



Wyoming United Methodist Church Celebrates 160 Years!

This summer, let us again reminisce on the history of what started as the 'Methodist Episcopal Church of Camden' in 1865 and refresh our memory together. Check out some interesting upcoming 'historic' events!

Contributions courtesy of Mary Schoettinger, Wyoming Church Historian.

Looks like one 🙎



Opportunities galore for all you bakers out there -

- *Desserts for the BIERGARTEN BBQ on June 6 (back cover)
- *Cookies for VBS June 16-20 (Page 19)
- *PEACH PIES for the Peach Festival on August 2 (Page 4)
- *Yummies for the BAKE TABLE at the Peach Festival Yard Sale on August 2 (Page 2)
- *Cookies for the ARC Dance on August 15 (Page 8)

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Back Cover

Get your vending space now for the Annual **WUMC Indoor Yard Sale** during the Wyoming Peach Festival on **Saturday, August 2 – 8 AM till I PM!**

\$25 for a table & 2 chairs.

Pick up your registration form at the welcome desk or download it from www.wyomingumc.com – HAPPENINGS.

Registration deadline: July 21.

Mail your application and fee to: Wyoming UMC, 216 Wyoming Mill Road, Dover, DE 19904 - Attn. YARD SALE

or drop your application off at the welcome desk. Have Questions? Call Lee (302) 222-4363



Bulletin Board





We are collecting Redners Receipts, a percentage of your purchase amount will convert into cash for Wyoming Church - we receive an average of \$130! for one months' worth of receipts collected. Big thanks to all who keep contributing! Drop-off box is on the table by the

welcome desk.





Calling all Bikers!

Anyone interested in occasional bicycle outings around our local community, please contact Kim Reed at kmreed711@comcast.net.



Note: 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



In the course of two years, we have collected over 3,000 lbs (three thousand pounds) of plastic, in other words: we have three Trex benches now!

With undiminished efforts we move on to the next one. Keep those plastic bags, envelopes, and bubble wrap coming! Remember, NO bottles or hard plastic. Thank you for keeping all that plastic out of the landfills, too!



You're invited to the Dover DE Women's Connection Program & Breakfast Buffet on Tuesday, June 10 from 9:30 to 11:30 AM at the Maple Dale Country Club in Dover. \$22

inclusive (cash or check)

the church building.

Program: Nancy Fillers "Summer Salads & Homemade Dressings"

The Good, the Bad & the Yummy

Guest Speaker: Cathy Hopper "Your Past does not have to determine Your Future"

Music by: Jim Tucker

Reservations and cancellations for breakfast & free child care by 6/6.

Donna 530-921-8936 or Diane 302-697-6020



Affiliated with Stonecroft Ministries



Saturday, August 2 - during the Yard Sale, the Kitchen Team is holding a Bake Sale from 8 AM to 1 PM in the Narthex.

All bakers are welcome to bring their cookies, pies, breads, cakes, and candies to help us raise funds for things like future scholarships, camperships, and other kitchen projects.

It helps if items are packaged ready to sell: cookies in baggies, larger items wrapped with plastic wrap or containers that work for you.

Donations can be dropped off Friday, August 1 in the Chef's Kitchen between 8:30 AM and 3 PM or Saturday morning at the Bake Table in the Narthex between 7:30 and 9:30 AM.

From the Pastors' Desk

From our (Wyoming Church & Wessell) Family to Yours (the Mann's, below) -

Thank you, Karissa!!



Wyoming Church is blessed to truly be a multi-generational church, and we have seen an influx of young families and their children in the past year. It is common to have 8-10 young ones in our nursery every Sunday, which is a huge blessing!

As many of you already know, Karissa Mann has resigned from her position as Nursery Coordinator. She started in this role back during Covid with watching the staff children, and in the recent years she has been a vital leader in helping grow our nursery program and keeping it open week after week. She is transitioning on to the next stage of her schooling, and we pray God's continued blessing on her and her work. The families and children will be eternally grateful for all she has done.

The Staff Parish Relations Team (SPRT) led the search and interview process and is pleased to welcome Angela Legates as our new Nursery Coordinator.

She has extensive experience with children's and nursery ministries and is excited to meet all our little ones and their families!



We will introduce Angela to you on these pages in the next edition of The Wyoming Messenger.

We praise God for all He is doing at Wyoming Church!

Blessings on a great Summer, Pastors Rick & Lindsay, and the SPRT



ABCDEF Out of the mouth of babes...

 $\mathbf{G} \mathbf{H} \mathbf{J} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{L}$ A grandfather was walking through his yard when he heard his granddaughter repeating the alphabet in a tone of voice that sounded like a prayer. He asked her what she was doing. The little girl explained, "I'm praying, but I can't think of exactly the right words, so I'm just saying all the letters and God will put them together for me, because He knows what I'm thinking. (with thanks to Nancy Auten)

Join us for the SUMMER SERIES of the Ladies' Wednesday morning Bible Study -

we meet on June 4, July 16 & August 20 in Room 233 from 9:30 to 11 AM. We're studying 'Seasons of a Woman's Life' by Lois Evans.

For each session, prepare to answer these questions:

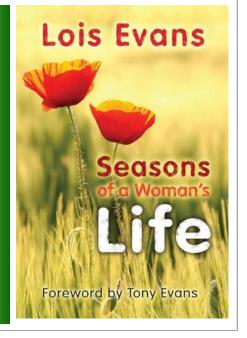
my best memory my funniest memory the worst times - what would I change? what were my dreams at this stage? what did I learn and what are my dreams now?

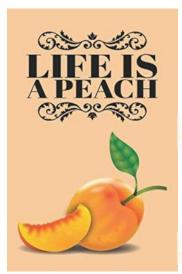
June 4: Your birth, youth, earliest memories, school grades 1 through 12. July 16: Your college, married life and life with children.

August 20: Your life with Jesus, Your life now.

Photos are encouraged - no more than 4 - choose wisely.

Questions: Donna McCartney donnasandbillj@icloud.com.







Calling all Peach Cutters!

Come join the fun and fellowship on Thursday night July 31st from 6:30 till 8:00. We will be cutting up peaches for the youth to make their famous Peach Fuzzy drinks during the

Wyoming Peach Festival on August 2nd. Call Alicia with ?? (302) 883-1093.

Help & Learn: Make a Peach Pie!

