#### **Church Office Hours:**

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 am — 1:00 pm



November 2024

"Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name. Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all His benefits who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion."

Psalm 103:1-4

ey Witness

Methodist

United



# The Harvest of Righteousness: A Season of Gratitude and Growth

"Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness."

- 2 Corinthians 9:10

vibrant hues of autumn are painting the landscape, and the morning air has turned crisper. We find ourselves once again surrounded by the beauty of God's creation. The mountain is ablaze with color,

and the fields are ripe for harvest. This time of year naturally turns our thoughts to the concept of harvest, not only in the physical sense but also spiritually, as we reflect on the ways God has blessed us and our church once again.

In 2 Corinthians 9:10, Paul reminds us that God is both the provider and the sustainer of everything we need. God is the one who gives seed to the sower and bread for food. But even more, He promises to "enlarge the harvest of our righteousness." This verse invites us to reflect on the fruitfulness of our ministries and the impact of our faithful service for Jesus and to others.

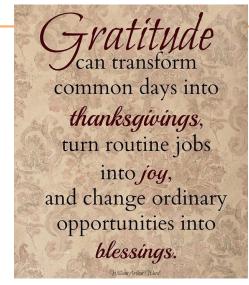
Over the past year, we have sown many seeds within our church and our community:

- Sunday Worship
- Our Media and Live Stream Ministry
- Children's Church and Fellowship
- Mom2mom
- The Hospitality and Greeting team
- Coffee Fellowship
- The Easter Egg Hunt
- Easter Sunrise Worship
- Vacation Bible School
- Laity Sundays
- Men's Breakfast
- United Women in Faith
- Safe Sanctuaries Enhancement

- Or Adonai Praise Band
- Rejoice Choir
- The Various Administrative Committees
- Trustee's Management of the Facility
- Two Thursday Prayer Groups
- Sunday School
- Disciple Class
- Special Music Sundays
- Home Visitation
- Messy Church Outreach Events
- Preschool
- Ministry of a Certified Lay Minister
- And a thousand individual kindnesses

Inside this issue:

(Continued on page 3-Pastor)





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Wesley Witness Page 2



# Sundays at 9:00 am

with Children's Church

## **Adult Sunday School**

10:30 am

#### Worship with us Online

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/

wesleyumcmvl/

Website: https://www.wesleyum.org/ YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/ channel/UCVh5ckeYZuoHGIVgqY3wQtQ

# **Sunday Servant Schedule**



#### November

November 3

Jeff & Becky Wolfe

November 10

Washington Family

November 17

Sandy Corl

Donna Donaldson

November 24

Nevin & Malinda Kern



#### November

November 3

Jeff Miller

November 10

Kaitlynn Miller-

Washington

November 17 Ann Alandar

November 24

Barb Hammaker

# **NOVEMBER WORSHIP**

#### November 3, 2024

All Saints' Sunday

**THEME:** There are earthly leaders. They will all be fallible. Every day we choose which king we

will follow.

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 121: 1-8 / Judges 8:13-26

"Who is your king?" MESSAGE:

WHAT TO EXPECT: Holy Communion / All Saints Remembrance



#### November 10, 2024

25th Sunday after Pentecost

**THEME:** Emmanuel has come to save both soul AND body. We too must have concern for both people's souls AND bodies.

Caring for those who hurt.

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 9:1-3; Luke 2:8-14

MESSAGE: "Sounds of the Season: Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

## November 17, 2024

26th Sunday after Pentecost

**THEME:** Jesus has come and as king to reign. His reign, for now, is rejected by the world. But we who believe we have Jesus reign in our hearts and lives. as we await his final kingly victory.



SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 11: 1-10; Luke 2:25-35

MESSAGE: "Sounds of the Season: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

#### November 24, 2024

Consecration Sunday / Christ the King Sunday

**THEME:** We will look at how God has blessed our ministries in 2024 and where God is leading us for

2025.

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Galatians 6:9

MESSAGE: 2024-2025 at Wesley Consecration Sunday



#### Consecration Sunday, November 24.

You will soon receive our annual letter explaining the importance of Consecration Sunday to our ministry. That day we will also celebrate the blessing of God to make our mission and ministry fruitful. (see Pastor Bob's article p1)





# Sounds of the Season

In mid-November, we begin a series entitled "Sounds of the Season." we will be looking at Christmas carols that are in our hymnals and digging into the message of Emmanuel through these carols. For example, we sing every year. There are phrases we sing every year, and we may not understand them fully. These phrases are taken from scripture and are important to our faith. We will seek to understand the carols and celebrate the advent of Emmanuel.

