

Dates to Remember

Monday, July 4
Independence Day Office Closed
Friday, July 8
Damascus Days Parade..... 7:00 PM
Monday, July 11 - Friday July 15
VBS5:30 - 8:30 PM
Sunday, July 17
Outdoor Worship 10:00 AM
Charge Picnic..... following worship
Wednesday, July 20
Ladies Lunch OutNOON
Saturday, July 23
Rustic Road Clean-up 8:30 AM
Sunday, July 31
Worship CommitteeNOON
Wednesday, August 17
Ladies Lunch OutNOON
Thursday, August 18
Newsletter deadline.....NOON
Sunday, August 21
Coffee & ConversationNOON
Monday, August 22
Finance Committee 7:30 PM
Tuesday, August 23
Board of Trustees 7:00 PM
Wednesday, August 24
Choir 7:00 PM
Friday, August 26
Fried Chicken and Ham Setup..... TBD
Saturday, August 27
Fried Chicken and
Ham Dinnerserving 12:00 - 5:00 PM
Wednesday, August 31
Choir 7:00 PM

From John's Pulpit

Will Your Anchor Hold In These Storms of Life?

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Matthew 7:24

The words of Jesus, at the conclusion of Matthew 7, can be of help to us. Jesus told the story of two men who built two types of houses. One house was built on a good foundation of rock, while the other house was built on a foundation of sand. Then Jesus described a storm that came and beat against both houses. The house that was built on sand collapsed, while the house that was built on the rock stood firm. Jesus concluded that the man who built on the rock is the one who hears the Word of God and obeys it. He said the man who built his house on sand is the one who hears the Word of God and does not obey it.

But one other thing I see in this teaching of Jesus is the fact that the storm struck both houses. Every life and every person will experience hardships. But the question is, "will your anchor hold in the storms of life?" Will they destroy you or strengthen you? Will they make you better or bitter?

If your life is built on the solid foundation of the words of Christ, nothing will be able to shake you. You will be unmovable like Mt. Zion. 1 Peter 1:24-25 says, "All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field, the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever."

Those who do the will of the Lord will abide forever. It's my prayer that the Lord help us always to abide in His word.

Pastor John Ampiah-Addison

Lectionary Readings

July 3, 2016

7th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 5:1-14

Psalm 30

July 4, 2016

Independence Day

Galatians 6:1-16

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 10, 2016

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7:7-17

Psalm 82

Colossians 1:1-14

Luke 10:25-37

July 17, 2016

9th Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 8:1-12

Psalm 52 or 82

Colossians 1:15-28

Luke 10:38-42

July 24, 2016

10th Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 1:2-10

Psalm 85

Colossians 2:6-19

Luke 11:1-13

July 31, 2016

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 11:1-11

Psalm 107:1-9, 43

Colossians 3:1-11

Luke 12:13-21

August 7, 2016

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

August 14, 2016

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Luke 12:49-56

August 21, 2016

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm 71:1-6

Hebrews 12:18-29

Luke 13:10-17

August 28, 2016

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Psalm 81:1, 10-16

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Luke 14:1, 7-14

May 2016 Financial Report

Rick Monarch, Treasurer

Expenses	
Apportionments	\$1,413.50
Pastor Salary	\$1,769.70
Associate Pastor Salary	\$215.00
Pastor Benefits	\$887.55
Pastor Professional Expenses	\$0.00
Housing Allowance	\$827.75
Church Secretary	\$682.50
Payroll Taxes	\$57.26
Grass Cutting	\$590.00
Snow Removal	\$0.00
Custodian	\$520.00
Programs	\$595.01
Office Expenses	\$47.00
Trustees - Maintenance	\$1,447.47
Total Expenses	\$9,052.74

Income	
Weekly Collections	\$6,527.03
Sunday School Collections	\$0.00
Cell Tower - Sprint	\$1,762.24
Cell Tower - Verizon	\$1,313.46
Grocery eScrips	\$0.00
Church Dinner Proceeds	\$0.00
Use of Hall	\$280.00
Housing Allowance Reimbursement	\$827.75
Total Income	\$10,710.48

Missions News

Jackie Hottinger, Chair

We had a good time at St. Martin's Soup Kitchen on Memorial Day. Wesley Grove volunteers showed up in force including two first-timers, cooked lots of food and served about 25 hungry men and women. Thanks to everyone who helped.

