

Susanna Wesley UMC

3900 George Washington Memorial Hwy.
Ordinary, VA 23131

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 39
Hayes, VA 23072

Sunday Services

Traditional at 8:15 a.m.
Contemporary at 10:30 a.m.

June
2022



Office number 804-642-7551

www.susannawesleyumc.org

office@susannawesleyumc.org



June Newsletter

From the Pastor

John Wesley would open up all small group meetings with the question “How is it with your soul?” That’s a far deeper question than, “How are you?”

I mean, how is your soul doing? How is your spirit fairing? Really, how are you? It’s a jarring question because we often ask, “How are you?” out of habit. When someone responds with the truth, we usually get uncomfortable because they have the nerve to actually tell us how they are doing.

Perhaps it’s a question we like to avoid because answering it forces us to really take stock on the health of our souls — which often leads to admitting that we may not be doing as well as we want others to think.

I’ve had to step back a bit here and there to really ask myself, “How is it with my soul?” The answer may surprise some but I suspect there are many like me who can say “it’s not good.”

As we approach the end of the school year for the children and youth and the beginning of the summer vacation season, I have to admit it is with sadness that I share this message of hope.

A shooting at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas, that has killed 19 children and two adults marks the 27th school shooting this year. This comes just 10 days after a shooting at a Tops supermarket in Buffalo, N.Y., that took the lives of 10 people.

My heart and soul hurts from these tragedies. Hurts for the families who have lost loved ones. For the innocent children killed. My soul aches when I hear the sadness in the voices, the sorrow and grief of those whose lives are forever changed by these senseless acts of violence.

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Upcoming Services

Pentecost Sunday, June 5th

8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

Scripture:

Acts 2: 1-21

Message:

Overcoming Babel:
Living the Spirit Life

Trinity Sunday, June 12th

8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

Scripture:

John 16: 12-15

Message:

Does Not Wisdom Call:
Living the Spirit Life

Father’s Day Sunday, Juneteenth

8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

Scripture:

Luke 8: 26-39

Message:

From Madness to Stillness:
Living the Spirit Life

Sunday, June 26th

8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

Scripture:

Luke 9: 51-62

Message:

Brought Home in the Spirit:
Living the Spirit Life

**Do no harm, Do Good.
Stay in love with God.**

John Wesley

(Continued from Page 1)

Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton, New York Annual Conference Conference Reident Bishop and the President, The Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church has sent out a letter, which is posted in the hallway across from the office and on Conference website www.vaumc.org . It's a call to action. He begins with a message from the Epistle of James.

Therefore, rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.

James 1:21-22

He calls for us to be on the offense. He calls on all pastors to “*weave our theology of a lived-out faith into sermons that challenge people to convert their fears, angers, racist tendencies, and complicit behaviors into a mobilized witness of the power of God to do far more than we could ever dream of or imagine.*” For me, I can no longer sit on the sidelines.

He goes further in his letter saying, “*If you are a lay person, determine today how you will take the faith you nurture each week in a pew to the streets, the places where you work, and the homes where you live. If you are a church body, don't settle for just active shooter training. Determine that you will actively work to transform lives from violence to peace, elect officials that will not settle for inaction, and inject communities with the grace and love of Christ that will alter the course of our current behaviors. Let's go on the offense today and play whatever role we can to change the cycle of violence, end racism and other behaviors that treat people less than they were created to be, and create a narrative that will compel people to live a life with a heart of peace.*”

Right now, I'm spending a lot of time in prayer, discerning God's will and guidance as I continue to shepherd our community to be a loving, welcoming, transforming community sharing the message of God's hope and love.

But I know it's easy to get lost in the demands of life and the sorrow of what continues to take place. So, my challenge to you is this: we have to work, work, work and work not to lose faith and focus. We're so consumed and busy with life and all its challenges, we may not realize we're running on steam. Especially in the midst of another mass shooting like this one.

So, it's imperative that we all reflect on the question that Wesley opened his meetings with: How is it with your soul?

