

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.  
In-Service, Facebook Live  
Drive-In Worship 101.7 FM

November 19  
2022



## A Mid-Month Update on the Activities of SWUMC



## November Mid-Month Update

A note from Pastor Tom

It's been 58,121 days since Abraham Lincoln wrote the proclamation making the last Thursday in the month of November a day of Thanksgiving. He opened the proclamation with:

*"The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God.*

He continues the proclamation reflecting on the civil war and the division in our nation at that time. Today the civil war has been over for 156+ years and division still exist in our nation and world. Just as it has since the beginning of time. But it's in the opening words of his proclamation that I encourage you to focus as your gather this next week for a Thanksgiving meal or a time of fellowship.

There will always be noise in the world. People wanting their way, focused on themselves, seeking adoration in a world fighting one another. My challenge for you this Thanksgiving is to look towards the message of our Lord, Jesus the Christ. Just as Abraham Lincoln shared in the darkness of the civil war he saw the light of our Lord in the beauty of God's creation and in each one of us. Thanksgiving is a time to be thankful for the blessings and grace that had been bestowed upon us. Make it a time of joy filled gatherings, excursions out in your neighborhood, gatherings with your church family and others.

Make time to share the things you are thankful for and when you gather remember the words of the Apostle Paul in his first letter to the church in Corinth. *"Let all that you do be done in love."* 1 Corinthians 16:14 ESV. What would happen if everyone did this? The Apostle Paul reminded the church in Rome, which was in conflict, to *"do all that you can to live in peace with everyone."* Romans 12:18, NLT.

When we walk with Jesus, we are reminded to always to *"keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters"* Hebrews 13:1, NIV. The noise of the world goes away as we love and cherish everyone. There is so much to be thankful for this year. Just look around and you will see, hear, smell and witness the *"blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies."*

**Church Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

(Continued from Page 1)

Most of all as we approach this wonderful day of Thanksgiving hold onto the Apostle Paul's message to the church in Colossae. *"And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Together we are building His kingdom"* Colossians 3:15-16, ESV

May your day of thanksgiving be joy filled and blessed as you break bread with family and friends.

Pastor Tom

**Bring a friend the Sunday after Thanksgiving to share the message of God's love**



Susanna Wesley  
United Methodist Church

**Potato Bar**  
YOUTH FUNDRAISER

**SUNDAY NOV 27**  
**AFTER 10:30 SERVICE**

**INCLUDES BAKED POTATOES WITH ALL THE  
FIXIN'S, SALAD, DESSERT AND DRINK**

**ADULTS: \$9**  
**CHILDREN: \$6**

**THIS FUNDRAISER IS HELPING THE YOUTH FUND  
RETREATS, MISSIONS, EVENTS, AND YOUTH NIGHTS**

**Mark your Calendars to come and celebrate this Christmas season at  
Pastor Tom and Kim's Open House**



**Christmas**  
**open house**

Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>  
11:30 a.m. to  
4:30 p.m.

When: Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

From 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Where: 500 Arbordale Loop  
Williamsburg, VA 23188

Looking forward to sharing the joy of our  
home with you.

Pastor Tom & Kim

## Our Advent Christmas Sermon series reminds us:



This Christmas season invite a friend, a neighbor or loved one to reconnect with the meaning of Christmas.

## Wanted Worn, Tired and Discarded T-Shirts



In seven weeks, we will begin collecting worn, tired and discarded t-shirts (adult sizes). This gives us time to go through our t-shirt collections and pull out the ones we haven't worn for a long time or they have tears or holes.

**Why** - will be collected for the making of jump ropes to put in the 2023 shoeboxes. The shirts are cut into strips and then braided—they make a very sturdy jump rope.

**When:** A box for the shirts will be in the atrium beginning January the 8th.

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# October Giving Report

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! We are blessed as we tithe as a community supporting the missions of Susanna Wesley. Serving our community locally, nationally and internationally. We are transitioning to our full budget as we add programs and host more events.

Budget for October - \$19,264.00 (monthly number)

Received - \$19,329.89

Above Budget this month: \$65.89 but we are still over \$9,000 behind for the year

NOTE: We tithe 10% of our giving which goes to our Mission Outreach Team for distribution to ministries and missions in our community

*Pray about catching up if you are behind*

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## WHY TITHE?

Did you know that our church used to struggle paying their bills? We used to have finance meetings where we would look at reports showing the money owed and we had columns – one column that said HAVE TO PAY and another column for those that could wait. When we said they could wait that usually meant we were paying things late. The HAVE TO PAY columns were keeping the lights on and paying staff. We were also unable to pay our Church Apportionments which is part of the connectional system to the United Methodist Church. Things were pretty tough.

We thought the answer was to get more money coming in so we tried stewardship programs, letters to the congregation that for the most part begged for funds...just about anything we could think of to bring in money to pay the bills. We brought in our conference treasurer to talk to us and he asked us to pray more about it and get ourselves more focused on God and to be more faithful.