# **Celebration of the Evergreens** Sunday, December 1

On the first Sunday of Advent, we

will celebrate the meaning of the beautiful decorations in our sanctuary. We will sing carols and hear readings explaining why we place the beautiful decorations as signs and symbols of Emmanuel.



'onsecration

(Continued from page 1 - Pastor)

Whether through worship services, outreach programs, or simple acts of serving kindness. These seeds, small and large, have taken root and grown into fruit for God's kingdom. God, in His faithfulness, has nurtured our efforts and increased the fruits of our labor. Just as the farmer rejoices at the harvest, we too can rejoice in seeing the fruits of righteousness in our lives and in the lives of those around us.

#### Those fruits include:

- Numerous new families attending Mom2Mom
- A completed inventory of our technology and a team planning upgrades
- New members of our Or Adonai praise team
- New committee chairs for Trustees and Church Council
- New members serving on various committees and teams
- More people participating in church mission and ministry
- Banners enhancing our worship space
- A larger VBS attendance than in recent years, with children receiving Christ
- Eleven new church members with three baptisms (so far)
- Plans to begin a staffed nursery during worship in the coming months
- A Crowded Sunday School class
- A repaired boiler that's paid for
- Solid progress on our capital campaign
- Many believers growing in Christ and stepping out by faith
- So many answers to prayer

Realizing God's goodness, this season of harvest is also a time for deep gratitude. We are thankful for the visible ways in which God's provision has sustained our church and for the invisible ways God has worked in our hearts, enlarging our capacity for love, kindness, and generosity. Each of us, like a sower, has planted seeds of faith, hope, and service—and God has been faithful to grow those seeds into a bountiful harvest again this year.

As we give thanks for the physical blessings of this season—the food, the beauty of nature, the fellowship we share—let us also take time to reflect on the "harvest of righteousness" God is cultivating here at Wesley. The work we do in our ministries is not just about numbers or programs; it's about the transformation of hearts and lives for God's glory.

November 24<sup>th</sup> is Consecration Sunday. We will celebrate all that has been described here and look forward to where God is leading us in 2025. May November and this fall be a time of reflecting on God's abundant provision, celebrating the harvest of our efforts, and preparing our hearts for the seeds He will ask us to plant in the future.

With gratitude and joy,



# Pastor Bob's Schedule and Contact Information

Tuesday through Thursday 9

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

It is recommended that you call to be sure he is in the office as he does attend outside meetings and visits homebound and hospitalized.

Pastor Bob takes Friday as a Sabbath. He may not be available for calls or emails on Friday. The best way to reach him is to leave a message on his cell number (listed on the back cover of the bulletin).

His email is **revbobryder@gmail.com** and is the most efficient method of ensuring he receives your email in a timely manner, rather than through the church administrative email.



Page 4 Wesley Witness

# Wesley Outreach, Activities, & Announcements



#### Mom2Mom

# Wednesday, November 6 — 6:30—8:00 pm

Mom2Mom for November 6 is our annual Friendsgiving Potluck and we're having a Sip, Sample, Share program demonstration from Cindy Snyder, Independent Herbalife Distributor.



## Children's Fellowship

November 10 1:00 pm—2:00 pm

Children's Fellowship will make a meal for the homeless to be

distributed by Do Over Ministries. This will be from 1:00 – 2:00 pm followed by the Christmas Play Rehearsal from 2-3 pm.



"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:18



#### **NO MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Men's breakfast will not meet in November or December as the dates are too close to Holiday celebrations. See you in January.



Rehearsals for the children's Christmas play are every Sunday at 2:00 pm between now and the December 8 performance at 9:00am. Speaking parts have been distributed but any child still interested in joining the choir and being

part of the play are welcome to join us.

# **December 8—A Wesley Family Celebration!**

# **Children's Christmas Play**

Join us at 9:00 am for the morning worship service where the children will perform "Christmas Gifts" by Valerie Howard. When the elementary school's annual Christmas

talent show rolls around, Kara has trouble finding her place in all the activities. As she struggles to find her talent, she wonders if God made her good at anything at all. Inspiration comes from an unexpected source, and Kara's part in the show turns out to be the most life-changing talent of all. You won't want to miss this delightful presentation for the Christmas season!

## **Christmas Brunch**

Following the morning service join us downstairs in the multipurpose room for our annual Christmas Brunch Party. Sign up on the bulletin board by the elevator so we know how many to prepare for.





VALERIE HOWARD

# **Cookie Walk**

The Cookie Walk is a fundraiser for the United Women in Faith. Our ladies will bake a variety of Christmas cookies. Come purchase a box for \$5.00

and fill it with whatever cookies you choose!



