

THE WYOMING MESSENGER

January 2018

I will bless you as long as I live; in
your name I will lift up my hands

Psalm 63:4

2018
Memory Verse

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Bulletin Board

Ladies, please join us for an in-depth Bible study of Psalms 120-134, using Beth Moore's series; **"Stepping Up, A Journey Through the Psalms of Ascent"**. These 15 Psalms model how we can voice our own praises and petitions to God. Themes include unity, joy, gratitude, redemption, repentance, the power of blessings and more. Seven weekly group video/discussion sessions will be held at the home of Kathi Thomas, Monday afternoons from 1-2:30, starting January 15. Kathi will order the Bible Study Books (\$13). Contact Kathi to sign up or for more information. (302)242-6900, Kathit1658@me.com

The Adult Sunday School Class that meets in the South conference Room

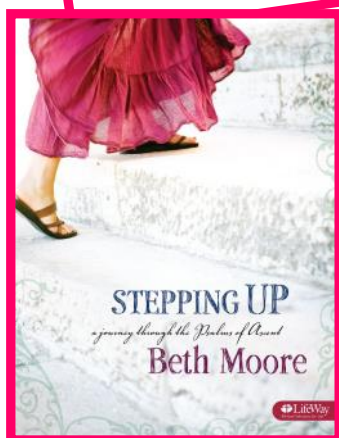
by the coffee pot on Sundays at 9:45 will begin a

new study January 7th.

The study selected is produced by Our Daily Bread Films. Author and New Testament scholar, Con Campbell, will lead us by DVD on the journeys of Paul from Petra to Israel to Cyprus, to Turkey, to Malta, and finally to Rome.

He will uncover Paul's remarkable life and his voyages from Jerusalem across the Mediterranean to Rome. There are 7 parts to this DVD series. Come and join us for this journey that will help us get to know Paul better by exploring his life, from his radical transformation, to his missionary journeys, to his martyrdom in Rome.

Questions? Call Sharon Duncan ☎ 698-1904



Don't miss the fun at ...the annual White Elephant Christmas Party !

WHITE ELEPHANT PARTY!

www.dabbled.org

Saturday, January 27th 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. Betsy Freidel ☎ (302) 387-1586

If you feel led to register for the American Heart Association's Certification CPR & AED Training on Sunday, January 7 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM please contact Terry Higgins at tmhiggins59@hotmail.com or ☎ 492-3354 or ☎ 363-5823 for registration information. The class is limited to 12 students and has a fee of \$25.00 per student. It will be held at the Kent County Department Of Public Safety Building on Public Safety Boulevard.

Registration numbers are climbing with just a few spaces still open. Future CPR AED classes will be scheduled in 2018.

From the Pastor's Desk

Rick Wessell



In the midst of what is swirling around us, it is a comfort to know that the Lord is still on the throne, and that God is in control. The writer of Hebrews shares this marvelous truth with us in **Hebrews 13:8**, **"Jesus Christ is**

the same yesterday, today, and forever."

I take a great deal of comfort from that statement. The Church has faithfully sought to follow Christ in every age, and the Lord has given us the answers for how to stand firm and to meet the challenges of every generation. Though all around us may change like shifting sand, the Lord our God is the One who was, is, and is to come, and He will never change (Revelation 1:8). He is our Rock and our Fortress, and when we draw our strength and confidence from Him, we can live our lives with holy boldness and

confidence because, at the end of the day, God is there.

I pray that 2018 is a year of great blessing and hope for you and

your family. Take the time to recognize the gift that this new year brings and put this time to the best possible use, to the glory of God. I pray that you will take the time this year to deepen your faith through worship, Bible study, and prayer.

I hope you will take the time this year to join in fellowship with friends and fellow believers. I hope you will prayerfully consider giving of your time, resources, and effort in acts of love and service to our neighbors.

May God's richest blessings be yours in this new year.



Happy 2018! I'll admit that

sentence is the first time that I had to type out the date of the new year. With the passing of the years there is always a great deal of change. The year 2017 was certainly a time of great transition and change in our world, both for good and for ill. As the expression goes, "heaven only knows" what will come in this new year. We can certainly pray for a quieter and more peaceful year, a year marked by peace and not war, by togetherness and not division, but joy and not tragedy, and by stories that uplift instead of scandals.

Pastor Rick has graciously agreed to lead the Friday Dinner Devotional at the **January 12th Men's Retreat to be held at Camp Pecometh**

at the Riverview Retreat Center. This inaugural overnight Men's event, beginning at 5:00 PM on Friday and ending at 1 PM on Saturday January 13th, promises to be a great opportunity for all those in attendance to reflect and rededicate our energies and priorities to our family, our Church, and our community. Pastor Bill Downing, a well-known, retired Methodist Minister who is a regular attendee at our 8:30 AM Sunday Service will lead us in the closing luncheon devotional on Saturday.

All our traditional Eastern Shore meals will be prepared by the Riverview Retreat Center's in-house Chef and served buffet style. Accommodations include

large guest rooms with two queen beds, private bath, adult menus, 24 hour beverage service in the lodge sunrooms, individual climate control, bed and bath linens, a dedicated on-duty host, and convenient parking. One person to a room or two persons to a room arrangements are still available. Application forms with

cost information are now to be found at the Retreat display in the Narthex. **Completed registration forms and payment** need to be forwarded to Frank Roberts **by Sunday, January 7th**. The registration numbers are continuing to grow and space is limited ---- so if you feel led to participate don't delay. You won't want to miss this great opportunity for outstanding fellowship and great food in a relaxed setting that lends itself to inspiration and renewal.

Frank Roberts ☎ 538-5594 or
Terry Higgins ☎ 492-3354.





Pastor Dave's Ministry Minute - January 2018

"Feliz Navidad y Prospero Año y Felicidad"

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!! As we come to the end of another year, celebrating Christmas with friends and family, I pray that we are looking forward to the New Year with hopeful anticipation for all that the future holds... We place our trust and faith in God and in the truth of the scriptures that say God has a plan for all of us and that the Lord's plans are for prosperity and not harm; plans for hope and a future (Jeremiah 29:11)... I am very hopeful and greatly encouraged looking toward the New Year, trusting in God and God's promises... My hope and encouragement comes through all of the ministry activities I see the members and staff of Wyoming Church engaged in every day... Wyoming Church is a church "on the move", accomplishing great things in the name of Jesus, helping to advance the Kingdom of God as we proclaim the Gospel in our little corner of the world... Twelve months from now I believe we will look back over 2018 and see the hand of God at work, in and through, our congregation as we make the love of God known in our church, our community and even the world... God is still at work, and there is much work to do, but by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit within and among the people of God called Wyoming Church we will see the glory of the Lord together...

