The Wesley Crier

A PUBLICATION OF WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

SPRC Announcement	1/2
Lay Leader Update	2
Missions Committee Update	3
Moving On	4
Women to Women Luncheon	5
Search Class	5
Men's Bible Study	6
United Women in Faith	6
Dates to Remember	7
Family Life Update	8/9
Directory Update	9
Stewardship	10/11
An Encore Preaching Event	12
Church Calendar	13
UWIF World Thank Offering Calendar	13

SPRC Announcement

The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) of Wesley Church would like to inform the congregation of changes in the church staff. First, Darlene Wade, our director of visitation, has resigned effective September 8, 2026. We appreciate her time with us and the connections she made with the congregation.

In the interim, the committee worked on looking for a replacement. The position has been renamed as Pastor of Congregational Connection with some tweaks to the job description. We have found a replacement. The replacement is Reverend Karin Tunnéll who will start with Wesley on September 21, 2026. Reverend Karin is recently retired. She last served at Roby and Little Creek United Methodist churches. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge and a calling to work with congregants, especially those that cannot attend worship. Because of prior commitments, she may not be in church every Sunday but take the time to greet her when she is in attendance.

Welcome Pastor Karin!

Continued on pg. 2

SPRC Announcement

continued from pg. 1

Rev. Karin Tunnéll is delighted to join the staff of Wesley United Methodist Church as Pastor of Congregational Connection. In this part-time role, she will focus on visitation, pastoral care, and helping strengthen connections within the Wesley community. An ordained Elder in the UMC, Karin brings more than 30 years of pastoral ministry experience and looks forward to walking alongside the people of Wesley in the everyday moments—and the significant ones—that weave us together as a community of faith. Her email is PCC@wesleyumc-dover.com

Lay Leader Update

By: Gigi Windley, Lay Leader

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."
— 1 Corinthians 12:27

Dear Church Family,

As followers of Christ, we are all called to share in God's grace, love, and mission. On **Sunday, October 18, 2026**, our church will join United Methodist congregations worldwide in celebrating **Laity Sunday**. This special morning is a joyful reminder that the work of the Church does not belong solely to our pastors or ordained clergy—it belongs to all of us. Every member of our congregation carries gifts, passions, and a unique voice given by God to build up the Body of Christ and serve our community.

Laity Sunday offers a powerful opportunity to witness how God moves through the everyday moments of our lives. During this service, members of our lay community will lead us in worship, share personal testimonies, and reflect on how God's love transforms our workplaces, homes, and neighborhoods. It is a time to honor the quiet faithfulness of those who teach Sunday school, offer a warm welcome at the doors, organize mission projects, and pray for one another throughout the week.

We warmly invite you, your family, and your neighbors to gather with us for this inspiring worship service on **October 18**. Whether you have been part of our congregation for decades or are stepping through our doors for the very first time, your presence completes our church family. Come as you are, be encouraged by the stories of God at work among us and discover how your own God-given gifts can light up the world around you. We cannot wait to worship alongside you!

Missions Committee Update

By: Mike Petit de Mange & Carol Gambone, Co-Chairs

Missions is preparing to enter their busy season! Fall and winter are full of opportunities to volunteer and assist at Wesley. We would love to welcome new face to our Missions committee, who meets every other month from 6:30-7:30 PM in person and on zoom.

Big projects we are working on:

Long Underwear Drive: October 4-11

Look for the snowman cut out with the tags showing sizes of long underwear Wesley will donate in December at a community meal as a Christmas gift to all who attend the meal. This is a partnership with Wyoming Methodist, Calvary, and Crossroads who all collect an item to put together a gift bag for all guests. Keep your eyes peeled for our snowman, which will have tags for you to take and purchase what is listed. For example: If the tag says, "Women's large top ", you will purchase a size large of women's long underwear style shirt."

Redner's Food Drive: Friday, November 4th

Sign-up sheet coming soon!

Sign up for a one-hour time spot to collect food items printed on a sheet that is handed out at the door. All donations go to the Central Delaware Interfaith Alliance.

