

THE WYOMING MESSENGER

January 2017

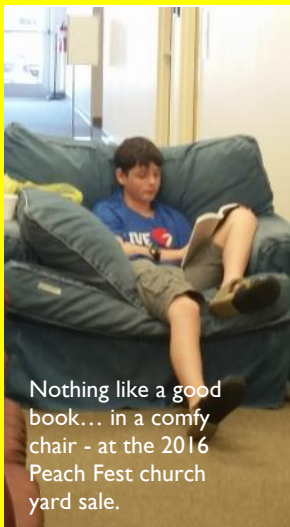
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memory verse

The **Word**
 became flesh and made
 His dwelling among us.
 We have seen
His glory, the
 glory of the One and Only,
 who came from the **Father,**
 full of grace and truth.

~ John 1:14



Nothing like a good book... in a comfy chair - at the 2016 Peach Fest church yard sale.



no
 book
 is
 over
\$2.00
 !!!



Saturday, January 21

from 8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

While you are browsing, have some breakfast/lunch and don't forget to pick up a yummy treat from the bake table to take home.

We hope to see you there!!!

Bulletin Board

On December 14, the **Helping Hands Quilt Guild** had a luncheon provided by the kitchen team at Wyoming. All appreciated the delicious food! It was relaxing and the chicken salad was the BEST! Many thanks to the team for providing this event for us!

Want a new WYOMING HURCH **tee shirt**, **sweat shirt**, and **hoodie**? Look for the "shirt sale" which will take place in January. See George Pettyjohn if you have questions.



GeorgePettyJohn@aol.com

Check out the **WISH LINE** in the narthex! Items on this **WISH LINE** are needed for the many WUMC ministries. To support Wyoming Church, feel free to pick one or more

We Need You - To Be A **Sunday Morning Greeter!** As our friendly and welcoming Wyoming Church continues to attract more new attendees, we find that we need additional Greeters for the 15 minute time period that occurs just prior to the opening of the 8:30AM, 9:45AM and 11AM worship services. So...you might ask 'Just what does a Greeter do?' Its very simple! Once a month for a six month time frame, you would be invited to offer a warm, sincere greeting to as many folks as you can when they arrive in the Narthex. If you feel that you are being called to serve in this vital ministry or have any questions, see Lisa McCalister (8:30 Service), Gail Vella (9:45 Service), or Terry Higgins (11:00 Service). **Being a Sunday morning Greeter is rewarding, easy, satisfying, and fun!**

If you haven't already, plan to stop and take a look at the **Memorial Garden** Phase I model that has been beautifully constructed by Dave Yencer. Feel free to pick up a description of the Memorial Garden Project and, if you feel so led, an envelope in which to place a monetary donation. Upon the successful completion of the \$30,000.00 Phase 1 Fund Drive, we will construct Phase 1 and then begin to accept applications for the individual Memorial Bricks. Dave Yencer ☎ 222-5222

The beautiful **Christmas Tree** in the sanctuary and the **Giving Tree** in the narthex were, as in many years past, donated again by The Good Earth. Thank you so much, Martha & Terry Higgins!

NEW Adult 1 Sunday School series begins **January 8** at **9:45** (Room 209). **"Change The World"** - 6-week study enabling us to act on the imperatives of scripture to find practical ways to change the world locally and globally. Video followed by open discussion. No homework! Bring your coffee and a friend, too!

The new **Flower Book for 2017** is at the Welcome Desk. Please take a minute to select your Sunday, fill out your name and address, and don't forget to include your dedication. PLEASE do not write a check to the church (arrangements are \$50). Jen-Mor Florist will bill you after your flowers are placed on the altar. Barbara Towle ☎ 492-8466.



From the Pastor's Desk

Rick Wessell



Happy 2017! There is always an air of excitement surrounding the beginning of a new year. We so often feel empowered to try new things, to make big changes in our lives, and to chart a new course to make this new year better than the last one. It is the season of resolutions and striving to make ourselves better people in all aspects of our lives. With that in mind, what are some great ways that you and I can grow closer to Jesus in this new year?

1. If you don't already have a time set apart for daily devotions and prayer, start today! All of our relationships—be they marriages, friendships, or business partnerships—suffer when we don't communicate, and our relationship with the Lord is no different. We need to talk with God daily in prayer and we need to nurture that relationship through study and reflection. There are a number of devotional guides available at church, or you can go online and find a host of devotionals through bible.com or through The Bible app on your smartphone.
2. Find and join a small group. As United Methodists, we have a rich history of small group ministries. The entire Methodist movement began in small groups gathering in their homes for prayer, fellowship, study, and support. Yes, you can follow Jesus on your own. Yes, you can

pray by yourself, and you can study the Bible by yourself, but it is so much more fun and edifying when you do so with a group of fellow believers. Keep an eye out for new opportunities as the new year gets started, or go ahead and form your own small group with your friends!

My prayer for you and your family is that 2017 is a fantastic year where you grow in your knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. My prayer for our church family is that we likewise grow in our love for God and our love and service to our community. Let's have a great year together!



White Elephant FUN!



We've all been waiting for ...the annual **white Elephant Christmas Party !**

Saturday, January 14th
at 5:30 PM in the Family Life Center.

Start browsing your house now for the perfect (?) gift you'll bring - wrap it lovely, too! Bring a covered dish to share.

For questions call Family Ministry Director, Jack Freidel at 697-8400 or email him at JFreidel@wyomingumc.com.



Pastor Dave's Ministry Minute - January 2017

"The Beloved Community"

Happy New Year!! In just a few weeks our great nation will celebrate the life, ministries, and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr... Dr. King was a modern day prophet who used his God-given gifts to make a difference in our society... King used non-violent methods to bring about social change at a time when our nation was deeply racially divided... I believe that God used Dr. King as an instrument of peace to make our world a better place... King's non-violent methods of promoting change were nothing new... The philosophy of using non-violent means of ending racism, poverty, hunger, and homelessness were developed by an early 20th Century philosopher - theologian, Josiah Royce, who founded the Fellowship of Reconciliation... The philosophy of "The Beloved Community" tells us that social injustice should be dealt with through peaceful means... As a member of that organization, King popularized and expanded the notion of "The Beloved Community" through his ministry and his work in moving society toward racial reconciliation... **On January 16th, beginning at 3:00pm, Wyoming Church will be hosting its first MLK Day celebration...** We have invited all of the churches that participate in our annual Easter "SonRise" Service as well as churches across the Dover District of our annual conference... You'll find all the details in this newsletter... As we gather for that service we will indeed be a reflection of **"The Beloved Community"** where all of God's children will be gathered together in a spirit of unity and peace...