"And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

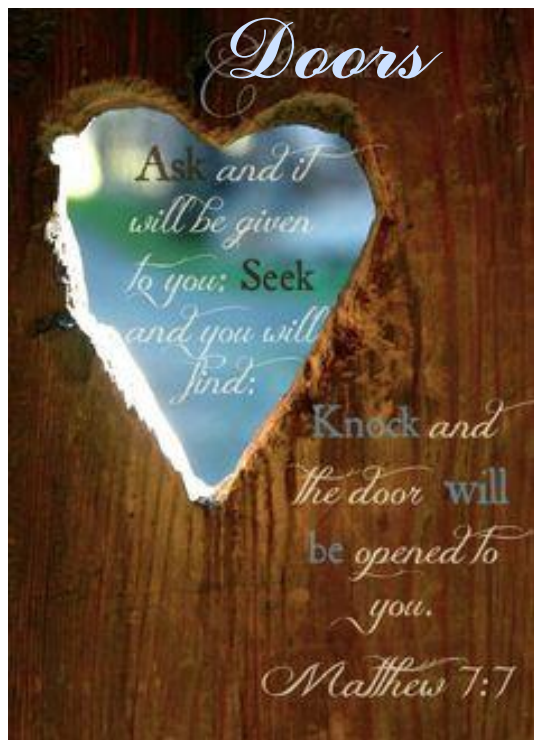
Isaiah 40:5



Reflections

Reflections

Danny Cooper Coordinator/Counselor @ Daybreak Counseling Services



Like many avid readers, I tend to have a variety of books scattered about, yet one that I keep especially close at hand is a small, unremarkable looking little volume called The Book of Choices, written by Mike Magee, M.D. Dr. Magee highlights a series of “choices” we must make as we live out our lives, whether we are actually aware of this process or not. For example, the choice to love or hate, for hope or despair, for engagement or indifference, and so on. What makes this work so memorable is that Magee incorporates quotes from well-known figures across history and expertise to illuminate the choices we are faced with in our humanity. Reading this book over the years has heightened my appreciation for simple, yet profound words of wisdom about this life experience we each are privileged to enjoy.

While not from the aforementioned book, a favorite spiritual encouragement of mine I heard long ago, still makes me smile with its insightful simplicity. Given that I don’t know the source of the encouragement, the exact wording may be a bit off, but the general message is, ...It is good to pray for God to move the mountain in my path, but it doesn’t hurt to push. What a wonderful reminder of

our very personal relationship with our God. What a challenge for us as well, to become an advocate for ourselves and our life path; that our journey in this life is with God, not God simply pulling us along.

In Matthew’s Gospel text above, Jesus doesn’t allude to a “mountain” we may encounter in life, but instead to a “door” that may impede our journey’s progress, and most importantly of all, the encouragement to knock. The Bible, in general, is filled with memorable examples of doors being knocked, whether Bartimaeus knocking on the door of blindness, or the bleeding woman who knocked on the door of gender, or the Roman centurion who knocked on the door of citizenship. If we’re listening closely as we sift through the stories of scripture, we can almost hear the light tap tap of faithful knuckles. One of the more entertaining knocking episodes in the Bible has to be that of the persistent widow, who was unrelenting as she knocked on the door of justice that was closed before her.

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’

“For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’” Luke 18:1-5

What a woman! And what an example for us still today. Quite simply, a door is a barrier, an impediment to movement, an obstacle to progress. More to the point for us in this article, “doors” separate us from fully connecting with our Lord while making our way in this life. The question for us

today, as we prepare for the ceremonial turning of a new calendar year, is what door or doors may be impeding our connection with the God of our creation. Unlike the blind Bartimaeus for instance, who obviously didn’t ask to be blind, many of our “doors” in life we have chosen to allow; in essence we have welcomed in the very barriers that restrict our relationship with God.

We must remember a vital truth in this life, the truth that God loves us with a perfect and complete love, and that because of this unimaginable love, He will not, and actually cannot, force us to remove the obstacles that we allow to obstruct our most important connection to Him. But hear the good news, as Matthew’s Gospel clearly reminds us, that if we have the courage to “knock”, choosing to challenge those doors that separate us from our God, He will open them for us; we will be made new; we will enjoy a new found freedom, all of which only our heavenly parent can offer. The prize of a deeper, more peace-filled relationship with God is at stake. The choice to knock on the doors of our separation is up to you and me.

Lord God, give us the courage to look honestly at our lives, in grace and with humility, and to knock on the doors that separate us from a closer walk with You. May we hunger for more of You in our lives, and may we realize anew that our relationship with you loving Father will be as complete and peace-filled as we allow it. Lord, may we want more of You in this life...

Amen.



BOOK & BAKE SALE**8 AM to 1 PM****January 27**

The WUMC FUNdraising Team will be holding their very popular BOOK & BAKE SALE in the Family Life Center.

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.

**Book
Bake
Sale****No book is over \$2.00!!!****Nurses Christian Fellowship**

would like to **thank everyone** who came out to the **Grotto's fundraiser** to support our group. The proceeds from our fundraiser will go toward our nursing scholarship and community outreach.

We had our annual Christmas Celebration on December 6th. We enjoyed filling backpacks and purses for homeless women and men in our community. **Our next meeting will be on January 20th.** We will be planning our 5-year anniversary celebration and events for the coming year. We recently assisted nursing students at Del Tech to start a chapter of Nurses Christian Fellowship, we look forward to mentoring this group through the year. **We would like to invite all nurses to join us.**

Contact Lisa McCalister ☎ (302) 632-3023



NOVEMBER 2017 Month End Finance Report

Michael Quarnaccio, Finance Team Chair

The following report includes current year to date financials and the 2017 budget approved at the meeting of Church council held on January 23, 2017.

	Inc/Exp to Date	Budget to Date	2017 Budget	
Weekly Offerings –Operating	494,808	536,820	585,622	
Other offerings	71,621	71,807	78,335	
Interest Income	1,536	4,583	5,000	
Total Offerings	567,965	613,210	668,957	
Finance Team	6,856	6,142	6,700	
Office	22,004	19,502	21,275	
Personnel	141,849	155,184	169,292	Mortgage in-
terest	70,740	70,102	76,475	
Properties and equipment	89,168	89,624	97,772	
Total Administrative Council	330,617	340,554	371,514	
Nursery and Supplies		46	50	
Benevolences (Conference)	56,738	56,738	61,896	
Education & Youth	3,502	6,463	7,050	
Extended Table	-	138	150	
Music	1,065	1,833	2,000	
Worship	307	229	250	
Total Council on Ministries	61,612	65,446	71,396	
Pastor Parish Relations	116,025	119,148	129,980	
Mortgage principal liability (Reduces debt to PNC Bank)	98,680	88,061	96,067	
Total Expense	606,934	613,211	668,957	
Net Income (Loss)	(38,969)			

Balance of Mortgage on 01/01/2017

\$ 2,045,807.71

Interest paid in 2017

\$ 64,667.46

Principal paid in 2017

\$ 529,554.96

The **"Wish List"** clothes line, located in the narthex, continues to give opportunities for individuals to **purchase specific items** needed by our church.

If any of the teams within the church have a specific need which they would like to see on the "wish list" please contact Sharon Duncan ☎ 698-1904.