In the midst of this challenge for call to action and the sorrow we feel in our fallen world, his question steers us to analyze our life and our habits. What are we feeding ourselves (e.g. reading, watching, or searching the internet for, and what we read on social media)? To ask ourselves:

- What are the things that I'm engaging in that bring my soul closer God?
- What are the things that I'm doing that are putting a wedge between God and myself?
- What are the things that I'm doing in my life that really make my soul shine brightly and flourish?
- What are things I'm engaged in that are draining the life out of my soul?

Bishop Bickerton concludes his letter stating, “*The call today is for every United Methodist Christian to go on the offense, stating what we believe the power of God can do in our midst, opening ourselves to power of God at work within us, and doing whatever we can to alter the current course of behavior once and for all.*”

He's asking us to make a commitment. To get out of the routine we have found ourselves in and take steps to change. To seek the truth rather to affirm what we already believe. To dig deeper, to look at all sides, just as we do in a book or bible study. To ask questions and open our eyes to see and our ears to hear.

As I step up to take on this call to action I remembered I was once told that prayer is to our souls as breathing is to our bodies. Wesley's question helps me to make sure my soul is breathing.

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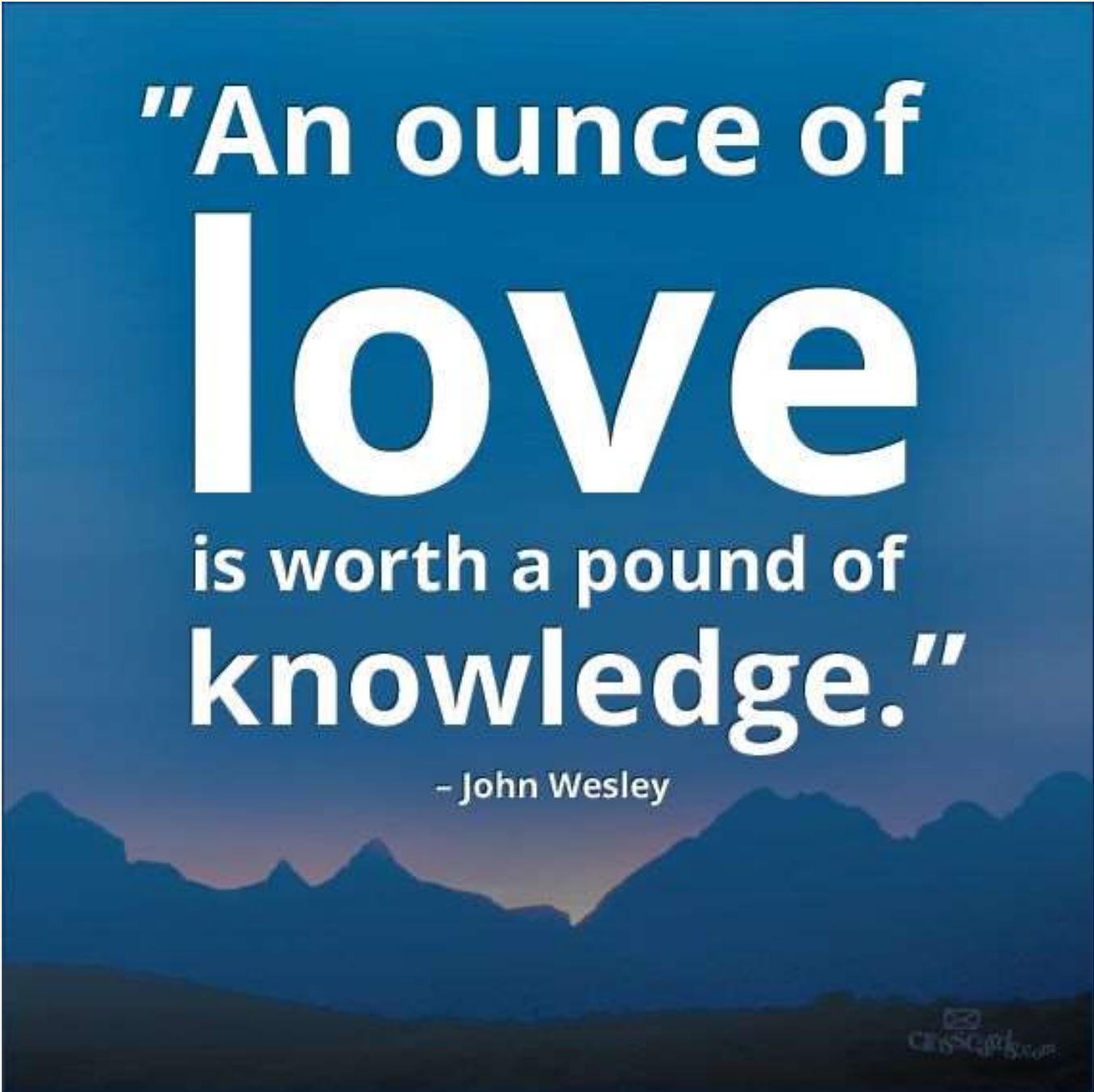
Reminding me...

