



# The Wesley Crier

A PUBLICATION OF WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
VISIT US ONLINE AT [WWW.WESLEYUMC-DOVER.COM](http://WWW.WESLEYUMC-DOVER.COM)  
☎302-678-9626 ☎302-678-9627

VOLUME 8 NUMBER 5

JULY 2026

Published June 24, 2026

| INSIDE THIS ISSUE:                                  |    |
|---|----|
| IN OBESERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY                  | 1  |
| Finding Our Way                                     | 2  |
| Search Class  | 3  |
| Coming Soon   | 4  |
| Finance Committee Update                            | 5  |
| Wesley UMC Meal Train                               | 6  |
| Food Handlers Course                                | 7  |
| Safe Gathers Course                                 | 7  |
| Congratulations 2026 Graduates/Scholarship Awardees | 8  |
| Nurture & Visitation                                | 9  |
| United Women in Faith                               | 10 |
| Wesley Preschool/PlayCare                           | 11 |
| Usher Ministry                                      | 12 |
| Clothing Closet                                     | 13 |
| July Calendar                                       | 14 |

## IN OBESERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

CLOSED FRIDAY, JULY 3<sup>RD</sup>  
CHURCH OFFICE, PLAYCARE & SUMMER CAMP

SATURDAY, JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>  
CLOTHING CLOSET CLOSED  
NO COMMUNITY MEAL SERVED

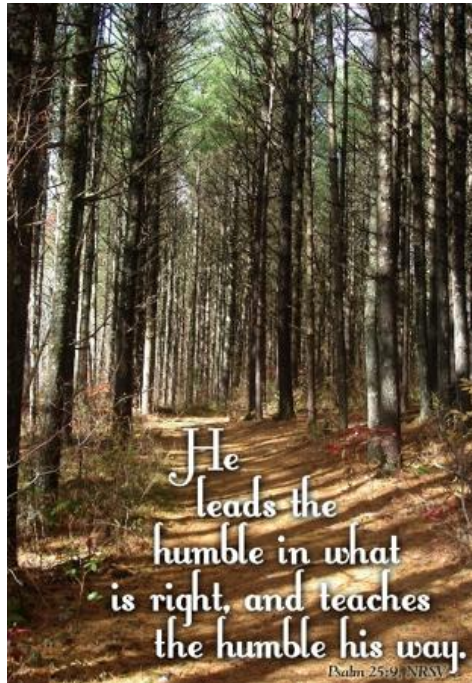


---

## Finding Our Way

By: Rev. Christine Bowden

---



Jesus refers to himself differently in different places in the gospels. At one point, John 14:6 records him saying, “Jesus told him, (Thomas) “I am the way, the truth, and the life”. There are at least three different sermons or articles contained in that one passage! For now, I’d like to focus on the first, “I am the Way”. The disciples were a bit confused; how can a person be a pathway? That confusion is easily resolved when we realize it simply means we must follow him. Jesus creates the path, or the way, as he leads us. He knows exactly where he is going, and how to get there. He is our way; to God, to the Kingdom, to freedom, to truth, to life, and on and on.

Church Council has set aside Wednesday evenings for Bible study and discipleship training of all kinds, so we can follow the way together as a congregation. There won’t be any meetings or other activities that night, everyone will have the opportunity to come together, to learn, and to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. A small group is working out the details and logistics. Our preliminary thought is to offer at least two different adult studies each week; one that will fill in background for people who want more information about the Bible, or the United Methodist Church, or Wesley UMC, to lay the foundation for deeper study and practice. The other class will offer just that, a deeper dive into scripture or spiritual

---

## Search Class

By: Eunice Craig & Gigi Windley

---

*...accept my words and treasure up my commandments within you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding...Proverbs 2, v 1-2*

All are welcome to join our Christian fellowship on Sunday mornings at 8:35 am in the Church parlor. During the summer, we're meeting monthly on the following dates:

Sunday, June 28 Psalm 116 Love, facilitated by GiGi

Sunday, July 26 To be determined

Sunday, August 30 Ten Commandments vs Jesus' Great Commandment, facilitated by Darlene

The weekly fall sessions resume Sunday September 13, 2026. Suggestions for study materials are welcomed!!

