

THE WYOMING MESSENGER

November 2023



**Calling *all*
Creative
Hands & Hearts**

*... and not only for
Christmas!*

As in years past, we will decorate God's House for the Advent & Christmas Season on the Friday after Thanksgiving, November 24. We start at 9 AM, setting up the Christmas Tree in the Sanctuary and the Giving Tree in the Narthex, hanging the garland behind the altar and wreaths on the lanterns by the front doors, decorating the outdoor planters and creating several nativity sets throughout the church. Anyone's help will be really appreciated!

And if you enjoy putting that seasonal touch on God's House throughout the year, we would certainly welcome your talents and time!

Call Sharon ☎ (302) 698-1904 or the office ☎ (302) 697-8400.

Stewardship Campaign

Going strong... see Page 7.

2024

'Tis The Season... for **baking!**

Celebrate the month of home-made Bread and Butter - recipes on Page 6

Celebrate Cookie Monster's birthday with his favorite cookie - recipe on Page 11

Tasty Treats for Thanksgiving - order your **Pumpkin Pie!**

Members of the Kitchen Team will be getting together to make homemade Pumpkin Pies just in time for Thanksgiving. We will be using a **new recipe** and there will be a limited 50 pies made. If you would like a pie, sign up in the Narthex.

Large pies will be \$14 and small pies will be \$7.

Pickup will be on Wednesday, November 22 from noon to 3:30 PM.

If you are interested in helping to **make** Pumpkin Pies, here are the dates:
Dough making will be held from 8:30 to 10:00 on Friday 11/17/23, Dough rolling will be held from 8:00 to 11:00 on Monday 11/20/23, and Baking will be held from 8:00 to noon on Wednesday 11/22/23. **See Carolyn O'Connor for details.**

Many thanks to our members and volunteers for making all these pies!

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Bulletin Board

Consider USHERing?

During the covid pandemic, we suspended using ushers to collect the offering on Sunday mornings and used the buckets at the doors instead. This has worked fine but we would like to again have ushers pass the offering plate and take it to the altar to be blessed.

At the present time, at the 11:00 service, we have only been using two ushers which has sufficed but if we start collecting offering again, we will need more people. We would like to have four people collecting the offering.

Couples are fine and they would only be responsible to do the offering; no other duties of the ushers. Looking around our congregation, there are many couples who could serve in that capacity and many single people we could pair up with other single people.

If we get enough response, it would only be a once-a-month job!

If you are willing to help, please contact Judy and Warren Field at (302) 284-4059 or email warren.judy@comcast.net or text (302) 242-3382.

Thank you. This is just another way to glorify God!!



Operation Christmas Child Update - We will not be packing gift-filled shoe boxes as a group this year. However, individuals, families, Sunday School classes are still welcome to pack boxes. Information is available in the Narthex. Please note: filled boxes can be dropped off locally 11/13 - 20 or returned to the church no later than Sunday, November 19th. **Happy Packing!** and never underestimate what God can do with a simple gift-filled shoe box!
Contact Dawn & Rene with questions
☎ (302) 480-4758.

Do you collect stamps or do you know a collector?
A large box with beautiful stamps is looking for a new owner.



Call the church office
☎ (302) 697-8400.



The **MultiCultural & Diversity Team** is always ready to welcome new members, new ideas, and new viewpoints. If you are curious, interested, or committed to joining us, please contact Lynn Ditty, Jesse Spampinato, or John St. Jean.

FUNdraising is collecting gold, sterling, and platinum jewelry that is no longer wanted. Simply collect your items... place them in a zipped plastic bag... fill out the quick form located near the collection box in the church office. Tax paperwork can also be provided. Contact FUNdraising chair Linda linda.lyon@aol.com with questions. **THANKS!**

The beautiful flowers on the altar every Sunday are sponsored by members of our congregation to honor loved ones and remember special occasions. Would you think about sponsoring flowers for a special birthday, anniversary or in memory of a loved one one Sunday? 2024 sign up sheets have been placed in the Alter Flower book at the welcome desk. Arrangements are \$35 each billed directly to the sponsor by our florist Jen Mor.

For questions, please contact Stacy McDevitt at ☎ (302) 724-0205 or stacy.mcdevitt@yahoo.com.



From the Pastors' Desk



**Come, ye thankful people, come,
Raise the song of harvest home;
All is safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin.
God our Maker doth provide
For our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come,
Raise the song of harvest home."**

I have always looked forward to singing this hymn every Thanksgiving because it reminds me of my childhood days. The church I grew up in sat right in the middle of a corn-field. In fact, the entire community was nothing but farms and fields with our brick church standing right in the middle of it all. Almost every family in this church except us were farmers. Fall was a very important season. Every fall as we would drive to church you would get to watch the fields change color and the

harvest taking place. By the time we got to Thanksgiving, all the fields were empty and ready for their winter's rest. When we sang this hymn, it wasn't just for tradition or for the calendar's sake, but it was a yearly prayer of thanks for another successful growing season, and a promise of God's steadfast love and grace.

This month we will be given another opportunity to gather with family and friends and lift up our thanks and praise to our God who makes it all possible. Take a few moments this month and ponder what the Lord has done for you in this past year. Pause and give thanks for God's grace and love that have sustained us. Reflect on how God has moved in and through the ministry of our church. We have a great deal to be thankful for! God is good and his mercy never fails.

**We pray that you
all have a
blessed
Thanksgiving!**



*The Wessell Family -
Pastors Lindsay & Rick,
Baby Hope, Samuel, Elias*



The Delaware Choral Society presents

*A Very Merry
Pops Concert*

at 6pm on Saturday, December 2nd - right here at Wyoming Church! Get your tickets at a special group rate of \$15 in the church office. Check out www.delawarechoralsociety.org for more info.

