

December 2018

Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. Isaiah 14 b NRSV

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">Red items = noteworthy events</p> <p style="color: blue; font-weight: bold;">Blue items = events located outside the church</p>						1 7:00 Trip to Wellsboro Dickens of a Christmas 10:30 Friendship Meal Sponsored by The Bloomsburg Southern Baptist Church
FIRST ADVENT 2 8:00 Worship with Holy Communion 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship with Holy Communion 1:30 AGAPE Advent 5:00 G.L.O.W.	3 1:00 Wesley Quilters	4 5:00 Evangelism Team Dinner at Iron Fork 6:30 Mission Team	5 9:30 Wesley Staff 7:00 AFG Stepping Stones to Recovery	6 12:00 West Branch School 6:15 Bells In Bloom 6:30 Cub Pack 25 7:00 Board of Trustees 7:30 Sanctuary Choir	7 7:00 Cornerstone Concert: Allegro Con Fuoco	8 10:30 Friendship Meal Sponsored by BU Office Dean of Students 
SECOND ADVENT 9 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 2:00 Birthday Party for Jesus 6:30 G.L.O.W.	10 1:00 Wesley Quilters	11 1:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 Theology on Tap at Balzano's	12 9:30 Wesley Staff 12:00 UMW Christmas Luncheon at Pine Barn 4:00 Suncom Meal Prep 7:00 AFG Stepping Stones to Recovery	13 9:00 Suncom Meal Prep 6:15 Bells In Bloom 7:30 Sanctuary Choir	14 8:00 Suncom Meal Prep 9:00 Columbia Sullivan Head Start Socialization Day 9:00 Cookie Sale Set-Up 5:00 Young People's Choir	15 8:00 Men's Breakfast at Perkin's 8:30 UMW Homemade Cookie Sale 10:30 Friendship Meal Sponsored by Open Door Christian Fellowship
THIRD ADVENT 16 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:00 All-Church Christmas Dinner with Raven Creek	17 11:00 Crusaders Christmas Lunch at Perkin's 1:00 Wesley Quilters 6:00 Pampered Chef Consultants Party	18 7:00 Journey Through Grief	19 9:30 Wesley Staff 7:00 AFG Stepping Stones to Recovery	20 2:30 Holy Communion at Bloom Health Care Center 6:15 Bells In Bloom 6:30 Cub Pack 25 7:30 Sanctuary Choir	21 9:00 Columbia Sullivan Head Start Socialization Day 5:00 Young People's Choir	22 10:30 Friendship Meal
FOURTH ADVENT 23 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	CHRISTMAS EVE 24 2:00 Communion Worship 7:00 Kids' Worship 11:00 Candlelight Worship	25	26 7:00 AFG Stepping Stones to Recovery			29 10:30 Friendship Meal Sponsored by Saint Columba's Teens
<p>— In Celebration of Christ's Birth, The Church Office Will Be On A Relaxed Schedule —</p>						
30 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	31 7:00 G.L.O.W. New Year's Eve Party	Please note: no 8 a.m. worship on Sunday, December 23 or Sunday, December 30.				

The Birth of Christ, from the Books of Matthew and Luke



In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

*"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
And on earth peace among those whom he favors!"*

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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- December/January Calendar

New Security System



The Board of Trustees is happy to announce that the installation of the new security system at Wesley Church has been completed. Fourteen cameras have been installed at various locations throughout the church — one focused on each entrance and others at strategic areas of the building. Three cameras are located outside of the church with two of those focusing on the church parking lot. Each camera will record motion and activity. It is hoped that the new system will deter

would-be intruders — but provide information if there is an intruder or vandal.

It is important that all church members are aware of the changes that accompany the new security system.

Please note that the doors to the church now will remain locked at all times, and only staff and those with a code will gain access to the building during a normal weekday. Visitors to the church will be “buzzed-in” either by the volunteer receptionist or the church administrative assistant. If you plan to come to the church during the week, as you enter at Murray Avenue, look for the button and speaker box to your left. This is where you will announce your presence. You will then be greeted, and you will be given access to the church.

As you plan to visit the church, remember the church office hours: Monday through Thursday the office hours are 8 a.m. - 12 noon and 1 - 5 p.m. On Friday, the office typically closes an hour earlier — 4 p.m. Keep in mind that no one will be available to “buzz-in” any visitors during the lunch hour from 12 noon - 1 p.m. Try to schedule visits to the church during the working hours of the office when staff and volunteers are at their desks.

While there has been some concern about entering the church for planned activities, please know that the church doors *will* be open on those occasions when there are Bible studies, meetings, and other events and activities at the church.

This new system will take some getting used to and, thus, the staff and the Board of Trustees ask your patience as the church moves forward with being more focused on the safety of those within the church walls.

Please Reserve Parking Along Third Street

Help



Wesley Church would like to accommodate those with physical limitations

while also being mindful of those who are visiting.

On Sunday morning, please save the parking on Third Street for those who fit these categories.

From Pastor Mark's Desk

By Mark F. Reisinger, Pastor

Emmanuel . . .

This name, meaning “*God is with us*,” appears in *The Book of Isaiah* when the prophet announces God’s promised presence with Israel. The name *Immanuel*, in its Hebrew spelling, reminds God’s people that they are, in fact, God’s people. It was a way of assuring those facing persecution that God was in their midst.

And then, in the first chapter of *Matthew*, the Gospel writer uses the name *Emmanuel*, now in its Greek spelling, to let his readers know that Isaiah’s prophecy has been fulfilled in the person of Jesus. Just as Isaiah’s words reassured the Israelites, so do Matthew’s words reassure Christians that in the person of Jesus the Christ, *God is with us*.

