

Peach Cutters...

Come join the fun and fellowship as we cut Peaches (no peeling involved) for the Peach Fuzzy drinks that the youth will be selling at the Peach Festival. Bring your favorite knife and meet in the FLC at 6:30 PM on Thursday, August 3rd.



Peach Pies...

handcrafted by our own Kitchen Team, filled with the juiciest local peaches, baked with Splenda or sugar - order yours for \$14/each (large - 9") or \$7 (small - 6"), pick them up on Friday 8/4 (11AM to 2PM) or during the yard sale at the Wyoming Peach Festival. Order form at the welcome desk.

NEW: Help make the pies! (Page 4)





Not-to-miss Specials:

The WUMC Youth will sell peach fuzzies at church and on Broad Street at the old church location.

The duo "Imagine" will provide entertainment, setting up under the front portico where you'll be able to sit and enjoy lunch from the grill.

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Mever
Underestimate
the power of a
Woman with a
newspaper,
a map, and a
wallet full of
small bills on a

Moving Sale

Get your vending space now (\$25/each).

Download your Registration Form at www.WyomingUMC.com.

Questions? Lee Sumpter (302) 222-4363.

We'll gladly accept your donations to the church table, too! Please bring them to the church, Room 217 (in the north wing), until July 28th. Not accepting: furniture, books, clothes.

Bulletin Board





Caring Hearts Helping Hands, Inc., a 501-C3 charity assisting financially challenged working families in Kent County, needs your clean, gently-used Children's Clothing! Drop your donations in the collection tub in the narthex.

Approved clients can come into their facility once a month to shop for clothing

and household items for their family at no charge. If your children have outgrown clothing that is still in very good condition, please consider passing it along to kids that could use it.

Check out their website: chhhde.org or call their office

If you know of working families who might need some help, the Caring Hearts Helping Hands brochure and application are on the website.



We're still collecting, working on a second bench now.

Collection barrels in the north wing and family life center (next to the recycle stations),

and in the narthex by the welcome desk.

Please take a list at those barrels to see what's accepted.

Thanks, everyone, for keeping so much plastic out of our landfills!



The Dover, DE Christian Women's Connection invites you to a Program & Breakfast Buffet at the Maple Dale Country Club, Dover on Tuesday, August 8 from 9:30 to 11:30AM. \$17 inclusive. Ladies, bring out the inner Beauty Queen - Glitz & Glamour Day

(wear your bling, boas, beads, sequins, hats, long dangly earrings)

Program: Christian Comedienne and Former nightclub singer tells her story with lots of humor and a

happy ending.

Music: Special feature "Heavenly Jazz" performed by our guest speaker.

Reservations & Cancellations for breakfast and FREE child care are strongly encouraged by August 4, 2023.

Visitation Team is in need of a PIANIST to play one Sunday a quarter (on the fourth Sunday of the month), at our worship services for the residents at Dover Place on Walker Road. The songs can be provided the Thursday before Sunday We have a Hymn Book binder with music and lyrics. Wyoming United Methodist is one of the few churches to provide a worship service with communion once a month. The residents and staff are very appreciative and all who participate find joy in fulfilling this mission. Contact Donna at (302) 331-0876.





Everyone is welcome!

When? 9:30 AM on July 19th and August 16th and... Luncheon August 30th TBD

Where? WUMC Room 209

For information call Donna McCartney (302) 331-0876.







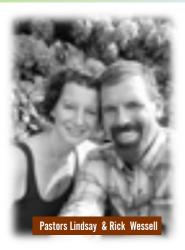
As I announced on June 11th, Wyoming Church was honored this year with the One Matters Award. This award is given yearly by the Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church to a church in every annual conference that has shown marked growth in new members, baptism, and congregational involvement in Bible studies and other areas of Christian discipleship. Out of the over 300 churches in our conference, Wyoming was chosen this year. We Second, we give thanks for all our were awarded a \$1000 grant and a amazing volunteers and leaders that make

From the Pastors' Desk

commemorative plaque. It was truly a humbling and amazing moment.

A few weeks ago, Lindsay and I were talking with our District Superintendent, Rev. Joe Archie, about what God is doing here at Wyoming Church. In a time when so many churches are struggling to gain members, struggling to make their budget, and struggling to engage in mission, Wyoming is defying that trend and growing by leaps and bounds in all areas of our life and ministry. Our worship attendance is back at levels we haven't seen since before covid. Giving is up, participation in Bible study is up, and our outreach ministries are always growing and serving in many vital ways.

Rev. Archie asked, how are you doing it? What's the secret? The fact is, there isn't a secret. First, we give glory to God for how He is stirring and moving in our midst; nothing is possible without God and His Holy Spirit guiding us.



our church what it is. In an area with dozens of churches to choose from, we stand out due to the quality of our worship, our welcoming environment, and how we offer ministries for all ages and stations of life. We can't do that without our amazing volunteers that have the faith and passion to follow Jesus' vision in our community.

Best of all, we know that God is still just getting started! We can't wait to see what the Lord is going to do next, and we pray that we will be faithful to following wherever Jesus leads us.



Church Ministry Teams Explained

Every month we're introducing one ministry team of Wyoming Church, explaining the profile and purpose of that particular ministry and what's involved for team members.

The members of the Board of Trustees ... function as Christian stewards of property God has entrusted to

the congregation. This includes supervising and maintaining both the physical property of the congregation and gifts made to the congregation so that the ministries of the congregation can be effective and all legal requirements related to the property are satisfied.

This team, subject to the direction of the charge conference, has oversight and care of all local church property, buildings, and equipment to further the mission of the church. This work is done in consultation with the pastor.

This team and individual trustees need to engage in spiritual practices that build attentiveness to God's will and direction. Trustees need to hold one another accountable to the mission and vision of the church.

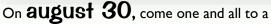
Trustees receive and administer all gifts made to the congregation and make certain that trust funds of the congregation are invested properly. Trustees ensure that the Articles of Incorporation of the congregation are kept up-to-date.

