



From the Pastor's Desk. . .

As your pastor, there are obviously times where I plan and schedule things to occur a certain way at a certain time. There is a significant amount of “scripting” that goes into ordering the life of the church. But so much of what we encounter together as a church is completely unplanned and unscripted, yet somehow always seems to be just what we need at just the right time. Let me give you an example. Every month, I provide Retha with my scriptures and sermon titles, as well as the Call to Worship for the bulletin. I use something called the Revised Common Lectionary which gives me suggested scriptures based on the season of the Christian year. For instance, during Lent, it will give me scriptures to choose from that are about Jesus’ life leading up to the week of his arrest and trial. Other times of the year, it will cluster scriptures based on a certain theme. That’s why I don’t preach on the resurrection scriptures during the Fall. Those are clustered around Easter. And I always try to come up with a Call to Worship that is based on the scripture or the theme of the week. During Holy Week, we have lunchtime devotionals and set up the Stations of the Cross in the Sanctuary as ways of setting your heart and your spirit right for the crucifixion and the resurrection. During Advent, we light the Advent Candles, one at a time, to bring visual imagery to the idea that the Light of the World is growing and is about to shine forth on Christmas morning. But more often than not, the things we encounter, the things we discuss, and the decisions we make are guided by others’ timelines...or, more often than not, GOD’S timeline. That is the season in which we find ourselves as a church. The first Tuesday of November, Wesley Memorial made a HUGE step in living into God’s calling for our lives and for our ministries. We formally separated from the United Methodist Church because we, as a body, felt we no longer had a place in that denomination based on some of its recent decisions. We did not choose the date that occurred. That was dictated to us by the administrative functionality of the denomination. We had no control over the timing of that meeting. And, we have no control over the timing of the seasons of the church calendar. For instance, Advent ALWAYS starts 4 Sundays before Christmas Day. That’s not when WE choose to begin celebrating Advent...that is a reality dictated by a set calendar and recurring timing. However, those 2 events are perfect timing for us as a church. As we enter Advent, which is literally a time of preparation for the arrival of Christ...that is, preparing for God to do something new and wonderful in the world...we, as a church, are poised for God to do something new and wonderful amongst and through us. I am so proud of this church and your willingness to follow God’s leading in your lives. And I know God is poised to do amazing things at Wesley Memorial Methodist Church. Here’s to new beginnings!!!

In Christ,
Scott





Thank you Wesley Family for helping to make our October Good Shepherd Mission Food Drive a huge success! We delivered a bounty (2 SUV's) of food to the pantry at Good Shepherd. We were met with helping hands and grateful folks at the mission who were so appreciative and thankful for the food.

It was a true blessing to meet the workers and clients at the mission and hope in our small gesture we assisted in alleviating the lack of adequate food for our community.

To each of you our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for your efforts and contributions to this successful mission.

Blessings to you all!
Linda & Mary



...to everyone for providing the delicious side dishes and desserts for our November 16 th Wesley Family Thanksgiving meal. Your contributions to the meal ensured a bountiful table with food enough for all. Plus, carryout boxes were available for those members unable to attend.

It was a wonderful meal providing good food, great friends, entertaining conversations, and the enjoyment of fellowshiping with our Wesley family members.

"It's the most wonderful time of the year" The Holiday Season is here!

Our SOAR group will meet on Thursday, December 4 th at 11:00 a.m. at City Hall Café for our annual Dutch Treat Christmas Luncheon. Please let Linda or Mary know if you will be joining us so that the restaurant can reserve tables and seating for everyone. RSVP as soon as possible. Please feel free to bring a friend, neighbor, spouse, etc.





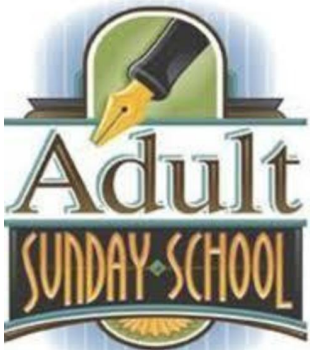
The next Administrative Council meeting will be Tuesday, December 2nd at 6:00pm. There will also be a meeting of the Ministries Committee at 5:00pm. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan to attend. We'll be discussing the opportunities and challenges facing our church.



The Wesley Women's group will have their Christmas luncheon on December 5th at 1 o'clock at The Raven Bistro. Please rsvp to Mattilou to let her know if you'll be joining us so the restaurant can reserve tables for us.



