



Jefferson United Methodist Church  
125 East Jefferson Street  
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

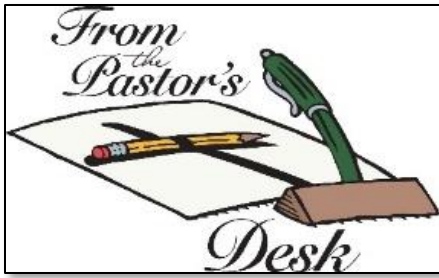
Office hours are 8:30 - 2:00 M-F  
Office closed 11:30 – 12:00 daily for lunch.

**Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the world.  
Our Motto: Love God ~ Love Others ~ Serve the World**

**July, 2024**

**Volume 117**





Early this month we will celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July – commemorating the 248<sup>th</sup> birthday of our country and once again partaking in one of our nation’s greatest pastimes. How do *you* celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July? Picnics? Parades? Baseball Games? Swimming? Fireworks? Yes, for whatever reason, we seem to go all out on this day. Maybe it is because summer is finally

here and we love to enjoy all the fun that this season brings. Maybe it is because the birth of our nation is worth a big celebration. Maybe it is because we enjoy having fun with our families and friends. Whatever it is, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July is a big bash each summer.

Our family is no different. For as long as I can remember, the tradition in our family as I was growing up was to go to our lifelong family friends’ house in Mentor. See, the big Mentor Headlands Parade goes right by the front of their house each year and thus they invite friends and family over to fill their lawn for the parade and then enjoy a huge picnic afterwards. (When I say huge, I am talking about a picnic every United Methodist should be proud of!!! Hot dogs and drinks were provided and then everyone was asked to bring a side dish AND a dessert!) Then, depending on the year, there may have been basketball games, water balloons, corn hole, fireworks, you name it! Needless to say, it was always a lot of fun! (We still go each year, but it has been greatly scaled down for various reasons. Still, it is always a great time, and it is kind of neat that at one point I was the youngest person in attendance as a kid, and now I attend with *my* three kids!)

But that’s not all! Since Carin and I met, 15 years ago, another picnic has been added to the mix, as her family always throws a big picnic each year too, many times complete with a jump in my brother-in-law and sister-in-law’s pool! So, it is a two-picnic day in which we have to pace ourselves because of all of the food that is thrown at us!!!! What are some of *your* favorite traditions for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July?

Sometimes, however, I wonder if we lose the true purpose of this holiday amidst all the celebrating. Do we remember that we are celebrating freedom – the freedom which was obtained when our country became an independent nation? In our nation, we declare that freedom is our founding virtue, but I sometimes feel like we forget that during all of our picnics and parades.

Furthermore, the whole notion of celebrating freedom cannot be mentioned without remembering where our ultimate freedom comes from – our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave us all freedom from the bondage of sin. In 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, we read:

“<sup>3</sup> For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.”

Through the death and resurrection of Christ, we all were given freedom – a freedom which supersedes all freedoms. Without *this* freedom, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July would never have even happened! And because of this freedom, we have the promise of eternal life.

So, this year, as you are stuffing your mouths with food at picnics and are watching the fire engines go by during parades, remember the reason we are celebrating – freedom. But even more importantly, rejoice in the freedom we have through our Savior. Jesus Christ came to save us all – and *that* is a freedom worth celebrating!