This is the promise and hope that we are reminded of each December. With the journey of Advent, the celebration of Christmas, and the beginning of a new year, it is reinforced to us that God is here. No matter what journey we go on, God will be leading us, beside us, and behind us all the way.

What does this mean for us, then?

It means that the impossible has now become possible. It means that God, the Eternal One who can neither be created nor destroyed, has willingly subjected Godself to both birth and death. The omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent Creator of the universe has taken on human skin, human frailties, and human limitations. And he has done all of this for you and me. He’s done these things, and he’s given his very life, so that you and I would no longer feel limited in what we can do.

It seems to me that sometimes we act as if God has not done all of these things for us. At least in my own life, at times I can get caught up in the belief that everything is up to me. If a good sermon is to be delivered on Sunday, I’ve got to do it on my own. If new members are going to come to Wesley, I’ve got to bring them in. Or, in the reverse, I fall into the trap of believing that if I can’t do something, it can’t be done.

And with all of these things, I might very well be correct. Except for the fact that roughly 2,000 years ago, the Eternal God, Creator of all things, put on human skin, was born in a manger, and made the impossible possible.

In an ordinary world, we would be bound by our own limitations. A good sermon would be solely based on my own intellect and skill at delivery. Growing our church, spiritually, numerically, and financially, would be up to us and our own abilities.

Thank God, we don’t live in an ordinary world. After the events of that first Christmas Day, we now live in an extraordinary world. We now live in a world where we *can do all things through Christ who gives us strength (Philippians 4: 13)*. We live in a world where *what is impossible for mortals is possible for God (Luke 18: 27)* and *nothing will be impossible with God (Luke 1: 37)*. We live in a world in which *God is with us*. Let us never forget this miracle of Christmas.

I hope you’ll be present this year for the many activities and worship opportunities here at Wesley Church. Be sure to invite a friend, as we’ll be journeying again to Bethlehem on Sundays, and I’m looking forward to taking this journey with you for the first time. It’s such a joy to be a part of the Wesley family. Thank you for all you do to share God’s love!

Happy Advent. Merry Christmas. Thanks be to God!

Pastor Mark
Pastor Mark



The Advent Season at Wesley Church

The season of Advent at Wesley Church will once again offer new and unique ways to experience Bethlehem during the month of December. There will be additional opportunities to feel the Spirit of the season through word and music and the fun and fellowship of Christmas gatherings of all sizes and shapes. You will not want to miss being part of the Advent Season at Wesley.

The First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 2

Worship at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

To mark the first Sunday in Advent, the Sacrament of Holy Communion will be served at both worship services.

In the afternoon, beginning at 1:30, AGAPE's "Advent of Jesus Christ with Music" will be held in Wesley's sanctuary.

The Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 9

Worship at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Wesley Church's annual "Birthday Party for Jesus" will take place in the social room from 2 - 4 p.m.

The Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 16

Worship at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Christmas poinsettias will show the Spirit of Christmas throughout the church.

The All-Church Christmas Dinner will serve up a delicious meal at 5 p.m.

At 6 o'clock, following the Christmas dinner, Raven Creek will provide a program of musical entertainment.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 23

Worship at 10:30 a.m.

On this final Sunday of Advent, there will be only one worship service at 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve

Monday, December 24

Worship at 2 p.m. ~ A Candlelight Service with Holy Communion

Worship at 7 p.m. ~ Kids' Worship Experience

Especially for those with young children

Worship at 11 p.m. ~ Wesley's Traditional Candlelight Worship



FREE CONCERT

THE CORNERSTONE CONCERT SERIES

PRESENTS

Deck The Halls!
with

ALLEGRO con

FUOCO

KEYBOARD DUO



The most thrilling holiday concert of the season!

FRIDAY DECEMBER 7, 2018
7 PM

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Third & Market Street Bloomsburg PA 570-784-1407

Birthday Party for Jesus



Sunday, December 9 2 - 4 P.M.

Wesley Church's Hands-To-Hearts Committee is once again looking forward to sponsoring the church's annual "Birthday Party for Jesus." This favorite children's activity takes place in the social room and is for children ages 2 - 8. There will be singing, games, crafts, a birthday party, and a special visit from the big man with a white beard.

All Children Welcome

Those who attend should bring a gift of a non-perishable food item to benefit The Bloomsburg Food Cupboard.

Reservations for the Birthday Party for Jesus will be accepted up until noon on Friday, December 8, 2018.

To reserve a spot for your children, please contact the church office at 570.784.1407.

Come, Celebrate the Season! at the Wesley Church Christmas Dinner

Sunday, December 16, 2018 ~ 5 p.m. in the Wesley gymnasium

Whip up a favorite covered dish and join your church family for an evening of food, fun, and fellowship.

The church will provide ham, macaroni and cheese, and beverages.

Entertainment at 6 p.m. by Raven Creek

Reservations are a must.

Contact the church office by December 10 to reserve a space:
570.784.1407



Wesley United Methodist Women

By Cathy Casey, Acting President

There are many opportunities to celebrate the joy of Christmas with members of the congregation during December. Continue to read on to see what Wesley's UMW has to offer during this busy, but joyous, time of year. All the members of the UMW hope you will have a beautiful Christmas with family and friends as you celebrate the birth of Jesus.



UMW Head Start Christmas Gifts

The 2018 UMW Head Start Children's Christmas Project began on Sunday, November 25, with approximately one-hundred names of Head Start children available. Judy Ryan, coordinator for the gift project, supplied names, ages, clothing sizes, and short wish lists for each child. Your generosity in providing gifts for children in the Head Start program is greatly appreciated. If you are taking part in this project, remember that the deadline to return gifts is Sunday, December 16. Be sure your name is checked off on the list when you bring your gifts to the church.