Trustees annually review property, liability, and crime insurance coverage on church-owned property, buildings, and equipment. They also review personnel insurance for protection against risk and consult with the pastor-parish relations team about other personnel insurance. Trustees conduct an annual accessibility audit of buildings and grounds to discover and then work toward eliminating barriers that impede the full participation of all people.

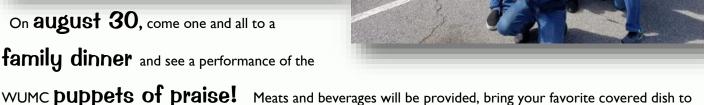
The team submits annual budget requests to the committee on finance for property maintenance and improvement and new property purchases. Trustees are accountable to the charge conference and the church council.

The Wyoming Church Board of Trustees members are: Bill Purdy (President) - Cort Massey (Vice President & Representative to Finance Team) - Warren Field - Terry Higgins (Safe Secure Sanctuary) - Jeff Jones (Representative to Special Gifts Team) - Kathy Klecan (Representative to FUNdraising Team) - Dawn Melson-Williams (Secretary) - Kim Reed (Assistant Secretary) - Steve Seip (Special Projects, Building)





family dinner and see a performance of the



share. After dinner, which starts at 5:30, we'll enjoy the 30-minute program "stand firm." presented by the church's puppet team. Hope to see you there!





Are you interested in learning how to make a **Peach Pie?**

For the annual Peach Pie sale (fundraiser) during the Wyoming Peach Festival on August 5...

dough making is scheduled for

July 31, beginning at 8 AM.

dough rolling is scheduled for

August 2, starting at 8 AM.

assembly and baking will be on

Friday, August 4, again at 8AM.

See Shelby Truitt or Carol Abbott on Sunday mornings if you have any questions about joining Kitchen Team in making pies for a crowd. And if your interest is purely in eating peach pie, please order on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex by July 30 (cover page).







Every third Saturday, Wyoming Church volunteers work with folks at Wesley UMC downtown Dover to serve a FREE Lunch to the local community.

Next on July 15, and then on August 26, from 10AM to 2PM, 5 people from Wyoming Church will work with

2 people from Wesley Church to set up, serve and tear down a lunch meal at Wesley UMC downtown Dover. The actual meal is served between 12 noon and 1 p.m.

You can serve in one capacity or two or all three! And if you're not able to volunteer on site, you can still help by providing a dessert (store-bought or homemade) and/or a case of bottled water. We prepare for serving 50 guests.

Sign up in the narthex or contact Janet @ (302) 757-2998, email jkb0022@aol.com.

Greetings from Outreach!

One year ago, the first of June, Wyoming became part of the Community Luncheon held at Wesley United Methodist Church in downtown Dover. Wesley had served lunch on the first Saturday of each month for many years. They reached out to us to become part of making it possible to serve a community lunch every Saturday of every month.

We have now completed one full year and look forward to keeping this ministry going. We have a strong core group of volunteers that show up every third Saturday to set-up, serve the meal, and clean up. As with all ministries, there is always a need for more help. You can find the signup sheet in the lobby with the breakdown of times to serve in one capacity or two or all three. The idea of establishing teams has come up and can be a possibility. Should you have friends you like to work with, in this capacity,

contact **Janet** Banaszak (302) 757-2998 or jkb0022@aol.com.

And if you're not able to volunteer on site, you can still help by providing a dessert (store-bought or homemade) and/or a case of bottled water. We prepare for 60 guests.

I would like to thank those that have participated throughout this past year:

Mary Dawn & Lynn Ditty -The Ditty Family Carol Abbott - Betty Harvath Marlene Loomis - Dot Anderson Judy Field - Sandra Parker -Sharon Duncan - Chris Mikkelson Dan Deckard - Alicia Sumpter Elizabeth Fox - Laura Martin Dan Mikkelson - Terry Higgins Betsv Freidel - Kim Reed Ken Banaszak -Nurses Christian Fellowship

at in one or the other of serving the meal, setting-up, providing desserts and water, and tearing down/cleaning up.

With their help this is all made possible!

On a personal note, God has given me a heart to serve, especially helping with a good meal. "Feed My Sheep" (John 21:15-17). My first time serving a meal for those in need was at Emmanuel Dining Room. As I looked out into the room, I noticed a family waiting for their meal to be served. The mother/ grandmother had the children bow their heads and say grace. The tears just fell from my eyes. It was very clear I could follow this plan that God had set before me. Looking forward to continuing to serve God's people.

> Blessings, Janet Banaszak

All of these mentioned have participated

utreach-----



Saturdays, July 8 & August 12 from 10 AM to 12 PM.

Food and other items will be collected for Kent Interfaith, a cooperative effort among churches in the Dover area.

Bring your donations to the front door portico of Wyoming Church where we will take it directly from your vehicle. **Monetary** donations to purchase meats and other perishable items will be gladly accepted. Please make all checks payable to WUMC with Food Bank on the memo line and your giving number please if you have one!

Most Needed:

canned beans (black, kidney, navy, refried) - dried beans - dry rice - cereal quick oats - peanut butter & jelly - canned vegetables - assorted pasta & sauce mac'n cheese boxes - soup - hamburger helper - manwich - chef boyardee canned pasta - boxed milk - flour - butter/margarine - oil - salt & pepper - sugar

Consider Extras like:

coffee (can or Keurig), tea baby food (distant future date) pet food cans (cat & esp. dog) toilet paper & paper towels

July 26th Celebrate the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The ADA story began a long time ago in cities and towns throughout the United States when people with disabilities began to challenge societal barriers that excluded them from their communities, and when parents of children with disabilities began to fight against the exclusion and segregation of their children.

The ADA defines a person with a disability as a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity. This includes people who have a record of such an impairment, even if they do not currently have a disability.

"The ADA is the living testament to our Nation's commitment that we will always stand up for our neighbors' right to live fulfilling lives."

Tammy Duckworth

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) became law in 1990. The ADA is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that are open to the general public. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) prohibits discrimination against employees (and job applicants) who have physical or mental

impairments that substantially limit "major life activities." Major life activities include walking, sitting, reading, seeing, and communicating. The ADA protects the rights of people with disabilities in all aspects of employment, in accessing public services such as transportation, and guaranteeing access to private establishments (places of public accommodation) such as restaurants, stores, hotels and commercial buildings.

