

# Wesley Grove **Messenger**

May 2025



## **My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

Memory is a power thing. Our own memories shape who we are as people and who we hope to be. The month of May, more than any other month of the year, is a time when we celebrate memory. We even have a holiday to celebrate a national day of remembrance. It is a day that we all collectively remember. We take time to remember those who have died fighting in our nation's wars.

That holiday that enshrines memory in our national conscience is Memorial Day. It is a day when we, as a nation, pause to remember those who died serving in our country's military. Dating back to Memorial Decoration Day celebrations for veterans of the Civil War in the 1860s, this day of remembrance is often accompanied by civic parades and taking time to visit cemeteries and national memorials.

A couple of years ago, I took my son to the Vietnam Veterans Wall and we searched for a name we know. Years earlier, Carla and I had seen a name of a young Army officer carved into a building at a school she attended. This young officer was an alumnus and was killed in Vietnam. His name was Jonathan Works. We have a photo of our son Jonathan standing beside this name on the Wall on the National Mall. At first, we thought it was a little morbid to search for a name that our son Jonathan also shares, but the more we thought about it, we realized this is an act of remembering this young man, a man that we do not know. But now, every year on Memorial Day, I think about him and what he sacrificed for our country. I remember him and say a prayer for his family. This memory reminds me of the sacredness of life and it reminds me of The One who is at work in the world conquering death once and for all.

During this month of May, we, as a church, continue to celebrate Eastertide. We spend this time remembering the Resurrected Christ who conquered death. These 40 days also help to remind us that the memories we hold of loved ones endure forever. We are reminded that these memories are taken with us into the future to a time when we will be blessed to be reunited with Our Risen Savior around the Throne of God. On that day, surrounded by a sea of glass, many multitudes of saints will gather to worship with one voice the Lamb who was slain; the Lamb who has overcome sin and death. The end of the Book of Revelation reminds us that on that day, tears will be wiped away, and memories will be redeemed and revived.

As we remember during this special month of remembrance, let us remember the faithfulness of the saints who have gone on before us and the great meeting on that Good Morning. This is my prayer this Eastertide Season!

Peace to each of you,

*Pastor Nick*

## Lectionary Readings

### May 4, 2025

Acts 9:1-20

Psalm 30

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19



### May 11, 2025

*Mother's Day*

Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 23

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

### May 18, 2025

Acts 11:1-18

Psalm 148

Revelation 21:1-6

John 13:31-35

### May 25, 2025

*Memorial Day Weekend*

Acts 16:9-15

Psalm 67

Revelation 21:10, 22:5

John 14:23-29



## May Birthdays

- 4 Marne Hughes Rammling
- 5 Judy Hughes
- 6 Cherie Morris
- 7 Donnie Hottinger
- 9 Susie Cooper
- 10 Lou Lynagh
- 11 Karen Davis
- 14 Jeff Lewis
- 21 Sue Ketchum
- Frank Miller
- 25 Clark Kunkle
- Kate Works



## March 2025 Financial Report

*Rick Monarch, Treasurer*

### Expenses

BWC Mission Share	\$1,335.81
Senior Pastor's Salary (1/3 of total salary)	\$835.33
Associate Pastor's Salary (1/3 of total salary)	\$663.17
Office Manager's Wages	\$1,690.65
Organist / Pianist	\$600.00
Music Director	\$600.00
Worker's Compensation Insurance	\$0.00
BWC Annual Conference for Lay Delegate	\$0.00
Payroll Taxes	\$180.07
Capital Improvement Costs	\$0.00
Grass Cutting Costs	\$0.00
Snow Plowing Costs	\$0.00
Groundskeeper Costs	\$0.00
Custodian's Salary	\$420.00
Programs	\$1,136.57
Property Insurance	\$2,187.00
Administrative Expenses	\$476.26
South Damascus Charge Treasury	\$122.24
Trustees - Maintenance Costs	\$3,179.11
Parsonage Property Taxes	\$0.00
Montgomery County Solid Waste Tax	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$13,426.21</b>