UMW Christmas Luncheon

Wesley's United Methodist Women will once again celebrate the Christmas season with a holiday lunch at the Pine Barn Inn in Danville. The celebration will take place on Wednesday, December 12, at 12 noon. Musical entertainment for this year's Christmas luncheon will be presented by Brittany Drumm. The cost for this buffet luncheon is \$20 per person. To attend, make a reservation by contacting Madelyn Miller (570.784.1203) or Judy Ryan (570.389.9327).



UMW Christmas Cookie Donations Requested



The members of Wesley United Methodist Women are seeking donations for their upcoming cookie sale. Please bring one or more batches of homemade Christmas cookies of your choice to the church on Friday, December 14, or Saturday morning, December 15. They can be dropped off in the Coffee Café by 8 a.m.

Special note: when making cookies for the UMW Christmas Cookie Sale, please be sure to label and identify the cookies by name, and indicate if they contain nuts. As always, the Wesley UMW appreciates your support of this annual fund-raising project that benefits missions.

The Wesley UMW Honoree for December — Pat Weir

Pat was the only child of Carl (Shorty) and Marge Dent born on December 1. She grew up in Bloomsburg graduating from Bloomsburg High School in 1964. She attended beauty school between her junior and senior year of high school, finishing the summer after her high school graduation. Pat has two children and two grandchildren. She and her husband, Bruce, celebrated 37 years of marriage this past June.

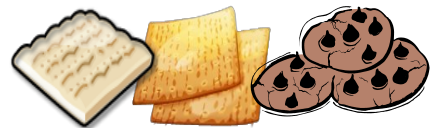
Her faith has been Methodist all her life serving the Lord in many ways. She sang in the children and adult choirs, taught Sunday School, was a VBS teacher, church treasurer and served on many committees at her previous church, Lightstreet UMC. She was welcomed into membership at Wesley in 1997. Her services past and current at Wesley include: Church Council, Conference delegate, Sanctuary Choir, Vacation Bible School song leader, Evangelism Team leader, SPRC, Sunday School teacher's aide, UMW, Hands-to-Heart, liturgist, Children's Chat, Communion servers (assigning), and usher captain. Pat feels very blessed to be a member of Wesley and loves her church family!

SWEET CHRISTMAS COOKIES & CONFECTIONS SALE



Saturday, December 15, 2018 ~ 8:30 a.m. - ?

Homemade Christmas Cookies: \$7/pound



Sponsored by the Wesley United Methodist Women to benefit local, national, and international missions.

Please shop early for the Christmas cookies of your choice — they go fast!

The Wesley UMW Honoree for January — Sandy Norton

Sandy Norton was born in Scranton, and grew up in West Pittston. She graduated from Pittston Hospital School of Nursing to become a registered nurse. Initially, she worked at St. Joseph Children and Maternity Hospital (presently St. Joseph's Center) in Scranton. She enlisted in the United States Army Nurse Corps early in her career.

In 1963, Sandy moved to Bloomsburg. She and her husband Dave were the parents of three children (two daughters and a son). Sandy has five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Sandy is a fifty-four-year member of Wesley where she has been involved since the beginning. Sandy enjoyed teaching the sixth grade Sunday School class, was co-leader for the Girls Scouts and Brownies with Alice Everhart, and served as the Children's Choir mother.

Sandy was a great co-chairperson and introduced some fundraisers to Wesley. Her achievements include co-chairperson of several Circles for the United Methodist Women and working on the Antique Show and serving with Madelyn Miller on the bazaar table with the show. She worked with Marian Vitkauskas on the Winter Bake Sale in conjunction with the Men's Spaghetti Dinner. Sandy introduced the Christmas cookie and pasties fundraisers. She has served on the Staff Parish and Worship & Arts Committees.

Sandy remains active today especially with the United Methodist Women and any time her assistance is requested.

Special appreciation to all those who generously contributed to the United Methodist Women's World Thank Offering for 2018. These mission funds will help people in need all around the world — locally, nationally, and internationally. Thanks again!

Additional UMW Notes

UMW General Meeting

January 10, 2019 ~ 12 noon



The United Methodist Women will resume regular monthly meetings on Thursday, January 10, 2019. As the new year gets underway, remember that the general meetings always take place on the second Thursday of each month. It is typically held in the Coffee Café beginning at 12 noon with your bagged lunch and social time with members. A short business meeting is held after the lunchtime. The speaker follows at 1 p.m. Everyone is invited, and you are encouraged to bring a friend to any and all of the monthly gatherings. Women from the community are invited to join the Wesley Women for the fellowship, spiritual insight, and wonderful speakers.

You will want to mark your calendars to be sure you don't miss the first of the meetings of the new year. On Thursday, January 10, the guest speaker is Wesley member, President Judge Thomas James.

Upcoming UMW Bake Sale in 2019

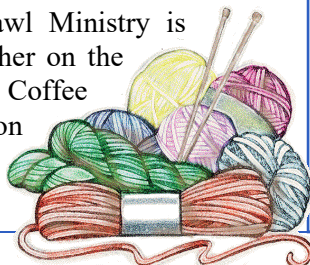
The 2019 Men of Wesley Spaghetti Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, February 23, and the Wesley United Methodist Women will once again sponsor a bake sale in conjunction with the dinner.



Bakers are asked to remember the date and plan to offer some delectable homemade goodies for the sale.

Take Note of These . . .

- * The Susquehanna Conference United Methodist Women annual Retreat takes place March 29 - 30, 2019, at the Best Western/Country Cupboard, Lewisburg. The special guest speaker will be Karen Knight who will present "Courageous and Contagious Christian Women" (Martha's Story). Watch for additional details soon, as space will be limited, and early registration will be encouraged.
- * If you like to quilt, please consider joining the Wesley Quilters. The quilters meet every Monday, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, in the quilt room on the basement level. The quilters will welcome anyone interested in quilting for fun and fellowship. For additional details, talk with Lois Sauers.
- * If you like to knit or crochet, the Prayer Shawl Ministry is looking for you. The knitters and crocheters gather on the second Tuesday of each month and meet in the Coffee Café from 1 - 3 p.m. For additional information about this group, talk with Mollie Harris or Janet Lee.