to pause;
to pray;
to wonder;
to be in awe;
to laugh;
to cry; and right now, there are too many tears,
to sing.

It reminds me that it's OK to be human. And that it's more than OK to admit that I'm not doing well and need a little help from my friends and colleagues. Maybe you could benefit from asking yourself, "How is it with my soul?" Or maybe you could help someone by asking how their soul is and then genuinely listen to their response.

It's an important question that we should ask and answer frequently.

Just a thought, *Pastor Tom*



**"An ounce of
love
is worth a pound of
knowledge."**

- John Wesley


CISQ.com

Vacation Bible School

**We know we need it.
We need help to make it happen!**

We are working to put together a shortened version of typical week long VBS program. Barbara McGlohn will lead our music program and help with inside activities. Vicky Barnes will help organize. We will gather ideas at our Fellowship Meal this Sunday, May 29th. We will reveal our plan on Sunday, June 5th. Pray about where you can help.



Continue to pray about becoming part of this team.

For two or more to join together to lead the team

**For those who have gifts to teach, to help, to lead craft or sport activities
and for those who can prepare food are welcome to step up!**

One idea for a shortened version would be to host a Studio VBS

Creating a Studio atmosphere would be easy using colors and decorations from Oriental Trading Company. We can purchase crafts, coloring pages and DIY instruments for the children to make. Others could prepare yummy snacks for the kids to share. There would never be a dull moment.

How much fun could we have singing and playing the DIY instruments, along with games, art projects and crafts?

Children

Children are born with an innate sense of wonder and faith that is real and authentic. As teachers and leaders our role is to provide a foundation of experiences on which children build a life of learning and growth toward a mature and vital faith

Get Ready for the 2022 Virginia Annual Conference

Annual Conference is just **THREE WEEKS AWAY!**

When: It begins at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 16 until noon on Saturday, June 18

How: In person (it's been three years)

Where: Hampton Convention Center

Theme: based on John 4:24 (CEB): *“God is spirit, and it is necessary to worship God in spirit and truth.”*

Message from our District Superintendent requesting volunteers

As we prepare to host the 240th session of the Virginia Annual Conference, we do so with great anticipation and honor. We have not had an in-person Annual Conference for the past three years, and that is what makes this year's Annual Conference special.

As hosts, we can all take pride in ensuring that we provide the kind of hospitality that is only worthy of the York River District. We, therefore, solicit your help. To date, we have only a fraction of the volunteers that are needed to knock hosting this year's Annual Conference out of the park. Offering yourself as a volunteer would make a huge difference.



Here is how we can knock hosting this year's Annual Conference out of the park.

- 1) Pray for a blessed Annual Conference.
- 2) **Please prayerfully consider volunteering.**
 - Go to the District Webpage (www.yorkriverdistrict.org) to sign-up. For those reading this as an electronic copy, here are the links to the Sign-Up Genius pages:
 - Registration <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B054CAFA923A5F94-2022>
 - Ushers <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B054CAFA923A5F94-20221>
 - Platform <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B054CAFA923A5F94-20222>
 - Golf Carts <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B054CAFA923A5F94-acgolf>
- 3) Volunteer for 1, 2, 3 ... hours.
- 4) If you are still in doubt, contact Lisa in the District Office ((757) 596-3476) and inquire about available opportunities.

