

# THE WYOMING MESSENGER

## March & April & May 2025



Simply the right way to fundraise



## gift cards.

### Graduations, Mother's Day, Father's Day, and summer vacations ...

... will be here before you know it! Would you like to purchase **gift cards** for the loved ones in your life? Can you use **gift cards** to help you with vacation plans? Do you have a big home project or a purchase to make? Consider buying **gift cards** with us!

If you don't see a vendor or an amount for a gift card you are looking for on the order form, please ask or check out [www.raiseright.com](http://www.raiseright.com).

Raise Right **gift card** sales will be on **March 30th** and **April 6th** with a delivery date of April 13th. Please look for order forms at the Welcome Desk.

Please consider... every **plastic gift card** you purchase and every **e-gift card** you order **online** earns up to 20% back - and it adds up fast! With a mobile app (<https://www.raiseright.com/mobile-app/>) available and instant access to your **e-gift card** and reload purchases, you can buy gift cards and shop online through RaiseRight anytime, anywhere. Go to <https://www.raiseright.com/> to learn more. **Our church code is 352B786L59911.**

Please email [linda.lyon@aol.com](mailto:linda.lyon@aol.com) with questions.

## a win-win for your church!

Hear, hear...!!

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

March 4



Come join us on Tuesday evening, March 4th, for our annual **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** as we begin our observance of the season of Lent. Dinner, which consists of pancakes, sausage, fruit, and drinks will be served at 5:30 and be followed by the **Puppets of Praise** musical, *Count-down to Easter*. Bring the whole family and friends

### sharp dressed

**men @ Wyoming Church!**  
and not on a Sunday Morning, either...  
... find out more on the *Our People* Page 13.



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# Bulletin Board

Get on board Noah's Ark with us ...  
...in Lancaster, PA! We'll car-pool to see the 30th anniversary show at the Sight & Sound Theater on Friday, May 16th for the 3PM performance. Tickets are selling incredibly fast... earlier Fridays are all sold out already.  
Call Renate (302) 399-3898 very soon to get yours! (\$99/adult, \$49/child >12)



**NEXT**  **Food Collection**

**Saturdays from 10 to Noon**

**March 8 + April 12 + May 10**

Food and other items will be collected for *Kent Interfaith*, a cooperative effort among churches in the Dover area. **Thanks for your willingness to feed the hungry in our 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.**

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.



**GIVE UP SOMETHING BAD FOR LENT**

*A Lenten Study for Adults*

JAMES W. MOORE

**Ladies' Wednesday Bible Study** meets on the first and third Wednesday in Room 209 in the North Wing from 9:30 to 11 AM. Through Lent, we're studying 'Giving up Something Bad' by James Moore. Questions: Donna, email: donnasand-

**Soccer Shots** - an engaging children's soccer program with a focus on character development - is again partnering with Wyoming Church for a six-week season of soccer!  
**Season: March 26th - May 21st, Wednesday evenings.**  
Enroll by visiting [delmarva.soccershots.com](http://delmarva.soccershots.com)  
Contact Josh Outlar at [joutlar@soccershots.com](mailto:joutlar@soccershots.com) or ☎ 302.760.9079

**SHREK The Musical**

Several WUMC youth will perform in *Shrek the Musical* at the Schwartz Center in Dover, **on March 22 @ 7pm & March 23 @ 2pm.** Come see Ashlynn, Austyn, Ellen, Jane, Linley, Noah, Wesley, and Wyatt bring to life the tale of an unlikely hero who finds himself on a life-changing journey alongside a wisecracking Donkey and a feisty princess who resists her rescue.

You're invited to the Dover DE Women's Connection Program & Breakfast Buffet on **Tuesday, April 8** from 9:30 to 11:30 AM at the Maple Dale Country Club in Dover. \$22 inclusive (cash or check)

Program: **Julie Memmolo** "Capturing Nature with Photography"  
Guest Speaker: **Anne Curry** "A Journey not by Chance" Music by: **Steffi Homes**  
Reservations and cancellations for breakfast & free child care by 4/4.  
Donna ☎ (530) 921-8936 or Diane ☎ (302) 697-6020



Affiliated with Stonecroft Ministries

# From the Pastors' Desk

Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. - Hebrews 13:2

The call to show hospitality is central to our faith - it is both a means of inviting others as well as receiving the invitation of friendship and love. I was powerfully reminded of the grace-filled power of hospitality during my time in Guatemala.

On Monday we were working on the home of a local resident that needed a new roof. Her roof was rusted through and leaking, so in pretty short order we removed the old metal and started to put on the new corrugated panels. As we were working, the grandmother of the family walked down the hillside to the nearest tienda (store) that sold fresh fruit and brought

back a watermelon. She cut it up and then came over to the room where we were working and held out a plate, saying "Para ustedes" (for you all). Now, this watermelon was perfectly ripe and delicious, but what was more moving was this act of love, appreciation, and welcome. It was a simple gift, but it meant everything to us as we worked.

Later in the week, we were helping to install a stove at the home that we built that week for Angela. While we were working, her grandmother went across the street to the tienda and brought back a 2-liter bottle of Pepsi and several bags of cheese curls. As an aside, soda is cheap in Guatemala (the 2 liter only cost about 50 cents US) and each bag of cheese curls cost .13 cents US. The value didn't matter; what did matter was this act of love and blessing. When she gave them to us, you



Rick & Lindsay Wessell

could see the appreciation and joy in her eyes, along with a hearty "Gracias!" for all we were doing.

Hospitality breaks down barriers and lets others know they are seen, valued, and included. Who are you making space for in your family? Who are we making space for in our church? God is imploring us to extend that welcome and hospitality, to let all know they are loved.



\* Angela and our mission team! \* Hard @ work! \* So refreshing - coconut drink, and the loving hospitality we were offered everywhere! \* "¡Bienvenidos a su nueva casa!" \*

**Sub Sale!**

**SUPER BOWL**

Many hands made quick work... and many orders yielded \$672 for the youth mission trip this summer!! Thanks, everyone, for supporting this fun & yummy traditional youth fundraiser!!



## News from Adult Fellowship

Adult Fellowship meets on the last Wednesday of most months. In March we will meet on **Wednesday March 26** to celebrate *St. Patrick's Day* and eat *Shepherd's Pie*. In April we will meet on **Wednesday April 30** to celebrate

*Easter* while enjoying *Baked Ziti*. In May we will meet on **Wednesday May 28** and dine on *Redner's Chicken*. Doors open at 5:00, dinner is served at 5:30 with a program to follow. Bring your favorite side dish or dessert along with your own place settings and silverware. Drinks as well as the entrée will be provided. To make sure we budget wisely, sign up at the display in the Narthex. Hope to see you there!