Kitchen Sexton Team will be baking a lot of peach pies this year and we would love to have help. You do not have to be an experienced baker to have fun and help out. You do need to have hair covered or pulled back and wear closed-toed shoes to work in the kitchen. We have extra rolling pins if you don't have one and plenty of folks to coach you through the steps. We plan to break the task of making all the pies ordered over three days:

dough making is scheduled for

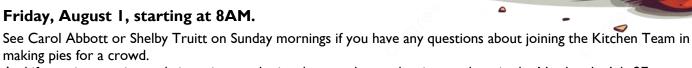
July 28, beginning at 8:30 AM.

dough rolling is scheduled for

July 30, starting at 8:30 AM.

peach peeling and pie baking will be D

And if your interest is purely in eating peach pie, please order on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex by July 27.



Mmmmm....

starting the first Sunday in July...

Order Your Peach Pie!

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/I (I to 3PM) or during the yard sale at the Wyoming Peach Festival. Order form at the display. And don't delay, we're only baking 100 pies, with an order limit of 2 per family!

Adult Fellowship...

BREAK ... is going on a

We will not meet in June, July and August. Depending on the Church event schedule, we hope to restart on Wednesday, September 24, 2025.





Page 5

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

On June 21 & July 19 & August 16, 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.

Save the date!

for Rise Against Hunger on Saturday, October 4th at WUMC. 10:00 to 12:00.

Rise Against Hunger is an international hunger relief non-profit organization that coordinates the packaging and distribution of food and other aid to people in developing nations. It was founded as Stop Hunger Now in 1998 by Ray Buchanan and John Hewitt.

https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/





What is Habitat Faith Build?

Many Dover area faith communities are interested in affordable housing. Many of us get pleas from local families who are struggling with their bills. (FER contributions help pay these bills.) This Faith Build is our combined

effort to help with a forever home for the Austin family.

We are making a combined effort to provide the extra funds needed (above the mortgage price), provide the volunteer effort, and to provide lunches for the volunteers.

Wyoming UMC has provided some of each......Most days, we have are represented by some volunteers, we have provided lunches twice, and we would like to add some funds to the total that is collected.

All of us can contribute financially to

this **Faith Build** home by putting funds in an envelope and designating it for "Habitat."

Thank you for supporting the Austin family and for being a part of their journey to home ownership. It's a dream Charlene never expected to achieve. This is an awesome opportunity to share our time and resources with their family.





... to experience a bit of the effort required by many African communities just to obtain water that is scarce and inferior.

Page 6

Lifetime Wells International's mission is to improve the quality of life and uplift communities in Ghana and Tanzania through access to safe, clean water. We are pleased to assist in this endeavor.

> **WUMC** supporters provided \$ 12,750 in funds toward this mission.

Thank you to all participants, walkers, donors and financial supporters for aiding in the gift of Water!

Donate online at: https:// give.classy.org/2025KCWaterWalk







Monthly FINANCIAL REPORT April, 2025 - Ken Banaszak, Finance Team Chair

Offerings

2025 Offering 2025 Expense

Weekly Offerings

\$ 195,809.58

Facilities and Other Totals

\$ 5,126.24 \$ 200.935.82 \$ 203.680.13

Net Operating

(2,744.31)

See Ken's Special Article
"keeping an Eye on the Prize"
on the back cover.

raising FUNdraising FUNdraising FUN!

Any time you need a gift card this summer ...

... simply order online or directly from the user-friendly app! Check it out at raiseright.com.

We're excited to tell you about the NEW program feature "Invite Friends & Family"! Now you can text or email invite links directly from the RaiseRight app to your personal contacts, helping to spread the word and increase the earning potential for Wyoming Church!

Anyone who enrolls in the church's program from a participant link can start buying gift cards and earning. Watch this I-minute video to see how it works: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= 32UwsBkwEo

Please email <u>linda.lyon@aol.com</u> with any questions.



raising FUNdraising FUN

Starting on June 23...

Bring in "someone else's treasures" (i.e. items you want to give away) for our big annual Indoor YARD SALE on August 2. Drop off your items Sundays, Mondays & Fridays from 9 to 11 AM in Room 213 (across from the nursery) until July 25th. Please no furniture or large bulk items.

Help with Tagging & Pricing, too! We'll meet Mondays & Fridays from 9 to 11 AM, June 23rd to July 25th.

Any ?? or to arrange an evening drop off time contact Betsy Freidel at (302) 535-3983 or bfreidel l@yahoo.com





their Dances on Fridays, June 27, July II and August 15, from 6 to 8 in the Family Life Center. Welcome & greet them, and in August, lend a hand to our own kitchen team

providing the food (hot dogs, chips and... home-

made Cookies -

see article on the right)!

Call Nikole **(302) 222-1602** with questions.



We promote and protect the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and actively support full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.



CALLING ALL 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!

With our history of 10 (ten!) amazing years of cookiebaking we can do this again!!

Bring your home-made cookies to the church office

on TUESDAY, AUGUST 12th from 9 to 1 or bring them to the dance on FRIDAY, AUGUST 15th (starts at 6PM).

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





At the Fanny Marvel Church Library, check out a book, audio book or DVD and return it when you're done. Take home (and keep!) a puzzle and/or some magazines and/or any item on display outside the library door!

oue Letters

Fxtra Special Featu

"A-Z Love Letters to You", a devotional keepsake book designed for mothers/grand-mothers to share their legacy of love, hope and faith with their children. Each letter of the alphabet is paired with thoughtful reflection and a scripture verse to uplift and inspire. This is the first publication by Alison, daughter of WUMC

members Cort & Marilyn Massey.

A donated copy is available in the WUMC library for your enjoyment. For more details and short video trailer follow this link: https://flourishmyhealth.com/books

Book Discussion Group's 2025 Reading List & Meeting Dates

June 25 - The Kitchen Front by Jennifer Ryan July 23 - The God of the Woods by Liz Moore

August 27 - Brave by Mesu Andrews

September 24 - It Ends with Us by Colleen Hoover

October 22 - The Women by Kristin Hannah

November 19 - Christmas in Bethel by Richard Paul Evans

Avid readers... check out the WUMC Book Discussion Club!
We meet every fourth Wednesday at 7PM.

Call Kim Reed 2 (302) 670-1832 with questions.