Project Angel Tree: names have started coming in for Wesley! This is even earlier than last year. Currently, we have 42 names on our list. If you know you would like to participate in this outreach ministry, please email Carol Gambone at psu_turtle@hotmail.com for a tag of your choice. Otherwise, please look for the tree near Fellowship Hall In mid-November with the Angel Tree tags. Tags include children's first names and items they would like to have for Christmas. Welsey's congregation donates gifts to these families who have individuals who are incarcerated. More details are coming soon!

Salvation Army Bell Ringing: Sign-up sheet coming soon!

Sign up for a one-hour time spot to ring the bell to collect donations for the Salvation Army.

Ongoing project:

Community Meal: Come prepare lunch for 80 folks to enjoy! We welcome all who love to plan, shop and chop!

Set up for the meal begins around 10:30 AM, meal is served at noon with cleaning up beginning at 1 PM. We are so thankful for Carol Gambone, Tobi Hope O'Brien, Patty Field x2, Larry Josefowski x2, Val Branch from Calvary for agreeing to switch one weekend with Wesley, the Trustees, Jerry and Eunice Craig, the Choirs and Pastor Will Grimes who attend Pickle Ball & his team from Solid Rock Baptist. Each year Welsey sets a goal of one lead, which involves signing up for one meal for the entire year! Each year we get closer to meeting that goal. We have started signing groups up for FY 2027. Interested in leading a meal in 2027? We would love to have you! Contact Carol Gambone psu_turtle@hotmail.com to reserve your date.

Moving On

By: Pastor Christine Bowden

Moving On: Adult Studies at Wesley UMC
Adult Study Classes will begin on **Wed. Oct. 7th**
Classes will begin at 6:30 PM and finish by 8:00 PM.

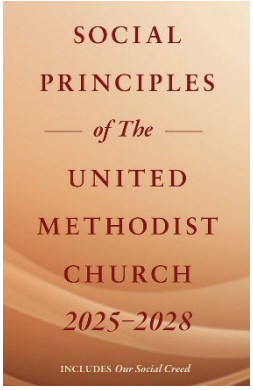
We anticipate being able to offer both classes via Zoom!

We will offer:

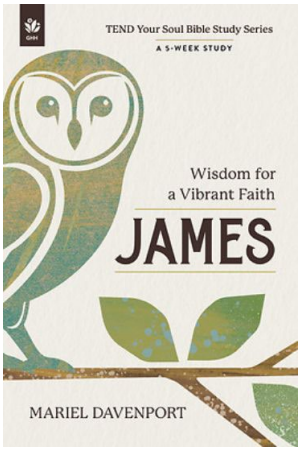
The Social Principles of the United Methodist Church

and **James: Wisdom for a Vibrant Faith**

"These principles are the result of prayerful consideration and thoughtful efforts by multiple General Conferences to address complex and controversial global issues.



By engaging in this study, you can delve into your own theology and ethics, allowing you to grow in discipleship and further explore your beliefs."



We love God's Word and wisdom, but sometimes we wonder how to let it flow from our minds to our actions. This unique study on the book of James encourages you to bring your faith to life and put it into practice.

James: Wisdom for a Vibrant Faith is part of the TEND Your Soul Bible Study Series. TEND is a guided journaling method that equips you to:

- Take time to pray
- Examine the Scriptures
- Notice the lessons
- Do what it says

Whether you're new to the Bible or you've read it for years, this fresh and easy four-step approach to inductive Bible study empowers you to listen and respond to God through personal discovery. Author Mariel Davenport shares from her own experience how this simple relational Bible study method can lead to spiritual transformation.

To register your interest in attending one of these studies, in person or online, you may send an email to pastorchristine@wesleyumc-dover.com or sign up on the registration sheet under the "Moving On" bulletin board.

Signup flyers will also be available at worship services.

Women to Women

By: Michele Dryda, Administrative Assistant

Do you have an hour or so to spare once a month for lunch?
Do you like dining at various restaurants?
Would you like to know the women in the church better?
Then this group is just for you!