Also thank you so much to the group of helpers who have signed up to serve the hungry at Grace United Methodist Church in Gaithersburg through the "brown bag program" the week of June 20. It is so rewarding to serve both of these ministries. Hunger is something most of us don't have to think about for ourselves and our families. This is the only meal of the day for some of these folks.

School just finished for the summer and it's already time to think of collecting backpacks and school supplies for the new school year. The supply lists will be available in the greeting room by the middle of July. All of the supplies are distributed to needy students in the Damascus/Clarksburg school cluster as well as the schools' offices to be given to new students and replenish needy students during the school year. Donations will be accepted through August 7. Faith Connections will be delivering some blue bins to collect these goodies around the second week of July.

July Birthdays			
9	Rick Monarch	24	Bill Hughes
15	William Briggs	25	Skip Ketchum
19	Nicholas Falk	28	Becca Benson
23	Jim Kemp	29	Ryan Cooper

A Final Note

Blessings all!

As I take a breather between packing and hospital visits, I wanted to drop a note to let you all know how much I appreciated the luncheon on Sunday as well as the gifts. After my birthday, I'm going shopping at Anything in Stained Glass to help set up my workshop in the parsonage. (Waiting til my birthday, hoping I will get something on my wish list I sent to Ivan, Tricia, and John. It even included pictures, places to buy, and prices. Fool-proof ... but we'll see.) Thank you for that special day.

I also want to thank the children for my special cards made by their loving hands. They will go right up on my bulletin board in my new office! and I will treasure them always!

I will always cherish my time with you and keep you in my prayers.

Fly with Christ and do great things!

Pastor Linda

August Birthdays			
1	Henry King	7	Lanny Williams
3	Chad Kunkle	12	Terri Sherwood
4	Glenn Lewis	13	Mary Ann Davis
5	Sam Lynagh	22	Sandi Johnson
6	Don Diddle	25	Andrew Wilson
	Elaine Falk	27	Sean Falk

Christian Fellowship News

Becky Lewis, Chair

Mark Sunday, July 17, off your calendar: you're going to be busy all day! Busy, that is, having a great time with your church family at our annual Charge Picnic on the Education Building grounds. Start the day off by attending outdoor worship in the picnic pavilion at **10 a.m. (repeat, 10 a.m.)** Then, it's off to Happy Hour behind the Education Building, where you can have a little snack, grab a cup (and please write your name on it!) and fill it up, and spend time some visiting. While you're chatting, don't forget to sign up for the horseshoes tournament and the "Picnic Olympics."

We'll have lunch featuring fabulous fried chicken and grilled hot dogs around 12:30 p.m., followed by an afternoon of fun activities for young and old: water slide, water gun battle, horseshoes, bingo, traditional picnic games, and just plain old-fashioned conversation. We'll wrap things up around 3 to 3:30 with dessert. **Note: Because we are waiting to replace the stove in the kitchen, please bring hot dishes only in crockpots.**

Most of our groups take a break during the summer months; however, there will be Ladies Lunch Out on Wednesday, July 20, and Wednesday, August 17, both at noon, and Suzie and Don Diddle will host Coffee and Conversation on Sunday, August 21.

Then look for a return to a full slate of activities in September, including the Fall Yard Sale on September 17. It's never too early to reserve a space!

Goodbye and Best Wishes, Pastor Linda!

All of us here at Wesley Grove would like to thank you for the leadership, ministry, and friendship you given us over the past three years! It has been a very full and busy, yet fruitful, journey.