Two years into World War II, Britain is feeling her losses: The Nazis have won battles, the Blitz has destroyed cities, and U-boats have cut off the supply of food. In an effort to help housewives with food rationing, a BBC radio program called The Kitchen Front is holding a cooking contest—and the grand prize is a job as the program's first-ever female co-host. For four very different women, winning the competition would present a crucial chance to change their lives.

For a young widow, it's a chance to pay off her husband's debts and keep a roof over her children's heads. For a kitchen maid, it's a chance to leave servitude and find freedom. For a lady of the manor, it's a

chance to escape her wealthy husband's increasingly hostile behavior. And for a trained chef, it's a chance to challenge the men at the top of her profession. These four women are giving the competition their all—even if that sometimes means bending the rules. But with so much at stake, will the contest that aims to bring the community together only serve to break it apart?

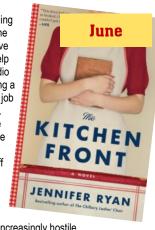
Early morning, August 1975: a camp counselor discovers an empty bunk. Its occupant, Barbara Van Laar, has gone missing. Barbara isn't just any thirteen-year-old: she's the daughter of the family that owns the summer camp and employs most of the region's residents. And this isn't the first time a Van Laar child has disappeared. Barbara's older brother similarly vanished fourteen years ago, never to be found.

As a panicked search begins, a thrilling drama unfolds. Chasing down the layered secrets of the Van Laar family and the blue-collar community working in its shadow, Moore's multi-threaded story invites readers into a rich and gripping dynasty of secrets and second chances.

In the tumultuous world of ancient Israel, Ahinoama fierce and unconventional Kenite woman—flees her family farm with her dagger-wielding father to join the ragtag band of misfits led by the shepherd-turned-warrior David ben Jesse. As King Saul's treasonous accusations echo through the land, Ahinoam's conviction that David's anointing makes him Yahweh's chosen king propels her on a perilous journey to Moab, only to encounter hardship and betrayal. Amid the unforgiving Judean wilderness, Ahinoam forges an unexpected bond with David's sister, Zeruiah. Through her Kenite metalworking heritage, Ahinoam gains respect among David's army, and

Ahinoam gains respect among David's army, and the soldiers' wives offer friendship. However, scarred by painful past relationships, Ahinoam

isolates to avoid new friendships and refuses to acknowledge her growing feelings for the renegade king. As Ahinoam's heart grapples for footing, King Saul's army closes in, and Ahinoam must confront the true meaning of love, loyalty, and courage. Is she brave enough to love Israel's next king? Bestselling author Mesu Andrews presents a gripping biblical-era series, weaving a narrative of resilience and the transformative power of faith.







We have served food to over 8,000 individuals in the last 12 months! Astounding.





Saturdays from 10 to Noon

June 14 + July 12 + August 9

Through these economically challenging times, it is no surprise that requests for food have been going up and up and up... as the Delaware Food Bank reports. The need for us to do our share in feeding the hungry in our community is great, contributions as collected in our monthly food drives are desperately needed and so very much appreciated! Through the summer, on June 14th, July 12th and August 9th, 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 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: ...staples!! The ONLY household products needed are paper towels and plastic garbage bags.

So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good.... every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all. Calatians 6:9



WUMC Outreach & Casa de Esperanza are combining efforts in collecting personal hygiene items for the migrant workers at Papen Farms. Take a wishlist from the display in church and bring your donations, by June I please... or VERY SOON AFTER.

So let's not allow ourselves to get **fatigued doing good....** every time we **get the chance,** let us work for

We delievered 20 (twenty) buckets filled with much needed cleaning supplies to the UMCOR Disaster Relief. Thanks to all who contributed the good 'ingredients'!



Start Collecting School Supplies...

the benefit of all. Calatians 6:9

As in years past, the Outreach Team will be working to collect school supplies for needy elementary school students in the Lake Forest, Capital, and Caesar Rodney School Districts. Everything we collect will be split evenly between the three districts. The Outreach Team has already purchased 100 backpacks for the project. Congregation members will have an opportunity to donate to the project during the last half of July and the first two weeks of August in the Narthex, as well as during the Food Pantry Drive on Saturday, August 9th.

We are looking for the following materials:

boxes of tissues ... disinfectant wipes ... wide-ruled paper ... #2 pencils ... large erasers (pink block type) ... small boxes of 8 or 16 crayons ... glue sticks ... children's scissors ... composition books ... rulers ... small pencil boxes.

Thanks to everyone for helping local students have the materials they need to have a successful year!

Carol Abbott, Outreach Team

Remember, Rejoice, Renew! Wyoming Church 1865-2025

Throughout our Celebration Year 2015, you would find a 'historical vignette' in The Wyoming Messenger - curious stories, interesting facts, peculiar traditions dating back to the early days of Wyoming Church. Ten years later, let's refresh our memories and reminisce!

Why are we celebrating 150 years? Why is the church called Wyoming Church and not West Camden? What was the Plank Church?

By Mary Schoettinger, Church Historian (pictured below left)

Find out here in an excerpt from the History of Delaware 1609-1888 by J. Thomas Scharf, written in 1888. It is interesting to think about his choice of words ("boom" and "flocked"). "The village of Wyoming was known by the name of 'West Camden' from its inception down to the year 1865, and sometimes as 'Camden Station,' on account of its being located for the convenience of the people of Camden and the surrounding country. Sometime in 1865 the Rev. John J. Pierce, of the Wyoming Valley, Pa., came to 'West Camden' and purchased the land from Dr. Isaac Jump and others, and laid it out in building lots. Through the exertions of Messrs. Pierce, Jakes and others, the village received quite a boom in the way of

building, and many persons from the Wyoming Valley, and from North Murderkill and West Dover Hundreds, flocked to West Camden, and engaged in business. During the same year a meeting of the leading and most enterprising of the citizens was called to take into consideration the propriety of severing all connection or identity with the town of Camden, and out of complaisance to Mr. Peirce, they agreed that it should be called 'Wyoming,' after his native valley on the North Branch of the Susquehanna.