Blessings to you!

Rev. Charles F. Ledlum-Bates, PhD
District Superintendent
Rappahannock & York River Districts of the United Methodist Church

United as One in Worship is the theme of the 240th session of the Virginia Annual Conference. This year's theme is based on John 4:24, a wonderfully powerful verse that reads, "God is spirit, and it is necessary to worship God in spirit and truth." (CEB) As the people of God gather in worship, we come unified in the power of the Holy Spirit to give God praise and glory... in spirit and in truth. This is necessary and this is, therefore, necessarily uniting! Will you join your fellow United Methodist Annual Conference members in participating and imagining the great things that will happen when nearly 2,600 United Methodists gather in Hampton, Virginia to conduct all that we will do within the framework of worship?

We gather as a committed people of God

At our best, we are the spirit-filled, resilient, connected, missional, faithful, diverse, deeply rooted, committed, disciple-making, Jesus-seeking, generous, justice-seeking, world-changing people of God called The United Methodist Church.

In the Virginia Conference, we are:

1,146 churches
308,490 members
1,895 clergy

Our domestic and international mission reaches over 1,400,000 people.

Together, our mission and ministry is how we #BeUMC.

Three Parts: One Mission

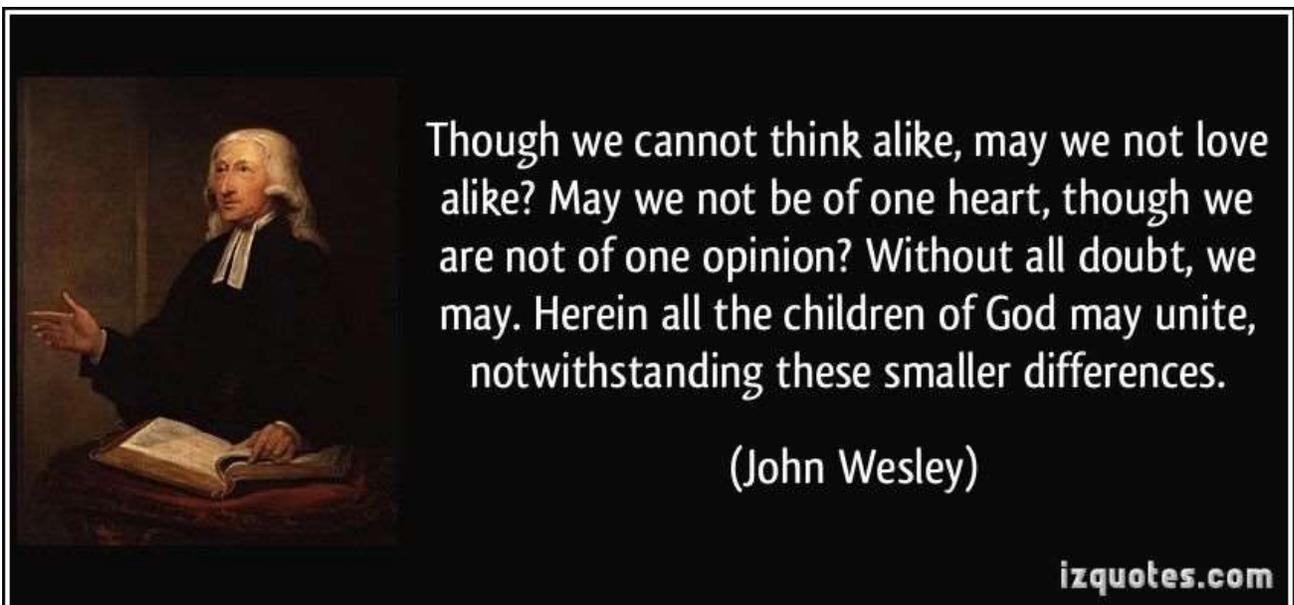
The mission of The United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In the Virginia Conference, we are doing this through our vision, "to be disciples of Jesus Christ who are lifelong learners who influence others to serve."