Wyoming UMC

YOUTH MINISTRY

"Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in What you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity". 1 Timothy 4:12

December UPDATE!

upcoming events

January 7th: Youth Rally Weekend! No Meeting Sunday.

January 14th: Youth Group, 6-8 PM

January 21st: Youth Group, 6-8 PM

January 28th: Youth Group, 6-8 PM

The youth ministries of Wyoming Church are open to all youth in grades 6-12.

Stay tuned to the
February newsletter
for our **Youth Rally**
wrap-up!



UGLY SWEATER PARTY

Crazy Games...



Hope you didn't miss it...

more to come throughout 2018!





If you and your family have ever given some thought to learning more about what this dynamic, growing Wyoming Church can offer to you and your family in terms of Bible based spiritual growth, fulfilling worship, and supportive relationships...
... then you may want to consider attending the forthcoming Gathering on **Sunday, January 21st from 12:15 PM to 1:00 PM** in the Family Life Center.

Pastor Rick, our lead pastor will be there to share his vision for Wyoming Church and answer any questions that you may have. Come and enjoy a complimentary luncheon hosted by the Chefs of the Sexton Kitchen Team in an informal, relaxed setting. Please RSVP to the Church Office at ☎ 697-8400 if you plan to attend.

WELCOME



CHURCH IS NOT SOMETHING YOU GO TO, IT'S A FAMILY YOU BELONG TO.

*S*ewers, *S*ave the Date:

*S*aturday, March 17!

Sewing Day of Service for numerous worthwhile projects. Both sewers and non-sewers are needed! Mark your calendars now!

Mary Dawn Ditty ☎ (302) 883-3037 or (610) 428-9579



"Dear Loved One...

may you find His comfort today in a million little ways, wrapped around you with the warm of the sun, the presence of another, ... the quiet quilt of His gentle care. He is with you, all around you, offering His soft, tender embrace, the Great Comforter of us all."

(taken from 'On Blankets and the Quiet Comfort of Christ' by Aimee Kollmansberger)



..."that the work of our hands may spread God's love to others"...

this is the motto of our own Wyoming Church's charity knitting group

The group began 10 years ago with the project of creating prayer shawls that can be given to persons of our church and our community who need a visible reminder that God is with them and people are praying for them. Since then many of you have joined in the projects ranging from baby items for hospitals, scarves for the military, hats for the homeless and needy children in our schools and many others.

Beginning in January we invite you all to join us with our project of prayer shawls.

There will be, in the narthex area, patterns for both knitted and crocheted shawls.

As they are completed and returned, they will be prayed over by our "People Praying." meeting from 5 to 6 PM each Wednesday in the sanctuary.

A few shawls will be placed on pews during our services so they are available if you would like to take one to a friend needing comfort from illness, recovery from surgery, one who is grieving, or other needs.

As the shawl is given, it will be a symbol of God's love and our prayers surrounding them.

with a
Worship
and Praise
Event...

Lift Up Your Voice

... featuring Wyoming UMC's talented music teams

... on **Saturday, February 10th** - 6:30 to 8:15 p.m.

Singing along encouraged!

Come at 6:00 to purchase a hotdog, drinks, and baked goods (*benefitting VBS expenses*)

LOVE offering collected towards debt reduction

Total **request** songs by **VOTING CARD** available at WUMC **until January 10!**



For questions email linda.lyon@aol.com or call WUMC ☎ 697-8400

Thank You!

All you members serving on various teams in the different areas of ministry of Wyoming Church, as you have completed your terms - mostly three years on any given team. We all appreciate your time, your efforts, your ideas, your contributions, your faithful service to Wyoming Church. You are the reason that our numerous ministries serving, supporting and entertaining God's children in all walks of life thrive and grow!

Thanks to all who sent Evie Wilson cards of comfort and cheer during her illness. She was so appreciative of your caring fellowship. I am very grateful to Jack and Betsy Freidel for moving furniture to prepare space at home for Evie's hospice bed and equipment. Once Evie passed I am thankful for many cards of sympathy to me as I adjust to losing my best friend.

May God bless the WUMC family.
Sandy Hendrickson

Many thanks to everyone who sent cards, prepared and delivered food, and called us before, during and after Judi's surgery. Also, thank you to the prayer warriors who sent healing thoughts and prayers to us. We cannot express how blessed we feel to be part of this great Wyoming United Methodist Church community.

Thank you for helping us through this difficult time.
Judi & Ron Leczyer

To my Wyoming Church Family,
I want to thank each of you on my behalf, also for my daughter Kim, son-in-law, Mort, and granddaughter, Hannah, at the time of Ben Korn, my grandson's death. Your love, prayers and remembrances have given us strength through this difficult time. God has been by our side.

Thank you,
Ellie Brocklehurst

~ Wedding ~

Adrienne Kenyon & Dan Major were married at Furnacetown in Snow Hill, Maryland on November 4, 2017. Congratulations also to Dan's parents Jeannie & Dan Major!



*Love is old, Love is new,
Love is all, Love is You.*



Rev. Bill and Marty Downing will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on January 19 at the Bowers Beach Firehall (6 to 9 p.m.). **Everyone is invited!**

~ Anniversary ~

~ Our People ~



~ January Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1/1 Kim Bryan, Jan Fasulo | Jeff Carlin, Jamie Ahl, Zachary Hosmer, Carl Ravilious |
| 1/3 Justin Smith, Michael DiNuova | 1/21 Greg Williams, Francis Nichols, Tina Klecan |
| 1/4 Sue Rigby | 1/22 Kirsten Higgins, Ethan Singleton, Mackenzie Bryan |
| 1/5 Natalie Marlow | 1/23 Lisa Short |
| 1/6 Ernie Piazza | 1/24 Helen McKee, James Miller, James Schweppe |
| 1/8 Deedee Duncan | 1/25 Nikole Moore, Donald Watkins |
| 1/9 Emily Schultz | 1/26 Marilyn Massey, Jenn Boyer |
| 1/10 Dawn Melson-Williams | 1/27 Liam Piazza |
| 1/12 Diane Metsch | 1/28 Marie Henriques, Dotty Baker |
| 1/14 R.B. Downing | 1/29 Mary Servon, Brad Whitenight, Lillian Seward, Dawn Cox |
| 1/15 Julie Eaby | 1/30 Hugh Shaw |
| 1/16 Ian Fox, Brayden Whitenight | 1/31 Colin Ritchey, Becky Minor, Lilian Yates |
| 1/17 Ray Henriques | 2/1 Todd Mahrenholz, Rick Sharpe, Pete Thompson |
| 1/19 Wes Faircloth | 2/2 Sandy Rager, Nathan Hoyme, Chuck Muldrow |
| 1/20 Vonnie Williams, Karen deBloois, | 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 |



~ Births ~



Paisley Rayne Brown was born to Erin Weill and Dalton Brown on November 22, 2017. Congratulations also to proud grandparents Marie and Ray Henriques!

Michaela Rey Malone (left) was born on to Cody and Danielle Malone on November 20, 2017. Michaela is a little sister to Chloe (cuddling her in the picture).