THANK YOU!!  
to customers & bakers...

Whether you were making pies or purchasing pies, you are the reason our *Cherry Pie* fundraiser was a success - over \$400 can now go to *kitchen-supported projects* like *Pecometh Camperships* (see Page 7)!

**Calling all Bakers again!**  
**Saturday May 10** during the Spring **Craft Show**, Kitchen Team will be holding a **Bake Sale!** 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 and larger items wrapped with plastic wrap or containers that work for you.* Donations can be dropped off on Friday from 8:30 to 11:00 in the Chef's Kitchen or at the Bake Table in the Family Life Center between 7:30 and 9:30 am. Thanks so much for your help!



## DINGO & DESSERT



**Sunday, March 23rd**

3:00 pm — 5:00 pm

Wyoming United Methodist Church FLC

**Bring a dessert or snack to share**

Learn to play a favorite card game in the Deaf Community

No competition, no charge, lots of fun and friends.

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

Sponsored by the WUMC Deaf Ministry



Join our friendly servers!

Sign up sheets for April and May will be at the display table in church.



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

On **March 15 & April 19 & May 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.

**As in the past, the March 15 luncheon will be covered by the Nurses Christian Fellowship - thank you!!**

For the April 19 and May 17 events, anyone 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.

**Water** is one of the most precious commodities on earth and it is essential for sustaining life for humans, animals and plant growth. We cannot live without it, yet many are forced to rely on contaminated water to survive, risking illness and even death every time they take a drink. Did you know that dirty or unsafe drinking water kills more children than war, malaria, HIV/AIDS and traffic accidents combined? Did you know that water scarcity affects more than 40% of the world's population?

**LIFETIME WELLS INTERNATIONAL** has a mission to improve the quality of life for communities by providing access to safe drinking water. They envision a world where death and disease from unsafe drinking water is eliminated, and communities are lifted out of extreme poverty through the power of clean water. It costs just \$3,500.00 to build a well for a village. Think of how just one well can change the life for so many! No more spending hours each day to find water and then to collect and carry it back to the village. No more young girls missing school because they have to collect water, no more suffering from waterborne illnesses!

Please come together with family and friends along with other area churches for our annual

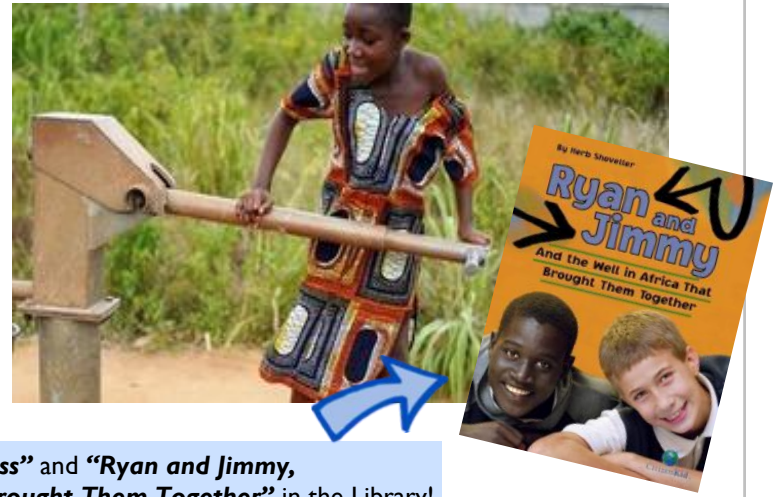
### 5K WALK FOR WATER Saturday April 26, 2025

Registration 8:00 am - Walk starts at 9:00 am

The walk will start and end at Whatcoat Church in Camden - rain or shine. There will be refreshments available at the half-way point of the walk. Maps will be available. Donations toward the walk will be accepted at the registration table. Please come and support our walkers!

But... if you cannot walk, please consider making a donation to help us drill a well so that a village can have clean safe drinking water. Each and every one of us has the power to make a difference because every last man, woman and child deserves the chance to have clean drinking water. Please send in your donation and write 'water walk' in the memo line of your check.

**Watch for the link to donate and register for the walk in the weekly bulletin announcements and on the church website soon!**



Children... Check out the books **"The Water Princess"** and **"Ryan and Jimmy, and the Well in Africa That Brought Them Together"** in the Library!

**GIVE WATER ... GIVE LIFE ... GIVE PEACE**

**Monthly FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**January, 2025**

	2025 Offering	2025 Expense
Weekly Offerings	\$ 45,372.11	
Facilities and Other	\$ 877.75	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 46,249.86</b>	<b>\$ 52,432.29</b>
Net Operating	(6,182.43)	

See Ken's Special Article "Bearing Fruit for Jesus" on the back cover.

Your Giving Envelopes for 2025 are now in the church office. Sign up for a giving number if you don't have one there, as well. Blessed to work in ministry together with you!

Ken Banaszak & the Finance Team

raising FUNdraising FUNdraising FUNdraising FUN!



**Saturday**  
**May 10**  
**9 to 2**



**Beaucoup Vendors (60 - sixty!!, actually) with Beautiful Handcrafted items!**  
**Lunch Foods, Snacks and Beverages sold at the kitchen window!**  
**Delicious Pastries on the Bake Table!**

*We would much appreciate your contributions to the Bake Table - see Page 4!*

**Start spreading the news...**

raising FUNdraising FUNdraising FUNdraising FUN!

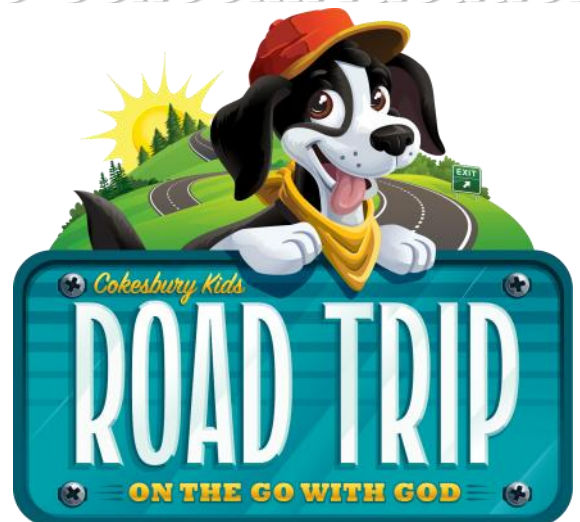
**Bible School...Vacation Bible School...Vacation**

**Vacation Bible School** will run from  
**Monday June 16 through Friday June 20**  
 from 8:30 to 12:15.

We are looking for some adults and youth helpers who would be willing to be **Tour Guides** on this years **VBS Road Trip!**

Tour Guides will only be responsible for guiding our young travelers to the different locations around the church!

