

**SERMON NOTES**

**The purpose of Wesley United Methodist Church is to proclaim God's love by: *Providing spiritual nurture to those who have accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior, and witnessing his love to those who have not yet accepted him; and by providing for the needs of the human community as God reveals them to us.***

We gather to publicly worship the Lord through Praise, Prayer, Word, and Sacrament. Worship is by definition a communal act. We gather in response to the grace already given to us through Jesus Christ. So at its heart, worship is about thanksgiving for the relationship established through the crucifixion and resurrection of our Savior. We bring a sacrifice of praise. We gather not as an audience, but as actors on a stage, directed by the worship leaders, directing our worship toward our audience: our faithful, awesome God.

**The Chancel Flowers** this morning are presented in loving memory of Perry Bratcher who befriended the Wesley Branches.

Participants in Today's Services:

Pastor: Amy D. Yarnall  
Organist: David E. Wilkins  
Acolyte: AJ McLellan  
Lay Reader: Michele Dryda  
Ushers: Tom Anderson, Ralph & Fran Deats, Dan & Helene Zeman  
Audio Operators: (8:00) Brian Wasko  
(9:45) Tony Asti  
(11:15) Joe Young  
Camera Operator (9:45) Alberta Ayree  
Media Operator: (11:15) Jacob Aucoin

**Hearing assistance devices are available.** Please speak with an usher if you are in need of one.

**A Family Restroom** can be found in the Music Suite on the same level as the Sanctuary by using the door to the left of the pulpit.

**Follow us on Twitter:** @doverwesleyumc

**Facebook: Wesley UMC Dover:** If you have a smart phone, tablet, etc., please "check in" when you are at Wesley UMC.

December 3, 2017  
**CHURCH CALENDAR**

**Sunday, December 3, 2017**

8:40 - 9:10 a.m. Youth Handbell Choir Rehearsal – Bell Room  
8:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School Classes – Education Building & Parlor  
9:15 - 9:45 a.m. Children’s Choir Rehearsal – Bell Room  
9:45 a.m. Children’s Sunday School – Grace Fellowship Hall  
9:45 a.m. Outreach Sunday School – Worship Service  
9:45 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary  
11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time – Visitors, please join us in Grace Fellowship Hall for a cup of coffee or juice, a cookie or two, and get acquainted with Wesley Church’s congregation.  
11:00 a.m. Cantata/Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room  
11:15 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary  
1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Confirmation Class – Grace Fellowship Hall  
2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Angel Rehearsal – Sanctuary  
3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Youth Group – Student Ministry Center  
5:30 p.m. Advent Dinner – Grace Fellowship Hall

**MONDAY, December 4, 2017**

7:00 p.m. Bible Study – *II Corinthians* – at the Cohens’ Home

**TUESDAY, December 5, 2017**

7:00 a.m. Men’s Bible Study – Education Building  
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting – Library  
2:00 p.m. Women’s Covenant – Parlor  
6:30 p.m. Church Charge Conference – Sanctuary

**WEDNESDAY, December 6, 2017**

9:30 a.m. Weekly Intercessory Prayer – St. Paul’s Chapel  
6:00 p.m. Soup & Bread Dinner – Grace Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m. La Caminante Spanish Service – St. Paul’s Chapel  
7:00 p.m. Bible Study led by Pastor Amy – Parlor  
7:00 p.m. N.A. Meeting – Education Building

**THURSDAY, December 7, 2017**

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir – Sanctuary  
7:00 p.m. SPRC – Parlor

**SATURDAY, December 9, 2017**

9:00 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting – Search Classroom – Education Building

December 3, 2017  
***December 3 – December 10, 2017***  
***Let Us Pray....***

Sunday: and thank God for this Advent Season in which to prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Ask God to bless each one worshipping here as Scripture is read and proclaimed. Pray for the Tone Chime and Children’s Choirs and Directors as they learn the songs of the season. Ask God to bless each Sunday School Student and Teacher as they learn together. Pray for the Confirmation Class as they learn more about Christ and all that He has done for them. Pray for the Youth and Leaders as they gather for fun and learning. Pray for the Advent Dinner to be a wonderful time of sharing a meal and fellowshiping together.

Monday: that the busyness of the season will not overshadow or dim our enthusiasm as we contemplate the birth of our Savior many years ago and also His return in triumphant glory at the appointed time in the future. Pray for the Monday Night Bible Study as they continue to learn from the book of *II Corinthians*.

Tuesday: for the Men’s Bible Study as they meet to learn more about ways to celebrate Christmas that help others. Pray for the Staff as they meet to prepare for worship. Ask God to bless the staff in unexpected ways during the Advent Season. Pray for Women’s Covenant Discipleship Group as they share together. Ask God to be in the midst of our Charge Conference that all that is said and done would bring Him honor and glory.

