#### Wesley United Methodist Church



## Wesley Tidings

**April 2024** 

Volume 15, Issue 4

#### What's Inside this issue:

Financial State- ments Easter Flowers Counters Annual Conference 2024 Pastor's Disc Fund Pictorial Directory	2
Safer Sanctuaries Harmony House TFAM	3
UMCOR kits UWF Spiritual Life Retreat	4
UWF Candle Burning Wesley's UWF AME pics	5
Earth Day Hospitality for Annual Conf.	6
Child Abuse Prevention Month Lay Minister Training 61st Anniversary MLBS	7
Prayer Concerns	8
Birthdays/Anniv. Fellowship Signup	9
Pictures Harmony House-Potluck	10
Pictures Harmony House/TFAM	11
Pics-Youth, MDO	12
Maundy Thursday April Calendar	13
Native American	14

Ministries

## pastor's Ponderings



#### PEOPLE OF RESURRECTION IN A GOOD FRIDAY WORLD

John 20:18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord" and she told then that Jesus had said these things to her.

https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/actimagelink.pl?RC=46250 (Artist: Bondone, Giotto di, 1266? -1337)

Dear Wesley Church Family,

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The month of March has celebrated as Women's history month in the United Methodist tradition and the international women's day was celebrated around the globe on March 8th. John 20:18 says that Mary Magdalene went to tomb and then announced to the disciples that she had seen the resurrected Christ as LORD. Mark 16:1 says that Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of Jesus and Salome went to the tomb with spices. These women followed Jesus in very phase of his ministry. Mary Magdalene loved Jesus so much and she poured the costly perfume and anointed Jesus' feet on one occasion.

These women disciples' names are written but there are many other women in the Bible, in the history and in our families whose names are not written or known by others. The message is "I Have Seen the LORD". The invitation for each one of us is to live as people of resurrection, that means living with hope, joy and follow the way of Christ



by believing in Christ's words. We are called to live as people of resurrection in a Good Friday world as this world is broken world, imperfect world, this world's way is to crucify our Lord and Savior after singing Hosannas on Palm Sunday. This world and culture may not allow us to say I Have seen the Lord like Mary said. But with the power of God the Holy Spirit, let us say and live as people who have seen the Christ and who are living with the hope that Christ' love and light shines in and through us to everyone whom we are called to serve and love. Let us remember all the women who said I have seen the Lord and thank God for their life and legacy.

May the Joy and Hope of Resurrection be with you all! Rev. Dr. Archana Samuel

Page 2 Wesley Tidings April 2024



#### **Cut Flowers for the cross**

As a witness to the Resurrection and new life through Jesus Christ, you are invited to come arrange cut flowers in the church cross anytime Easter after sunrise, bring flowers for a visual proclamation to the world of God's blooming love for all.

#### Pastor's Discretionary Fund



Pastor's Discretionary Fund

The Pastor's Discretionary Fund is running low. Donations to this fund help our local community with utility bills during difficult financial times. Thank you for your generosity to allow this important outreach to continue.

Contact person, Sylvia Krisnow

#### **New Pictorial Directory:**

We will be putting together a new photo directory. Anne Companion will be taking portraits for the directory after church April 14th and 28th.

#### Sign up for a time slot to have your portrait taken here:

https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm? go=s.signup&urlid=20F0F4BABAB29A57-48793810portraits&useFullSite=true#/

Contact: Anne Companion

www.annecompanionphotography.com

#### **Counters for April:**

- 7–Marsha Ames/Stephanie Eitzen 14–Stephanie Eitzen/Amy Stanley
- 21-Amy Stanley/Debbie Andersen
- 28—Debbie Andersen/Pat Fitzgerald

Contact person, Amy Stanley



MONEY COUNTERS

## The First Quarter Financial Statements



The First Quarter Giving Statements will be on the Information Counter next to the Sanctuary April 7-28. You can see your giving statements online at https://onrealm.org/WesleyUnitedMet/ SignIn or pick yours up at Church.

If you want me to mail or email your statement to you, just let me know. Kathann Montague, Financial Secretary, 757-722-8744, kdm8989@cox.net



#### Annual Conference 2024

The 2412nd session of the Virginia Annual Conference, to be held in Hampton, VA, June

20-22, 2024.

The Annual Conference General Agenda is now available: https://doc.vaumc.org/AC2024/GenAgenda2024Feb15.pdf.