Joyfully serving,  
Eunice and Gigi



# Coming Soon

## Wednesday Night **BIBLE STUDY**

Stay Tuned for  
more details



---

# Finance Committee Update

By: Donna Wilkinson Josefowski, Finance Co-Chair

---

Your Finance Committee has been working hard behind the scenes. We have a core team consisting of myself, Cindy Thurman, Jeff Evans, Iva Hazlett, Janice Roscoe Jordan, Richard Satter, & Tom Clow, as well as Fred Dismore (Church Council Chair), Eunice Craig & Gigi Windley (co Lay Leaders), and Pastor Christine. Our 2026 goals include:



- Complete Budget by year end – Committees should expect to receive their initial email in August.
- Clarify Reporting and Simplify Reporting
- Optimize Payment Options – we are looking at adding Google and Apple Pay through Realm as an additional option in the future while keeping other methods of payments
- Consolidate and Clarify Financial Policies
- Clarify Money Counter Duties. These duties are organized by Iva Hazlett

## OTHER PROJECTS & UPDATES

### Annual Compilation by CPA

With transition of our treasurers, there was a bit of a delay in the annual compilation (review) of Wesley's records by our CPA. However, this information has now been submitted and we are underway! This review is something we do each year to ensure everything is in good shape. We also have someone review credit cards and other receipts as an additional way to confirm.

### Finance Committee Guidelines

The Finance Committee is in the process of reviewing the UMC's guidelines and duties to make sure we are doing everything we need to do for a smooth-running organization and to make improvements.

### Online-Electronic Bookkeeping

The church has recently switched to QuickBooks Online instead of our previous desktop version which is being phased out. This will help us eventually synchronize transactions and track our funds in real-time. We are looking at electronic funds transfer between our accounts and online bill payment to save on time and money.

### Investment Change

For many years, our investments have been handled by Peni Warren and her team through Merrill Lynch. Trustees (along with Finance) recently met and made a change. While our investments are still managed by the same team members, they are now under the firm - Janney Montgomery Scott, a very reputable organization, in existence since 1832. Be assured, our finances are handled by the same team members and are invested in exactly same way. We are excited about this change!

Any questions, please contact Donna Josefowski at [djosefowski@gmail.com](mailto:djosefowski@gmail.com) or (302) 222-0694.

---

## The Wesley Church Meal Train Is Back!

By: Donna W. Josefowski, Evangelism

---

Did you know that Wesley Church has a Meal Train? What is a Meal Train? It is a way to provide meals to those connected to our church when:

- recovering from an illness
- after the death of a family member
- healing after surgery
- or after the birth of a child



Our church family always does a great job when it comes to providing food and this is no different. Although our Meal Train has been quiet the last year or so, we are back and want to help! We have already had a few Meal Trains in the past few months.

The purpose of the Meal Train is to organize up to one meal a day for a limited period of time to someone who may need a little help. It is an online meal calendar tool that makes planning meals among volunteers easy. Using Meal Train will allow volunteers to choose a specific date and to list the meal that they will be bringing. Your Meal Train information is NOT public and only those who have this unique address are able to participate.

For the Recipient:

Someone normally provides the name of someone in need of the Meal Train. If they are interested, we will need their name, address where the meals are to be dropped off, best time to drop off, dates needed, recipient's email address (so they can get notified what food is coming and when), phone number (in case they need to be contacted when dropping off), and any food allergies, likes, or dislikes.

For the Volunteer:

Friends, family and congregation members will be invited to help via an announcement and/or an email sent to our Meal Train address book. This will include a link to the specific Meal Train site. You then look and see what dates are needed. If you sign up to take a meal, you are sent a reminder both one week and also one day prior to the date you chose. If you do not have access to a computer, no worries! I can input the information for you. You can also send a meal through Door Dash to the recipient through Meal Train.