Wednesday: and intercede for those in need. Ask God to meet the need, to fill with peace, to give courage and faith, etc. Pray for the Clothing Closet Committee as they meet. Ask God to continue to bless and use this ministry of Wesley Church. Pray for the Soup & Bread Dinner and La Caminante Service. Ask God to bless the Handbell Choir and Director as they prepare for worship and for the Advent Study -- *Faithful – Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph* .

Thursday: for our Organist, Chancel Choir, and Director, Praise & Worship Ensemble, and Leader as they prepare for worship. Thank God for the ways in which they enhance our worship experience.

Friday: for those in authority to have wisdom and discernment as they govern. Pray that God would be merciful to our country. Ask God to protect our military and give them victory over the enemy.

Saturday: for all those prepare, serving, eating, and cleaning up the Second Saturday Community Meal. Pray for those around the world who are experiencing natural disasters, civil unrest, persecution, etc. Pray that as God’s people we would do all that we can to help. Pray for the Mama Tola School.

Sunday: and prepare our hearts and minds to worship God. Pray for the Christmas Musical – Almost There to be enjoyed by many and a blessing to all.

Pray for our Pastors every day. Ask God to fill them with an unquenchable thirst for His Word, and find time alone with Him in prayer.

**Hospital Visitation:** So that we can visit you, please let the church office know you are in the hospital. Pastors Amy Yarnall & Jewett Short and Sigrid Mills visit our members and friends in the hospitals as needs arise. With HIPPA, we can only see the list of those who register as a Methodist. If you know of someone -- a member, regular attender, or a loved one -- who is hospitalized, please get their permission to add their name to our hospital list. Then call the church office (678-9626) to let us know.



We want our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and civilians, as well as their families, to know of our prayers and support for them while they are deployed overseas.

**Michael Boyce, Taylor Lucas, Tom Pratt, Sam Slate, Kyle Smith and Patrick Stamas.**

Please notify the Church Office if your family member/friend is no longer serving overseas.

**Prayer Request:** Please put your request in the offering plate and we will include it for Wednesday prayer. To place a request on the prayer chain, please call Diane Boyce, 697-6020, or send an e-mail to [ddboyce61@comcast.net](mailto:ddboyce61@comcast.net). Please send specific prayer requests to: [pastor.amy@wesleyumc-dover.com](mailto:pastor.amy@wesleyumc-dover.com).



**Please keep the following people uplifted in prayer:**

Anton, Aven, Charlotte & Roy, Earl, Edward, Elizabeth, Mark, Sharon, Jon Andrews, Lisa Ballard, Leonard Barnhart, Harry & Lou Baxter, Abigail & Ed Bickham, Denise Boyce, Dave Brewer, Millie Bryant, Matthew Butler, Arthur Devine, Ruth Dowell, Ross Evans, Randy Farrow, Bernie Floriani, Nancy Franks, Carol Geiger, Eva Goodrich-Moore, Frances Goodrich, Ruth Hancock, Lucas Hardy, Mary Hill, Ann Baker Horsey, Robert Hunter, Eddie Jenks, Cindy Jones, Candice Joynes, Marian Klein, Christopher Lambertson, Jean Leary, Sam Lockard, Sara Lyons, Katarina Mahoney, Kevin Manuel, Bob Mercer, Jennifer Moore, Beth Neary, Cliff Neidig, Sally Nichols, Tom Olsen,

Athena Padgett, Suzanne Parrott, Tom Pratt, Anton Romano, Gail Roppe, James Schindler, Bill Short, Margaret Slaughter, Linda Smith, Nell Smith, Earlene Spence, Tim Stant, Jody Stein, Tim Sweeney, Debbie Taylor, Tyler Trego, Matt Vaughn, Ruth Vehslage, Juan Vivó, Mike Yenchick, and the families of Stephen Bell, Brent Brown, Florence Hastings, Bertha Hudson, Pete Jackson, Marion Klein, Maxine May, and Ruth Semans.

**Announcements**

**Thank You** – “Cliff and I would like to thank the Pastors and congregation for the encouragement and support we have received during Cliff’s recent surgery and hospital stay. The visits and prayers meant so much. Sigrid was a faithful visitor, always bringing something to lift our spirits. And finally, the prayer shawl was very much appreciated. We are grateful for Cliff’s improving health and wish everyone a joyous Christmas season. Sincerely- The Neidig Family”

**Angel Tree – TODAY!** Angel tree wrapping and delivery will be in Grace Fellowship Hall immediately after the 9:45 service.

**Advent Dinner TONIGHT** at 5:30 p.m. The Family Life Committee will provide meat, bread, dessert and drinks. We ask that all families attending bring a salad or veggie dish large enough to serve eight (8) people. See you there.



**Christmas mug collection** – Do you have any mugs that are taking up space in your cupboard? Have you found a good deal on Christmas mugs as you have been out and about? We are again collecting mugs to be used on Christmas Eve night. Mugs that are typical, as well as Christmas themed are requested. The youth will fill them with candy and a note. The mugs will then be available for us on Christmas Eve to take out with us to someone who is working on Christmas -- emergency responders, convenience store workers, medical personnel, air base folks, local police officers, etc. The note will remind them that the Shepherds were working on Christmas too, and that God remembers them this Christmas (and so does Wesley Church). Thank you for supporting this mission outreach with your donation of mugs, and by taking a mug out on Christmas.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**On Christmas Eve Morning** we will have just one combined Worship Service at 10 a.m.