Your legacy with us will always be pushing us to go out into the community to spread our name and share the Good News of Jesus Christ with our neighbors. God told us to go in pairs and to reach the people where they are, and that we did with our Live Nativity and Good Friday Reinactments, Blessing of the Animals, committee meetings, and community parades. You also pushed us to support our two sister churches in the charge, and that we did as well with our Trunk-or-Treats, egg hunts, and combined worship services.

Pastor Linda, we wish you and Ivan well as you move northeast to the Dublin-Darlington Charge with your new adventure in God's master plan. May God bless you both!

Summer Reading

During these summer months, Pastor Karen would like to invite all of us in the South Damascus Charge to join her in reading *The Power of the Other: The Startling Effect Other People Have on You, from the Boardroom to the Bedroom and Beyond – and What to Do About It* by Dr. Henry Cloud

The leadership and management style outlined in this book will give all of us an opportunity to start out on "the same page" as we move forward together. There are several copies available in the vestibule. Or if you would like to purchase your own copy, they are available from Cokesbury.com for \$20.15. You can also find e-books and audio books online at HarperCollins.



Letter of Introduction

Rev. Karen Davis

Email: pastorkaren24@msn.com

Cell: 410-812-9437

Rev. Davis is a creative, visionary leader who enjoys helping others see, claim, and maximize their God-given potential as she identifies spiritual gifts, coaches, and mentors.

Twenty-four years serving as an Elder in the United Methodist Church have given her the opportunity to work collaboratively with staff and volunteers to plan new ministry initiatives, including:

- UCAN: A community-based, ecumenical food pantry and resource center serving needs in the Cockeysville area.
- A multi-million dollar project to re-structure the Christian Education Department at Grace UMC in Baltimore city.
- A streamlined administrative structure at Bethany UMC in Ellicott City.
- Creating and sustaining a large youth ministry at Linden Heights UMC in Parkville, MD.
- Re-development of the education wing of Overlea Chapel UMC in Baltimore city to house a new pre-school.
- "ARISE," a multi-generational, multi-ethnic Saturday morning music program at historic Mt. Washington-Aldersgate UMC.

Rev. Davis received her bachelor of music degree from The College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio and her master's degree in divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC.

An accomplished singer and actress, Rev. Davis has sung professionally in a variety of musical venues including the Ohio Light Opera Company, the Washington Savoyards and the Baltimore Choral Arts Society. She enjoys using her artistic talents in worship and approaches her ministry with an energetic spirit and an innovative imagination.

She is the mother of two red-headed daughters: Delaney, sophomore theatrical arts and dance major at Baldwin Wallace University (UM) and Lily, sixth-grader at Ridgely Middle School.

Previous appointments: Texas Charge, Cockeysville; Edgemere, Edgemere; Grace, Baltimore; Bethany, Ellicott City; Linden Heights, Parkville; Mt. Washington Aldersgate, Overlea Chapel, Rodgers Forge Cooperative Parish., Baltimore Metropolitan District.



Family in Holden Beach NC (30 Year tradition)