The ADA Standards establish design requirements for the construction and alteration of facilities subject to the law. These enforceable standards apply to places of public accommodation, commercial facilities, and state and local government facilities.

"The purpose of the ADA was to provide clear and comprehensive national standards to eliminate discrimination against individuals with disabilities. As a result, individuals with disabilities are now able to live in their homes and have access to new careers."

Wyoming Church is Accessible!

- Large Print Materials for members with vision challenges.
- Projection of lyrics for hymns during worship.
- Individual sound amplifiers for members who are hard of hearing.
- ASL Interpreted worship service for members who are Deaf.
- ASL Interpreter available for church social events.
- Multiple levels of Conversational ASL Classes offered on an ongoing basis.
- Wheel chair and walker accessible worship and social areas within the church building.



Prayer for Equal Dignity

We are all equal as human beings

Sister and brother Employer and employee Chief officer and manual laborer

Equally loved before God.

Yet, our system discriminates based on

Education Abilities Race Luck

And many of God's children are placed into a hierarchy of inequality and discomfort.

We are called to stretch out our arms between the tiny, exclusive tip and the broad, platform of the masses.

To form a bridge, to create a way
For those made unequal to come together as one in
equality, in human dignity.

Loving God, Creator of dignity and all that lives,

Help us be bridges.
Help us cry out for respect and value for all
When society forgets that, in our most basic nature,

We are all God's children. Amen.

By Jill Rauh, Education for Justice





COOKIE COOKIE

BAKERS!

Gather the kids and grandkids to make cookies in the cherished tradition of the annual WUMC Cookie Donation for the ARC Dance!

We need 85 Dozen

Cookies!

We can do this! We did it for 7 years and after a short (Covid) break, are happily resuming now!

Bring your home-made cookies to the church

WEDNESDAY or THURSDAY,

AUGUST 16TH or 17TH

Why not start the baking now? Then freeze your cookies till August...



God's Creations David Van Kavelaar

love that time of year when we sojourn to Rose Valley Nursery to pick out those annuals that will grace flower beds in the yard of our Wyoming home. Bold red, striking yellow, brilliant orange, calming white, and pulsating purple flowers bring me peace of mind as I marvel at their kaleidoscopic beauty, so pleasant to see. Who doesn't appreciate such a delicate and wonderful creation like a flower? Now, of course, there's the maintenance of our eight flower beds and potted flowers but weeding doesn't bother me too much; it's worth the effort to keep the beds clear of unwanted encroaching weeds.

At the rear of our home are a stunning red knock-out rose bush and a hot pink rhododendron. B| complains that no one can see these beautiful wonders, but au contraire mon cheri! We see them and have a private showing whenever we wish and, don't forget, God sees them too. Let me introduce you to my problem bush. Sitting alone on an empty shelf at Lowes on a hot Saturday in August was a poorly looking hydrangea that obviously hadn't been watered in quite some time. The guy wanted to get rid of it; we paid half price for Heidi (I have names for my bushes) and home we went. I immediately prepared a location for Heidi, saturated the soil after placing it into its new home (Mother Earth), and back-filled and tamped down the area, and mulched. We planted Heidi in the middle of a row of well-established bushes: a forsythia (Cynthia), a Crepe Myrtle, a Rose of Sharon, and a lilac (Lila). This was in the Fall of '21. Hopefully, maybe Heidi could get some encouragement from her cousins.

So you think that's far fetched? Hmm, maybe not. Experts claim plants do communicate using chemicals and sound and do not just move randomly, they move in a purposeful manner. Plants move to detect information about their environments, to respond appropriately, and to communicate this information to other plants using "easily understood signals." If a plant is wounded (being eaten by animal kingdom members), electrical signals emanate from that wound. Plants can transmit these electrical signals between individual trees if they are touching. Through root systems and common

mycorrhizal networks, plants are able to communicate with one another below ground and alter behaviors or even share nutrients depending on different environmental clues.

Yeah, plants are quite amazing if you read up on them. Well anyway, our plantings in '22 were just sensational and, as the fall approached, Heidi was looking just terrible. I talked to it and put a lot of care into that bush but all it was now was just a little brown stick... with one tiny green

leaf. "OK, Heidi, you won't be ripped out and tossed into the organic heap of the troubled Heidi had something to do with it. Talking to your plants is crazy, no? Well, in a survey by trees.com, one half of the 1,250 respondents reported talking to their plants and trees. But do plants respond to you when talking with them? Here's the good news! Plants do respond to the sound of your voice. In a study conducted by the Royal Horticultural Society, research demonstrated that

demonstrated that Plants did respond to human

voices.

July & August 2023

When you talk to plants, they respond to the vibrations of near-by

sound which turns on two genes inside of them that influence their growth. Plants also increase photosynthesis production in response to carbon dioxide which is a by-product of human speech.

Be gentle when working around those salvias and Veronicas and give them a loving nudge. Believe it or not, plants respond tenderly when patted or touched so, instead of talking to trees, try cuddling your beautiful flowers. While flowers seem not to "complain" when you pinch their buds or step on them, they are fully aware of what's happening and rapidly respond to the way they're treated, scientists have discovered.

Flowers, what wonderful creations! So beautiful, so quiet, so invigorating; masterpieces of our God. To me, they have a calming effect when I weed around them. Because of the lack of rain these past three weeks or so, I water the flower beds every other day and look forward to assisting these natural precious gems and also give these beauties an application of Miracle-Gro once a month. In doing so, we are rewarded with a magnificent, splashy display of color and elegance around our home.

In reading about the Plant Kingdom online, I've been made aware of information I never would have imagined. And now, when around our flower beds and shrubs, there's a new awareness pertaining to the plants and vegetation that surrounds us. The whole photosynthesis process that produces oxygen is

just yet.
I'll check you out
in the Spring."
It seems that last year
and this year our
flowered areas around
the yard are expanding.

