

Wesley Grove **Messenger**

February 2019

From Pastor Karen's Pulpit...

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Several years ago, Malcolm Gladwell wrote a best-selling book titled *The Tipping Point*. The premise was that seemingly insignificant actions can cause major changes in human history. On the cover of the paperback edition, there is a picture of a matchstick. The illustration is never explained in the book, but several implications are clear as you read through the pages. For example, if a seesaw is perfectly balanced, it might take no more than the weight of an additional single matchstick to drop one end of the seesaw to the ground. We would also do right to remember that a tiny match can cause a great flame.

In the balance of everyday life, tiny changes can make a world of difference. That's true of trends, fads, economics, and politics. And it's also true of the human soul. Each one of us, whether we know it or not, has a personal tipping point. Our hearts can be moved, and our lives can be changed forever by the littlest of things.

No one has ever known this better than Jesus, who invited people of all types to alter the direction of their lives by making the smallest of changes. Give a cup of water to someone who thirsts. Pay attention to a child. Welcome the stranger. Look into our own hearts before we criticize our neighbors. Ask God for forgiveness. These are some of the little things Jesus asked us to do. Anyone can do them and they can completely change the balance of our lives.

When Jesus was asked by a lawyer to state the greatest commandment in the law, He came up with two commandments that are seamlessly joined together as one: *You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind. And you shall love your neighbor as yourself.*

A tiny matchstick of a saying, but for every one of us, these two commandments are the tipping point. If you love God and love your neighbor, your life will change. When you give away a little more, when you smile a little more, when you choose kindness a little more, when you share your time a little more, or when you seek peace a little more, you may just tip the balance and feel God's perfect love changing your heart and the hearts of those around you for good and forever.

In God's peace,

Pastor Karen

Lectionary Readings

February 3, 2019

Jeremiah 1:4-10
 Psalm 71:1-6
 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
 Luke 4:21-30

February 10, 2019

Isaiah 6:1-13
 Psalm 138
 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
 Luke 5:1-11

February 17, 2019

Jeremiah 17:5-10
 Psalm 1
 1 Corinthians 15:12-20
 Luke 6:17-26

February 24, 2019

Genesis 45:3-15
 Psalm 37:1-11,39-40
 1 Corinthians 15:35-50
 Luke 6:27-38

February Birthdays



- 1 Barbara Kunkle
- 9 Namela Miller
- 13 Daniel Hottinger
- 14 Joel Ketchum
Abby Horner
- 15 Susan Boyko
- 22 Andi Brickman
Shelby Kepner
- 23 Stephen Lewis

December 2018 Financial Report

Rick Monarch, Treasurer

Expenses

Apportionments	\$1,204.75
Pastor's Salary	\$1,416.66
Associate Pastor's Salary	\$385.96
Pastor's Benefits	\$597.50
Pastor's Professional Expenses	\$0.00
Parsonage Expenses	\$928.02
Church Secretary's Payroll	\$777.75
Choir Director's Salary	\$750.00
Payroll Taxes	\$168.19
Grass Cutting Fees	\$0.00
Snow Removal Fees	\$0.00
Custodian's Payroll	\$540.00
Programs	\$1,301.94
Office Expenses	\$95.99
Trustees - Maintenance	\$2,378.26
Miscellaneous	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$10,545.02

Income

Weekly Collections	\$10,238.81
Sunday School Collections	\$0.00
Cell Tower Income - Sprint	\$1,925.65
Cell Tower Income - Verizon	\$1,435.25
Dinner Income	\$0.00
Use of Hall Fees	\$0.00
In and Out Income	\$0.00
Rental Property Monthly Payment	\$1,000.00
Monthly Donation from Evening Circle	\$300.00
Miscellaneous	\$0.00
Health Insurance & Pension Reimbursements (from Mt. Tabor UMC & Salem UMC)	\$2,014.12
Total Income	\$16,913.83

*Spread the
Love of God
 to everyone
 you meet,
 not just on
 Valentine's Day,
 but every day!*



Christian Education News

Tammy Monarch, Chair

Our Sunday School will begin to study a new subject this month. We will focus on the women of the Old Testament using the book called *A Faith of Her Own* as our resource. As always, all of you are welcome to join us any Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Education Building. We often have lively and interesting discussions, and we'd love to add new members to our group!

For our Lenten Community Service Project, we will once again fill meal bags for the homeless in our area. We are asking all of you to consider donating any of the items on the list below for this very worthy project. Please note that all items must be individually sized and wrapped portions.

- Tuna, salmon, chicken, Vienna sausages
- Granola/protein/breakfast bars
- Fruit, pudding, or gelatin cups (non-refrigerated)
- Bags of assorted cookies, fruit snacks, chips, crackers, etc.
- Bottles of water
- Small packages of tissues, hand wipes, and/or hand warmers



And finally, our Education Committee is still looking for that special person to head up Vacation Bible School this coming summer. The program is called ROAR, and as you can guess, it takes place on the Serengeti of Africa, and yes, there will be lots of lions, tigers, giraffes, and zebras wandering around! Please think and pray about this position, and if you feel called to fulfill this or another role at VBS, please contact Pastor Karen or Tammy as soon as possible.