Then we had a minister come in that asked us if we had ever tithed our church's offering. Of course, the first thought was how could we tithe our offering when we couldn't even pay our bills? The Finance Committee along with the Council at the time did decide to give it a try. We voted to tithe 10% of our offering each week and put it in a designated fund to go towards Mission outreach. I think this was the first step in truly making our church a Mission oriented church.

Not long after that something remarkable began to happen! We began to not only pay our bills again but to pay them on time. It felt like it was almost immediately! In the second year we were doing so well that we helped pay Apportionments for other churches as they had done for us before. It was truly amazing! I was the treasurer at the time and it certainly not only made my job easier but gave me a new perspective about tithing in my own finances as well.

That was about 12 to 13 years ago and our church has tithed ever since. We have seen a few tight spots from time to time but we continue to tithe and be faithful and pray that God

will provide and HE DOES! The added bonus is that we are also helping our community as well as mission projects around the world with our 10% tithe.

So, if we can do that with our church finances, imagine what you can do with your own. I have done this with my own finances and I have learned that if you are faithful **GOD WILL PROVIDE!**

Vicki Barnes, Leadership Board, Financial Coordinator

## **Our HVAC Systems have been replaced!!!**

Yes, the old units have been removed (34 years old) and the new units have been installed.



The final cost will be a little under \$59,000. Now the challenge is to finish paying for them. We have raised \$37,590.74 so far, leaving a balance of \$21,409.26. In our 2022 and 2023 church budget we are applying \$650 per month towards the payoff of the systems. Many of you are giving a 2<sup>nd</sup> mile gift towards their payoff also. Pray about making a second mile gift towards the payoff of our new HVAC systems.

**\$20,759.26 to go with the November budget**

**Not, how much of my money will I give to God, but, how much of God's money will I keep for myself?**

*John Wesley*

 quoteofaday

# 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](mailto:Prayers@susannawesleyumc.org)

*How can I join the prayer chain?*

*Call the office: 804-642-7551*

## DAYTIME: 7AM – 5PM

- Phyllis Russell (540) 903-2817
- Joyce Neville (804) 815-2089
- Louise Quinn (804) 693-2192
- 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 (540) 903-2817
- Sonnie Leonard (804) 815-2864
- Marsha Germek (804) 815-3639

**Church Office: (804) 642-7551**  
**Pastor Tom Tipton: (703) 307-6892**

**Please keep the following parishioners in your prayers:**

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

- For all to to joy and thankfulness in the blessings of the Lord
- For the families of the UV students
- Travel mercies for those traveling
- For our brothers and sisters in Christ with unspoken prayers.
- For those who have COVID or are caring for loved ones with COVID. Prayers for healing and no long-lasting effects.
- Clifford Beach for healing
- Traci Noah's nephew J.P. for healing, peace and strength
- For the people in Ukraine
- Dillon and Britney Kim for forgiveness and peace
- Lisa Scarborough Kim for strength and peace
- G.U.E.S.T. program as they plan for winter
- ECHO Ministry as they help families with no other hope
- Raymond Church for healing and strength along with Judy for pain relief in her shoulder and strength.
- Don Wilson & Deborah Wilson.
- Jim & Ann Hansen (Mike Hansen's mother) for peace, healing and strength
- Karen Peabody (Mike Hansen's sister) for healing and strength.
- Jeff & Scott Leiffer who both have multiple myeloma.
- Carrie, a friend of Deborah Wilson, who broke her neck in an auto accident.
- Keith Hoban as he heals from surgery and awaits help with his VA benefits.
- Linda Triolet and her family as they care for her mom.
- Charles Rowe, continued prayers for healing and strength.
- Rev. Gary Livermon for continued healing and strength
- Sondra Colbert's mother.
- Phil Lyliston (Pastor Tom watches over him) a place in Newport News to become available for him.
- Vicki Barnes, prayers for healing as she continues treatment.

**“Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.” Matthew 5:4**

- Danny Carey's family in the passing of his brother
- For Jim Germek's family in the passing of his mother.
- For all who have lost loved ones, we miss them and praise God for they are with Him.





*Y*ou shall  
eat your fill and bless the  
**LORD** your God for the  
good land that he has  
given you.

Deuteronomy 8:10



**CHARLOTTE'S ANNUAL TOY  
DRIVE**

*Christmas*  
**TOY**

*Please Give a Little Joy to Our Local Children*

Accepting Donations Through  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21**

**Drop-off  
Location:**

3900 George Washington  
Memorial Hwy, Ordinary, VA  
23131, Susanna Wesley United  
Methodist Church

We are looking for donations of new (unwrapped/not gift  
wrapped) toys for ages 0-19

For more information text 757-376-7767 or message Charlotte's Annual Toy  
Drive on Facebook.