Wyoming Church ...at the heart of it all. A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION THE WYOMIN

Mmmmm 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 8/2 (noon to 3PM) or during the yard sale at the Wyoming Peach Festival. Order form at the display. You can also help make the pies!

(see Page 19)



Calling all Peach Cutters! Come join the fun and fellowship on Thursday night August 1st 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 3rd. Any questions call Alicia Beaman (302) 883-1093.



Posing at this year's DAPI graduation celebration on May 16 in Wyoming Church: Teachers, counselors, and administrators of the Delaware Adolescent Program, Inc., all instrumental in launching 12 young mothers on the path of a successful life with their families. (graduates' photos on the back cover).

> What happened "Once Upon a Time"? Find out on Page 13.

...VBS Extra coming soon! Inside this Issue

beat of your church... cover to cover.

This Summer: Refresh & Uplift! From the Pastors' Desk3 It's all - Outreach! ...4-5 Food Drive - Serve Lunch - Rise Against Hunger - School Supplies -Hygiene Items Collection

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Bulletin Board

CHRISTIAN NOMEN ECTION

You are invited to the Dover DE Women's Connection Program and Breakfast Buffet on Tuesday, August 13 from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM at the Maple Dale Country Club

in Dover * \$20 inclusive (cash or check)

Program: Joyce Lapp – Artist, Muralist (see back cover!)

Guest Speaker: Robin Luftig "A Stone's Throw From Grace"

Music by: Janna Whitenight & Jamie Weber

Reservations and cancellations for breakfast and free child care are strongly encouraged by August 9 - RSVP to Donna 🖀 (530) 921-8936 or Diane 🖀 (302) 697-6020



Operation Christmas Child will 'fly' this year at Wyoming Church! Bring in any shoeboxes you don't need (no flip tops, please). We collect them

under the table by the welcome desk. More info coming soon!



Yes, we are still 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.



Bake Sale Helpers Needed!

Kitchen Sexton Team will be holding a Bake Sale in the Narthex on Saturday August 3 during the Yard Sale. We will need lots of individually wrapped brownies, cookies, pies, cakes, fudge, candies, and other goodies for all the folks coming to the Yard Sale. We will gladly take donations on Friday from noon to 3:00 pm or Saturday August 3 between 7:30 and 9:30 am. Money raised will be used by the Kitchen Team to support projects like Camp Pecometh Camperships, WUMC Student Scholarships, and purchases for the Kitchen. Many thanks to everyone who brings in baked goods to sell and to all those who help by purchasing their favorite sweets!

See Carol Abbott if you have any questions.





Our Sexton Kitchen Team's recent 'Dine Out to Help Out' (as one Mr. John Shoemaker would have called it) fundraiser at Texas Roadhouse brought in proceeds in the amount of **\$183!!** Thank you, diners and donors - we'll do that again sometime soon!



Rise RICE SOY Please mark your calendars for

Sunday, September 22nd at 3:00 pm at Wesley UM Church downtown to pack 20,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger!! There are jobs for every age!



Read Dave VanKavelaar's sentiment on the Holiday (Page 5).



Pastor Lindsay Wessell posing with Elias and Hope, and proud preschool graduate Samuel

Well, summer is upon us! For most students and teachers another school year is over. In the last couple of weeks, we have experienced the heat that is common for us in Delaware; we have celebrated long days of sunlight, and we have begun to enjoy the fruits and flavors of the season.

So, what is summer all about? One of the things summer is about is relaxation and rejuvenation. For most of us, we look forward to some kind of change in our "regular" schedule. We might also call it vacation. This is the

the Pastors' Desk

time of year to look at doing more things outside. It's time to plan our summer schedules, including trips away from home. The enjoyment of getting away can be in the planning, in the traveling, and in the experiences that we have. Just as Olaf sings in Frozen, "When life gets rough, I like to hold on to my dream/Of relaxing in the summer sun, just lettin' off steam." Summer is a time for us to get away from our usual surroundings so that we can encounter something different.

I (Pastor Lindsay) enjoy summer simply because there are opportunities to immerse myself "elsewhere" – whether it's a walk along the coast only a few miles from my house, or taking my kids to another state. It's a perspective shift – a reminder that there's a world and possibilities beyond the usual routine (or struggles) of daily life. We all need that. We all need the refresher course that God created an immense universe around us, and He wants to use it to grow us, enliven us, rejuvenate us, teach us, and even heal us.

That is my prayer for you this summer. That no matter where your travels and days may take you, you are able to experience God's love and grace in a way that impacts and uplifts you. I pray that your days are "different" enough that God's mercies appear vibrantly, and His gifts overflow. May you be able to rest in these and be refreshed by these, to God's glory. Tuck away in your heart God's declaration in Isaiah 43:

"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

and may God bless you with His power to make all things new – including you!



Pastor & Youth Group leader Rick Wessell with graduates Brock Nelson, Brody Seip and Evan Fennemore as they're aging out of youth group. See all graduates '24 on Pages 8+9.



Summer Worship continues @ Barratt's Chapel -Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm.

A variety of Pastors, Churches and organizations create different worship experiences and preaching. An offering will be collected to support the mission and ministry of Barratt's Chapel. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the service in the Vestry.

July 4 No Service

July 11 Pastor Casey Houtz, serving Ewell-St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Clayton DE. He is in his 6th year of pastoral ministry after a career in broadcast.

July 18 Rev. Wendy Owens Butterworth, who serves Millville United Methodist Church in Millville DE.

July 25 Rev. Tom Pasmore, incoming Delaware District Superintendent. He has served in a number of appointments in Delaware and on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

July & August 2024 Page 4



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

In the name of so many individuals and families who can eat and maintain their basic standard of living because of YOUR generous donations - THANK YOU!!



Once a month, Wyoming Church volunteers work with folks at Wesley UMC downtown



Dover to serve a **FREE Lunch** to the local community.