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them." Isaiah 11:6



Have you ... saved the dates?

May 21-22, 2017

Have you ... invited a friend to join you?

*At the Riverview Retreat Center at Pecometh,
Centreville, Maryland*

*Have you ... decided how you can contribute to the retreat
by being part of the leadership team?*

It is time to think about these questions and make your plans for this annual meaningful time away with Christian friends.

Plan now to attend what promises to be another inspiring, relaxing and fellowship-filled retreat. You don't want to miss what dynamic church leaders have to share.

COMPLETE DETAILS AND REGISTRATION FORM IN THE FEBRUARY MESSENGER.

Contact Barbara Shaw (538-6772) with any questions and to discuss this opportunity to be part of an important ministry to all women at WUMC.



Happy Times @ Pecometh 2016

Reflections

Reflections

Danny Cooper
Coordinator/Counselor
Daybreak Counseling Services

The Journey Continues

A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. Proverbs 18:24

Can it be? Can 2016 be coming to a close already? I'm not proud to say this, but I just got used to writing the "6" on 2016 without having to really think about it, and now we're moving on to a "7"? Oh, the challenges of life! But, good news to one and all. If you're reading this article, then yes, you too have completed another calendar year and are ready to turn the page to another annum of life on this earth; another year of adventure and opportunity with our Lord. What a gift we've been given!

That which does not kill us makes us stronger. Many of us are familiar with this nineteenth century quote from Frederick Nietzsche, the German philosopher who was vehemently opposed to Christianity and all things religious. Yet, regardless of his atheistic bent, Nietzsche's wisdom and insight are profound, shining a light of discernment into the human experience that is still relevant today. As an aside, Nietzsche, and the multitudes like him, remind us that not all who have been greatly blessed in this life, acknowledge and give thanks to our God, the giver of our gifts and talents. Gifts really are, after all, gifts. And Nietzsche was gifted. It was actually another quote of the philosopher that caught my attention recently....*To live is to suffer, to survive is to find some meaning in the suffering.* I think Nietzsche was on to something with this quote, but unintentionally, something of a spiritual truth for us to consider as we embark on a new year of life. Our adventures in this life, both pleasing and challenging, by design or by surprise, bring us step by step closer to our Lord when we welcome Him along on our journey.

On a personal note, one of my adventures in 2016 was having knee surgery. In looking back now, a couple of months after the fact, while certainly not a vacation like experience, it was still an adventure with our Lord, every step of the way. From... *What is wrong with this knee, Lord?*

I know something is not right. I guess I better have it checked out. To.....what is this MRI going to show, Lord? Well, let's see. Into the tube we go! To.....o.k., the surgery I'm not too worried about, but what I say coming off of the anesthesia....that is what I'm a bit concerned about, Lord! To...beginning physical therapy today. What will this experience be like, Lord? Thankfully, there is no one more interested in what we're going through, even the minor details, than our closest friend, our Lord Jesus.

We've each had our share of adventures this past year, with certainly more to come in 2017. This life, after all, is not one of placidity and predictability, but an up and down ride, to be sure. Life is not meant to be too comfortable, after all. If so, we'd focus increasingly more on this temporary earthly experience than the heavenly kingdom to come, which should always be what we pine for through the peaks and valleys along life's dusty road. If given a choice, we would probably prefer a less bumpy ride at times, but so long as we complete our travels with our constant companion right beside us, is that not what this life journey is really all about?

A question for us to ponder as the calendar turns, is whether we will see the adventures of 2017 as opportunities; opportunities to journey with our Lord and friend; opportunities to grow in our trust of Him, in all circumstances; opportunities to remember again and again that....*this too shall pass*; that all of our exploits in this life culminate, ultimately, in the greatest adventure of them all, our homecoming with our Creator in His heavenly kingdom. Everything in this life, all of our experiences, both sour and sweet, point us further and further toward this glorious end. This is all going somewhere! But until that time, until we see with heavenly clarity, we journey on, living out the next adventure in our life story. It is Christ who gives meaning to our experiences, who provides color to the scenes of life we encounter. May we welcome Him daily into the life adventures that await us, allowing His perfect companionship to give us strength and encouragement along the way.

Amen



A wall of support... merely a portion of the many prayers that came Vicki's way

A Thank You from the Buckworths

When I received a breast cancer diagnosis last summer, I started a journal. After each day's entry, I added the blessing of the day. The blessing On July 24, 2016 was the sermon about community. It made me realize the importance of my WUMC church community.

The following week I picked up a booklet at church called "Let Us Pray." It asked why do we pray? We pray because God hears and He answers. I look for signs and shortly thereafter saw Pastor Rick and Pastor Dave. I took that to mean my community church leaders had me covered.

Pastor Dave's sermon on July 31, 2016 sent me and our community a message: "God, in you we have a treasure that can't be taken away." This cancer diagnosis is just a chapter in my life and not the final story. Miracles still happen.

In early August Pastor Rick anointed me with oil and said a prayer. Do you have any idea how powerful that was for me? It filled me with the faith and hope I would need to move forward. I was blessed in a very special way. Pastor Dave continued to support me in prayer, hugs, thumbs up and words of encouragement. The prayer warriors were hard at work on my behalf. The calls and cards started to arrive and supported me with whatever I needed.

It was on the back of one of those cards that I read a breast cancer patient's story of how she displayed her cards on her bedroom wall. It was a much better idea than keeping them in a shoebox. Each time I taped up a new one, I felt joy and I felt stronger. The cards brought messages of love and hope from my church community. Like the other patient, "I was in God's hands and covered by the hands who sent the cards and messages."

I've completed chemotherapy and will begin five weeks of radiation in January. The journey would have been entirely different without my church community, Pastor Rick and Pastor Dave.

Jerry and I want to thank all of you for your prayers, cards and support. We've loved our church for many years and depend on our community and appreciate all they did for us. Thank you, friends, for being there for us. God heard and He answered. God bless you all.