**On Christmas Eve Evening**

we will have three Candlelight services:

4:00 p.m. — Family Service

8:00 p.m. — Traditional Service with Choirs

10:00 p.m. — Traditional Service with Choirs and Communion

\*\*\* Safety Notice \*\*\* Due to “Open Flame” in the Sanctuary, any one using oxygen can participate in the worship service in St. Paul’s Chapel.



**SERVICES**

December 3, 2017



**Wesley Clothing Closet** is in need of winter coats for men, women, youth & children. Thank you so much for your continued support of this ministry.

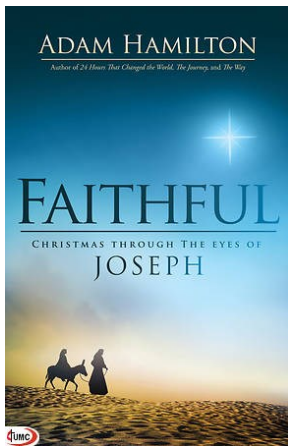
**Join the Search Class**, an adult class which meets in the back of the Educational Building on Sundays from 8:45 - 9:40 a.m. Come for coffee, tea, and something sweet, and watch sermons from the UMC of the Resurrection, Kansas City. The videos always inspire thought-provoking discussion. We hope to see you there!

**No Search Class** on December 24<sup>th</sup>, and December 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Bible Study:** Conrad "Connie" and Joann Cohen have graciously opened up their home located at 121 Kurt Drive, Dover, once again for a Bible study. Connie will begin the *New Testament* study on the book of *II Corinthians*, on Mondays, from 7 – 8:30 p.m. Come join the group!

**Men's Bible Study:** December 5<sup>th</sup> we will begin our Advent Study -- *Christmas is not your Birthday*, by Mike Slaughter. Come join us on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, Tuesdays at 7 a.m. in the Education Building, and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at Hall's Restaurant for breakfast.

**Women's Bible Study:** Will resume in January 2018 on Wednesdays from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. in the Parlor. For more information contact Diane Boyce at 302-697-6020.



**Faithful -- Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph** - Join Pastor Amy on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in the parlor as we explore the life of Joseph, the earthly father of Jesus Christ. We're not that different from Joseph. True, we may not be part of a story that will be remembered for all time, but like Joseph, we encounter circumstances that we'd never choose for ourselves. At times, it can be tempting just to walk away, but Joseph provides us a great example of humbly obeying God even when we don't understand, faithfully moving forward in the strength that God provides. The story of Joseph provides us a great example of humbly obeying God even when we don't understand,

and faithfully moving forward in the strength that God provides. Chapter topics include: 1. A Carpenter Named Joseph 2. Whose Child Is This? 3. Raising a Child Not Your Own 4. The Journey to Bethlehem 5. The Rest of the Story.

December 3, 2017



**MUSIC DEPARTMENT** – Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m., the Chancel Choir will present **Almost There**, a Christmas Musical written by Michael W. Smith. This beautiful, anointed musical will feature vocal solos as well as the Wesley UMC Children's Choir and Liturgical Dance Team, headed by Ally McClellan. Come and join in the celebration of God's gift to us: Jesus Christ our Savior!

**Chancel Choir Schedule for Advent:**

Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> – 11:00 a.m. – Choir Room  
Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> – 7:00-8:30 p.m. – Sanctuary  
Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – DRESS REHEARSAL Sanctuary  
Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> – 9:15 – Warm-up for Cantata presentation in Choir Room – 10:00 a.m. – Christmas Cantata in combined service in Sanctuary.

**Dancing Angels rehearsal schedule:**

Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> – NO REHEARSAL  
Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> – 7:00-8:30 p.m. – Sanctuary  
Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> – DRESS REHEARSAL 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  
Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> – Presentation of Christmas Cantata. Please meet in choir room, in costume, by 9:30 a.m. for 10:00 a.m. combined service.



**Wesley Women and Children Shelter** – The Wesley Women and Children shelter will open on **Wednesday-December 6<sup>th</sup>**. The Wesley shelter is in the Student Ministry Center (SMC) and holds women/children and intact families on Wednesday and Thursday evenings during the months of December-March. Since we serve with other faith communities through Code Purple, we have a guideline that the shelters are only open when the temperature is 32° or below.

We are looking for volunteers to: prepare dinner, work at the shelter 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., 7:30 – 10:00 p.m., and spend the night. If you are interested in assisting, please contact: Janet Krauss at 423-2168.

**Sample of items needed:** Herbal tea bags, hot cocoa packets, oatmeal packets, granola bars, pop-tarts, cracker packets, individual applesauce/fruit cups, cup-o-noodles, powdered tea/lemonade, sugar substitute. Please place in blue buckets on the stage in Grace Fellowship Hall.