



# Wesley Tidings

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## Pastor's Ponderings

*HAPPY NEW YEAR 2024! Perceive the New Things with Hope!*

Dear Wesley church family,

Greetings with the love of Christ our Lord!

I hope you all had a blessed Advent season and a happy Christmas Day celebra-  
tion with your family and friends! Now, we are entering into a New Year 2024!  
New Year mostly comes with joyful celebrations but also with a sense of mixed  
messages, hopes, and expectations. What do we want to hear and listen to from  
God as we start 2024?

I want to share these two verses one from the Hebrew Scripture and one from  
the New Testament.

FORGET THE FORMER  
THINGS; DO NOT  
DWELL ON THE PAST.  
  
SEE, I AM DOING A  
NEW THING! NOW IT  
SPRINGS UP; DO YOU  
NOT PERCEIVE IT?

**Isaiah 43:18-19** God says” Forget the former things;  
do not dwell on the past. See I am doing a new thing!  
Now it springs up; do you not perceive?” Here is a call  
to forget what troubles you from your past life or last  
year and hope is given as a promise from God who  
can always create new things in our lives. Our respon-  
sibility is to perceive new things and live as people of  
God and disciples of Christ.

**In Romans 15:13** “May the God of hope fill you with  
all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may  
overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit”  
Friends in Christ, this is my prayer for each one of  
you as you start this New Year 2024.

God is the author and sustainer of our hope and God invites us to trust in Christ  
through which we can experience joy and peace. When you perceive the new  
things, God is going to do in your life, in our church, amidst your family and all  
the struggles you are facing, then God of hope will fill you with trust where that  
perception brings forth joy and peace and all possibilities of new life and minis-  
tries in Wesley church family! May God bless you all in this new year 2024 as  
we journey together as Christ’s followers! May the Holy Spirit empower you to  
perceive new things in 2024!

*Peace and Blessings!*  
*Rev. Dr. Archana Samuel*



## Red Cross Blood Drive

Red Cross Blood Drive will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Monday, January 15th from 1:00-6:00 PM.

Please donate if you can. Help is also needed to greet donors as they arrive.

Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Contact: Chris Companion

### EMERGENCY NEED



Blood donations are going to hospitals as quickly as they come in.

Please #GiveNow



**Harmony House  
Presents:**

**Ed Pettersen**

**Friday, January 12 at  
7 PM**

Passionate about expressing God's love through music, Ed has devoted his career to bringing faith and

music together. His concerts have proven to be an inspiration, bringing together uplifting melodies and stirring lyrics as he delivers a message of faith to his audience. By incorporating a captivating performance style, he brings biblical truths to life through music.

Involved in Christian music since the age of seventeen, Pettersen has always wanted to write and produce a solo project. The Mission isn't only the title of the album, it's the embodiment of what this effort has meant to him as it has come together. "I really wanted to inspire the listener to look at themselves and the world around them in a whole new way with this album" says Ed, "I pray that there's something in this collection to inspire everyone who listens."

Suggested \$5 donation for performer and for snacks.

## A Night's Welcome

Wesley UMC will be serving dinner to the guests at A Night's Welcome on Wednesday January 24th at First Baptist Church of Hampton, located at 229 N. King St.

If you can help prepare some of the food and/or help to serve dinner please let Anne Companion know (757-630-5860).

Dinner will be served to the guests at 6:30pm.

scullyfan@hotmail.com



## Tidewater Friends of Acoustic Music Presents:

**Jerry Sowers**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 26—7-9 PM**



Jerry Sowers is a Folk Singer/Songwriter from Newport News, VA. He received 2nd Place in Sea Level Festival Songwriters Competition, 2017. Winner of the Mike Aiken Festival Songwriters' Competition, 2016. Three published CDs of Traditional, contemporary and original folk music: 'Simple and Free' 2009; 'Many Windows of the Heart' 2015; 'Lessons from a Journey' 2019. He has performed in various venues throughout Virginia and North Carolina. Part time Public School Music Teacher with the Hampton City Schools. Presently teaching guitar at Kecoughtan High School. Part time Minister of Music at the Wesley United Methodist Church in Hampton, VA.

Manager of two coffeehouses which meet each month except for months of holidays. Dad, to two sons and Granddad to five grandchildren, who lovingly call him 'Dandy'. Choral music and educational pieces published by Lorenz Publishers, Chorister Guild and Genevox Publishers. My selection styles range from very peaceful to fun, introspective to humorous.