# July

## BIRTHDAYS

3

Helen Ferraro

5

Dennis Marlowe

7

John Patterson, Jr

9

Marian King

11

Matt Allen

12

Greg Hamper, Jr

13

Dominic Hodgkinson

14

Josh Hamper

17

Sandy Claypool

19

Amy Spencer

23

Fred Ebersole, Sr

Vivian Ford

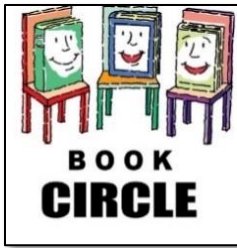
Laura Lorelli

31

Kathy Housel







**WEDNESDAY, July 17 at noon**  
**Lorna Westlake's house**

*Follow the River*

by James Alexander Thom

**August 13**

*Into the Forrest*

by Jean Hegland

**September**

*Oath and Honor*

by Liz Cheney

**October**

*The Benefits of Being an Octopus*

by Ann Braden

*That Sounds Like Fun*

by Annie F. Downs

**November**

*Horse*

by Geraldine Brooks

**Open to other suggestions  
for books to read!!  
Please join us & keep reading!**



## Verse of the Day

“Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven.”

**-Matthew 18:10**

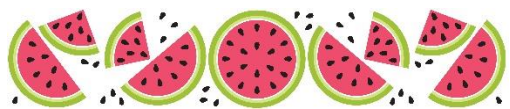
## Voice of the Day

The children are always ours, every single one of them, all over the globe; and I am beginning to suspect that whoever is incapable of recognizing this may be incapable of morality.

**- James Baldwin, “Notes on the House of Bondage”**

## Prayer of the Day

God, we cry out for the children killed by violent hands. We mourn for those children who have been despised, and we long for a world where all will see that children are always ours, every single one of them, all over the globe.



We may have been rained out for our outdoor worship in June, but we will try again in July!! On July 28<sup>th</sup>, we will worship at the park next to our church at our regular worship time of 9:30 a.m. Be sure to bring your lawn chairs, and maybe some sunscreen or an umbrella, and worship God's nature and beauty!



We will be having a Family Night on **Saturday, July 27 at 5 p.m. at the home of Harry & Annette Sheldon.** Come enjoy a picnic, bonfire, and good Christian fellowship with your church family. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. Bring a dish to share. Please sign the clipboard at church or RSVP on the event on our Facebook page if you are planning to come, or are at least thinking about it, so that Harry & Annette know approximately how many to plan for.



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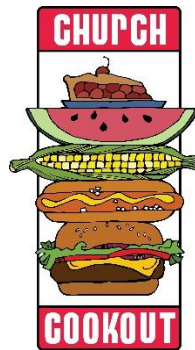
## Ways you can SERVE

As part of our vision and goal to be visible in the community, our church will have a booth at the Friday Nights Out in town this summer. This will be an opportunity to be present at community events, so that we can make personal connections while highlighting our upcoming events. We will need people willing to “man” the booth. If you are willing to help with this, please call the office or talk to Pastor Jeremy. Dates of the upcoming Friday Nights Out are: July 26 and August 30, from 5-8 p.m.



### Vacation Bible School is almost here!

This year's VBS will be "Hero Hotline," for ages 3-entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The dates will be July 17-19, from 5-8 <sup>PM</sup> with dinner served. We need volunteers and help getting the word out. Contact Lisa Ebersole if you are able to help out and also for information about registration.

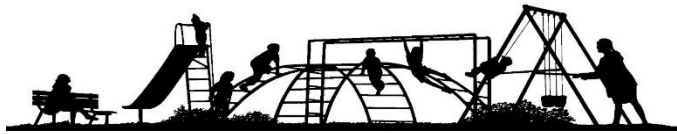


Our first Neighborhood Cookout, "Gather 'Round the Grill" was a success. We had 18 volunteers who hosted 9 new community members at Pine Terrace Estates. One family is considering sending their children to our VBS. It was a great chance to make some community connections and be visible in the mission field which God has entrusted us to serve. The next one will be here before you know it! We will gather at the church to load at 4:15 p.m. and then head to the DFC Trailer Park, to begin serving at 5 p.m. We would love to see you there to help, and once again we will need nut-free cookies. Thanks to all who helped make our first one a success!

**July 14 – DFC Trailer Park (1582 Lenox New Lyme Rd.)**

August 4 – The Courtyard (223 E. Jefferson St.)

