

Wesley Grove **Messenger**

March 2020

From Pastor YouJung's Pulpit...

*Jesus called the crowd, along with His Disciples, and said to them,
"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up
their cross and follow me." ~~~ Mark 8:34*

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Lent is the season of forty days, not counting Sundays, during which we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Jesus' glorious resurrection after His death. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday. Forty days represent the amount of time that Jesus fasted and prayed in the wilderness before his official ministry began.

Just as He wandered into the wilderness to be apart from His worldly life and to focus more on God's will for Him, we also want to try to spend this season more with God and finding His will for us. Thereby, we can celebrate Easter and rejoice in the full measure of redemption and resurrection.

I chose Mark 8:34 as the devotional verse because God is calling us to draw nearer to him during the Lenten Season. This verse reminds us that we are all called to carry our crosses and follow Jesus. This verse also tells us that we must rid ourselves of our own desires and live for Jesus Christ alone if we want to be genuine disciples of Jesus. Even though this can be very difficult, we want to try our best to place Jesus Christ at the center of our lives with more intentionality during this forty day period.

Jesus' call for us to the life of cross-bearing seems painful since it requires us to lay down our lives, our comforts, our possessions, and our obsessions. However, the life of cross-bearing is the way of life that draws us nearer to God and the power that helps us to commune with God forever. Just as Paul preached about the cross, it represents the power of God for us, His believers, but the cross is nothing but foolishness to those who are perishing. Without His death on the cross by submitting himself to His Father's will, there would not have been the resurrection of Jesus. Thus, a cross-bearing life should be practiced to rejoice in the redemption and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

I hope we are able to find daily acts of cross-bearing this Lenten Season that draw us nearer to God and that help prepare us to focus and submit to His will.

Blessings of peace to you,

Pastor YouJung

Lectionary Readings

March 1, 2020

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

Psalm 32

Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:1-11

March 8, 2020

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalm 121

Romans 4:1-5,13-17

John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9

March 15, 2020

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm 95

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

March 22, 2020

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

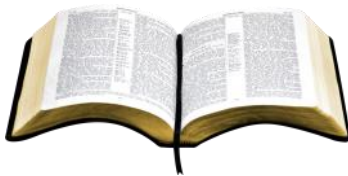
March 29, 2020

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45



January 2020 Financial Report

Rick Monarch, Treasurer

Expenses

Apportionments	\$1,245.83
Pastor's Salary	\$1,434.84
Associate Pastor's Salary	\$463.20
Pastor's Benefits	\$709.38
Pastor's Professional Expenses	\$131.42
Church Secretary's Wages	\$1,189.50
Choir Director's Salary	\$833.34
Substitute Musician Payments	\$0.00
Payroll Taxes	\$186.98
Capital Improvement	\$0.00
Grass Cutting Fees	\$0.00
Snow Removal Fees	\$0.00
Custodian's Salary	\$540.00
Parsonage Expenses	\$290.73
Programs	\$136.11
Office Expenses	\$56.96
Trustees - Maintenance Costs	\$1,220.11
Total Expenses	\$8,438.40

Income

Weekly Collections	\$5,474.00
Cell Tower Rental Fee - Sprint	\$1,983.42
Cell Tower Rental Fee - Verizon	\$1,478.31
Use of Hall Fees	\$0.00
In and Out Income	\$20.00
Rental Property Monthly Payment	\$1,000.00
Monthly Donation from Evening Circle	\$600.00
Parsonage Expense Reimbursements (from Salem UMC and Mt. Tabor UMC)	\$1,025.06
Miscellaneous	\$0.00
Total Income	\$11,580.79

Remember to move your clocks forward



one hour before
you go to bed on
Saturday, March 7,
or you will be late to
church on Sunday
morning!



March Birthdays

3	Becky Norwood	17	Bill Duvall
4	Linda Chatterton		Debbie Benson
8	Steven Arndt	18	Sharon Johnson
15	Chan Ketchum	19	Emma Lynagh
	Lily Hagy	24	Gary Rogers
		28	Jaime Crawford
		30	Tammy Monarch

Christian Fellowship News

Becky Lewis, Chair

Get out your best party recipes and your favorite fun games, and come to our Annual Pot-Luck Dinner and Games Night at the Monarchs' home at 9620 Watkins Road on Saturday, March 21 at 6 pm. (Note the time change from previous years.) Bring a dish (or two!) to share as well as any games you think others might enjoy. Please sign up in the vestibule to give our hosts an idea of how many folks to expect.

Also on the March calendar are the Brown Bag Lunch on Wednesday, March 4, at 12:30 pm in the hall and our Ladies Lunch Out on Wednesday, March 18, at noon at The Olney Grille.

Looking ahead to April, mark your calendars for the Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4; Fellowship Breakfast following our Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 12; and our spring visit to our friends at Lorient and Pleasant View Nursing Homes on Sunday, April 19.

Easter Flowers

As in the past, we will once again fill our sanctuary with beautiful spring flowers this Easter. Hyacinths, tulips, daffodils, and lilies will all be available. The cost will be \$8 per plant. Orders will be accepted up until Palm Sunday on April 5. Look for an order form in your bulletin on March 1 and on the table in the vestibule after that.