The UMW Indoor YARD SALE

will return
Friday, May 17, 2019
Saturday, May 18, 2019



Your donations of unwanted treasures will be appreciated, but please note . . .

yard sale donations will not be accepted until two weeks prior to the sale.

Stock-pile your unwanted items at home.

then watch for information about when to bring them to the church.



Men's Christmas Gathering

Saturday, December 15, 2018
8 a.m.

Perkin's Family Restaurant
Buckhorn

All meals: \$5 (payable to the Men of Wesley)

All men welcome!
Bring a friend, neighbor, or relative.

Men of Wesley Gatehouse Christmas

Watch for an update with date and time!



Wesley Family **Bowling Party**



Sponsored by The Men of Wesley

Sunday, January 20, 2019

*Bowling from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
at the P-Nut Bowl*

Pizza at the church afterwards . . .

Everyone is invited to this event!

**Guests pay the cost of their games.
Shoe rental is free.**

The Men of Wesley are once again inviting all Wesley families to be part of this fun time bowling at the P-Nut Bowl in Bloomsburg.

Following the bowling games, all will return to Wesley for a time of pizza, ice cream, and fellowship.

Prizes and awards will be presented to those in attendance.

Space is limited, so reservations are a must!

To reserve your spot, complete this form, and place it in the offering plate or mail or bring it to the church office.

For additional information, contact Shawn McCreary at 570.389.1460.

Yes, I would like to make a reservation for the mid-winter Bowling/Pizza Party being sponsored by the Men of Wesley.

Name: _____

Telephone contact number: _____

Number of Adults: _____ Number of Children: _____

Wesley G.L.O.W. Youth in December



By Janet and John Bodenman, G.L.O.W. Co-Leaders

Christmas is coming! And what better time of year for all youth to be part of Wesley's G.L.O.W. youth. Those who are in Grades 6 - 12 are encouraged to attend the weekly G.L.O.W. gatherings. Youth gather for games, singing, and socializing followed by devotions and projects and snacks. The following schedule highlights G.L.O.W. activities for the month of December with January's schedule highlighted on the next page. Youth, you won't want to miss any of these holiday and winter activities. We'll be looking for you!

Sunday, December 2 ~ 5 - 8 p.m. ~ Caldwell Consistory

Giving The Gift of Love

After TreeFest ends, G.L.O.W. will help distribute Christmas trees and gifts to area families.



Friday, December 7 ~ 7 p.m. ~ Wesley's Sanctuary

Allegro con Fuoco

Youth are encouraged to attend this concert of Christmas music performed by Jordan R. Markham and Tyler Canonico. There is no charge for the concert, but a free-will offering will be taken.

A reception will follow the concert.



Sunday, December 9 ~ 6:30 - 8 p.m. ~ Youth Rooms

Materialistic

All youth are encouraged to come for games, a devotion, and snacks. Bring a non-materialistic Christmas gift, wrapped in a bag, for a gift exchange.

Help decorate cut-out cookies to share with family and friends.



Sunday, December 16 ~ 5 - 7 p.m. ~ Wesley's Gymnasium

All-Church Christmas Dinner and Music by Raven Creek

Bring a dish to share at the annual Christmas covered dish dinner.

Enjoy fellowship with your Wesley family and friends, and stay for musical entertainment by Raven Creek Gospel/Bluegrass Band.



Monday, December 24 ~ 2 p.m., 7 p.m., and 11 p.m.

Celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus.

Join your family and friends for one (or more) of Wesley's Christmas Eve worship services.



Monday, December 31 ~ 7 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. ~ Location to be announced

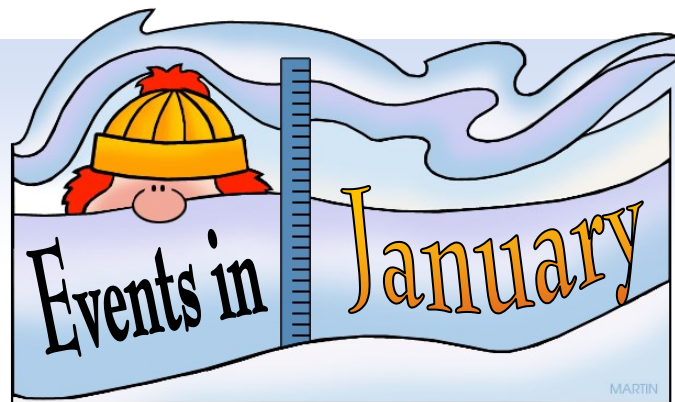
New Year's Eve Party



No G.L.O.W. meetings on December 23 or December 30.

Enjoy time with your family and friends.

G.L.O.W. Youth



Sunday, January 6 ~ 6:30 - 8 p.m.

In the Youth Rooms

G.L.O.W. Game Night

It will be an evening of a variety of games.



Sunday, January 13 ~ 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Games, Devotion, and Snack

During this meeting, some of the topics discussed will be peer pressure, bullying, suicide, unchurched friends . . .



Sunday, January 20 ~ 1 - 3 p.m.

G.L.O.W. will bowl with the Men of Wesley at the P-Nut Bowl.

Come, join the Men of Wesley for an afternoon of bowling at Bloomsburg's P-Nut Bowl. Those who attend will be asked for \$5 to help pay for games; UMM pay for the shoe rental; youth group will pay additional costs.

