

# Wesley Grove **Messenger**

June 2021

## *From Our Pastor...*

*"And the people stayed home. And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still. And listened more deeply. Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently.*

*And the people healed. And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the Earth began to heal.*

*And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the Earth fully, as they had been healed."*

– Kitty O'Meara, author of And the People Stayed Home

**I LOVE** this quote by Kitty O'Meara. I first ran across it last November 2020, and it is still just as relevant today. It is a reminder that good things can happen even in the midst of the deepest tragedy. COVID-19 has taught me that. There are certain things I no longer take for granted, like the smell of fall or that odor that hits you when you enter the grocery store. Since wearing a mask, I definitely no longer take smells for granted, or smiles, for that matter. They have been a rare commodity in this past year. And, oh, how I yearn for a hug! I will never take those end-of-the-service hugs for granted ever again!!!

It's easy for us to become so accustomed to something that it loses its relevance or value. Wearing a mask and social distancing have made me rethink what and who is important to me. They have caused me to think deeply about how I use my time, and they have taught me the importance of having a relationship with God, especially in times of isolation and separation.

How about you? Has COVID taught you anything about yourself Or about our world? Are there things out there that you no longer take for granted Perhaps this year of quarantine can be thought of as a kind of "reset," and, perhaps, because of this experience, we will all emerge changed – maybe even better than before.

God's peace,  
Pastor Karen

## Lectionary Readings

### June 6, 2021

1 Samuel 8:4-20  
 Psalm 138  
 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1  
 Mark 3:20-35

### June 13, 2021

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13  
 Psalm 20 or 72  
 2 Corinthians 5:6-17  
 Mark 4:26-34

### June 20, 2021

#### *Father's Day*

1 Samuel 17:32-49  
 Psalm 9:9-20  
 2 Corinthians 6:1-13  
 Mark 4:35-41

### June 27, 2021

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27  
 Psalm 130  
 2 Corinthians 8:7-15  
 Mark 5:21-43



Please contact Tammy  
 at 301-253-0044  
 to volunteer to serve  
 as our liturgist  
 during a Sunday morning  
 worship service.



## April 2021 Financial Report

*Rick Monarch, Treasurer*

### Expenses

BWC Mission Share	\$1,413.58
Pastor's Salary (1/3 of total salary)	\$1,473.76
Associate Pastor's Salary (1/3 of total salary)	\$389.86
Church Secretary's Wages	\$1,479.25
Choir Director's Salary	\$0.00
Worker's Compensation Insurance	\$34.07
Payroll Taxes	\$113.16
Capital Improvement Costs	\$4,800.00
Grass Cutting Costs	\$0.00
Groundskeeper Costs	\$0.00
Custodian's Salary	\$350.00
Programs	\$295.31
Property Insurance	\$0.00
Administrative Expenses	\$233.19
Charge Treasury - Parsonage Expenses	\$368.44
Charge Treasury - Professional Expenses	\$29.57
Charge Treasury - Medical Insurance Costs	\$286.67
Charge Treasury - Retirement Contribution	\$313.18
Trustees - Maintenance Costs	\$1,539.45
Miscellaneous Church	\$0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$13,119.49</b>

### Income

Weekly Collections	\$4,535.00
Cell Tower Rental Fee - Sprint	\$2,042.92
Cell Tower Rental Fee - Verizon	\$1,522.66
Evening Circle Contribution - Paid for Year	\$0.00
In and Out Income	\$0.00
Rental Property Monthly Payment	\$1,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$9,100.58</b>



## Worship Updates

We have great news to share! Beginning on Sunday, May 30, we went back to church maskless and could sit on any pew we wanted to without having to worry about keeping at least six feet between ourselves and other parishioners. The CDC announced earlier in May that COVID-19 restrictions could be lifted, so we can once again attend church, sit where we wish, raise our voices together in song and praise, and socialize with each other both before and after our weekly church services.