Find resources of how to live into the Virginia Conference vision through the conference offices of Learning, Influencing, and Serving.

Go to the Virginia Conference Webpage to learn more:

<https://vaumc.org/>





The Annual Conference Prayer Team invites everyone in the Virginia Annual Conference to prayer for the 2022 Annual Conference session. In order to cover the whole of the Annual Conference (AC) session in prayer as well as to pray for Bishop Lewis, AC leadership, AC members, worship and business session participants, and guests, an Annual Conference Prayer Team has been formed.

You are invited by the Rev. Kyungsuk Cho, Ms. Iris Smith, the Rev. Paul Oh, the Rev. Kim Barker-Brugman, and the Rev. Bob Parks, the AC Prayer Team, to join in praying for a Spirit-filled Annual Conference.

Follow the guides below to pray for Annual Conference:

- Pray AC members will allow God to instill in us an attitude and discipline of prayer in all conversations.
- Pray for God's guidance and blessings on the Laity and Clergy Sessions, worship celebrations, business sessions, mission opportunities, and social gatherings of AC.
- Pray for AC members to be witnesses of Jesus with thoughts, words, and actions.
- Pray for AC decisions to align with God's will.
- Pray for churches to become more vital and effective at making disciples of Jesus Christ who are lifelong learners who influence others to serve.

To Activate the Prayer Chain:

Step 1: Call any of the individuals listed during the time indicated.

Step 2: Please leave a message if your call is not answered before calling another member of the prayer chain.

Step 3: Pray as the prayer chain prays for your need

You may also place your written requests in the drop box at the front door or email you prayer request to:

Prayers@susannawesleyumc.org

How can I join the prayer chain?

Call the office: 804-642-7551

DAYTIME: 7AM – 5PM

- Phyllis Russell (804) 684-5143
- Joyce Neville (804) 815-2089
- Louise Quinn (804) 642-4961
- Julia Scarborough (804) 642-4525
- Deborah Wilson (757) 784-2451

EVENINGS: 5PM – 11PM

- Vicki Barnes (757) 592-4489
- Barbara McGlohn (804) 384-1693
- Goldie Rowe (804) 824-7377

NIGHTTIME: 11PM – 7AM

- Phyllis Russell (804) 684-5143
- Sonnie Leonard (804) 815-2864
- Marsha Germek (804) 815-3639

Church Office: (804) 642-7551

Pastor Tom Tipton: (703) 307-6892

Please pray for these parishioners & families:

Contact the church office at 804-642-7551 to add people to or remove people from the prayer list.

- Marsha Germek's sister, Isabella Wheat, who has been at Riverside ICU since May 11th
- Louise Quinn as she settles into her new home
- Gary Crayton for healing from his fall
- Keith Hoban for healing and strength from his accident
- Shirley Fanton's daughter, Michelle Grover, for continued healing from her surgery
- Virginia Meyer for continued healing and blessings in her new home
- Sebastian Brock as begins his ministry with our youth and as he opens his new store in the Williamsburg Outlet Mall.
- Harry Leonard for healing of his knee
- Linda Triolet and her family as they care for her mom
- Charles Rowe continued prayers for healing and strength
- The Leonard family, prayers for healing
- Rev. Gary Livermon for continued healing and strength as he takes medical leave before retiring
- Seema Tipton as she continues treatment for breast cancer
- Don Wilson & Deborah Wilson
- Robbie Hansford, prayers for healing
- Sondra Colbert's mother
- Goldie Rowe, prayers for peace and strength
- Vicki Barnes, prayers for healing as she continues treatment
- Prayers for safe travels for those going away this summer
- For those who have personal prayer needs

Monday Morning Prayer Ministry

When: 10 am every Monday (except Holidays)

Where: Classroom 7 in our Education Wing.