Following the bowling activity, there will be pizza for everyone in the church's social room.



Sunday, January 27 ~ 12 - 7 p.m. ~ Location to be announced

Snow Tubing

Immediately after the 10:30 a.m. worship service, G.L.O.W. youth will head out for snow tubing somewhere with good snow. In case of no snow or frigid temperatures, there will be a trip to Skyzone.

There will be a cost for this activity, but the G.L.O.W. account will pay for part of each ticket.

To be part of this activity, RSVP by Friday, January 25.



Friday, February 1, 7 p.m. - Saturday, February 2, 12:30 p.m.

Winter Lock-In

Youth, come for an evening of food preparation, cookie-making, manhunt, movie, and midnight worship.

On Saturday morning, G.L.O.W. will serve the Community Friendship Meal.

Giant Food Stores & Weis Markets Gift Cards



You can purchase Cash for Causes gift cards for Giant Food Stores and Weis Markets that will help G.L.O.W. earn cash for their 2018 mission trip. Gift cards are available every Sunday morning, in the Coffee Café. Cards are available in amounts of \$25, \$50, or \$100 — and, you get dollar for dollar what you spend. Don't forget: Cash for Causes gift cards make terrific gifts during this season of giving. Your purchase will not only provide a gift for someone, but you will be helping the youth, too.

Here is an example of what the youth will earn: \$500 of gift cards = \$25. The profit for the youth is 5%. This is an easy way to support the youth. The cards can be purchased with cash or checks. Checks should be made to Wesley United Methodist Church and in the memo line write – "Cash for Causes."

Cash for Causes will be an ongoing fundraiser so you can purchase cards on Sunday mornings or E-mail or call Sue (drf52@aol.com or 570.387.0402 or 570.594.1914) to let her answer questions or get gift cards to you.

Wesley United Methodist Church Leadership —

Church Council:

Chairperson of the Church Council Phil Burrell
Vice Chairperson of the Church Council (elected by Council)
Recording Secretary Katie Knorr
Lay Leader Todd Davis

Lay Member to Annual Conference Kathy Beidler
Lay Member to Annual Conference Tom Ross

Treasurer
Trustee Treasurer Darrell Frederick
Financial Secretary (staff/voice/no vote) Cindy Williams

Church Historian Robert Dunkelberger

Chairperson or Representative of Ministry Teams:

Evangelism
Missions Donna Gillaspay

Chairperson or Representative of Standing Committees:

Staff Parish Relations Committee George Flick
Board of Trustees (elected by Trustees)
Finance and Stewardship (chosen by Committee)
Permanent Endowment Committee John Reibsome

Chairperson or Representative of:

United Methodist Women Cathy Casey
United Methodist Men Shawn McCreary
Young Adult Cassie Hoffman
Youth Representative Evan Long

Other Members-At-Large (as determined by the Committee on Lay Leadership):

Jen Hipps
Julie Millard
Gloria Young

Alternate Lay Member to Annual Conference Ann Beagle

Membership of the Staff Parish Relations Committee:

Chairperson: George Flick
Secretary: Brian Willie
Lay Members: Kathy Beidler and Tom Ross
Lay Leader: Todd Davis

Class of 2019
George Flick
Brian Willie

Class of 2020
Deb Forsythe
Trudy Hauck
Patti Hock

Class of 2021
Jennifer Anderson

Serving You Throughout The Year 2019

Membership of the Board of Trustees:

Chairperson: Terry Hock
Vice Chairperson: TBA
Secretary: TBA
Treasurer: Darrell 'Sonny' Frederick

Class of 2019
Sandy Cooper
Terry Hock
Susan Lunger

Class of 2020
Dale Beagle
Ed Knorr
Tom Ross

Class of 2021
Tim Mauk
Kent Reinford

Membership to the Committee on Lay Leadership:

Chairperson: Pastor Mark

Class of 2019
Gerri Danilowicz
Jen Hipps
Dave Swisher

Class of 2020
Donna Flick
Kathy Heddens
Deb Stewart

Class of 2021
Brian Bercher
Susanne Norton
Laura Powell

Membership of the Finance and Stewardship Committee:

Chairperson
Lay Member/Church Council Chairperson Phil Burrell
Lay Leader Todd Davis
Staff Parish Relations Committee
Trustees Chairperson
Financial Secretary (staff/voice/no vote) Cindy Williams
Treasurer
Trustee Treasurer Darrell Frederick

Members at Large:

Class of 2019
Patrick Dorion
Darrell Frederick

Class of 2020
Doug Gerasimoff
Jen Hipps

Class of 2021
Ken Stewart

Permanent Endowment Fund Committee:

Chairperson: John Reibsome

Class of 2019
Jane Bercher
William Forsythe

Class of 2020
Elaine Hartman
Nichol Reinford

Class of 2021
Susan Hill
John Reinford

Scholarship Committee:

Convener: TBA

Class of 2019
Lois Sauers
Patty Welliver

Class of 2020
Janet Bodenman
Tim Mauk

Class of 2021
DeAnne Casteel
Billee Horn

Gensemer Music Endowment Committee:

Class of 2019
Ben Willis
Vicky Burnside

Class of 2020
Kimberly Nissen
Laura Powell

Class of 2021

Additional 2019 Wesley Leadership

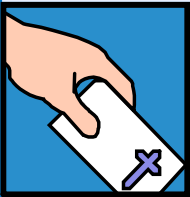
Boy Scout Committee:

Cubmaster Dennis Frolich
Committee Chairperson Paul Bejger
Advancement Chairperson Jeanne Bejger
Committee Secretary Joshua Flook
Unit Commissioner Louise Grove
Chartered Organization Representative Russell DeVore
Member At Large Douglas Gerasimoff

Church Membership Secretary Kelly Stiner

Assistant Membership Secretary Deb Stewart

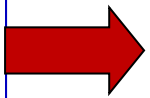
Assistant Treasurer Michael Upton



Contributions For 2018

While contemplating year-end giving to Wesley Church, please note that all monetary donations for the current calendar year must be in the church office by Thursday, December 27, 2018, in order for them to be credited to your 2018 giving statement. This includes weekly giving, Christmas Eve offering, or any over and above gifts you may want to make. Any of these year-end contributions can be placed in the offering plate on Christmas Eve — Monday, December 24. If you plan to mail a contribution, please do so early in order to allow plenty of time for it to reach the church office. If you would rather bring your envelope to the office, you can do so any weekday.