## Re-Entering Well

The members of the Re-Entering Well Task Force would like to thank all of you for your diligence over the past 15 months in following state and local protocols to reduce the spread of COVID-19. You've probably heard that these measures have also greatly reduced the incidence of cold, flu, and other illnesses, and with that in mind, we're going to keep some changes in place moving forward:

- Hand sanitizer will continue to be readily available, and we encourage you to use the touchless station to clean your hands when entering and leaving. The Nano-Septic self-cleaning system remains in high-touch areas.
- Please stay home if you don't feel well, and consider joining us on Zoom instead. And if you travel, or you just have another commitment immediately after the service, Zoom is always an option then as well.
- Although mask mandates have been lifted, individuals who are not yet fully vaccinated are strongly encouraged to continue to wear masks. If you are fully vaccinated and you still feel more comfortable wearing your mask, please feel free to continue to do so.

Once again, thanks for humming, sitting in different places, and waving at each other from a distance, and let's continue to be good stewards of community health as we move forward to renewed togetherness.

## June Birthdays

- 1 Paul Verner
- 4 Brianna Powell
- 6 Jim Burns  
Bob Burke
- 7 Tim Lee
- 11 Tim Benson
- 12 Scott Verner
- 14 Sam Allman
- 15 Ruth Hobbs
- 17 Jennifer Hyde Cano  
Ralph Ketchum, Sr.
- 19 Mehrle Staley  
Danny Wilson
- 27 Emelia Cano  
Penelope Cano
- 29 Bruce Walter
- 30 Adam Wilson



**Father's  
Day**  
*is coming!*

**Attend church on  
Sunday, June 20  
at 10 am  
to celebrate all the men  
in our Church Family!**

## Administrative Council Meeting

Monday, May 10, 2021

**Opening:** Bob began the meeting at 7:34 pm.

### In Attendance:

Steven Arndt, Louise Burdette, Bob Burke, Cathy Burke, Pastor Karen Davis, Judy Hughes, Jim Kemp, Becky Lewis, Rick Monarch, Tammy Monarch, Carol Stone

### Devotions:

Tammy took us on an inspirational journey through a book called "Roots and Wings for the Graduate" that she received from her 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Bettye Wooden, upon her HS graduation. Bettye was the woman who most influenced Tammy in her career choice almost 40 years ago. According to the American Heritage Dictionary, *roots* ground us in the soil, give us structure, and help us to steady things, while *wings* allow us to ascend and put our growth into flight. Tammy read several Bible Scriptures from this book, which all focused on time and putting ours to good use in God's Kingdom.

### Prayer Requests:

- Steven and Linda's friends, Richard and Beth Wood, were involved in head-on collision with a drunk driver in TN over the weekend. Both are in the hospital with broken bones and internal injuries, but they will survive. Thank the Lord!
- Jenny and Andre Mirani were in church yesterday. She has been in a tremendous amount of pain since she had COVID-19 last summer and will be having back surgery on June 30.

### Good News Items:

- Roberta Grimes is doing well and can now have some visitors again.
- Betty Duvall is still in a lot of pain. Betty is staying with Tina at present.
- Our ballfield, pavilion, and playground are being used daily by DSA.
- Pastor YouJung graduated from Wesley Theological Seminary today. We plan to celebrate this great accomplishment with her on May 23.

**Minutes:** Tammy motioned that we accept them as they were written in the April newsletter. Jim seconded, and all were in favor.

### Old Business:

- Defibrillator has been hung in the church. New pads and batteries have been installed in the one in the hall.
- Second big, dead, oak tree in parking lot between hall and church has been cut down and removed.

### New Business:

- DSA is planning a Woodfield Community Day on our campus on Saturday, June 19 from 9 am – 5 pm. The main focus of the day will be their Home Run Derby. Wesley Grove will sell concessions from the pavilion. Both the Damascus Lions and our Cub Scout Pack will be present as well. Our Fellowship Committee will meet soon to plan the menu, organize workers, etc.
- DSA has 4-5 practices and 4-6 games on our ballfield every week, so it is well used. It is in the process of ordering sponsor banners to hang from the outfield fence. It has also hung fake security cameras to help deter vandals. WG is currently getting estimates on real security cameras and additional outdoor lighting. The DSA Baseball Commissioner and his wife are both MoCo police officers who drive their cruisers around our property from time to time, just to make a police presence known.