#### Mission Central Annual Gala—November 16, 2024

Pastor Bob has several seats available at the upcoming Mission Central Gala. The program will share the marvelous ways God is reaching those in need through Mission Central. One highlight of the evening is a silent auction. Typically, this auction has many unique items. See pastor Bob if you wish to join him and Pastor Debbie that evening.





Preschool is in need of volunteers to wrap presents during their holiday shop. The holiday shop is December 10th, 11th and 12th from 9:00 - 11:30. If you have questions, you can contact Holly Bitner. Your help to the little ones is very much appreciated!



The Marysville/Rye Council of Churches is collecting non-perishable food items and/or monetary donations for the Thanksgiving Food boxes. Please have your items to the church fellowship hall by **November 20**. If you have any questions, please call David Thomas at 717-443-1368.









# Thanksgiving Word Search

G W G L H N F G G A D N A P B
T N L R M O N E I O P O M I A
S A I U A I L P A U D I E L H
F E T V F T O I M S F T R G X
E U L F I C I P D A T A I R R
A L U P U G K T M A R R C I E
G T B N P I S I U S Y B A M B
S Y R A N A L K C D E E N N M
B O U N T Y J A N Y E L S R E
C R A N B E R R Y A X E F O V
O H J U R E H T A G H C I C O
L A Q P C M S E O T A T O P N
O M I R P I H S R O W Y A M S
N E O D E H S A M N A T I V E
Y W H A R V E S T L E A V E S

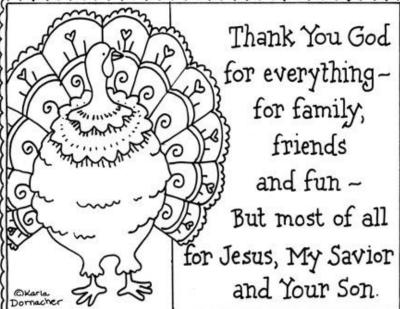
APPLES
AUTUMN
BOUNTY
CELEBRATION
COLONY

CORNUCOPIA CRANBERRY FALL FAMILY FEAST GATHER GOD GRATITUDE GRAVY HAM

HARVEST HOLIDAY PLENTY LEAVES POTATOES NOVEMBER
PIE
PILGRIM
PUMPKIN
SCARECROW

STUFFING THANKSGIVING TURKEY WORSHIP YAMS

Crafting The Word Of Goo



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"Oh come, let us sing to the LORD! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms. For the LORD is the great God, and the great King above all gods. In His hand are the deep places of the earth' the heights of the hills are His also. The sea is His, for He made it; and His hands formed the dry land."

Psalm 95:1-5



#### Wesley Family,

As October and its costumes and candy "parade" to an inevitable end, we enjoyed the blessing of an Indian Summer complete with our picturesque Pennsylvania fall bursts of color. Many folks journey to New England to take in fall colors but good old Pennsylvania is no slouch in the panorama department. For us "lifers" it is hard to imagine those who live in the deforested flat lands or, worse yet, desert areas of our country. We get to live in nature's full color pixeled artwork! Let us all take a moment to thank God and enjoy His tapestry provided for us. Halloween and our colorful leaves will fade away but cheer up; pumpkin spice everything lives on through November!

Last month we needed to be a little late with the newsletter, this month we hope you are reading your guide to Wesley on the Hill in a timely fashion. Consider posting your newsletter on the side of your fridge for month-long access and reminders. Or post it on your home screen. This month's is especially chock full, read thoroughly, take pride, and be joyful for "you" are helping to fulfill Wesley's Mission to our Community Family. Not just through your financial support, (which is vital-Thank You!) but also by your participation in worship, events you participate in and enjoy, and by spreading our "word" to family, friends, and community. You make Wesley on the Hill a happening place; enabling, sharing our safe sanctuary, and opening your heart so that others can follow Jesus' examples.

We oldsters remember when Halloween was about a week long and the few Halloween movies available had minimal gore and focused on scaring, not cutting people up! As with many things in our world these days, we never know when to stop; pushing things over the edge is common place. Let us learn from this example, and in a good way, push Wesley on the Hill over the edge! If you read Pastor Bob's article in this newsletter, you will observe that we are well on our way to doing just that! Your continued support and enthusiasm keep improving and expanding Wesley.