Please contact Michelle Harris, if you feel led to join us this year, at [cnmharris@gmail.com](mailto:cnmharris@gmail.com)



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

## Holy Week at Wyoming Church

*Maundy Thursday, April 17*

**5:30 PM** Soup Supper\*: Family Life Center (see Page 14)

\*Can you contribute a crockpot of soup? Sign up here (starting 3/23):  
<https://wyomingumc.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/100/responses/new>

**6:30 PM** Worship & Communion: Sanctuary

*Good Friday, April 18*

**7 AM to 7 PM** Prayer & Meditation in the Sanctuary

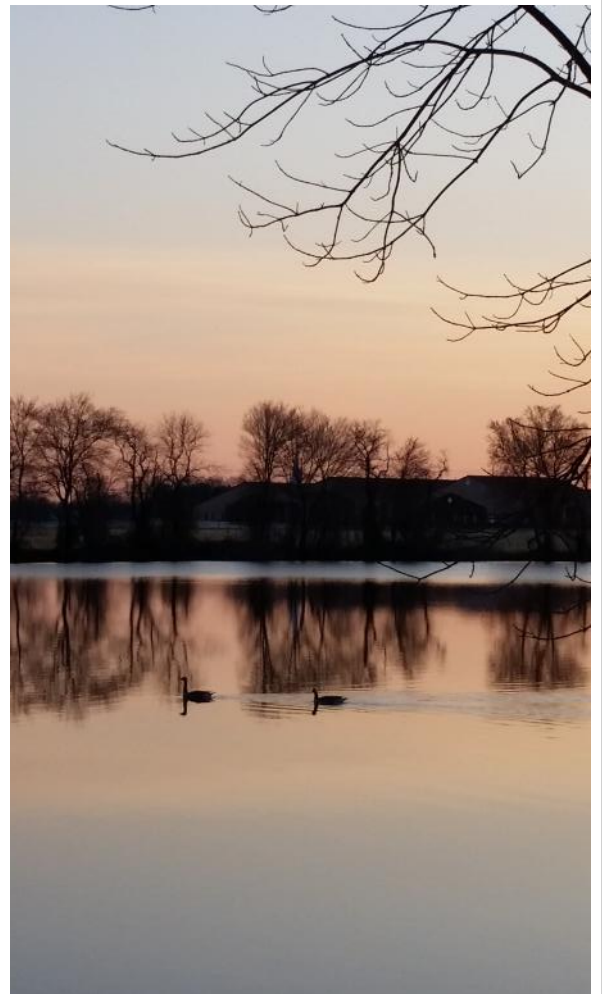
*Easter Sunday, April 20*

**6:00 AM** Community Sunrise Service @ Wyoming Park

In this most beautiful and memorable setting, we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior on the lakeshore, with the sun rising in the distance over Wyoming Church. As in years past, we celebrate Easter Sunrise Service with several area churches, and this service in the park will one final time be organized by Rev. Dave Hill of Whatcoat Church Camden. Psst... Pastor Dave Hill, formerly @ Wyoming Church, is retiring on Easter Sunday 2025.

\*As in years past, breakfast will be following in the Family Life Center

**9 AM & 11 AM** Easter Worship



... FINALLY!!

... and that means it's time to register for **SUMMER** CAMP PECOMETH!

Check out Pecometh's website ([www.pecometh.org](http://www.pecometh.org)) for more information on all summer camps. Day and overnight camps are available for grades Kindergarten through 11.

Or - visit in-person on **Pecometh Day & Open House on Saturday, May 3rd.**

Wyoming Church will again provide some financial assistance to each child/youth who want to go to

summer camp at Pecometh (1 camp per child/youth).

Once your child/youth is registered, you must email the invoice showing the \$50 paid deposit to [bfreidel1@yahoo.com](mailto:bfreidel1@yahoo.com) by **Monday, May 5th** to be eligible for the campership. By mid May we will notify you about the amount we'll be able to provide for your child/youth's camp experience. A BIG thank to the Kitchen Sexton Team for donating \$4,000 toward camperships this summer!

Direct any questions to Betsy, email: [bfreidel1@yahoo.com](mailto:bfreidel1@yahoo.com), cell (302) 535-3983.

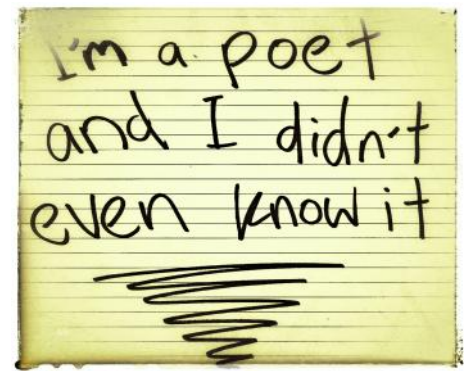


**If you wish to help send a child to camp please place your offering with a note for 'Camp Pecometh'.**



A huge thank you to all of you who helped make our **New Day Pregnancy Center's Baby Shower** a BIG success! As you can see, we more than filled our Pack 'n Play! Brittnee, the Director of the **Center** said she was excited and overwhelmed by all the donations - they will help so many families!

Please continue to keep **New Day** and all of their clients in your prayers.



### Five O'Clock Showdown... in Rhyme!

By David Van Kavelaar, the Poet!

I occasionally attend a Monday afternoon session at the Kent County Library where budding writers present their essays, poetry, and fiction works to those assembled. There are seven or eight folks who religiously attend. We prepare and distribute a copy of our endeavors to fellow writers for their comments and suggestions on how to improve our work. I think I'm out of my league here as three or four of them (all women) are writing novels and some have already published works. Another lady writes poetry. You all know from our WUMC Newsletter that my efforts in writing portray happenings in the life of Dave Van Kavelaar and are stand-alone articles. I wasn't aware of the complexities these serious authors encounter as, I learned, there are multiple levels or tiers of the editing process involved in preparing the finished product, the novel. Basically, I'm a rookie here.