We're still Recycling Plastic for Benches

We're working on the second park bench that the Trex Corp. will send us once we have 500 lbs. of plastic foil and film collected. We're almost there!

Flexible plastics (no hard plastic containers, no combined materials please) goes in the tall, white cartons near our recycling bins and in the narthex. Let's keep it up and get our children involved so recycling will become a lifelong habit! See the program explained: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDNFXtMu6M0>

Thanks, everyone, for your participation!

Special thanks to the troop of the American Heritage Girls, who repacked some 20 large bags of plastic foil into large CLEAR plastic bags in one of their meetings on a recent Tuesday evening!!



The Outreach Team's Coat Drive for elementary school students **continues till Sunday November 12**. Many thanks to everyone who has already donated to this worthwhile project! New winter coats for boys and girls in sizes 6, 8, 10, 12 and 16 can be placed in the blue tub in the Narthex. We will also take donations during the drive-through Food Drive on November 4th. Donations received will be divided evenly between in the Lake Forest, Caesar Rodney, and Capital School Districts. If you have any questions, contact Carol Abbott. Thanks for helping students in our area stay warm this winter!



Food Collection

Saturday, November 4

from 10 AM to 12 noon.

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), toilet paper & paper towels

Thank you for Holidays Extras & Treats:

Canned yams, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, cake mix, cookies...

Help serve...

FREE Community Lunch

All are welcome to come!



Once a month, Wyoming Church volunteers work with folks at Wesley UMC downtown Dover to serve a **FREE Lunch** to the local community.

Next on **November 18, 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 home-made) 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.

CRAFT & vendor SHOW

Something for everyone at the annual
**Wyoming Church
Craft & Vendor
Show**
Saturday,

November 11

(9 to 3)

**86+ vendors, lunch
foods, bake sale...
you don't want to
miss it!**

FALL POTLUCK



ADULT FELLOWSHIP Covered Dish DINNER PLANS For The Remainder of The FALL SEASON!

The members of the Sexton Kitchen Team are cordially inviting you and your adult family members to attend, participate and enjoy the monthly Adult Fellowship Covered Dish Dinners set for the remainder of the Fall Season.

Dates & Themes:

Wednesday, **November 29**, 2023 --- **Holiday Traditions**

Entrée: Ham.

Special Note:

Post-Dinner Meeting for those folks interested in learning more about membership in the Sexton Kitchen Team - complimentary ice-cream bar & toppings!

Wednesday, **December 27**, 2023 --- **Welcome New Year**

Location: Family Life Center.

Doors Open: 5:00 PM. Dinner Begins 5:30 PM.

Conclusion and Closing 6:30 PM.

Bring your own plates and tableware. *Entree provided by the Chefs of the Sexton Kitchen Team. Love Offering.*

Please take note of the SIGN-UP opportunity and Themed Display in the Narthex several Sundays prior to each event.

Should you have questions or comments, please see Carol Abbott or contact her at ceabbott123@gmail.com



Come join us on **Sunday, December 3rd**
as we celebrate the beginning of Advent!

5:30 PM Fellowship Potluck Dinner

followed by a performance of our
Puppets of Praise Team!

Meat and
beverages
provided,
bring a side
dish or
dessert
to
share.



**Bring your
family, and
bring your
friends,
too!**

Advent Dinner



From the 'Front of Busy Needles'...

The ladies have been busy knitting and crocheting! Through the month of October, they produced all these:

4 (four) baby blankets with hats and 7 (seven) extra infant hats, 43 (forty-three) children's hats for our church's children's coat drive

5 (five) washcloths with soap wrapped inside for the homeless...

... and a sizeable number of prayer shawls on top of it all!



Thank you, crafters!! And **Thank you**, BJ, for distributing those goodies to ever-so-grateful recipients in our local community!!



Join the circle of knitters and crocheters with your talents and passion anytime. We produce the projects at our own pace in our homes and contribute them to many ministry projects in Wyoming Church. Contact Karen hapkrap@gmail.com.

"Knitting to Nurture" wants you to know that **Prayer Shawls** are available (on the table by the office window)! **Please feel free to take one to someone you know who is in need of a reminder of God's love for them.**

There is no charge for shawls as this is a ministry of WUMC.

November 17th is Homemade Bread Day!

What a great day to try

Italian Style Quick Bread

Ingredients:

- 3 C all-purpose flour
- 3 T sugar
- 1 T baking powder
- 1/2 t salt
- 1 T Oregano
- 2 T basil
- 1/4 C grated Parmesan Cheese
- 1 egg
- 1 C milk
- 1/3 C canola oil

Step 1: Mix Up the Batter

Start by combining your flour, sugar, baking powder and salt together in a large bowl. In another dish, whisk together your wet ingredients: egg, milk and oil. Add the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients and mix until just moistened. Don't overwork this quick bread batter!

When the batter is complete, transfer into a 9 x 5-inch loaf pan coated with cooking spray.

Step 2: Bake

To bake this bread, just pop it into a 350°F oven for 40 to 50 minutes. The bread is done

when a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.

When the bread is baked, let it cool in its pan for 10 minutes. Then turn over and remove from the pan and let it finish cooling on a wire rack. Once cooled, slice and serve alongside soup, salad, or any dinner.

How to Customize This Recipe

You can switch up the baking vessel for this yeast-free bread. You can bake in an eight-inch cast-iron skillet at 350°F for 45 to 50 minutes or prepare this bread as muffins. Just spoon into a greased muffin tin and bake at 350°F for 25 to 30 minutes—until a toothpick comes clean.

What's Homemade Bread without Homemade Butter? November 17th is also Homemade Butter Day!