Some highlights of this year's conference include:

- -A pre-conference gathering to celebrate Juneteenth and consider the ongoing pursuit of intersectional justice in the Virginia Annual Conference
- -Clergy Session and Laity Session will take place at 8:30am on Thursday.
- -Annual Conference will be called to order with opening worship at 10:30am on Thursday.
- -The memorial service will be held at 2:00pm on Friday.
- -A Service of Recognition and Call will be held at 9:30am on Saturday.

Child care will be at 1st UMC, NN. There are limited reservations.

Go to: https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/index.php?eventid=786866&



#### **Safer Sanctuaries Training**

We will be offering Safer Sanctuaries Training this April. This training is a 3 hour course that will be taught online. The class will be offered twice: Saturday, April 13 or Saturday, April 20. You can pick either day that works better for you.

This training is for any ministry leaders who would like to receive updated information about the new Safer Sanctuaries resource that was published through the General Board of Discipleship.

Cost is \$5.

To register please click link below. Once you register, you will be sent information on how to make a payment. The Zoom Link will be sent closer to the dates of the training.

We hope you can join us! If you have any questions, please call the Mission Rivers District at 757.879.9472.

#### **Safer Sanctuaries:**

Time: 8:30 am - 11:30am Dates: Class One: 4/13 Class Two: 4/20

SIGN UP LINK: https://

forms.gle/7njtbKG17MnNC3BW6

Contact person: Lynn Manley Administrative Assistant Mission Rivers District 757.879.9472



## Harmony House Presents: Streets of Gold Friday, April 12th—7PM



We're a Southern Gospel Quartet from central Virginia. We love traveling throughout the area singing about the love of Christ and meeting new people wherever we are. We try to do many of the traditional gospel songs as well as some originals and some that are a little more obscure. Whatever we sing though needs to lift up the name of Jesus and be a light to those in the audience. Our prayer is that we can reach those who don't know Christ, inspire those who do and create an enjoyable and immersive musical experience for all.

Suggested Generous Donation for Performers Snack Available for donation

Contact person, Jerry Sowers

## Tidewater Friends of Acoustic Music Presents: Lana and Kim



April 26th at 7PM

Suggested Generous
Donation for
Performers
Snack Available for
donation

Singer/Songwriters Lana Puckett and Kim Person are known in the music industry for their award winning songwriting, heartfelt vocals, precision harmonies and intricate guitar work. Music critic Monette Austin best described their original music as songs "written in the Key of Life, and although their songs speak of ordinary things it's the way they arrange and put them together that is gaining them national attention.

Contact person, Jerry Sowers

Page 4 Wesley Tidings April 2024

Wesley's United Women in Faith will be collecting items for the UMCOR Menstrual Hygiene Kits for conference this year. Our goal is 50 kits. There will be bin outside the church office to drop off items.

#### **UMCOR Menstrual Hygiene Kit ("Period Pack") Materials:**

- One one-gallon size re-sealable bag
- Two 2 oz. bottle hand sanitizer
- Three 4-gallon bathroom trash bags
- One travel pack of wet ones
- 10 Tampons (5 regular and 5 super absorbency)—Unscented
- 10 Sanitary Napkins (Unscented)—Long super ultra-thin
- Bath-size soap (3 oz. bar or larger)—No Ivory or Jergen's soap (Do not remove from packaging)
- One pack of flushable wipes (42 count)—Unscented
- Six laundry detergent sheets—Laundry detergent sheets should be placed inside of a small plastic storage bag prior to being added to the kit.

#### Important Notes:

- All items must be new.
- Do not wash any of the items as they will no longer be considered new.
- Do not include any personal notes, money or additional materials in the kits.
- Contents of kits or the containers of kits should not be imprinted with cartoon characters, advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols.

The cost of the Menstrual Hygiene Kit has increased from \$14.00 to \$24.00.

Please send a single check to the Sager Brown Depot or the affiliate warehouse that will receive your donation of Menstrual Hygiene Kits. The check amount should cover the total number of kits times \$2.00 for the cost of shipping. On the memo line, please indicate that the funds are an additional donation to cover costs associated with relief supply kits.

#### Virginia Conference **United Women in Faith Spiritual Life Retreat**

Spiritual Revitalization and Healing United Women in Faith Spiritual Life Retreat



#### **Spiritual Revitalization and Healing**

These last few years have brought most of us a tremendous amount of stress and emotional wounds. We get up each day and "take care of business," but we desperately need a time apart for healing and renewal.

Whether the stress and wounds you carry come from the recent strife within our beloved United Methodist Church, our families, or other places, together we will spend time giving ourselves and others love, grace, acceptance, and forgiveness.