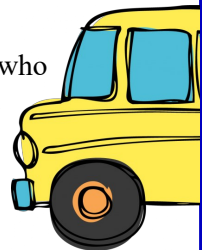
Remember: the Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), Text Giving, and Electronic (website) options are available for those who may want to make weekly offerings through a direct transfers. Contact financial secretary, Cindy Williams in the church office (phone: 570.784.1407 or E-mail: cwilliams@wesleybloom.org) to learn how you can choose any of these options.



Special Guidelines To Remember In The New Year

Use Of The Church Van

A church van request form was created and implemented on November 1, 2018. All those who wish to use the church van should complete a request form prior to the time it is needed and as soon as the need is known. The church van request form was created so that all usage is scheduled on the church calendar. In addition to making sure the usage is scheduled, it will help to lessen the chance of conflicts that may arise should more than one group have reason to make use of it at the same time.



Borrowing From The Church

Occasionally a church member makes a request to borrow an item that belongs to the church. Please note that while this is allowed, it is important to stop at the church office to sign out the requested item(s). Items are sometimes borrowed and not returned in a timely manner or not at all. Be sure to stop at the office where there is a sign-out form for all items being borrowed.

News of the Limited Activity Members (LAMs)

By Cynthia Willis, LAMs Coordinator

December LAM of the month . . . Reverend Derwood Strunk

Reverend Strunk is one of Wesley's former pastors. He now lives in Lititz.

January LAM of the month . . . Bernie Van Horn

Bernie is husband to Diane, Wesley's former financial secretary.



Holy Communion at Bloomsburg Health Care Center

211 East First Street, Bloomsburg, PA

Thursday, December 20, 2018 ~ 2:30 p.m.

Led by Sandy Cooper, Gail Menapace, and Harland Shoemaker

Thursday, January 17, 2019 ~ 2:30 p.m.

Led by Sandy Cooper, Gail Menapace, and Janet Lee

Residents and Visitors Welcome!



Worship at Brookdale Assisted Living Center

420 Shaffer Road, Bloomsburg, PA

No worship at Brookdale during December

Sunday, January 28, 2018 ~ 2 p.m.

January worship will be led by Jane Barton Hack and Cynthia Willis.

Home Holy Communion Thanks

A sincere "thank you" is extended to all those who regularly serve Home Holy Communion to the Wesley LAMs. During the month of December, special thanks is extended to the following for serving as the Holy Communion visitors: Jane and Brian Bercher, April and Dennis Frolich, Louise Grove, Tim Mauk, Pastor Mark Reisinger, and Cynthia Willis.

All are welcome to serve Home Communion to the Wesley LAMs. If interested, contact Cynthia Willis at 570.784.1407, or E-mail cwillis@wesleybloom.org.

**"Journey Through Grief" meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month.
All who deal with loss are welcome to this relaxing and refreshing gathering.**

December/January Greeters/10:30 a.m.

December 2, The First Sunday of Advent

Deb and Bill Forsythe ~ Third Street
Robert Dunkelberger ~ Market Street

December 9, The Second Sunday of Advent

Donna and George Flick ~ Third Street
Gail Menapace ~ Market Street

December 16, The Third Sunday of Advent

Sue and Sonny Frederick ~ Third Street
Susan and Jeff Hill ~ Market Street

December 23, The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Laura and Todd Davis and Family ~ Third Street
Jeanne and Paul Bejger ~ Market Street

December 30, The First Sunday after Christmas Day

Judy Ryan ~ Third Street
Wendy and Steve Krum ~ Market Street

January 6, Epiphany Sunday

Katie Knorr ~ Third Street
Ed Knorr ~ Market Street

January 13, The Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Kristene and John Reibsome ~ Third Street
DeAnne and Jerry Casteel ~ Market Street

January 20, The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Jerry Beidler ~ Third Street
Kathy Beidler ~ Market Street

January 27, The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Billee Horn ~ Third Street
Gloria and Richard Cope ~ Market Street

Christmas Eve Greeters

Donna Gillaspay ~ Third Street 2 p.m.
Susanne Norton ~ Market Street, 2 p.m.

Beverly and Taylor Wintersteen ~ Third Street, 7 p.m.
Wayne, Katie, Emma, Abby, and Donald Shuman
~ Market Street, 7 p.m.

Kim, Shawn, and Jenna McCreary ~ Third Street, 11 p.m.
Norma and Dean Schultz ~ Market Street, 11 p.m.

January/February Altar Guild

Janet Lee and Eileen Thomas



*The first fall of snow is not only an event, it is a magical event.
You go to bed in one kind of a world and wake up in another quite different,
and if this is not enchantment then where is it to be found? ~ J. B. Priestley*

LAMs December/January Birthdays

Vivian Kitchen ~ December 13

65 Pony Trail Drive
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

Mary Ann Hartman ~ December 19

345 Iron Street, Apt. 203
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

Charlie Werner ~ January 18

1002 Cathreine Street
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

Eric Livsey ~ January 21

Weatherwood Nursing & Rehabilitation
1000 Evergreen Avenue
Weatherly, PA 18255



December/January Greeters/Ushers/8 a.m.