But I enjoy pecking away on the keyboard to write up essays. **In reality, all our church members could do Newsletter essays as they (we) all have had some very interesting happenings in our life-times and the older we are, the more interesting events are available to be written.**

Well, recently I tried to dabble in something different - poetry; a new genre for me! If you'd like to read (and critique?) the results - the story of Preacher Dan, a Texas ranger and the fate of a villain named Slash, email me for your personal copy of the **Five O'Clock Showdown.**

dvankavelaar@hotmail.com



Time to spring-clean? As you purge your bookshelves, all throughout the year... please consider that the **FUNdraising Team is in need of gently used CHILDREN'S BOOKS.** Drop them off any time on the right side of the FLC stage.





# Library news



## Spring!



*"A classic is a book that has never finished saying what it has to say."*  
Italo Calvino

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!

**Special Features all over!!**

Be inspired during these budding spring days; Check out the **overstocked Church Library** - puzzles and more puzzles and a huge collection of "Popular Mechanics" and the "Magnolia" magazines are available on the bottom shelf of the white book case.

Thank you for staying with your children in the library, so all items will stay nice and sorted neatly for other patrons, too.

General library rules: Borrow a book or DVD and return it when you're done. Take home (and keep!) a puzzle and/or magazine. @ the library door: FREE literature & puzzles to take!

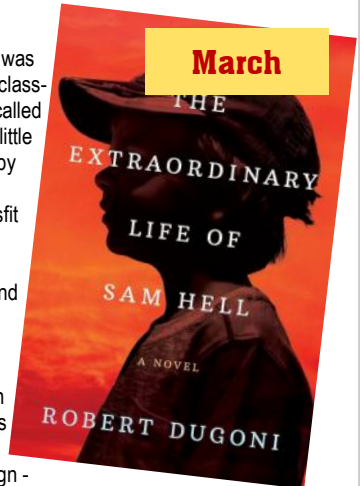
### Book Discussion Group's 2025 Reading List & Meeting Dates

- March 26 - Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell by Robert Dugoni
- April 23 - The Island of Sea Woman by Lisa See
- May 28 - Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby VanPelt
- 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** ☎ (302) 670-1832 with questions.

Sam Hill always saw the world through different eyes. Born with red pupils, he was called "Devil Boy" or Sam "Hell" by his classmates; "God's will" is what his mother called his ocular albinism. Her words were of little comfort, but Sam persevered, buoyed by his mother's devout faith, his father's practical wisdom, and his two other misfit friends. Sam believed it was God who sent Ernie Cantwell, the only African American kid in his class, to be the friend he so desperately needed. And that it was God's idea for Mickie Kennedy to storm into Our Lady of Mercy like a tornado, uprooting every rule he'd been taught about boys and girls. Forty years later, Sam, a small-town eye doctor, is no longer certain anything was by design - especially not the tragedy that caused him to turn his back on his friends, his hometown, and the life he'd always known. Running from the pain served little purpose. As he looks back on his life, Sam embarks on a journey that will take him halfway around the world. This time, his eyes are wide open - bringing into clear view what changed him, defined him, and made him so afraid, until he can finally see what truly matters.



An evocative tale of two best friends whose bonds are both strengthened and tested over decades by forces beyond their control. Set largely on the remote Korean island of Jeju, the story follows Young-sook and Mi-ja, girls from strikingly different backgrounds who bond over their shared love of the sea. Working in their village's all-female diving collective, the friends come of age in a community where gender roles are anything but typical. Women are the primary bread-winners, the heads of household in all but name, and yet, as Mi-ja and Young-sook realize, there are limits to their control that can prove devastating.



After Tova Sullivan's husband died, she began working the night shift at the Sowell Bay Aquarium, mopping floors and tidying up. Keeping busy has always helped her cope, which she's been doing since her 18-year-old son, Erik, mysteriously vanished on a boat in Puget Sound over thirty years ago. Tova becomes acquainted with curmudgeonly Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus living at the aquarium. Marcellus knows more than anyone can imagine but wouldn't dream of lifting one of his eight arms for his human captors—until he forms a remarkable friendship with Tova. Ever a detective, Marcellus deduces what happened the night Tova's son disappeared. And now Marcellus must use every trick his old invertebrate body can muster to unearth the truth for her before it's too late. Shelby Van Pelt's debut novel is a gentle reminder that sometimes taking a hard look at the past can help uncover a future that once felt impossible.





## ...Responds To Recent Storms and Makes Appeal For FLOOD BUCKETS

**\*\* thru March 30 !!**



**Financial Contributions also accepted!**

The United Methodist Committee on Relief, **UMCOR**, was one of the first organizations **on the scene in California after the recent fires**, as well as **the severe storms in the southeast**. They delivered a number of 5 gallon Cleaning Buckets to residents throughout that area.

With the ever changing weather patterns, flooding rivers and streams, hurricanes & tornadoes seem to be never ending. **UMCOR** is always on the scene distributing these Cleaning Buckets. So...

- Look for the display of Cleaning Buckets in the main lobby
- View the fourteen (14) items needed for each bucket
- Remove one of the "strips of paper" associated with a particular item as your reminder to purchase
- **Bring purchased item(s) to WUMC by Sunday, March 30**

We need help to replenish the supply for future events!

**Our goal: 20 buckets...** join the Outreach Team as we build these buckets for a much needed relief.



**Thank you...**  
*your gifts help UMCOR provide immediate humanitarian relief when a natural disaster disrupts life to such an extent that communities are unable to recover on their own.*

## Habitat Faith Build



Wyoming United Methodist is participating in Habitat's building a home for Charlene Austin's family. The mother with her five lovely children will live in this home. The groundbreaking is finished, and foundation is started! We hope to send some helpers to help construct the home when we are needed. We also want to furnish a lunch or two for the helpers. We will have an appeal so members can contribute to fund this build. Any time you wish to contribute, please, label your envelope "Habitat."

Maybe you were at church on February 9th to hear the story of one lovely lady, Rebecca Hurst who just moved in to her home built for her by Habitat.

If you have an interest in helping with construction, please, contact Mary Dawn Ditty, email: [maryditty@gmail.com](mailto:maryditty@gmail.com),

so we can email you about the days when you will be needed.