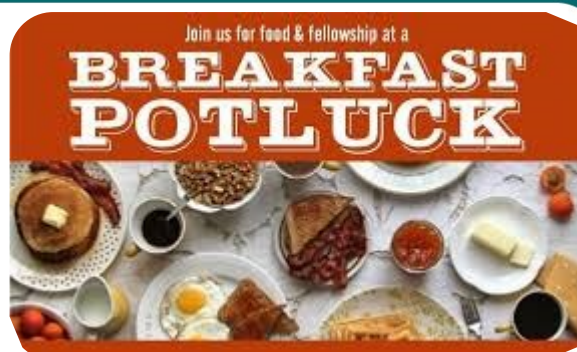
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Suggested \$5 donation for performer and for snacks.

## December 31

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday/New Year's Eve breakfast at church.  
Please bring a breakfast item to share.

No Sunday School and worship will be at 10:00 AM.



**Sunday,  
January 7, 10:00 AM.**

Baptismal Covenant Renewal Service

## The 2023 Financial Statements

The **Fourth Quarter Giving Statements** will be on the Information Counter next to the Sanctuary during January 7-28. You can see your giving statements online at <https://onrealm.org/WesleyUnitedMet/SignIn> or pick yours up during Church office hours (Monday-Thursday from 9 AM to 12 Noon—but call first to be sure Sylvia is there, 838-3044). If you want me to mail or email your statement to you, just let me know. Since these statements must be mailed, please be a good steward and pick up your copy by the 28<sup>th</sup> to save the cost of postage.

The **2024 Offering Envelopes** were distributed in December and hopefully you received yours. If you did not get a box and would like one, just let me know. Be sure to let me know if you have any questions about your financial statement, and remember that you can now see your Giving Statement in Realm 24/7 ([onrealm.org](https://onrealm.org)). Kathann Montague, Financial Secretary, 722-8744, [kdm8989@cox.net](mailto:kdm8989@cox.net)



**The Flower Calendar for 2024** is on the hallway wall outside the sanctuary. If you would like to provide flowers for Sunday worship services, please sign up, call or email the church office. The cost of the flowers is \$46.00.

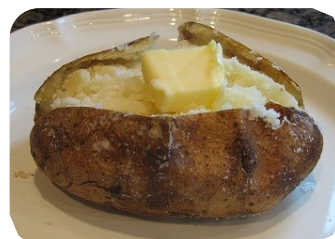
Contact person, Sylvia Krisnow





## United Methodist Women News

United Methodist Women will meet Monday, January 22nd in the fellowship Hall at 6:30 PM. We will have our annual Potato bar fellowship. Please bring a topping or dessert to share. The potatoes will be provided. At 7 PM, we will have a short business meeting.



All women are welcome. Contact Nancy Gumbert (WF president) for questions.



The United Women in Faith (UWF) are collecting shoes (all types and conditions) for Thrive, an organization in Newport News who help families in financial need (<https://www.thrivepeninsula.org/>). There is a big red bin outside the church office to put your donations. Contact person, Nancy Gumbert



United Women in Faith met for their Annual Advent Breakfast on December 2nd







Mary Levin Bible Study/United Women in Faith met for their Annual Christmas Party on December 6th at the home of Carol Hale.





## United Methodist Day at the General Assembly

United Methodist Day at the General Assembly is in-person in Richmond on February 1, 2024! United Methodists from across Virginia will gather together in Richmond. There will be formal visits with our representatives to discuss issues relevant to our faith with direction from our partners at Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy (VICPP), a time of learning with Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson, and much more packed into our day of advocacy.

United Methodist Day at the General Assembly  
Thursday, February 1, 2024  
The Pace Center  
700 West Franklin Street  
Richmond, Virginia

Early Bird Registrations through January 7, 2024 - \$25  
Regular Registration as of January 8, 2024 - \$35  
Student Registration - \$10

If you have any questions about this event, please contact Heather Wray at [heatherwray@vaumc.org](mailto:heatherwray@vaumc.org)

To register, go to:

<https://na.eventscld.com/ereg/index.php?eventid=767749&>



Thank you to all who helped provide a Merry Christmas for 40 precious children from our **Salvation Army Angel Tree**. With the guidance of the Salvation Army and the generous hearts of folks like you, 2100 local children received Christmas gifts this year.

