

Wesley Grove  
March 2018

# Messenger

**From Pastor John's Pulpit...**

***“Rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.”***

**Colossians 2:7**

What does it mean to be “rooted in Christ”? Well, what does it mean to have your roots anywhere at all? Where a person has roots in, for example, a certain community, we say that person is influenced by that community. In other words, those roots play a role in determining that person's values and priorities. We say things like, “You can take the man out of the village, but you can't take the village out of the man,” because his roots are firmly entrenched in village life.

Our roots determine our values and priorities; therefore, to be “rooted in Him,” means that we allow Christ to determine our values and priorities.

Many times we try to do good deeds, and try to quit bad habits and start good habits, and we try to be disciplined in our efforts, but invariably we fail because we have never really placed our roots in Christ. Our roots, our values, and priorities are still in the world, not in Christ.

If we want to establish stability in our Christian life, we must learn to live “in” Christ, not just “for” Christ. Being rooted in Christ means that we allow Christ to influence our values and priorities. Every time we acknowledge that Christ is our only hope of salvation, our roots grow deeper in Him. Every time we open the Bible and allow God to speak to us through His Word, the roots grow deeper. Every time we ask for forgiveness, the roots grow deeper. Every time we yield ourselves completely to Him, the roots grow deeper. Every time we allow the Bible to shape the way that we think, the roots grow deeper. The key word is “allow.”

In this Lenten season, I pray that we will allow God to help us so that our roots grow deeper and deeper in Him.

**PASTOR JOHN AMPIAH-ADDISON**

## Lectionary Readings

### March 4, 2018: 3rd Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20:1-17  
 Psalm 19  
 1 Corinthians 1:18-25  
 John 2:13-22

### March 11, 2018: 4th Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21:4-9  
 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22  
 Ephesians 2:1-10  
 John 3:14-21

### March 18, 2018: 5th Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
 Psalm 51:1-12  
 Hebrews 5:5-10  
 John 12:20-33

### March 25, 2018: 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

### March 29, 2018: Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14  
 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
 1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
 John 13:1-17, 31-35

### March 30, 2018: Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12  
 Psalm 22  
 Hebrews 10:16-25  
 John 18:1-19:42

### April 1, 2018: Easter

Acts 10:34-43  
 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
 1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
 John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8



## Sunday, March 11

Don't forget to turn your clocks one hour forward or you will be late to church!!

## January 2018 Financial Report

*Rick Monarch, Treasurer*

Expenses	
Apportionments	\$1,204.75
Pastor Salary	\$1,416.66
Associate Pastor Salary	\$385.96
Pastor Benefits	\$597.50
Pastor Professional Expenses	\$0.00
Church Secretary	\$1,162.50
Payroll Taxes	\$76.31
Miscellaneous	\$0.00
Grass Cutting	\$0.00
Snow Removal	\$0.00
Custodian	\$540.00
Programs	\$197.95
Office Expenses	\$115.24
Trustees - Maintenance	\$4,104.25
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$9,801.12</b>

Income	
Weekly Collections	\$8,062.00
Sunday School Collections	\$91.20
Cell Tower - Sprint	\$1,869.56
Cell Tower - Verizon	\$1,393.45
Church Dinner Proceeds	\$0.00
Use of Hall	\$120.00
In and Out Income	\$0.00
Rental Property Loan Payback	\$1,000.00
Monthly Donation from Evening Circle	\$300.00
Parsonage Expense Reimbursement	\$583.34
(From other churches)	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$13,419.55</b>

March Birthdays			
3	Becky Norwood	19	Emma Lynagh
12	Steve Allman	24	Gary Rogers
15	Chan Ketchum	28	Jaime Crawford
	Lily Hagy	30	Tammy Monarch
17	Debbie Benson		
	Bill Duvall		
18	Sharon Johnson		

# Administrative Council Meeting Report

January 29, 2018

*In attendance: Jaime Crawford, Becky Lewis, Jim Kemp, Karen Davis, Jackie Hottinger, Bob Burke, Sue Ketchum, Rick Monarch, Tammy Monarch, Carol Stone, Judy Hughes, Lou Burdette, Debbie Benson, Mary Ann Davis, Mike Sherwood*