During the same year, in the midst of the peach season, John R. Jakes started a subscription list for the purpose of putting up a temporary building to be used for a Sunday school, which had not progressed far before the movement developed into a church. Out of the moneys collected was built a plank church, but before its dedication the Rev. Mr. Hamersley of Camden Circuit, organized the board of trustees to receive the edifice in the name of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Upon the perfect of this board of trustees they issued the following notice:

DEDICATION. The M.E. PLANK Church, of West Camden,

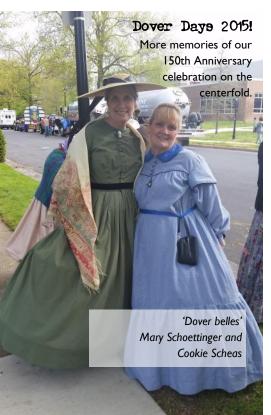
"Located at Camden Station, will be dedicated to the worship of Almighty God, on Sunday, the 12 inst. Rev. Andrew Manship, of Philadelphia; Rev. J. J. Pearce, late of Wyoming Conference; Rev. Colclazer, of Philadelphia Conference; Rev. A. D. Davis, of Eris Conference, will officiate. Services to commence at 10 o'clock A.M., and continue at 3 and 7 o'clock P.M.' "All are invited to attend, by the Pastor & Trustees. Nov. 3, 1865

This plank church answered all the purposes of a church and Sunday-school for the people of Wyoming till it became dilapidated, and necessitated the building of a new one. In 1883 the new structure was begun, and dedicated in September of the same year. In 1885, a parsonage for the Wyoming Circuit - comprising the Wyoming, the Willow Grove, the Union, near Hazlettville, and Asbury near Peason's Corner was finished late in the fall."

Be sure to browse through our *Church History* Wisplay by the north wing doors, peruse old directories for familiar faces, look at scrapbooks, old bulletins...

and check out these *Commemorative Stems* still for sale:





Remember, Rejoice, Renew! Wyoming Phurch 1865-2025

Oh the 'good olde times' we had throughout our Celebration Year 2015! We thought that the events marked with ** bear repeating in 2025 they're presented on the next page.

Special Sunday morning worship with an emphasis on the music and the worship format as it would have occurred in 1865 in February, May, August and November, and for Christmas in both December 2014 and 2015 with the Fort Delaware Cornet Band and many attendants dressed in their period finest (see cover page).

Historic walking tour through our Town of Wyoming with our church historian, Mary Schoettinger**

Fathers Day **Picnic on the FRONT lawn of the church****, Dave Kleinot took 'tin type' photographs of the attendants.

Commemorative 'Festival Worship' - 'Remember the Past and Celebrate the Future', 150 years (almost) to the day from the consecration of Wyoming Church (November 19, 1865) under the leadership of our bishop and superintendent and in the presence of community dignitaries at the time, on November 22nd, followed by a Homecoming Banquet.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of West Camden and its parishioners in the Dover Days Parade, Sunday School children in the wagon they had decorated. The 'Plank Church' on display as an information booth later that day on The Green in Dover.

We learned about the dedication and history of some of the sanctuary's magnificent stained glass windows which were brought from the Broad Street location and installed in our new building.

"A Lesson in Methodism", presented by the Rev. Philip Lawton, Historian at Barratts Chapel in Frederica**

In our annual Stewardship Campaign, we pledged to keep doing "...all the good WE can" (often attributed to John Wesley).

The Adult Sunday School Class studied "Revival, Faith as Wesley Lived It" by Adam Hamilton.

Fun fact: The General Board of Higher Education organized a Wesley Pilgrimage to England that year.

Fun fact: The first brick was laid to establish the Wyoming Church Memorial Garden that year. Find out how you can place a memorial brick in the garden on Page 18.



We paraded the Wyoming Church banner down State Street and presented the history of the Methodist Episcopal Church of West Camden in the 'Plank Church' during Dover Days. The beautiful sign was made by Howard Priestley.

Susan Gant and Kathy Deckard on the right.





One more time for good memory - mark your calendars for these historic events.



Learn about the history and listen to the stories in the early years on a **Historic Walking**Tour through the Town of Wyoming on Saturday, June 28th at 5PM.

11/7/2015 photo courtesy Nancy Roberts.

Meet Tour Guide and Church Historian Mary Schoettinger (right) at the Simply Charming store.

In 2015... retired Pastor Frank Sutton praying at the former church location at 107 Broad Street.

Coming in September!

Wyoming Church celebrates 160 years with an old-fashioned PICNIC on Sunday,

September 14th right after a combined worship service at 10AM, in and around the Pavilion, cake, balloons, games from yesteryear and today, too...



Coming in September!

A Methodist History Lesson

This two-hour program with light dinner served and plenty of time for your questions will be presented by the Rev. Philip Lawton, Historian at Barratt's Chapel in Frederica, the "Cradle of Methodism".

All you ever wanted to know about the early days of Methodism, and the church structure in the early days of Wyoming Church!



Then & Now Now & Then In 2015... dispelling the rumors!

You might be a Methodist if...

- ... you know that a circuit rider is not an electrical device
- ... names like Aldersgate, Asbury, and Epworth are vaguely familiar
- ... you consider the monthly potluck a sacrament
- ... you have an unexplained yearning to visit Wesley's Chapel in London
- ... you know that the Wesleyan Quadri-lateral isn't a trick football play involving four lateral passes
- ... your church is named for a geographical location rather than for a saint

Remember, Rejoice, Renew! Wyoming Phurch 1865-2025

Gail Garner interpreting in sign language the speech of Thomas Jackson, president of the Trustees at Wyoming Church in 1866

Festive Christmas Brass: The Fort Delaware Cornet Band.



At the inaugural Christmas Worship in December 2014. Top: Carol and Jonathan Abbott with Mary Schoettinger Right: Kathy Deckard and Sue Hajec.



Renate Purdy and Chuck Nichols at Dover Days.



Festive Worship: Bishop Peggy Johnson assisting with the baptism of little Bryce Sargent





In loving memory... you celebrated with us in 2015.



Leona Hutchins, pianist at the Festive Worship on November 22.