Worship News

Sue Ketchum, Chair

The Worship Committee would like to thank Bob and Cathy Burke, Judy Hughes, Sally Swearingen, Becky Lewis, and Skip and Sue Ketchum for helping to undecorate the sanctuary after the Advent and Christmas seasons. We all appreciate their help in returning our sanctuary to its normal condition.

Our next committee meeting will take place after the worship service on Sunday, February 24. If anyone has any suggestions, ideas, and/or changes that would enhance our worship experience, please let Sue or any other member of the committee know before this meeting.

Birth Announcements



**Henry & Joyce King
Have Two New Great-Grandchildren!**

Haven Willow Black

Second Daughter of Sarah & David Black
December 3, 2018
Lander, Wyoming
Grandparents: Wayne & Dawn King

River Lane Haas

First Child of Tayler & Travis Haas
December 24, 2018
Chesapeake, Virginia
Grandparents: Neal & Teri King

Christian Fellowship News

Becky Lewis, Chair

We're going to have Breakfast for Dinner! Come out and join in the fun at our Annual Adult Fellowship Themed Potluck on Saturday, February 16 at 6 p.m. Think about whether you'd like to make a main dish, a sweet, or a side dish and look for the sign-up sheet in the vestibule. Steven Arndt and Linda Chatterton have graciously agreed to host this event in their home at 24418 Galeano Way, which is located off Sweepstakes Road. Please note that this dinner has a snow date of February 23.

Also on the February calendar, the Daytime Circle will hold its monthly Brown Bag Lunch on Wednesday, February 6 at 12:30 p.m. in the Education Building; the United Methodist Men will meet for breakfast at Tom & Ray's (if the opening is delayed, breakfast will be at Smokehill BBQ) on Monday, February 18 at 8 a.m.; and Ladies Lunch Out will meet on Wednesday, February 20 at noon at the Hornet's Nest Grille in Damascus. Namela Miller and Susan and Josh Park will host Coffee and Conversation following the worship service on Sunday, February 17.

Looking ahead to March, make plans for our annual Games Night at Rick and Tammy Monarch's home on Saturday, March 16 and our spring visit to our nursing home friends on Sunday, March 24.

The Christian Fellowship Committee met on January 8 and planned the 2019 calendar. The complete list of dates follows; please note that there are a number of months where a host family is needed for Coffee and Conversation. Please let Becky know which one you would like, and start marking your

calendars now with the other dates, so you won't miss a thing in 2019!

March

- 6 - Brown Bag Lunch, 12:30 p.m.
- 16 - Games Night, Monarch home, 7 p.m.
- 17 - Coffee & Conversation. Hosts: TBD
- 20 - Ladies Lunch Out, noon
- 24 - Spring Nursing Home Singing, 4 p.m., followed by potluck dinner at Lewis home

April

- 3 - Brown Bag Lunch, 12:30 p.m.
- 13 - Special Needs Easter Party & Egg Hunt, 2 p.m.
- 14 - Coffee & Conversation (Cantata). Hosts: Becky & Brian Lewis
- 17 - Ladies Lunch Out, Noon
- 21 - Easter Breakfast, following Sunrise Service. Hosts: Becky & Brian Lewis

May

- 1 - Brown Bag Lunch, 12:30 p.m.
- 9 - Yard Sale Setup, 7 p.m.
- 11 - Spring Yard Sale, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- 12 - Mother's Day Breakfast, 9:30 a.m.
- 15 - Ladies Lunch Out, noon
- 19 - Coffee & Conversation. Hosts: TBD

June

- 2 - Coffee & Conversation (Education Sunday). Hosts: TBD
- 5 - Daytime Circle Luncheon, 12:30 p.m.
- 16 - Father's Day Breakfast, 9:30 a.m.
- 19 - Ladies Lunch Out, noon

July

- 12 - Celebrate Damascus Parade, 7 p.m.
- 17 - Ladies Lunch Out, noon
- 20 - Special Needs Dinner & Movie, 5 p.m.