Wesley UMC has been sharing in this ministry for over 40 years and it is one that touches so many in our community. Thank you again for your generosity, your kindness, and your love.

We'll do it again next year! —Susan Brookman



## Counter Schedule for January-February:

### January

7—Stephanie Eitzen/Clyde Gumbert  
14—Clyde Gumbert/Marsha Ames  
21—Marsha Ames/Pat Fitzgerald  
28—Pat Fitzgerald/Zach Eitzen



### February

4—Zach Eitzen/Amy Stanley  
11—Amy Stanley/Renee Arnold  
18—Renee Arnold/Debbie Andersen  
25—Debbie Andersen/Clyde Gumbert

Contact person, Amy Stanley

## Fellowship sign-up

Fellowship sign up for 2024 on Signup Genius. Go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0F4BABAB29A57-46960460-sunday#/>

Contact person, Anne Companion



## Mary Levin Bible Study—6:30 PM

January 3rd—Pat Fitzgerald's home

January 17th—Place to be Announced

Contact person, Sylvia Krisnow



# Prayer Concerns

Barbie Holland  
Brenda  
Brian Hill  
Donna Saylor  
Freta Lamb  
Gary Johnson  
Jim McKirdy  
Kati  
Kimberly Morris  
Pastor Jennifer Mercer  
Sam  
Savoy  
Sharon  
Tiffany  
Winfred Hawkins

## Concerns:

Tragedies occurring in our country and around the world, war, violence and sufferings of common people. Human trafficking and families affected in that cruel system. All who are grieving and for whom this season of festival looks more difficult without their loved ones. Our seniors, our church leadership, and ministries, all other groups using our building and their struggles to overcome. Persons who recover from addiction, those who wait for test results, treatments and surgeries, healing for those in pain. Those diagnosed with cancer. Prayers for all undergoing chemotherapy. Travel Mercies. Prayers for all suffering from the violence and war in the world. Be with people traveling this Holiday season. Be with our churches and their congregations, our district and conference. Prayers for the leaders of the world. Prayers

for everyone having tests and surgeries. All in our congregation celebrating birthdays and anniversaries. Prayers for families experiencing their first holiday after losing a loved one. Pastor Archana- Prayers for the people of India especially those in my hometown. They have had serve flooding and damage to property. Prayers for our city, state, country and world. All people effected by violence and war. Prayers for our church, conference and the United Methodist Church.



## *Our Christian Sympathy goes to the following families:*

Nancy Gumbert and family and her father Alan Wille on the death of Judy Kirlin.  
Larry Winfree and family on the death of Nina Marie Radford.  
Prayers for the family of Brenda Queensberry.  
Family of Josiah Jackson.  
Amy Stanley and family on the death of her Aunt.

## *Glory Sightings:*

The wonderful concert last Sunday, December 10th . The harp and guitar students really showed off their talents. Thank you, Jerry and Cynthia. The Christmas Cantata was beautiful. It was a joy to hear the songs about Jesus' birth. Jack Rezabek- The Salvation Army bell ringing has had greater giving so far this year than last year. Many thanks to all who have donated. Jeanne Lineberry- Sharing the love God has given us with others. The Hampton Christmas Parade, Saturday evening. Susan Brookman- The joy of seeing all the gifts for the Angel Tree children. The effects of the world's violence on our communities. Our neighbor, who is Jewish, was afraid to put out her Menorah to celebrate Hanukkah. I saw later in the week that she had put the Menorah by her door. I said a prayer that she had put aside her fear to express her faith. We are all God's people no matter our faith. Nancy Gumbert- The Christmas party for Mary Levin Bible Study and United Women in Faith was a lot of fun. Lynnette Scalzi- Going to Donna and Eddie Page's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary party. What a joy to celebrate with them all the years they have been together. Jack Rezabek- Ringing the Salvation Army bell and leaving my shift with a full bucket of coins. Joyce D'Bene- On Friday I found out that my youngest grandson and his wife are expecting their first child and my 8<sup>th</sup> great-grandchild. Pastor Archana- Decorating our tree at the parsonage. Many thanks and blessing to Wesley for the wonderful home we have. It is our first time having a tree in a big house. Lynnette Scalzi- Watching my granddaughters, Skylar and Kaylin, swim on Saturday. It was a blessing seeing Skylar accomplish her swimming goals. Jeanne Lineberry- My friend, Jeff, has beaten cancer. Thanks for all the prayers from Wesley's prayer warriors.