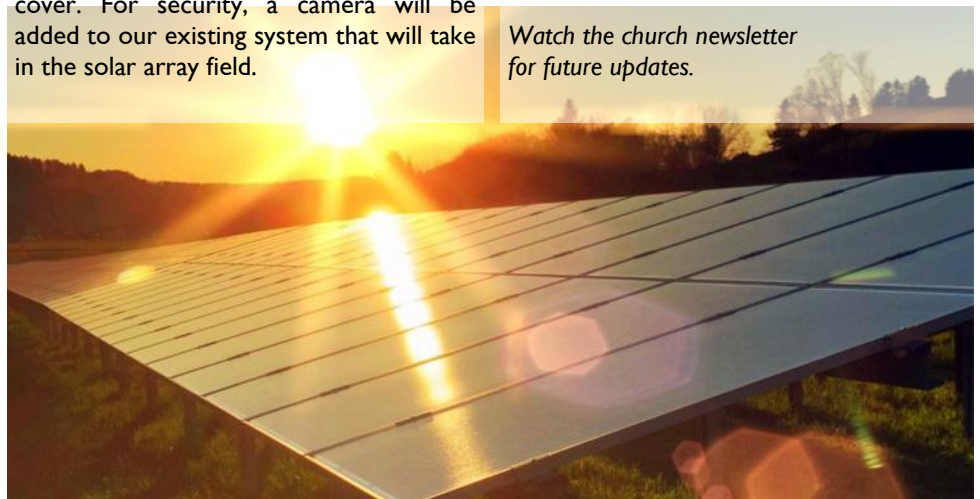
## Solar Power Task Force Update

Our solar power array project continues to move forward. The project manager from Paradise Energy Solutions (the firm who will be constructing the array) came out to the church to meet with the task force team and do a walkthrough explaining the electrical connections and discussing exactly where the array would be located. The plan is for the solar array to be located in the field east of the north parking lot. The panels will be arranged in 3 rows and have a fence around the array. The engineers are currently writing up the plans for submission for the permits. The approximate start date for construction is 15 to 20 weeks after the signing of the contract which took place in January. Once construction begins, it will only be about two weeks until construction is completed. I am thinking it will be completed by sometime in late spring.

The task force met again on February 12th. At that meeting it was decided that a site plan display would be made and placed in the narthex, so the entire church would have a visual of where and what the solar array would look like. Once the array is finished, we also plan to have a display of the savings generated by our solar field month by month. Also groundskeeping was discussed with different ideas brought forth for care of the grounds underneath the array. Members of the team will be on a fact finding mission over the next month to ascertain which ground cover to use and how to best take care of maintaining the ground cover. For security, a camera will be added to our existing system that will take in the solar array field.

Finally, the team began a discussion of fundraising. Once again, the solar array is being paid from the church's cash reserves. We do not need to borrow any money. However, the plan is to fundraise to replace the money taken from those reserves. The total cost of the project is \$278,300. The church will receive a \$35,000 Delmarva Power Incentive for the system and a Federal grant of \$83,490 which will bring our net cost down to \$159,810. Watch for updates on how you may contribute to the solar project. Once again I wish to thank the Fundraising Team who has already pledged \$20,000 to the project.

Watch the church newsletter for future updates.



### It's all in a Day's Work or *What's In A Name?*

Last month, we learned about the origin of our months' names. What about the names of the days of the week?

The names originated with the ancient Romans, who used the Latin words for the Sun, the Moon, and the five known planets! Our English names also reflect the influence of the Anglo-Saxons (and other Germanic peoples).

In naming the seven days of the week as checkpoints in time, the ancient Romans chose seven celestial bodies that could be seen with the naked eye: the Sun, the Moon, Mars, Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, and

Saturn. For example, *Sunday* is the Sun's day, and *Monday* is the Moon's day.

Regarding the English names we use today for days of the week, we can also see the influence of the Anglo-Saxons and the old German gods. For example, **Wednesday** comes from Woden, the Anglo-Saxon king of the gods; in Saxon, the name is *Wodnesdaeg*. (Now you know why Wednesday is spelled that way!)

In the Saxon Language:

**Sunday** was named *Sunnandaeg* or Sun's day, Day of Sun. **Monday** was named *Monandaeg* or Moon's day, Day of moon. **Tuesday** was named *Tiweddaeg* or Tiw's day. Tiw was an Anglo-Saxon god of war. **Thursday** was named *Thursdaeg* or Thor's day. Thor was a Norse god of thunder, lightning, and storms. **Friday** was named *Frigedaeg* or Frigga's day. Frigga was a Norse goddess of home, marriages, and fertility. **Saturday** was named *Saeterndaeg* or Saturn's day. Saturn was an ancient

Roman god of fun and feasting.

- The seven-day week started with the first civilizations of the Middle East. Mesopotamian astrologers designated one day for each of the seven most prominent objects in the sky—the Sun, the Moon, and the five major planets visible to the naked eye.
- The Jews also adopted a seven-day cycle, based on the time it took the Lord to create the universe as reported in Genesis. A new wrinkle in their week was the Sabbath, a day set aside for rest. This was the first time a culture had invented a holiday that occurred on a regular basis, unrelated to natural phenomena. As in ancient times, the Sabbath begins at sunset and concludes at sunset, mimicking the description of a day in Genesis 1:3.
- The Romans adopted different weeks for business reasons; they thought of a week as the 8 days between market days.

...continued on Page 14.



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

- 3/01 Linda Lyon
- 3/02 Carol Abbott
- 3/03 Renate Purdy, Sheila Snyder
- 3/04 Elaina Ditty, Jack Kling, Susan Russell, Richard Stockslager
- 3/05 Jeff Williams
- 3/06 Jeffrey Purdy
- 3/07 Joyce Stockslager
- 3/08 Sharon Burge, Rod Thompson
- 3/09 Gwen Robinson
- 3/10 Joan Davis, Janice Jordan
- 3/11 Susan Higgins, Karen Priestley
- 3/12 Dana Sharpe, Gail Vella
- 3/13 Dwight Meyer
- 3/15 Tressa Stant
- 3/16 **Bob Hawkins**, Mike Marasco



Born on March 16, 1932, **Bob Hawkins** will celebrate his 93rd birthday this March. Bob is an avid football fan (Go Eagles!) and loves his faith, family, collecting stamps and our church. Happy Birthday, **Bob (dad)!**  
Kathi Thomas

