

Wesley Grove Messenger

November 2016

From Pastor Karen Davis...

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

October has passed, and the ghoulies, ghosties, long-leggedy beasties and things that go bump in the night have left the neighborhood. It's time to prepare our homes and hearths for friends and family as Thanksgiving and Christmas fast approach.

A few years ago, I went to Benjie's Drive-In to see the movie "Monster House." It is best described as an animated, comedic horror movie for kids, but the movie was much scarier than I had anticipated. The "Monster House" was a house that terrified everyone who dared to come near it. In fact, it was able to consume people who walked onto its lawn. When some neighborhood children tried to defeat the monster within, they realized that they had to destroy what was at the heart of the house – the soul of an angry, evil woman who didn't want anyone or anything to trespass on her property or get near her beloved husband.

When we live with someone we take on his or her spirit. We breathe their fumes, eat their cooking, and carry their concerns. When we receive Christ, we internalize his being and holiness, becoming one with our Savior. When we spend time in church, we breathe each other's air, share our joys and concerns and, in our worship, become one with God and one another. All of this begs the question: "Who lives at the heart of your house? Of OUR house? Is our house a place of fear or a place of thanksgiving?"

Remember the husband I mentioned earlier? He lived in the Monster House and was dedicated and devoted to the one at the heart of the house. And despite the evil and anger therein, the man continued to love the house and to love the woman, and because of this great love, the story concludes with a happy ending. (You'll have to watch it if you want to find out what happens!)

So, what is at the heart of your house? No matter the answer, Jesus continues to love us, to cherish us, and to call us beloved sons and daughters of the most high God. As we enter into the dark nights of autumn, I encourage you and our church to consider what dwells in the holy temple of your life...of OUR lives. And, as we prepare our homes for the holidays, let us dwell in the abiding love of God who companions us and reminds us that there is always, **always**, ALWAYS something for which to be thankful.

WHO LIVES AT THE HEART OF YOUR LIFE???

In God's peace,
Pastor Karen

Lectionary Readings

November 6, 2016

25th Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints Sunday
 Haggai 1:15-2:9
 Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
 Luke 20:27-38

November 13, 2016

26th Sunday after Pentecost
 Isaiah 65:17-25
 Psalm 118
 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
 Luke 21:5-19

November 20, 2016

Last Sunday after Pentecost
Christ the King Sunday
 Jeremiah 23:1-6
 Luke 1:68-79
 Colossians 1:11-20
 Luke 23:33-43

November 27, 2016

1st Sunday in Advent
 Isaiah 2:1-5
 Psalm 122
 Romans 13:11-14
 Matthew 24:36-44

September 2016 Financial Report

Rick Monarch, Treasurer

Expenses	
Apportionments	\$1,413.50
Pastor Salary	\$1,769.70
Pastor Benefits	\$1,308.75
Pastor Professional Expenses	\$0.00
Church Secretary	\$1,095.00
Payroll Taxes	\$74.01
Grass Cutting	\$0.00
Snow Removal	\$0.00
Custodian	\$520.00
Programs	\$676.72
Office Expenses	\$74.26
Capital Improvement	\$6,490.00
Trustees - Maintenance	\$1,209.65
Total Expenses	\$14,631.59

Income	
Weekly Collections	\$6,140.10
Sunday School Collections	\$51.69
Cell Tower - Sprint	\$1,815.11
Cell Tower - Verizon	\$1,313.46
Church Dinner Proceeds	\$1,358.00
Use of Hall	\$180.00
Housing Allowance	\$269.30
Reimbursement	
Total Income	\$11,127.66

November Birthdays

2 David Wilson	13 Mary Knox
6 John Briggs	Becky Lewis
11 Eugene Swearingen	23 Brian Hottinger
12 Lois Kemp	28 Kelsey Kunkle

The family of Bill Hughes would like to thank everyone for all of their prayers, calls, cards and visits with Bill's passing. We also would like to thank everyone who helped with the beautiful service and luncheon.