On July 20 & August 17, from 10AM to 2PM, 5 people from Wyoming Church will work with 2 people from Wesley Church to set up, serve and tear down a lunch meal at Wesley UMC downtown Dover. The actual meal is served between 12 noon and 1 p.m.

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

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

Recycle Plastic for our 3rd Trex Bench!

Over recent months, we collected over 1,000 lbs



of plastic, in other words: we have two Trex benches! 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!



Many thanks to the VBS program for all the school supplies they collected during Vacation Bible School! Congregation members will also 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 Drive-thru Food Drive on Saturday, August 10. Please note that the list of desired materials has changed somewhat from last year. We are looking for the following materials:

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



Carol Abbott, Outreach Team when/ how to drop off these treats.)

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In a joint project with *Casa de Esperanza*, our church partner, we will **collect items to make personal care bags** for the migrant workers at Papen Farms. *Casa* members have services at Papen during the summer and an August picnic with delicious food they provide. The Wyoming UMC congregation contributes desserts for this picnic. (You will be informed by email

In an effort to keep the supplies balanced and provide all that's needed, there will be small slips of paper on a table in the narthex. Please, take one or a few and return them to church. A blue tub will be there for contributions or items may be delivered at the July food drive.

Items needed:

shaving cream, *men's razors*, deodorant, *body wash*, lotion, *toothpaste*, and sunscreen. (Take the papers for these items from the narthex, please, so that kits will be balanced.)

Thank you for helping to provide Christian concern and comfort to men who are away from their homes and working in the hot sun to grow our food!

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/hard of hearing.
 - ASL Interpreter available for church social events.
 - Multiple levels of Conversational ASL Classes offered on an ongoing basis.
 - Wheelchair and walker accessible worship and social areas within the church building.

As a United Methodist Church family, Wyoming UMC strives to invite and welcome all to that table. This means making sure that each seat at that table is fully accessible for anyone who wants to answer the invitation.

If you would like to join the **MultiCulture & Diversity Team** as we work to make every seat accessible

and everyone who seeks that seat feel welcome,

please contact Lynn Ditty, Jesse Spampinato, or John St. Jean.

This team's table has a place waiting for you!

Count Your Blessings

David Van Kavelaar

I've always been extremely proud and happy to live in this great country. As we approach Independence Day, July 4, may I suggest we revisit just what it means to have the privilege of citizenship. There was one day in particular where the pride in being an American simply overtook me; it was almost embarrassing to be that proud and that day served to wash away any remaining (societal induced) guilt about my service in Viet Nam. But first, a little info for your consideration.

This essay begins with Lorne, a lifelong friend, who wanted to join the U.S. Marine Corps at the age of seventeen. Because his parents wouldn't sign for his enlistment, he waited until his eighteenth birthday and enlisted two days later. He arrived in Viet Nam in December of '66, was assigned to an infantry regiment and within a month of being in the bush, lost his right leg (below the knee) from a booby trap blast in January of '67. He was med-evaced (medical evacuation) out of country and sent to the Philadelphia Naval Hospital. When I visited him in the huge amputee ward where all beds were taken, it was an overwhelmingly crushing experience. Lorne was happy to be alive. Lorne's situation was not as severe as that of some of the other guys who were missing both arms and legs. Matter of fact, the sights and smells of the amputee ward were so devastating that I delayed my enlistment by over a year. By the way, there is still today, fifty-one years later, shrapnel in Lorne's leg.

Now in those days Lorne was a Canadian national citizen and carried his green card in his wallet. In 1978, he applied for U.S. citizenship. He took some classes, had to speak English, took and passed a civics exam, and had to have two-character witnesses on the day of his "naturalization" ceremony which is where I and Ron come into the picture. On the special day, we arrived at the court house on King Street in Wilmington. Lorne and candidate citizens were seated toward the front; we were on benches behind them. A speech of welcoming and congratulations was followed up by the soon to be citizens reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The place looked like a little United Nations gettogether. Some of the future 50 to 60 citizens were adorned in their native garb; it looked like India, China, Africa, and other European nations were represented. I was not prepared for what transpired next. When the title of United States citizen was bestowed on the applicants by the judge, some of the candidates openly wept! I'm not sure where they came from and what conditions they left behind, but boy were they happy to be here in America as a bona-fide citizen! And don't think that a lump didn't form in my throat. These folks wanted to come to my country, the nation that we shed blood for and the land that many died for. This surge in pride seemed to minimize, if not eliminate, the effect that Hollywood film makers and news outlets had on the psyche of this returning veteran because their negativity toward Viet Nam veterans was, frankly, quite damaging. Anyway, it's not hard to understand why peoples from around the world want to immigrate to the United States of America.

So, as we approach Independence Day, I offer the sentiment that we are either the luckiest or most blessed nation on the planet. The initial statement in the Bill of Rights guarantees us the right to pursue a religion of our choice. It is not a law; it is a right. Look at the wonderful environment provided at our own Wyoming United Methodist Church and our great church family. Count your blessings, folks, we are truly fortunate!



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SUMMER Vacation

David Van Kavelaar

I had just turned twelve years old in June of '59. Summer camp was just a week away but I had a case, a real bad case, of poison ivy. My admittance to Camp Mattahoon, and surely the highlight of my summer vacation, was certainly doomed because of the infliction. Mom had me literally covered from head to toe with calamine lotion. Darn stuff really worked. In five days, all my skin was clear. Yea! Camp was just two days away. Come on, Saturday.

Saturday was a beautiful July morning. Dad drove me and brother Bob to the Boys Club facility in Wilmington and signed us in with the camp folks. Bob and I climbed into the Trailways bus where all the boys were yammering loudly in excitement as the departure to camp was near. The bus driver was placing everyone's luggage underneath the bus. All set! We waved to dad as the bus slowly left the curb and merged onto the road. "Hot-diggety dog, two weeks of camp, here we come!" Someone started singing "A Hundred bottles of Beer on the Wall" and all joined in.