Vicki and Jerry Buckworth



ASL Sign Language CLASS

Sponsored by the WUMC Deaf Ministry
 Every **Monday** - 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

\$2.00 per session
 All skill levels welcome
 (ages 15 and older)

Sign Language Interpreted WORSHIP

Every **Sunday** – 11:00 a.m.



Sub Sale!

12" Italian sub or
 12" Turkey sub -
\$7.00 each

The Jr. & Sr. High MYF will sell Turkey and Italian subs to help raise funds for the yearly payment to sponsor Jan Marie Macon who lives in the Philippines and is now 19 years old. The MYF have sponsored Jan Marie through Compassion International since 2003.

Jan Marie has finished high school and is now attending college. Our monthly payment of \$38 is assisting her to remain in college at this time.

Subs will be available for pickup on Saturday, February 4th between 11AM and 1PM or after each service on Sunday, February 5th. You can order online on the church website wyomingumc.com or look for our display in the narthex beginning on January 22nd.



Jan Marie

~ Our People ~



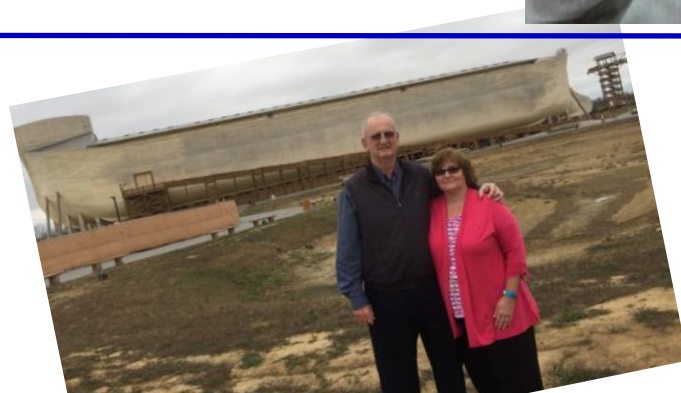
- 1/1 Kim Bryan, Jan Fasulo
 1/3 Justin Smith, Michael DiNuova
 1/4 Sue Rigby
 1/5 Natalie Marlow, Madison Price
 1/6 Ernie Piazza
 1/8 Deedee Duncan
 1/9 Emily Schultz
 1/10 Dawn Melson-Williams
 1/11 Diana Cool
 1/12 Diane Metsch
 1/13 Michael Watson
 1/14 R.B. Downing
 1/15 Julie Eaby
 1/16 Brayden Whitenight
 1/17 Ray Henriques
 1/19 Wes Faircloth
 1/20 Vonnie Williams, Karen deBloois, Jeff Carlin,
 Jamie Ahl, Zachary Hosmer
 Greg Williams, Tina Klecan
 1/22 Kirsten Higgins, Ethan Singleton, Mackenzie Bryan
 1/23 Lisa Short
 1/24 Helen McKee, James Miller, James Schweppe
 1/25 Nikole Moore, Donald Watkins
 1/26 Marilyn Massey, Jenn Boyer
 1/27 Liam Piazza
 1/28 Marie Henriques, Dotty Baker
 1/29 Mary Servon, Brad Whitenight, Lillian Seward,
 Dawn Cox
 1/30 Hugh Shaw
 1/31 Colin Ritchey, Becky Minor, Lilian Yates
 2/1 Rick Sharpe, Pete Thompson,
 Axel Coker, Chuck Muldrow
 2/2 Sandy Rager, Nathan Hoyme
 2/3 Dave Hill, Brett Krout, Amy Higgins, Doug Ditty
 2/4 Aiden Flaherty, Ezra Delgado
 2/6 Judy Field, Wanda Edwards, Aurora Hamblin
 2/7 Norma Bennett

Twins? Not quite. But still the same family! Miss Ziva Lorraine (daughter of Kinsey & Andrew Towle) and Miss Kate Elizabeth (daughter of Emily & Ryan Jeffries), both granddaughters of Larry and Barbara Towle.



~ Birth ~

Oliver Adolf Kunzendorf was born to Frederico Kunzendorf and Becky Lambert in Florida on December 15, 2016. Congratulations also to proud grandparents Joe & Sue Hajec.



Here's Russ & Valerie Riggins at the Ark Encounter in Williamstown, Kentucky in October.

ArkEncounter.com



~ Death ~

Frederick Decker, the father of Melissa Mann and grandfather of Karissa, Wesley and Silas on December 15, 2016 (see Page 6)

YOUTH CALENDAR

January



Jr./Sr. High MYF

- Friday 1/6/17 to Sunday, 1/8/17, Ocean City Youth Rally (Sr. High only), 4:30 pm Friday – 1:00 pm Sunday
- Sunday, 1/8/17, Games (Jr. High only), 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Sunday, 1/15/17, Jr./Sr. High MYF, Attack Addiction Presentation (Parents are highly encouraged to come) 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Sunday, 1/22/17, Skiing/Snowboarding/Tubing Trip, 6:00 am – 8:00 pm
- Sunday, 1/29/17, Card Game Evening (Mentors will be invited to this event), 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Service

- Saturday, 1/14/17, Visitation at Dover Place Senior Care Facility, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Saturday, 1/21/17, Youth Mission Trip Meeting, 6:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Study

A study is a part of MYF in the evening

Worship

- Saturday, 1/21/17, Special service for those going on the ski trip, 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm
- Every Sunday, Services at 8:30, 9:45, and 11:00

Youth Council

- Tuesday, 1/17/17, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

atTAcK addiction

www.atTAcKaddiction.com

Synago...

... our youth and young adult Christian study group, will be restarting this January. Our first meeting will be Thursday evening, January 12, from 7:00 to 8:30. A To start off the year we will be meeting at the church in Rom 225. Although the topics will be oriented towards youth and young adults, all ages will be welcome. It is good for youth and adults to come together and share their thoughts and perspectives.

Jack Freidel,
Family Ministry Director



atTAcK addiction is a non-profit group created in memory of Tyler Armstrong Keister after his accidental overdose. Their goal is to help young people realize the dangers of alcohol and drugs so that they and their families never have to experience the pain, tragedy and loneliness that accompany addiction.

Tyler was born at Christiana Hospital on March 1, 1988 and grew up in Hockessin, DE as the youngest in his family. A 2006 graduate of Caravel Academy, Tyler was the kind of person you'd want to be friends with. He was sweet, athletic, smart, and funny.

