

# Wesley Grove **Messenger**

September 2018

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

## **How Is Your Soul Doing?**

*"But God said to him, Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?"*

(Luke 12:20)

After reading this scripture lesson and pondering on the understanding that it gives, it became clear to me that God wanted me to reflect on myself and to share the revelation that comes out of this reading. It is obvious that God wants to use us all to win souls, but what about our own soul right now? Have you looked at the state of your soul recently? We place so much emphasis on that which will pass away and so little emphasis on that which lasts forever.

The Bible tells us the story of a man who forgot about God, a man who had all his needs covered except his spiritual need — the most important one of all. The man built a great storage barn to keep all of his assets but soon realized that he needed more space. What he had was not enough. He wanted a lot more. So he set out to build a massive storage barn with a goal of guaranteeing permanent success for the rest of his life. In his heart, he boasted of his own strength. The Lord rebuked him for his materialism, and that night, everything changed.

This is not a blanket condemnation of those who are successful or wealthy. In fact, there are many commendable things about this man. He apparently was a hard-working farmer. He obviously worked harder, got up earlier, and spent more effort than all of the other farmers to accomplish his goals. The man's mistake was not in being successful in his work or acquiring possessions. His mistake was failing to make plans for eternity. His mistake was that he forgot about his soul. He was living well, not recognizing that all human life has an end, and then, eternity.

It is my prayer that the Lord will always be the hope of our salvation and the strength of our life as children of God, and that we also trust in God always and not in our own strength.

May the Lord continue to bless you and all of your families.

**PASTOR JOHN AMPIAH-ADDISON**

## Lectionary Readings

### September 2, 2018: 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Song of Solomon 2:8-13  
 Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 or Psalm 72  
 James 1:17-27  
 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

### September 9, 2018: 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23  
 Psalm 125 or Psalm 124  
 James 2:1-17  
 Mark 7:24-37

### September 16, 2018: 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 1:20-33  
 Psalm 19  
 James 3:1-12  
 Mark 8:27-38

### September 23, 2018: 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 31:10-31  
 Psalm 1  
 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8  
 Mark 9:30-37

### September 30, 2018: 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22  
 Psalm 124  
 James 5:13-20  
 Mark 9:38-50

## July 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	\$301.80
Parsonage Expenses (including Prop Tax)	\$5,006.71
Church Secretary's Payroll	\$1,098.38
Choir Director's Salary	\$750.00
Payroll Taxes	\$182.96
Grass Cutting Fees	\$0.00
Snow Removal Fees	\$0.00
Custodian's Payroll	\$540.00
Programs	\$2,625.39
Office Expenses	\$169.99
Trustees - Maintenance	\$3,896.64
Miscellaneous	\$0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$18,176.74</b>

Income	
Weekly Collections	\$4,866.97
Sunday School Collections	\$0.00
Cell Tower Income - Sprint	\$1,925.65
Cell Tower Income - Verizon	\$1,393.45
Church Dinner Proceeds	\$0.00
Use of Hall Fees	\$0.00
In and Out Income	\$0.00
Rental Property Loan Payback	\$1,000.00
Monthly Donation from Evening Circle	\$300.00
Parsonage Expense Reimbursements	\$583.34
Health Insurance & Pension Reimbursements	\$1,438.78
<small>(from Mt. Tabor UMC &amp; Salem UMC)</small>	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$11,508.19</b>

September Birthdays			
1	Carol Stone	23	Max Lynagh
7	Tina Green	24	Tony Bowie
10	Sally Lewis	30	Jackie Hottinger
	Shane Kepner		
11	Doug Gaither		
13	Alex Allman		
17	Debbie Speier		

## Montgomery County Harvest Festival Saturday, October 6

Remember to save Saturday, October 6, to help at our church booth at the Montgomery County Farm Park's Fall Harvest Festival on Muncaster Road in Derwood. We will once again be grilling and selling food, including burgers, hot dogs, and sodas. Contact Rick Monarch at 301-253-0044 to volunteer or if you would like more information.