~ Baptism ~

Raelyn Ellayah Gray, the daughter of Dariyn Williams and Deandre Gray and granddaughter of Donna McCartney, on December 3, 2017.



~ Deaths ~

Evie Wilson
on
November 19,
2017.



Evie's beautiful hand-painted water-color greeting cards, every one of them a work of art, are still available in the vending area.

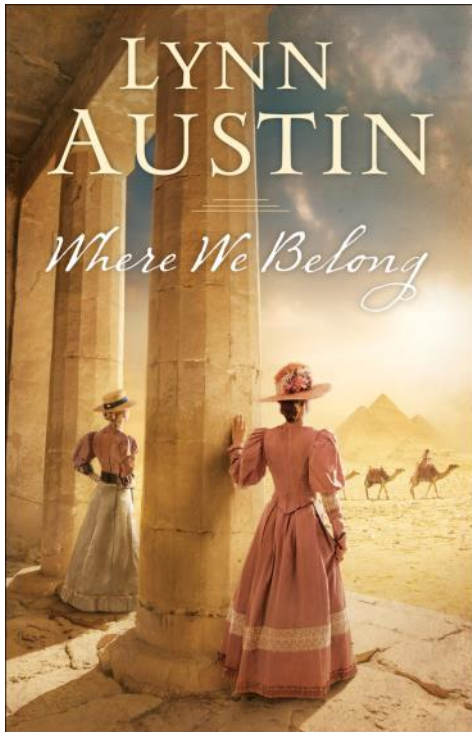
Gail Mathues
on
November 22,
2017.



Ben Korn,
the grandson of
Ellie Brocklehurst,
on November 22, 2017.

Beth Neary, the daughter of Betty and Well Inge, on December 3, 2017.

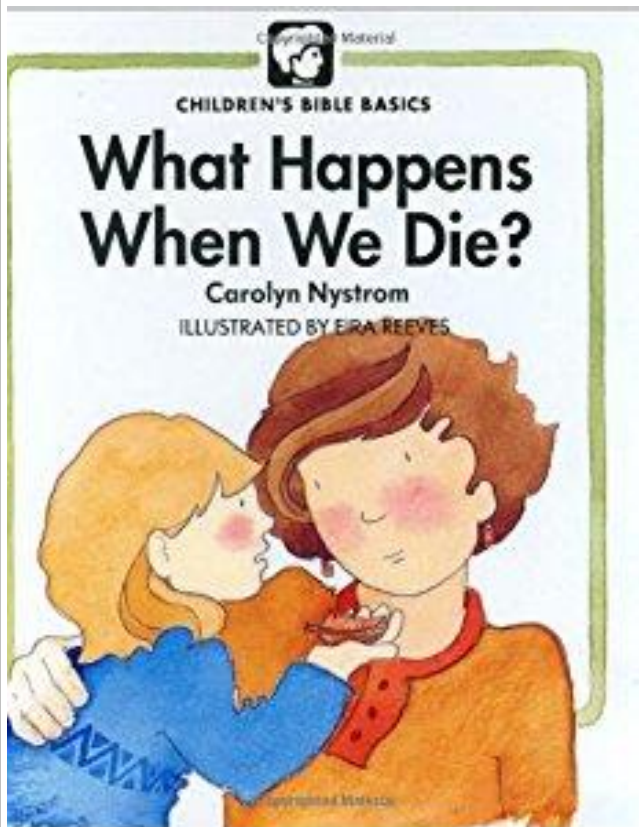
In the Fanny Marvel Library for you



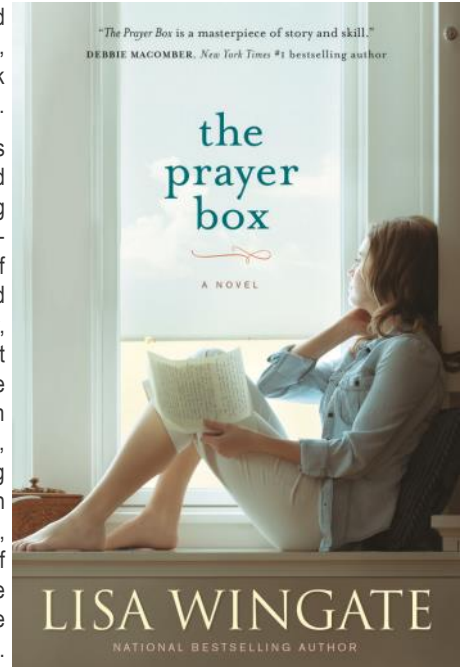
During the Victorian era of 1892, sisters Rebecca and Flora Hawes are not typical Victorian women. They enjoy adventure and end up in the Sinai Desert to find an important biblical manuscript with their butler and ladies' maid in tow. The travelers are hit with a dangerous life threatening sandstorm and now they question what has shaped their lives up to this point.



When Lola Anne Poole, an old-timer on Hatteras Island, passes away in her bed at ninety-one, the struggling young mother in her rental cottage, Tandi Jo Reese, finds herself charged with the task of cleaning out Lola's rambling Victorian house.



Running from a messy, dangerous past, Tandi never expects to find more than a temporary hiding place within Lola's walls, but everything changes with the discovery of eighty-one carefully decorated prayer boxes, one for each year, spanning from Lola's youth to her last days. Hidden in the boxes is the story of a lifetime, written on random bits of paper—the hopes and wishes, fears and thoughts of an unassuming but complex woman passing through the seasons of an extraordinary, unsung life filled with journeys of faith, observations on love, and one final lesson that could change everything for Tandi.



The thought of dying can make any child sad and scared. Will it hurt? Does God want me to die? Where is heaven? Will Mom and Dad be there? How do I get there if I'm buried in the ground? In this simple yet profound book your children will see for themselves the reasons people die...and what God has in store for them in heaven.

A.C.C.E.S.S. Team will be hosting all ARC Dances in 2018!

The A.C.C.E.S.S. Team of Wyoming Church has supported several activities for the Central Delaware ARC of Delaware over the last 6 years. The most familiar activity is the 85 – 90 dozen cookies made by the Wyoming Church cookie bakers for the ARC's August dance. The Team also provides and serves hotdogs and chips at that dance.

The Team has hosted several dances for The ARC in our FLC when other venues became unavailable. In June and July, the Team hosts Movie Night for The ARC. They serve popcorn and soda while the guests relax and enjoy a movie on the FLC Big Screen! The A.C.C.E.S.S. Team at Wyoming Church and The ARC of Delaware have a great relationship!

Because of the trust and friendship that has been developed over these 6 years, the A.C.C.E.S.S. Team will now be hosting the monthly ARC Dances in our Family Life Center. Adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities who attend these dances look forward to these monthly social gatherings with their friends. Wyoming church is pleased to welcome them! Various community service groups sponsor and serve the refreshments for each dance.

