full time during the year but would like to participate in the Music Ministry here at Wesley in this way! Please let me know! I'd love to speak with you.

Sherry Roscoe
Music Director
theroscoe5@yahoo.com

Pecometh Summer Camp 2026

By: Michele Dryda, Administrative Assistant



Pecometh Summer Camp begins on June 21, 2026. 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 11th grade, there's a program for all interests. Camps offered in 2026 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 2026, 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 15th. To receive a scholarship, you must call Sally Verma (674-0508) or e-mail Sally at sjverma@comcast.net with the child's name and camp date BEFORE MAY 15th.

WESLEY SCHOLARSHIP INSTRUCTIONS

1. Mail your registration form and deposit to Camp Pecometh.
2. When you receive 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 15th and tell you the amount of the scholarship.)

E-Mail: 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

The United Methodist Men are planning their Annual Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, May 2, during Old Dover Days, in Grace Fellowship Hall. Breakfast served from 7 am - Noon.

Ticket pricing \$11 in advance, \$12 at the door, children 7-12 yrs old - \$6, and children 6 and under are free. Tickets are available from any UMM member and Darlene Wade, Director of Nurture & Visitation.

Your support would be greatly appreciated if you are available to lend a helping hand on Friday, May 1st: Starting at 5:45 pm and Saturday, May 2nd: From 5:00 am - 1:00 pm (covering setup, cooking, serving, and cleanup). For anyone interested in helping with set-up, cooking, serving, or KP duties, please contact Jim Skeans directly at (302) 678-0974.

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 buying 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 splendid work!





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.

UNITED WOMEN in FAITH

By: Mary Ann Evans, President

It is a busy spring for UWIF.... It is spring, isn't it??? (Not sure, the weather knows what season it is.....) BUT no matter the weather, we continue to work on raising money for women, children & youth...

Last month when I wrote that first paragraph, it was too cold for spring...now its May... and it's too hot for spring!! Are we ever happy?

We are thrilled to share that our "Souper" Sunday sale on March 22 was a great success. We sincerely appreciate all the volunteers and supporters who helped by preparing, packaging, and buying soup. We are happy to announce that this year's sales totaled \$623.00. Thank you for your continued support!

Our soup sale helped us to pay for the Bibles for Wesley Preschool Chapel attendees again this year. Thank you to Mary Ann Dashiell, Louise Andrews and Patty Field who helped present the Bibles and got to see the smiles on the kids' faces as they received their new Bible!!

UWIF purchased and served the small breakfast on Sunday morning after the Sun Rise Service. Thank you to those who stopped by for a cup of coffee and a donut.

Following our tradition of celebrating Old Dover Days, we will hold a bake sale during the Pancake breakfast on Saturday, May 2.

Mark your calendars for our Spring Unit Meeting on Thursday, June 4 at Silver Lake Park. All women are invited to attend. Details to follow next month.

*Join us at any time for a monthly circle meeting.
Call Mary Ann Evans for details!!*



Barbara Circle

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

Mary Martha Circle

Mary Ann Evans - 383-0841
meets on the 2nd **Thursday** of month
in church parlor at 12:30 pm in church.



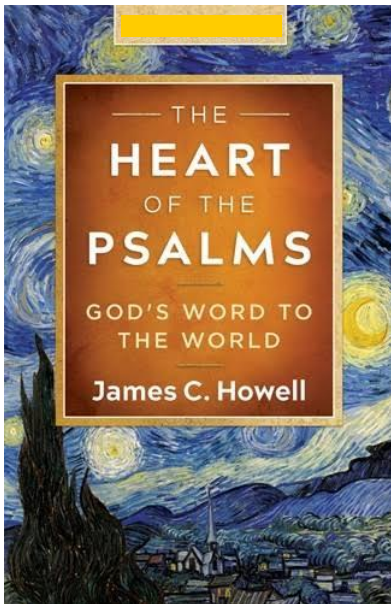
Search Class

By: Eunice Craig

O Lord, our sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! Psalm 8

Search Class Schedule for May and the Summer of 2026

All are welcome to join our Christian fellowship on Sunday mornings at 8:35 am in the Church parlor. We will continue with our study of *The Heart of the Psalms*, by the Rev James C. Howell. Psalms are the Word of God to give us a way to pray. Join us!



Schedule for May

May 3	Psalm 51 (Mercy)
May 10	Psalm 73 (Mercy)
May 17	Psalm 90 (Time)
May 24	Psalm 116 (Love)

Schedule for Summer

Search Class will meet on the last Sunday each month during the summer. Study materials to be selected. Suggestions are welcomed!

