

Wesley Grove Messenger

March 2015

Dates to Remember

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Sunday, March 8 | |
| Youth Bowling & Pizza | 3:00 PM |
| Wednesday, March 4 | |
| Daytime Circle Brown Bag Lunch | 12:30 PM |
| Choir | 7:00 PM |
| Thursday, March 5 | |
| Lenten Bible Study | 7:30 PM |
| Saturday, March 7 | |
| Games Night | |
| at the Monarchs | 7:00 PM |
| Sunday, March 8 | <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i> |
| Monday, March 9 | |
| Administrative Council | 7:30 PM |
| Wednesday, March 11 | |
| Dinner Setup | 6:00 PM |
| Choir | 7:00 PM |
| Friday, March 13 | |
| Turkey & Fried Oyster Dinner Set Up .. | TBD |
| Thursday, March 12 | |
| Lenten Bible Study | 7:30 PM |
| Saturday, March 14 | |
| Turkey & Fried Oyster | |
| Dinner | Serving 1:00 -5:00 PM |
| Sunday, March 15 | |
| Coffee & Conversation | NOON |
| Monday, March 16 | |
| Missions Committee | 7:30 PM |
| Wednesday, March 18 | |
| Newsletter Deadline | NOON |
| Ladies Lunch Out | NOON |
| Choir | 7:00 PM |
| Thursday, March 19 | |
| Lenten Bible Study | 7:30 PM |
| Saturday, March 21 | |
| Men's Prayer Breakfast | 8:00 AM |
| Rustic Road Clean Up | 8:30 AM |
| Monday, March 23 | |
| Finance Committee | 7:30 PM |
| Tuesday, March 24 | |
| Board of Trustees | 7:30 PM |
| Wednesday, March 25 | |
| Choir | 7:00 PM |
| Thursday, March 26 | |
| Lenten Bible Study | 7:30 PM |
| Saturday, March 28 | |
| Cantata Dress Rehearsal | 9:30 AM |
| Easter Egg Hunt | 3:00 PM |
| Sunday, March 29 | |
| Easter Cantata | 11:00 AM & 7:30 PM |
| Monday, March 30 | |
| St. Martin's | |
| Soup Kitchen | 1:00 PM |

From John's Pulpit

The Greatest Success

And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Philippians 2:8

What do we consider success? If we were to classify a successful person, what would be the hallmarks: power, wealth, popularity, or respect? If these are our criteria for success, then apparently Jesus was a horrible failure.

Was He popular? Not for long. The fickle multitudes sang his praises for a while, but they turned on Him a short time later. So in a sense, He was not popular. In fact, after one of His sermons, all of His followers deserted Him except for the twelve disciples.

Was He politically powerful? No. He was a political failure. All levels of government first rejected Him and then conspired to kill Him.

Did Jesus have lots of friends? Not really. He had a lot of fair-weather friends. He had a lot of people who claimed to be His friends, but when it came to the end, He had only a handful.

Did He have money and possessions? Not really. He said, "The Son of Man has nowhere to lay His Head" (Matthew 8:20; Luke 9:58). He had one garment that we know of, for which the soldiers gambled at the foot of the cross.

Was Jesus respected by His peers? If we consider the religious leaders as His peers, then the answer would be no. They rejected His work.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, the beauty of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is, despite His failure by our worldly standards of success, Jesus

(Continued on page 7)

Lectionary Readings

March 1, 2015

2nd Sunday in Lent
 Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
 Psalm 22:23-31
 Romans 4:13-25
 Mark 8:31-38

March 8, 2015

3rd Sunday in Lent
 Exodus 20:1-17
 Psalm 19
 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
 John 2:13-22

March 15, 2015

4th Sunday in Lent
 Numbers 21:4-9
 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-2
 Ephesians 2:1-10
 John 3:14-21

March 22, 2015

5th Sunday in Lent
 Jeremiah 31:31-34
 Psalm 51:1-12
 Hebrews 5:5-10
 John 12:20-33

March 29, 2015

Passion/Palm Sunday
 Liturgy of the Palms: Mark 11:1-11
 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
 Liturgy of the Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9a
 Psalm 31:9-16
 Philippians 2:5-11
 Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39

March 30, 2015

Monday of Holy Week
 Isaiah 42:1-9
 Psalm 36:5-11
 Hebrews 9:11-15
 John 12:1-11

March 31, 2015

Tuesday of Holy Week
 Isaiah 49:1-7
 Psalm 71:1-14
 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
 John 12:20-36