## Administrative Council Meeting July 9, 2018

*In attendance: Bob Burke, Jackie Hottinger, Judy Hughes, Becky Lewis, Lewis Burdette, Louise Burdette, Pastor Karen Davis, Jim Kemp, Jaime Crawford, Debbie Benson, Mike Sherwood, Carol Stone.*

**Devotional:** Opening prayer by Carol Stone.

**Prayer Requests:** VBS next week; pray for all involved.

**Good News Items:** Jim Burns' 90th birthday celebration was wonderful, with many of his family and friends in attendance. Choir ended joyfully for the season.

**Action Items:** Mike Sherwood made a motion to accept the May 14, 2018, minutes as written and published, Debbie Benson seconded, vote taken and approved as written.

### Committee Reports

**Trustees - Mike Sherwood:** Flag is back up again. Sign at church has been repaired. Jim Kemp thanked Barbara Kunkle for painting the railings; Jim will paint the doors. Kitchen sink to be done by Jimmy Johnson. May have to wait until after VBS.

**Christian Education - Tammy Monarch:** Vacation Bible School scheduled for July 16-20, 2018, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

**Finance - Debbie Benson:** The Funds Balance Report has been submitted. Our Stewardship Campaign will be held throughout the month of October.

**Missions - Jackie Hottinger:** Jessi Wagner received a one-time donation and was very thankful. Volunteers are needed to pack brown bag lunches on five Friday afternoons in August. We will be filling the bins for the school supply program, and Missions will donate \$100 to

purchase adult diapers for nursing home residents. We will also make a one-time donation to Patrick Reed, whose family formerly belonged to Wesley Grove, for a missions trip.

**Worship - Becky Lewis for Sue Ketchum:** Worship is planned through October.

**Communications - Jaime Crawford:** Wifi will be tested thoroughly in the Education Building.

**Staff Parish - Pastor Karen for Charlie Stone:** Staff Parish met with all four churches to go over Pastor's schedule.

**Pastor's Report - Pastor Karen:** Her summer vacation is set for August 10-19. Substitute speakers have been identified.

**Old Business:** Tree removal has been completed. The trench for electricity is still in progress. The new tree will be paid for with memorial funds. The swing set needs additional work. The center light in the three-light track above the choir loft goes on and off intermittently.

**New Business:** Ally has selected three patriotic songs for the July 13 Celebrate Damascus Parade. Becky and Brian attended a safety training course at Calvary UMC in Mt. Airy.

Devotions for next meeting on September 10 at 7:30 p.m. will be by Mike Sherwood. Meeting adjourned by Bob Burke at 8:50 p.m.

## Christian Education News

*Tammy Monarch, Education Chair*

Welcome back! We will return to our regular Sunday School schedule beginning on Sunday, September 16, at 9:30 a.m. in the Education Building. All children, youth, and adults are welcome! If you had a fabulous time at VBS this summer, you will have an even better time at Sunday School this fall! Our lessons will focus on the significance and impact of various historical figures whose stories are told in the Old Testament. Each week, we will include a fun mixture of music, drama, art, readings, crafts, videos, and/or discussions. So, mark your calendars now and plan on joining us for the start of Sunday School again on September 16. We will be waiting for you!

Speaking of returning to school, please remember to **renew your Giant and Harris Teeter grocery cards** for the new school year. You must do this every year. Be sure to enter your name, your card number(s), and the name(s) of the schools, churches, and/or other non-profit organizations to which you would like to donate funds. Remember to make Wesley Grove one of your choices! Here is Giant's website - <https://giantfood.com/school-rewards/>. And Harris Teeter's - [www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education](http://www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education). Sadly, Safeway is no longer participating in such a program.

And finally, please restock your vehicles with our meal bags for the hungry. Since February, we have given out about a hundred to needy folks in our community. There are still plenty available in the Greeting Room, and our Sunday School participants are willing and able to make more as soon as we need them. So, please help us out with this worthwhile and meaningful community project. We thank you for your support!