Above—Dec 17—Choir Christmas Musical—Darkness into Light

Right—Narrators—Kerry Greenhill and David Raymond

Below—Lauren Gumbert's 25th BD Celebration—Dec 10th







Above—Dec 10—  
Harp and Guitar Concert  
Left/Right—Dec  
13—Sages at Franks  
Monster Munchies







## Mission Rivers District Training

Come and celebrate the start of a new year with a day of Worship, Fellowship and Education! Come for just the morning, just the afternoon or the whole day!

### Classes will include:

S/PPR Training  
Church Finance 101  
Safe Sanctuaries  
Simplified Accountability Structure  
How to Build a Youth Ministry  
Growing Your Social Media  
First Aid  
Mission Possible!

WHERE: Ebenezer UMC - 161 Embrey Mill Rd, Stafford, VA

WHEN: January 13th, 8:30-4:30 PM

WHAT: Morning and Afternoon classes, Lunch and Worship for all

### Tentative Schedule:

Registration/Sign In: 8:15am - 8:45am  
Worship: 9:00am - 10:00am  
Session One: 10:00am - 12:30pm  
Catered Lunch: 12:30pm - 1:30pm  
Session Two: 1:30pm - 4:00pm

### To Register go to:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScCoa\\_Udd\\_TQYwp2RuCUS6kYsYUrtk1osYbstGzYrgov9LhdQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScCoa_Udd_TQYwp2RuCUS6kYsYUrtk1osYbstGzYrgov9LhdQ/viewform)

## Lay Servant Academy Winter Training

Lay Servant Academy Training will take place February 23rd and 24th.

**This training will be virtual only.**

Registration will begin in early January!

Included in the course list are:

- Virginia UMC Roots, Racism, and Discipleship Advanced Course
- Basic Course
- Children and Youth Discipleship—Ministry with Parents/Guardians
- Spiritual Gifts
- Called to Preach

Save the dates!

Contact Tianna Durbin

[tiannad@arcolachurch.org](mailto:tiannad@arcolachurch.org),

Director of Lay Servant Academy with questions!

**LAY SERVANT**  
*Academy*



Above—  
Christmas  
Eve Can-  
dlelight  
Service

Right—  
Poinsettias







Dec 24—Top Left—Jerry Sowers and Cynthia Campbell Christmas Eve special music

Right above—Preparing for A Night's Welcome Breakfast bags—Chris and Anne Companion, Donna Turley, Vicky Moyer, Audrey and Nancy Gumbert.



Mother's Day Out—Above—Christmas Program

Left—Lynnette Scalzi reading and Christmas craft

<i>Birthdays and Anniversaries</i>	2	Donna Saylor	14	Pastor Snow/Sarah Snow (2006)
	3	Ralph Scalzi	16	Ariel Arus, Jr.
	6	Nancy Gumbert	24	Tara Lord
	9	Skip Saylor	27	Tom Fitzgerald
		Patrice Knight		Walter/Elizabeth Taylor (1978)
	11	Grace Fotis	30	Jim McKirdy
	12	Ed Guldner	31	Etta Marcolini
	14	Nancy Thompson		


### H.E.L.P. Food Pantry

There is a great need for all nonperishable food:  
Canned soup (seems to be the biggest need currently)  
peanut butter  
spaghetti noodles (all types of pasta)  
powdered milk  
canned meat (tuna, spam, canned ham, etc.)  
canned vegetables  
canned fruit  
canned chili  
canned spaghetti  
crackers  
boxed potatoes.  
Breakfast items: cereal, pancake mix, granola  
Toilet paper is also needed.

The food is delivered to the H.E.L.P. food pantry monthly.