Ingredients:

- 1 C Heavy Cream
- Cold Water

Mixer Instructions:

1. Pour cream into the bowl of a stand mixer using the whisk attachment, or use a mixing bowl and hand mixer. Begin beating the cream on a low speed, and gradually increase the speed as the mixture thickens.
2. After several minutes, whipped cream will

form. Continue mixing. The whipped cream will start to yellow. After several minutes more the fat solids will separate from the liquids and you'll see clumps of butter fat quickly form, leaving the sloshing liquid buttermilk in the bottom of the bowl.

Mason Jar Instructions:

1. Pour heavy cream into the mason jar, filling it half-way full. Do not overfill past the half-way mark. Screw the lid on tightly so there are no leaks.
2. Shake the mason jar for approximately 5-7 minutes. After a few minutes, whipped cream will form. Keep shaking until you hear that a lump has formed inside, then shake an additional 30-60 seconds after that. You should clearly see that the fat solids have separated from the liquids. The amount of time it takes will depend on how vigorously you are able to shake the jar.

Rinsing, Flavoring, and Storing:

1. Strain the fat solids from the buttermilk using a fine mesh strainer or cheesecloth. You can reserve the buttermilk and save it for later use in recipes.
2. Pour cold water over the butter. Discard water and repeat rinsing 2 times more. Shape into a ball or any other shape (you can purchase butter molds for interesting designs).
3. At this point you have butter. You can add in things like salt, honey, and herbs to create flavored butters, or serve in its pure form as is.

Monthly FINANCIAL REPORT September, 2023

	2023 Offering	2023 Expense
Weekly Offerings	\$ 404,665.13	
Facilities and Other	\$ 28,785.75	
Total Income	\$ 433,450.88	\$ 480,133.81



Annual Stewardship Campaign

2024



On *Consecration Sunday*, October 29 (past the print date of this issue of The Wyoming Messenger), many of you will bring their financial pledges for 2024 to the altar - *Thank You!*

We are so grateful to those who have been able to commit to tithing for this upcoming year.

Your support enables us to expand the many ministries of Wyoming Church and this way continue to spread the love of Jesus in our community!

If you missed Consecration Sunday... we're including a pledge card here. Could you help us complete the Stewardship Campaign and begin the budget process by returning your pledge card very soon?

Blessings,

Your 2024 Stewardship Campaign Team

Just in time for all our Holiday needs, FUNdraising will hold a gift card sale with RaiseRight this month!

Dates for ordering will be **November 5th and 12th** with a **delivery date of November 19th.**

Look for the order forms at the welcome desk or the special display table!

Shop the brands you love

Earn for the organization you love



raising ... FUNdraising ... FUN

for eating... shopping...
gifts... or filling your tank



RaiseRight

Formerly ShopWithScrip

Gift Cards!



raising ... FUNdraising ... FUN

As always, you can **purchase e-cards** to use right away ANYTIME.

If you don't mind paying shipping costs, you can even get plastic cards **delivered**

to your home. Email Linda at linda.lyon@aol.com with any questions.

Library *news*

November

Our church is so blessed to have such an inviting library which offers a wonderful selection of books (not to mention all the magazines and puzzles). In my senior years I have begun to read more and my pattern is to have a "deeper" story for daytime reading but then my bedside reading is usually much lighter - something which is uplifting and joyful. And it is those two adjectives which draw me to the books by **Richard Paul Evans**. His first book, written 30 years ago was "**The Christmas Box**", a moving story of a widow and the young family who come to live with her. The popularity of this book spread quickly and now Evans, often referred to as "The

King of Christian Fiction" has written over 60 books. They are wonderful "feel good" stories, so stop in the library and check out some!



A Redbird Christmas
- Fannie Flagg

Read this book chosen by the WUMC Book Discussion Group for October... and join them on **Wednesday, November 15 at 7 PM** for the discussion!

Please call Kim with any questions.

☎ (302) 670-1832.



The results are in, and the bragging rights have begun!

On Sunday, October 22, thirty-seven lucky judges were able to sample 7 different chili recipes and 4 different cornbread recipes to determine the Cornbread and Chili Champs for 2023.

The competition was fierce and delicious! Ballots were cast and the results showed only one or two votes separated each entry.

The results:

Best Sweet Cornbread: Rick Beaman

Burnt Spoon Award (Spiciest): Pam Fugelso

Best Savory Cornbread: Pam Fugelso

Mr. Meaty Award (Meatiest): Walt Ramstedt

Corniest Cornbread: Mary Dawn Ditty

String Bean Award (Best use of Veggies): Janice Jordan

Cornbread Champ -

Winner of the Golden Spatula:

Rick Beaman

Chili Champ -

Winner of the Golden Ladle:

Walt Ramstedt

Thanks to everyone who participated in and helped judge this first, hopefully, annual event.

Special thanks to the Kitchen team and Carrol Abbot for their help.



Giving Tree

When we think of Christmas...

we think of gathering with family and friends to share a meal together, the smell of pine trees and Christmas cookies, fresh snow, singing carols and trees that are

decorated with gifts under them. Christmas also commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ and is celebrated as a cultural holiday across the globe. It is hard to believe that Christmas is only 10 weeks away!

This year we are going back to the traditional **WUMC Giving Tree**, and we will be sponsoring approximately 15 families as well as 16 special-needs adults. The **Giving Tree** will be in the Narthex with tags on it **from Sunday, November 26 to Sunday, December 3**.

- ◇ The tags will suggest 1 (one) appropriate gift for a child or special needs adult.
- ◇ Each tag will let you know if it is for a girl or boy, their age and size if it's a clothing item.
- ◇ Each child will receive 3 gifts with one gift being pajamas or a clothing item.
- ◇ Please purchase what is requested or as close as you can to that item.
- ◇ Please do not purchase more than 1 gift per tag. We would all like to do a little more, but we need to make sure that all the siblings receive the same number of gifts.
- ◇ You can take as many tags as you wish and you can place the gifts under the tree any day before December 10th. All gifts must be under the tree by **Sunday, December 10th**.
- ◇ **Please make sure that your tag is with the gift so that we know which family to place the gift with.**
- ◇ Do not wrap the gifts! If you would like to include a box or bag with the gift, it will be greatly appreciated.
- ◇ Each family will receive the gifts along with wrapping paper, tape, bows and tags so that the parents or guardians can take an active role in wrapping their children's presents.
- ◇ The ARC gifts are wrapped and bagged by our church elves.