- 3/18 Chloe Malone
- 3/20 Walt Ramstedt
- 3/22 Blake Fennemore, Richard Seyler

- 3/23 Clara Gravatt, Chris Harris
- 3/25 Chuck Sandy
- 3/27 Wayne Gordineer, BJ anKavelaar
- 3/28 Durrell Dolph, Carlton Passley
- 3/29 Cooper Barth, Jennifer Fontanez, Donna McCartney, Kathy Schmidt
- 3/31 JoAnn Makdad
- 4/04 Cort Massey, Lee Sumpter
- 4/05 Kathy Deckard, Reileigh Gray
- 4/06 Rachel Edwards, Jim Klecan
- 4/07 Marty Downing
- 4/09 Josh Turner
- 4/10 Colby Lyon
- 4/11 Derek Leister
- 4/12 Elizabeth Fontanez
- 4/15 Michael Davis, Margaret Jones, Doni Purdy
- 4/17 Joyce Ann Green
- 4/18 Michelle Thompson
- 4/19 Susan Cook
- 4/20 Justin Anthony, Lauren Forbes
- 4/23 Michael Lumia, Colleen Papen
- 4/25 Tim Lyon, Barbara Roscoe
- 4/26 Roger Kelsey, Jim Papen, Valerie Riggins
- 4/27 Mary Dawn Ditty, Amy Kellen
- 4/29 Troy Rowland
- 4/30 Patricia Lawson
- 05/01 Karly (Jones) Siegfried
- 05/02 Juliet Klecan
- 05/04 Eric Jones, Becky Kurtyka, Judi Leczner
- 05/05 Emily Dejesus, Sherry Kijowski, Janet Meyer
- 05/07 Jane Brooks
- 05/08 Michelle Sell, Frank Sutton
- 05/10 Collin Ditty, Jeff Jones
- 05/14 Aaron DeJesus
- 05/15 Kade Seip, Doris Wilt
- 05/18 Pat Sweeney, Beth Wessell
- 05/20 Andrea Pierce
- 05/21 Kevin Lighter, Dan Rigby
- 05/22 Debbie Killen
- 05/23 Melanie DeJesus
- 05/24 Lynne Singleton, Mandy Stant, Everly Thompson
- 05/26 Matt Gordineer, Wini Walton
- 05/27 Karen Sammons
- 05/28 Reba Ostner
- 05/29 Nancy Sammons
- 05/31 Tabitha Denemoustier, Loretta Walls
- 06/01 Okemah Strickland
- 06/05 Peggy Ciminera, Tamryn Coleman, Madelynn Harris, Michael Sell, Amy Spampinato

~ Our People ~

~ Baptized ~

**Olivia and (baby) Mackenzie Maahs** were baptized on February 16, 2025. Pictured with big twin sisters Evelyn and Allison and parents Ken & Kristin Maahs. God bless you, little ladies!



~ Death ~

**Deborah Priddy** the cousin of Janel Flynn and niece of Sharon Quillen passed away on January 30, 2025.



*Thank you all for your loving care and prayers and for helping me through [my daughter] Kate's passing, and all your help planning of the memorial service and the luncheon after. And thank you, Pastor Lindsay & Pastor Rick for your excellent job with the service.*  
With all my love, Ed Krieger

**You Can Never Lose a Friend**

Friendship surpasses time,  
I'm sure I'll find,  
When I stop crying  
That you're still here in heart and mind.  
Michele Meleen

It's been a long time coming... **The New Pictorial Directory** will be ready for distribution early March!! Look for info on how you get your copy in the weekly announcements.

### Church Grounds & Landscaping Ready For Spring's March, April & May!

A very 'doable' contract proposal has been received for the 2025 Green Season for professional care of our Wyoming Church's combined 9.2 acres of mowed meadow, managed turf, mulched shrub beds and individual plantings. Depending upon the March-April-May Spring weather pattern development, the professional care will begin late March or early April. Upon approval by the Board Of Trustees and Executive Team the contract will be signed by the responsible party. Comments and/or questions relative to specific components of the contract are available for the asking.

### Safe Secure Sanctuary (S3) Plans For July To December 2025 Get An "Early Start"!

By the time the next Wyoming Messenger Quarterly Newsletter (June-July-August) is printed and distributed, the six month S3 July '25 through December '25 Schedule for Monitors, Ushers, Greeters and Stewards will be well on the way to being prepared. In order to ensure an appropriate amount of time to recruit sufficient

volunteers to fill the more than 300 positions in the S3 July '25 through December '25 Schedule, this writer will have to rely on the Weekly Announcement Packets for ongoing advertisement and subsequent successful recruitment and retention!

### Spring Arrives At The Memorial Garden!

It is a challenge to put much credence in the title of this article when you realize that at the time of this article's preparation — February 15, 2025 — we are preparing here on the Delmarva Peninsula for possible rain and snow storms.

However, we know that by "keeping the faith" the Spring Season will be with us in just a few weeks. But no matter the weather our access to the Memorial Garden and its Memorial Grove is always available. As is our availability to place a Memorial Garden Brick in the Memorial Garden.

In fact, Memorial Garden Bricks can be placed anytime of the year to honor the passing of a loved one or to give recognition to a person who has played a very important role in your life.

Application forms for Memorial Garden Bricks can be found on the Memorial Garden Model display in the Narthex.



Ladies and Gentlemen — Now is the time to mark your calendars for the three forthcoming Saturday Prayer Breakfasts on **SATURDAYS, MARCH 22, APRIL 26, MAY 24.**

Bring all of your Prayer Requests — prayers for comfort — prayers for understanding — prayers for patience — prayers for healing — prayers for blessings — bring them all!

Each of these Prayer Breakfasts is consistently held on the 4th SATURDAY of each month. We begin to gather at 7:30 AM at TRE SORELE DOLCE where we have EXCLUSIVE USE of their Community Room.

Upon arrival and welcoming you will fill out your Breakfast Order Form from whence it will be sent 'across the tracks' to Mike and Mel's Restaurant, where it will be prepared and returned to us ready to enjoy.

We will plan to devote about an hour in individual and collective prayer as we give serious consideration to all of the prayer requests that are brought before us. All of our prayers for our selves, our families, our Church, our congregation, our state, our nation and our world will be placed before our Lord and Savior. We do so believing in the healing and transformative power of prayer.