After selling our Fenwick Island beach house in December of '21 we have only one house and yard now to maintain. This year we've been exposed to a new line of thinking about the other forms of life found in the Plant Kingdom. For example, one of Darwin's key insights was that plants are highly active organisms. We now know that, although they are normally anchored in one place by their root systems, plants are still capable of movement. It is seen that plant leaves. roots, and tendrils are in constant rhythmic motion to external factors such as day light, gravity, temperature, water nutrients, and threats.

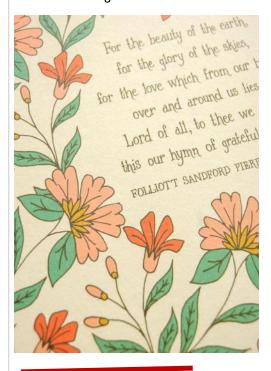
Get a load of this notion. One of the most common plant chemical signals is methyl jasmonate, or MeJA which is produced and released by plants that are under attack. MeJA is formed inside the wounded plant when an animal tries to eat it. Once released by the injured plant, MeJA travels through the air to non-damaged parts of the same plant and neighboring plants where it activates defense mechanisms in non-attacked neighbors.

So, now in '23, I'm happy to say that Heidi had four little leaves in April and now (June) has twenty and is looking quite healthy. Maybe the coaxing and nurturing

quite remarkable. In fact, two mature trees can provide enough oxygen for a family of four (for how long?). Just one tree produces approximately 260 pounds of oxygen a year.

Folks, all the information presented here is, I must admit, cherry picking from a pool of botanical data so as to coincide with my rosy attempt of portraying the beauty of nature right in and around your home. There is disagreeing among much of the scientific community as to the statements of the botanical info presented. The Plant Kingdom is a miraculous creation of God and is a wonder we may never fully understand.

Be that as it may, I'm not changing my garden regimen, am still going to talk (kind of quietly) to my lovelies, and thank God for such wonderful gifts.

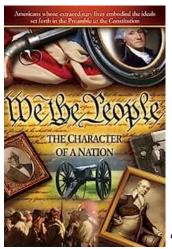




Throughout the summer months, check out books & DVD's around our great nation and its history.

Special feature DVD:

"We The People - The Character of a Nation"



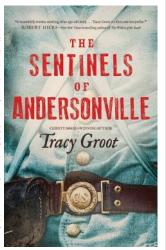
Americans whose extraordinary lives embodied the ideals set for them in the Preamble to the Constitution.

Near the end of the Civil War, inhumane conditions at Andersonville Prison caused the deaths of 13,000 Union soldiers in only one year. In this gripping and affecting novel, three young Confederates and an entire town come faceto-face with the pris-

on's atrocities and will learn the cost of compassion, when withheld and when given. As three young Rebels cross paths, they ponder a daring act that could hang them for treason. Wrestling with God's harsh truth, they must decide, once and for all, Who is my neighbor?

Special feature book:

"The Sentinels of Andersonville" (T. Groot)



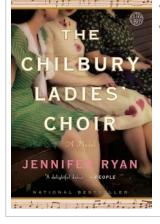
Books - Radio Theaterl

Did you know? The Library has ...

... the Complete Bible on audio (64 CDs) -

... "The Chronicles of Narnia" (7 complete audio dramas)

... the complete set of the audio dramas "The Hiding Place" and "Bonhoeffer, the Cost of Freedom"



BOOK DISCUSSION

The Chilbury Ladies Choir -Jennifer Ryan

Read this book chosen by the **WUMC Book Discussion** Group for July... and join them on Wednesday, July 26 at 7 PM for the discussion!

Dave Shastris Last Day -Kirthana Ramisetti

Read this book chosen by the **WUMC Book Discussion** Group for August... and join them on Wednesday, August 23 at 7 PM for the discussion!



Please call Kim with questions (302) 670-1832.

Pecometh

Pecometh

7 more campers head off to Camp Pecometh in July and August!

Send our campers a note from home!

**Please mail card at least I week prior to camp start date to:

- I. Pecometh
- 2. "Camper's Name"
- 3. "Camp attending/dates of camp"
- 4. 136 Bookers Wharf Road
- 5. Centreville, MD 21617

Camp dates July 9-14 ** mail by July 3rd
<u>Leap of Faith Camp</u> – Jane Fennemore, Wesley Mann
<u>Splashdown Camp</u> - Laurel Beaman, Georgeanna Ennis

Camp dates July 16-21 **mail by July 10th Leap of Faith Camp - Ashlynn McDevitt

Camp dates August 6-11 **mail by July 31st
Riverside Camp - Avery Whitenight, Kayla Harris



We're Collecting ...



We're Collecting

items for **HygieNe KitS** for the Migrant Workers at Papen Farms:

deodorant ... shaving cream ... shavers ... soap ... shampoo ... lotion ... toothpaste ... tooth brushes ... wash cloths ... OFF spray for bugs ... sun block.

Drop your donations in the collection tub in church and... **thanks!**



Me, Le Correctiva

2cHool 2nbbrie? I

Outreach Team will be collecting school supplies from July 30 to August 13 to distribute to elementary schools in the Caesar Rodney, Lake Forest and Capital School Districts in September. Donations can be dropped off in the Narthex when you come to church. We will also be accepting them during the Food Drive from 10 to 12 on Saturday August 12. Donations should be new, not used. The Outreach Team has already purchased 100 backpacks.

The following supplies are needed to go with them:

Wide-ruled Notebook paper #2 pencils Large erasers (pink block type) SMALL BOXES OF 8 OF 16 CRAYONS
GLUE STICKS
CHILDEN'S SCISSORS
SMALL PENCIL BOXES OF ZIPPER POUCHES
Paper POCKET FOLDERS
COMPOSITION BOOKS
RULERS
HighLighters

FoM-cost ealpng Heaghholes

Thanks for your help with this Outreach project. See me Sunday mornings if you have any questions.

Carol Abbott, Outreach Team





Wyoming United Methodist Church will be going forward with several large maintenance projects for our church over the course of this year:

- Installing ADA compliant electronic bathroom doors (\$13,100)
- Repairs to the roof (\$25,750)
- New flooring in the Narthex (\$30,833)

These will be paid out of our regular operating fund. We appreciate the continued support of our members that makes this possible!