August

- 18 - Summer Nursing Home Singing & pizza dinner, 4 p.m.
- 21 - Ladies Lunch Out, noon
- 24 - Community Movie Night (tentative)

September

- 4 - Brown Bag Lunch, 12:30 p.m.
- 7 - Picnic Set-up & Christian Fellowship Meeting, 10 a.m.
- 8 - Picnic, following worship
- 18 - Ladies Lunch Out, noon

October

2 - Brown Bag Lunch, 12:30 p.m.
 14 - UMM Breakfast, 8 a.m.
 16 - Ladies Lunch Out, noon
 20 - Coffee & Conversation. Hosts: TBD

November

6 - Brown Bag Lunch, 12:30 p.m.
 11 - UMM Breakfast, 8 a.m.
 20 - Ladies Lunch Out, noon
 21 - Bazaar Set-up, 7 p.m.
 22 - Bazaar Set-up, 11 a.m.
 23 - Bazaar, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
 24 - Lunch following worship. Hosts: Evening Circle

December

4 - Daytime Circle Christmas Luncheon, 12:30 p.m.
 5 - Community Christmas Tree Lighting, 7 p.m.
 14 - Special Needs Christmas Party, 4 p.m.
 15 - Caroling & Dinner, 4 p.m.
 22 - Coffee & Conversation (Cantata). Hosts: Becky & Brian Lewis

Missions News

Jackie Hottinger, Chair

We will collect snacks and drinks in the month of February for the Damascus Garden Apartment children for use at their Rock the House afterschool program. There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule if you wish to donate. This is a wonderful program that supports our Damascus area children.

Missions will once again continue to support Jessi (Wagner) Harper this year with a quarterly contribution of \$150. Jessi's dedication to her New York City children's ministry is a wonderful testimony to her enduring faith and dedication. We applaud her efforts and feel blessed we can support her ministry.

BWC Scholarship Information

The Baltimore-Washington Conference is once again offering college scholarships for the fall semester. Interested students can apply now through March 7 using the online application system.

These scholarships are available for students attending accredited colleges and universities in the United States full time. All applicants must be active members of their own churches for at least one year and have GPAs of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. Official transcripts (high school or college) and contact information from two church references (the pastor and another member of the church) must be provided.

For more information and/or to apply, visit www.bwcumc.org/administration/local-church-resources/scholarships/ or call 410-309-3446.

The Way Forward

If you haven't already heard, the United Methodist Church is at a decision point in its life. As a church, we need to decide how to move forward and be accessible and compassionate to all people. Over the past decade, there has been much discussion and debate about this topic causing our church to reach this historic point where a decision must now be made. This will happen on February 23 in St. Louis at a Special Session of General Conference.

Various information about what lies ahead and the choices we have as United Methodists is located on the table in the vestibule. Please read over these documents to be aware of this issue and what might be decided later this month.

Join the UMM
for
Breakfast



Tom & Ray's

Monday, February 18
8 a.m.



Join Our Adult Fellowship
Saturday, February 16
6 p.m.

Breakfast for Dinner
Hosts: Steven Arndt & Linda Chatterton
24418 Galeano Way



Sign up in the Greeting Room



Ladies Lunch Out

**February
Luncheon**

Wednesday, February 20
12 p.m.

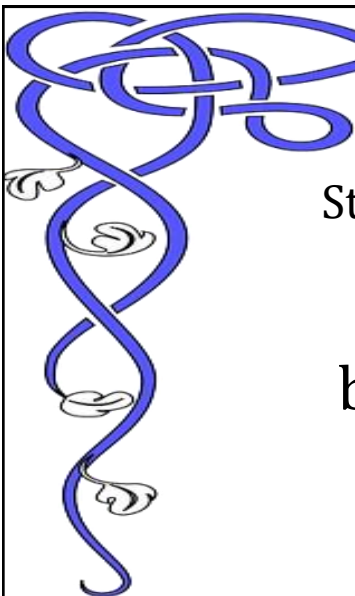
Planning Ahead...

Mark your calendars now!

Spring Fundraising Dinner

Saturday, March 9

Menu announced
in church and in our next newsletter



Start cleaning out both physically and mentally...

Lent Is Coming
beginning Ash Wednesday, March 6

Get your body, mind, spirit, and soul ready!

February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30 AM - Sunday School 11:00AM - Worship with Communion	4	5 6:45 PM - Lions Club Dinner	6 12:30 PM - Brown Bag Lunch 7:00 PM - Choir Practice	7	8	9
10 9:30 AM - Sunday School 11:00AM - Worship	11	12	13 7:00 PM - Choir Practice	14	15	16 6:00 PM - Adult Potluck Breakfast for Dinner @ Steven & Linda's Home
17 9:30 AM - Sunday School 11:00AM - Worship with Fellowship Hour following	18 8:00 AM - UMM Breakfast @ Tom & Ray's/Smokehill March Newsletter Deadline	19 6:45 PM - Lions Club Dinner	20 12:00 PM - Ladies Lunch Out 7:00 PM - Choir Practice	21	22	23 6:00 PM - Snow Date for Adult Potluck Dinner
24 9:30 AM - Sunday School 11:00AM - Worship 12:30PM - Worship Committee Meeting	25 7:30 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting	26	27 7:00 PM - Choir Practice	28		



Wesley Grove
United Methodist Church
Church Phone: 301-253-2894

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

Adult Fellowship **Pot Luck Breakfast** for Dinner



Saturday, February 16
6 p.m.

Use your imagination to cook,
bake, or create something delicious!

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

**Wesley Grove United Methodist
Church**
23640 Woodfield Road
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