The last half hour of our time together will be spent enjoying our breakfast and table fellowship and then closing with a brief collective prayer. Jack Freidel and Terry Higgins will serve as alternating monthly leaders.

Contact Info: Terry Higgins at [terryhiggins38@outlook.com](mailto:terryhiggins38@outlook.com) or ☎ (302) 363-5823 .

### Welcome to THE Night To Shine!!

We celebrated this special event with our special needs friends @ Wyoming Church on February 7th.



## What's so Good About

# March?

**Happy Month:** March is one of the happiest Months of the calendar, with flowers blooming and chocolate sales.

**Celebrations:** March is a month of celebrations, including Women's History Month and St. Patrick's Day. Even Math Nerds have a special Pi Day (March 14<sup>th</sup>)!

**Travel Opportunities:** March is a good time to travel, with sunny Caribbean islands and snowy ski resorts.

**Spring:** March marks the beginning of spring, with temperate weather and extra daylight hours.

**Spring Flowers:** Daffodils are the official flower of March and for good reason. They are the first flowers to burst out of the cold ground every spring. Daffodils symbolize rebirth and new beginnings. Just seeing them will make you feel instantly happier.

**Mood Boost:** The extra light hours from daylight saving time can boost mood.

**Give it to God:** March reminds you to cast your worries and concerns unto the Lord, for He cares for you. Also, pray to God to give you more confidence to face your biggest drawbacks.

## What's so Great about

# April?

In the Northern Hemisphere, April is a time for **planting gardens and crops**.

**April** is the only month where it's socially acceptable to **make a fool** of someone. Both the United States and Japan celebrate April Fool's Day on April 1<sup>st</sup>, a day for pranking family and friends.

**April 26** is celebrated as National Pretzel Day in the United States.

**The cherry trees** in Washington D.C. typically reach their peak bloom in early April.

**April** is **National Grilled Cheese Month** in the United States.

**April showers bring May flowers**, but they also bring mud and puddles. Grab your boots and go for a splash!

**The birth flowers for April** are the daisy and the sweet pea, which symbolize innocence, blissful pleasure, and purity.

**The birthstone** for April is the **diamond**.

**The first Earth Day** was celebrated on April 22, 1970.

**Easter falls on the first Sunday** after the first full moon following Spring Equinox.

**ASL in Church!** Don't miss members from the WUMC sponsored ASL Classes presenting a beautiful song at the 9 am service on **Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**.

## Why is May a-May-zing?

**May has two birthstones.** Anyone born in May is a true gem indeed.

The birthstones of May are emerald and chrysoprase. Both are green-shaded gems associated with love, success, happiness, and creativity.

**Aside** from being the birth month flower for May, the **Lily of the Valley** is also the traditional flower for celebrating the second wedding anniversary, symbolizing the enduring strength and purity of a couple's love. The lily of the valley is known for its delicate and sweet fragrance. This flower symbolizes humility, sweetness, and motherhood, and is most commonly used in bridal bouquets.

**A full moon in May** is the Flower Moon because of the abundance of flowers that bloom during the month of May. In some regions, the Flower Moon is also known as the Corn Planting Moon or the Milk Moon, reflecting the planting and growth of crops during the spring season.

**May the Fourth Be with You!** If you are a Star Wars fan, then the Fourth of May should not be a mystery to you. Most people recognize that May 4th is Star Wars Day, where fans of the movie franchise celebrate with "May the Fourth Be with You" puns and Star Wars-themed parties.

**The Kentucky Derby**, a famous horse race that takes place in Louisville, Kentucky, is always held on the first Saturday in May. This is one of the oldest horse races in the world since 1875. The only 2 times where this event did not take place: the war in 1945 and in 2020 during the pandemic.

**May is National Barbecue Month.**

Now if you are into barbecue parties and dinners, then this is the month to go all out. May is National Barbecue Month in the United States, where people celebrate with outdoor cookouts, picnics, and barbecue parties. If you are a fan of hamburgers, you'll be happy to know that May is also National Hamburger Month. It is a time to celebrate this beloved food, whether you like it with ketchup and mustard or with all the fixings.

**May is a month of many holidays**, including Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, and more. It is a time to celebrate with family and friends and to honor important occasions.

"What's in a Name?" continued from P. 11

- West African societies preferred a four-day market cycle.
- In Assyria, 6 days was the rule; in Egypt, 10; in China; 15.
- The ancient Germans used a five-day cycle named for their primary gods which is how our week ended up honoring Norse deities like Tiw (Tuesday), Odin (Wednesday), Thor (Thursday), and Frigga (Friday). Our word **week** may come from the Old Norse word *vikja*, which means "to turn." Sunday and Monday, or course, honor the Sun and the Moon.

Atheistic revolutionaries tried, unsuccessfully, to get rid of the seven-day week. In 1793 the leaders of the French Revolution produced a new calendar divided into three ten-day "decades." It never caught on, and Napoleon abandoned it in 1805. In 1929 the Soviet Union tried a five-day week, with one day of rest.

- Instead of the traditional day names, the days were given colors: yellow, orange, red, purple, and green.
- In order to keep mass production going, each Soviet citizen was assigned a different day of rest, so that a husband might have a yellow day off, while his wife took her leisure on green.
- Due to mass confusion, the plan was revised in 1932 to a six-day week, with numbers replacing the colors. By 1940, the Russians were back on the familiar seven-day cycle!

Somebody was always trying to come up with something better! In 1936 the League of Nations solicited proposals for world calendar reform and considered almost 200 different schemes, many of which rearranged the week.

Edward Skille of Drummund, Wisconsin, suggested a year consisting of 73 five-day weeks called "metos." The days of the week would be called Ano, Beno, Ceno, Deno, and Eno.

Why the seven-day week? It doesn't divide evenly into 365- or 366-day years, so that holidays fall on different days of the week from year to year.

But human beings are not logical creatures. Who can imagine saying, "What are you doing next purple?" or "Yeah, it's Eno!"

—> next page.

As one member of the British Parliament remarked in a 1944 debate on calendar reform, "It is bad enough to be born on April 1, but to have one's birthday always on a Monday would be perfectly intolerable."