We were heading west on Limestone Road when the bus came to Old Capital Trail. Just a dirt road with a wicked curve; hmm. The bus campers began to quiet down as we successfully navigated the transition between concrete roadway to dirt road. Our view out the bus window, within seconds, was now wonderful plush green trees along the babbling Mill Creek. Shortly, we drove past the chow hall, across a bridge over the creek, and stopped at a large cabin-like structure that was large enough to accommodate about eighty campers, cabin counselors, and admin staff.

Mr. Xander was the head guy; kind of a big strappin' guy as I recall. He welcomed us to our two weeks at Camp Mattahoon and introduced the nine cabin leaders who were guys in their late teens. There were nine cabins with eight campers and a counselor in each. An attempt was made to keep the same age boys to a cabin. We were assigned to a cabin and off we went.

Each cabin had four double stacked bunk beds, eight campers, and a bed for the counselor. A foot locker was furnished for our clothes. We were advised that our cabin would be inspected daily and the cabin with the highest score for the week would be awarded two scoops (not one) of ice cream at Friday's dinner. It was an introduction to team work and an incentive for all to strive for cleanliness.

We would awake to a bugle call (Reville) over the camp's PA system and, at day's end (9PM). retire with Boys Taps. The Club's Camp Mattahoon was a great venue for withdrawing from the hustle and bustle of the outside world. No cars or traffic noise. just and the peace laughter of a bunch of boys aged nine to fourteen. We were told that, should we desire to go to

church, transportation would be provided for Jewish, Protestant, and Catholic kids, Bob and I attended St. John's on Milltown Road.

One of my favorite places was the chow hall. Each cabin was assigned the name of an Indian tribe and the cabin's table had a painted totem of that tribe. The food was excellent and pitchers of hot chocolate at breakfast were immensely enjoyed. Before each meal, cabin campers had designated areas outside the chow hall to form up and, at the bugle call, would march into the dining area in an orderly fashion. A future taste of the military.

All hours of the day were planned for us. Reville sounded at 7 A.M. for all to rise. However, there were some campers who were members of the Polar Bear Club who would be required to swim two laps of the pool daily around 6 A.M. At the end of the two-week camping experience, a Polar Bear patch was awarded. The campers had one hour to make their beds, sweep up the cabin, and police the grounds around their area prior to breakfast.

At 8AM, we'd form up for the morning meal. All boys seem to have ravenous appetites and the day starts off on the right foot with a good feed. Afterwards, we'd canoe along Mill Creek, go horseback riding, have tugs of war across Mill Creek, or learn about poison ivy, sumac, and oak from a counselor. There was always a free swim in the morning should you wish. After lunch, rest time was from 1 P.M. to 2 P.M. After the nap, we were to report to the areas for the activities for which we signed up.

My first selection was to learn how to swim. I had a fear of drowning caused by an earlier incident. I jumped into the Shell Pot



Counselor Training Camp at Mattahoon

1959

Creek and hit my head on an underwater submerged tree stump. God's honest truth, I saw my whole life (all 11 years) flash through my mind. I became afraid of water and had to endure the chiding of my friends as I was confined to the shallow waters while they swam where they wished. "Don't leave the kiddy pool" they teased. At camp, I would learn to swim and immediately joined the Polar Bear Club. Here's some poetic justice. After returning from camp, my buds and I were hanging around on a sweltering July day. Charlie suggested we go swimming at the reservoir on the Philadelphia Pike. When we got to the site, I heard all those kiddy pool and guppie comments. "Wanna' race to the island?" I inquired. I finished the 150-foot distance well ahead of all of them. "Darn!" was their only utterance.

So, swimming was one of my afternoon camp activities. My second choice was riflery. The Boys Club camp had National Rifle Association trained instructors who taught safety handling of our .22 Remington rifles and marksmanship. We would fire ten rounds at a 2-inch diameter target 75 feet away (more on this later). Long story short, I earned a Pro-Marksman medal my first camp year, a Marksman medal my second year, and a Marksman First Class medal my third year. Although there were no firearms at my home, there were riflery awards on my dresser. Nine years later, I was in the Marine Corps. In basic training, we spent two weeks at the rifle range where the goal, once again, was to qualify with, this time, your M-14 rifle. The day before qualification, we were issued three rounds and proceeded to the 75-foot range.

raising

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Anyone who enrolls in the church's program from a participant link can start buying gift cards and earning. Watch this 1-minute video to see how it works: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= 32UwsBkwEo

Please email linda.lyon@aol.com with any questions.



Time to bring in "someone else's treasures" (i.e. items you want to give away) for our big annual Indoor YARD SALE on August 3. Drop off your items during the week (Monday thru Thursday from 9AM to IPM) in Room 213 (across from the nursery) until Thursday, August 1st . Please no furniture or large bulk items.