**Devotional** - Jackie read "When You Haven't Got a Prayer," from the book, *The Turning Point*.

**Good News Items** - Wesley Grove provided gifts and food for three families at Christmas; Missions also arranged for Pulte to provide gifts and food for two others. The cantata went very well; special thanks to the choir members that stepped in to make it happen. We had a great turnout as 100 individuals came to visit with Santa. The congregation had a good visit with residents at Lorien and Pleasant View with gifts and singing; it was especially nice to see Pastor Bud Kibbe at Lorien. Betty Duvall's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday was very nice. The memorial service for Michelle Johnson provided a blessing to her family and to the congregation. Two new families have expressed a desire to join church; Pastor Karen will follow up.

**Action Items** - Tammy made a motion to accept the November 13, 2017 minutes as written and published, Jackie seconded, vote taken and approved as written.

### Committee Reports:

**Ad Council** - At the request of incoming Finance Chair Debbie Benson, Bob asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves and tell what position they serve in.

Bob Burke	Ad Council Chair
Lou Burdette	Member at Large
Judy Hughes	Member at Large
Mike Sherwood	Co-lay Leader and Trustees Chair
Tammy Monarch	Co-Lay Leader and Christian Education Chair
Rick Monarch	Treasurer
Becky Lewis	Christian Fellowship Chair
Jim Kemp	Not a member; chairs the Cemetery and Memorial Committees
Jaime Crawford	Communications Chair
MaryAnn Davis	Not a member; Organist
Sue Ketchum	Worship Chair
Karen Davis	Pastor
Debbie Benson	Finance Chair
Jackie Hottinger	Missions Chair
Carol Stone	Ad Council Secretary

**Trustees - Mike Sherwood** - Talked about putting in sanitizing hardware and re-configuring back room work unit in the kitchen. Trustees are discussing relocating the water cooler in the church to outside the restroom.

**Christian Education - Tammy Monarch** - Sunday School attendance for both adults and children has declined. However, attendance was greatly improved the day of the Christmas breakfast and missions project. A combined breakfast and missions project will continue on a quarterly basis. Pastor Karen is considering holding a confirmation class and will make a decision by the next meeting. Five of our youth went to ROCK 2018 with Pastor Karen, and everyone enjoyed it and learned from it. Three additional events

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*Administrative Council Minutes*  
*Continued from page 3*

are planned for the youth between now and June, with plans to possibly expand the program if attendance merits it.

**Finance – Debbie Benson** – Ollie Gray is taking over as financial secretary. Debbie asked about last year’s individual giving reports; Charlie Stone is working on them. Rick reported that income exceeded expenses in 2017.

**Christian Fellowship – Becky Lewis** – As was stated in the newsletter, there will not be a Trunk or Treat event this year. A Coffee and Conversation host is needed for February (note: Becky did it on February 11); the Stones will host the Presidents Potluck Party. Need strands of outdoor Christmas (C-7 and C-9) lights to decorate large Christmas tree in front of Education Building in December.

**Missions- Jackie Hottinger** – Church would like to sponsor Jessi Wagner again this year. Rock the House snacks will be collected during the month of February for March.

**Worship – Sue Ketchum** – Christmas cantata went well. A new CD player has been purchased that will work well for travel. The choir is practicing the Easter cantata.

**Communications - Jaime Crawford** – The new website is up! Jaime will be taking additional training to help update the website; let her know if you have feedback. Josh Park is working on expanding and updating the site.