Also, if you wish to support the construction of the pavilion, please designate any special gifts as such.

Do you have anything to contribute to our - ongoing - collection of gold, sterling, and platinum jewelry? Consider taking a minute to check your treasure boxes for broken necklaces, solitary earrings lost from their mates, silverware... precious metals you are no longer using, place them in a zipped plastic bag and drop them in the box in the office. Not sure if you have anything of value? Our contact will happily sort through your donations and return your items, if you'd like. Tax paperwork can also be provided. So... collect your items... place them in a zipped plastic bag... fill out the quick form located near the collection box. Contact FUNdraising chair Linda linda.lyon@aol.com with questions. THANKS!

FUNdraisi sing....

If ever you need a gift card in a pinch ...

you can purchase electronic "e"-cards to use right away! How does it work? Download the RaiseRight™ mobile app from the app store using your smartphone or tablet. Enter the 'Wyoming Church' enrollment code to join: 63B941BB59911

Buy gift cards and earn for Wyoming Church. Browse bonuses, search for a specific brand, shop categories, and more. When you're ready to check out, sign up for secure online payments. You can link a bank account, add a credit card, or both. The brand gives back to Wyoming Church the moment you buy a gift card - at no extra cost to you.

Get and use your gift cards. eGift cards are delivered to the app in minutes view them in your Wallet.

Physical gift cards (note! Extra shipping fee) are delivered to your door. Many are reloadable so you keep earning with the ones you have. Use both in-store and online.

Shop the brands you love Earn for the organization you love



Have questions about getting started? Call the RaiseRight Customer Support team at (800)727-4715 Option 3.

> Or - contact Linda at linda.lyon@aol.com.

Reflections

Reflections

OPEN HANDS

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:
...a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing.

Ecclesiastes 3: 1, 5

It's a gift to have friends who have shared in your life journey. Headlines are one thing, but it's your close friends who travel with you through the minor, mundane points that add up along the way. With their steady presence, they become a permanent part of an ever changing story.

Time spent with friends like this creates a familiarity and comfort that can only be achieved over time, and long story short, our family recently enjoyed a weekend away visiting with such friends. There's a predictability to our periodic visits, with one such constant being Sunday service at their church. And while we have heard numerous messages over the years, the simple encouragement their pastor shared just a few weeks ago has left a lasting impression.

In speaking about the brevity and fluidity of life, the pastor referenced their youngest daughter who just completed her kindergarten year. He reflected back to her first day of school last fall, and as he described her leaving their home and getting on the bus, his two hands were held open and connected, with the palms facing up, as if he were holding a baby bird. And as he painted the scene of their little girl walking away from them and ascending the big stairs of the bus, he gently lifted his hands up and out, as if helping that imaginary little bird take its first flight. He concluded this picture story with the statement, "We are to love deeply, yet hold loosely; not love lightly, and hold tightly." A great deal of meaning packed in a few choice words.

It was Jesus who said in Matthew's Gospel, "Come unto me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is

Danny Cooper

Coordinator/Counselor @ Daybreak Counseling Services

easy, and my burden is light". While many of us are long term believers, it is important for us to remember anew that it is lesus who shouldered the cares and concerns of this world all the way to the cross, so that we, God's children, even to this very day, can be free and unburdened from the weight of a sinful and dying world. Through all the ups and downs, good and bad, happy and sad, it is Jesus who is our only constant, our "forever friend" as a dear elderly lady once described the Lord to me many years ago; the only security we have in this very insecure experience we know as life. And so, with a peace that passes all understanding, we clothe ourselves in the comfort of Christ's loving companionship as we journey through this experience of life ...loving deeply, and holding loosely.

I have learned much over the years while talking with folks in the counseling office... folks that have had their hands full, so to speak, when entering the office; full of the cares of this world. There is no judgement in this statement. We are just human after all. God gave us two hands, and it would make sense, from a purely mechanical standpoint, that we would continually grasp and hold our way through this life experience. But as the pastor highlighted in his message, to truly walk in step with the Lord along life's

"... LOVE DEEPLY, YET HOLD LOOSELY; NOT LOVE LIGHTLY, AND HOLD TIGHTLY."

pathways, we are to override our instincts and choose to not grasp and to not hold on to the things of this world, even those things and persons we love so dearly. 2 Corinthians 4:18 reminds us... while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal. You see, it has to be a conscious choice to leave our two hands open, so as to hold loosely what God brings into our experience as we make this life journey. When lesus commissioned his disciples, did he not clearly state to his followers to take no extra clothing, etc. along with them, but instead, to trust in what would

be provided along the way? What was the message to them... to us? Don't get weighed down with the things of this world. Don't believe that whatever you have in your "hands" you possess or own. You see, that is not love. To truly love is to hold loosely. God loves us. God provides as God sees fit. Life may change, but God's love and presence in our lives is unwavering. So where is my attention? Is it on God, or what God has placed in my hands?

To "hold tightly" is actually not real love at all, but sadly something very different. For example, I had a client in the past that was sending her son off to college for his first year. Her instructions were many to him before he was finally able to depart the family home and make the drive to college a few hours away. She said in session, "I told him to stop and rest every half-hour and to give me a call, letting me know that he was alright. I just love him so." This client, like so many of us, confuse anxiety and fear with love. Just because it's a strong feeling doesn't mean it's love. Anxiety and fear cause us to tighten our grip, holding on for dear life to that which we have in our hands. And you see, that is the problem. The anxious person sees their life, to some degree, bound up or linked with whatever they hold in their hands. They have moved from holding as God intends, to wanting to possess whatever they hold at that moment. They see whatever is in their hands as their lifeline, instead of God who placed it there. This confusion causes great anxiety, which leads to much fear and desperate attempts to control or influence. What God intended to nurture us and add meaning to our journey is instead smothered under this anxious pressure. God wants to love us through our life experience, but will we let him? Can we loosely hold whatever God lovingly brings into our life for us to love and nurture, receiving the gift that is intended, for however long he may decide, without getting in the way? In other words, can we simply ride along on this precious gift of life, receiving tokens of God's love along our travels, without wanting to push God from the driver's seat and take the wheel?