September 8 – Apartments by the School



## Pastor Jeremy's Summer Community Office Hours

Wednesdays from 2-4 p.m. at Giddings Park  
*(weather permitting)*

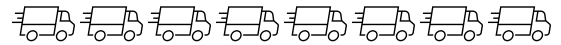
Thursdays from 2-4 p.m. at Wall Street  
Coffee

This is a chance for him and our church to be visible in the community. Spread the word that any and all are welcome to stop by during this time!



## SUSANNA'S CUPBOARD

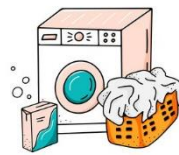
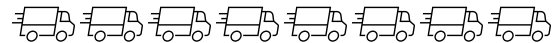
Remember the sock drive we had in November? We were able to give away **two** pairs of socks **every** day all winter. When the temperatures abated in April, we began giving away one pair a day. We still have enough to give socks through July. You were magnificent!! We will hold the next sock drive next November, but you should all feel proud that you were so generous. People had clean, dry socks all winter and almost all summer! Thank you!!



## MANNA DRIVERS

We took on a new volunteer this month, -- LuAnn Lister. She made her first delivery last week.

Thank you, LuAnn. Other veteran drivers who answer the call on the second and fourth Thursdays of every month, are Jack Diemer, June and Dennis Marlow, Susan Reeder, Harry Sheldon, Julie and Terry Smith, Linda Springer, and Harlan Waid. Our last faithful team of drivers, Donna Hurn and Roy Kelly, are temporarily out of a job. One of their clients moved away, and the other had a severe fall and will be in the hospital for several weeks. We'll see what the next delivery day brings. Predicting they will be back to work. :)



## MISSION WORK

We are proud to say that the new laundry in Founders Hall is ready for our mission teams this summer. We restored a 100-year-old formerly dark and dreary restroom under the stairs, and it became a bright and cheery place for mission teams to do their laundry. The laundry is fully stocked with everything they will need to get "job dirt" out of their clothes!

In addition to the laundry project, we have added extra towel bars inside the shower stalls so that floor mats can be hung inside the shower, over the drain. In this way, we can avoid the damage that occurs when wet mats are left on the epoxy floor.



## Brunch with Sohail

Please join us on July 6th as we welcome Sohail Samuel and his wife Jennifer back to JUMC. We will have brunch at 11:00 on the 6th and Sohail will talk to us about his village school in Pakistan. We are helping to support this school through our Change the World offerings and fundraisers. The brunch will feature traditional American dishes and also a couple traditional Pakistani dishes.

**This event is free but registration would be appreciated.**



Thank you to the church people for the wonderful reception and gifts. It is bittersweet resigning from the Chancel Choir and Bell Choir. I will miss the Wednesday night rehearsals - the laughter and joy. I will miss bringing a musical message to the congregation, yet will now be able to listen and worship without responsibility.

I appreciate all of the very kind comments. The choir IS a joy and I hope JUMC continues to have such a great choir for years to come. Thank you for letting me direct them for fifteen years (and I am always willing to sub!)

Ruth Rea



I want to thank everyone for all the cards, visits, flowers, goodies, and prayers after my surgery. All is going well now. Thank you everyone!