Jesus challenged his disciples not just to do the work but also pray for workers. Part of every disciple's job is to pray earnestly for new workers. The gospel is a sent message that starts with mobilized people who are committed to pray. Prayer is essential for any movement. This goes without saying, but sadly it is often neglected. We want to change that. We trust you do as well. Join us Mondays as we take time to pray for one another and our community.

Pick up a Prayer Guide in the Lobby

New and Member Change of Address

We are working on a new updated directory which will include pictures. We are cleaning up our current directory by adding new members, updating address, email and phone numbers & we want to keep you informed of those who have moved.

Louise Quinn

7407 Walker Ave Room 104B
Gloucester, VA 23061
Home: (804) 693-2192

Sabrina and Paul Jensen

4028 Shelly Road
Hayes, VA 23072



Shoe Box Ministry

Look for the donation box under the Giving Table which is the table closest to the worship/fellowship center entrance with the seasonal tree.

JUNE – children’s sunglasses, flipflops, bandanas, hats

JULY – crayons, markers, colored pencils

YOUTH Activities

June Youth Activities

Youth Group:
4 – 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, June 5, 12, 22, 26
NO meeting on June 19th – Father’s Day

Bible Study: 6 - 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 7, 14, 21, 28

We will be running a “summer schedule” and will not meet but once monthly in July and August.
We’ll start weekly meetings again in September.

Our monthly meetings will be fun outings such as bowling, amusement parks, SkyZone, etc.

We are also planning multiple fundraising events throughout the summer to help with the cost of these activities as well as the Red Bird Mission. In addition, we are planning on a mission activity in September when we will pack meals to send domestically and internationally...more details to come.

God bless,
Sebastian Brock | Youth Director

Upcoming Events

- Mission Outreach – Monday, June 6th 7:15 p.m. (in-person & ZOOM)
- Leadership Board – Wednesday, June 15th 7:00 p.m. (In-person & ZOOM)
- Women’s Fellowship – Tuesday, June 21st 9:30 a.m.
(Meet at Brent & Becky’s Bulbs for a tour; then out to lunch together)
- Fishes & Loaves – Saturday, June 25th 3-5:00 p.m. (Church Kitchen)



Food Pantry

How you can help?

Food Pantry

- Bring in or drop off your food donations at the door
- Volunteer to help with the Food Pantry

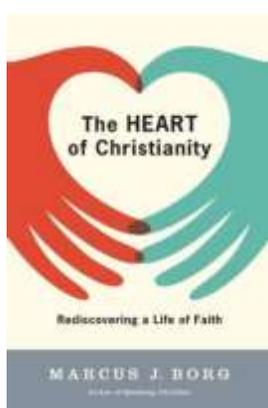
Fishes and Loaves

- Volunteer to help once a month with Fishes and Loaves
 - Help with preparing the meal
 - Package the meal for delivery
 - Deliver the hot meals to those who need them most – a kind word and smile when delivering can change the day and week for the person who receiving the meal

- **Boxed Meals**
- Canned Vegetables
 - Corn
 - Green Beans
 - Peas
 - Beans
- Canned Meats
 - Spam
 - Ham
 - Chicken & **Tuna**
- Rice (Small bags)
- Dried Beans (Small bags)
- Breakfast Bars
- Granola Bars
- **Diapers** (adult, **infant**)
- Pasta
- Dry (Powered) Milk
- **Boxed (Shelf Stable) Milk**
- **Evaporated Milk**
- Condensed Milk
- **Canned Fruit**
- **Snack Pack Fruit**
- Dried Fruit
 - Raisins
 - Craisins
- Soups
- Stews
- Ramen Noodles
- Condiments (Mayo, Ketchup, etc.)
- Feminine products
- Pasta Sauce
- Jelly/Preserves - When you visit the food pantry you will see an abundance of peanut butter and jelly
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Corn Bread (Jiffy)
- Stuffing Mix
- Cake Mix
- Cereal - Cheerios, Honey Nut, Wheaties, Corn Flakes, Chex
- **Personal Cleaning Wipes**
- Paper Towels
- Toilet paper

NOTE: The food pantry is open to all who are need. If you or someone you know needs food, please call 804-642-7551 on Monday to be put on the list for food pickup at SWUMC on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. - noon. Tell them our volunteers will bring their bag(s) (grocery, fresh vegetables, frozen items) to their vehicle.