Remember that Christmas is a wonderful time to reach out and help others who are less fortunate.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Alicia ☎ (302) 222-4363 or Betty ☎ (302) 697-6617.



Jack Freidel

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. (Genesis 2:15)

On Saturday morning, November 4th, from 10:00 to noon, I hope some of you can join me for a responsibility that our church took on over ten years ago, a cleanup of Wyoming Mill Road. The church enrolled in Delaware's Adopt-a-Highway program agreeing to pick up litter on the road side twice a year. Over the years this project has been taken on at various times by the youth group, the Boy Scout troop that meets at our church, and by members of our church who have been willing to take the time to beautify the roadway that our church sits on.

On the 4th, I am hoping to once again have some of you join me in the effort to indeed make the Lord's Earth just a little nicer place to be. I will come prepared with safety vests, gloves, trash bags and safety instructions for all participants.

While I am on the subject of taking care of this world, God's world, I want to weigh in on a project that the Trustees are looking at as a possibility down the road. That is the installation of solar panels. It will be expensive, but there is at least one major grant available and another one should be coming down the road that will make it very doable for the church financially. Then of course there will be major cost savings on our energy bills going forward that will eventually not only pay back what the church had paid for the panels but save us money in the years ahead. This is only the financial side. There is also the positive impact that our efforts will have on God's Earth as we join many others around the world taking a small step to cut back on our carbon footprint helping to make this planet God has given us a greener, healthier place for all to live.

In closing, I hope to see some of you on Saturday, November 4th (weather permitting), pitching in to take care of litter on Wyoming Mill Road. Also, keep your eyes open as hopefully further information about possible solar panels installation may come our way.

Reflections

Reflections

Danny Cooper
Coordinator/Counselor
@ Daybreak
Counseling Services

Seeing God in the Everyday ...At the Beach

Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. When I saw it, I fell facedown, and I heard the voice of one speaking. Ezekiel 1:28

It's fairly common to associate a place or an event with a type of music or a particular song. And as odd as it sounds, when I think of the beach, a certain song comes to mind, but it's not from the Beach Boys or Jimmy Buffett... it's actually Kermit the Frog's rendition of *Rainbow Connection*. I know this likely sounds strange, but that's the song that I connect with the beach. Oh, I also hear it in Kermit's unmistakable tenor!

Why are there so many songs about rainbows
And what's on the other side?
Rainbows are visions, but only illusions
And rainbows have nothing to hide
So we've been told and some choose to believe it
I know they're wrong, wait and see
Someday we'll find it, the rainbow connection
The lovers, the dreamers and me.

Our friend Kermit aside, is there a more "rainbow" spot than the beach? A visit to the beach welcomes you into a setting filled with all age groups, races, and nationalities. From infants to seniors, from athletes to couch "beach chair" potatoes, the beach is truly a gathering spot for the masses. It's a snapshot of God's wonderful creation. To me, it's the *Rainbow Connection*. And, as a consequence, I think God can be seen so clearly when we enjoy a day in the sun and surf.

For starters, let's just take a look at all the activity we see... from the elementary age sand castle builders, to the teens showing off their boogie board skills, to the sun tan seekers basking in the rays, to the avid book readers and those just trying to catch a nap. Then we have the walkers... those trying to get their steps in for the day, to those who are hunting for a new shell or two for their collection, to the couple holding hands while walking in the ankle deep surf. And of course, there are the little ones, with mom and dad holding their hands, making their first foray into the foamy water. Oh, did I mention the people watchers? Quite possibly the most common activity of all.

What a beautiful demonstration of how varied our interests are one from another, but all on display at the beach. A family of five could all have a fantastic day at the beach, yet each in a different way. The beach is a subtle reminder for us that as unique and varied as we may

individually be, we are merely one of God's special children; we're all a part of the family.

The ocean... as much as we love it and want to be near it, and of course in it, we also must respect its power and unpredictability. We enjoy it, unquestionably, but we must take it seriously. The ocean reminds us of the importance to be thoughtful; the fact that what we enjoy can also cause us harm. Yes, God gave us emotions, and hence the ability to enjoy, but He also gave us intellect; the ability to think and to remember. To enjoy the ocean to its fullest actually involves our thoughtfulness. Working together, this creates a sense of balance. We are not only at our best while in balance, we enjoy the most out of life this way.

Lastly, everyone who is on the beach, enjoying their day in the salt air, had to get there somehow. Most of us who pay a visit to the beach drive to the closest available parking lot, unload all the gear and necessities for the day, and ultimately make our way to find that special spot in the sand. Even for those fortunate few who "live at the beach", they too must still walk out of their homes and literally make their way to the water. The ocean will not come to them! And it is this process, our actual movement to the ocean's edge, which paints a picture for us of our relationship with God. The Gospels are littered with stories, like the faithful centurion or blind Bartimaeus, where the person in need knew, without a doubt, if they could simply make contact with Jesus, than their concern, or ailment, or problem would be remedied. In each account, Jesus was sought out because of the belief that those in need had in Him. Jesus' healing power was never in doubt. The only question was how hungry the other person was to be renewed.

I had a counseling client years ago who loved the beach, and fortunate for him, lived very close by, yet he rarely made a visit. His reasoning... there just wasn't enough time. He was a busy guy. Life was demanding. Self-care was not high on his priority list. And so, the beach... something that he declared was important to him, which made him feel relaxed, which brought him joy while helping his stresses ebb away, was more of a pleasant thought than a reality.