The dances are held one Friday Night a month from 7 to 9 PM with a live DJ who has been doing this for the ARC Dances for almost 20 years! You all are invited to come greet our guests as they arrive for the dances on the following dates in 2018:

January 19, February 16, March 23, April 20, May 11, August 31, October 19, November 16, December 14
(No dances in June, July or September)

Wyoming Church will once again sponsor and serve the refreshments for the August Dance! Wyoming Cookie Bakers, please watch for the announcement in June to start baking cookies for August! Your homemade cookies are quite a hit! Thanks!

So come by the FLC one of these Friday Nights and give a big Wyoming Welcome to our guests from The ARC who come to dance! You'll be blessed!

Questions? Call
Sue Hajec
☎ (302)697-2697



The Arc
of Delaware



Want to warm
someone's heart
on a cold
Winter Sunday?

Come to the Wyoming Worship Service held at Dover Place, an Assisted Living facility on Walker Road (formerly The Heritage).

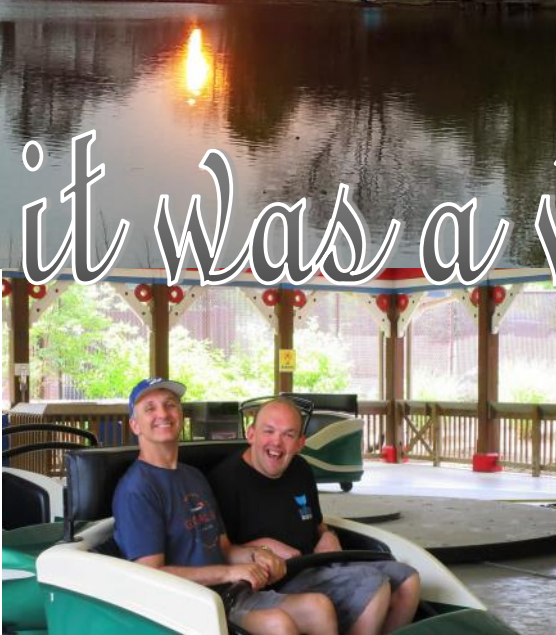
Services are held every 4th Sunday, from 2:00 to 2:45 PM in the front room. The residents enjoy the brief worship service with a few hymns, a devotion and Communion.

The service is led by a faithful team from Wyoming Church.

The residents would enjoy having more people from Wyoming Church there to worship with them since they no longer can get out to come to our church.

Warm their hearts and
yours by coming to worship
with them!





it was a very good year





The January 'OPEN TO ALL MEN' **Prayer Breakfast** will meet in the 'Backroom' at Hall's Restaurant on **Saturday, the 27th from 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM.** 'Prayers of Hope in the New Year' will be the "Mini Message of Faith. Order from the menu and expect good food, along with great fellowship and an uplifting mini message. Consider inviting a friend to attend with you!

Information/Questions — Josh Turner ☎ 678-9818.

Food & Faith & Fellowship & Family & Food & Faith

The *Adult Fellowship* (1st Wednesday night each month at 6PM) had its last 2017 meeting and dinner on December 6. About 48 persons attended and we were entertained with Christmas Carol singing by our beloved Whitenights. A very good evening for all; following the singing we packed brown bag lunches for the homeless.

January 3rd will feature "soup night" by Adult Fellowship. Can you imagine a cold wintry night when you can enjoy a delicious soup rather than staying home and cooking for yourself? Bring your soup bowls and spoons as we will not be washing dishes. The soup, bread and maybe even a salad will be served. Along with yummy desserts provided by our secret bakers. If you can bring a soup, please do so. Enough for 8 to 10 people. Please call Elaine Kesseling or Joan Davis if you plan to bring soup. We want to make sure we have enough.

Mark **February 7th** on your calendar now. We are planning to have "**Jim & Kathleen Torbert's**" spaghetti (totally served with in 1/2 hour) and anticipate entertainment by the **Tucker Brothers and Friends Bluegrass & Gospel Band.** This event is always a hit, and we expect it to be this February, as well!

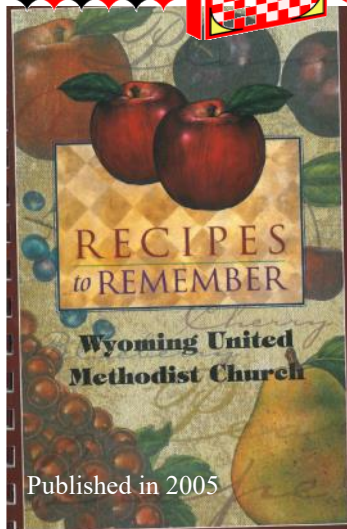


On *Wednesday, January the 10th*, be prepared to attend the first *Soup Day of 2018.*

This much anticipated event will be held in the Family Life Center from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. On the menu: **Broccoli & Cheese, Vegetable Beef, Pasta Ham & Bean, or Vegetable Vegetarian.** For a donation of \$4.00 you will receive a hearty serving of your choice of soup, fresh bread/roll/biscuit, dessert, and beverage. \$3.00 'Tastes Like Seconds' option available. Don't forget to look over the Bake Table that will be laden with culinary master-pieces baked to perfection by a number of our excellent congregational chefs. Income received from the sale of items on the Bake Table is dedicated to mortgage reduction while monies that accrue from the Soup Day sales are dedicated to the great work of the Outreach Team.

P.S. To all of our great Congrega-

From the Church Cookbooks



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!

GOULASH SOUP

Renate Passley

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 7 oz. onions | 3 Tbsp. tomato puree |
| 1 garlic clove | Salt |
| 2 large peppers (one red, one green) | Fresh ground pepper |
| 3 medium tomatoes | Paprika |
| 10½ oz. lean stewing beef | ½ tsp. caraway seeds |
| 3 Tbsp. vegetable fat | Marjoram, chopped |
| 1¾ pt. beef stock | Tabasco sauce |

Peel and slice onions. Peel and finely chop the garlic. Cut the peppers in halves and remove the stalks, seeds, and white ribs. Wash and slice into fine strips. Place the tomatoes briefly in boiling water (do not cook them), rinse with cold water and remove the skins. Remove cores and cut tomatoes into quarters. Rinse the beef under cold running water and pat dry. Cut beef into small cubes. Melt the vegetable fat and brown the meat well all over. Add the stock and simmer for about 30 minutes. Add the vegetables and tomato puree and season with salt, pepper, paprika, caraway seeds, and marjoram. Simmer for about 15 minutes and season to taste with salt, pepper, paprika, and Tabasco sauce. Cooking time 45 minutes.



Your Sexton Kitchen Team's Program of

Food, Faith & Family

continues in the New Year!

The members of your Sexton Kitchen Team (SKT) are planning for another busy year serving our Congregational Christian Brothers and Sisters as well as the folks in our surrounding communities with food based fund raising activities that will benefit children, youth, families, adults, and seniors. The **January 10th**, **February 14th**, and **March 14th Soup Days** will be held in the Family Life Center **from 11:30 AM to 1 PM**. For a donation of \$4.00 you will receive a hearty helping of hand-crafted soup, selected by you from the offerings of the day, choice of breads, biscuits, or rolls, beverage and dessert. You will also have the opportunity to visit the Bake Table that will be laden with donated culinary creations from the many fine cooks in our Congregation. Proceeds from the Bake Table Sales are directed to mortgage reduction while the proceeds from the Soup Day are forwarded to the great and vital work of the Outreach Team.