Looking for a Bible Study/Small Group



Pastor's Book Study

The Heart of Christianity

Books available for \$4.00 in Church Office

(1st Part - 5-week study – Seeing the Christian Tradition Again)

Began Tuesday, May 24th

12:00 Noon (we are recording the classes to allow us to share later)

Where/How: In-person in classroom 7 and via ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82454292793?pwd=ZFJTM1BOZWFLToNLN2trdWlZOUZMz09>

Meeting ID: 824 5429 2793

Passcode: 364587

Sunday Morning

Join the **Adult Small Group** which meets in person in our community room at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday. You can also join this group via ZOOM

send request for invitation to puzzles4you@hotmail.com

Lively discussion guaranteed: comfortable, & prayer-driven

Youth Sunday Small Group at 9:30 a.m

Youth Bible Study Tuesdays 6 - 7:30 p.m

held in the Youth Room

Sunday Morning Explorers!

Join the **Explorers** at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings
Led by: Marsha K. Germek

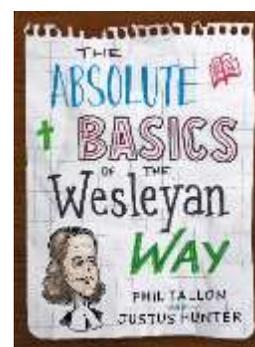
Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at your Table, based on Psalm 23 by Louie Giglio

6-week course with DVD lesson and corresponding Chapters in the study guide.



We are working to add a Young Adult/New Member Small Group Gathering

Where: In the **Decision Room**



Our first group study will be the "Absolute Basics of the Wesleyan Way"

We are in the final stages of setting this classroom up. The couches are set, the large TV will be installed the week of May 30th along with the computer and camera to allow Zoom participation.



June 7th Mike Ekdahl, Aurora McNamara
June 11th Harry Leonard
June 15th Dennis Goodrich
June 17th Cameron Finley
June 20th Roy Insley
June 24th Eric Thompson

June 4th Eric & Leslie Thompson
June 18th Chris & Kristen Kadlec
June 21 Ethan & Carrie Provensen
June 29th Gary & Rhonda Crayton, Vernon & Bonnie Williams



Summer is coming

Along with the Summer Slowdown at Susanna Wesley

What if we could look back over this coming summer and say we enjoyed slowing down and spending time with one another? Many passages focus on the importance of fellowshiping with one another. What if we reclaimed that as a goal this summer?

Summer will go by fast. Let's not miss out on a great moment to slow down and enjoy the season God has given to us. With a little planning we can come together to not only worship but to fellowship with each other.

So, what can we do this to bring us together?

Causal Sunday's – We are a welcoming community. We wear jeans, dress down and are just happy to be together. What if we had shorts Sunday? Come prepared for after service when you head out to the river, beach, Busch Gardens or just relax at home in your own backyard. Jesus wore sandals and gave his cloak to those in need. He never specified a dress code. Worshiping together is the greatest gift we share with God. Come as you are. Jesus is waiting.

5th Sunday Fellowship Meal – Our next fellowship meal will be held on Sunday, July 31st. This gives us time to think about how we could make this different. How about hamburgers and hot dogs?

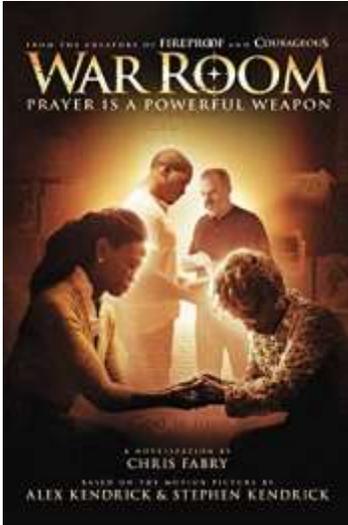
VBS – With a shortened schedule, it gives everyone the opportunity to help out with the children for a fun few days of fellowship. What better time to be with a group of joy filled children wanting to learn about a God who loves them? The time involved will be short but will also give us time to get to know one another.