Women to Women is a group of women who love to gather once a month at 11:30 AM, on the third Tuesday, for great fellowship at various restaurants.

Join us on **Thursday, October 15 at Cheddar's, Camden, DE**
RSVP to Janet Flower or Mary Ann Evans by **Wednesday, October 14, 2026**.

See You There!

Search Class

By: Eunice Craig & Gigi Windley

Then Jacob made a vow, saying, if God will be with me, …then the Lord shall be my God…Genesis 28: 20-21

Join Search Class Sunday mornings at 8:35 AM in the parlor as we study the most foundational and compelling stories and events of Genesis: the Akedah, Jacob's Dream at Bethel and Joseph, Potiphar and Mrs. Potiphar, and more under the guidance of Rabbi Amy-Jill Levine, a Jewish scholar and "self-described word nerd". Her humor, reflections, and Jewish interpretations bring a scholarly, yet down to earth, understanding to familiar stories.

October 4 Noah
October 11 The Akedah (near-sacrifice of Isaac)
October 18. Jacob's Dream at Bethel
October 25 Joseph, Potiphar and Mrs. Potiphar

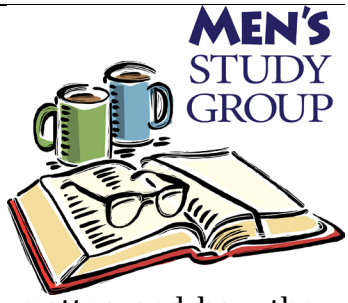
A short video accompanies the readings with group discussions facilitated by class members. Light refreshments are available. No advance preparation is necessary to join any Sunday class.

Joyfully serving,

Eunice Craig and Gigi Windley

Men's Bible Study

By: Jim Skeans, Leader



The Message of Jesus: Words That Changed the World.? A fresh encounter with the words of Jesus. More than Three billion people claim to follow Jesus. But aside from a few verses, how many know what he taught? In fact, much of what people think Jesus taught, he never said.? In this six-week study, pastor and best-selling author Adam Hamilton explores six of the most important themes in Jesus's teachings, why they matter, and how they speak to us today.

The book will explore Jesus's preaching on the Kingdom of God, the Sermon on the Mount, the parables, the "I am" sayings in John, and more. Jesus's message is not only life-changing, but world-changing.

The Men's Bible Study meets on the 1st, 2nd, 4th, Tuesdays at 7 AM in the Search Classroom in the Education Building, and on the 3rd Tuesdays for breakfast at Hollywood Diner at 7 AM.
All men are welcome!

If you have questions, please contact Jim Skeans at (302) 678-0974.

United Women in Faith

By: Mary Ann Evans, President

Our Circles meet every month. Feel free to join us in October as we gather for study, fellowship, fun and snacks.

Barbara Circle meets the 2nd Tuesday (October 13th) at 3:00 in the parlor

Mary Martha meets the 2nd Thursday (October 8th) at 12:30 in the parlor.

We are once again selling the Boscov's Friends helping Friends shopping passes!! $5.00 for a shopping pass! We keep the $5.00 and you shop on Wednesday, October 21, 2026, 8 AM to 11 PM and receive 25% off your purchases. (Shop in person or online). Please see Mary Ann (302-383-0841) or Janet if you are interested in purchasing (or selling) the coupons.

In November we do a program for World Thank Offering. At the finish of the program, we do a collation for the World Thank Offering. We have created a fun way to decide how much money to donate daily throughout the month of October. See the attached calendar. At the end of October let me know and I will collect your money.

Join us on Sunday, October 18th at the 9:30 service! We will honor 2 members of our church as we present both the 2025 & 2026 mission pin!

Dates to Remember

By: Michele Dryda, Administrative Assistant

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY: October 4th Wesley Church joins with many other denominations throughout the world to celebrate World Communion Sunday. This observance focuses us on the universal and inclusive nature of our mission to make disciples of all nations, and the importance and value of celebrating Communion together.