We will listen to the still and small voice of God and others in our lives who bring us wisdom.

We will experience guided meditations and visualizations to reflect and begin healing. Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUoc-CsrjovH9Ztdf45eu-GZFvn0pfXxoeL#/registration



#### United Women in Faith—Candle Burning

On Sunday, May 12th, the United Women in Faith will conduct a "Candle Burning" during the morning worship services. We will burn a candle *in honor or to remember* family, friends, special events, or special groups.

The candle will burn for as many seconds as we have pledged. The money pledged in support of UWF Worldwide undesignated missions. The \$.60 represents the amount of money needed to support the many worldwide mission projects of the UWF for one second. Anyone can support this project by filling out the form found at the usher stand and placing in the offering plate or in the UWF box in the office. **Please return by May 7th.** 

Please make out checks payable to: <u>Wesley United Methodist Women or UMW.</u> Contact Person, Nancy Gumbert

#### CANDLE BURNING REQUEST FORM

I WISH TO BURN THE C	CANDLE FOR SECONE	S
TO HONOR:		
	(Please Print)	
TO REMEMBER:		
	(Please Print)	
GIVEN BY:		
	(Please Print)	

\$.60 = 1 second; \$3.00 = 5 seconds; \$6.00 = 10 seconds; \$12.00 = 20 seconds; \$36.00 = 1 minute, etc.



#### **United Women In Faith**

Wesley's United Women in Faith met March 25th for a program on A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial given by Nancy Gumbert. We painted candles to remind us of our ties to the land and our sisterhood. Donations were collected, where 100% of the money will be given to Just Energy for All campaign, which mobilizes members to tackle the climate crisis by reducing greenhouse pass emissions and supporting 100 percent clean, renewable energy and a just energy transition.

Our next meeting will be April 22 at 6:30 PM in the fellowship hall. Our program will be on Hospitality. We will discuss: What does it mean to be a good host or good guest? What are the markers of good hospitality?

Does food play a part in your hospitality?

What does Hospitality convey to our guests?



We will also explore the Turquoise Table. Please bring a snack or dessert to share as we show our hospitality to each other!

Contact person, Nancy Gumbert

Below: March 9th—Pastor Archana spoke at the Christian Women United for a Better Community Unity Brunch







#### Earth Day - Honor and care for God's Creation

This year on April 22nd, we rally behind the theme "Invest In Our Planet", which highlights the importance of dedicating our time, resources, and energy to solving climate change and other environmental issues.

Investing in our planet is necessary to protect it and the best way to pave a path towards a prosperous future. When we Invest In Our Planet together, we are supporting healthy, happy, and wealthy communities worldwide. Visit EARTHDAY.ORG to learn more and sign up for updates on our work.



EARTHDAY.ORG is unwavering in our commitment to end plastics for the sake of human and planetary health, demanding a 60% reduction in the production of ALL plastics by 2040.

Our theme, Planet vs. Plastics, calls to advocate for widespread awareness on the health risk of plastics, rapidly phase out all single use plastics, urgently push for a strong UN Treaty on Plastic Pollution, and demand an end to fast fashion. Join us as we build a plastic-free planet for generations to come!

#### **Hospitality for Annual Conference**

As many of us know within the context of the Church, hospitality starts outside and that is no different for Annual Conference. There are several areas where coordinators will be needed as well as other volunteer positions and so I am asking you to be in conversation with your laity and in prayer for them for discernment to participate in hospitality for Annual Conference either as a coordinator or a volunteer. Please keep in mind that these ministry opportunities are not reserved for members to Annual Conference as members are required to attend the business sessions of Annual Conference, hence the need for all of our laity to be involved.

The coordinator positions that are available are:

shuttle bus

golf carts

traffic flow/parking

information guides

outdoor ops

Hospitality
Annual Conference



Coordinators will ultimately be responsible for developing a schedule for their volunteers while also serving as a point-of-contact for them. Once we get closer to Annual Conference, Neal Wise is more than willing to meet with all volunteers at the Hampton Roads Convention Center for a walk-through.

Please feel free to pass my contact information along to those who step forward to serve and thank you for supporting our role as host district.

Peace be with you,

Eric J. Vaudt

Pastor, Fox Hill Central UMC

(757) 851-2040/Cell: (757) 759-7484 <u>www.fhcumchampton.org</u>

Page 7 Wesley Tidings April 2024



## Certified Lay Minister training for Module One in April

What is a CLM? This is a lay person who deepens their ability to serve in their local church and district as lay leaders, preachers, connecting the church with mission in their community, parish nurses, children's or youth ministers, administrators, or congregational care ministers to name just a few! These lay people are dedicated to working beside the clergy as they answer the call to serve their churches and communities.