You see, it is God who exemplifies this



Saturday, July 29 & August 26 7:30 @ Tre Sorelle Dolce ... welcomes all!

Our Wyoming Church's Prayer Breakfast New Venue!

Since May, our Wyoming Church's "Last Saturday Of The Month Prayer Breakfast" has been meeting in the private dining room at Wyoming's Tre Sorelle Dolce. Thanks to the generosity of owners Mike and Becky Marasco our Monthly Prayer Breakfasts have exclusive use of their dining room the last Saturday of the month.

The July Prayer Breakfast will be on Saturday the 29th with the theme of 'Prayers For Freedom'!

The August Prayer Breakfast will be on Saturday the 26th beginning at 7:30 AM. The Prayer Breakfasts are OPEN TO ALL FOLKS --YOUNG OLD / LADIES / GENTLEMEN — 'You Will Be Warmly Welcomed As You Enjoy Great Fellowship And Good Food!'

lesson of love. The depth of God's love that we experience in this life is actually up to you and me. God is truly almighty, and his incomprehensible love, and the healing that accompanies it, is available for those of us who are willing to open our hands and receive. This world can be a tough place, and the life journey can certainly be a rough ride, but the continuous desire of God to love us along the way is what makes it all worthwhile. Like a black and white coloring page, it is the love that we experience throughout our journey that adds color to our life. The means by which the color is added, the people, situations, and things we experience, sadly come and go. This is the imperfect part of the story... moments or seasons of experiencing God's perfect love, which this fallen world is simply unable to maintain. It brings to mind the hymn Blessed Assurance... Oh, what a foretaste of Glory divine! But thankfully the colors that have been added to our page remain and can never be taken away, and it is our colors, infused with the light of God's presence, which shine so bright in this darkened, hurting world. And so as we love deeply, let's keep our hands open in this brief life, holding loosely all that God places in our care, and may the light of his love continue to grow within us, filling us with living color, and allowing that light of love to shine brightly through us to a world in need. Oh, what a beautiful picture! Thank you, Lord, for your unending love... Amen.



Wyoming Church Grounds Landscaped Beds And Turf Look Great --- Despite The Dry Conditions!

Our Church Grounds are looking fine --considering the recent lack of normal precipitation and above seasonal temperatures. A variety of factors contribute to these on-going successes including a very thick layer of good quality mulch on the landscaped beds and raised cutting heights of the turf mowing machines.

On a closing note, a major round of sincere appreciation is extended to Dwight Meyer for his continuing faithfulness in mowing the seasonal wetland average change to acreage that is found along the Eastern portion of the Church property. As a designated seasonal wetland we are required to maintain that area with specific cultural practices throughout the year. Contact: Terry (info below)

July To December's **S**afe Secure Sanctuary Schedule Needs You!

The latter portion of June was spent in intense preparation of the July through December Safe Secure Sanctuary Sunday Morning Schedule for both the 9 AM and the 11 AM Services. Each of the two Services has a need for seven volunteers --- one Monitor, two Ushers, three Greeters and one Steward. The July through December time frame contains 27 Sundays which means that at 14 volunteers per Sunday there are a total of 378 opportunities to serve.

Folks are asked to only serve once a month

on the Sunday and Service of their choice in the position of their choice --- Monitor, Usher, Greeter or Steward. All of us at Wyoming Church are blessed with the knowledge that several of our Christian Sisters and Brothers serve multiple Sundays in a variety of Notwithstanding these great capacities. efforts, the need for additional volunteers is still there.

After prayerful consideration should you feel led to learn about the opportunity to serve once a month in our Wyoming Church's Safe Secure Sanctuary Program please feel free to contact Terry (info below).

The Memorial Garden & The Memorial Grove Continue To Complement Each Other!

The Memorial Garden continues to receive inscribed Memorial Garden Bricks from a variety of donors. In fact, within a few days of this writing, the largest single placement, to date, of inscribed Memorial Garden Bricks representing several prominent families will occur.

The trees and shrubs that constitute the adjacent Memorial Grove continue to complement the serenity of the Memorial Garden. The Memorial Garden is always open as a welcoming place for effective reflection and meditation.

Memorial Garden Bricks are an excellent way to honor the memory of a loved one or to honor the memory of someone who has had a profound, positive impact on your life. Application forms for Memorial Garden Bricks can be found on the Memorial Garden Model located in the Narthex.

Contact Terry Higgins for questions, concerns, recommendations: terryhiggins38@outlook.com or 2 (302) 363-5823

Attention Youth Grades 6-12: Except for a few activities... like the peach fuzzy sale on August 5, there will be no regular Sunday night youth meetings through the summer.

We'll resume our regular schedule after Labor Day.

Graduates 2023... Congratulations!

Hold the door say please say thank you

On't steal, don't cheat, and don't lie

I know you got mountains to climb but

Always stay humble and kind.





When the work you put in is realized Let yourself feel the pride but

Always stay humble and kind.

When the dreams you're dreamin' come to you

Time to party:

13 adults from Haiti, Venezuela and Mexico surrounding their teacher, Cecilia Robinson and celebrating their graduation in English as a Second Language, taught Mondays and Wednesdays at Wyoming Church through Polytech Adult Education.

Congratulations!

Congratulations ... Graduates 2023!



Emma Holston, Lake Forest High School. Emma will attend West **Chester University Honors** College, majoring in Communication



Elizabeth Fox graduated from the Project Search Program after successfully completing an internship at Bayhealth. Elizabeth will start employment at CVS Pharmacy



Karissa Mann Graduated as valedictorian and charter member of the Mann Homeschool. Karissa will begin her steps toward ministry by studying Human Services at Delaware Technical Community College



Chrystopher Roscoe, grandson of Barbara Roscoe, Caesar Rodney High School; Chrys will study Business Hospitality Management at Delaware Technical Community College

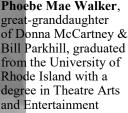


granddaughter of June Stevens, Caesar Rodney High School; she will attend East Carolina University for a degree in physical therapy. Fun fact: grandmom graduated from the same school.



Bravdon Flynn. Caesar Rodney High School. Braydon will attend Delaware Technical Community College, majoring in Business Administration.