Christian Education News

Tammy Monarch, Chair

Throughout the month of March, we will continue to study, discuss, and determine what makes us United Methodist Christians. As always, please feel free to join us any Sunday at 9:30 am in our fellowship hall.

Pastor Karen plans to lead a Lenten book study for the charge. This group will meet at Mt. Tabor UMC on Tuesday nights at 6 pm for six weeks beginning on March 3. Please join us as we walk with Jesus from His triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to His death on the Cross at Calvary five days later to His glorious resurrection on that first Easter morning. If you have any other questions, please contact Pastor Karen.

Missions News

Jackie Hottinger, Chair

A big thank you to all of you who contributed snack foods and drinks to the "Rock the House" afterschool program in February. The kids (and the staff!) really appreciated our generosity!

On Monday, March 30, Wesley Grove will host The Lord's Table Soup Kitchen at Epworth UMC in Gaithersburg. We begin our cooking and serving there at 1 pm and usually finish up by about 4:30-5:00. Please let Jackie know if you're able to volunteer to help on this day.

Throughout this Lenten Season, we will collect one particular food each week for Damascus Help. Please donate these items if you can...

- March 1 - Lots of Peanut Butter
- March 8 - Eads of Rice
- March 15 - Normous Amounts of Cereal
- March 22 - Tons of Pasta
- March 29 - Eons of Pasta Sauce
- April 5 - Noodles (or Any Kind of Soup)



Ladies Lunch Out

The Olney Grille

*located in the Olney Shopping Center
on the corner
of Rt. 108 and Georgia Avenue*

**Wednesday, March 18
12 PM**



Turkey & Oyster Dinner

Save these dates...

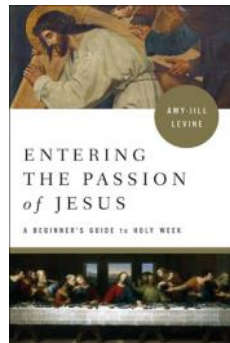
Friday, March 13 & Saturday, March 14
to help set-up, cook, serve, and clean-up

Contact Rick (301-873-0042)
or Becky (240-338-3211)
to see how you can help.

Baked goods are needed for the Bake Sale.

Charge Lenten Book Study

at Mt. Tabor UMC



Tuesday Nights at 6 PM
(March 3 - April 7)

Please join us if you can!
See Pastor Karen if you have questions.



Pot-Luck Dinner and Games Night

at the Monarchs' Home
9620 Watkins Road

**Saturday, March 21
6 PM**

*Bring any games you like
and a dish or two to share.*

Sign up in the vestibule.



Lent and Easter



The Forty Days of Lent have begun. Are you abstaining from something you enjoy, or have you taken on a new project to serve others? Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ did just this to save all of us from our sins and to allow us to live forever with Him in Heaven. Keep these thoughts in the forefront of your mind as we journey through this most holy liturgical season of the Church.

Plan to join us at the following events as we observe and celebrate this Lenten and Easter Season...

Saturday, April 4 - Community Easter Egg Hunt at 11 am

Thursday, April 9 - Maundy Thursday Seder Meal at WGUMC at 6 pm

Friday, April 10 - Good Friday Worship Service at MTUMC at 7:30 pm

Sunday, April 12 - Outdoor Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 am, followed by Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall, and then our regular Worship Service at 11 am

March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 AM - Sunday School 11:00 AM - Worship with Communion	2 7:00 PM - Finance Committee Meeting	3 6:00 PM - Lenten Book Study at MT 6:45 PM - Lions Club Dinner	4 12:00 PM - Brown Bag Lunch 7:00 PM - Choir Practice	5 7:30 PM - Communications Committee Meeting	6	7
8 9:30 AM - Sunday School 11:00 AM - Worship 12:00 PM - Fellowship Hour (<i>Monarchs</i>)	9 7:30 PM - Administrative Council Meeting	10 6:00 PM - Lenten Book Study at MT	11 7:00 PM - Choir Practice	12	13 11:00 AM - T&O Dinner Set-up and Preparation	14 1:00 PM - Serving Turkey and Oyster Dinner
15 9:30 AM - Sunday School 11:00 AM - Worship Service	16	17 6:00 PM - Lenten Book Study at MT 6:45 PM - Lions Club Dinner	18 12:00 PM - Ladies Lunch Out @ Olney Grille 7:00 PM - Choir Practice	19 April Newsletter Deadline	20	21 6:00 PM - Potluck Dinner and Games Night at the Monarchs' Home
22 9:30 AM - Sunday School 11:00 AM - Worship Service	23 7:30 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting	24 6:00 PM - Lenten Book Study at MT	25 7:00 PM - Choir Practice	26	27	28
29 9:30 AM - Sunday School 11:00 AM - Worship Service	30 1:00 PM - Soup Kitchen at Epworth UMC	31 6:00 PM - Lenten Book Study at MT				



Wesley Grove

United Methodist Church

Church Phone: 301-253-2894

Email: wgumc@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

Turkey & Oyster Dinner



Saturday, March 14

serving begins at 1 PM

Adults - \$20

Children (aged 5-12) - \$10

Carry-Outs & Baked Goods Available

To unsubscribe, please call the Wesley Grove UMC Office (301-253-2894) or email wgumc@wesleygroveumc.org

Wesley Grove United Methodist Church
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