CHURCH CONFERENCE: Monday, October 26th, at 6 PM we will meet with nine churches here at Wesley UMC. **It is very important that chairpersons of all committees attend. Anyone can attend the meeting**. Please mark your calendar to attend. This is your chance to hear all the great things your church has been doing and hear of plans for the coming year.

TIME CHANGE: Saturday, October 31st before you go to bed, make sure you set your clock BACK one hour.

On Sunday, November 1, 2026, Wesley members and friends who have entered the Church Triumphant since November 1, 2025, will be memorialized during the 9:30 AM church service.

We invite you to join us as we remember and honor the lives and faith of: Elizabeth Greco, Renee Failing, Mary Crook Huston, PJ Welch, Jim DeLeo, Alice Guerrant, Jonathan Andrews, Barbara Spangler, Joseph Bailey, Doris Rowlinson, Mary Harbeson, Karen Deats.

Please keep their families and loved ones in your thoughts and prayers during this meaningful season of remembrance.

Family Life Committee

By: Jim & Mardi

Family Life kicked off the year with our Welcome Back Church Picnic. When the weather forecast was rain, we opted to move our picnic inside to Fellowship Hall. The rain ended up holding off but the heat and humidity did not and that made us thankful for air conditioning. John Dryda was our grill master who grilled our hot dogs and hamburgers to perfection, even adding a little charring to the dogs at the request of our picnickers. Dessert was making your own sundaes with ice cream from Mommom's. As with all our covered dish dinners, everyone left with a smile on their face and a full tummy. Jim and I were so grateful for the fellowship with all the members of our congregation in attendance.

Tree Dedication

We also got the opportunity to dedicate a Vanilla Strawberry Sundae Hydrangea tree to the memory of our own Sigried Mills and her daughter Christel, during our picnic. I think Sigried would love the tree and the beauty it adds to our side yard just as she added so much beauty inside and out to our congregation.

Family Life will be hosting a **Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 24, 2024**, from 6:00 - 7:30 PM in the Wesley Church parking lot. Bring your favorite car and decorate the trunk. Bring your kids in costume to trick or treat. This is always a safe and fun event for our families and friends. There will be prizes for the vehicles!!! All can participate.

Continued on page 9

Continued from page 8

Anyone wishing to donate candy can bring it into the church and place it in the box by the kitchen serving window or during the UMM food drive collection on Wednesdays from 10-11 in the church parking lot. Please let us know that you will be participating by contacting the church.

There will be more to come!!

Wesley Church Directory Available Soon!

By: Jim Thistlewood & Donna Josefowski

A church directory helps foster connection, improve communication, and support one another. After a number of years of not having a hard copy of our church directory, we are excited to share that they will be available once again after each worship service beginning **on Sunday, October 4th!**

While we were not able to obtain a photo of each member for this version, we will be reprinting again in the near future. If you would like to be in the next version, please reach out to Jim or Donna to take your photo and update your contact information.

Jim Thistlewood: (302) 670-6991
jktwood@verizon.net

Donna Josefowski: (302) 222-0694
djosefowski@gmail.com

Tithing, Pledging, Estimated Giving – What is it and why is it important?
An excellent gift of God, answering the noblest ends – John Wesley

By: Donna Wilkinson Josefowski, Finance Chair

As we begin our Stewardship campaign, I hope this article will help answer some of your questions. In the weeks ahead, each household will receive letters and pledge cards, as well as hear about what our church does.

While Methodism's founder John Wesley did not talk directly about tithing, he did say a lot about stewardship. In his sermon on "The Use of Money," Wesley described money as "an excellent gift of God, answering the noblest ends." Stewardship includes many aspects such as giving of time, talent, **and** treasure. All three are important. As I am writing this article as the Finance Chair, this article focuses on the financial piece. Here are a few questions you may have.

What is a pledge? A pledge is an estimate of how much money you plan to give to Wesley Church each year. It is **not** a binding contract. You can pledge (using the amount you plan to donate).