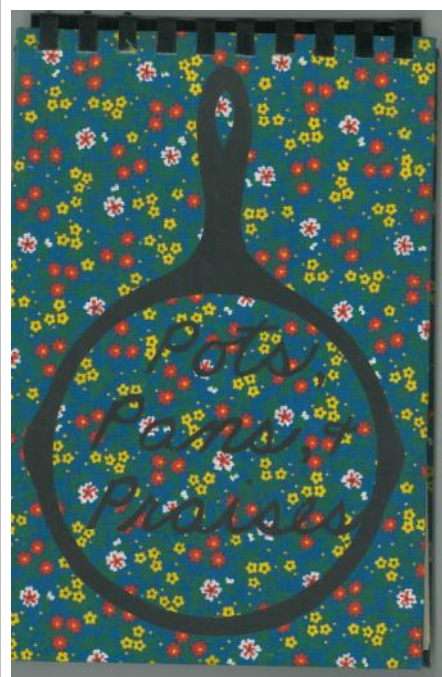
The SKT will be providing logistical support and service to the forthcoming **Wednesday, February 7th, 6:00 PM Gospel and Blue Grass Spaghetti**

Dinner in the Family Life Center. The SKT will partner with the Fundraising Team at the Spring Book Sale by providing a menu of excellent foods and a Bake Table. And the SKT will also provide food and service to the January Staff Appreciation Luncheon on the 14th of January.

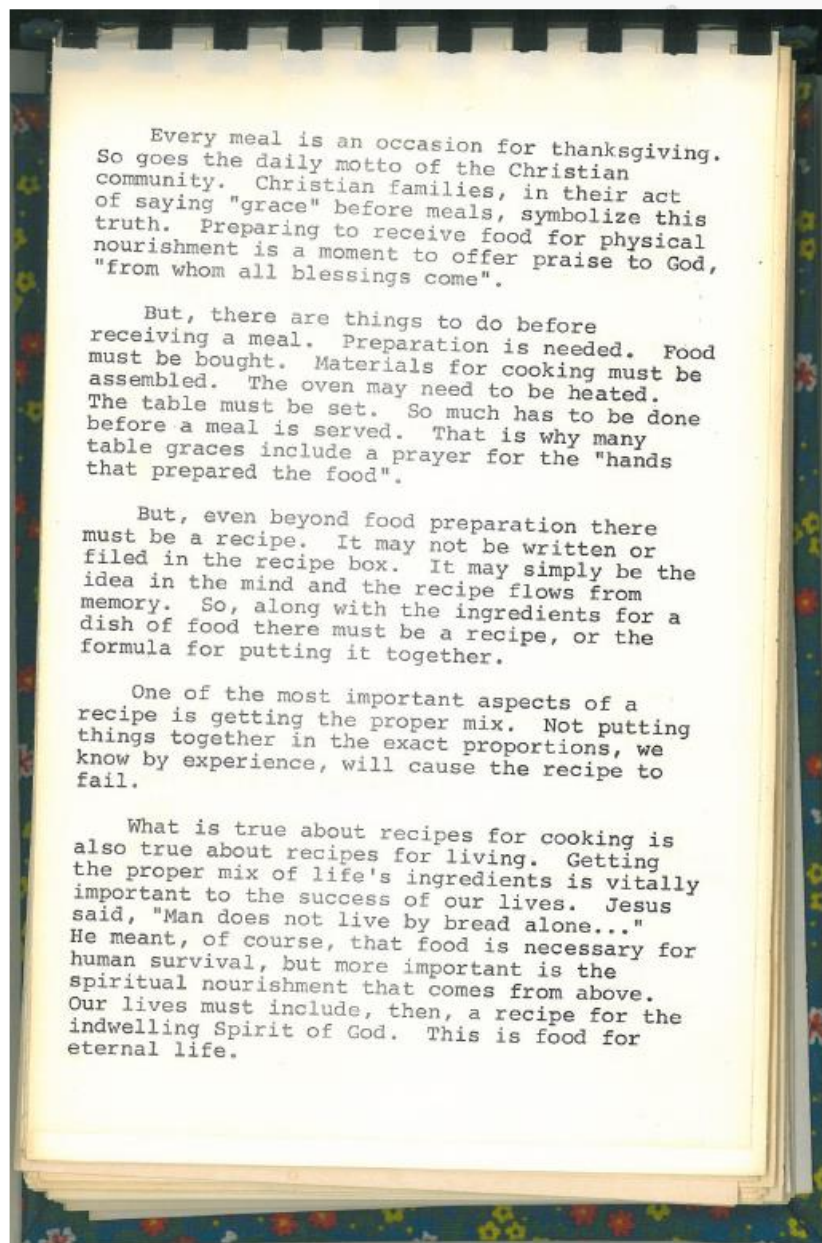
The recent ongoing discussions relative to the realignment and reorganization of the SKT promises to enable the Team to serve the increasing number of requests for food based activities. Linda Booher will continue to serve as Team Chair as well as Soup Day Coordinator, Carol Abbott will serve as Recording Secretary, and Terry Higgins will serve as Convener. George Pettyjohn, Frank Roberts, and Terry Higgins will monitor the

income/expense reports. Nancy Sammons and Nikole Moore will be in charge of organizing SKT Events. Tina Klecan and Nancy Roberts will be responsible for Bereavement Responses. Terry Higgins, Nancy Roberts, Tina Klecan, and Carol Abbott will be responsible for the Team's response to Acts Of Nature/Civic Emergencies.

Should you feel led to consider joining this dynamic group of dedicated professionals, Linda Booher would be delighted to talk with you!



Throwback to 1981:
Good Advice for Life's Savory Moments...
from the cookbook of Wyoming Church.



The first groups of

Memorial Garden Brick Orders

have been returned from the Stone-cutter and have subsequently undergone a final quality check. Most of these Memorial Garden Bricks have been placed in the brick portion of the Garden. Another large order is nearing completion at the Stone-cutter's Shop, while the most recent bundle of orders will be taken to the Shop the week of the 17th. The initial phase of the Memorial Garden Brick location and reference system that is to be permanently housed in the Church's Memorial Room is nearing completion.

The Scripture based Herb Garden, located just outside of the East Kitchen Door, should be finished soon including the placement of winter-hardy plants. Plans continue to be refined for the transformation and completion of the scripture related shrub bed along the Church's south wall. The bricks used on the completion of these two raised beds are the same types that were used in the Memorial Garden construction. A Memorial Garden Dedication will be scheduled just as soon as the two contracted inner and outer landscaped rings are complete.

Current plans call for the sidewalks to be double edged along with the concrete curbing during the winter. Some young trees and shrubs will be planted this coming Spring as either replacements or as additional plantings. Should you have any questions relative to the Grounds or Memorial Garden please contact Terry Higgins at ☎ (302) 492-3354.