**Pastor’s Report – Pastor Karen** – We are in the liturgical season of Epiphany, which focuses on the light of God’s Love shining in the midst of a darkened World, and our seeking to be disciples who reflect the light of

Christ in our daily lives. January began on a sorrowful note with the loss of Michelle Johnson. Five youth and three adults from Wesley Grove, five youth and two adults from Asbury Methodist, and our two pastors attended ROCK 2018 in Ocean City. We were blessed to stay at the Miranis’ condo where everyone could get to know each other on a more personal level. We look forward to developing a deeper relationship with our youth and their families in this coming year. Highlights so far this year have been interviewing choir director candidates, celebrating Betty Duvall’s 90<sup>th</sup>, enjoying lunch at the Peruvian chicken restaurant, serving the Lions Club, and submitting our statistical reports. May God’s light continue to shine.

**SPRC** – Five applications for the Choir Director position were received and reviewed. Applicants have been interviewed. Choir members have voiced their opinions, and SPRC will be meeting tomorrow to decide on whom to offer the choir director position.

**Old Business** – The Wi-Fi router that will not work for our facility has been returned to Verizon.

**New Business** – Becky passed out “NIJ’s Safety and Security Planning App for Houses of Worship.” It was recommended a working group be formed to make a plan for the church. The working group will create a draft for Ad Council review and discuss the possibilities of fire drills, etc. Rick has touched base with HOC, and the trash/dumpster situation with our rental family has improved.

Devotions for next meeting will be Carol Stone.

Next meeting will be Monday, March 12, 2018, at 7:30 p.m.

# Christian Fellowship News

*Becky Lewis, Chair*

Here comes Peter Cottontail, hoppin' down the bunny trail...well, the bunny's name (under that hood and whiskers) might really be Sally, but whatever the name, the bunny will be on hand to greet our Special Needs friends and the community's children on Saturday, March 24, when we hold our annual Easter festivities at the Education Building. From 2 to 3 p.m., we will host an indoor Special Needs Easter Party, followed by our outdoor Egg Hunt at 3 p.m. All preschoolers and elementary school children are welcome at the Egg Hunt; be sure to tell your friends and neighbors. We will meet to stuff the eggs on Friday, March 23, at 4 p.m. (In the event of inclement weather, the Special Needs party will go on, but the Egg Hunt will be postponed until the following Saturday, March 31, at 3 p.m.)

Another annual event on our March calendar is Games Night at the home of Rick and Tammy Monarch, 9009 Kimblehunt Drive, on Saturday, March 17, at 7 p.m. Please bring an appetizer, snack, or dessert to share, along with any games you think others might enjoy. Sign up in the greeting room to give our hosts an idea of how many people to expect.

Other dates on the March calendar include Brown Bag Lunch, Wednesday, March 7, at 12:30 p.m. in the Education Building, and Ladies Lunch Out on Wednesday, March 21, at noon at the Music Café in Damascus. Coffee and Conversation for March is set for Sunday, March 25, following both the morning and evening performances of our Easter cantata.

Looking ahead to April, mark your calendars for our Spring Sing at the nursing homes on Sunday, April 15. We will meet in

the Education Building parking lot at 4 p.m., and following visits to both Pleasant View and Lorien, we will meet at the home of Brian and Becky Lewis, 23409 Woodfield Road, for a potluck fellowship dinner.

## Emergency Preparedness Plan 9

In the event of a terrorism incident, pandemic flu, natural disaster or other emergency in Montgomery County, our health and public safety officials are prepared to respond quickly to protect you and your family. The County, in collaboration with state and federal health and public safety agencies, is actively engaged in terrorism surveillance, detection and other safety activities on a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week basis. Residents are encouraged to prepare for emergencies. The Plan 9 checklist will help you prepare to cope with emergency situations.

**Ready Montgomery**  
Emergency Preparedness and Response  
*Plan to be Safe.*

# Plan 9

**You can do this!**  
Collect these nine essential items to help you shelter-in-place in the event of an emergency.

- Water**  
One gallon per person, per day for two days.
- Food**  
Non-perishables such as canned or packaged food.
- Clothes**  
One change of clothes and footwear per person.
- Medications**  
Three days' worth of prescription medications.
- Flashlight**  
A bright flashlight and extra batteries.
- Can Opener**  
Manual can opener in case there's no electric power.
- Radio**  
Battery-powered radio and extra batteries.
- Hygiene Items**  
Toilet paper, soap, toothpaste, and a toothbrush.
- First Aid**  
Band-aids, antiseptics, bandages, and non-prescription medicines.