December 2

Melissa and Terry Everhart

December 9

Shelly and Jim Tyson

December 16

Maxine and Terry Werkheiser

December 23, December 30, & January 6

No 8 a.m. worship

January 13

Cathy and Harry Casey
Lois Sauers

January 20

Gayla Jean Horn
Eileen Thomas

January 27

Geri and Bob Hewlett



**December
Nursery Volunteers
10:30 a.m.**

December 2:
Kathy Heddens
Glenda Kowalski

December 9:
Glenda Kowalski
Adria Unger

December 16:
Abby Burrell
Louise Grove
Beverly Wintersteen

December 23 and 30:
Not Staffed

**December/January
Children's Chat Leaders**

December 9
Ed and Katie Knorr

December 23
Laura Davis

January 13
Pat Weir

January 27
Kelly Stiner

**December Ushers
10:30 a.m.**

Tom Cooper ~ Ira Hauck
John Reibsome ~ Bruce Weir

January Ushers/10:30 a.m.

Dawn and John Bressler ~ Kathy and Bruce Musser
Nancy and David Swisher

**December/January
Liturgists**

December 2:
Jane Bercher, 8 a.m.
Cynthia Willis, 10:30 a.m.

December 9:
Jennifer Anderson, 8 a.m.
Allison Burrell, 10:30 a.m.

December 16:
Cathy Casey, 8 a.m.
Sue Frederick, 10:30 a.m.

December 23:
No 8 a.m. service
Todd Davis, 10:30 a.m.

December 24, Christmas Eve:
Liturgists to be Announced

December 31:
No 8 a.m. worship
Eileen Chapman, 10:30 a.m.

January 6:
No 8 a.m. worship
John Reibsome, 10:30 a.m.

January 13:
Eileen Thomas, 8 a.m.
Robert Dunkelberger, 10:30 a.m.

January 20:
Cathy Casey, 8 a.m.
Jennifer Anderson, 10:30 a.m.

January 27:
Jane Bercher, 8 a.m.
Pat Weir, 10:30 a.m.

January Acolytes

January 6:
No 8 a.m. service
Abby Burrell, 10:30 a.m.

January 13:
Sage DePoe-Grove, 8 a.m.
Ethan Flook, 10:30 a.m.

January 20:
Zoe Ross, 8 a.m.
Caden Long, 10:30 a.m.

January 27:
Sage DePoe-Grove, 8 a.m.
Taylor Wintersteen, 10:30 a.m.

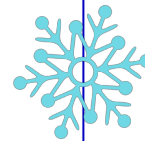
**Advent Candle
Lighters/Readers**

**December 2
The First Sunday of Advent**
Patti and Terry Hock
8 a.m.
Tana and Dave Cooper
10:30 a.m.

**December 9
The Second Sunday of Advent**
Cathy Casey and Lois Sauers
8 a.m.
Janet Lee and Sandy Norton
10:30 a.m.

**December 16
The Third Sunday of Advent**
Donna and George Flick
8 a.m.
Monica, Evan, and Caden Long
10:30 a.m.

Other Advent candle volunteers
will be announced.



*I love snow for the same reason I love Christmas:
It brings people together while time stands still.
Cozy couples lazily meandered the streets
and children trudged sleds and chased snowballs.
No one seemed to be in a rush to experience anything
other than the glory of the day, with each other, whenever and however it happened."*

~ Rachel Cohn, Dash & Lily's Book of Dares



December/January Sound Technicians

December 2 ~ Spencer Ross, 8 a.m.
Steve Karaffa, 10:30 a.m.

December 9 ~ Tracy Stone, 8 a.m.
Phil Burrell, 10:30 a.m.

December 16 ~ Spencer Ross, 8 a.m.
John Stone, 10:30 a.m.

December 23 ~ Steve Karaffa, 10:30 a.m.

December 24 ~ TBA, 2 p.m.
Steve Karaffa, 7 p.m.
John Stone, 11 p.m.

December 30 ~ John Stone, 10:30 a.m.

January 6 ~ Spencer Ross, 8 a.m.
Steve Karaffa, 10:30 a.m.

January 13 ~ Tracy Stone, 8 a.m.
Phil Burrell, 10:30 a.m.

January 20 ~ Spencer Ross, 8 a.m.
Steve Karaffa, 10:30 a.m.

January 27 ~ John Stone, 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

December/January Projectionists

December 2 ~ Ross Family, 8 a.m.
Josh Flook, 10:30 a.m.

December 9 ~ Ross Family, 8 a.m.
Ben Burrell, 10:30 a.m.

December 16 ~ Ross Family, 8 a.m.
Jacob Cuddeback, 10:30 a.m.

December 23 ~ Josh Flook, 10:30 a.m.

December 24 ~ Jacob Cuddeback, 2 p.m.
Phil Burrell, 7 p.m.
TBA, 11 p.m.

December 30 ~ Phil Burrell, 10:30 a.m.

January 6 ~ Ross Family, 8 a.m.
Josh Flook, 10:30 a.m.

January 13 ~ Ross Family, 8 a.m.
Ben Burrell, 10:30 a.m.

January 20 ~ Ross Family, 8 a.m.
Jacob Cuddeback, 10:30 a.m.

January 27 ~ Ross Family, 8 a.m.
Josh Flook, 10:30 a.m.



Food Cupboard Needs for December:

Canned Fruit ~ Pasta Side Dishes



Food Cupboard Needs for January:

Dry Pasta ~ Spaghetti Sauce (no glass jars)



Please consider bringing one or more of the above items when you come to worship on Sunday morning.

Food Cupboard contributions can be left at the Donation Station inside the Murray Avenue door.