### Income

Weekly Collections	\$5,695.00
Cell Tower Rental Fee from Sprint	\$2,299.33
Rental Property Income - February	\$4,000.00
Rental Property Income - March	\$4,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$39.58
Use of Hall	\$180.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$16,213.91</b>

## Fellowship News

*Becky Lewis, Chair*



Last month, we told you that "It's never too soon to start cleaning out your closets and gathering your 'elephants' and 'fleas,' " — now, we're going to say that it's never too late! The Spring Community Yard Sale is just around the corner on Saturday, March 10, from 9 am to 2 pm, and there's still time to gather items to sell at your own space or to donate for sale at the church booth. Please let Tammy (301-253-0044) know if you'd like to rent a space. If you have non-clothing items to donate for the church to sell, please drop them off at the Fellowship Hall before 1 pm on Friday, May 9, and if you have donations of single-serve cookies or brownies (nothing with frosting, please) to donate for sale on Saturday, we need those by Saturday morning at 9 am.

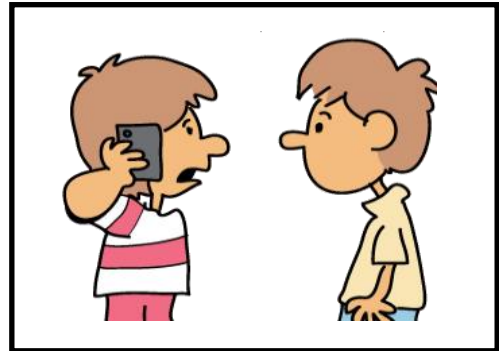
If you can help sort and price on Friday; set up, help with food sales, and/or clean up on Saturday, please let Becky (240-338-3211) or Brian (240-338-3210) know. And if you're not helping with the event or selling your own items, please stop by to shop and buy a made-to-order breakfast sandwich or a lunch sandwich hot off the grill — with a side of fries, of course!

We've got a meal covered for you on Sunday as well, when the men of the church host our annual Mother's Day Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall at 9 am. Please sign up in the vestibule to give us an idea of how many will be coming, and men, please see Brian to find out how you can contribute.



Looking ahead to June, the congregation's women will return the favor by serving breakfast on Father's Day, June 15, and there will be Coffee and Conversation after the

worship service the week before on Sunday, June 8, in recognition of Christian Education Sunday.



"Hello, Pizza Palace!  
For Mother's Day,  
I want to give my mom breakfast in bed.  
Would you deliver a pizza to her there?"

## Graduates within Our Church Family

**Kelsey Kunkle**, the daughter of very proud parents, Barbara and Clark Kunkle, will graduate from the University of North Texas on Thursday, May 8. After many years of classes, studying, research, and work, she has earned her Ph.D. in higher education.

Kelsey, please know that we are all very proud of you here at Wesley Grove! May God continue to bless you throughout your career.

**Congratulations**

**and**

**Best Wishes, Kelsey!**



## Paper Shredding Event

Do you have piles of old documents, mail, cards, and papers to shred? If so, head to Damascus UMC on Saturday, May 3. The Damascus Lions Club will host a community shredding event that morning between the hours of 9 am and 12 pm in the parking lot of the church. You may bring up to five full banker-sized boxes. So, organize and declutter your home, help the Earth, and take your old papers and documents to DUMC on this day.



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## Did You Know...



... that **May Day**, which is celebrated annually on May 1, marks the halfway point between the Spring Equinox (March 20) and the Summer Solstice (June 20)?

Since ancient times, May 1 has been the official day when many farmers thought it was safe to plant their summer crops. Thus, celebrating the beginning of the growing season on this day by dancing and singing is a tradition that has continued for hundreds of years.