A number of our Wyoming Church Brothers and Sisters have been purchasing

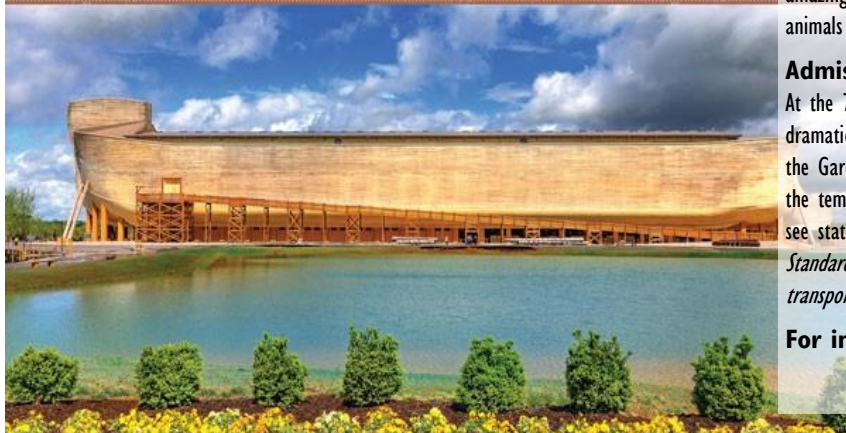
Bricks for themselves and/or to honor current loved ones. This is certainly a very nice way to continue to solidify the growing bonds that we have with our Wyoming Church and with each other. The **Bricks** are shaped and placed in such a way in the Garden so as to be able to be temporarily pulled should future inscriptions be desired. The **Bricks** will then be returned to their original locations.

The cost of each **Brick** includes the inscription, placement, permanent registration of pertinent information, and perpetual care. Application forms can be found at the display in the Narthex.

Questions can be directed to Dave Yencer ☎ 222-2252 or Terry Higgins ☎ 492-3354.



JOURNEY THROUGH the ARK ENCOUNTER



Travel to the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum in Kentucky with Wyoming Church - April 3-6, 2018.

Your 4 day/3 nights package includes:

3 Nights Hotel Accommodations, 3 Breakfasts, 2 Wonderful Dinners including:
1 dinner at Emzara's Kitchen with a view of the Ark and
1 dinner at an authentic German Hofbraeuhaus

Explore the Ark Encounter!

Ark Encounter features a full-size Noah's Ark, built according to the dimensions given in the Bible. Spanning 510 feet long, 85 feet wide, and 51 feet high, it features three decks filled with scores of world-class exhibit bays that allow you to experience what life on the ark may have been like. See how this amazing structure was built; learn how Noah could have cared for all the animals and see how the Ark was big enough to fit them all on board.

Admission to the Creation Museum

At the 75,000 square-foot Creation Museum, the pages of the Bible dramatically come to life. Journey through biblical history as you marvel at the Garden of Eden alongside Adam and Eve. Spot the serpent coiled among the tempting fruit, and discover more about Noah's Ark and the Flood. You'll see state-of-the-art exhibits, fossils, and even a full-size Allosaurus skeleton. *Standard taxes, baggage handling and meal gratuities Deluxe motor coach transportation.*

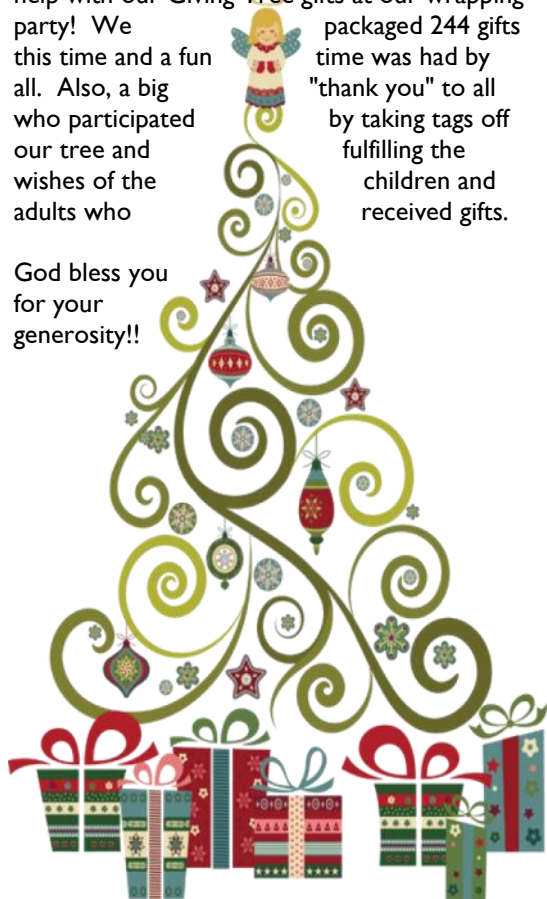
For information and/or reservations, please contact:

Sharon Burge @ 302-492-3155

Christmas Giving Tree

A sincere "thank you" to all who came out to help with our Giving Tree gifts at our wrapping party! We packaged 244 gifts this time and a fun time was had by all. Also, a big "thank you" to all who participated in our tree and by taking tags off fulfilling the wishes of the children and adults who received gifts.

God bless you for your generosity!!



Outreach @ Wyoming Church

*Invoking His Presence
Igniting a Passion
Inspiring the People*

With the generous donations of your time, items we collected for the most diverse causes and your financial contributions, you have certainly done that faithfully throughout 2017. In the name of countless individuals and families on the receiving end of your support, the WUMC Outreach Team says "Thank You"!!

May God bless you all richly as we continue the good work in His name!

One Week Down and Two to go...

We completed our first full week with our **Code**

Purple Sanctuary and from all aspects, it was a success. We averaged 24 men per night and fed them delicious meals, prepared by our wonderful members and a delicious hot breakfast, thanks to our faithful breakfast lady, Carol Abbott!!

Our volunteers were great, especially those who stayed overnight without any sleep! They are to be commended... some stayed two nights in a row! We especially thank those who have donated items for the men, fresh fruit, food and supplies. They are so appreciated.

Our next scheduled open week is **Sunday, January 28th through Saturday, February 3rd**. We still need plenty of snacks... bags of chips, etc., snack crackers, small bags of salted peanuts and protein bars. Those are especially popular when the men come in to snack on before dinner.

God bless you for your generosity!

Judy Field ☎ (302) 242-3382
Melissa Mann ☎ (215) 808-5867
Amy Faircloth ☎ (302) 745-8648
Lynn Ditty ☎ (610) 442-3741



"THE WORLD IS FULL OF NICE PEOPLE.
IF YOU CAN'T FIND ONE, BE ONE."

DO SOMETHING!