The beach, that oasis of renewal and contentment,

can only be of impact to us if we actually make a visit. I know that sounds a bit obvious, but the essentials in life are rarely complicated. The example of the beach can hopefully help us to remember the simplicity that we can also enjoy in our relationship to God. It is God who wants a relationship with us, who is ready to receive us and to provide for us that special comfort, connection and peace that we so hunger for. But like going to the ocean, it is eventually up to us whether we will enjoy this type of relationship with God or not. He loves us unquestionably, and He is forever available to us, but is time with our God truly that important to us? Unlike the beach, God is literally available to us every second of the day, in all facets of our life, both pleasant and challenging, and all points in between. And with God, there is no preparation required, special clothing, or other necessities for the experience. He just wants to spend time with us.

I've heard many people over the years refer to the beach as their "happy place". I love hearing that. I believe I am part of that group. It's always exciting to step onto the beach, knowing that for the next few hours, the only questions I ponder are... "Will I find that really special shell today?" (I'm at that point in the journey!), or "Will there be any dolphin sightings?" Nothing too heavy. Ultimate relaxation. And then, at some point, all too soon, we'll need to start packing up. The day is closing and we have a drive to make, and so we retrace our steps from earlier in the day and begin the journey home. The day must end. The retreat at the beach is over until next time. This is where the comparison between the beach and our relationship to God begins to falter. With God, our time together doesn't have such limitations or restrictions. It is a continuous, forever opportunity that we have to walk with our God and friend; to experience all aspects of this life, beach included, with the one who loves us the most. We are never alone. We are never without our greatest ally. We have the perfect parent by our side... always. So let's enjoy our next visit to the beach, for sure, but let us, more importantly, realize anew God's loving presence in our life this very second. He loves you and I that much... Amen



November is...

National

gratitude:
Month

Gratitude is more than simply saying "thank you." **Gratitude's** amazing powers can shift us from focusing on the negative to appreciating what is positive in our lives. Practicing daily **Gratitude** gives us a deeper connection to ourselves, the world around us, and to our Creator.

Everything in our lives can improve when we are **Grateful**. Research has shown that **Gratitude** can enhance our moods, decrease stress, and drastically improve our overall level of health and wellbeing. On average, **Grateful** people tend to have fewer stress-related illnesses and experience less depression and lowered blood pressure, they are more physically fit, they are happier, have a higher income, more satisfying personal and professional relationships, and will be better liked. **Grateful** kids are even more likely to do well in school.

If everyone practiced daily **Gratitude**, we could change ourselves and the planet for the better. Everyone would be much happier. Love would grow and hate would decrease. And the world would know true peace.

What are you waiting for? Give **Gratitude** a try!

Celebrating the month can be done in several ways.

- Start a gratitude journal. Write about someone or something you're thankful for every day. You'll find your appreciation for those around you grows deeper and fonder the longer you keep it. When you read back on what you've written, you'll be able to reflect on the relationships and their accomplishments.
- Share your **Gratitude** with others. Letting someone know you're **Grateful** for their care, service, or friendship often lifts their spirits or lifts a burden.
- Show your appreciation by giving back to your community, neighborhood, or favorite organization.

Always giving thanks
to God the Father for everything,
in the name of our Lord
Jesus Christ.
Ephesians 5:20

November 2nd is Cookie Monster's Birthday!

Cookie Monster is a voracious monster and one of the main characters on Sesame Street. Covered with blue fur and possessing a pair of googly eyes, Cookie Monster has an insatiable appetite. As his name implies, his primary craving is cookies, but he can (and often does) consume anything and everything, from apples and pie to letters, flatware, and hubcaps. When Cookie Monster eats something, he makes a very distinct, loud munching sound that is often interpreted as "OMM-nom-nom-nom..."

What a great day to try

Giant Monster Cookies!

Ingredients:

2 cups creamy peanut butter
2/3 cup butter, softened
1-1/3 cups sugar
1-1/3 cups packed brown sugar
4 large eggs, room temperature
2-1/2 teaspoons baking soda
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 teaspoon light corn syrup
6 cups old-fashioned oats
1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
1 cup milk chocolate M&M's

Directions:

1. In a large bowl, cream peanut butter, butter, sugar, and brown sugar until light and fluffy.
2. Beat in eggs, baking soda, vanilla, and corn syrup.
3. Add oats and mix well.
4. Stir in Chocolate Chips and M&Ms.
5. Cover and refrigerate for about 1 hour.
6. Preheat oven to 350°.
7. Drop by 1/4 cup onto ungreased baking sheets, 3 inches apart
8. Bake 14 – 18 minutes until the edges are lightly browned.
9. Cool 5 minutes before removing from pans to wire racks to cool completely
10. Store in an airtight Container
11. Enjoy!!



LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR?

By David Van Kavelaar



I still get excited when we go on vacation. This year, we rented a cottage in Fenwick Island on the beach. Oh, yeah! BJ, who would have been an top-notch load-master if she'd been in the Air Force, arranged all the stuff in the back of her little Prius and down the road we went. It was Saturday, September 23, and the effects of Hurricane Ophelia were becoming problematic. High winds and rain descended upon us as we made our way to the beach. I hoped we'd get past the stretch of Rt. 1 on both sides of the Indian River inlet before the road would be flooded and closed. The water on the bay side was encroaching on the shoulder of the south bound roadway. Thankfully, we made it to our destination and, in the rain, the contents of the Prius were brought into the cottage.