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## Service of Confirmation

Join us to witness our two confirmands, **Andrew Wilson** and **Kate Works**, take their vows to become the newest members of the United Methodist Church. This service, which will include other confirmands from within the Damascus Community, will take place at Damascus UMC on Sunday, June 1 at 2 pm. Everyone is invited to be present to support these young people as they take the next step in their lifelong Christian journeys.

## Education News

*Tammy Monarch, Chair*

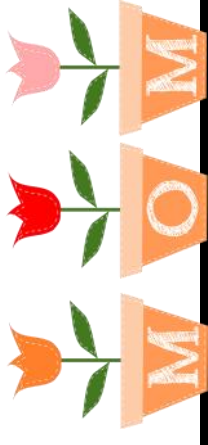
Led by Pastor Nick, our current four-week study focuses on the massive impact of Celtic missionaries who studied and learned on the small island of Iona (off the coast of Ireland) hundreds of years ago. These men began leaving their monastery to go out (mostly on foot) to preach the Gospel far and wide. Amazingly, they were able to start Christian communities all over Europe from as far north as Scandinavia all the way south to parts of Spain and Italy and as far east as Asia Minor, which would become part of Turkey in our modern world. Since these Christian communities grew and flourished due to the work of these simple missionaries, what can we learn from them to encourage and promote the spread of Christianity in today's busy, and many cases, non-religious world?




Come and join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am to find out! We promise you a very informative and interesting lesson each and every week.

And if Sunday mornings don't work for you, you can also join this study on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm at Mt. Tabor United Methodist Church on Route 108 in Etchison or from the comfort of your own living room since we are livestreaming these classes via Zoom. If you do want to join us virtually, please let Tammy know, and she will forward you the weekly Zoom link.



# May 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 9 AM — 12 PM Paper Shredding Event at DUMC 7:00 PM — Gospel Concert @ Taylorsville UMC
4 9:30 AM — Sunday School 11:00 AM — Worship Service with Communion	5 5:00 PM — Lions Club Dinner & Meeting 7:00 PM — Celtic Church History @ MT & via Zoom	6 5:00 PM — Lions Club Dinner & Meeting 7:00 PM — Celtic Church History @ MT & via Zoom	7 6:00 PM — Finance Commit- tee Meeting 7:00 PM — Administrative Council Meeting	8 7:00 PM — Memorial and Scholarship Com- mittee Meeting	9 1 PM — 5 PM Drop-Off, Set-Up, and Pricing for Yard Sale	10 7 AM — 9 AM Yard Sale Set-Up 9 AM — 2 PM Spring Community Yard Sale 2 PM — Clean-Up
11 <i>Mother's Day</i> 9:30 AM — Mother's Day Breakfast 11:00 AM — Worship Service	12 	13  ←— BWC Annual	14 12:00 PM — Lunch Out @ Rock Creek Tavern on Rt. 108 between Laytonsville & Olney ———→	15  Conference ———→	16	17
18 9:30 AM — Sunday School 11:00 AM — Worship Service	19 <i>Deadline for June Newsletter</i>	20 7:00 PM — Celtic Church History @ MT & via Zoom	21 3:00 PM — Book Club Meeting @ Judy's House	22	23	24 
25 <i>Memorial Day Weekend</i> 9:30 AM — Sunday School 11:00 AM — Worship Service	26 	27 7:00 PM — Celtic Church History @ MT & via Zoom	28	29	30	31



# **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 peace,
- \* believes that all persons are created equal,  
and
- \* affirms the inclusive love of Jesus Christ,

**We Welcome All to Our Work and Worship,**  
regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, age,  
ability, sexual orientation, and/or economic  
circumstance.

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



# **COMMUNITY YARD SALE**

**LARGE, MULTI-FAMILY EVENT**

**SATURDAY, MAY 10  
9 AM TO 2 PM**

**RENTAL SPACES \$20  
CALL TAMMY @ 301-253-0044**

**BAKED GOODS AND HELP NEEDED  
CALL BECKY @ 240-338-3211**

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

**Wesley Grove United Methodist Church**  
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