January Financial Report

Rick Monarch, Treasurer

| Expenses | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Apportionments | \$1,360.08 |
| Pastor's Salary | \$1,729.58 |
| Pastor's Benefits | \$880.32 |
| Housing Allowance | \$827.75 |
| Church Secretary's Salary | \$667.50 |
| Payroll Taxes | \$55.08 |
| Grass Cutting and Snow Removal | \$0.00 |
| Custodian's Salary | \$500.00 |
| Programs | \$857.27 |
| Office Expenses | \$111.41 |
| Trustees - Maintenance | \$1,040.34 |
| Miscellaneous Adjustment | -\$851.66 |
| Total Expenses | \$7,177.67 |

| Income | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Weekly Collections | \$5,610.59 |
| Cell Tower - Sprint | \$1,710.91 |
| Cell Tower - Verizon | \$1,275.20 |
| Grocery eScrips | \$3.77 |
| Use of Hall | \$0.00 |
| Interest Income | \$6.37 |
| Housing Allowance Reimbursement | \$0.00 |
| Total Income | \$8,606.84 |
| January 1, 2015 Balance | \$35,844.73 |
| January 31, 2015 Balance | \$37,273.90 |

| March Birthdays | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|----|----------------|
| 1 | Joe Laycock | 18 | Sharon Johnson |
| 3 | Scott Johnson | 19 | Emma Lynagh |
| | Becky Norwood | 24 | Gary Rogers |
| 12 | Steve Allman | 28 | Jaime Crawford |
| 15 | Chan Ketchum | 30 | Tammy Monarch |
| 17 | William Duvall, Jr. | | |

Floral Cross

Worship Committee

This winter has been bitter cold, and we're all looking for signs of spring. For the Lenten Season, our church will replace the altar flowers with greenery. On Easter Sunday, we will decorate our altar with a profusion of colorful flowers to celebrate the resurrection of Christ. The Worship Committee invites the congregation to participate in our new tradition, the Easter Cross. We had one last year that looked lovely. Please look in your flower beds on Easter Sunday, April 5, for colorful flowers with which to decorate the cross in our greeting room. Please clip a few small bunches of flowers to about 6"-8" in length and wrap the cut ends with a small strip of damp paper towel, covered with a strip of aluminum foil. There will be rubber bands to attach the flowers to the cross. Easter is quite early this year, so if you don't see flowers in your garden, please stop by your local grocery store and bring a small bouquet with you on Easter morning.

Easter Flowers

Doug Gaither, Worship Chair

Just a note that once again this year, we will decorate the sanctuary on Easter morning with a variety of brightly colored spring flowers: tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, and lilies. Order forms will be in your weekly bulletins beginning soon. Please consider ordering a bunch (or more!) to honor or remember your loved ones on Easter morning.

Sunday School News

Tammy Monarch, Education Chair

We are learning about the meaning of Lent and preparing ourselves for the coming of Jesus' last days here on Earth. During this time, we are thinking, reflecting, writing, drawing, and discussing our thoughts and reactions to the various events in the final days of His life.

As always, please feel free to come and join us anytime – both young and old are welcome. We would love to have you!

The "Capitol Steps" are Coming to Our Hometown!

The *Capitol Steps*, a musical comedy troupe, puts the "mock" in de-moc-racy! This very talented group will be performing songs from their current album, "How to Succeed in Congress Without Really Lying!" on Sunday night, March 15 at 7 PM. in the Damascus High School Auditorium. Why not consider coming out and enjoying a wonderful stage show right here in our own hometown? All proceeds from this fundraising show will benefit the Damascus and Clarksburg High Schools' Post Prom Parties, which will be held this May. Tickets cost \$40 apiece if you buy them at the door, or \$30 each if you purchase them in advance from this website, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/capitol-steps-post-prom-fundriser-tickets-15352110576>.

Wesley Grove United
Methodist Church



Annual Spring Dinner

Turkey & Fried Oyster

Saturday, March 14 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Adults \$17 Children ages 5-12 \$8

Preschoolers eat free!

Bake Table and
Carryout Meals Available



Wesley Grove United Methodist Church

23640 Woodfield Road

Gaithersburg, MD 20882

www.wesleygroveumc.org 301-253-2894

Christian Fellowship News

Becky Lewis, Chair

March traditionally is a time for looking forward: to Easter, to spring, even to summer. This March will be no exception as we ask you to look forward on your calendars and sign up for some events that are off in the future.