Start here → Done!

## Christian Education News

*Tammy Monarch, Education Chair*

### Sunday School

During this season of Lent, we will be reading and learning about the last seven days of Christ's life here on Earth as well as His preparation for life in Heaven. During this time, we will be thinking, reflecting, 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 meet every Sunday morning at 9:30 in the Education Building, and we would love to have you!

### Confirmation Class

We plan to offer this next step in the faith journey of each of our youth this spring beginning after Easter. If anyone in the sixth grade or older is interested in participating, please contact Pastor Karen or Tammy ASAP.

### VBS News

This summer's Vacation Bible School is just four months away. It will be held during the week of July 16-20 from 5:30-8:30 in the evening. Therefore, it's time to mark your calendars, hold that week, and start planning and preparing for VBS right now.

This year's quest to know God (and ourselves!) better will take place while we are "Shipwrecked with Jesus" on a deserted island. So, we are asking all of you to search in your basements, garages, attics, and closets for any items that we could use to decorate the Education Building to look like an island – palm trees, sand, waterfalls, coconuts,

seashells, fish, thatched material, burlap, woven mats, etc. Please let Tammy know if you have any items that we could use.

As always, we can use any and all help. If you would like to volunteer to help plan the week, decorate the hall, teach lessons, serve dinner, etc., please let Tammy know by calling her at 301-253-0044. We'd love to have you, your creative ideas, your willingness to help, and of course, your love of kids!

### Museum of the Bible Field Trip

The Education Committee is considering organizing a church field trip to the brand-new Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC. This museum just opened in November and is dedicated to teaching all people about the amazing stories, people, wonders, and miracles included in this best-selling book of all time. The museum is free, but a donation of \$15 per adult and \$10 per child is suggested. Dates under consideration are Saturday, April 7, 14, 21, or 28. If you and/or your family members are interested, please sign up on the sheet in the vestibule or call Tammy at 301-253-0044. Once a date is selected, more details will be available.

### Reminders

Continue to save the fronts of your greeting cards (birthday, thinking of you, sympathy, anniversary, holiday, etc.), and give them to Tammy. She is using them for next fall's craft bazaar.

Please also let her know if you have any strands of C-7 or C-9 multi-colored Christmas lights that you would like to donate to the church for next December.

## Keeping Seniors Safe

A Keeping Seniors Safe presentation will be held at Mt. Tabor United Methodist Church on Sunday, March 18 at 12:30 p.m. The presentation will last approximately one hour and is open to any resident of Montgomery County (recommended age 18 and above). There is no charge. *Reservations are requested* and need to be made by Sunday, March 11. "Keeping Seniors Safe" is a program that has been developed in conjunction with the Volunteer Resources Section of the Montgomery County Police Department. The KSS program was established to increase awareness of safety issues within the senior community and to provide guidance and resources to seniors in regard to these issues: personal safety, fraud and scams, identity theft identification and prevention, and who to call for emergency and non-emergency needs.

To reserve a place, please email Jane King at [anewdayfarm@aol.com](mailto:anewdayfarm@aol.com) or call 301-253-3471.

## Missions News

*Jackie Hottinger, Chair*

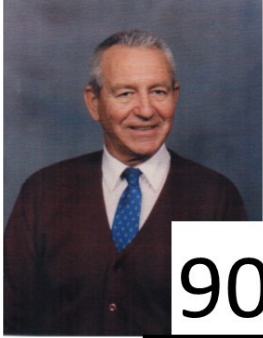
Thanks so much to everyone who donated snacks and drinks to the Damascus Gardens children for the Rock the House after-school program.

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

## 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 scholarships. Candidates must be active and involved members of Wesley Grove UMC who currently have GPAs of at least 2.5 and who are planning to attend 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.