To become a CLM, the lay person must complete the BASIC and Spiritual Gifts courses through LSA. The individual then takes four modules of training, meets before dCOM for recommendation to the Board of Laity, and is approved by the Board of Laity. They require the support of their local church and the district as they work through the modules.

Courses will be taught by Rev. Dr. Joanna Dietz and Mrs. Jenn Robinson O'Brien. For more information, contact Joanna Dietz joannadietz@vaumc.org.

#### **Church Anniversary Breakfast Potluck**



Join us Sunday, April 7th at 9:00 AM to celebrate Wesley's 61st Anniversary.

Please bring a breakfast item to share.

#### **Mary Levin Bible Study**



#### April 3

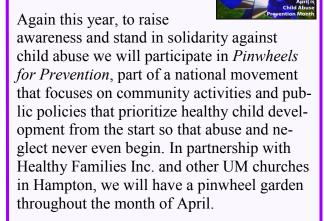
6:30 PM – Mary Levin Bible Study at Carol Hale's Home, 40 N Greenfield Avenue

#### April 17

6:30 PM – Mary Levin Bible Study TBA

Contact person, Sylvia Krisnow.

#### **April is Child Abuse Prevention Month**



The blue and silver pinwheels are a symbol for child abuse prevention that reflects child-hood hope, health and happiness. The pinwheel garden reminds us we all have a role to play in the health and protection of children.

Learning positive parenting skills is an important step to ensure that children feel safe and loved. Healthy Families Partnership has playgroups and parenting classes available to all Hampton residents for free. A small fee is paid for those living outside of Hampton.

Help Wesley highlight God's love for all people, particularly children, and our united voice against abuse of any kind!



Contact the church office for questions.



Page 8 Wesley Tidings April 2024

## Prayer Concerns



Ainsley Beall

Barbie Holland

Bill Mee

**Braylin Lewis** 

Daniel Fordham

Denise Fordham

Freta Lamb

Jeff Jones

Jim McKirdy

Joey Radford

Josh Worden

Joyce D'Bene

Lynn Thorne

Rachel Barrett

Savoy Morton

Susan Hunt

#### Other Concerns:

Prayer for our Conference (VAUMC) and all the congregations in our Conference and their ministry and mission. Leadership of VAUMC, Bishop Sue and the Cabinet, DS of all eight Districts. Our Mission Wesley and all the lay leaders and those who are in charge of various ministry/mission, Leadership Board team, and sub-groups. Preschool director, teachers, volunteers, and kids. Wesley families, youth, children, and senior adults, families who are going through difficult times, health issues, faith issues, grieving for loved ones, and all who seek God's guidance in their lives and jobs. For Suffering humanity, for comfort, peace, justice for those who seek love and grace from God and fellow human beings. Be with our congregation and those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries. Prayers for my friend an addict who is struggling with her addiction. Lord give her the courage to continue to battle her addiction. Travel Mercies.

#### **Glory Sightings**

Jim McKirdy- Watching a pair of sparrows building a nest in the bird house outside my sliding glass door. Sylvia Krisnow- Seeing a picture of Josh, his two brothers and mom taking him home from the Mayo Hospital. Seeing him smiling. Susan Brookman- Seeing pictures of a friend's great granddaughter, Amber, at home playing with her own toys and her puppy. She is three years old and had spent 75 days. Mark and Amy Stanley celebrated 39 years together March 16th. Lynnette Scalzi-Spending time with my youngest

granddaughter, Elizabeth. Pastor Archana-Having Abishek worshiping with us here today. School is going well for him. Jeanne Lineberry- Last week I had the chance to have conversations with several people, the x-ray tech at my dentist office, the hygienist shared that she was having knee surgery and while picking up my taxes I talked to the person there. Being able to share with strangers was a true Glory sighting for me. Cynthia Campbell-Friday I was in Bedford to celebrate my aunt's 80th birthday. On the drive there the mountains were so beautiful and I saw a group of clouds that were shaped like a cross, then I heard piano music coming from a small church that seemed to be about the cross. God was with me on my trip. Donna Turley- I had a beautiful birthday week. Thank you to everyone for the cards and birthday messages. Helen Cope- Celebrating my great-grandson, Anthony's, 18th birthday. Pastor Archana- I had the honor to preach at a Catholic Church in Richmond. I received several emails from people saying they enjoyed my message. I had given them a different understanding of being a Christian. I enjoyed the teaching the Lenten Study about becoming being a disciple and how we can be a witness now.