### Don't Throw That Away!

Remember to save items for our area schools, libraries, animal shelters, and nursing homes. Just collect them in a baggie or envelope, and then give it to Tammy when it is full. All of our local facilities appreciate your help!

**General Mills Box Tops for Education:** Found on most General Mills products, Bisquick, Old El Paso products, Kleenex brand tissues, Zip-lock and Hefty plastic bags and paper plates, Avery office supplies, Yoplait yogurt, Annie's Organics, and many others. Each one is worth 10 cents.

**Tyson's A+ for Education:** Found on all Tyson chicken products. Each one is worth 24 cents.

**Printer Ink Cartridges:** Schools can recycle them for cash.

**Small Plastic Lids:** From soda and water bottles, gallon milk jugs, orange juice containers. Art teachers use these to mix small amounts of paint and to make collages.

**Recent Magazines:** Give them to an area nursing home. Residents also enjoy receiving books, cards, puzzles, DVDs, and games.

**Books (both hardback and paperback):** The Damascus Public Library will resell them.

**Hotel Shampoos, Soaps, and Lotions:** Bring back these small bottles, and we will give them to the area nursing homes.

**Used Comforters, Blankets, Sheets, Towels, and Pillows:** Area animal shelters and rescue centers use these for bedding.

**Eyeglasses:** The Damascus Lions Club will repurpose them for the needy.

**Fronts of Used Greeting Cards:** Tammy will use them to make gift tags for our annual craft bazaar.

Send them to area services yourself, or bring them to church and give them to Tammy.

## Christian Fellowship News

*Becky Lewis, Chair*

Say farewell to summer and hello to fall by spending the day sharing food, fun, and fellowship with your church family at the Annual All-Charge Picnic on Sunday, September 9. We'll start with outdoor worship in the pavilion, followed by "Happy Hour" and the Walk Against Hunger immediately after the service. Join in walking laps around the grounds for 30 minutes to raise funds for Damascus Help, or sponsor our walkers and cheer, visit, and share a snack during the walk. Meanwhile, the "grill team" will be at work preparing hamburgers to go along with our potluck lunch, which will take place about 1 p.m. An afternoon of horseshoes, water-related activities, bingo, and more events wraps up with dessert around 3 or 3:30 p.m. We will also be bidding farewell to the Brickman-Crawford family as they move to their next chapter in Tennessee.

After the picnic ends, you'll have plenty of time to go home and work on sorting items for the Fall Yard Sale on Saturday, September 15, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Please let Tammy Monarch (301-253-0044) know if you want to reserve a space to sell your items, or the Evening Circle is accepting donations of gently used non-clothing items for sale at the church booth. Please have all items at the Education Building by Thursday, September 13, when we'll meet for pricing and sorting at 7 p.m. During the yard sale, the United Methodist Men will cook up their signature breakfast sandwiches and a variety of lunch items; donations for the bake table are welcome. If you would like to help with the event, please contact either Becky (240-338-3211) or Brian Lewis (240-338-3210). We anticipate having a "Fire Sale Bake Sale" on Sunday, September 16, in lieu of Coffee and Conversation; if we do sell out, then we'll be

glad to arrange C&C on the spur of the moment!

We'll wrap up September with Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, September 29, from 2 to 3 p.m. on the sidewalk in front of Pet Valu. Plan to bring your pets and tell all your friends about this very special event. Also on the calendar are Daytime Circle Brown Bag on Wednesday, September 5, at 12:30 p.m. in the Education Building; Christian Fellowship Committee meeting and picnic setup on Saturday, September 8, at 10 a.m. in the Education Building; and Ladies Lunch Out at noon on Wednesday, September 19.

## Missions News

*Jackie Hottinger, Chair*

Thank you to all who contributed to the Back to School Backpack Supply program, including the VBS participants, for all their donations. We had another successful drive.

Many thanks to the Brown Bag volunteers who made and distributed lunches during the month of August at Grace UMC.

Sadly, St. Martin's Soup Kitchen will not open in September. They have found asbestos in the building and will need a year for remediation. This has been a wonderful mission for our church for more than 30 years. We don't know about future plans for this program at this time.