Damascus HELP



In September, Damascus HELP delivered food to 60 families (113 adults and 140 children). Financial assistance for September (including electric, gas, water, and prescriptions)

totaled \$3,160.90 and helped 14 families. The furniture committee is seeking individuals with trucks to help transport furniture to and from homes in the Damascus area. There are about five requests per month. If you are able to help with furniture or if you would like to work with the food bank, please contact Bernadine at (301) 253-2014.



Play Station 4, Plus Games!

If you would like to buy any raffle tickets for a PS4, complete with "Call of Duty Black Ops III" and "Guitar Hero Live," please contact Tammy Monarch at (301) 253-0044. Tickets are \$1 and benefit Wesley Grove UMC. The drawing will be held on Sunday, December 11, in plenty of time for Christmas. You do not have to be present to win.

Worship News

Doug Gaither, Chair

Plan to come out on Saturday, November 26, at 9:30 a.m. for the annual "hanging of the Greens" when we will decorate our sanctuary for Advent and we will prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ Child. We will mark the Advent season each Sunday by lighting the candles on our Advent wreath and including special readings in our service.

Our Advent calendar will also include two performances of "Forever Christmas" by our Chancel Choir and Players on Sunday, December 11. Come out and hear this joyous message that includes some old favorites and some new-to-you songs that will become favorites as well. Performance times are 11 a.m. during the worship service, with an encore at 7:30 p.m. that evening.

It's a Boy! 

Welcome to the newest member of our Wesley Grove family, Luke William Horner. Luke came into this world on Tuesday, September 27, weighing 6 pounds, 11 ounces. He joins proud parents Tim and Lauren Horner and big sister Abby!!!



Christian Fellowship News

Becky Lewis, Chair

Another year has flown by, and it's once again time to kick off the holiday season with our Annual Holly Days Crafts Bazaar and Lunch. The event itself runs from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 19, but preparations will go on throughout this month, including moving tables, chairs, and other furniture on Thursday, November 17, at 7 p.m., and putting the finishing touches on the church display and food preparation on Friday, November 18, starting at 11 a.m. Help is needed throughout the day on Saturday as well, and donations of craft items and baked goods are welcome. Please see Tammy Monarch or Becky Lewis if you have questions. And coming out to browse (and buy!) from more than 30 local vendors and the church booth is "helping" too, as is taking a break to enjoy a delicious homemade soup and sandwich lunch during the event. Start making your shopping list now!

If you just can't make up your mind what to buy from the church on Saturday, you'll get another chance on Sunday, November 20, when we will hold an "Extended Coffee and Conversation" in the Education Building following the service. Join us for a light fellowship lunch provided by the Evening Circle and take another look at items you might have missed on Saturday. Remaining items will also be on sale throughout the holidays.

Also on the schedule for November, the United Methodist Men will meet for breakfast at 8 a.m. on Friday, November 11 (Veterans' Day), at Dunkin' Donuts; the Daytime Circle will hold its monthly Brown Bag Lunch on Wednesday, November 2, in the Education Building at 12:30 p.m.; and Ladies Lunch Out

will meet on Wednesday, November 16, at noon at Wilcom's Inn in Monrovia.

Looking down the road to an always-busy December, our Annual "Meet and Greet" with Santa is scheduled for Saturday, December 3, as we welcome our Special Needs friends from 2 to 3:30 p.m., and the community's children from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Also plan to participate in our Live Nativity on Saturday, December 17, in the park at the corner of Routes 124 and 108, and our caroling outing to local nursing homes and shut-ins on Sunday, December 18.

The Women's Daytime Circle would like to invite everyone to our Annual Christmas Luncheon on Wednesday, December 7, at 12:30 p.m. Please note a change of venue to the Golden Bull Restaurant at 7 Dalamar Street in Gaithersburg.

Entrée choices are Breast of Chicken Chardonnay, \$19.94; English Cut Prime Rib of Beef, \$23.69; or Crab Cakes, \$26.19. Prices include tax and gratuity, and meals come with a garden salad, vegetable, whipped potatoes, rolls and butter, coffee, tea or soda, and dessert. Choice of entrees and payment are due to Judy Hughes by Wednesday, November 30. The reservation requires a 25-person minimum.