First, there will be an Adult Fellowship outing to Medieval Times at Arundel Mills Mall on Saturday, April 11. The evening starts at 7 p.m. with a meal of tomato bisque soup, roast chicken, ribs, roasted potatoes, bread and pastry: all eaten without benefit of utensils! Please sign up for your seats by Sunday, March 22; cost is \$44.75 per person, and we have reserved 30 seats. Please make checks payable to Becky Lewis.

Second, look even farther down the road to June 28, when we will sponsor a family outing to the Frederick Keys' Faith Night event. Gates open at 3:30 p.m. and the festivities start with a concert by Waterboyz for Jesus, followed by children's time on the field, the game, and fireworks. Cost for general admission seats is \$7 for adults and \$5 for youth. Checks should again be made payable to Becky Lewis, and deadline for purchase is March 29.

Then zoom back to the present month and sign up to participate in the Adult Fellowship Games Night at Rick and Tammy Monarch's home, 9009 Kimblehunt Drive, on Saturday, March 7, at 7 p.m. Please bring an appetizer or a dessert to share, in addition to any games you think others might enjoy.

Although no sign up is required, please spread the word throughout our neighborhood that our Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, March 28, at 3 p.m. **(please note time change)** at the Education Building. All

preschoolers and elementary school students are welcome.

Other March activities include Sunday School bowling, Sunday, March 8, at 3:00; Daytime Circle Brown Bag Lunch, Wednesday, March 4, 12:30 p.m. in the Education Building; Coffee and Conversation hosted by Bill and Judy Hughes, Sunday, March 15, after service; Ladies Lunch Out, Wednesday, March 18, noon; and Men's Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, March 21, 8 a.m. in the Education Building.

Looking ahead to April, in addition to the outing to Medieval Times, be sure to mark your calendars for our Fellowship Breakfast following the Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday, April 5, and the UMM-sponsored Spring Clean-up Day, Saturday, April 11. And don't forget that balloting for the Man and Woman of the Year will go on throughout the month of April!

(Please note that the date for the South Damascus Charge Picnic has been changed from Sunday, July 26, to Sunday, July 19, to coincide with the end of Vacation Bible School.)

(Continued from page 1)

Christ was the greatest success that the world has ever seen. Why? Because He came with a purpose. To die for the sins of the world. And He accomplished that task. Jesus fulfilled His Destiny. And now He leaves His success with us. Accept God's grace of salvation that can only be found in His Son, Jesus Christ, to fulfill your destiny. Make a decision today and God will richly bless you and your entire family.