We walked around the inside of the cozy cottage and felt right at home. We could walk out of our bedroom onto a deck that allowed a wonderful view of the ocean. Quite a scene, really. The wind generated by Ophelia churned up the roiling ocean waves; you've heard of an "angry" ocean? There it was, quite impressive. Three thousand five hundred miles directly east of us and across the Atlantic is Portugal, "Hey guys! Hope all is well."

The whole week, weather-wise, was a bust. From the day we got there to the following Saturday, we had about five hours of sunshine. But we relaxed, played games, read, went for rides and watched some TV (five of them in the cottage). All in all, we had a good time although we missed our Doberman Storm (what an appropriate name!) By no stretch of the imagination did we feel it was a total loss. Actually, we enjoyed ourselves immensely. But there was this one vacation back in the '80's that was the Vacation from Hades! Check this out.

Let me introduce you to two former friends of ours, Jack and Jill. Not sure how we got together but I think it had something to do with the age of their boys, Chip and Dale, and our sons being somewhat in the same age group, I don't know, fourteen to seventeen? It was agreed that we would share a condo in Ocean City for a week in August. Money was somewhat scarce in those days so it sounded like a good idea in that sense. Deep down though, I had my doubts. Jill's behavior could be somewhat erratic. An example follows.

One beautiful fall day, Jack, Jill, BJ and I went to an Octoberfest at the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall in Baltimore. When we arrived, an oompah band was putting down a lively German polka outside the venue. The aroma of Würstchen (frankfurters) and Wiener Schnitzel teased my palate. German potato salad and a cold Heineken added delight to the meal. What more could you ask for? Ah, some German ice cream (Eis) was the "icing on the cake". The highlight of the festivities was a performance of Beethoven's Symphonies #5 and #6 in the beautiful symphony hall. Now picture this. There we were, sitting up front in the eighth row of a packed house. David Zinman, principal guest conductor of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, was leading the 75 or so musicians to the stirring final conclusion of the Fifth Symphony (it really rocks!). There Jill was in all her glory, head back, snoring, and mouth wide open with a drool trail trickling from her lip. I wanted so badly to drop a dead fly down there... I mean, really! This was "Strike One"!

Now Jack was a pretty cool guy so it seemed like the proposed summer vacation venture was quite do-able. We headed down to begin our week of sun and fun in crazy Ocean City. Our condo was on the fourteenth floor of the high rise. Jack and Jill were already there and let us in. After putting our baggage on our bed, we went out to the living room to say hi. "Hey, y'all!" Jack greeted us but Jill either quietly responded or didn't reply at all. Hmm, what's up here? It seemed that Jack and Jill had had a disagreement or quarrel and weren't talking to one another.

The week went on like this; Jack and the six of us were able to converse at meal time and on the beach. Jill would talk to BJ and me on the side and it seemed she was looking for reinforcement in this tiff with Jack. Are you kidding me? I think I remember this ploy from somewhere in my past, ninth grade I think. Really, junior high stuff without the pimples. Good grief!

On our last full day, Friday, BJ, who could easily fill any position for ambassador to any nation, kind of got Jack and Jill together while we all were on the beach and was able to get them to talk with each other and some peace was restored. Thank goodness. This mess was a lesson for me to not agree to ever live with others when on vacation; heck with that. What's the saying? After three days, guests begin to smell like dead fish. Kind of a rough simile, but you get the point. Can this fragile truce remain intact? Just remember who we're dealing with.

Friday evening was to be our dinner at Phillips By the Sea on the boardwalk at 12th Street. BJ and I like Phillips very much. Back in '83, we finally made it to our honeymoon suite on a Sunday evening. We walked down the boardwalk to Phillips around 8:45 and they were closing. I spoke with the manager and when he found out this was our first outing of our honeymoon, he kept a bartender and waiter on duty, sat us at the window table, and told us to take our time and enjoy ourselves. We never forgot his gesture.

Getting back to our "vacation", the four boys went out to eat on the boardwalk to do what-

ever guy teens liked to do. The four adults were seated at the restaurant and small talk ensued. I overheard Jack tell his wife that they were short on money as it was the end of the week and to take it easy on her entrée selection. "The filet mignon, medium" I told BJ. Jack told Jill what he'd like. After the ladies knew what we'd like to drink, Jack and I went to the men's room. Before Jack and I returned, our drinks were brought to the table and the ladies had placed the dinner orders. It took some time for the dinner to be served and, while on my third Heineken, the waiter finally arrived with the pay load! Three of us had our dinner, but where was Jill's? I watched our waiter as he came out of the kitchen door again. He had a bucket of who knows what and was probably serving a banquet on the other side of the restaurant. I'd get a good look at it when he passes by but he stopped at our table and placed it in front of Jill. BJ's work to reconcile the Jack/Jill situation was about to crash with a resounding thud.

A zinc bucket was filled with clams, crabs, oysters, shrimp, and anything else that lives in the ocean all topped off with a sprawling lobster draped over the bucket contents holding everything in place, and looking directly at me; really creepy! "Can you rotate that bucket please?" I begged. True to form, Jill had ordered the most expensive item on the menu. I never saw someone's head turn red so quickly as Jack's, he was fuming. Five minutes into our meal and after gnawing on a couple of shrimp, Jill burps, licks her fingers, and says "Jack, I'm full!" Quietly, Jack proceeded to bust open all those crustaceans with the provided utensil and fed her piece by piece, all of it.

My only contribution to the ensuing dialogue for the next hour was "Can I (hiccup!) have another Heineken please!" Jack dutifully emptied that bucket of ocean dwellers and, after almost three hours spent during dinner (and I lost count of the Heinekens), the ordeal was mercifully ended. My opinion of Jill was now set in concrete, "Danger Will Robinson!" It's a shame because I liked Jack. Anyway, that was "Strike Two".