#### Finance Nuts & Bolts:

- Thank you to all who responded positively to Pastor Bob's
   Nomination Team as they worked to fill positions for 2025. Your involvement is crucial to help lead Wesley through another successful year. It takes a "Village." Thank you for contributing your talents, efforts, and being willing to help guide the mission of Wesley on the Hill.
- Budgeting for 2025 has begun, and this is a sobering review to find the dollars to not just maintain, but to improve and expand. The process also brings joy to those of us involved, as we reflect on a successful 2024 and all that Wesley is accomplishing. This is made possible by your understanding and support, sharing your thankfulness, and offering hope to those less fortunate. It takes a village, and our commitment starts over every year, but thanks to you we can plan, provide, and expand our mission. Thank you!
- Consecration Sunday is November 24<sup>th</sup>. Please prayerfully consider your contribution to our Lord's work through Wesley. Our challenge is no different from our own family budgets and dealing with the cost of living. Wesley is just on a grander scale with larger challenges. Know that your consideration is greatly appreciated, and your support

- helps make all things Wesley happen! Thank you in advance for sharing your gifts with Wesley.
- when you hear of small increases in our facility rental fees, know that this is just one example of our efforts to cover our costs when the event is not approved at no charge. Covering the electricity, heating, cooling, janitorial items, and general wear and tear allows us to "break even" instead of incurring an expense. As with our own households we must explore the use of our finances for our intended mission work.
- Hope for the Future, our Capital Campaign will reach our 2.5-year mark in November. Please keep sending what you are able toward this 3-year effort to reduce our overall mortgage amount, thus lowering our interest and ultimately our overall mortgage payments. In counting our Conference's gift along with our own contributions, we appear to be on track to attain the goal we set for May of 2025. We will need a little extra in the spring of 2025 but knowing Wesley I believe we can do it!
- Advent Envelope & Offering, this year we will send half of your gifts for the work of The Marysville Council of Churches and their community work. With fewer churches over the years and low contributions we need to help prop up their important work for the good of all of us. The other half will go to prop up Wesley's Current Expenses, to help start 2025's bill paying on schedule.
- Speaking of them, Current
   Expenses continues to need our
   focus, especially as heating season
   and our high use time of year
   occurs on the hill. Please think of

(Continued on page 8 - FINANCE)

Page 8 Wesley Witness



We will begin accepting Christmas gifts for the Join Hands Christmas program on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. This year are adopting one girl, one boy, and one older adult for Christmas. All gifts must be delivered to Wesley (unwrapped) by Sunday, December 1.

#### Child #: 138

Gender: Male Age: 12

#### **Gift Ideas**

- \* advanced Lego set
- \* anything Eagles
- \* anything Penn State
- \* full-size bedding
- \* LED projector for bedroom

#### **Additional Information:**

Indicated a need for a winter coat. Shirt & pants size: men's medium. He lives in athletic wear. He prefers JOGGER sweatpants (with the cuff at the bottom). "Hoodie" sweatshirts. Slippers or "slides" would be men's 13. He is super athletic-football and wrestling. Favorite colors are blue and red.

#### **Older Adult**

**Gender:** Female Age: 77

- \* Chocolate candy
- \* Sweatshirt & sweatpants size XL (soft colors)
- \* Small electric blanket

# Child #: 139

**Gender:** Female Age: 10

#### Gift Ideas

- \* Makeup/fake nails
- \* hair product (for bi-racial
- \* "Sol de Janeiro"/bath & body works sprays & lotions
- \* Disney Stitch stuff
- \* Taylor Swift stuff

Additional Information: She is super girly, she does cheer (and comp cheer) and plays basketball. She's a major Swiftie (Taylor Swift). Slippers/ slides would be women's size 10. Favorite colors are purple, teal, blue. Shirt & pants size: women's small/medium.

If sponsor provides a gift card for groceries, family prefers Karns.



(Continued from page 7 - FINANCE)

this first as most of our monthly bills and utilities must be paid from the current expenses fund. Thank you for your support!

- Our Church Conference was held on Saturday October 26<sup>th</sup>. If you were not in attendance, you may contact the church office to obtain the information handed out, for a better understanding of your church and how your gifts enable Wesley's work.
- Daylight Savings Time has us setting our clocks back one hour before you go to bed on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. On Sunday November 3<sup>rd</sup>, do not be early for church!
- Hurricanes, take a lot of money to recover from. Please consider giving something to a verified organization helping those dealing with devastation!

In this newsletter Pastor Bob highlights our "Harvest of Rightfulness" as we lean towards planting seeds for 2025. I hope you will agree this article is worth reading twice. I can admit that some of us kind of skim the first time through, so a thorough reading the second time will allow you to absorb and take pride in Wesley on the Hill and the mission work that you make possible. Thank you for lending your heart and your faithful gifts which allow Wesley on the Hill to remain Spiritually and Financially strong. With Thanksgiving in our heart, let us reinforce Wesley and look forward to Advent.