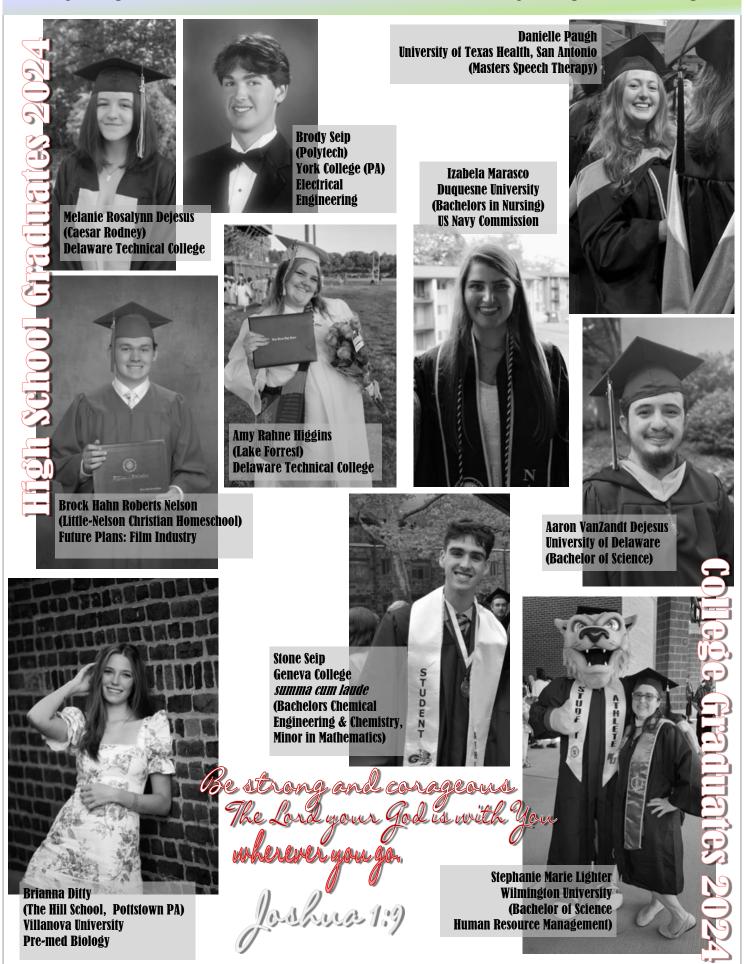
Yard Sale Prep has begun. If you would like to help price and set up for the sale, we'll meet on the following days from 9 till 1 am: Wednesdays: July 3rd, July 10th, July 17th. Monday: July 22. Friday: July 26.

Contact Betsy Freidel bfreidel @yahoo.com for any questions.



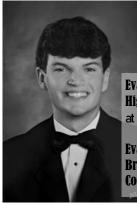
THE WYOMING MESSENGER

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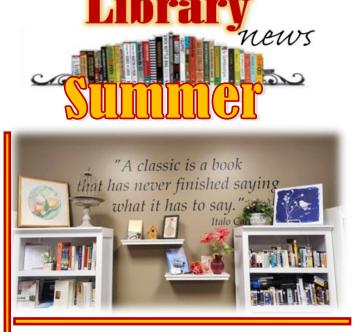
Misty Fiske (left, Wyoming Church Music Director) Cairn University, Langhorne, PA (Masters in Worship & Music) "I hope to use my degree to continue to facilitate more opportunities for others to get involved with worship from a musical standpoint, and work with various ministry teams to promote Christ-centered, community based worship."





Evan Fennemore graduated from **Caesar Rodney High School** and will study **Computer Science** at the **University of Delaware**.

Evan is the recipient of the WUMC & Dorothy Brown Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. Congratulations!



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!

Featured through the Summer: Children's Books. Stories about Jesus' life and interesting people in the Bible. At the end of each sotry, there are questions that will help reinforce the meaning of the story. In the children's section of the library.

A Big THANK YOU to everyone...

... who has contributed books & puzzles & magazines to the library. It helps to keep the flow going & creating new material for everyone.

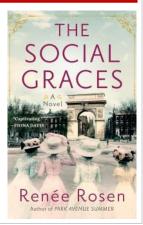
If you know there's pieces missing in a puzzle you donate... please indicate it on the box and leave that puzzle on the FREE table outside the library.



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

Read "Next Year in Havana" by Chanel Cleeton, the book chosen for July (available in the library, too) and join us on **July 24** for the discussion. Read "The Social Graces" by Renee Rosen, the book chosen for August (available in the library, too) and join us on **August 28** for the discussion.

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



July 14th is Deaf Awareness Sunday in the United Methodist Church

On the United Methodist Calendar of Special Sundays, you will find July 14, 2024 listed as Deaf Awareness Sunday. As a part of WUMC's goal to be an open and welcoming community that supports diversity, members of the four ASL classes sponsored by Wyoming UMC will be signing to special music during the 11:00 am service.

We're



Congratulations

to members of the various ASL groups who are moving up in their ASL studies!

Members of Wyoming UMC who are progressing from Beginner to Intermediate I are Pastor Lindsay Wessell, Grace Dowell, Elizabeth Fox.

Still working toward Intermediate I are Wesley Mann and Karissa Mann.

The member progressing from Intermediate I to Intermediate II is John St. Jean.

Members progressing from Advanced I to Advanced II are Carol Abbott, Sharon Burge, and Kathleen Deckard.

If you are interested in joining a new, in-person Beginner class in the fall, please contact Gail Garner for details and to get your name added to the waiting list. (ggarner58@hotmail.com) This is a conversational, slow paced learning environment for those looking to gain the skills to interact with our friends and members who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.



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

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

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

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) became law in 1990. The ADA is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that are open to the general public. The ADA protects the rights of people with disabilities in all aspects of employment, in accessing public services such as transportation, and guaranteeing access to places of public accommodation such as restaurants, stores, hotels and commercial buildings.

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



and Committee on Diversity

Gaught Up in the Whirlwind by Jack Freidel

I was recently asked to take on a new position at our church. There is a Conference team that was created this year called the *Pen-Del Creation Justice Team*. This team was looking for members at churches around our Conference to serve as liaisons between the churches and them.

As many of you know, I serve as a facilitator for three different study groups (BYO Bible, Young Adult, and Adult Sunday School II) here at Wyoming Church. I have led studies on various books of the *Bible* and also topical studies such as one just finished by the adult Sunday school classes, *Truth Over Tribe*. One study that I led for all three groups was *A Hopeful Earth*. This environmental study, based on *Bible* teachings, probably led to the invitation I received to serve as the liaison for the church for the *Pen-Del Creation Justice Team*.

Before going any further, I wish to share the rationale for my involvement in the issue of creation care. The universe, and everything in it including our Earth, is The Lord's. In Genesis, we read how God created the Earth and placed people on it, with the direction to fill the earth and tend to it. We are certainly filling it, but how are we doing with taking care of it? The overall climate is warming, some water bodies are poisoned, cancercausing chemicals have been dumped into the soil (think Superfund sites), and at times the air we breathe is unhealthy. We are not doing well in the tending, and this is causing people harm.