"I woke up this morning
saw a world full of trouble now,
thought, how'd we ever get
so far down, and
how's it ever gonna turn around...
So, I shook my fist at Heaven
and said,
"God, why don't You do something?"
He said, "**I DID, yeah,
I CREATED YOU!**"

Matthew West



I would like to thank all those of you who signed up and declared their interest in participating in the Security Task Force's endeavor to improve our security posture here at the Wyoming United Methodist Church. This is a major task the church is undertaking to create a safe and secure environment for people to worship and experience God without fear, and **together we can make it work!**

VOLUNTEERS are the critical element, and here's another appeal to all those who are not currently an active part in any group Sunday morning - won't YOU consider getting involved?

As you read in December's newsletter, Ushers and Greeters are our eyes and ears on a Sunday morning, before, during and after worship services. At this point let's say a big thank you to our current coordinators for Ushers (8:30AM Ron & Nancy Auten, 9:45AM Dave Yencer, I I AM Warren Field) and Greeters (8:30AM Lisa McCalister, 9:45AM Gail Vella, I I AM Terry Higgins). We are so grateful for your faithful service!

But our congregation has many more eyes and ears - those serving in a different capacity on a Sunday morning - **pastors, welcome desk attendants, choir members, nursery attendants, Sunday School teachers, acolytes, liturgists, kitchen sextons... and EVERYONE who comes to church!**

We are now ready to hold a **Church Security Training** for all these volunteers and **everyone** else interested, at different days and times in January - see below.

We will learn -

- ◇ how to recognize the behavioral indicators of someone with the possible intent to do harm.
- ◇ proactive and crisis intervention
- ◇ why we need a security/safety presence in our church
- ◇ the history of church shootings
- ◇ law enforcement capabilities in responding to these types of incidents
- ◇ the principles of a "church lockdown".

Please understand that **ANYONE AND EVERYONE IS WELCOME** to attend this training! The more folks are educated in this area, the more eyes and ears we'll have!

Note:

On Sunday, January 7 at 12:30PM, the Kitchen Sexton Team is offering a CPR/AED TRAINING to anyone interested, which would also serve as an excellent component of anyone's all-round security 'fitness': (see the "Bulletin Board" on Page 2)

Please - church staff, ushers, greeters, welcome desk attendants, choir members, nursery attendants, acolytes, liturgists, kitchen sextons, Sunday School teachers, FUNdraising Team members, VBS leaders... and EVERYONE else interested - put one of these dates on your calendars.

Thank you all again in pulling together for the safety of our Wyoming Church and **EVERYONE** in it!

Bill Purdy
Security Task Force Coordinator

**Church SECURITY
Training Sessions -
attend ONE at the time
that suits you best!**

Thursday, January 4 - 12 PM

Monday, January 8 - 1 PM

Saturday, January 20 - 1 PM

Sunday, January 28 - 12 PM

We've been doing this for years...



Pecometh Riverview Retreat Center
Centreville, Maryland

Won't you be part of it in 2018 - May 20-21?





A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

216 Wyoming Mill Road, Dover, DE 19904

Phone: 302-697-8400 Fax: 302-697-8470

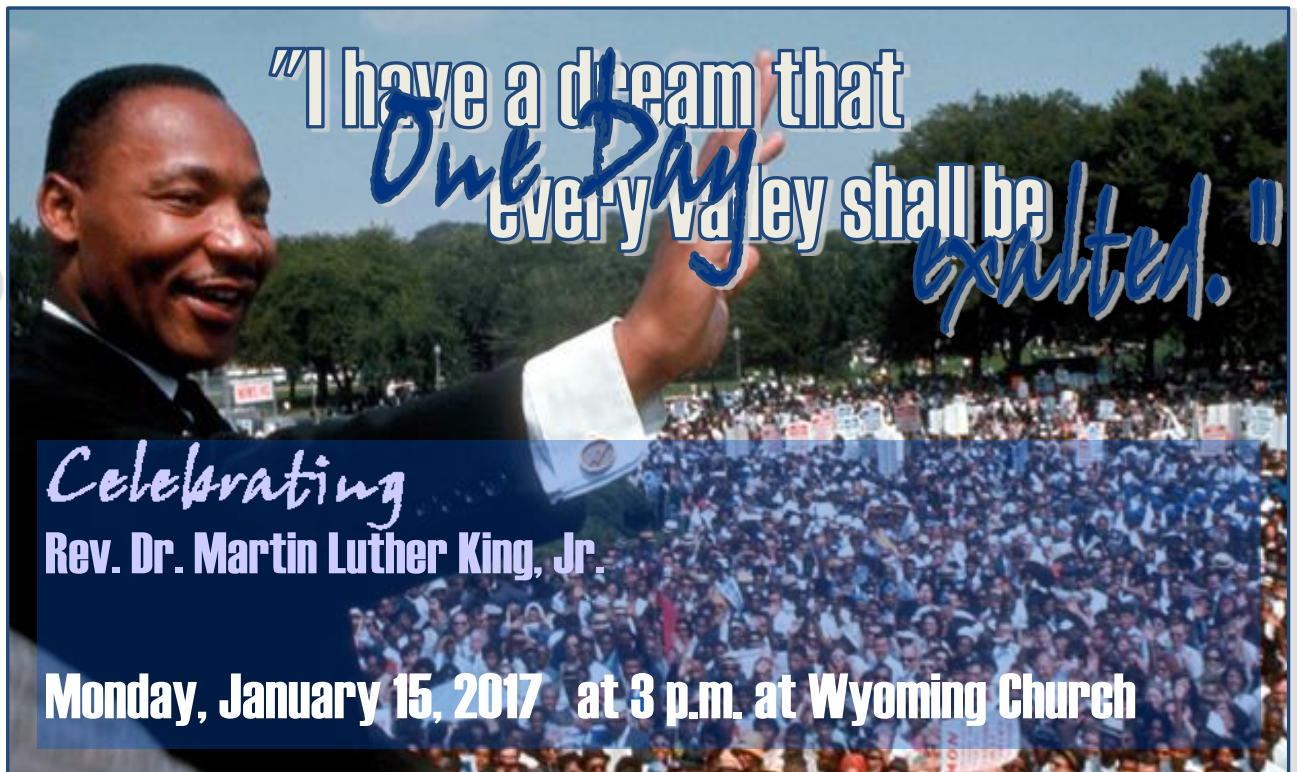
E-mail: office@wyomingumc.com

www.WyomingUMC.com



To: You!

One Day...



Rev. Dr. John G. Moore, Sr.
Calvary Baptist Church Dover
"Echoes of a Prophet"



Reverend Dean Snyder, formerly:
Foundry UMC Washington, D.C.
"Unity through Diversity"



Reverend Lester Justice, Director
of 'Strengthening the Black Church'
"One Day"



...also featuring:

Rev. Rita Paige *Star Hill AME*
Rev. Gary Meekins
 Bethel and Mount Calvary UMC
'Seeds of Faith' Dance Team
 Star Hill AME
Rebirth Gospel Choir
 Ruth Shelton, Director
Rev. Elmer Davis
 Whatcoat UMC Dover
Rev. Frederick Wessell and
Rev. Dave Hill *Wyoming UMC*

Agape Meal in the Family
Life Center