Tyler was actively working on his recovery when he relapsed and had his **first and only overdose** on December 20, 2012. He had arranged a ride to a detox center, in hopes of being home for Christmas with his family and his puppy. Unfortunately, the ride was in an ambulance to Christiana Hospital where he spent the last four days of his life in a coma surrounded by family and friends,

dying on his sister's birthday. Everyone hears the warnings on the dangers of drugs and alcohol, but many think "**that's not going to be me**" - just as Tyler did. Shortly before his relapse, Tyler had told his grandfather, "This isn't the life that I wanted."

Learn more about Tyler's story on www.attackaddiction.com.

The atTAcK addiction organization is coming to our church on Sunday evening, January 15, from 6:00 to 7:30 to give a presentation about drug abuse in our area. This will be the MYF meeting for that evening, and I encourage both parents, youth, and anyone else who is interested in this burgeoning problem to attend. Don't think our children are beyond being touched by this epidemic. I know of at least three youth who attended our youth ministry here at Wyoming Church who have experienced drug problems following their high school years. So please, come out and join us on the 15th.

DEVELOPING A FAITH THAT STICKS

STICKY FAITH

By **Jack Freidel**, Family Ministry Director

I came across this article on the Sticky Faith blog that I want to share with you. It has to do with communicating with your adult children as they return from college for the holiday/winter break.

Connecting with college students over break: they're bringing home more than their laundry

By **Steve Argue, PhD**

Parents all over the country are anticipating their young adult kids coming home for the holiday break. For some, it's the first time they've been home since they sent them off and set them up for the college school year. Home will feel like home again.

Likely, they'll bring their laundry, too. If you're one of those parents, you'll see them walk in with that laundry bag slung over their shoulder, and in that moment, you'll have a choice. (But more on this in a minute.)

Your college-aged child has been away for almost four months. This is a blink of an eye for a parent, but a crucial chapter for your emerging adult child. They've tasted life on their own, made their own decisions, set their own hours, navigated their own dilemmas, encountered their own relationships, and resourced their own challenges.

The child you said goodbye to in the fall isn't the same one who's coming home this holiday season. Beyond their laundry, they're bringing home other things that you need to consider.

1) They're bringing home their spiritual and religious doubts ... and they need to know that you'll stick with them.

My research on college students discovered that at school, they encounter new experiences and ideas that challenge

their religious and spiritual assumptions. Students in my study shared that they were comfortable working through their intellectual challenges, but feared that if they expressed their questions, doubts, or beliefs that diverged from what their parents or pastor believed, there would be relational consequences. They didn't want to upset Mom, or make Dad angry, or disappoint their youth pastor. In short, young adults fear that expressing religious doubt will lead to relational fallout. Parents, assume that your children who are walking through that door have raised new faith questions, experienced doubt, and are formulating their own religious/spiritual ideas. **Create space to talk about their evolving faith, and seek to understand them. They need your assurance that your relationship is secure.** They need your understanding—not for you to fix them. If you don't know what to say, try these conversation starters:

- “What is something you don't believe anymore that you think I still believe?”
 - “What is something you believe that you don't think I believe?”
 - “How is your faith different now, compared to a year or six months ago?”
- “What are you reading that's inspiring you?”

2) They're bringing home their politics ... that look like people, not issues.

Considering current events, assume that politics will come up—or at least that they've been thinking and talking about politics away at school. While no demographic exclusively votes for one candidate or another, research revealed a deep divide in the way younger and older generations voted, and a majority of evangelicals voted in the same direction as older generations. Thus, there's a chance parents and kids may not share the same political views.

For young adults, many of the topics raised in this election cycle are not about abstract issues, but about real people. Gays and immigrants are their friends. Ethnic and racial minorities share their stories, not statistics. Muslims are dorm mates, not terrorists. Sexual assault is real on campus, not a topic of media debate. Violence is “local,” not just international.” Joblessness is a family concern, not an

unemployment rate. The university isn't a bastion of liberalism as much as it is a community of diversity where students learn about others' contexts and the complexity of our world.

Parents, remember that your kids have encountered, maybe for the first time, the “other” in ways that disrupt their views. Family political conversations don't have the reputation of resolving well. But what if political conversations were opportunities for thoughtful discussion, prayer, and personal responsibility? If you don't know where to start, try these conversation starters:

- “How has your school tried to promote racial reconciliation?”
 - “Who has helped you understand [a political topic]?”
 - “How do we best help the poor and under-represented?”
- “When is war just?”

The point isn't to resolve these topics nor to cheer for a political party, but to create space to acknowledge the deep challenges our country and world face. If we can sidestep candidate cheering (or jeering), maybe we can find ways to pray together and remind our college students that their studies and work matter, and contribute to making our world a better place.

3) They're bringing home their identities ... that need attention and your reflection (not reaction).

Time away from home gives young adults a chance to discover what they truly value and who they truly want to become. This shift can occur when they recognize that their original interests and ambitions may have been more formed by parental expectations rather than their own internal convictions.

This doesn't mean that parental encouragement is bad; it only means that at some point, young adults must own their own decisions and develop internal motivations. The vision young adults are creating for themselves includes their identities—this means everything from declaring a new major, a new environmentally conscious style, a new relationship, or a new summer priority.

...continued on Page 13

NOVEMBER 2016 Month End Finance Report

Michael Quarnaccio, Finance Team Chair

The following report includes current year to date financials and the 2016 budget approved at the 2016 Charge Conference.

	<u>Inc/Exp to Date</u>	<u>Budget to Date</u>	<u>2016 Budget</u>
Weekly Offerings –Operating	459,839	508,908	555,172
Other offerings	59,187	69,763	76,105
Interest Income	4,204	6,233	6,800
Total Offerings	<u>523,230</u>	<u>584,904</u>	<u>638,077</u>
Finance Team	6,876	6,142	6,700
Office	20,790	19,754	21,550
Personnel	161,373	166,604	181,750
Mortgage interest	80,952	79,246	86,450
Properties and equipment	67,028	77,046	84,050
Total Administrative Council	<u>337,019</u>	<u>348,792</u>	<u>380,500</u>
Nursery and Supplies	27	46	50
Benevolences (Conference)	51,198	51,623	56,316
Education & Youth	5,907	6,050	6,600
Evangelism	1,950	2,750	3,000
Extended Table	-	138	150
Music	1,813	1,833	2,000
Worship	233	229	250
Total Council on Ministries	<u>61,123</u>	<u>62,669</u>	<u>68,366</u>
Pastor Parish Relations	<u>107,118</u>	<u>111,070</u>	<u>121,167</u>
Mortgage principal liability (Reduces debt to PNC Bank)	<u>77,284**</u>	<u>71,134</u>	<u>77,601**</u>
Total Expense	<u>582,544</u>	<u>593,665</u>	<u>647,634</u>
Net Income (Loss)	(59,314)		

** Three Mortgage Principal Payments will be paid from Fundraising Income. The Fundraising Team and other teams raise money throughout the year for debt reduction. Please continue to support their efforts.