*Join us for a Party*

**90 YEARS**  
IN THE MAKING

TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF

**Miel Linthicum**

Saturday, April 14th  
Open House: 1 to 5 pm  
9209 Gue Road, Damascus  
Please RSVP to Mary Emma  
at 301-253-2038  
by April 5, 2018.

Refreshments served with ice cream for dessert!  
*God has given us all we need, so no gifts necessary.*

**Bring a chair! Send a card!**  
Both will be greatly appreciated!

### Easter Flowers



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. All of these will be potted plants suitable for planting out in our yards. Order forms will be in the weekly bulletin. The deadline for ordering will be Sunday, March 18, and the cost is \$10 per plant. Please consider ordering a flowering plant (or two or three...) to honor or remember your loved ones on Easter morning.



**EASTER FLOWERS**  
**ORDER FORM**  
**Deadline for Ordering: March 18**

*Lilies, hyacinths, tulips and daffodils*  
*\$10.00 Each*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number ordered: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Total cost : \_\_\_\_\_

***Please make checks payable to:  
 Wesley Grove United Methodist Church***

IN HONOR OF:

GIVEN BY:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

IN MEMORY OF:

GIVEN BY:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Place order forms in the basket in the Greeting Room or mail to:

Wesley Grove UMC  
 Attn: Jaime Crawford  
 23640 Woodfield Road  
 Gaithersburg, MD 20882

FLOWERS WILL BE AVAILABLE AFTER EASTER SERVICE. PLEASE REMEMBER TO TAKE YOURS HOME TO ENJOY!





I would like to thank my church family for the wonderful 90th birthday party you gave me. The hall and flowers looked so beautiful and the food was delicious. I was shocked at all the work that was put into it in honor of me.

Thank You Church Family,  
Betty Duvall

My Wesley Grove family:

Thank you so much for the generous Christmas gifts. You brightened my holiday with cakes and candy and candles and cookies and cards and cash. Except for all of the extra pounds that I gained, everything was greatly appreciated. I am blessed to be your pastor. Thanks again.



Pastor Karen

The Church Office



Will Be Closed:

Please note: The church office will be closed from **March 23-30**.

If you need anything during this time, please either send an email, or call and leave a message. These will both be checked periodically.

## Please Welcome Our New Music Director



Alexandra (Ally) Lind graduated from Shepherd University in May 2017 with a bachelor of music degree in vocal performance. She was honored as a Shepherd University McMurrin Scholar, the university's highest academic honor, as well as the music department's "Outstanding Vocalist" in 2017.

Ally is already hard at work teaching the choir members a new warm-up routine and getting them ready for our Easter cantata, "My Redeemer Lives."

Originally from the greater Philadelphia area, Ally has already established herself internationally, performing with the Crescendo Summer Institute in Tokaj, Hungary and with the Alba Music Festival in Alba, Italy. Additionally, she has been featured as a soloist with the Masterworks Chorale in their productions of Bach's Magnificat and Handel's Messiah.

She is also newly wed to Matthew Lind on December 29, 2017. Matt is a band teacher at Benjamin Banneker Middle School and is an active musician on saxophone, guitar, drums and many other instruments. They live in Damascus.

# Join us for an Easter Egg Hunt!

*Saturday, March 24th*

**Special Needs:**

**2:00 pm**

**Community:**

**3:00 pm**

Preschoolers &  
Elementary school kids  
Welcome



*Wesley Grove UMC  
Education Building  
23614 Woodfield Rd  
Gaithersburg, MD 20882*