The Unity Sunday School class has finished their study of Moses and will be continue their study on major characters in the bible for the month of December. We'll be studying Paul from the New Testament.



In December the Senior Adult Sunday School Class will study Advent according to the gospel of John. If you don't have a class, join us at 10:00am each week. We'd love to hear your thoughts on the study material.





2025

Greeter:
Assist with Communion:
Communion Rail Offering: Benevolence Fund

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	01	02 Ministries Committee 5pm Admin Council 6pm	03	04 SOAR's lunch at City Hall Cafe 11:00am	05 Wesley Women's lunch at the Raven Bistro 1:00pm	06
07 — Handbells—9:15— Sunday School—10am Worship—11am Women's Group—Noon	08 Crafts—10am	09	10  Canasta Club—11am Choir—5:30pm	11 Crafts—10am	12	13 
Santa's Helpers Setup 5:00 pm Sunday December 7th through Friday December 12th						
14 Handbells—9:15 Sunday School—10am Worship—11am	15 Crafts—10am	16	17  Canasta Club—11am Choir—5:30pm	18 Crafts—10am	19	20
21 Handbells—9:15 Sunday School—10am Worship—11am	22 Crafts—10am	23  NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	24 Christmas Eve Communion 6:00 pm	25 	26	27
28 Handbells—9:15 Sunday School—10am Worship—11am	29 Crafts—10am	30	31  Canasta Club—11am Choir—5:30pm			

Santa's Helpers


**Happy birthday to all of you
born in December**



Cathy Certa	12/01
Jeri Collins	12/02
Allie Wyatt Leigh	12/03
Larry Fuchs	12/07
Nan Kennedy	12/16
Stephen Heuszel	12/19
Symantha McCreary	12/21
Dan Fry	12/21
Jennifer Jeffcoat	12/27
Heather Kookan	12/29

December Fun Facts

December's Birthstone - If you had to pick one December birthstone, which would it be: tanzanite, turquoise or zircon? From the blue to bluish purple of tanzanite, to the intense blue and green of turquoise, to the rainbow varieties of zircon. If blue is what you're looking for, all three December birthstones have their own unique take on this favorite hue. Whatever your color, style or budget preferences may be, we can help you pick the right December birthstone for you or a loved one.

December's Birth Flower - Those born in December are lucky enough to have two different birth flowers! The first of those flowers is holly. In more recent times, the red holly berries have been said to represent the bloody wounds of Jesus Christ as he was nailed to the cross. If you look further back in time, the Celts believed that holly brought good luck and protection. The second birth flower of December is the paperwhite narcissus. This pure-looking flower is said to symbolize sweetness.

Astrology Zodiac Signs of December - Those born in December can be born under one of two very different star signs. If you're born before December 23rd, then you have the sign of Sagittarius. Those born December 23rd or later have the sign of Capricorn. If you're a Sagittarius, you're said to be energetic and idealistic while also generous and open-minded. If you're born under the sign of Capricorn, then you're said to be ambitious yet realistic, persistent yet practical.

Dec 1—National Pie Day and Rosa Parks Day

Dec 2—National Mutt Day

Dec 4—Santa's List Day

Dec 7—Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Dec 12—Gingerbread House Day

Dec 13—National Guard Birthday

Dec 24—Christmas Eve

Dec 25—Christmas

Dec 26—National Whiners Day

December Fun Facts:

- The shortest day of the year is the winter solstice, which typically occurs on December 21 or 22 in the Northern Hemisphere.

- The Geminid meteor shower is one of the most spectacular meteor showers of the year, peaking around December 13-14.



Happy Anniversary

Tom and Deloris Gardner 12/21

Wesley Memorial Methodist Church

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Office Hours:

Closed Monday
 Tue.-Thur. 9:00am-2:00pm
 Closed Friday

Sundays

Worship Services:

10:00am Sunday School
 11:00am Worship Service

Mondays & Thursdays

10:00am Crafts at Wesley House

Wednesdays

11:00am Canasta Club

5:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Monthly Meetings

1st Sunday

12:00pm Women's Group

1st Tuesday

6:00pm Administrative Council

3rd Thursday

11:00am SOAR



P.O. Box 87
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Sent with love & prayers to:

ARTICLES FOR THE **JANUARY**
NEWSLETTERS ARE DUE NO LATER
THAN DECEMBER 23RD

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