Family at Funeral in Family Church in Ohio



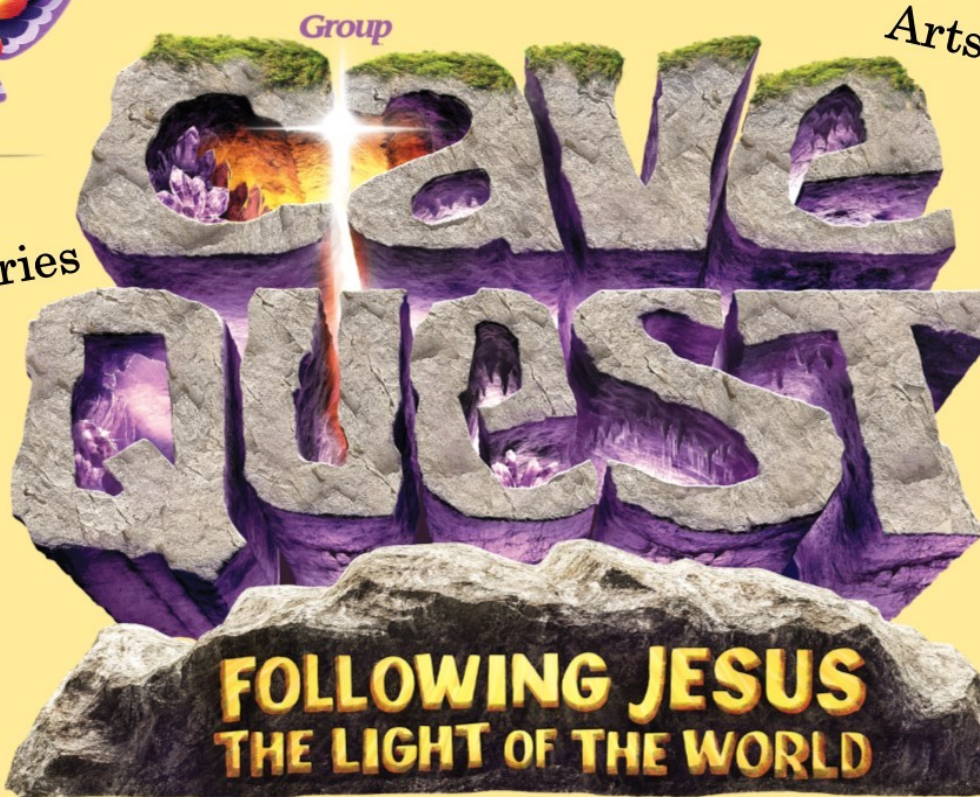
*Prairie Chapel UMC Ponca City
Oklahoma: Founded by my
Great Grandfather in his wheat
field*



Family Farm in Ohio



FREE Vacation Bible School!



Arts & Crafts

Theater

Games

Bible Stories

Music

FUN!

Date: July 11th - July 15th

Time: 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM (dinner included)

Location: Wesley Grove United Methodist Church

23614 Woodfield Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20882

Gear up for an adventure! Ground kids in the rock-solid foundation of God's love, a love that takes us through life's dark times.



Education News

Tammy Monarch, Education Chair

Our **Sunday School** is now taking a break for the summer months. As this school year came to a close, we recognized and honored all of our students, their parents, and their teachers during our worship service on Sunday, June 5. Our students received completion certificates and second- or third-year pins. These students included:

Second-Year Pin

Tim Benson

Third-Year Pins

Ben, Sam, and Danny Allman

Ryan and Tyler Cooper

Ciarra Crawford

Nicko Hull

Michael and Tyler Mirani

David, Danny, Adam, and Andrew Wilson

We also recognized both **Becca Benson** and **Christopher Lee** during this service. Becca just graduated from Damascus High School on June 3, and both she and Chris applied for and received scholarships from our Wesley Grove Church family. We honored and congratulated both of them for their outstanding academic performance, continued community involvement, and positive character traits centering around leadership and service.

This summer's **Vacation Bible School** is about to begin on Monday, July 11 and continue through Friday, July 15 from 5:30-8:30 each evening. Our theme is "**Cave Quest: Finding God in the Light and in the Dark.**" We have an amazing and wonderful week planned deep down in the Earth's caves and caverns studying, hearing, singing, reading, acting, watching, and learning about God's message for each of us! Each night, our students will listen to Bible stories, participate in Biblical dramas, sing upbeat songs about God and His Kingdom, view videos with important

Christian messages, and witness more and more kids coming to Christ. VBS will be a great week that we hope will leave an unforgettable impact on all of us!

Please register your children prior to VBS to help us with planning. Registration forms can be obtained from our church office or from our church website. You may submit them online or return them to Tammy Monarch.