As the liaison, I hope to encourage us to take better care of this world The Lord has given us and to keep the congregation informed on the activities of the Conference team. For example, recently the church sent out a request from the Creation Justice Team to weigh in with their representatives to support offshore wind energy development. I also as liaison hope to highlight various topics related to the environment and our care of it.

Which brings me to the connection of this article to the title. A whirlwind is another name we use for a tornado. After a recent Young Adult study session (on The Chosen) had ended, as we were getting ready to go, somehow the topic of severe storms came up, and I mentioned that due to global warming the number of tornadoes in this country had increased dramatically over the last fifty years. I was greeted with a look of surprise by one member of the group. It got me to thinking, was what I shared really accurate? I believe I had heard it shared on a newscast. However, was that accurate? So here I was caught up in my own figurative little whirlwind determined to research the accuracy of my statement. The research I will now share is based on data from NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

As can be seen from the table, we have had a pretty steady rise over the last 73 years in the number of tornadoes. The property damage has been up and down, but the overall trend is up. The damage and destruction of homes, businesses, and infrastructure due to tornadoes is devastating to the families touched by these storms, and the cost of repairs drive up insurance and utility rates and are a drain on our taxes. Amazingly and happily, despite the increase in tornadoes, the average number of deaths has not increased. Is it due to improvements in early warning systems?

We have this data from NOAA, but my own experience also tells me that tornado activity has increased here in Delaware. We had a tornado here in Kent County just a few years ago that was on the ground for an unprecedented 36 miles. It also seems in recent years that we have more tornadoes each year that touch down somewhere in Delaware than in the past.

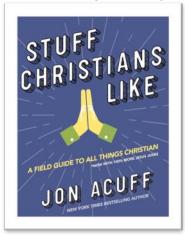
In closing, I need to bring this article back to a focus on God. Our Lord has told us that one of the two most important commandments is to love our neighbors. If what we are doing from an environmental standpoint is causing harm to people, our neighbors, we should be trying to remedy that. We should be taking steps as individuals, community, state, nation, and church to bring our environment back to what God intended it to be. As the liaison from this church for the Creation Justice Team, I hope to work with you to do just that.

Years	Average Number of Tornadoes Per Year in the U.S.	Average Property Damage Per Year U.S.
1950- 1959	523	\$151,000,000
1960-1969	727	\$375,000,000
1970-1979	937	\$799,000,000
1980-1989	901	\$1,317,000,000
1990-1999	1,215	\$1,105,000,000
2000-2009	1,411	\$815,000,000
2010-2019	1,375	\$1,998,000,000
2020-2023	1,424	\$1,424,000,000



THE WYOMING MESSENGER

NEW in The Wyo. Messenger:



Excerpts from the book Stuff Christians Like - A Field Guide to All Things Christian by Jon Acuff.

Using "Faith Like a Child" as an Escape Pod From Difficult Theological Discussions

I want to be honest with you. If we ever meet and you corner me with a really difficult theological discussion that involves the word *hermeneutics* or *tri-millennialism* or what exactly is going to happen during the end-times, I'm going to climb into my "faith like a child" escape pod and blast away from the conversation.

FRIEND:

Jon, do you think the earth was created in six literal days or do days mean something different in God's sense of time?

ME: Hmm, faith like a child.

FRIEND:

Sure, sure, childlike faith, that's great, but have you ever thought about the limits of God" He can't lie, so does that mean he's not allpowerful? Because he doesn't possess the ability to lie?

ME: That's a great question. I'm going to go with... "faith like a child."

FRIEND:

Right, but I think God gave us this wonderful mind to explore

the deepest truths. Plus, the Bible says we're supposed to put away childish things.

ME: AFLAC.

FRIEND: The insurance company with that annoying duck? What does that have to do with anything?

ME: A Faith like a Child. AFLAC.

FRIEND: That is horrible. You should be ashamed of yourself.

FRIEND: Why do we hang out?

ME: Because if I become a famous Christian, I'll take you as my guest to the Dove Awards.

Ninety percent of mv conversations with friends end with those two lines. Is that a bad thing? Do you disagree? What's that you're saying? You've got four different Hebrew phrases that challenge my childlike faith belief? It's hard to hear you through this escape pod door. I'm you're breaking sorry, up. Blast off!



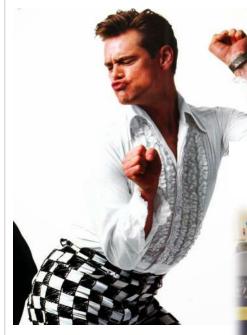
He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 18:2-4



On a more seríous 'note':

"Help publicly. Help privately. Help in your actions by recycling and conserving and protecting, but help also in your attitude. Help make sense where sense has gone missing. Help bring reason and respect to discourse and debate. Help science to solve and faith to soothe. Help law bring justice, until justice in commonplace. Help and you will abolish apathy - the void that is so quickly filled by ignorance and evil." ~ *Tom Hanks*

"Prom royalty" at the first ever Formal Dinner & Dance hosted by Wyoming Church in June.



At the **ARC**, **DANCING** is always in **SEASON!**

Our friends with disAbilities will be happy to see some rep's from Wyoming Church at their Dances on **Fridays, July 12** and **August 23, 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... homemade cookies see article on the right)!



Top: Girl Scouts lend a hand serving the formal dinner Bottom: A host of faithful helpers - the ARC of Delaware, Kent County Chapter





CALLING ALL COOKLE 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 9 (nine!) amazing years of cookiebaking we can do this again!!

Bring your home-made cookies to the church

WEDNESDAY or THURSDAY,

AUGUST 21^{st} or 22^{nd} .

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



July & August 2024 Page 14

These three shots would be extremely critical as, because of how the rounds struck the target, we would adjust the rifle's windage and elevation to bring the bullet strike to the target's bull's eye. I thankfully qualified as a USMC Marksman.