Bev Burlingame







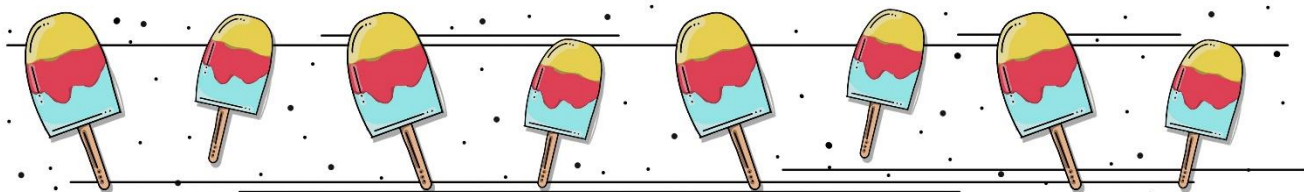
## Christian Café Update

Christian Café continues to hum along as our many dedicated workers prepare and serve delicious meals for our many faithful followers. We continue to expand our group of workers but can always use more. We have recently been blessed with many willing (and welcome) hands to complete the cleanup process at the end of serving. This has made it possible to be finished much earlier than usual, so a huge shoutout to our new helpers and all our veteran helpers. These meals would not be possible without all our volunteers. To help you gauge how many hands are needed to accomplish this, we recently served a little over 100 folks in Wesley Hall, had 35 take outs and delivered close to 50 meals.

Now comes the request. I do my best to coordinate our staffing so that Carole and Doreen have all the helpers needed to prepare the food and Wesley Hall, and the needed help to serve and cleanup. I would like to create a list of back up folks willing to be called to fill in when more help is needed - this is usually with advance notice. If you would like to be a back up person, please call me and I can tell you more about specific job tasks and specific time slots to help you judge where your skills can best be used.

I have two specific “jobs” in mind. I would like someone to commit to regularly helping each CC Day 2 – 5pm. I also need a volunteer who likes to work at the grill to make grilled cheese sandwiches or hamburgers. That is a specific need for July 2<sup>nd</sup> (hamburgers are on the menu) from 3:30 – 6pm.

**If interested, please contact me at 440 862 2331 or [marthahaluszka@gmail.com](mailto:marthahaluszka@gmail.com).**



# YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

Our church programs depend on the generous contributions of our church family. As of the end of May 2024, we are significantly short of meeting our budget, and the Finance Committee is asking everyone to prayerfully consider increasing your support of our

**General Fund.** The General Fund allows us to pay for the staff, utilities, maintenance, and other expenses that are essential for fulfilling our purpose. Many of the missions and ministries of the church have specific “dedicated” funds, **but those funds can’t be used for the operations of the church itself.** And thanks to the generosity of the congregation and some grant funding, most of our dedicated accounts are thriving. You can be assured that these important ministries will not be interrupted, even with the current deficit in the General Fund. The following is a breakdown of the average monthly General Fund income and expenses for the first 5 months of 2024:

<b>Average Monthly Income</b>	<b>\$20,169</b>
<b>Average Monthly Expenses</b>	Jan-May 2024 Averages
Salaries & Benefits	\$14,818
Church & Parsonage Maintenance and Utilities, Snow & Lawn Care, Property Taxes	\$6,703
Conference Shared Ministries (apportionments) <i>*See note below</i>	\$3,009*
Administrative Expenses (office supplies, equipment maintenance contracts, postage)	\$917
Worship & Communion, Piano & Organ Tuning, Spiritual Formation	\$363
<b>Total Average Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>\$25,810</b>



*\* As of the publication of this newsletter, we are one month behind in our Shared Ministries (conference apportionments) payments of \$3,009.42/month. We will continue to evaluate how to fulfill our Conference and District obligations within current our financial situation.*

As you can see, this is not sustainable. The leadership team has been doing everything they can to cut back on expenditures, but we need your help! Please consider increasing (or starting) your donation to our general fund, whether recurring, or as a onetime donation. Thank you for your continued support!

*The Jefferson United Methodist Church Finance Committee*

# Susanna Wesley Ministries

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Susanna Wesley House

Shine Project

Children's Ministry

## Time to Say Goodbye! *(Written by Reasey)*

It is hard to say goodbye to someone with whom we shared tears, joy, love, and hope. But when God's time comes, we cannot say "No" to it. Janice Lee is an awesome leader, teacher, and friend who always brings bright ideas for the whole team. After 7 years of serving God's ministry in Cambodia, now it is time for her and her family to



move to the

US to continue their journey with God. Through Janice and her family, SWH has grown and is spreading the love of Christ and we can see the fruit of the spirit bearing in all our students. This is not a final goodbye because we will meet again. Thank you, Lord, for sending Janice to Cambodia to help SWH, and may God bless Janice and her family for the next chapter in their journey.