Missions News

Jackie Hottinger, Chair

Missions has donated \$300 to Damascus HELP to help stock the food pantry shelves. We also made a \$200 donation to UMCOR to help with all of the recent devastation from storms and hurricanes in the United States.

We have pledged to sponsor four local families for Christmas with food baskets and gifts. More information will follow when we receive the wish lists of the families.

We will also be collecting “goodies” for the local nursing homes to be delivered when the congregation visits them in December to sing Christmas carols. You can find a wish list in the Greeting Room from Pleasant View Nursing Home in Mt. Airy of items their residents can use. We also collect gently used purses, wallets, costume jewelry, and magazines, as well as new greeting cards. The residents are very happy to receive these trinkets as many of them do not have family or friends who visit and cannot afford the essential toiletry products they need. Please place your donations in the boxes marked “nursing homes.”

Thank you!

**COUNT YOUR
BLESSINGS.
NAME THEM ONE BY ONE.
COUNT YOUR
MANY BLESSINGS
SEE WHAT GOD HAS DONE.**

Sunday School News

Tammy Monarch, Education Chair

Since we began Sunday School this fall, we have been studying the proof the Bible provides that Jesus did indeed live here on Earth as one of us, and that everything about His life happened according to God’s master plan. We are finding this proof in both the Old and New Testaments.

Throughout the month of November, we will focus our lessons on believing in John the Baptist’s preparations for the coming of the Messiah. By the end of the month, we will be moving on to the hope we have as we prepare for the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We are very excited that our church family raised \$340 in our October Walk for Community Hunger! We had 15 participants, including two strollers, a wheelchair, and one dog, who walked, jogged, ran, and/or got pushed 99 total laps around our church property in just 30 minutes. One lap is equal to 0.2 miles, so this is equivalent to 19.8 total miles – way to go, Wesley Grove! A big, huge thank you goes out to everyone who walked, counted laps, donated funds, and supported our participants with cheers of encouragement each time they passed by the hall courtyard.

And finally, a request to all of our Sunday School families, please let Tammy know now if your family will or will not be here on Christmas Eve to help us present the 7:30 family service. As we all know, Christmas will be here before we know it!



Holly Days

Craft Bazaar and Luncheon

Saturday, November 19th

9:00 am to 3:00 pm


*Featuring Holiday Crafts,
Homemade Soups, Sandwiches,
and Bake Table*

Wesley Grove United Methodist Church

23614 Woodfield Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20882
301-253-2894

www.wesleygroveumc.org





Come join us for cookies, milk
and cocoa, and an opportunity
to meet the real Santa!

Saturday, December 3
Special Needs 2 - 3:30 pm
Community 3:30 - 5 pm

Wesley Grove United Methodist Church

Fellowship Hall


23614 Woodfield Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20882

301-253-2894

www.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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Gift Certificates Walk-ins Welcome
 Tu-Th. 9am-8pm; Fri. 9am-4:30pm; Sat. 8am-4pm

November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 12:30 PM Daytime Circle Brown Bag Lunch 7:00 PM Choir	3	4	5
6 <i>All Saints Sunday</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship (Communion)	7 7:30 PM SPRC @ Salem	8 Office Closed	9 7:00 PM Choir	10 7:30 PM Communications Committee	11 8:00 AM UMM Breakfast @ Dunkin' Donuts	12 8:30 AM Road Clean-up
13 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	14 7:30 PM Administrative Council	15	16 NOON Ladies Lunch Out @ Wilcoms Inn 7:00 PM Choir	17 7:00 PM Bazaar Setup	18 11 AM Bazaar Setup	19 9:00AM-3:00PM Holly Days Crafts Bazaar and Lunch
20 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship NOON Coffee & Conversation	21	22 7:30 PM Board of Trustees	23 7:00 PM Choir	24 <i>Thanksgiving</i>		25 Office Closed
27 1st Sunday in Advent 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	28 7:30 PM Finance Committee	29	30 7:00 PM Choir			26 9:30 AM Hanging of the Greens



**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



***Daylight Savings
Time Ends at 2 a.m.
Sunday, Nov. 6***

*Don't forget to set your clocks!
back one hour!*

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