Later in the afternoon, a free swim was scheduled and boy, how refreshing. At the session's end, back to the cabin to dry off and get ready for dinner. After dinner, we could go to the PX or write post cards home (required weekly). We would have a movie on occasion after dinner, a scavenger hunt, or a camp fire. An area in the woods had been turned into a neat circular venue for a fire. We were told to be wary of Crazy Sam, some poor individual who was destined to haunt those woods for all time.

The Friday before we were to go back home, the Awards Ceremony was celebrated at the wooded camp fire sight. Campers received awards for those activities they mastered. We'd sing songs between award presentations. Dusk, then darkness, enveloped the campers and yawns were unsuccessfully stifled. As we headed down the hill away from the bond fire toward camp, we were holv mackarel! Some figure in raggedy clothes and a crinkled fedora raced across the path between campers from cabins one and my cabin boys and let out a blood curdling cackle as he disappeared into the shadows. Wow, there is a Crazy Sam! Well, not really, but those nine year old boys in cabin one certainly thought so.

Going to camp was always the highlight of my summer vacation. Not only was there tons of fun and excitement; I met some boys from the city which was really cool. Every child should have the opportunity to enjoy this experience. I wish your camping adventures will be filled with adventure and freedom, and that appreciation for your surroundings is realized and developed.







136 Bookers Wharf Road

Centreville, MD 21617

Camper name/camp attending/camp dates

Mail to:

Keep those cards & letters coming to our July & August campers @ Pecometh!

Camp

mail

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

> Blake Sandy: Riverside -July 7 to 12

Georgeanna Ennis: *Riverside* -July 7 to 12

Dominic Sandy: Senior High -July 7 to 12

Yuna Dela Cruz: Riverside -July 7 to 12

> Merida Stant: Day Camp 'Sunfish' -July 8 to 12

Lenna Stant: Day Camp 'Blue Crabs' -July 8 to 12

> Wesley Mann: Leaps of Faith -July 14 to 19

Kayla Harris: Presto! -July 23to 25

Owen Beaman: Riverside -July 28 to August 2

> Laurel Beaman: Late Night with Jesus -July 28 to August 2

Ashlynn McDevitt: Trail Blazers -July 28 to August 2

Avery Whitenight: Riverside -August 4 to 9



ecomet

Camp Pecometh, Centerville, MD

THE WYOMING MESSENGER

July & August 2024 Page 15



Even as we had to cancel the Adult Fellowship Potluck "Fourth of July" Dinner originally scheduled for 7/31 (we're too busy gearing up for the yard sale and related food events on August 3), we'd like to make you aware that...

...July is Picnic Time!

July is a great time to plan that family gathering and picnic. July 10th is Teddy Bear's Picnic Day - what a special day to celebrate!

July is...

- ...National Picnic Month
- ...National Hot Dog Month
- ...National Watermelon Month, and
- ...National Ice Cream Month.

Happy Celebrating, everyone!



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 29, beginning at 8:30 AM.

dough rolling is scheduled for

July 31, starting at 8:30 AM.

peach peeling and pie baking will be on

Friday, August 2, starting at 8AM.

See Shelby Truitt on Sunday mornings if you have any questions about joining the Kitchen Team in making pies for a crowd. And if your interest is purely in eating peach pie, please order on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex by July 28 (cover page).



Family Fellowship Dinner + Puppets of Praise + Ice Cream Social = FUN x 3!!!

Come one, come all on August 28 at 5:30 PM as we combine a Family Fellowship Dinner & Ice Cream Social with a performance of the WUMC Puppets of Praise!

The puppet team presents: "I will follow Him". So bring the family and your favorite covered dish to Wyoming Church's Family Life Center for a fun dinner (Redner's chicken & hot dogs & beverages provided), a hot performance and a cool treat on what should be a warm August evening!



From the Pages of United Methodist History

St. Paul United Methodist Church in Berlin, Maryland, was named a United Methodist historic site on June 5 during a worship service at the Peninsula-Delaware Conference African American Summit. This status is a unique honor within the denomination.

The church received this historic designation because of its connection with the life of the famed preacher and hymn writer, the Rev. Charles Tinley, who was born in Berlin in 1851.

Creston Long, chair of the Pen-Del Commission on Archives and History, offers some insights into the life and ministry of this extraordinary man.



The Rev. Dr. Charles A. Tindley was born near Berlin on July 7, 1851, the son of enslaved father Charles, and free mother Hester. Even though he was born free, his father hired him out to work in the fields.

After the Civil War, Tindley relocated to Philadelphia where he found work carrying bricks. He taught himself to read and write. He and his wife Daisy (Henry) attended Bainbridge St. Methodist Episcopal Church, where later he became the sexton, a job with no salary.

Sensing God's call to the ministry, Tindley began to retrieve the sermon notes the pastor left in the trash and preached them in African American congregations.

He became a local pastor and enrolled in the course of study. He taught himself Greek and found a rabbi to teach him Hebrew to meet the educational requirement for ordination. Tindley pastored churches in Cape May, NJ; Fairmount and Pocomoke, MD, and at Odessa and at Ezion churches in Wilmington DE. He was the district superintendent of the Wilmington District of the Delaware Conference, before being appointed to Bainbridge M.E. Church in Philadelphia -- the church where he had once been the janitor.

Under Tindley's leadership, Bainbridge grew rapidly from the 130 members it had when he arrived. Sensing they would soon outgrow their building the congregation purchased a former Presbyterian Church, which seated 900, to accommodate their growing membership.

By 1920 it was clear they needed a larger sanctuary, and they erected a 3,200-seat sanctuary on South Broad Street. Against Tindley protests, the congregation named it Tindley Temple.

Tindley took an active role in the betterment of the people in his community and worked to end discrimination and injustice. He enlisted business leaders to assist his members in finding jobs. He also encouraged members to start their own businesses and purchase homes. The congregation formed a building and loan association to offer mortgages and he solicited donations of food from businessmen for the feeding of the poor and needy. He protested events that he considered degrading such as the Soap Box Minstrels. In 1915, Tindley and other community leaders led protesters in a march to the theater where D.W. Griffiths's film The Birth of a Nation was to be shown. They were attacked by whites with clubs, sticks and bottles.