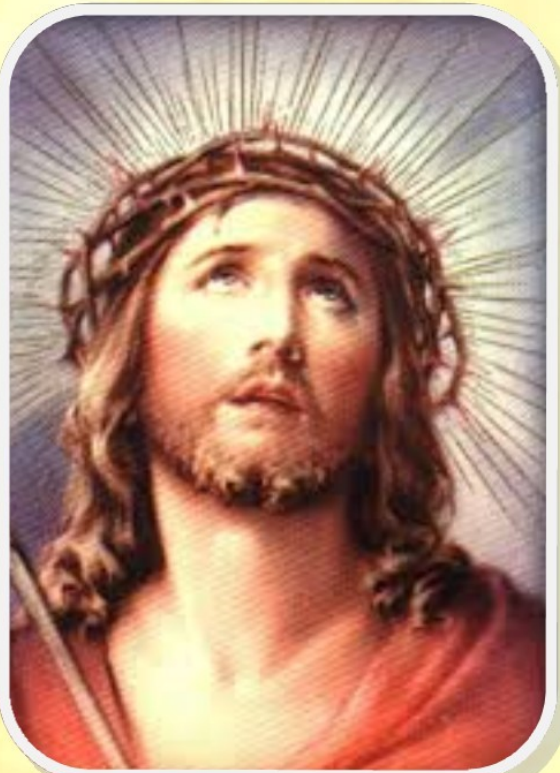
**Rain Date: March 31st**

[www.wesleygroveumc.org](http://www.wesleygroveumc.org)

301-253-2894

**Wesley Grove United Methodist Church Choir &  
Players present:**

# MY REDEEMER LIVES



**March 25, 2018  
11:00 AM &  
7:30 PM**

**Wesley Grove United Methodist Church**  
23614 Woodfield Road Gaithersburg, MD 20882  
301-253-2894 [wgumc@wesleygroveumc.org](mailto:wgumc@wesleygroveumc.org)

**FRIED CHICKEN AND  
MEATLOAF  
ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT  
BUFFET DINNER**



**Saturday  
March 10, 2018**

**1:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**\$17 for adults**

**\$8 for children ages 5 to 12**

**Age 4 and under free**

***Bake Table Available***

***Carryout Dinners Available***

**Wesley Grove United Methodist Church**

**23640 Woodfield Road**

**Gaithersburg, MD 20882**

**301-253-2894**

**[wgumc@wesleygroveumc.org](mailto:wgumc@wesleygroveumc.org)**

# March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 6:00 PM Presidents Potluck @ The Stones' Home
4 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:30 PM Worship Committee	5 9:30 AM Sunday School	6 6:45 PM Lions Club	7 12:30 PM Daytime Circle Brown Bag 7:00 PM Choir	8	9 1:00 PM Dinner Setup	10 1:00—5:00 PM Fried Chicken and Meatloaf Dinner
11 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	12 7:30 PM Admin Council	13 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	14 7:00 PM Choir	15	16	17 7:00 PM Games Night @ The Monarchs' Home
18 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	19	20 6:45 PM Lions Club	21 NOON Ladies Lunch Out @ Music Cafe 7:00 PM Choir	22	23 <b>Office Closed</b>	24 2:00 PM Special Needs Easter Party 3:00 PM Community Egg Hunt
25 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Cantata 7:30 PM Cantata	26 7:30 PM Board of Trustees	27 7:30 PM Finance Committee	28 7:00 PM Choir	29 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 6:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service @ Salem	30 <i>Good Friday</i> 7:30 PM Good Friday Service @ WG	31 Egg Hunt Rain date
<b>Office Closed</b>						



**Wesley Grove  
United Methodist Church**

Church Phone: 301-253-2894  
Email: [office@wesleygroveumc.org](mailto: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.



***Community Easter Egg Hunt***  
Saturday, March 24 at 2:00pm Special Needs  
3:00pm Community

***Easter Cantata Presentations***  
Sunday, March 25  
at 11:00 am & 7:30 pm at Wesley Grove UMC

***Maundy Thursday Service***  
Thursday, March 29 at 6:00 pm at Salem UMC

***Good Friday Service***  
Friday, March 30 at 7:30 pm at Wesley Grove UMC

***Easter Sunrise Service***  
Sunday, April 1 at 6:30 am  
at Wesley Grove UMC pavilion next to ballfield  
Breakfast following

***Traditional Easter Worship Service***  
Sunday, April 1 at 11:00 am at Wesley Grove UMC

Wesley Grove United Methodist Church  
23640 Woodfield Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20882

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

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