Remember: Food Cupboard contributions can be placed there at any time during the week.

Please be generous during the winter and the holiday-time of the year.

Thank you for helping those who are hungry.

Please Note These Wesley Tidings Reminders



Please remember that this is a combined issue of *Wesley Tidings* —
December 2018 and January 2019.

The newsletter will next be published at the end of January.
It will be the February issue.

The deadline for the February issue is Sunday, January 13, 2019.

Newsletter articles and information can be sent to et@wesleybloom.org,
or it can be dropped off at the church office at any time.

Pastor:

Reverend Mark F. Reisinger
mreisinger@wesleybloom.org



Administrative Assistant:

Eileen D. Thomas
ethomas@wesleybloom.org



Director of Music:

Jordan R. Markham
jmarkham@wesleybloom.org



**LAMs Visitation and
Director of Young People's Choir:**

Cynthia Willis
cwillis@wesleybloom.org



Financial Secretary:

Cindy Williams
cwilliams@wesleybloom.org



Technology Coordinator:

Jacob Cuddeback
jcuddeback@wesleybloom.org



Custodian:

William Laudermilch
wlaudermilch@wesleybloom.org



Kitchen Coordinator:

Louise Grove
lgrove@wesleybloom.org



Wedding Hostess:

Donna Gillasp
dgillasp@bloomu.edu

**Start the new year
by worshipping at Wesley
during January.**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

And so it began — this journey to Bethlehem. That little town recreated right here in the Wesley Church sanctuary. Volunteers both young and old came to help plan, build, and stage the famous little town. Men and women, boys and girls, appeared day after day — night after night — to cut, paint, put together, re-paint, build, decorate, light, and on and on. That was 2017. This year, in 2018, those same volunteers came once again to rebuild our Bethlehem — Wesley Church's Bethlehem in Bloomsburg.

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.*

*Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.*

*O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born to us today.*

*We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!*

Verses 1 & 4, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*
Words by Phillips Brooks, ca. 1868

These inspiring and meaningful words accompany many sincere and grateful words of thanks to all those who once again gave of their time and energies to volunteer their efforts to rebuild Bethlehem — for the second time — in the Wesley Church sanctuary. Please know that you are appreciated more than any words can ever convey.

January 2019 Worship at Wesley Church

Sunday, January 6 ~ Epiphany Sunday
Wesley's Covenant Service at 10:30 a.m. (one service only)

Sunday, January 13 ~ The Baptism of the Lord Sunday
Worship returns to both 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, January 20 & 27 ~ Sundays after the Epiphany
Worship at both 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Wesley United Methodist Church

Wesley United Methodist Church

Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania ~ wesleybloom.org



The Mission of Wesley Church is to:

KNOW Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

GROW in faith through worship, prayer, and study.

GO . . . in service to Christ and His world.

The Purpose of Wesley Church is to create disciples who serve Jesus Christ.

Sunday Worship at Wesley

8 a.m. ~ Early Worship and 10:30 a.m. ~ Worship and Praise Celebration

9:15 a.m. ~ Sunday School ~ Classes for all ages.

Nurseries available during worship and Sunday School times.

The Wesley Church Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 12 noon and 1 - 5 p.m.

Telephone: 570.784.1407 Fax: 570.784.7937

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

from the

Wesley Staff . . .

Pastor Mark Reisinger

Jacob Cuddeback ~ Donna Gillaspay

Louise Grove ~ Bill Laudermilch

Jordan Markham ~ Beth Mauk ~ Eileen Thomas

Cindy Williams ~ Cynthia Willis



January 2019

The opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Matthew 2: 11b, NRSV

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:30 Wesley Staff 7:00 AFG Stepping Stones to Recovery</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:15 Bells In Bloom 7:30 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:00 Young People's Choir</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:30 Friendship Meal Sponsored by Sojourners</p>
<p>EPIPHANY 6</p> <p>9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 6:30 G.L.O.W. 7:00 Starlight</p>	<p>7</p> <p>1:00 Wesley Quilters</p>	<p>8</p> <p>1:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:30 Columbia Child Development Board 7:00 Church Council</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:30 Wesley Staff 7:00 AFG Stepping Stones to Recovery</p>	<p>10</p> <p>12:00 UMW General Mtg. 6:15 Bells In Bloom 6:30 Cub Pack 25 7:30 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:30 Friendship Meal Sponsor needed</p>
<p>BAPTISM OF 13 THE LORD</p> <p>8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 12:00 G.L.O.W. Snow Tubing 7:00 Starlight</p>	<p>14</p> <p>1:00 Wesley Quilters</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7:00 Journey Through Grief</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:30 Wesley Staff 7:00 AFG Stepping Stones to Recovery</p>	<p>17</p> <p>2:30 Holy Communion at Bloom Health Care Center 6:15 Bells In Bloom 6:30 Cub Pack 25 7:30 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>18</p> <p>5:00 Young People's Choir</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:00 Men's Breakfast 10:30 Friendship Meal Sponsored by Bloom Christian Church</p>
<p>20</p> <p>8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 1:00 Men of Wesley Bowling/Pizza</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance Church Office Closed</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:30 Wesley Staff 7:00 AFG Stepping Stones to Recovery</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:15 Bells In Bloom 6:30 Cub Pack 25 7:30 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5:00 Young People's Choir</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:30 Friendship Meal Sponsored by Bloom Rotary</p>
<p>27</p> <p>8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 2:00 Brookdale Worship 6:00 G.L.O.W. 7:00 Starlight</p>	<p>28</p> <p>1:00 Wesley Quilters</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:30 Wesley Staff 7:00 AFG Stepping Stones to Recovery</p>	<p>31</p> <p>6:15 Bells In Bloom 6:30 Cub Pack 25 7:30 Sanctuary Choir</p>		