Braydon was awarded this year's Dorothy Brown & **Wyoming Church** Scholarship -Congratulations!





Lily Wagner earned her Bachelor of Arts in environmental soil and water sciences at the West Virginia University. Currently job-searching, she plans to continue on to grad school in the future. Lily is also a recipient of the Ethan Williams Memorial Scholarship.



Sheridan Bryan, granddaughter of Wayne & Joan Davis and Terry & Margaret Bryan, received her Masters of Science in Nursing at La Roche University in Pittsburgh, PA. Sheridan now works as a Labor and Delivery Nurse at Christina Hospital in Newark, DE





granddaughter of Donna McCartney & Bill Parkhill, graduated from the University of Alaska with a Major in Education



granddaughter of Lee & Dick Gabler, graduated from the University of South Florida with an MBA; she continues employment in hospital administration

DINGO & DESSERT



Sunday, September 10th

3:00 pm — 5:00 pm
Wyoming United Methodist Church FLC

Bring a dessert or snack to share

Learn to play a favorite card game in the Deaf Community
No competition, no charge, lots of fun and friends.

DINGO is a great family game for players **aged 8 and older**.

Sponsored by the WUMC Deaf Ministry and Committee on Diversity



There are whole bunches of **NEW** greeting cards for all occasions

in the vending area by the North Wing doors.
The price is still an incredible \$1.00 per beautiful, hand-crafted

card.
Check them out!

Remember, Rejoice, Renew! Wyoming Church 1865-2015

Originally commemorating the church's 150th anniversary, check out these items for sale! (vending area entering North Wing)



Suncatcher in aqua or blue, made from recycled glass (\$7.50/each)



The Clinging Cross (\$20/each), a wonderful prayer tool!



Church Mug (3 different colors) (\$12/each)



Peninsula-Delaware **Annual Conference 2023**

All About Love

John 13:35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

Thursday through Saturday, June 8th through the 10th, was the first in-person annual conference of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference since 2019 due to the Covid epidemic. The theme of the conference was "All About Love" with the focus verse being the scripture from John quoted above. As your lay delegate, I attended the conference sessions on Thursday and Friday mornings and afternoons, and want to take this opportunity to report back to you about some of the happenings at the conference.

A good deal of annual conference is spent in worship. In fact, I would guess that at least half of conference is given over to worship. The opening morning laity session on Thursday was solely a time of worship as were the first two hours of Thursday's afternoon session. A service on Thursday evening was where Pastors Rick and Lindsay were presented

on the behalf of our church the One Matters Award (see photo below) which Rick shared Pastor with our congregation at services at Wyoming on June 11th. Saturdays saw a service of remembrance for the clergy that had recently passed. All of the worship experiences pointed us toward the theme of "loving one another" including challenging us to love those who we dislike or disagree with.

The emphasis on loving one another, especially those who we may disagree with, was especially appropriate for this annual conference as we were dealing with resolutions of disaffiliations from many churches in our conference. As many of you know, the United Methodist Church is fracturing over the issue of whether to perform homosexual and

lesbian marriage and whether to allow practicing homosexual and lesbian clergy. As the resolutions of disaffiliation were brought forward, it could easily have turned into acrimonious debate. However, under the guidance and leadership of our bishop, LaTrelle Easterling, with the emphasis loving one



another despite our beliefs and feelings on the disaffiliation and the underlying issues, everyone, and I stress everyone who spoke was kind, measured, and demonstrated agape love in their remarks. In the end, approval was given by a large majority for 92 churches in our conference to disaffiliate with the disaffiliations officially taking place by October of this year. Yes, it is difficult to see the church, the body of Christ, further divided, but at least it was done with grace and with the knowledge that we all have one Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who will one day make all things new.

There were other resolutions and reports that were part of the plenary or business parts of the conference. Minimum salaries were set. Pay increases were recommended. The funding plan for the conference was approved. This funding plan included money for various ministries including local (camping), national (disaster relief), and global (Africa University) ministries to name a few examples. The plan also included money budgeted for support of the conference and district offices. These ministry and administrative costs is where our church's apportionments are used. As for reports, many were submitted ahead of time for delegates to read and approve as part of a consent agenda. Some of the reports were on the Wesley Foundation (college ministries), the Congo Partnership Team, and Native American ministries.

In conclusion, annual conference was a time of sharing worship, considering resolutions, and taking in reports. From my eyes, it appeared that despite the disaffiliations and the hurt that comes with fractured relationships, at least for the conference we were united in a concern for each other and indeed followed through on lesus' command to "love one another".





Brad Whitenight,

organist, praise band keyboardist and director of both the WUMC Chancel and Hand Bell Choirs - joins us all in thanking all musicians for a wonderfully musical season. New choir singers (11:00 AM worship) and new bell ringers (enhancing worship once a month and on special holidays) are always welcome, check us out when rehearsals resume after Labor Day.

Chancel Choir

Eunice Alberts, Liz Clements, Tracy Fennemore, Richard Foskett, Lee Gabler, Dottie Harper, Rich Harper, Kirsten Higgins, Martha Higgins, Robyn Lefort, Arieana Marasco, Becky Marasco, Izabela Marasco, Josefena Marasco, Dan Mikkelson, Gary Pippin, Gloria Ramstedt, Barbara Roscoe, Mary Schoettinger.

Mitten Memorial Handbell Choir

Steve Arrington, Sharon Burge, Michelle Harris, Kirsten Higgins, Martha Higgins, Arieana Marasco, Becky Marasco, Izabela Marasco, Josefena Marasco, Sheila Snyder, Joyce Stockslager, Vicki Stockslager, Pastor Lindsay Wessell, Janna Whitenight.





... goes out to all musicians on our fabulous 9AM Praise Team - Chris Boyer, Jeff Boyer, Nikki Fox, Dan Robinson, Sandy Robinson, Tyler Sell, Amy Spampinato, and Brad & Janna Whitenight.
THANKS also to the Sell family - John and sons Tyler and Michael, for substituting when needed!

Looking for a reason to celebrate? Try one of these Special Sundays!