Balance of Mortgage on 09/30/2016

Interest paid in 2016
Principal paid in 2016.

\$ 2,054,626.

\$80,952

*\$94,681***

Notes: In our efforts to reduce operating costs, the Finance Team has decided to only send Giving Statements via mail at year end. The church utilizes CCB software which will allow you to view your account at any time.

...all the Good **WE** Can

Thanks to our faithful members, the Capital Campaign is doing well. As of December 6, 2016, **\$244,352.29** has been donated to this effort! Awesome! We have the opportunity to apply everything in the account to the principal in March. Extra contributions are encouraged before this date. All donations will be used to pay down our mortgage.

Please, prayerfully consider contributing to this fund before March so we can reduce our monthly mortgage payments. (For example, if we can apply \$300,000, our monthly payments would be **decreased by approximately \$3,400!**) Together, we can reduce our mortgage!

On Sunday, January 29, we will celebrate our contributions to do all the Good **WE Can. Refreshments will be served after each service.**

2016

It's been a very good year!

Philippians

4:6-7

NLT

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done...

So long, Farewell, Auf Wiedersehn, Good-Bye...
Pastor Patti retiring



Welcome to the helm...
Pastor Rick at the
Dinner Auction.



... Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

"2,4,6,8... Who Do We Appreciate !!"

At Wyoming UMC we are very fortunate to have many wonderful volunteers who, by their participation, allow us to extend our ministries within and beyond the walls of our building. To recognize these groups and/or individuals we will be highlighting selected groups each month throughout the year as a regular article in The Wyoming Messenger. One of these might be a good fit for YOU!

This month we want to say "Thank you" to

Gail



Lisa



Terry



Greeters

The smiling faces that welcome you to church on Sunday morning are all members of the "Greeter Brigade." They are your fellow parishioners whose services are coordinated by Lisa McCalister (8:30), Gail Vella (9:45), and Terry Higgins (11:00)

Youth Leaders

An extremely important ministry within the church involves the encouragement, involvement and the activity of our youth groups.

Betsy & Jack



We are very fortunate to have dedicated youth leaders in Jack & Betsy Freidel and Jeff & Tracy Jones.

Our favorite Jones's...
Karly, 'Mojo' Tracey,
Adam,
Jeff and
Eric



Heritage Team

This group is now known as the "Dover Place Team." These individuals or two-person teams visit Dover Place on the fourth Sunday of the month to provide a brief communion service to the residents, sing hymns and to spend a short time in fellowship with them. The team members enjoy musical assistance from Sharon Burge or Mindy Anthony and their schedule is coordinated by Sue Hajec.

Sue



Sharon



Special Gifts

The Special Gifts Team oversees the management of gifts made to the church through memorials or one-time donations targeted for specific purposes. The chairperson for this team is Sharon Duncan.

Trustees

The Trustees are elected by the congregation. They manage the property of church and set policy as described by the Church Discipline.



Dave Yencer, Vice President Board of Trustees

Hugh Shaw, President Board of Trustees



We are so very thankful for these volunteers and ask that you include them in your prayers and support their efforts wherever possible.





Sticky Faith...

... continued from Page 9.

Arguments can ensue as parents' view of their child and subsequent plans/ behaviors no longer match this "different person" that is home for the holidays. Recognize that your child, for the first time, may be taking a risk with you— naming their own desires, voicing their own dreams, introducing you to their new significant other. And in these moments, you have a choice.

You can either shut them down and force them back into an image you have held for them, or you can seek to understand the image that your young adult children are learning to create for themselves. This doesn't mean parents always like, affirm, or agree with the identities their kids are making for themselves. It does mean that parents stop trying to control their kids' identities and learn to reflect back to them what they see. If you don't know what to say, try these conversation starters:

- "Tell me about your switch in

majors. What are you most interested in and what do you see yourself becoming?"

- "Tell me about the person you hope to be."
 - "Tell me more about this girl/boy you're interested in. What do you appreciate about them? What do they appreciate about you?"
- "Tell me about your new style. How does your new look express what's important to you?"

4) They're bringing home their wounds ... that need empathy (not band aids).

Venturing out on one's own also means that one is bound to make mistakes along the way. Many young adults experience the consequences of poor decisions, the pressure of competing commitments, and the stress of new challenges. These setbacks can often leave wounds that need attention. Sometimes young adults need to express/confess their failures and be assured that they can be forgiven. Other times, they need medical help, counseling, or coaching. Parents can help their young adult children by creating spaces for them to let down their guard and to be honest about the hurts and difficulties they've experienced or are still facing. Sometimes this is hard for young adults because they fear letting their parents down or want to prove that they are grown up. The reality is that we all need help and support. Perfection is never possible. If you don't know what to say, try these conversation starters:

- "What's been the hardest part about going off to college?"
- "Is there anything that you wish you could undo?"
- "Everyone gets stuck sometimes. Have you ever felt that way?" "How can I best support you?"

Your Turn

Parenting is an improvisational and courageous act. In theory, we know we can't control our kids' lives, fix their challenges, or create their futures. But sometimes out of our own spiritual doubts, worldview challenges, identity crises, and wounds, we try to control their situations.

Which brings us back to the laundry. When you see that bag of laundry, you might be tempted to take it and clean it for them. But it's *their* laundry to deal with, even in your home filled with resources. The laundry demands of your child an intentional act to pull out, sort, wash, and reorganize before they head back to school. While they have to do it, they don't have to do it alone.

They need you, but in new ways. And you need them. Which may be the point. They're coming home with laundry and all, seeking to connect with you in familiar and new ways. You can default back to old patterns (do their laundry, control their lives), or use this time to cultivate your relationship that supports as they learn to make their way in this world.