As time went on, we'd see them around town and say, you know, "How're the boys! How you guys doing?" Not really interested in any social setting where we could be seen with her; kind of missed Jack though. But one time we were at Roma's on Rt. 113 and they came in and instantly saw us. My blood pressure spiked but BJ suggested that, because we've been spotted, perhaps we could invite them to join us. "I'd rather push a screw driver in my eye" was my lame response. And so we dined together. After the meal and when the bill came, we would always add a 25-30 percent gratuity if the food and service were good; this was when 15% was the norm. BJ and I both worked in food services as teens and understood the employee's situation. Been there, done that. I paid our tab and left three five-dollar bills on the table. As we exited the restaurant, Jill was doing some crazy math in her head and decided that I must have tipped too much and snatched up one of the fives and used it to supplement her tip.

Continued on Page 15.

NOW IS THE TIME TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE JANUARY - JUNE 2024 Safe Secure Sanctuary SCHEDULE!

The January 2024 through June 2024 Safe Secure Sanctuary (S3) Schedule is now in the process of being prepared and I am actively recruiting folks to serve as a volunteer **ONCE A MONTH** as either a **MONITOR, USHER, GREETER and/or STEWARD**. Please know that if you feel led to serve in one of the four categories of volunteers --- Monitor, Usher, Greeter and/or Steward --- you will do so **AT THE CHURCH SERVICE OF YOUR CHOICE** (9AM OR 11AM) and **ON THE MONTHLY SUNDAY OF YOUR CHOICE**.

Please review your copy of the request form (included in this newsletter), give it your most serious prayerful consideration and then, if you still feel so led, complete it, front and back, and return it to Terry Higgins at the address that is to be found on the bottom of the back of the form **ON/OR BEFORE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10**.

Church Turf And Lawns Prepare For The Coming Of The Fall Season.

The impending shorter day-light days and cooler temperatures herald the slowing



of the rate of growth of the grasses and other plants that constitute the 9.2 acres of turf and lawn that are under care by our excellent groundskeeper Jerry Wallace.

In addition to Jerry's outstanding and meticulous care we are blessed to have Graham's Lawn Care Company provide periodic, complimentary macronutrient and micronutrient treatment of the turf portion of the Church grounds.

The Memorial Garden Grows 'Brick By Brick'.



Within the last few days of this writing several additional Memorial Garden Bricks have been placed in their pre-planned location. Each brick represents a life well lived and well loved.

As you have read before in this space the acquisition of a Memorial Brick is a very excellent way to honor the memory of a loved one who has passed or to honor the memory of an individual who has had a most positive impact on your life. The protocol to have a Brick placed in the Memorial Garden is quite simple. To begin you will need to acquire a Memorial Garden Brick order form from the Memorial Garden Model in the Narthex. Once you have completed the order form take it to the Church Office for subsequent transmission to Terry Higgins. Upon confirmation of your order it will be forwarded to the Stone Mason for the requested engraving. Following two quality checks for accuracy your engraved brick is ready to be placed in a location in the Memorial Garden that you have preselected.



Everybody's Invited!

Saturday, November the 25th will find a growing number of folks gathering at 7:30 AM in the Private Party Room at TRE SORELLE DOLCE in Wyoming for our Church's monthly Prayer Breakfast.

We will begin, of course, with prayers for healing for all of those folks on our Prayer List.

Then Jack Freidel, our Lay Leader, will bring us a brief, effective message that will generate an environment in which we will feel comfortable participating. Please know that you do not have to be a member of Wyoming Church in order to enjoy the fellowship of the Prayer Breakfast. We usually conclude between 8:30 and 9:00 AM.

Thanks to Mike and Becky Marasco, the TRE SORELLE DOLCE Owners, we have exclusive use of their Party Room for our Prayer Breakfasts. Upon arrival we will place our individual orders which will then be taken to Mike & Mel's Restaurant, quickly and accurately filled and warmly returned for our enjoyment.

Should you plan to attend, please know that you will be 'made to feel at home'!

Your comments, suggestions and/or questions are most welcome and can be directed to Terry.

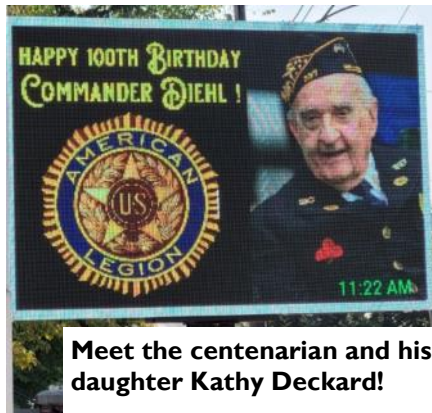


- 11/01 Michelle Harris
 11/02 Garrett Caldwell, Chloe Coleman, Kyle Jankowski, Gregg Marker, Barbara McCleat
 11/03 Seth Flaherty, Timothy Higgins
 11/04 Dick Gabler, Tanya Williams
 11/05 Alicia Porter, **Samuel Wessell**
 11/06 Ron Auten, Laurel Beaman, Eileen Kling, Johanna Petro
 11/07 Linda Booher, Bethany Dejesus, Izabela Marasco, June Stevens
 11/08 Linda Newsome, Jacob Tullis
 11/09 Kathy Chalmers, Ron Leczner, Charlie Weller, Charley Wilt, Sr.
 11/13 Kate Kleinot
 11/14 Margaret Bryan
 11/15 Harriette Hall
 11/16 Kris Failing
 11/17 Eunice Alberts, Ruth Ann Leister
 11/18 Kaylee Dukes, Michael Kurtyka, Eric Mann, Stephanie Wagner
 11/19 Barbara Pettyjohn, Lucia Spampinato, Charles Spiering
 11/21 Martha Higgins, Vicki Stockslager, Sam Tappan
 11/22 Savana Clements, Jesse Spampinato
 11/23 Kev Brown, Erin Schutt
 11/24 Betty Brown
 11/25 Jon McDowell
 11/26 Tracy Fennemore
 11/27 Donna Shoemaker
 11/28 Owen Beaman, Connor Sinclair
 11/29 Lee Gabler
 11/30 Jessica Leczner, Stacy McDevitt
 12/01 Pat Brown, Theresa McGee, Bill Rhodes, Sandy Rhodes, Noelle Robinson
 12/03 Kathy DeLong, Betsy Freidel, Darlene Seip
 12/04 Jack Freidel, Stephanie Nichols
 12/06 Bill McMahan
 12/07 Danielle Malone
 12/08 Carole Pearce

~ Our People ~

Happy at 99... in the circle of her beautiful family!