Under Tindley's leadership, the membership of Tindley Temple grew to 12,500 and, at his death in 1933, it was the largest Methodist congregation in the world.

Tindley was revered for being a

captivating preacher. In his lifetime, he was known as the Prince of Preachers, and because of his songs and hymns, he is recogalso nized as one of the Founding Fathers of Gospel Music. He wrote more than 50 Gospel songs, including five hymns that are in the United Methodist hymnal.

One of the most famous Tindley hymns was *Stand By Me*. It goes:

"When the storms of life are raging, Stand by me When the storms of life are raging, Stand by me When the world is tossing me. Like a ship upon the sea. Thou Who rulest wind and water, Stand by me."

Tindley had deep personal knowledge of what he wrote. The storms of Tindley's life included being born to an enslaved father, not receiving any formal education, the constant fear in childhood of being captured and sold into slavery in the deep South: dealing constantly with racism and discrimination, the death of two of his children in childhood, the struggle to get a mortgage to buy the former Presbyterian church, and the higher interest that his congregation was charged and the other challenges they faced because they were black. lived through some He storms. God was faithful then. And God is faithful still.

> Bishop Latrelle Easterling (center) at the recent Peninsula-Delaware Conference African American Summit at St. Paul UMC in Berlin, MD



THE WYOMING MESSENGER

07/01 Tracy Boyer

07/03 Merida Stant

07/06 Stone Seip

07/11 Bethany Bell

07/12 Gail Alexander,

07/13 Becky Marasco,

07/17 Bob Cousens

07/21 Tom Vella

07/22 Sig Kelsey

07/29 Rich Harper

08/01 Mollie Reed

08/04 Jim Cook

08/09 Sharon Quillen

07/26 Lana Gordineer

07/19 Elinor Brocklehurst.

07/07 Florence Legates

07/05 Mickey Jones, Sue Lighter

07/08 Pastor Eric Fontanez

Michael Fennemore,

Kathy Rozumalski

07/28 Terry Higgins, Steven Seip

08/02 Rhonda Davis, Julie Muldrow, Nancy Roberts 08/03 Mary Beth Auten,

08/06 Ken Banaszak, Alicia Beaman 08/07 Megan Boyer, Jane Fennemore 08/08 Lisa McCalister, Patti Collett Ravilious, Kelly Seip, Ian Thompson

Curtis Brosius, Mike Williams

07/31 Nancy Minor, Bill Spry

07/14 Nancy Auten, Charles Nichols

Benjamin Cattie, Aaron deBloois

Skylar Higgins

THE WYOMING MESSENGER

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Get the mailing address of any birthday child from CCB or the church

office if you'd like to send congratulations!

08/29 Michael Moore,

08/30 Silas Mann,

08/31 Tracey Jones

09/01 Dana Tappan

09/03 Sharon Duncan,

09/04 Dennis Klecan,

09/06 Jonathan Abbott,

Nancy Hughes,

Kendall Metz,

Konner Metz,

Dot Ziegler

(100 years

Sam Tullis,

young!!)

Michael McDevitt,

Dave Schoettinger

Peggy Mosher,

Shelby Truitt

Pastor Lindsay

Lucas Nichols, George

Pettyjohn, Russ Riggins

Wessell

Our People



Honestly, I had never received so many cards for my birthday ever before in my life... Thanks!! To everyone of you who wished me well on my 90th birthday. I appreciate the love, the caring, the friendships of you all!

God Bless and Keep us all, Dot Adams

A word of THANKS to all at Wyoming Church who sent cards for my 90th birthday. The joy and love you gave in sharing my special day was overwhelming! Your words brought back 30+ years of memories, working and worshiping together to spread God's love to others. It made an 'aging' woman feel young again, and so I say "Thank You" for the wonderful memories, my dear Christian friends!

God Bless, Love and Prayers, Peg Ciminera

Dear Church Family,

Thank you, each and everyone, for the cards, concern and, most especially, for the prayers as Dennis walks this cancer journey. He has started on another six-week session of immunotherapy. We are hopeful, and grateful for the excellent team and care at Fox Chase Cancer Center. Please continue to pray that this treatment works and that he will have a good report when the follow-up surgery is done in August.

Sincerely, Jeannie & Dennis Major

My most sincere thanks to all who sent cards and notes to me and prayers up to the Lord at the passing of my sister Pat. I appreciate the loving care and thoughtfulness of my church family so very much!

God bless you all, Linda Booher

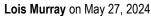




Richard Strauss, the brother of Katie Winingar on May 25, 2024



John Stant the father of Timothy Stant and uncle of Chris Harris on June 14, 2024





- 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 08/18 Kelsey Baynard, Robyn Lefort, lason Stallings 08/20 Kathy Klecan, Kasper Milton 08/21 Chris Boyer 08/22 Beth Barlett, Cheryl Denemoustier 08/23 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 Cameron Ball, Owen Kleinot

THE WYOMING MESSENGER

July & August 2024 Page 18

Safe Secure Sanctuary (S3) Program Supported Vacation Bible School!

The Monitors and Stewards of Wyoming Church's Safe Secure Sanctuary (S3) Program, once again, provided their services throughout Vacation Bible School during the third week in June. As 'Camp Rangers', they kept our children and teen and adult helpers safe at 'Camp Firelight'. Thank you!

The Memorial Garden Serves As A Place Of Contemplation.

He speaks and the sound of His voice Is so sweet the birds hush their singing And the melody that He gave to me Within my heart is ringing.

I stayed in the garden with Him Though the night all around me is falling But He bids me go, through the voice of woe His voice to me is calling.

And He walks with me And He talks with me And He tells me I am His own And the joy we share as we tarry there None other has ever known.

The Memorial Garden continues to provide an opportunity for you to place a Memorial Garden Brick that honors the memory of a loved one passed or the name of an individual that has had a most positive impact on your life. The process of the acquisition and subsequent placement of a Memorial Garden Brick begins by taking an application form from the Memorial Garden Model that is found in the Narthex.