They're coming home with more than laundry.

Are
you
ready?



The annual Jr/Sr High MYF **Ski Trip to Jack Frost** is coming up on **January 22th**. We'll meet at 6 am at the church and return around 8 pm. Cost for Ski/Snowboard is \$40 (this includes equipment rental, and optional lesson). Helmets are \$10 extra. Cost for Tubing - All Day \$35 Half Day \$20 . Families/Adults are welcome to join us for the group rate. Contact Betsy Freidel at bfreidel1@yahoo.com if interested.

**There will be a worship service for those attending the trip on Saturday evening, January 21.



The Wyoming Church Puppets of Praise team went to Dover Place assisted living to take our Christmas show to the residents. It was a fun time for all!

Thank you to the **Couples In Action** and the **CIA kids** who pulled up at my house on December 18 in ten full cars to sing **Christmas carols**. They filled the living room with bodies, song and happiness - not to mention kids playing percussion. It was such a joyful gift.
Thank you again,
Evie Wilson



Christmas Memories



Thank you Santa, Mrs. Claus, youth and parents for helping with our Breakfast with Santa on December 3rd. With the help of our Wyoming Church family and community we raised over \$550 toward the 2017 Wyoming Church Youth Mission Trip!

"The **time** is always right
to do what **is right**."

Celebrating
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
On Monday, January 16, 2017
At 3 p.m. at Wyoming Church

Inspiring Speakers
Historical Presentations
Liturgical Dance
Spiritual Songs
Agape Meal



Rev. Gary Meekins



Rev. Elmer Davis



Rev. Rita Paige



Dr. Valarie Boyer

'Seeds of Faith' Liturgical Dance



Beautiful
FUNdraising
Offerings...
...at the concert of
Big Daddy Weave,
Plumb and
Jordan Feliz...

...and the *Sweet Life*
Comedy & Dessert Night.

2016
YOU ARE
BELOVED



Little People... at the baptism of Reileigh and Roygle Gray (1), Dakota Home packing food for Stop Hunger Now with her mom Kathy (2), singing God's praises with Pastor Dave at the 'Surf Shack' Vacation Bible School (3), on Easter – Jim Miller with children Jude and Anne Elise (4), the ring bearer and flower girl at the wedding of Barbara McCleffert & Kevin McCormick (5), on the new church playground (6), playing musical chairs at the Harvest Fest with Mrs. Towle (7).



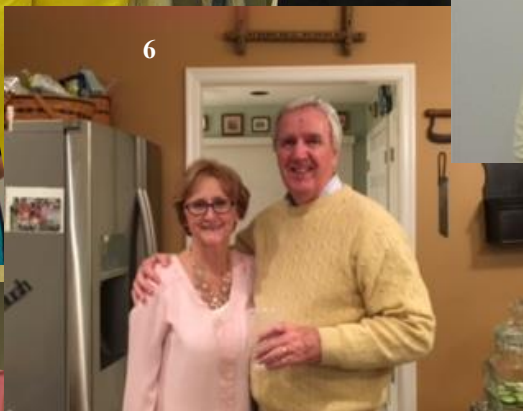
Young people... on Pentecost Sunday at Confirmation 2016 (1), Hannah Cote on the youth mission trip (2), walking the walk in the VBS story room (3), at a fun game on any given Sunday night Jr. & Sr. High MYF (4 and 7), at the MYF White Elephant Party (5), John Pearson with new Eagle Scout Cory Cook at our chartered boy scout Troop 24 - (6), carving pumpkins with the CIA (8).

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love

2016

Fun for the Young and Young at Heart...
...at the annual Harvest Festival...

Betsy Freidel, Jeff & Tracey Jones, Karissa Mann, Elizabeth Fox, Abby DeJesus



Fabulous leaders... creative Kim Klecan in the VBS craft room (1), Debbie Grinstead with Elizabeth Fox at the Clothing Sale (2), Kindergarten teacher Diane Rodgers at (her final) Sunday School closing (3), Karen Priestley - pictured with Gail Alexander and Vonnie Williams getting ready to pack up hand-knitted blankets (4), Linda Booher @ "any and all of the above" (5), Vicky & Jim Quirk as gracious hosts of the Progressive Dinner entrée (6), Jack Freidel, heart and arms wide open for the church's youth and families (7), Judy Field with helpers at the Food Bank in Milford (8), Brad Whitenight as the surf coach at VBS (9), Janna Whitenight and Tracy Fennemore at the Ladies' Retreat (10).



2016

Happy Faces... Gail and Tom Vella at the Kitchen Team appreciation dinner (1), refreshed patrons at the youth peach fuzzy sale (2), acting it out at the Ladies' Retreat (3), Carol Abbott, Nancy Hughes and Susan Gant at the bake table (4), tasting exotic dishes at the International lunch (5), Barbara & George Pettyjohn packing food at the Milford Food Bank (6), shoppers in bargain heaven at the annual yard sale (7), Mary Wilcutts and Linda Pope at the White Elephant Party (8), raising the roof at VBS (9)!

Karissa with her beloved grandfather, Frederick Decker and her little brothers Wesley and Silas (in the stroller).



The Power of her Prayer...

(from the Facebook page of Melissa Mann, Karissa's mom)

Update on my Dad: Every Sunday at church I watch my girl fill out a prayer request asking the wonderful people of our church to please pray for my Dad as he recovers from multiple illness that have kept him hospitalized for the last 9 months that began with an aneurysm and brain surgery. Nine months of prayer requests for the same thing every time... her unwavering faith and trust

in the Lord brings me to my knees with gratefulness that such a girl was entrusted to me. During these last 9 months my father has endured the unimaginable. We were told he would never get off of a ventilator, never eat again, multiple times we were told to put him in hospice care and all the while we all kept praying and I wanted to let you all know that my father, who we all have been praying for, is set to come home on December 1st!!! ... Karissa's grandfather did come home where, surrounded by his loving family, he went home to be with his Lord on Thursday, December 15th. And again, Karissa is not only asking her friends at Wyoming Church to pray for her family, but also especially thanking everyone for their prayers through this trying time.

Raised in Wyoming Church... two Wonderful Ladies



Artist in the Making...