Remember Damascus Help needs pasta, pasta sauces, rice and peanut butter if you can bring in some groceries to help our needy neighbors.

Thank you to everyone who donated adult diapers and toiletries for the nursing home residents.

**Wesley Grove United Methodist Church**  
23640 Woodfield Road Gaithersburg, MD 20882  
301-253-2894 [www.wesleygroveumc.org](http://www.wesleygroveumc.org)

Cooked-To-Order Breakfast Sandwiches  
Grilled Lunch Platters & Bake Sale

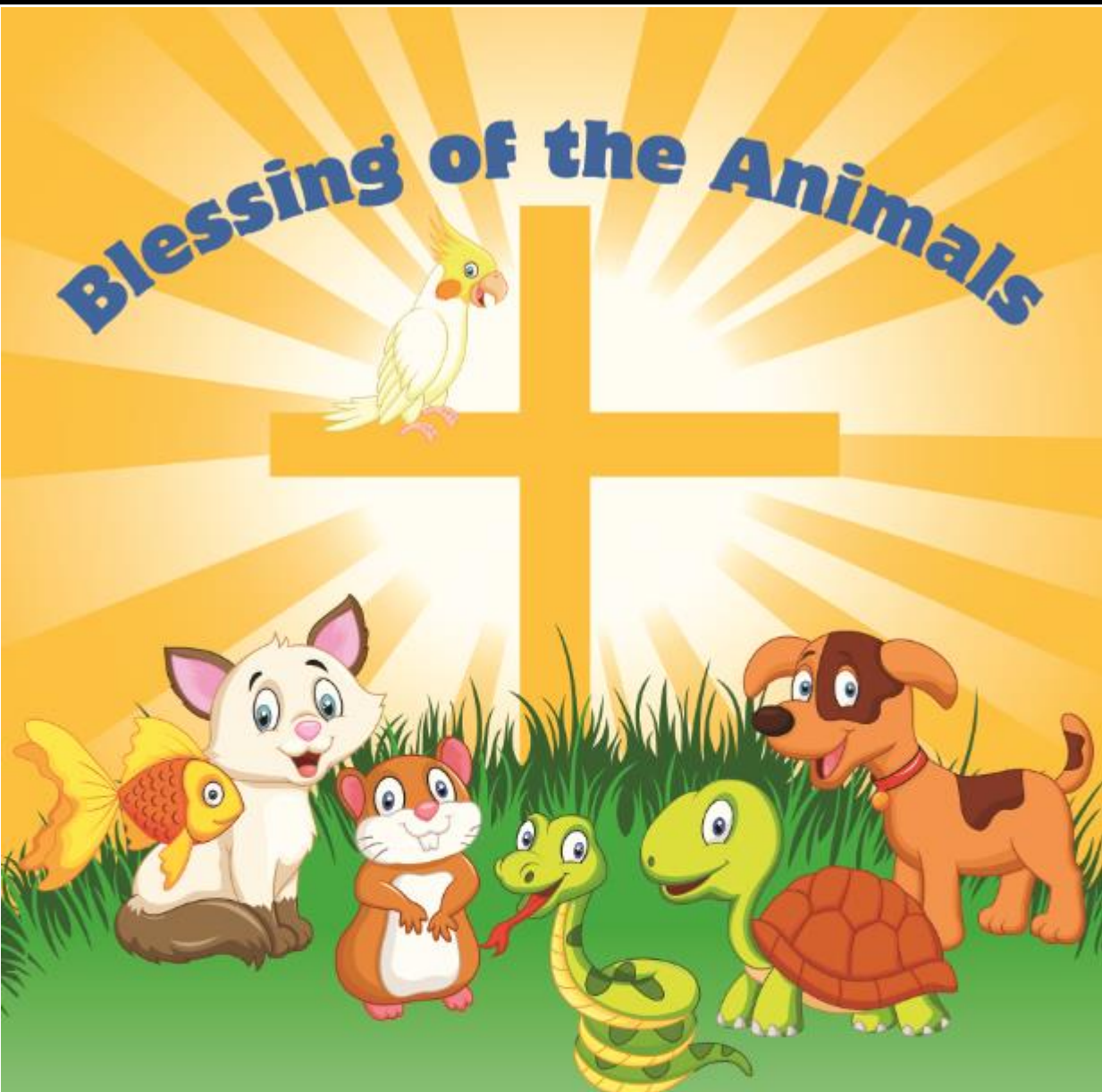
**Rent a Space for ONLY \$15**  
**Tables are an additional \$5**