June 28

July 26

August 30

Joyfully serving,
Eunice and Gigi

WESLEY PRESCHOOL AND PLAY CARE

By: Oveta Fullman, Director



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!

Kindergarten Registration has opening in the fall of 2026! Help us share this wonderful news with your friends and family so that more children can experience our fantastic early education program. Wesley will be taking part in *Dover Days* on **May 2, 2026!** 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 4 through 8** 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 6 is “Pastries for Parents,” to honor our parents.

Family night scheduled for **Friday, May 15, 2026**, at 6 pm.

Our **Preschool Graduation** will be held on **Thursday, May 28, 2026, 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!

Preschool and Play Care will be closed **Monday, May 25, 2026** in observance of Memorial Day and will reopen at regular time on **Tuesday, May 26, 2026.**

Last Day of Preschool will be **Friday, June 5, 2026.**

Our **Play Care Summer Session** kicks off on **Monday, June 1, 2026!** We are excited for a season full of learning, laughter, and sunshine.

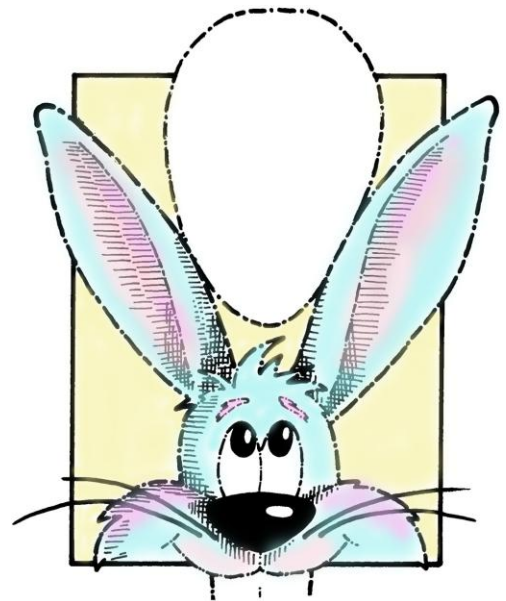
All of us at Wesley Preschool/Play Care wish you and your family a safe, healthy, and happy summer.

Family Life Update

By: Mardi Spangler, Co-Chair Family Life Committee

Our committee loves to share pictures, and we wanted to recap our Easter Egg Hunt. The Easter Bunny made his appearance and even posed with our leaders.

After finding 500 easter eggs, the crowd headed to Fellowship Hall for cookies and an Easter story book reading with Associate Pastor Darlene.





Please save the date for **Faith and Family Night** at the Blue Rocks Game on June 26, 2026. We will watch the Blue Rocks Baseball game and enjoy the fireworks afterwards. Please contact the Church Office to let them know you are interested. More information will come out next month.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 5:45 pm Pancake Breakfast Set-up 6 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 pm ACA Mtg.	2 7 am – Noon Pancake Breakfast 11 am - Noon Community Meal
3 8 am Worship 8:35 am Search Class 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship	4 1 pm UMW Board Meeting 5 pm Bible Study 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Pickleball	5 7 am Men's Bible Study 10 am Staff Mtg. 6 pm Evening Prayer	6 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm NA	7 6 pm SPRC 12:30 pm Mary/Martha Circle 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Chancel Choir	8 6 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 pm ACA Mtg.	9 12 pm (Noon) Community Meal
10 8 am Worship 8:35 am Search Class 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship	11 5 pm Bible Study 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Pickleball	12 7 am Men's Bible Study 10 am Staff Mtg. 3 pm Barbara Circle 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Missions Mtg.	13 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm NA	14 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Chancel Choir	15 6 pm Preschool Family Night 6 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 pm ACA Mtg.	16 12 pm (Noon) Community Meal
17 8 am Worship 8:35 am Search Class 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship 90+Celebration 3 pm Grace Notes Piano Recital	18 5 pm Bible Study 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Pickleball	19 7 am Men's Bible Study Breakfast 10 am Staff Mtg. 12:30 pm Preschool Chapel Graduation 6 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 pm Trustees	20 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm NA	21 11:30 am Women to Women Lunch 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Chancel Choir	22 6 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 pm ACA Mtg.	23 12 pm (Noon) Community Meal
24 8 am Worship 8:35 am Search Class 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship	25 Church Office & Play Care Closed 5 pm Pickleball	26 6 pm Evening Prayer 7 pm Church Council Meeting	27 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm NA	28 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Preschool Graduation	29 6 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 pm ACA Mtg.	30 12 pm (Noon) Community Meal
31 8 am Worship 8:35 am Search Class 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship	 					