Meet Sidney Rae, the daughter of Nikole a.k.a. Miss Holiday Craft Show and VBS Creativity Leader and granddaughter of Linda Booher a.k.a. Miss Culinary Art, all at Wyoming Church - you could say that creativity runs in that family!

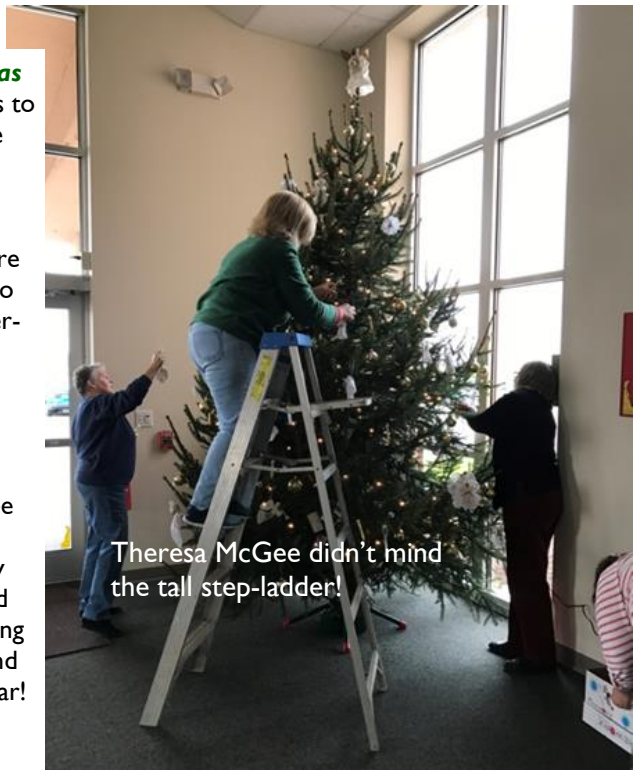
If you'd like to see more of Sidney's art, she'll be a featured artist at the next WAM Cafe at the Dover Art League on January 14th. Watch her do a live painting there! The event also features poetry readings, other live artists, and musicians.



It was a **Merry Christmas** for many children thanks to our WUMC Giving Tree again this year. What a wonderful ministry and involvement of so many members! 209 gifts were wrapped and delivered to families who would otherwise go without gifts on Christmas morning!

Thanks to all who participated, helped decorate our Giving Tree and wrapped the gifts at the wrapping party. May God's blessings surround you and your family during this Christmas season and throughout the New Year!

Judy Field
Outreach Team



Theresa McGee didn't mind the tall step-ladder!

Outreach Outreach Outreach Outreach Outreach

We are so Blessed!

As I sit down to write this short article for **Code Purple** at WUMC, I am overwhelmed with thankful feelings for all those who have come forward to help in any way with our **Code Purple** sanctuary. It is so amazing that so many have been touched by the **Code Purple** bug and actually want to help out! This is the third year we have opened our doors to the homeless men when the temperatures turn cold. The first year there was much skepticism but we were able to muddle through with the help of many in our congregation. The second year was a little easier and we attracted some outside people to help staff our shelter. This year, we are seeing a huge influx of people from other churches, such as

Whatcoat UMC, Camden and Saint Andrews Lutheran, Dover. We are so thrilled to be partnering with these other churches in this wonderful effort to provide volunteers. The supplies are coming in and are overflowing. The men's clothing is coming in and overflowing. The phone calls to offer help is amazing and I can't begin to thank you on behalf of Amy and Lynn for your loyalty and dedication! It is a humbling feeling to know that what started as a small spark in my heart, has ignited a huge fire to serve!! ... and to God be the Glory!!
Judy Field

Please hold up on supplies!! We feel we have enough supplies to get us through the winter. If our need increases, we will let you know!!
Thanks so much!

Scheduled weeks to be open at Wyoming:

- Monday, December 26th through Sunday, January 1st
- Sunday, January 22nd through Sunday, January 29th
- Sunday, February 5th through Sunday, February 12th
- Sunday, February 19th through Thursday, February 23rd
- Sunday, March 19th through Thursday, March 23rd



Voila... the WUMC Code Purple bus!



If you haven't brought in your **stuffed "Red Stocking"** yet... there's still time! Thank you for your faithful support of homeless youth and children!

Your Outreach Team & The UMC Board of Child Care



Adult Fellowship will feature a "soup night" at the January 4th dinner meeting. Plan to join us for good food and Christian fellowship. Bring your own table setting (plate and utensils)

At the February 1st meeting we will enjoy the famous "spaghetti dinner" prepared by Jim and Kathleen Torbert. If you have never tried Jim's spaghetti, you have not lived! And, we will also host the live Tucker Brothers (and friends) blue grass band that have entertained us for the past four years.

Contact George Pettyjohn ☎ 736-1236 for more information.

DON'T TURN THOSE OVENS OFF...

We hope you aren't in "baking burn out" after the holidays as we still need your delicious baked goods for the **Soup Day Bake Table on Wednesday, January 11**. Don't forget to drop them off at the bake table by 10 a.m. We look forward to offering your delectable treats to our Soup Day Guests.

Sue Gant and Sig Kelsey



January's Wyoming Church's Men's Prayer Breakfast

The Wyoming United Men's Prayer Breakfast will meet on **Saturday, January 28, from 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM** in the 'Backroom' at Hall's Restaurant. An inspiring mini-message of faith, the power of prayer, good food, and great table fellowship await all who attend.

For more information, see Josh Turner, Wayne Davis, or Terry Higgins.

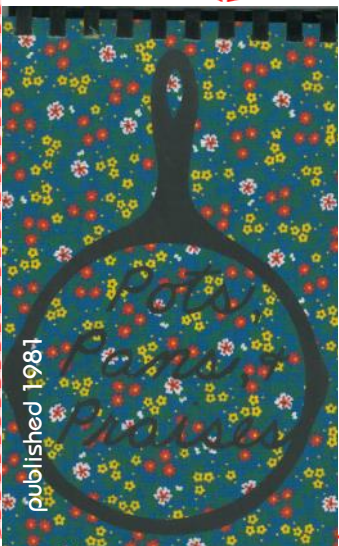


From the
Church



Cookbook

Wyoming United Methodist Church published a total of 5 cookbooks over the past 65 years. Every month, we will present a recipe that has been a cherished part of the great Methodist tradition of food & fellowship!