If you would like to help with VBS in any way (teach a session, help with a group, cook dinner, clean up after dinner, etc.), please contact Tammy at 301-253-0044 right away. We can always use more volunteers!

We are still looking to borrow these items for the week to decorate our "cavernous" Education Building:

- Black cloth, plastic, and/or tarps.
- Lanterns, black lights, flashlights, and/or headlamps.
- Hard hats.
- Tool belts with small tools.
- Old ropes.
- Pickaxes and shovels.
- Stuffed bats.
- Glow-in-the-dark items.
- Anything that could help us to create rock formations, dripping stalactites, or growing stalagmites, such as cardboard, plastic cones, cylinders, candle wax to melt, etc.

If you have any of these items, please let Tammy know as soon as possible. Thank you in advance – our VBS scenes are always spectacular due to the "valuable treasures" that you all have stored in your attics, garages, basements, and closets!

And finally, please mark your calendars now for our **return to Sunday School** for all ages at 9:30 am in the Education Building on Sunday, September 11. Have a happy, healthy, relaxing, and safe summer – and we'll see all of you back in the fall!

JULY 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 11:00 AM Worship (Communion)	4 Independence Day (office closed)	5	6	7	1	2
10 11:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM VBS Setup	11 5:30 - 8:30 PM VBS	12 5:30 - 8:30 PM VBS	13 5:30 - 8:30 PM VBS	14 5:30 - 8:30 PM VBS	15 5:30 - 8:30 PM VBS	16 10:00 AM Picnic Setup
17 <i>10:00 AM Joint Worship Outdoor Service Charge Picnic to follow</i>	18 7	19	20 NOON Ladies Lunch Out	21	22 NOON Newsletter Deadline	23 8:30 AM Road Clean up
24 11:00 AM Worship	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 11:00 AM Worship NOON Worship Com- mittee Meeting						

AUGUST 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 11:00 AM Worship (Communion)	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 11:00 AM Worship	15 7	16	17 NOON Ladies Lunch Out	18	19 NOON Newsletter Deadline	20
21 11:00 AM Worship NOON Coffee & Conversation	22 7:30 PM Finance Committee	23 7:00 PM Board of Trustees	24 7:00 PM Choir	25	26	27
28 11:00 AM Worship	29 First Day of School	30	31 7:00 PM Choir	30		

Wesley Grove Cemetery

In order to enlarge our cemetery, we had to move the small house. It was our only choice. When dealing with the Montgomery County Government and the Historical Society, you have to have lots of patience, time, and money.

It has taken a while, but we have finally moved the small house, filled the new portion of the cemetery with dirt and seeded it, and we now have grass.

Installing the new section of the PVC fence really makes the cemetery look good. We now have burial lots for sale for our church members only. The price for a single lot is \$1,000 and a double lot would be \$2,000. This includes perpetual care.

We are also looking into getting a nice sign installed. This sign will make your final resting places look good for our friends and loved ones.

Cemetery Committee:

Bob Burke

Brian Lewis

Jim Kemp

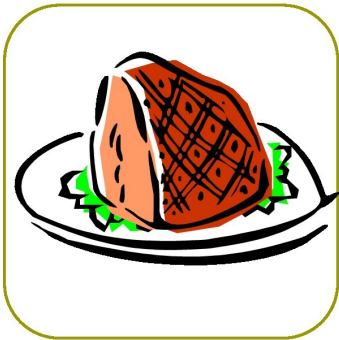
Rick Monarch

Here are some before and after pictures....





FAMILY STYLE Fried Chicken & Ham Dinner



**Saturday
August 27, 2015**


1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

***Bake Table Available
Carryout Dinners Available***

**Wesley Grove United Methodist Church
23640 Woodfield Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20882
301-253-2894
wgumc@wesleygroveumc.org**

We're Growing – Let's Stay Focused on Our Youth!