June 1st

Global Day of Parents National Go Barefoot Day Say Something Nice Day

June 8th

Children's Sunday National Best Friends Day Pentecost

June 15th

Father's Day Family Awareness Day Worldwide Day of Giving

June 22nd

America's Kids Day Positive Media Day Worldwide VW Beetle Day

June 29th

World Camera Day International Mud Day Descendants Day

July 6th

Fried Chicken Day World Kiss Day

July 13th

National French Fry Day

World Cup Soccer Day Nat'l Be Your Own Hero Day Smithsonian Day

July 20th

Fortune Cookie Day

Nat'l Ice Cream Day Nat'l Lollipop Day

July 27th

Love is Kind Day

National Parent's Day

august 3rd

American Family Day Friendship Day National Kids' Day

August 10th

Bagel Day S'mores Day

August 17th

Black Cat Appreciation Day National Nonprofit Day World Helicopter Day

August 24th

Women's Equality Day Knife Day National Waffle Iron Day

August 31st

Pony Express Day Trail Mix Day

People love June, July, & August:

Weather:

These months typically experience similar weather patterns, making them appeal to those who enjoy warm, sunny days.

Seasonal Feelings:

People associate these months with the excitement and warmth of summer, which is a positive feeling.

Cultural celebrations:

June is associated with the summer solstice, July is known for its summer activities, and many celebrate August with family reunions and the end of summer festivities.

June is ushered in by Memorial Day and celebrates the end of the school year, the beginning of summer and fathers.

July celebrates the history and heritage of our country.

August celebrates the closing of the summer months and the imminent return of cooler weather, shorter days, and a new school year.

Vacations:

For many, these are vacation months. Day trips, road trips, camping trips, beach trips, even Staycations. These are the months to visit and explore. Just don't forget your sunscreen!

It's all in good hands!

Summer Events you don't want to miss.

On June 7th, Wyoming UMC will host a silent ASL Picnic. This is a BYOP & C event (Bring Your Own Picnic & Chair) We will be in the WUMC Pavillion from 5 - 7 pm.

June 29th, our sister church in Deaf Ministry will host a DINGO & Dessert from 3 - 5 pm. Please bring individually wrapped desserts or snacks to share, no nuts please.

July 27th for UMC Deaf Awareness Sunday, look for members of the ASL Classes sponsored by WUMC to sign a hymn during the 11:00 service.

Contact Gail Garner for more information (410-409-4976) on these or any Deaf Ministry events.



Get the mailing address of any birthday child from CCB or the church office if you'd like to send congratulations!

06/01	Okemah Strickland
06/05	Peggy Ciminera, Tamryn Coleman,
00,00	Madelynn Harris, Michael Sell,
	Amy Spampinato
06/07	Dennis Major
06/08	Barbara Nichols, Howard Priestley,
	Emily Quiroz
06/09	Wayne Davis, Rowan Seip
06/10	Hope Wessell
06/11	Rose Ann Smith
06/13	Pat Braun, Crystal Williamson
06/14	June Allen
06/15	Dan Mikkelson
06/16	Chris Mikkelson, Linda Pape,
	Brody Seip
06/17	Bryn Bashista, Gary Nelson,
	Dave Van Kavelaar
06/18	Art Ericson, Joe Schubert
06/19	Jessica Flaherty, Nate Grabowski,
	Emma Lumia, Molly Lyon,
	Mackenzie Maahs, Charlotte
00/00	Pepper (90 years young!)
06/20	Kim Klecan, Grace Passmore,
00/00	Megan Stallings
06/22	Dot Adams, Christopher Cattie
06/23	Emory Davis, Arieana Marasco
06/24	Terry Bryan, Oceanna Loffreda,
	Elizabeth Pruneda,
06/27	Mike Quarnaccio, Nick Tullis
00/27	Dominic Gordineer, June Papen,
	Riley Rhinehardt, Ann Smith, Pastor Rick Wessell
06/29	Dave Killen, Joe O'Connell,
00/29	Kay Schultz, June Thompson
07/01	Tracy Boyer
07/01	Merida Stant
07/05	Mickey Jones, Sue Lighter
07/03	Stone Seip
07/00	Otorio Odip

07/07

07/11

07/12

Florence Legates

Bethany Bell

Gail Alexander.

Michael Fennemore

07/14 Nancy Auten, Charles Nichols

Becky Marasco, Kathy Rozumalski

07/17 Bob Cousens, Deanna Schubert 07/19 Elinor Brocklehurst, Benjamin Cattie, Aaron deBloois

07/21 Tom Vella

07/22 Sig Kelsey

07/25 Sandra Nasim

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,

Nancy Roberts 08/03 Mary Beth Auten,

Curtis Brosius, Mike Williams

08/04 | Im Cook

08/06 Ken Banaszak, Alicia Beaman

08/07 Megan Boyer, Jane Fennemore

08/08 Garry Courtney, Lisa

McCalister, Rev. Patti Ravilious, Kelly Seip, Ian Thompson

08/09 Sharon Quillen

08/10 Rick Beaman

08/12 Liz Clements.

Sophia Gordineer

08/13 Alex Tullis

08/14 Susan Gant

08/15 Jayden Lednum, Jerry Moore

08/16 Payton Porter, Bill Strickland, Makenzie Yeager

08/18 Kelsey Baynard, Robyn Lefort

08/20 Kathy Klecan, Kasper Milton

08/21 Chris Boyer

08/22 Beth Barlett,

Cheryl Denemoustier

08/23 Kim Courtney, Kayla Harris

08/24 Raelyn Gray

08/25 Patti Moore

08/26 Tim Shepperson

08/27 Betty Inge, Emily Mateja,

Claude Pritchett

08/28 Dotty Failing, Nathan Williams

08/29 Owen Kleinot, Michael Moore, Dave Schoettinger

08/30 Silas Mann, Peggy Mosher, Jensen Pritchett, Shelby Truitt

08/31 Tracey Jones

09/01 Dana Tappan, Baylee Tillinghast

09/03 Sharon Duncan,

Pastor Lindsay Wessell

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

Russ Riggins, Michael Sandy

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

Sam Tullis, **Dot Ziegler**

(101 years young!!)

Our People



lared and lensen **Pritchett**

pictured with their dad, Joseph Pritchett and grandmom, Gwen Pritchett, were baptized on April 13, 2025.



Through this journey George and I have been navigating, we have had great support from our church family.

We would like to thank everyone for the cards, calls and delicious food we have received. It means a lot to us. The Petty john's

Get your copy of the 2025 Pictorial Church Directory now! \$5 donation recommended to defray our printing cost. In the office or Sundays at the welcome desk.

~ Our People ~

~ Birth ~



Beauregard 'Beau' Reed was born to Mollie Reed & Johnny Devary on March 28, 2025. Congratulations also to proud grandparents, Kim & Mark Reed.