Ice Cream Social – Karl's adult small group has an ice cream treat from time to time. What if we had an Ice Cream Social after service (we could do it after both services) for a time of fellowship? Ice Cream is always good any time of the day!

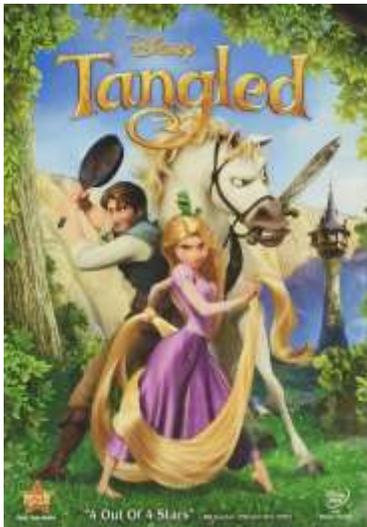
Family Movie Nights – Last summer we watched Disney movies as part of Pastor Tom's Gospel in Disney Series. There are so many good movies we could come together to watch. Pastor Tom went into his vault of movies and found the following to get your ideas.



Joshua – This 2002 movie is still relevant and life changing today when we come together in fellowship and popcorn. A man arrives in a small town. At first, no one knows his name; no one knows where he came from. The locals want to call him a stranger, but when they meet him, he makes them feel quite the opposite. Joshua (Tony Goldwyn) is seemingly everywhere at once, making the kind of impression that few have ever felt. But it is exactly this influence that creates a division between the stubbornly orthodox Father Tardon and the well-meaning but less-than-confident Father Pat.



War Room - With great jobs, a beautiful daughter (Alena Pitts) and a dream house, the Jordan's seem to have it all. Appearances can be deceiving, however, as husband Tony (T.C. Stallings) flirts with temptation and wife Elizabeth (Priscilla Shirer) becomes increasingly bitter, crumbling under the strain of a failing marriage. Their lives take an unexpected turn for the better when Elizabeth meets her newest client, Miss Clara (Karen Abercrombie), who encourages the couple to find happiness through prayer.



Tangled – it's always a good time to bring our children and grandchildren to church to watch a Disney movie. This Disney animation of a classic tale tells the story of a beautiful princess Rapunzel who has been locked away in a tower since she was captured as a baby by an old hag. Her magical long blonde hair has the power to provide eternal youth, and the evil Gothel uses this power to keep her young. At the age of 18, Rapunzel becomes curious about the outside world, and when a prince uses her tower as a refuge, she asks him to help her escape.



I Can Only Imagine - Growing up in Greenville, Texas, Bart Millard suffers physical and emotional abuse at the hands of his father, Arthur. When Arthur becomes terminally ill, he finds redemption by embracing his faith and rediscovering his love for his son. Years later, Bart's troubled childhood and mended relationship with his dad inspires him to write the hit song "I Can Only Imagine" as singer of the Christian band MercyMe.

So, what's your idea?!

How can we make this a summer of renewal and joy together?



MEN OF THE BIBLE WORD SEARCH

U I X R M N Z W A S N A Y I M
D A V I D J H A D E L I J A H
P I I O J F D X A Z I C W X V
B T V J G A I G M E R Y H P L
R G P A I N O A H C B F G R B
S L M T D P Z M Y M J S L C R
O O A M E J A B R A H A M S J
L A L G O O P U X U A X A H B
O P R O N N A C L P Y M H E H
M B Q V M A U M G U S K T K T
O T M I G H L L Q O A B P N S
N Q O G R J N E N Y M J A U A
T J P J K M F Z S J S O Z D Y
G V W A J X V X U R O P D Q T
C X S S X T U G X R N C T T D



Adam
Noah
Abraham
Gideon
Samson
David
Solomon
Elijah
Jonah
Paul