The pavilion, ball field, and playground are used by the youth in the community. Please support these businesses! All of their donations go to support the maintenance of these facilities.



Brian Lewis
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Thirty Years...and Counting!

Mary Ann Davis

According to Barbara Costello King, we can give credit...or blame!!!... to John D. King (her husband!) for getting WGUMC involved at the Lord's Table Soup Kitchen, served at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Gaithersburg. Barbara and her mother, Polly Costello, served as our first chairpersons. Beginning in 1984, WGUMC has staffed the kitchen whenever there is a fifth Monday in the month. Food is already stocked in the pantry, refrigerators, and/or freezers. When we are scheduled to prepare and serve, we also supply dish towels and any paper goods such as napkins, plates, bowls, cups, and the like. Once we served 120 people, but our usual number is 35-40, usually men, but it may include some women and rarely, children.

Mary Canapary is the person who schedules everything related to the Soup Kitchen and is what might be termed "supervisor" of the whole project. Behind the very beginning of this service to the community, Father Di Narcia, then rector at St. Martin's, met with ministers of other churches in the town of Gaithersburg. In 1983-1984, this group decided to place an emphasis on 'humanism' as a theme for town-sponsored activities. One activity that has been an outgrowth of that year of planning is the Soup Kitchen, serving freshly prepared meals on a daily basis, Monday through Friday, in the dining room at St. Martin's.

All food is donated by local stores and establishments, agencies, and individuals. There is NO government funding, and the only paid help comes from two part-timers who help with pre-preparation chores, food storage, kitchen condition chores, and the like. Guests are seated about 10 per table, and we usually set six tables. Youth from nearby areas assist with serving and clearing tables and can earn community service credit for this assistance.

All preparation of foods served is done in the large, well-equipped kitchen and several churches in the Up-County Area provide the necessary personnel to prepare the food for service on the daily basis. The service is provided from September through June; July and August find a food bag prepared and obtained by those in need at Grace United Methodist Church on Frederick Avenue (Route 355) a bit further into town. We have helped with this distribution of food as well.

Among the early chairpersons for WGUMC's participation were Elaine Falk, Elizabeth Burdette, and Peggy Zirkle. Joe Mallon was next chairperson for WGUMC and served as such from 2001 to 2014, when Jackie Hottinger and Doug Gaither became co-chairpersons who now coordinate the 15-or-so volunteers from WGUMC as to specific jobs for the day. (Aside: See Jackie or Doug if you can help on a fifth Monday!!! Our next scheduled time will be October 31, 2016!)

Church Office Staff Changes

On behalf of the whole congregation, the Staff-Parish Relations Committee would like to thank **Karen Allman** for her outstanding service as our office manager over the past 3½ years. Karen, you have served us well with your organizational skills, your efficiency, and your professionalism as well as your personal touch on all that you did. We will miss hearing your voice on our answering machines and seeing your emails with news items and various requests. We wish you well as you move on with the many adventures of raising four energetic and busy boys!

We then welcome our new office manager, **Jaime Crawford**, to the job! Jaime has attended Wesley Grove her whole life, so this position seems like a perfect, natural fit for her. She began the week of June 20 and will work in our church office Tuesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We look forward to seeing you, hearing from you, and working with you as you transition. Welcome!



**Wesley Grove
United Methodist Church**

Church Phone: 301-253-2894

Email: office@wesleygroveumc.org

As a congregation that covenants to walk together in Christ's love, believes that all persons are created equal before God, and affirms the inclusive love of Jesus Christ, we welcome to our work and worship all regardless of race, gender, age, ability, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or economic circumstance.

We're on the Web!
wesleygroveumc.org



Fall Yard Sale

**Saturday,
September 17**

9 AM - 2 PM

To unsubscribe, please call the Wesley Grove UMC Office (301-253-2894) or email wgunmc@wesleygroveumc.org

Wesley Grove United Methodist Church
23640 Woodfield Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20882