What is tithing? Tithing is defined as giving 10 percent of your income.

Why pledge? Your pledge makes it possible for Wesley Church to create a budget for our ministries, staffing, programs, and outreach for the coming year.

What if I cannot afford to pay the amount that I pledge? Life happens, and this is okay. Just do the best you can. If you feel the amount, you pledged is too high for your current circumstances, please contact our bookkeeper, Ame Banks, to let her know that you would like to adjust the amount. This helps us budget better.

Who sees the amount I pledge? Our Bookkeeper, Ame Banks, receives this information.

Ways to Pledge: **Realm Option:** If you are on Realm, you can pledge easily online. If you have created a Realm logon, you can see how much you have donated this year so far, contribute, and set up electronic giving, if desired. You can also use Realm to pledge the amount you wish to donate and choose weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, twice a month, every three months, or annually. For our next pledge cycle (which is based on a calendar year), please choose 2027 to start.

Pledge Card Option: You can also pledge using a traditional pledge card once you receive one (or they are in the pews).

Continued on pg. 11

Continued from pg. 10

How does Wesley Church spend its money?

Each year we set a budget which we try to keep within. We spend our finances in a variety of ways – mission projects, salaries, building repairs and updates, educational materials, music, utilities, technology, office supplies, Bibles, hymnals, study guides, & Communion elements to name a few. As a church we tithe a significant percentage of our income toward missions, supporting many ministries in our local community, and our world. Wesley is a very mission focused church.

We hope this helps to answer your questions about pledging, tithing, and more. If you have any questions from the Finance Committee, please feel free to reach out to Donna Josefowski at djosefowski@gmail.com or (302) 222-0694. We appreciate all our Wesley family!

Wesley Preschool and Play Care

By: Sanura Hinton, Preschool Secretary

We are thrilled to announce that the start of our 2026 school year was a resounding success! The children have settled into their new classrooms and are becoming familiar with their teachers and classmates. We are also excited to share that we launched our very first Kindergarten class with Mrs. Samantha Lucas on September 8. Additionally, we are delighted to welcome Ms. Sanura Hinton as our new administrative assistant.

In September, we hosted Roxy, an interactive author who helps young learners discover that it's okay to be different while exploring kindness, friendship, and inclusion. The students thoroughly enjoyed watching a puppet show and coloring a picture during the visit.

As October approaches, we are busy preparing for **Family Fun Night** on **Thursday, October 29, from 6 to 7 PM.** Be sure to drop by for a variety of fun, educational activities. We look forward to seeing you there!

If you have any questions about enrollment, please reach out to our office at 302-678-8987. We look forward to assisting you! We're excited for a fantastic school year ahead!

An Encore Preaching Event from
DUNKLE–MACKEY PREACHING SEMINAR

Clergy & laity are warmly invited to a dynamic time of learning, inspiration and worship

What If We're Reading It Wrong?

Presenting

Rev. Joseph Yoo

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Avenue UMC
20 Church St, Milford, DE 19963

Register online!
https://avenueumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3744084

SCHEDULE

- 1 PM Welcome & registration [payable by check, cash or pay online]
- 1:30 PM Plenary Session
- Breakouts
- 5:30 PM Dinner
- 6:30 PM Worship Service — with **Rev. Yoo** preaching
- **COST:** $25 (includes dinner)

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) available
Scholarships offered

Contact Rev. Karin Tunnéll with your questions.

OCTOBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6 pm SPRC Mtg. 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Bell Rehearsal 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	**2** 6 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 pm ACA Mtg.	**3** 12 pm (Noon) Community Meal 3 – 6 pm McPhail Baby Shower
4 8 am Worship 8:35 am Search Class 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship	**5** 10 am Staff Meeting 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Pickleball	**6** 7 am Men's Bible Study 6 pm Evening Prayer 7 pm DCS 7 pm Church Council	**7** 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm NA 7 pm Moms Demand Action	**8** 12:30 pm Mary Martha Circle 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Bell Rehearsal 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	**9** 6 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 pm ACA Mtg.	**10** 12 pm (Noon) Community Meal 2 pm Sylvia Circle
11 8 am Worship 8:35 am Search Class 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Nursery 10:30 am Fellowship 11am Worship Mtg.	**12** 10 am Staff Meeting 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Pickleball	**13** 7 am Men's Bible Study 3 pm Barbara Circle 6 pm Evening Prayer 5:30 pm DCS Board Mtg 7 pm DCS	**14** 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm NA	**15** 11:30 am Women to Women Luncheon 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Bell Rehearsal 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	**16** 6 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 pm ACA Mtg.	**17** 12 pm (Noon) Community Meal
18 8 am Worship 8:35 am Search Class 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Nursery 10:30 am Fellowship	**19** 10 am Staff Meeting 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Pickleball	**20** 7 am Men's Bible Study (Breakfast) 6 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 pm Trustees 7 pm DCS	**21** 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm NA	**22** 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Bell Rehearsal 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	**23** 6 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 pm ACA Mtg.	**24** 12 pm (Noon) Community Meal **6:30 – 8 pm** Trunk or Treat
25 8 am Worship 8:35 am Search Class 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship	**26** 10 am Staff Meeting 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Pickleball	**27** 7 am Men's Bible Study 6 pm Evening Prayer 7 pm DCS	**28** 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm NA	**29** 6 pm Evening Prayer 6 pm Bell Rehearsal 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	**30** 6 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 pm ACA Mtg.	**31** 12 pm (Noon) Community Meal

OCTOBER 2026 UWIF World Thank Offering

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
This is just a fun way to decide how much to donate to World Thank Offering	The World Thank program will be held in November	At the end of the month round amount up to next Dollar		1 Did you place flowers on the altar at church this year? Yes $.10 No $.25	2 Have you volunteered in the clothing closet this year? Yes $.10 No $.25	3 Have you visited or called a friend or someone in a nursing home this year? Yes $.10 No $.25
4 Did you attend church today or listen to it on line? Yes - free No - $.50	5 There are those without coats. Give $.05 for each coat you own.	6 There are those without shoes. Give $.05 for each pair of shoes you own.	7 Are you serving on a church committee this year? Yes $.10 No $.25	8 Have you ever been a UWF leader or chair person of any committee? Yes $.10 No $.25	9 Are you up to date on your mammogram and/or on your Dr. appointments ? Yes $.10 No $.50	10 Are you up to date on your UWF pledge this year? Yes free No $.25
11 Have you donated to the food pantry in the past 3 months? Yes - free No - $.50	12 Have you attended a circle meeting in the past 3 months? Yes $.10 No $.25	13 Did you mail a card to a friend in past 6 months? Yes free No $.25	14 Have you donated to a Mission project this year? Yes $.10 No $.25	15 Pay $.10 for each pumpkin in your house or yard! fake or real	16 Donate $.10 for each pill you took today	17 Did you pray for someone else today? Yes Free No $.50
18 Have you been an usher, greeter or lay reader at church this year? Yes-free No-$.50	19 Give $.10 for each child & grandchild you have. No children - Free	20 Pay $.10 for each cup of coffee you have had today. no coffee - free	21 Have you invited anyone to a UWF meeting this year? Yes $.10 No $.25	22 Are you dressing in a costume for Halloween? No $.50 Yes free	23 Give $2.00 for one thing you are especially thankful for today.	24 Have you donated to a UWF fund raiser this year? Yes $.10 No. $.25
25 Have you shown "unfriendliness" to another driver on the road this month? Yes $.50 No $.10 Don't drive - $.15	26 Have you volunteered to help any nonprofit group or organizatio n this year? Yes Free No $.25	27 Give $.25 for each person that will be at your Thanksgiving table this year.	28 Did you read your Bible today? Yes $.10 No $.50	29 Have you started your Christmas shopping? Yes $.10 No $.25	30 Have you received your flu shot? Yes $.10 No $.50	31 Pay $.10 for each Trick or Treater that came to your house! no Trick or treaters $.25