*Call 301-253-0044 to reserve your space.*



**9:00 am – 2:00 pm**

**Benefit the Church And Your Closets!**



**WHEN:** Saturday, September 29, 2-3 p.m.\*

**WHERE:** Pet Valu, 9809 Main St., Damascus, MD 20872

**WHO:** All pets — furry ones, feathered ones, finned ones, scaly ones, small ones, sizable ones — but please bring them on a leash, crated, or otherwise contained.

**WHY:** Because the Lord God made them all!

**SPONSORED BY**

Wesley Grove United Methodist Church

For more information, [wgumc@wesleygroveumc.org](mailto:wgumc@wesleygroveumc.org), 301-253-2894

\*Weather permitting

## Church Conference

South Damascus Charge



**Saturday,  
November 3, 2018  
at Wesley Grove**

Everyone is encouraged  
to attend!!

*Please have all reports into the office by  
Friday, October 5.*

## Looking Ahead...

### Turkey & Oyster Dinner

Saturday, October 20

### Laity Sunday

Sunday, October 21

### Holly Days Craft Bazaar and Luncheon

Saturday, November 17



## Outdoor Worship and Picnic

**Sunday, September 9  
at 11 a.m.**

*Bring a chair and a dish to share!*

*My family and I want to thank our Wesley Grove Church family who worked so hard to make my 90th birthday the most memorable occasion of my life.*

*Thank you so much for celebrating this special day with me.*

*Jim Burns*

**Thank You!**

After 36 years of living on Woodfield Road, we have decided it is in our family's best interest to pull up stakes.

We will be leaving on August 30 to transplant ourselves to the foothills of the Smoky Mountains.

Andi, Jaime, Ciarra, Abby, the two dogs, and three chickens will leave first. Jay will still be back and forth until our house in Damascus is sold.

We will be back for the church picnic on September 9 and look forward to seeing all of you then.

We have cherished our time at Wesley Grove and all the friendships we have made. You will forever be our family.

Our new address:  
2135 Maples Branch Road  
Sevierville, TN 37876

Lots of Love,  
Andi, Jaime, Jay, Ciarra and Abby

*Goodbyes are not forever.  
Goodbyes are not the end.  
They simply mean  
I'll miss you  
until we meet again.*



# September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 11:00 AM Worship (Communion)	3 <i>Labor Day</i> 1:00 PM Choir Party @ The Monarchs' Home	4 6:45 PM Lions Club	5 12:30 PM Daytime Circle Brown Bag 7:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM SPRC @ Asbury UMC	6	7	8 10:00 AM Christian Fellowship Meeting & Picnic Setup
9 11:00 AM Outdoor Worship and Picnic	10 7:30 PM Administra- tive Council	11	12 7:00 PM Choir	13 7:00 PM Yard Sale Setup	14 <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	15 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Yard Sale
16 9:30 AM Sunday School Begins! 11:00 AM Worship	17	18 6:45 PM Lions Club	19 NOON Ladies Lunch Out 7:00 PM Choir	20	21	22
23 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	24 7:30 PM Board of Trustees	25	26 7:00 PM Choir	27	28	29 2:00 PM Blessing of the Animals @ PetValu
30 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship						



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.

**We're on the Web!**  
[wesleygroveumc.org](http://wesleygroveumc.org)



## Church Yard Sale

**Saturday,  
 September 15  
 9 a.m. — 2 p.m.**

***For spaces, call  
 301-253-0044.***

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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