Signing Up:

We have received such positive feedback from the Meal Train recipients, and we appreciate all of your help. Feel free to volunteer to make a meal only when you are able. There is no need to provide a meal for each Meal Train if you are unable. Contact Donna Josefowski at [djosefowski@gmail.com](mailto:djosefowski@gmail.com) or (302) 222-0694 if you would like to be added to our Meal Train list as a volunteer. We appreciate your help!

---

## 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 Course

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. 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.

---

## Congratulations 2026 Graduates and Scholarship Awardees

---



**Gabrielle Davis** – Gabrielle “Elle” Davis, daughter of Jeff and Linda Davis graduated Magna Cum Laude from Thomas Jefferson University on May 12, 2026. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise Science.




**Emma Higgins** – Emma Higgins, daughter of Matthew and Sandhya Higgins and granddaughter of Sally Verma graduated summa cum laude from The Ohio State University on May 10, 2026. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Communications with minors in Agribusiness and Applied Economics & Media Production and Analysis.



**Scholarship Awards were awarded to the following on June 7, 2026**

|               |                              |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| <b>\$1000</b> | <b>Beckett Divita</b>        |
| <b>\$500</b>  | <b>Alexander “AJ” Senato</b> |
| <b>\$500</b>  | <b>Angelica Malone</b>       |
| <b>\$500</b>  | <b>Kylie Ressler</b>         |
| <b>\$500</b>  | <b>Zachary Williamson</b>    |



*'But I will restore  
you to health and*

*heal*

*your wounds,'  
declares the Lord...*

*Jeremiah 30:17*

*garmentsofsplendor.com*

---

# UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

By: Mary Ann Evans, President

---

We held our “end of season” Unit meeting on Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at Silver Lake Park. 16 women attended plus our speaker from New Day Pregnancy Center. It was a baby shower theme, and everyone participated in baby shower games with lots of laughs since we were all well past the baby baring stage!! Lunch was served and we held our business meeting. We also collected much needed baby items to donate to New Day.

Our sympathy to our secretary, Louise Andrews, and her family for the loss of her husband, Jon. Before Jon’s illness he was always on hand to offer a helping hand to our women’s group.

In August we will once again sell Boscov’s Friends helping Friends shopping passes!! \$5.00 for a shopping pass! We keep \$5.00 and you shop on Wednesday, October 21, 2026, 8:00 am to 11:00 pm and receive 25% off your purchases. (Shop in person or online)

We do not meet during the summer months but please join us in September.

- Barbara Circle meets the Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 in the parlor.
- Mary Martha Circle meets the 2nd Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 in the parlor.



---

# WESLEY PRESCHOOL AND PLAY CARE

By: Oveta Fullman, Preschool Director

---



We hope that everyone has been enjoying their summer and staying cool.

Please remember we are closed on Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> in observance of Independence Day.

Enjoy the celebrations and stay safe while watching the fireworks!

Get ready for an exciting July in our summer camps, where each week brings a new adventure. Our children in the summer camps will be enjoying July with the following themes:



## **July 6 – July 10 Ahoy Matey!**

Sail the seven seas with the Wesley Preschool staff.

Join the pirate crew as we look for buried treasures and make treasure maps.



## **July 13 – July 17 Bugs Life!**

Exploring nature and its crawling creatures through the exploration of the world around us.



## **July 20 – July 24 Under Sea Adventures!**

The mystical ocean awaits. Discover the world in the deep blue.

Encounter adventures through language, arts, music, and more.



## **July 27 – July 31 Summer STEM!**

We are on a mission! We will learn and engage in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics using our everyday objects.

Looking ahead to Fall, we still have openings in our 2026-2027 Preschool and Play Care classes for the coming school year.

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

---

## Calling All Friendly Faces!

By: Michele Dryda, Administrative Assistant

---



### Join the Usher Ministry

Our Usher Ministry take pride in being the first smiling faces you see when you enter Wesley church each Sunday. We are seeking a few new folks to fill out our weekly welcome team. This ministry only asks for one Sunday a month from our volunteers, and it is one of the most rewarding ministries to be a part of.