*"O, how I love Jesus  
...because He first  
loved me."*

*Jesus loves the little  
children, and we do,  
too! Sunday School  
students presented the  
song in ASL Sign  
Language most  
adorably in worship  
on February 23rd.*



## THE SUIT

David Van Kavelaar

Awhile back, I had some extra cash and decided a pin-striped suit would be a nice addition to my wardrobe. Believe it or not, my work attire had consisted of more than a dozen dress shirts, over seventy-five neckties, some slacks, some sport coats, and four or five suits. As a professional civil engineer, proper dress was appropriate for management meetings, seminars, and our engineering presentations. Yeah, a master's degree in civil engineering and professional engineering licenses in three states are rewarding but, personally, my preference was muddy boots, jeans, sweaty t-shirt, and hard hat and working with the drilling crew in the field and laboratory techs at DeIDOT.

Back to my dilemma; the missing suit. I checked our closets and the attic, no luck. The suit was not (to my knowledge) given to Salvation Army or any other charity. It must have simply vanished in thin air. That's OK, on a Thursday I set out on a mission to secure a pin-striped suit; preferably navy blue. I checked on-line and found some but, if I'm spending a couple hundred bucks, I wanted to try on the trousers and jacket. So much for shopping on the internet. I stopped in to Johnny the Tailor's shop on Loockerman Street in Dover. I can't remember why I left without a purchased suit; I believe it was the price he was asking to make one. A pin-striped suit off the rack at a department store would do just fine. Somewhat discouraged, I returned home without my suit. No luck that day.

After a hearty breakfast on Friday, my first stop was the Dover Mall. Having a title of "Men's Wear House", that store must certainly have the item being sought. Friends, they had a fine array of tuxedos for formal events but nothing I was looking for. I spoke with the sales guy who couldn't explain why pin-stripes were non-existent there; thanks pal!

But of course, Boscov was right next door. There were racks and racks of suits but, guess what, not a single one I sought could be found. I sheepishly asked the sales woman if she could check the stock room. How does the saying go, "if looks could kill"?

J.C. Penny's has always been my favorite for men's clothing. A short stroll down the mall concourse to the Penny's men's department. My quest certainly would be realized here. After searching for five minutes, another disappointment. Are you kidding me, I thought.

My last hope was now reduced to Kohls Department Store. There must have been some kind of twisted plot to push Dave "over the edge" in pursuing a pin striped suit. Not one available. Six attempts (the internet, Johnny, and four stores) have failed to satisfy my want; what a bust. I went home discouraged.

As much as I hated it, my quest deteriorated to having to drive to (shudder!) the Christiana Mall. I've been there one time in my life. I was monitoring pile driving (Department of Transportation work) on Route 7 on the west side of the mall and stopped in for lunch. Everyone clamors you can get anything you want there. Reluctantly, because punking out on my quest was out of the picture, it became clear that my search must be expanded to New Castle County, over the canal, to a different world. I left New Castle in 1978 and had no desire to return. There had better be a blue pin striped suit there.

So, on Saturday morning, I gassed up the FJ Cruiser to head north. As I traveled up Wyoming Mill Road, the parking lot at the Wyoming United Methodist Church was bustling with folks who showed up for the annual yard sale. Although it was around 9 AM, for me it's never too early for a hot-dog, or even two. The cheese dogs and chips, and coffee, hit the spot and had me in just the right mood.

After chow, I strolled around the family life center and actually found a guy who worked on clocks. I went back home (0.7 mile) and got my Miller Beer clock that needed repair; he had it fixed in no time flat (no pun intended.) At least one thing was

accomplished. Walking around, I couldn't have been more impressed by the artisans and their creations for sale and at reasonable prices. The problem being my age is that we have two of everything we need or want and have no room for new things. We beg our sons to not get us anything for Christmas (however, a Cool Springs or Lowes gift certificate would not be unwelcomed).

Leaving the FLC, the narthex was also alive with activity. The chattering and laughing of those in attendance signified a great time was underway. I checked out the small room to the south side of the narthex but saw there was no artisan in there. Just a couple clothes racks with... what? Are you kidding me? Hanging all by itself... I couldn't believe it... was a dark-blue pin-striped suit! I asked one of our church ladies how much for the suit, ten dollars. "Um, is there a changing room?" I asked. She pointed to a small sheet covered rack. I gingerly made the change. It fit like a glove. Wow! It suited me just fine (cut it out, Dave). And I didn't have to go north to the Christiana Mall and drive in all that madness.

I am now the proud owner of a dark-blue pin striped suit. I wear it when we greet or serve Communion at the 11 AM service here at church. My belief now is that there is always something for everybody at the church yard sale. I mean, what are the odds that the lure of a hot dog would lead me to my goal? Unbelievable. So this year, stop on by when the church has the yard sale; you might be surprised!





A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

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E-mail: office@wyomingumc.com



[www.WyomingUMC.com](http://www.WyomingUMC.com)

**Church Office Hours :**  
Monday-Thursday 9AM - 1PM

call & text for appointments:  
☎ (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**

**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".



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.



**Spring forward... on Sunday, March 9th!**

*Bearing Fruit for Jesus* - A Fruitful Life

"No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of." Luke 6:43-45

Through all his many years of coaching the Dallas Cowboys, Tom Landry was one of the winningest coaches in pro football. After all those years as a coach, you'd think he would have learned something about leadership – and indeed he did. Someone asked him, once, to describe the essence of leadership. Landry replied, "Leadership is getting someone to do what they don't want to do in order to help them achieve what they want to achieve."

That little proverb works well on the gridiron, but it also happens to work well in the church sanctuary: especially in the activity in which we're now engaged together – this activity known as preaching.

It takes two to tango, as they say, but it also takes two to preach – or at least two. You need one person to preach, and another to listen – although there are usually a good deal many more listeners than that.

Preaching is getting someone to do what they don't want to do in order to help them achieve what they want to achieve. There are certain things our Lord calls us to do, as his disciples, that we don't especially want to do. But it's important for us to do them if we're going to achieve our goal of fully living into our calling as disciples of Jesus Christ.

High up on the list of things most of us don't especially want to do is the activity known as stewardship – or, financial giving. Who wants to part with their hard earned money? The fact is, we need to part with some, as challenging as that is for each one of us, if we want to achieve our goal of becoming faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. Giving is not incidental to Christian discipleship, nor is it an elective option. Giving our time, talent, and our treasure are fundamental pillars of our Christian beliefs.

If you check your Bible concordance, an index to the Bible, you'll see the word "give, giving, giver" occur no fewer than 2,162 times. Much more than words like believe, pray, even love.

*Let us pray for the desire to be good stewards of the gifts God has given us to further His kingdom.*