Complete the information requested and returning it to the designated person and address that is found on the

application

form.

The Church Grounds Look Their Best!

...and will for a long time yet, thanks to the excellent care they have been receiving from yet another contractor the Board of Trustees and mainly one Terry Higgins selected from a host of local applicants. We couldn't be happier with the diligent and reliable, and reasonably priced work of *Colonial Lawn Service* - wouldn't you agree?

The D.B.P — "Dumpster Beautification Project"

is now completed! The final touch of evergreen shrubs planted around three sides really adds to the curb appeal of the entire area. Thank you, Board of Trustees, and especially Thank you, Terry

Higgins, for finding the best guys for the



The last Saturdays of July (27) and August (31) will produce the opportunity for folks to attend the monthly Prayer Breakfast Events in the private party room at Tre Sorelle Dolce in Wyoming (the Town not the State smile!). We will convene at 7:30 AM each morning with plans to be finished by 8:45 AM. We will order breakfast from Mike & Mel's Restaurant across the tracks and have it delivered fresh to our party room. Look for eBlasts and Bulletin Announcements as friendly reminders.



Contact Info: Terry Higgins at <u>terryhiggins38@outlook.com</u> or 🖀 (302) 363-5823 .



Pictured outside Wyoming Church on Broad Street ... "a few" years ago: Terry & Martha Higgins, faithful Wyoming Church members and servants in many, many capacities for many, many, many years.

Thank You For The **Opportunities To Serve!**

After much prayerful consideration over the last several weeks, and based on a number of professional and personal concerns, I have made the following decisions relative to some of the WUMC responsibilities that I have accrued over the past few years. As of October 31, 2024, I will no longer be responsible for managing the Memorial Garden Brick orders and placement of Memorial Bricks. On November 30, 2024, I will relinquish my responsibility to serve as the coordinator between the Church and the contractual Lawn Care Service. The date of December 1, 2024 will be when I will be unavailable to prepare the January through June 2025 Safe Secure Sanctuary Schedule. December 31, 2024 will be the end of my service on the Board Of Trustees.

I will be willing to continue to serve as a member of the Sexton Kitchen Team and on the Prayer Breakfast Ministry Program. It has been challenging and very satisfying to have the opportunity to work with the large number of Christian Brothers and Sisters that comprise the membership of our beloved Wyoming United Methodist Church. Blessings To All!



... will never be enough and pales as we reflect on all the goodness Mr. Terry Higgins has brought to Wyoming Church, in plain sight or behind the scenes.

Looking back over the years and decades, we remember...

... 12 foot tall and sweetly fragrant Christmas trees in our sanctuary and narthex on Broad Street and Wyoming Mill Road, from "The Good Earth" in Marydel.

... (actually most of us probably don't remember, but) years of church doors open and lights and equipment turned on no later than 7:30 on Sunday mornings by early riser Terry.

... a faithful flock of greeters at the IIAM worship service, and soon an even larger flock of MUGS - Monitors, Ushers, Greeters, and Stewards, all coordinated and scheduled by Terry (with the help for the ushers from the Field's - THANK you, Warren & Judy!).

... years of guidance and goodness disbursed to thousands locally, nationally and internationally during Terry's tenure on "Missions & Outreach".

... a beautiful variety of trees and shrubs planted and tended to on our vast church grounds, especially along a Memorial Path, around a Memorial Garden, and most recently, around the 'dumpster area' outside the church kitchen (see Page 18 on the left).

... the Safe Secure Sanctuary (S3) program, established by Terry in cooperation with Bill Purdy, specifically: the installation of 62 security cameras and an on-call door-opening system (Sunday mornings) operated by a host of the monitors mentioned before.

... Terry's smiling face at the kitchen window, serving soup or spaghetti, or whatever the meal of the special event would have been.

... Terry's guidance alongside Josh Turner gathering young and old(er) guys into a Men's Group, creating the monthly Men's Breakfast, which over time has turned into a more inclusive "Prayer Breakfast", at 7:30 AM, now at Tre Sorelle Dolce every last Saturday of the month.

Some of these, our Wyoming Church men fondly remember Men's Retreats Terry organized alongside Ken Banaszak for a few consecutive anuaries.

Especially since Wyoming Church moved into our current facility in 2009, Terry has been front and center in finding, procuring, scheduling, and "straight-keeping" contractors and volunteers for lawn care, landscaping, mulching, weeding, planting & tending, always and forever including himself (and his wife, Martha) in the hands-on part of each task.

We know that highly deserved, plentiful remuneration for Terry's innumerable volunteer hours will one day be disbursed by The Good Lord. Until such time, which we pray may still be a long time off yet,

Terry Higgins

we all join in saying "Thank you, and God bless you, Terry!"

P	Wyoming Church at the heart of it all.
	A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

216 Wyoming Mill Road, Dover, DE 19904

۲۵ Phone: 302-697-8400 Fax: 302-697-8470 E-mail: office@wyomingumc.com

www.WyomingUMC.com

Summer! Church Office Hours : Monday-Thursday 9AM - 1PM 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

Deadline for The Wyoming Messenger is the 17th of the previous month, for the September issue that will be Saturday, August 17th.

Facebook

The 12 most recent issues of The Wyoming Messenger are available on www.wyomingumc.com - NEWSLETTERS.



DAPI Graduates with DAPI Center Directors Maleka Pettyjohn (Kent County, left photo) and Kim Wright (Sussex County, right photo)



July & August... Memory Verse:

Summer at Rehoboth Beach (Joyce Lapp) Meet the artist at the Dover Christian Women's Connection Brunch on August 13 (Details: Page 2)

And wherever you go this summer... overseas, the Delaware Seashore or your backyard...

May the road rise to meet you, May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm, warm upon your face, May the rain fall soft upon your fields. And until we meet again, until we meet again. May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