# Birthdays and Anniversaries

Jennifer Helbig

Joe Ames Tenisha Saylor Pilar Evans

- 7 Elaine Hudgens
- 8 Amanda Levy
- 14 Alba Evans

3

5

- 22 Abby Roberson Graham Snow Nancy Houston
- 26 Zach/Stephanie Eitzen (2008)
- 27 Ralph/Lynnette Scalzi (1982)28 Marsha Ames



#### New Videos on Disaffiliation and Social Principles

Disaffiliation and the Social Principles are the topics of the two new videos in the VAUMC Before Conference Conversations series. The Rev. Doug Forrester, Valley Ridge District Superintendent, talks about the history of disaffiliation and the disaffiliation legislation coming before General Conference. In the second video, Virginia General Conference delegate and General Board of Church and Society board member Alison Malloy discusses the proposed revision to the Social Principles.

Additional resources and information about General Conference can be found at https://vaumc.org/gc2024/.





## CHURCH

#### Fellowship Sign-up Needed

Anne Companion has set up this Sign-up Genius for Fellowship. Please sign-up if you are available.



April 21st slot is open. All slots in May are available.



Sylvia will gladly sign you up if you would like to email or call me. Anne Companion—757-814-0769

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0F4BABAB29A57-46960460-sunday

# ectionary Readings

**APRIL 07** | Second Sunday of Easter (White or Gold)

Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133 (UMH 850); 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31

APRIL 14 | 3rd Sunday of Easter Native American Ministries Sunday (White or Gold) Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4 (UMH 741); 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

APRIL 21 | 4th Sunday of Easter; Festival of God's Creation (White or Gold) Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23 (UMH 754 or 137); 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18 APRIL 28 | 5th Sunday of Easter (White or Gold) Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31 (UMH 752); 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8



Page 10 Wesley Tidings April 2024



Harmony House March 8—Clan MacCool Irish Potluck















Wesley April 2024 Page 11





Harmony House-March 8 continued







Tidewater Friends of Acoustic Music March 249h—Baddadz





Volunteers for Red Cross Blood Drive on March 11th

Page 12 Wesley Tidings April 2024









Above: Youth game day after March 21 service

L-R: Lynnette Scalzi reading to Mother's Day Out











Maundy Thursday Service March 28th

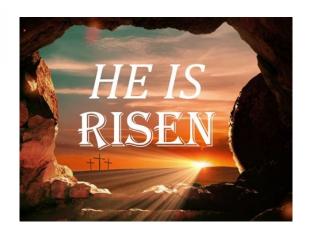


#### Wesley United Methodist Church

## 2510 N. Armistead Avenue Hampton, VA 23666

Phone: 757-838-3044 Fax: 757-838-1663

E-mail: secretary@wesleyhpt.hrcoxmail.com GretchenNelson@vaumc.org Website: http://www.hamptonwesley.org



#### Native American Ministry Sunday, April 14

This Special Sunday is a denomination wide celebration designed to raise awareness and remind United Methodists of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society. A gap in knowledge exists in The United Methodist Church, in congregations and other United Methodist entities, relative to comprehending concepts of Native American life, cultures, languages, spirit, values, contemporary issues, and such. We affirm the sacredness of indigenous people, their languages, cultures, and gifts to the church and the world.

An offering is taken on this Special Sunday to support vital ministries and churches in the Native American communities. The offering allows The United Methodist Church to partner with existing native ministries to develop new programs on behalf of Native Americans. Last year, your generosity delivered over \$243 thousand towards these ministries:

□ Fifty percent of the funds collected on Native American Ministries Sunday remain in the Annual Conference to develop and strengthen Native American ministries in the conferences.

□Twenty-five percent of donations received fund scholarships designated scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist schools of theology. A significant shortage exists of Native American pastors and trained professionals and these scholarships provide development, implementation, and assessment of a higher education recruitment/retention for Native Americans. Learn more about the Native American Ministries scholarship here.

Twenty-five percent of the donations collected are used to create beneficial programs. These funds allow the UMC to partners with existing native ministries to develop new programs on behalf of Native Americans. Some of those efforts include mentoring programs, peer support systems, funding for economic development projects, and restoring traditional and historic ways that bring forth new leaders for Native American communities.

Go to https://www.umc.org/en/content/native-american-ministries-sunday-ministry-article for more information.