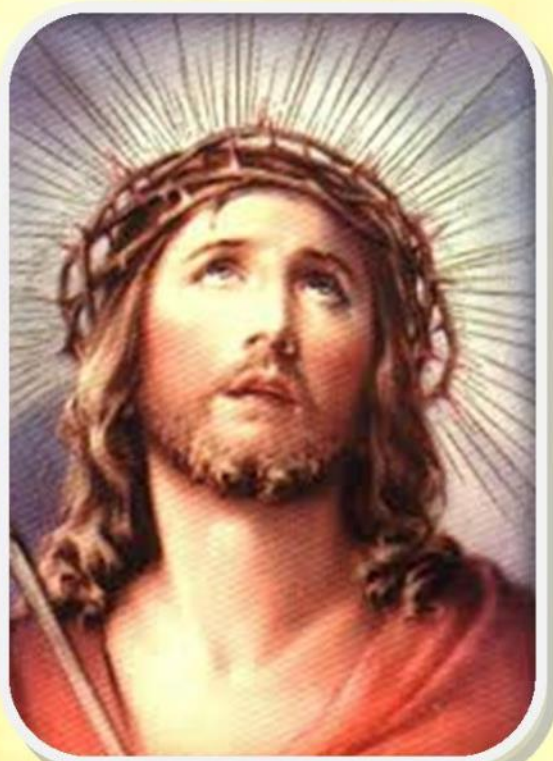
Pastor John Ampiah-Addison

MARCH 2015

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship (Communion) | 2 | 3 6:45 PM Lions Club | 4 12:30 PM Daytime Circle Brown Bag Lunch 7:00 PM Choir. | 5 7:30 PM Lenten Bible Study | 6 | 7 7:00 PM Games Night at the Monarch's |
| 8 <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 3:00 Sunday School Bowling and Pizza | 9 7:03 PM Admin. Council | 10 | 11 6:00 PM Dinner Set Up 7:00 PM Choir | 12 7:30 PM Lenten Bible Study | 13 Turkey & Fried Oyster Dinner Set Up | 14 Turkey & Fried Oyster Dinner Serving 1:00 - 5:00 PM |
| 15 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship NOON Coffee and Conversation | 16 7:30 PM Missions Committee | 17 6:45 PM Lions Club | 18 NOON Newsletter Deadline/Ladies Lunch Out 7:00 PM Choir | 19 7:30 PM Lenten Bible Study | 20 | 21 8:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 AM Rustic Road Clean Up |
| 22 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship | 23 7:30 PM Finance Committee | 24 7:30 PM Board of Trustees | 25 7:00 PM Choir | 26 7:30 PM Lenten Bible Study | 27 | 28 9:30 AM Cantata Rehearsal 3:00 PM Easter Egg Hunt |
| 29 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship with Cantata 7:30 PM Cantata | 30 1:00 PM St. Martin's Soup Kitchen | 31 | | | | |

Wesley Grove United Methodist Church Choir & Players present:

MY REDEEMER



LIVES

An original script by Scott Iles

March 29, 2015

**11:00 AM &
7:30 PM**

What does the Easter Story really have to do with the modern world? Experience this life changing performance as the Wesley Grove United Methodist Church Choir and Players bring beautiful original music to life and witness the miracle of Jesus' resurrection and ours.

Wesley Grove United Methodist Church

23614 Woodfield Road Gaithersburg, MD 20882

301-253-2894

www.wgumc@wesleygroveumc.org

Administrative Council Meeting February 9, 2015

Jackie Hottinger, Secretary

In attendance: Bob Burke, Pastor Linda Yarrow, Rick Monarch, Jackie Hottinger, Tammy Monarch, Judy Hughes, Lewis Burdette, Becky Lewis, Mary Ann Davis, Pastor John Amphiah-Addison, Mike Sherwood

Devotional: Bob Burke shared a story titled "A Blessing Not a Curse," based on Romans 12:14. He then shared a short prayer.

Good News Items: Wonderful Soup Sunday with a nice turnout and visitors from Vitality's "Double Up Sunday". Scouting Sunday was a success with the Scouts presenting a nice flag ceremony.

Action Items: Rick Monarch made a motion to accept the January 12, 2015, minutes as written and published, Judy Hughes seconded, vote taken and approved as written.

Committee Reports:

Christian Fellowship - Becky Lewis: Blessing of the Animals will be on Sunday, May 17, at 3:00 p.m. outside of Pet Valu at the Damascus shopping center.

Missions - Jackie Hottinger: We are collecting snacks and drinks for the Rock the House afterschool program.

Trustees - Rick Monarch & Lewis Burdette: All of the plumbing issues have been repaired. The shelves have been installed in the music room.

Pastor's Report - Pastor Linda: Vitality Team seems to be moving forward. We will have a baptism and two new members joining the church on February 15.

Pastor's Report - Pastor John: Visitation Care Team meeting scheduled for February 14. This will be a valuable ministry for the church. There is an Adult Bible Study Class on Tuesdays from 9 to 11 a.m. at Salem.

Old Business: Parking lot lights for the back lot and playground will be provided and installed by Potomac Edison. Office Manager Karen Allman is coordinating the project with them, still a work in progress.

New Business: We need to set goals for the congregation for 2015. This will be an action item for the March 2015 meeting.

Devotions for next meeting will be Mike Sherwood.

Next meeting will be Monday, March 9, 2015, at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned with a prayer from Pastor John at 8:23 p.m.

WG Scholarship News

Jim Kemp, Committee Chair

Our Memorial and Scholarship Committee is proud to once again announce that it is seeking students to apply for one or both of our Wesley Grove Church scholarships. Candidates must be active and involved members of this church who currently have GPAs of at least 2.5, and will be attending college full, or part-time this coming fall. If you are interested in finding out more information or receiving an application, please contact Tammy Monarch at (301) 253-0044. The application deadline is April 30.

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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.



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**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

*Please join us for Easter
Sunday Services!*

Sun Rise Service
6:30 AM
(breakfast following)

Easter Sunday Service
11:00 AM

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

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