Contact: Sherry Moore

rice  
boxed instant potatoes  
spaghetti sauce



Lectio

nary

Readings


**JANUARY 06 | Epiphany of the Lord**  
Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14 (UMH 795); Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

**JANUARY 07 | Baptism of the Lord (White or Gold)**  
Genesis 1:1-5; Psalms 29 (UMH 761); Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

**JANUARY 14 | 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany; Human Relations Day (Green)**  
1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20); Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18 (UMH 854); 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

**JANUARY 21 | 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany (Green)**  
Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalms 62:5-12 (UMH 787); 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

**JANUARY 28 | 4th Sunday after the Epiphany (Green)**  
Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalms 111 (UMH 832); 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28





# january

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31</b>  9:00am Potluck Breakfast 10:00am Worship Service In-person and Facebook live 7:00pm NA Recovery Group	<b>1</b> Office Closed 	<b>2</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 6:30pm NA Meeting 7:00pm SAA Meeting - Double Classroom	<b>3</b> 6:00pm Big Book Topic Group (AA) 6:30pm Mary Levin Bible Study - Location TBD	<b>4</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 6:00pm Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Group 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm Girl Scouts	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 5:00pm Choir Party at Cynthia Campbell's
<b>7</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service In-person and Facebook live 7:00pm NA Recovery Group 	<b>8</b> 7:00pm Metal Detector Club - Fellowship Hall	<b>9</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 5:00pm Leadership Board Meeting - John Phillips Classroom 6:30pm NA Meeting 7:00pm SAA Meeting - Double Classroom	<b>10</b> 6:00pm Big Book Topic Group (AA)	<b>11</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 6:00pm Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Group 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm Girl Scouts 	<b>12</b> 7:00pm Harmony House--Presents Ed Pettersen	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service In-person and Facebook live 7:00pm NA Recovery Group	<b>15</b> 1:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive - Fellowship Hall 	<b>16</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 6:30pm NA Meeting 7:00pm SAA Meeting - Double Classroom	<b>17</b> 6:00pm Big Book Topic Group (AA) 6:30pm Mary Levin Bible Study - Location TBD	<b>18</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 6:00pm Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Group 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm Girl Scouts	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service In-person and Facebook live 7:00pm NA Recovery Group	<b>22</b> 6:30pm UWF 	<b>23</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 6:30pm NA Meeting 7:00pm SAA Meeting - Double Classroom	<b>24</b> 12:00pm Newsletter Deadline 12:30pm Sages 6:00pm Big Book Topic Group (AA)	<b>25</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 6:00pm Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Group 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm Girl Scouts	<b>26</b> 7:00pm Tidewater Friends of Acoustic Music--Jerry Sowers 	<b>27</b> 10:00am PEO Group (non profit) - Fellowship Hall
<b>28</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service In-person and Facebook live 7:00pm NA Recovery Group	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 6:30pm NA Meeting 7:00pm SAA Meeting - Double Classroom	<b>31</b> 6:00pm Big Book Topic Group (AA)	<b>1</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 6:00pm Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Group 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm Girl Scouts	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

Our Calendar is updated daily! Please go to our website for a current calendar.

<http://www.HAMPTONWESLEY.ORG>

# Wesley United Methodist Church

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Website: <http://www.HAMPTONWESLEY.ORG>

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Prepared with love especially for:



## *Human Relations Sunday - January 14*

Human Relations Day is a denomination-wide Special Sunday that celebrates and raises awareness about the strength of human relationships. A special offering is received the Sunday before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday and contributes to building his vision of "the beloved community." Dr. King showed us that our response to God's call can be a powerful force for transformation throughout our society.

A portion of the Human Relations Day offering supports The Community Developers Program (CDP), which emerged from the civil rights movement in the early 1960s. Black Community Developers were recognized by the 1968 General Conference and the program became part of Global Ministries U.S. programming. Today, the CDP strives to build, maintain, promote and strengthen racial-ethnic minority congregations of The United Methodist Church through local congregations. Community developers engage their communities and the local church in a variety of activities depending on a community's needs.

Our gifts through the Human Relations Day offering pour out into the world, leading people out of challenging situations and into a life of abundant relationship with others and with God.

*To Donate, go to:*

[https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/vanco\\_ver3.vps?appver3=x1a8uAgje-8dTfwGAicT4jfYGSQ2YUK1meeOWIRPxd11YzobNDOqExusiAiLTuMtoo6-d3DQA40Rqw3EBWBnq49OLO7Dg8yDfJe-osqoHKPelRMIUQO1ws0MDmjSxQn1PNu4dk3RU8TgnE-2Qc-mSA==](https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=x1a8uAgje-8dTfwGAicT4jfYGSQ2YUK1meeOWIRPxd11YzobNDOqExusiAiLTuMtoo6-d3DQA40Rqw3EBWBnq49OLO7Dg8yDfJe-osqoHKPelRMIUQO1ws0MDmjSxQn1PNu4dk3RU8TgnE-2Qc-mSA==)