### Committee Reports:

**Communications** — We have been announcing our worship changes (due to COVID-19 restrictions) on our website, signboard, and Facebook page. We continue to send cards to folks who need a cheery note regularly, and we keep a log of all these cards.

**Education** — We will celebrate all of our graduates (both HS and college) on Sunday, May 23. Invitations have been mailed. Family movie nights are resuming this month. Confirmation class will conclude in the fall; we're working on plans for Sunday School to resume in the fall.

**Fellowship** — Future plans include a Fellowship Breakfast on Sunday, June 13; our Fall Community Yard Sale on Saturday, September 11, and our Charge Picnic on Sunday, September 19. Becky's MoCo Food Service license expires in August, but for right now, no one is offering refresher courses or exams. She will check with both Terri and Sue to see when their licenses expire.

**Finance** — Our income has continued to be steady and consistent throughout the past 18 months. Our bills are all paid. We recently received our lease buy-out check for one cell tower, and that money has been invested in an annuity. Online giving is an option for our parishioners as is text giving. Tammy continues to put this information in both our bulletins and newsletters, and she has asked Josh Park to add it to our website.

**Missions** — Recent donations include \$250 to the DHS Prom Committee and \$250 to UMCOR for weather-related problems in Texas. The Committee plans to meet in late June.

**SPRC** — We met in early April and plan to meet again in June. We are in the process of planning a timeline for the hiring of a new music director, hopefully for the fall. We are also waiting to hear from DS Park about the future of Pastor YouJung and whether she will remain with us past July 1, which is also the day that our new DS, Rev. Dawn Hand, will begin with the BWC.

**Trustees** — We had an extensive list of jobs to do on our property, and we have been really busy and completed 10 items. The Ark looks very good as it was re-leveled and restained recently. Bob has been receiving estimates from local companies about next winter's snow removal. Damascus Enterprises seems to be the best deal for us. Their annual contracts extend from October through April. Becky questioned if this included our front sidewalk from the hall to the church. Bob said no, but that he will inquire about the cost of adding that to our contract.

**Worship** — Several special Sundays are coming up — Pentecost and Graduates on

May 23, Memorial Day on May 30, and Father's Day on June 20. Our worship time will continue at 10 am through at least Labor Day Weekend. We will revisit the time of worship in the fall based on Sunday School's resuming.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Karen said that after a year of feeling challenged, restless, scared, bored, and uncertain, she is now feeling **good**. Perhaps because the weather has been sunny and warm, perhaps because the number of daily COVID-19 cases is decreasing, perhaps because Holy Week and Easter are over, perhaps because she is fully vaccinated. She is not sure why, but she is feeling good. She asked how it has been with our spirits? She reminded all of us that, as humans, we need other people; that we should lean on one another and be with one another.

She thanked those in our church who plan and organize events like virtual baby showers and family movie nights. She thanked the members of our Re-Entering Well Task Force for all of their hard work and dedication over the past year. She thanked Cathy for sending cards, Rick and Ollie for continuing to handle our finances, Jim and Bob for making repairs, etc.

She noted that the BWC's Annual Conference will be held in-person on October 25–27 in Baltimore. Steven, as our Lay Delegate, may have trouble attending since these are weekdays (M-W). If so, we may have to send a replacement.

**Next Meeting** will be held on Monday, July 12 at 7:30 pm at the hall. Carol volunteered to lead our devotions. Pastor Karen closed with a prayer, and Bob adjourned the meeting 8:50 pm.

## You Have Mail!



If you have a leadership position in our church, you have a church mailbox. Please remember to check it on a regular basis. Some of them have had mail in them for some time now.