## Thank you for visiting us! *(Written by Reasey)*

We are so grateful to see our old friends who came from Hawaii to visit us. It has been almost 4 years



since they came to see us in 2020. We are so thankful for their



support and praying for each of us. We believe that through God's grace, we are growing together in Christ.



# Shine Project - Vocational Training Program



*For this* new month we all have the opportunity to learn about Christian foundation. Because of God's love, Shine Project helps non-Christian too. We believe that whether people accept Christ or not depends on God. We just share God's love

and show them who our Mighty God is. It was a good time to see each other and have time to listen to one another with what they are facing. We say that joy, happiness, bad and sad times always go together. So as we are children of God, we need to walk through it with the help of our Lord Christ

Jesus. *(Written by Youlika)*



**A Note from Janice** It is hard to believe that 7 years have passed since



we arrived in Cambodia to serve the people of this wonderful kingdom! As we are leaving, I feel blessed to be able to say that all the ministries that I have been part of will continue to serve the women and children of Cambodia. Ms. Reasey and Ms. Youlika will continue their good works with Susanna Wesley House, Shine Project, and children's ministry. I cannot say enough about these two wonderful friends of mine who are not only diligent and

wise but also godly! They serve with servant hearts and I have no worries as I leave them to carry on the ministries of God. Please continue to support Cambodia mission as you have done, trusting that with God in the lead and Ms. Reasey and Ms. Youlika not far behind, many good things will continue to happen in Cambodia!

**How to Support:** An annual tuition for most of the universities in Phnom Penh is about \$600.

**Online support:** <https://advance.umcmision.org/p-393-children-and-youth-scholarships.aspx>  
Children and Youth Scholarships - Advance # 3020791

**To donate by check:** Please make your check payable to **Advance GCFA** and write the **Advance # 3020791** on the memo line. (Address: Advance GCFA PO Box 9068 GPO New York, NY 10087-9068)

**Contact:** Reasey Long (Susanna Wesley Ministries Coordinator) - [reasey1155@gmail.com](mailto:reasey1155@gmail.com)

# July 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Loose Change Sunday</b> 9:30am - Outdoor 10:30am - Fellowship	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Yoga - 6pm - Ad Board 6:30pm - Yoga - Slow	10am - Ministry Team 4pm - Christian Cafe @	2pm - Community	Office Closed 2pm - Community	8am - WIC	8am - Men @ Mugs 11am - Brunch with
9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Fellowship	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Yoga - 6:30pm - Yoga - Slow	Pastor Jeremy retreat		9am - Pickle Ball 12pm - Quilters 6:30pm - Girl Scouts	8am - WIC	8am - Men @ Mugs 8:30am - Stephen Min.
9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Fellowship 5pm - Community	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Yoga - 6:30pm - Yoga - Slow	10am - Ministry Team 4pm - Christian Cafe @	2pm - Community 5pm - VBS	9am - Pickle Ball 2pm - Community 5pm - VBS 6:30pm - Girl Scouts	8am - WIC 5pm - VBS	8am - Men @ Mugs 9am - Private Event
Mission team here						
Pastor Jeremy Vacation						
9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Fellowship	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Yoga - 6:30pm - Yoga - Slow			9am - Pickle Ball 12pm - R & R Pasta 2pm - Community 6:30pm - Girl Scouts	8am - WIC 5pm - Friday Nights	8am - Men @ Mugs 10am - Quilters 7pm - Family night
Mission team here						
Loose Change Sunday						
9:30am - Outdoor 10:30am - Fellowship	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Yoga - 6:30pm - Yoga - Slow	10am - Ministry Team	2pm - Community	9am - Pickle Ball 2pm - Community 6:30pm - Girl Scouts	8am - WIC	8am - Men @ Mugs