Ushering is a great volunteer opportunity for those new to the church or anyone who wants to make a few new friends here at Wesley UMC.

Feel free to sign up as a family, or with a friend!

Interested?

Contact Debbie Devine at [ddevine@hotmail.com](mailto:ddevine@hotmail.com) or call the church office (302)678.9626.

---

## Wesley Clothing Closet

By: MaryAnn Dashiell

---



We thank every one of you for your generous donations throughout the year.

Our “clothing closet” should probably now be called the Dover community thrift shop, because we not only carry men's, women's, children's, and infant's clothing and shoes, but we have linens, books, toys, dishes, glassware, pots, pans, small appliances, framed pictures, clocks, lamps, home decorative and seasonal items. We do NOT receive donation of the following items: TV's, Computers, Baby Cribs, Car Seats, Strollers, Highchairs, Baby Furniture, Furniture, Open toiletry products.

A huge Thank You to our volunteers who support the ministry by VOLUNTEERING.

To support the ministry by VOLUNTEERING, even an hour or two of your time would be much appreciated. Volunteers perform essential functions like sorting/organizing clothes and working the front counter.

If you would like to serve on Mondays and/or Fridays from 9 am to 11 am, please contact Fred Ragains at [302-399-9119](tel:302-399-9119) or [fragains@gmail.com](mailto:fragains@gmail.com).

If you would like to serve on Saturday mornings from 9 am to 12 noon please contact Mary Ann Dashiell [302-698-2166](tel:302-698-2166) or [dashiem@comcast.net](mailto:dashiem@comcast.net)

Thank You!

# JULY 2026

| Sun  | Mon  | Tue  | Wed  | Thu   | Fri  | Sat  |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|
|  |  |  | <b>1</b><br>10 – 11 am<br>Food Pantry<br>Collection<br><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>6 pm NA | <b>2</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer  | <b>3</b><br><b>Church Office<br/>           Play Care &amp;<br/>           Summer Camp<br/>           Closed</b> | <b>4</b><br><b>Clothing Closet<br/>           Closed</b><br><br><b>No<br/>           Community<br/>           Meal</b> |
| <b>5</b><br>8 am Worship<br>9:30 am Worship<br>10:30 am<br>Fellowship Time                     | <b>6</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>6 pm Pickleball  | <b>7</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer   | <b>8</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>6 pm NA  | <b>9</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer  | <b>10</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>6:30 pm ACA Mtg.  | <b>11</b><br>12 pm (Noon)<br>Community Meal  |
| <b>12</b><br>8 am Worship<br>9:30 am Worship<br>10:30 am<br>Fellowship Time                    | <b>13</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>6 pm Pickleball | <b>14</b><br>10 am Staff Meeting<br><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>6 pm Nominations   | <b>15</b><br>5:30 pm Finance<br><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>6 pm NA                        | <b>16</b><br>11:30 am Women<br>to Women Lunch<br><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer | <b>17</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>6:30 pm ACA Mtg.  | <b>18</b><br>12 pm (Noon)<br>Community Meal  |
| <b>19</b><br>8 am Worship<br>9:30 am Worship<br>10:30 am<br>Fellowship Time                    | <b>20</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>6 pm Pickleball | <b>21</b><br>7 am Men's Bible<br>Study (Breakfast)<br>10 am Staff Meeting<br><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>5:30 pm DSC- CR<br>6:30 pm Trustees | <b>22</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>6 pm NA   | <b>23</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer   | <b>24</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>6:30 pm ACA Mtg.  | <b>25</b><br>12 pm (Noon)<br>Community Meal  |
| <b>26</b><br>8 am Worship<br>9:30 am Worship<br>9:30 am Nursery<br>10:30 am<br>Fellowship Time | <b>27</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>6 pm Pickleball | <b>28</b><br>10 am Staff Meeting<br><br>5:30 pm DSC- CR<br><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer  | <b>29</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>6 pm NA   | <b>30</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer   | <b>31</b><br>6 pm Evening<br>Prayer<br><br>6:30 pm ACA Mtg.  |  |