Febe Jane Macias daughter of Rebecca and John Paul Macias, was born on April 2, 2025 at BayHealth/Kent General Hospital in Dover. She joined the family through the process of adoption and spent the first week of her life in the home of her grandparents, Jane and Doug Grudzina.



Becca and John Paul live in Arlington, Virginia but visit often and have promised to bring Febe to church for a visit some time this summer.

~ New Members ~



Garry& Kim Courtney joined Wyoming Church on April 6, 2025.

Joe & Deanna Schubert pictured with sons Riley and Liam, joined Wyoming Church on April 13, 2025.

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While praying one day, a woman asked,
"Who are you, God?"
He answered, "I Am."
"But who is 'I Am?"
she asked.
He replied, "I Am Love,
I Am Peace, I Am Grace,
I Am Joy, I Am Strength,
I Am Safety, I Am Shelter,
I Am Power,
I Am The Creator,
I Am The Comforter,

I Am The Beginning and The End, I Am The Way, The Truth, and The Light." With tears in her eyes, she looked toward heaven and said, "Now I understand, but, who am I?"

God tenderly wiped the tears from her eyes and whispered, "YOU ARE MINE."

-Author Unknown



Bud & Carolyn O'Connor joined Wyoming Church on March 23, 2025.

You know *Carolyn* from her heavy involvement in "all things cooking & baking", and *Bud* is now



the VP on our Board of Trustees another 'official' WELCOME to you!



~ Deaths





Edward 'Eddie' Sammons the brother of Buddy Sammons passed away on May 13, 2025.

Enjoy The Appearance Of Our Wyoming Church's Turf And Meadows!

With the advent of a combination of excellent growing conditions, well planned cutting methods and well timed turf feeding, the 9.2 acres of the Church acreage that is professionally managed on a weekly basis continues to look its best. A series of lower limb trimming procedures is planned for selected trees later this Summer so as to enhance upward growth and to provide greater access to more sunlight around the base of certain trees. Thanks to Mike Marasco the Fig Shrub in the south wall bed has received its long overdue thinning. One of the Arborvitae that partially shields the Dumpster Beautiful Project in the South Parking Lot has to be replaced as does a Dogwood in the turf portion of the grounds.

Should you have any questions or comments relative to the conditions and/or care of the **Church Grounds** please do not hesitate to contact Terry Higgins at terryhigggins38@outlook.com or 302-363-5823 or at Church Sunday mornings.

The Memorial Garden And Memorial Grove Continue To Add To The Serenity Of Our Wyoming Church Setting.

The current good growing conditions of our DelMarVa Pensinula are enabling the plants and trees in the garden and grove to exhibit good, solid growth. This welcomed Spring growth is enhancing the sense of serenity one feels as you walk to the Memorial Garden and take the time to spend a few minutes in reflection and contemplation.

Placing a Memorial Brick in the Memorial Garden is an excellent way to honor the positive memory of a loved one or to honor the memory of someone who has had a most positive effect on your life. To begin the process select an application from the Memorial Garden Model that is to be found in the Narthex, complete it and return it to Terry Higgins.





Should you have any questions or comments relative to the **Memorial Garden** please do not hesitate to contact Terry Higgins at

<u>terryhiggins38@oulook.com</u> or call

302-363-5823 or Sunday mornings at Church.



Wyoming Church is excited to send 9 campers to Camp Pecometh this summer!! THANK YOU to the Kitchen Sexton Team for their generous donation of \$4000 toward Camperships and also to a special member of our congregation for their donation who wishes to remain anonymous.

As in the past, our campers would love to receive

mail from our church family. If you wish to send a note, please mail at least one full week prior to the start date of camp to:

Camper name/camp attending/camp dates

136 Bookers Wharf Road Centreville, MD 21617

Tressa Stant : Riverside - June 22 to 27

Jeff Purdy: Respite -June 29 to July 4

Dakota deBernard: Music/Drama - July 6 to 11

Ashlynn McDevitt: Music/Drama - July 6 to 11

Kayla Harris: Music/Drama - July 6 to 11

Lenna Joy Stant: Day Camp 'Blue Crabs' - July 7 to 11

Merida Stant: Day Camp 'Sunfish' - July 7 to 11

Laurel Beaman: Late Night with Jesus - July 7 to 11

Owen Beaman: Riverside - July 27 to August I



June 1st is Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Day!



WUMC has a very BERRY special treat for our Sunday School team to thank them for sharing their time and love of Jesus with our youngest worshippers at Wyoming Church! *(Thank you to Fifer Orchards for the strawberry donations.)

Teachers / Helpers - Pat Braun, Nikki Fox, Betsy Freidel, Michelle Harris, Tracey Jones, Amy Kellen, Diane Klecan, Robyn LeFort, Marlene Loomis, Lisa McCallister, Stacy McDevitt, Brock Nelson, Melissa Nelson, Hannah Nelson, Sandra Parker, Kim Reed, Mary Schoettinger, Joelle

Rubino-Sinclair, Lee Sumpter, Kathi Thomas, and Sue Willison

Teen helpers - Laurel Beaman, Owen Beaman, Chris Cattie, Georgeanna Ennis, Jane Fennemore, Liam Fox, Maddy Harris, Austyn LeFort, Noah Webb, Makenzie Yeager

Kids Praise Leaders - Robyn LeFort, Mandy Stant (Pianist)

Thanks also to **Adult Teachers** – Jack Freidel and Dan Mikkelson

June 8th - Sunday School Closing!

The Sunday School kids will present a short program at the 9am service.

June 8th is also **Graduation Sunday...** If you have a graduate in your family or are celebrating that milestone yourself, send the information and one or two or three photos to therevfdw@gmail.com or office@wyomingumc.com.





June 15th - Summer Sunday School will begin at the 9am worship time:

Pre K through 1st grade will meet in Room 217.

Grades 2 through 5 will meet in Room 228 (Bell Choir Room).

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL Our FULL Sunday School Program will resume on September 7th during the 9am service. *Please note the following change:

For our youngest class we will begin at age 4 in order to narrow the developmental age gap of a Pre-K to 1st grade class.

Thank you, Education Team Co-chairs, Betsy Freidel & Tracey Jones for coordinating it all!