July 2nd:

Made in the USA Day **July 9**th:

National Dimples Day **July 16**th:

National Ice Cream & Guinea Pig Day **July 23**rd:

Gorgeous Grandma & National Parents' Day



July 30th:

Friendship & National Share a Hug Day



August 6th:

National Kids' Day

August 13th:

International Left Handers' & Bagel Day



August 20th:

National Radio Day

August 27th:

Pony Express Day
World Rock, Paper,
Scissors Day

WORLD ROCK PAPER SCISSORS DAY



How will **you** celebrate?

~ Our People ~



07/01 Tracy Boyer

07/03 Delaney Helmer, Merida Stant

07/05 Mickey Jones, Sue Lighter

07/06 Stone Seip

07/07 Florence Legates

07/08 Pastor Eric Fontanez

07/11 Bethany Bell

07/12 Gail Alexander, Michael Fennemore, Skylar Higgins

07/13 Becky Marasco, Kathy Rozumalski

07/14 Nancy Auten, Charles Nichols

07/17 Bob Cousens

07/19 Elinor Brocklehurst, Benjamin Cattie, Aaron deBloois 07/21 Tom Vella

07/22 Sig Kelsey

07/24 Hyacinth Finkley

07/26 Lana Gordineer

07/28 Terry Higgins, Steven Seip

07/29 Rich Harper

07/31 Nancy Minor, Bill Spry

08/01 Mollie Reed

08/02 Rhonda Davis, Julie Muldrow

08/03 Mary Beth Auten, Curtis Brosius, Mike Williams

08/04 Jim Cook

08/06 Ken Banaszak, Alicia Beaman

08/07 Megan Boyer, Jane Fennemore

08/08 Lisa McCalister, Patti Ravilious, Kelly Seip, Ian Thompson

08/09 Sharon Quillen

08/10 Rick Beaman

08/12 Liz Clements, Sophia Gordineer

08/13 Graham Cooper, Alex Tullis

08/14 Susan Gant

08/15 Jayden Lednum, Jerry Moore

08/16 Payton Porter, Bill Strickland

08/18 Robyn Lefort, Jason Stallings

08/20 Kathy Klecan, Kasper Milton

08/21 Chris Boyer

08/22 Beth Barlett

08/23 Kayla Harris

08/24 Raelyn Gray

08/25 Patti Moore

08/26 Tim Shepperson

08/27 Betty Inge, Emily Mateja

08/28 Claude Pritchett, Dotty Failing, Nathan Williams

08/29 Cameron Ball, Owen Kleinot, Michael Moore, Dave Schoettinger

08/30 Silas Mann, Peggy Mosher,

Shelby Truitt

08/31 Tracey Jones

09/01 Dana Tappan

09/03 Sharon Duncan,

Pastor Lindsay Wessell

09/04 Dennis Klecan, Lucas Nichols, George Pettyjohn, Russ Riggins

09/06 Jonathan Abbott, Nancy Hughes, Michael McDevitt, Kendall Metz,

Konner Metz, Sam Tullis, Dot Ziegler

~ New Members

Welcome to our church family, **Amy Kellen** (pictured) and **Becky Kurtyka** and her son **Michael Kurtyka**!



~ Thank You ~

There is no way we can truly say "Thank you" enough for all the prayers, cards and offers of assistance from our amazing church family during Rich's "Knee Challenge" and recent hospitalization. You all give us strength, comfort and peace for the journey as he navigates through new and trying territory. We cannot thank you enough. God is good.

In Christ, Rich, Dottie and family

~ Deaths ~

Michael Goyette, the brother of Karen Sammons on June 9, 2023

> The Rev. W. Leroy Jones, the father of Denise Brosius on June 17, 2023

From the obituary: "Psalm 89:9 states that, You rule the pride of the sea, when its waves rise up, you calm them. This could be a metaphor for [Leroy's] life as a servant of the Lord. "





A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

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www.WyomingUMC.com



Pastors' Office Hours :

Monday-Wednesday 9AM -12:30PM or by appointment.

call & text

🖀 (302) 423-3911 Pastor Lindsay

☎ (302) 423-4237 Pastor Rick



Monday-Thursday 9AM - 3PM call & text for appointments: ☎ (302) 399-3898 Renate





The church office will be closed in Renate's absence -July 10 through July 20 and July 31 through August 22. Please call/text Pastor Rick or Pastor Lindsay as needed with prayer requests and other pastoral needs.

Our event rental coordinator, Sue Lighter, will still be in the office on her own schedule.

Please call/text her as needed with any facility or rental needs: (302) 632-4393. Please note that Sue will not be available July 14 through July 23.



...spotted at the recent ARC Dance in the Family Life Center.

Could it be our theme through these summer weeks?

Joining Hands to Lend a Hand

Are you ready for your hunger relief experience?

The Rise Against Hunger Organization is driven by the vision of a world without hunger. Their mission is to end hunger in our lifetime by providing food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable and creating a global commitment to mobilize the necessary resources.

Did you know that the volunteer-packaged meals both provide caloric intake and contain 20 vitamins and minerals. These meals address the top concerns for micronutrient deficiencies and work to prevent other common deficiencies. They may look like simple bags of rice and soy, but Rise Against Hunger meals represent the hopes and dreams of people worldwide.

Progress is built on partnership. As is said in the African proverb, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." This is the spirit of this year's meal packaging event on Saturday, September 16th at 10:00 am in the Family Life Center at Wyoming UMC. We will be joined by Wesley UMC who will be packing meals beside us! This will enable us to pack 20,000 meals in a little over an hour!!



This Rise Against Hunger Experience provides a fun, educational way for us to literally lend a hand to people facing hunger across the globe. We combine an assembly line process with an educational experience to not only make a huge impact worldwide, but to touch the lives of those who participate. There are jobs for all from the youngest to the oldest. Please come out and support this worthwhile effort.

If you are unable to participate with the Meal Packaging Event, your donations would be most welcome. Our goal this year is to raise \$4,000 to cover the cost of the meals that our church members will be packaging. Look for donation envelopes in your bulletin beginning in September or go to the link on our church website to donate directly to Rise Against Hunger.