Dot Ziegler, the mother of Betsy Freidel, turned 99 years young on September 6th. Congratulations!



Meet the centenarian and his daughter Kathy Deckard!

A parade of firetrucks, police cars and Legion Riders saluted Dad (Bill Diehl), followed by citations from the town mayor and PA state representative. His party on September 10th was attended by 90 family members and friends! It was quite an event with delicious food, dancing, presentations by the Hellertown Lions Club and current American Legion Commander. A local TV station reporter interviewed Dad and family members for a segment which aired that evening! Dad said it was a fantastic party! He enjoyed every minute!



*Our heartfelt **thank you** to all in the Wyoming Church family and community who were so generous with your thoughts, prayers, cards, letters, visits and emails during my recent recovery from a Staph Infection that required a double knee replacement. I was in God's Hands but with a lot of help from our Church Family. God Bless each of you!*

Rich and Dottie Harper

~ Our People ~ Births ~

Kinslee Rae Volk
was born to Jenn & Steven Volk
on October 1, 2023.

Congratulations also to proud
grandparents Tracy & Chris Boyer.



Two new grandsons have been born
to Morgan & Susan Rigby:

Duke Rigby was born
on July 12, 2023
to Matt & Amanda
Rigby of Paoli, PA



Theo Tsangaris was born
on September 25, 2023
to Elizabeth & Paul Tsangaris
of Charlotte, NC.

Congratulations!



'Love Thy Neighbor?' Continued from Page 12.

"Did you see that?", BJ asked. "Let's get out of here!"
was my only desire. **"Strike Three!"**

Lastly, Jill called up BJ a few years later and asked us to come over and see their new motor home. I grumbled that a root canal would have been more welcomed. We walked to their home and in the driveway was a brand-new motor home priced easily above \$200K. Jack and Jill thought it funny when they laid on the vehicle's air horn and scared the beejees out of us, just a barrel of laughs those two. We climbed into the motor home, very nice actually; just not our cup of tea. I was horror-struck when Jill invited us to join them on a week vacation to God knows where. The four of us and that undisciplined mutt of theirs in this motorized prison; not a chance! I was so proud of BJ as she provided a reason as to why this date or that date wouldn't work for us. After the third excuse, I wondered why that other woman couldn't catch our drift. For her creative handling of the situation, I later treated my bride to a Dairy Queen chocolate sundae.

I know we are expected to "love thy neighbor as thy self" but some people really press the envelope. Lord, I really tried to make things work. God forgive me if I've failed in your eyes.



October 12, 2023
dvankavelaar@hotmail.com

~ Death ~



The Rev. Dr. Everett C. Isaacs
Senior Pastor at Wyoming United Methodist Church
from 1963 to 1966,
passed away on October 6, 2023.

See the obituary here:
<https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/29425979/dr-everett-c-isaacs/milford/delaware/short-funeral-services-inc>

I have joined with more than 100 others as part of AmeriCorp's Reading Assist program, offering reading tutoring to early elementary students. On October 5th, we gathered at Legislative Hall in Dover for the swearing in ceremony. Expecting to receive my roster of students within the next two weeks. In the meantime, I am assisting in classes at Towne Point Elementary. Hugs are the BEST!

Eunice Alberts

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead





Wyoming Church

...at the heart of it all.

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



Church Office Hours :

Monday-Thursday 9AM - 3PM

call & text for appointments:

☎ (302) 399-3898 Renate

To: You!

**Our Pastors are available
by appointment.**

Call or text

☎ (302) 423-3911

Pastor Lindsay

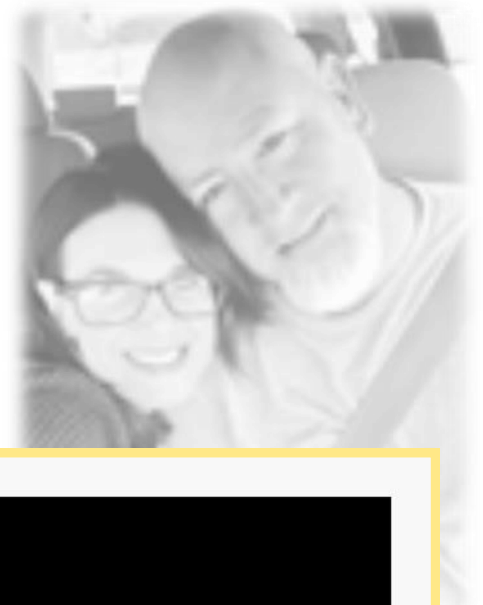
☎ (302) 423-4237

Pastor Rick

NOVEMBER

Memory Verse

*I will sing the
Lord's praise,
for He has
been good to me.
Psalm 136*



Dear Wyoming UMC family,

As our roles in music ministry come to a close on November 19, we would like to sincerely thank all of you for the friendships and the awesome times of worship that we have created together. Our family is forever grateful. We know that God will continue to use the hands and feet of the many devoted servants at Wyoming.

Thank you for your prayers and love as we enter this new season!

In Christ's love,

Brad and Janna Whitenight

*Thank you
for the music*

FOREVER