## Fellowship News

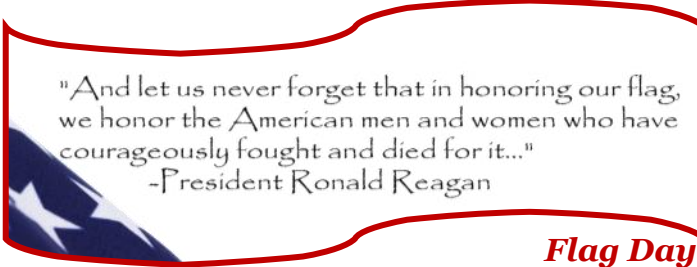
*Becky Lewis, Chair*

The Fellowship Committee invites you to a "Welcome to the New Normal" Breakfast on Sunday, June 13, in our fellowship hall. We'll start serving at 9 and close down at 9:45 am. Please feel free to come anytime during this time period to share in a breakfast provided by the Committee, or just have an extra cup of coffee, and enjoy some time visiting with your church family.

On Saturday, June 19, we will co-host "Woodfield Community Day" with the Damascus Sports Association. We encourage all of you to come out and support this new community event. We will sell concessions, including hamburgers and hot dogs, from our ballfield pavilion while DSA sponsors a homerun hitting contest on the field from 9 am to 5 pm. Cub Scout Pack 1438 and the Damascus Lions Club will also participate. If you can volunteer to help at the concession stand, please contact Becky at 240-338-3211.

We encourage you to spend this summer reconnecting with your family and friends, perhaps venturing out to some of your favorite places that you haven't been able to go in a while. Rest, rejuvenate, eat an ice cream cone, throw something on the grill, and/or attend a ball game. We hope to return to a fuller fellowship schedule in the fall, starting with a Community Yard Sale and Fundraising Cookout on Saturday, September 11, and our Annual Charge Picnic on Sunday, September 19. More details on both of these events will be coming in future newsletters.

Committee members, please be on the lookout for an announcement about a planning meeting later this summer, probably in August.



**Flag Day**  
**June 14**

## Finance News

*Jim Kemp, Chair*

The Finance Committee would like to thank everyone who has continued to give to our church during these past 15 months. We appreciate each and every one of these tithes and treasures — both big and small.

It's you — our generous members — who have always, and will always, keep this church going. We also appreciate all of your talents — playing the hand bells, sending greeting cards, repairing our playground equipment, handling our finances, changing our signboards, running our actual and virtual meetings, writing our Facebook announcements, securing estimates, and meeting with contractors. All of these things need to get done, and they do — thanks to all of you!

We do want to remind you of our two new electronic ways to give, if you prefer...

First, you can click here —

<https://www.shelbygiving.com/app/giving/wesleygrove> to give a one-time gift or to set up a recurring weekly, biweekly, or monthly gift that will automatically arrive in our bank account from yours.


Second, you can text this phone number — 301-720-0138 — to give as you wish.

If you should experience any trouble with either method, please contact Tammy at 301-253-0044 to let her know, so she can contact our electronic giving company and resolve any problems.

Again, we are very thankful for all of you and for all that you have to share to help promote the Glory of Our Lord. May our Lord bless each of you and your gifts this day and every day.

# June 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 10:00 AM— Worship Service with Holy Communion	7	8	9 7:30 PM— Virtual Re-Entering Well Task Force Meeting ( <i>if needed</i> )	10	11	12
13 9:00 AM— Fellowship Breakfast 10:00 AM— Worship Service	14 <i>Flag Day</i>  7:30 PM— SPRC Meeting	15	16	17	18 <i>Deadline for July Newsletter Submissions</i>	19 9:00 AM –5:00 PM— Woodfield Communi- ty Day (baseball, con- cessions, etc.)
20 <i>Father's Day</i> 10:00 AM— Worship Service	21 7:30 PM— Missions Committee Meeting	22	23 3:00 PM— Book Club Meeting	24	25	26
27 10:00 AM— Worship Service	28 7:30 PM— Board of Trustees Meeting	29	30			

# **Wesley Grove United Methodist Church**

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

## **As a church family that...**

- \* covenants to walk together in Christ's love,
- \* believes that all persons are created equal, and
- \* affirms the inclusive love of Jesus Christ,

**we welcome to our work and worship all —** regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, age, ability, sexual orientation, and/or economic circumstance.

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



# **“Welcome to the New Normal” Breakfast**

**Sunday, June 13  
from 9—9:45 am  
in the Fellowship Hall**

*Join us for a bite to eat,  
a cup of coffee, and some time  
just to chat and catch up  
with our church family.*

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

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