Bible School...Vacation Bible School...Vacation

Vacation Bible School will run from

Monday June 16 through Friday June 20

from 8:30 to 12:15.

We are still looking for some adults and youth helpers who would be willing to be Tour Guides on this year's VBS Road Trip to guide our young travelers to the different locations around the church!

And, of course, we need SUPPLIES! Take an item to shop for at the display table. NEW! Scan the QR code for the Amazon wish list. And for snack time, we'll need powdered lemonade.

Please contact Michelle Harris, if you feel led to join us this year, at cnmharris@gmail.com



Bible School...Vacation Bible School...Vacation

On Saturday, May 10th WUMC hosted their third annual Spring Craft Show. The show success-fully featured over 60 crafters renting 79 vending spaces at \$40 each, raising \$3160. We welcomed returning vendors and new crafters displaying their goods. We saw jewelry galore, candles, soap, wreaths, gnomes, repurposed wood flags, stained glass, horseshoe art, crochet in the form of purses, stuffed animals, even flower bouquets and so much more. Buyers could find honey, jam, gourmet cupcakes, honey-roasted nuts, and beautifully crafted cookies, along with various goodies on the bake table. I heard rave reviews about the kitchen's coffee cakes and Betty Harvath's cheese Danish made from Hawaiian rolls.

It takes a village to make these shows happen. We could not do it without our dedicated craft show and fundraising teams, Renate (office manager), maintenance staff (Dom and Tom), kitchen team, CRHS national honor society (with liaison Joelle Rubino-Sinclair), scrubs club, and many other helpers. We could not have succeeded without our faithful church family, who supported us by shopping, eating, sharing on social media, and praying for our success.

We would like to extend our appreciation to Mary Dawn & Lynn Ditty, Jack Freidel, Joe & Deanne Schubert for their assistance with set-up and clean-up. A BIG thank you to the FUNdraising Team's Linda Lyon (chair-person), Lee Sumpter, Betsy Freidel, and Kathi Thomas. Each lady plays a unique role that contributes to the show's success. I could not do it without them and would not want to.

The FUNdraising Team is always looking for new members to join our team or to just volunteer to help at events.

Our next show is on Saturday, November 8, 2025.

Do not miss out!

Kimberly Reed, Craft Show Chair



Safe Secure Sanctuary (S3) To Include The AED Program!

Our dynamic, growing Wyoming United Methodist Church is constantly looking for ways to ensure that all those who frequent our worship services and community events will feel confident in and enjoy the fullest level of personal protection as possible. To that end, the multi-year Safe, Secure Sanctuary (S3) Program will now incorporate into its operations and use the three in-house, deployed Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) should the need ever arise.

Specifically, the good folks that comprise the volunteer Monitors, Ushers, Greeters and Stewards of the forthcoming July I through December 31, 2025 S3 Program will be asked to play a minor role in the AED preparedness protocol. In addition to the members of the forthcoming S3 July through December Schedule, those who serve as Welcome Desk Attendants and Nursery Attendants will be invited to participate.

The very simple training will consist of knowing where the three AED Devices are located --- Narthex, South Wing Family Life Center, and North Wing Hallway --- removing them from their wall-mount containers and carrying them to the point-of-need. At which time one of a growing number of in-house trained and certified AED applicators will receive the AED components and begin the use of the AED.

Nancy Rubino R. N., has volunteered to recruit, train, certify, schedule and maintain a list of individuals who will be prepared to operate the AED instrumentation.

Should you have any questions or comments relative to this article please do not hesitate to contact Terry Higgins at terryhigggins38@outlook.com or 302-363-5823 or at Church Sunday mornings.

Nancy Rubino can be contacted at denurse73@yahoo.com

Public Access Defibrillation Program

Wyoming United Methodist Church registered with the State of Delaware Office of Emergency Medical Services as an Automatic External Defibrillator Service Provider under the Delaware Early Defibrilation Program Fist State, First Shock Program.

The concept of Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) initiated in 1998 when a study found that in the United States annually, approximately 250,000 adults die from sudden cardiac arrest each year (Heartsaver AED, Dallas, TX 1998, p 1-4). Sudden cardiac arrest is an abrupt disruption of the heart function, generally caused by the abnormal heart rhythm called ventricular fibrillation. Ventricular fibrillation can sometimes be successfully treated. The method of treatment is defibrillation. Automatic External Defibrillators are designed to defibrillate a person who is found in ventricular fibrillation.

According to the State of Delaware guidelines each PAD program should include the following major components:

• SERVICE DIRECTION / COORDINATION:

Direction/coordination of the program.

• TRAINING:

Training, certifying and retraining personnel in CPR and the use of an AED

• LEGAL STATUTES:

Knowledge/understanding the legal statutes surrounding the use of an AED

- PROTOCOL DEVELOPMENT
- AED PLACEMENT
- INTEGRATION WITH THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (OEMS)
- MAINTAINING HARDWARE AND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT on a regular basis and after each use
- DOCUMENTATION & PERIODIC REVIEW of the program

The WUMC program includes these components and has incorporated the program into the Safe, Secure Sanctuary initiatives. As members of the congregation please become familiar with the placement of the three AEDs in the church. One in the Family Life Center, one by the Welcome Desk and one in the North wing. They are in the labeled, red boxes on the wall.



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Thank you to our team members Lana Gordineer, Loretta Walls, Nancy Rubino and Joelle Rubino-Sinclair who will inspect the AEDs monthly and Pastor Rick who is registered as our Service Coordinator.

Other ways to contribute to this program:

** Become CPR/AED certified. Check out these websites to find a CPR course. www.redcross.org cpr.heart.org

<u>statefireschool.delaware.gov</u>

** If already certified help us compile a list of certified individuals by emailing a copy of your certification card to Nancy Rubino at denurse73@yahoo.com

If you have any questions, please contact either Terry Higgins or Nancy Rubino.

References:

https://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/ems/aed.html

Delaware Code -- 16 Del. C. § 3001C.

Delaware Code of Regulations -- 16 Del. Admin. Code § 4303. Automatic External Defibrillation.

https://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/ems/aedguide.html file:///E:/AED%20information/KJI683-AED-Guide.pdf

Solar Power **Task Force Update**

IT'S COMING! The construction of the solar array is right around the corner. After a hiccup by Delmarva Power that delayed the start of the project, we are now cleared to begin construction. The church has been given a start date of July 1st. Once construction begins, it's only about two weeks until completion, and we start generating power and saving money on the church's electric bill.