CRABBIES

Rose Ann Townsend

- 1 stick margarine
- 1 jar Old English cheese spread
- 1-1/2 Tblsp mayonnaise
- 1/2 tsp garlic salt
- 1/2 tsp seasoned salt
- 1 6-7oz. (8oz. can crabmeat)
- 6 English muffins

Set butter and cheese to soften. Blend with rest of ingredients. Spread on split English muffins. Cut into 4 sections. Freeze. Broil until brown. (Keep in freezer until ready to eat.)

Sexton Kitchen Team's



Food, Faith & Family

The great folks of your Sexton Kitchen Team (SKT) continue to be blessed by your on-going, positive, and continuing response to the Team's multi-faceted Food Ministry Program. All of the proceeds that your SKT receives through our various events are used to financially support a variety of WUMC activities that would otherwise lack funding. Specifically, your SKT provides funds for activities that provide support for children, youth, families, adults, and seniors within our Wyoming congregation. As of last count the SKT grants for 2016 totaled \$17,600.00.

The excellent reputation for great food, great service, and great presentation that the members of the SKT continue to enjoy, from both our congregation and the surrounding communities, is reflected in the growing number of food related events that the SKT is being called upon to do. Evidence of this increased activity is seen in the following paragraphs.

Wednesday, January 4, 2017, will usher in the Adult Fellowship's traditional 'Soup, Salad, and Dessert' Dinner beginning at 6 PM in the FLC. Several of our Chefs have volunteered to bring one of their 'signature' soups in large enough amounts to share multiple times. If you would like to bring one of your specialty soups take a moment to contact Elaine Kes-selring at 293-9922 and let her know of your plans. The only other items that you need to bring will be your own table setting. The Chefs of the SKT will provide the salad and the beverages with desserts being provided by those good folks who feel led to do so. George and Barbara Pettyjohn will be our affable hosts at this very informal and friendly event. Please remember that all folks are invited including the recent attendees that are new to our congregation.

On Saturday, January the 7th, those of you that have signed up at the SKT Kiosk in the Narthex for the Lasagna Dinner can receive and pay for your dinner(s). Please remember that when you signed up for the Lasagna Dinners you had the option of either 'Dining In' or 'Take Out'; thus, the Chefs will be ready to honor your preferences.

The following Sunday, the SKT Chefs will host the 'Celebration Event' that will occur in the Narthex after each of the three Services.

Wednesday, January the 11th, from 11:30 AM to 1 PM will be the inaugural Soup Day for 2017. This much anticipated event will feature,

for a donation of \$4.00, your choice of a generous portion of 'Hearty' Chili or Broccoli Cheese soup as well as dinner roll/fresh bread, beverage, and dessert. 'Tastes Like Seconds' option for \$3.00.

On Saturday, the 14th, from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM, the SKT members will provide support for the Annual 'White Elephant' Party.

Monday the 16th will, once again, find the members of your SKT hosting the Martin Luther King Agape Meal in the Family Life Center.

From 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM on January 21, again in the FLC, the SKT Chefs will be host to a Gourmet Bake Table and a menu of food items from the Chef's Kitchen in partnership with the Fundraising Team's Book Sale.

On Sunday, the 22nd, we will, once again, find the members of your SKT hosting those new attendees that will be invited to be present at the inaugural 'Gathering' in the Family Life Center.

February's SKT Calendar, as of this writing, includes the Annual Gospel And Blue Grass Spaghetti Dinner featuring the Tucker Brothers Band on Wednesday, the 1st, beginning at 6PM, the Soup Day on Wednesday, the 8th, from 11:30 AM to 1PM, hosting the SPRT Luncheon on Sunday, the 12th, in the Family Life Center, and the 'I Cannot Tell A Lie' Cherry Pie Sale at the Chef's Kitchen on the 18th of the month. By the way, the SKT Calendar for March of looks just as busy!

The members of your SKT include a number of properly trained, hard working folks who volunteer their time and talents to the various facets of the Team's Food Ministry Program that emphasizes Food, Faith, And Fellowship. Your SKT Team, very ably led by Linda Booher, includes Carol Abbott, Dot Adams, Beth Barlett, Sharon Burge, Kathy Chalmers, Warren Field, Larry Gant, Martha Higgins, Nancy Hughes, Tina Klecan, Ruth Leister, Marilyn Massey, Nikole Moore, Peg Mosher, Barbara and George Pettyjohn, Walt Ramstedt, Frank and Nancy Roberts, Nancy Sammons, Shelby Truitt, Gail Vella, Vonnie Williams, and Terry Higgins.

Should you feel led to consider becoming a member of the SKT, Linda Booher will be pleased to talk with you!

Taste & see
THAT THE LORD IS
good.
Psalm 34:8



The opportunity to order one or more of the Sexton Kitchen Team's (SKT) 'World Famous Cherry Pies' will commence on Sunday, January 1, 2017, at the SKT Kiosk in the Narthex. Hand-crafted by the SKT Chefs, 9 inch cherry pies for \$10.00 each. Questions/Info - see Linda Booher or Shelby Truitt.



The Day of the Soup...

Wednesday, January 11 -
11:30 AM to 1:00 PM.

The Soups of the Day...

Chili or Broccoli Cheese

Get a generous helping of your choice soup, roll or bread, dessert, and beverage.

'Taste Like Seconds' option for an additional \$3.00.

Don't forget to check out the culinary delights at the Bake Table.

The funds generated from the Soup Days are donated to the Church's Outreach Ministry.



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NEW YEAR
NEW BEGINNINGS
WISHESdreams
CELEBRATE
LOVE FRESH START
FAMILY
Resolutions
2016



To: You!

Come be a part of "The Heart Of It All!"

You're invited to a gathering of folks who are interested to learn how WUMC can meet their needs and provide opportunities for growth, service and fun! This is also for folks who may want to consider membership at a future date. This informal gathering with a light lunch will be offered in the Family Life Center **from 12 to 1 PM on Sunday, January 22, 2017.**

Please call Sue Hajec 697-2697 or the church office 697-8400.

Saturday, January 21

The WUMC **FUN**draising Team is changing their monthly meeting time to 7PM (second Tuesday) so **YOU** can join them! Planning concerts and events, decorating the Family Life Center and selling tickets to eager customers really is... **FUN!** And you'll be part of a **FUN** group of people! Call Debbie at (302)423-4733.

8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Don't Miss!

Bake Sale