David Palmer, Finance Chairperson

"Every man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly, or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

II Cor. 9:7



# November Birthdays

#### November 1

**Cindy Thomas** 

#### November 2

**Courtney Coulter** 

#### November 5

Shelby Lemaster

#### November 7

Sharon Speck

# **November 8**

Esther Rupley

#### **November 11**

Nicholas Melnick **Scott Walters** 

Do we have your birthdate so we can celebrate with you?

# **November 12**

Heidi Sands

#### **November 13**

Rick Brewbaker Carolyn Thompson

#### November 14

Caroline King

# **November 15**

# **Judy Richards**

**November 16** Jennifer Jenkins

# **November 17**

David Yeager

#### November 19

Benjamin Eppley

#### Tiara Laman November 20

Matthew King

# November 22

Susan Forshey Christian Kline

# November 23

George Fishel

#### November 25

Barbara Leonard Kethlyn Speck

# **November 26** Scott Evans

# **November 27**

Lucille Bohn Amy Burd Denny Fisher

# Tara Speck **November 28**

Joseph Baker **November 29** 

Michael King



# Wesley's Calendar of Events

November 2024								
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
					1	2		
			ys leads us in triumph of the knowledge of hii everywhere 2 Corinthians 2:1	<mark>m</mark> ."		Fall Back 1 Hour		
3 Set Clocks Back	4	5	6	7	8	9		
2:00 AM-10:00 AM Sanctuary Worship 10:30 AM—11:30 AM Adult Sunday School 2:00 PM Christmas Play Practice 5:00 PM—8:30 PM Disciple Bible Study	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Cub Scout Pack 56	- Election Day-	6:30 PM—8:00 PM Mom2Mom	10:00 AM—11:00 AM Prayer Together 11:30am—1:30 pm Soccer Shots for Preschool 6:30 pm—8:30 pm Emmaus Walk 6:30 PM—7:30 PM Prayer Together 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM		9:00 AM—12:00 Pl Wesley Church Council Visioning Meeting 12:00 PM—7:00 Pl Birthday Party- Amspacher		
				AA Group				
10	11 Veteran's Day	12	13	14	15	16		
g:oo AM-10:oo AM Sanctuary Worship 10:30 AM—11:30 AM Adult Sunday School 1:00 pm—3:00 pm	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Cub Scout Pack 56		6:oo PM—7:3o PM Preschool Board Meeting	10:00 AM—11:00 AM Prayer Together  11:30am—1:30 pm Soccer Shots for Preschool		9:30 AM—3:30 PM Keystone Trails Group Conference		
Children's Fellowship/ Play Practice				6:30 PM—7:30 PM Prayer Together				
<b>6:00 PM—8:30 PM</b> Disciple Bible Study				<b>7:30 PM – 9:30 PM</b> AA Group				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
g:oo AM-10:oo AM Sanctuary Worship 10:30AM-11:30 AM Adult Sunday School 2:00 PM Christmas Play Practice 5:00 PM—8:30 PM	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Cub Scout Pack 56	7:00PM—9:00PM Wesley Church Council		10:00 AM—11:00 AM Prayer Together  11:30am—1:30 pm Soccer Shots for Preschool  6:30 PM—7:30 PM Prayer Together		g:oo AM—7:oo PM Scrapbooking		
Disciple Bible Study				<b>7:30 PM – 9:30 PM</b> AA Group				
24	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving Day	29	30		
s:oo AM-10:oo AM Sanctuary Worship— Consecration Sunday o:30AM-11:30 AM Adult Sunday School ::oo PM	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Cub Scout Pack 56 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM Worship Planning Team Meeting		5:00 PM—9:00 PM Fellowship Hall in Use	Fellowship Hall in Use		g:oo AM— Church Christmas Decorating		
Christmas Play Practice				7:30 PM – 9:30 PM		<b>6300</b>		
<b>5:00 PM—8:30 PM</b> Disciple Bible Study			t become weary in doing good, T THE PROPER TIME	AA Group				

"Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you." Joshua 3:5





450 Sylvan Street Marysville, PA 17053

Return Service Requested

Phone: 717-957-4481

E-mail: WesleyUM.Office@gmail.com



"Your Church on the Hill"

# **Wesley United Methodist** Church

#### **Our Staff**

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**Administrative Assistant** Jeannette Keezel WesleyUM.Office@gmail.com (717)957-4481

**Preschool Director Holly Bitner** 

WesleyUM.Preschool@gmail.com

**Church Council Chair Christopher Albright** c.e.albright@icloud.com

**Finance Chairperson David Palmer** palmtown@yahoo.com