Now that all permits are approved and the start of building is almost upon us, the team once again wishes to share some financial information with you. The total cost of the project is \$278,300. This is being paid out of the church's cash reserves. We will be receiving \$118,490 in credits bringing the price the church pays down to \$159,810. It is estimated that over the next 30 years the church will save \$481,950 on our electric bill because of the solar array.

As to that \$159,810 the church is losing from our cash reserves, the Solar Power Task Force is asking for your (the congregation's) help in

replacing those funds. As such, we are embarking on a fundraising drive to replenish our cash reserves. The FUNdraising team has already contributed \$20,000 to the effort and Special Gifts is planning on contributing another \$20,000. Now we are turning to you, requesting donations to cover the cost of the solar array. Ways to contribute include:

- Using your giving envelope indicating on the envelope on the "Other" line "Solar Panels" or "Solar Array".
- Placing a check in the offering with "Solar Array" or "Solar Panels" written on the "Memo" line.
- Using one of the special envelopes that you will find by the "Solar Array" display in the narthex.

Speaking of the display, consider checking it out. Once again it can be found in the narthex. The display shows where the field will be located in regards to the church, what the field will look like, and will be used to show how much money has been raised to replace our cash reserves.

Our goal is \$168,000, which is \$1,000 for each of the panels. That will cover the church's cost for the panels, two security cameras, and landscaping for underneath the panels. As each \$1,000 comes in, we will change a panel on our display from white to orange. That way everyone can keep track of how the church is doing with the replenishment of the church's cash reserves.

In advance the team thanks you for your support of this project which will benefit us financially in the long term while helping us take a step to better care for this world that the Lord has given us. Thank you again for your consideration of this project.



The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. Psalm 24:1



... can be a true treasure for your church, supporting worthwhile projects locally and (inter)nationally! Bring in your unwanted items of silver and gold - broken or not and help FUNdraising turn them into FREE money towards church projects! Drop off in a Ziploc bag Sunday morning or during office hours. Tax receipts available, too.

Proverbs 3:13-15

"Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold. She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her".





Experience The Healing **Power** Of Collective Prayer at the

monthly Summer Prayer Breakfasts ---All Adults Welcome!

As you plan your Summer Calendar, remember to save the 4th Saturday of June, July and August for our Wyoming Prayer Breakfasts. Meeting at 7:30 AM the fourth Saturday of each month will occur on June 28, July 26, and August 23. We will plan on

meeting in the Community Room at Tre Sorelle Dolce where we will place our Breakfast orders so that they can be taken 'across the tracks' to Mike And Mel's Restaurant, prepared to our requests and returned to us at the peak of perfection!

Bring your prayer requests for your self, your family, our Church, our Community, our Nation and God's Creation. We will engage in silent prayer, prayers for all to hear and support, as well as prayers for healing, comfort, patience and guidance. We will conclude with corporate prayer followed by our breakfast table fellowship. We will plan on being finished by 8:45.

Many thanks to Mike & Becky Marasco for the private use of their Community Room at Tre Sorelle Dolce. Jack Freidel and Terry Higgins share alternating monthly leadership roles in the Prayer Breakfasts.

For questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Terry Higgins at terryhigggins38@outlook.com or 302-363-5823 or at Church Sunday mornings.



Puppets of Praise + Ice Cream Social = FUN x 2!!!

The Puppets of Praise will be returning to the stage in the Wyoming UMC Family Life Center on

Wednesday, August 27th.

The puppet team will be performing the musical Look in Your Heart. The performance will begin at 6:30 and be followed by the serving of ice cream with plenty of toppings on hand.

The team (and the puppets) are looking forward to seeing and performing for our church family and friends again.



"Knitting To Nurture" News!



Thank you to everyone who created a prayer shawl or blanket for the latest shawl ministry project! There's been an outstanding response that has stocked our closet well with shawls for distribution. They will be delivered to local hospitals and nursing homes and please check the table in the narthex for ones for you to take to someone in need - facing surgery, illness, or experiencing loss, etc. They are a symbol of God's love and our prayers for them.

The display table in front of the office window will soon have details, yarn and patterns for our newest project. We're asking both knitters and crocheters to make some "pocket prayers".

These small hand-sized items are made with a cross symbol on them for

chaplains at Bayhealth to give to

patients as they pray with them. They've also asked for shawls or blankets made with the cross on them. There are many patterns online for those also.

Again thank you for participating in this ministry of WUMC for almost 20 years!





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 - 1PM call & text for appointments: **1** (302) 399-3898 Renate Purdy To: You!



Our Pastors are available by appointment. Call or text **(302)** 423-3911 **Pastor Lindsay (302)** 423-4237 **Pastor Rick**

I will be out of the office from June 30 through July 25, August 7-11, August 13-14. Office hours will be announced in the bulletins. Happy summer!

Keeping Our Eyes on the Prize

If a runner in a race takes his eyes off his goal for even a fleeting moment, he risks losing his focus and, along with that, the race. So it is with the Christian who must be diligent to keep his focus on his stewardship. If he takes his eyes off his heavenly goal and directs them toward his possessions, his worldly aspirations, or his temporal difficulties, he loses his focus and risks losing the race. The words of Paul provide encouragement for us: "Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13). Focusing on our Earthly circumstances can lead us in two directions...both of them deadly! We may either find things of the world to be so attractive, they become the prize toward which we strain, or we find things to be so dismal that we despair.

Our Chief Steward, Jesus, our Savior, focused on the prize. We are exhorted to follow his example: "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2). Talk about keeping focus! "Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose

heart" (Hebrews 12:3). Talk about running a race! And he did it for us, "so that [we] will not

grow weary and lose heart."

And look at the prize he won! He ascended into Heaven and now sits "at the right hand of the throne of God." Heaven is our prize, too... a prize beyond compare. Christ's promise is this: "Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelations 2:10b). Should we falter, as we are certain to do, we claim another of his promises: "The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it" (1Thessalonians 5:24).

"Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life".





Auf geht's!

Biergarten BBQ on Sunday, June 8, at 4 o'clock

in the backyard of the Purdy Family (call the office for the address). Bratwurst and other German meats, rolls & pretzels, condiments and beverages provided - love offering welcome. Bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share.

Sign up at the display in church.

Let's go!