



MILLVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE DOVE

JANUARY 2019

Message From Pastor Brad

Clean Your Interior

I've realized in my almost 8 years of preaching regularly and writing articles for the church on a regular basis that there are certain trains of thought I can very easily fall into on a routine basis. As I was about to sit down and use this month's Dove to pick on how most people have abandoned their resolutions by now anyway, I realized that was a path I've already gone down. God used that minor revelation to give me a greater realization about how the world works and how we as the church need to go the other way, all thanks to these pesky resolutions.

I now know why I don't like New Year's resolutions. They're too surface-level and based on us trying to do or act our way into being someone else. It's all about works, and if you're curious about what the Bible says about works take a look at the Book of James and what Jesus said about how to pray. Many people say they're going to eat more of this or less of that, when their goal should be to be a healthier person overall. Many people may say they are going to read more or take a class or something, but imagine if their goal was to be more curious and committed to learning? Maybe you've heard someone say they are going to be more sociable and go out more in the new year, when they are really looking for closer relationships, not simply being around other people.

Being a follower of Christ is first and foremost about interior work. It's what God is most concerned with and we should follow suit. The exterior, for us and how we relate to others, is a byproduct and secondary to what's going on inside of us. I can get a bright new coat of paint put on my van, but that won't change the fact that my engine is

being held together with faith and struggling against more than one problem. The same goes for us.

Skinny you, bigger you, social you, more read you, the you that goes to things or doesn't. If God isn't at work in your heart and changing your life, how you look and where you are doesn't matter. I'm reminded of the story of the rich young ruler, which can be found in Mark 10:17-27. This wealthy young person comes to Christ asking what he needs to do to, "Inherit eternal life" (10:17). Jesus tells the young man to go sell all of his possessions and give the money to the poor. We read that when he heard this, "the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth" (10:22). This guy was willing to pay a price to attain this prize of eternal life because he had money to spare.

Thankfully and obviously, Jesus was wise to his game. When the young man was confronted with Jesus' challenge to change who he was, and not just make an easy sacrifice, he left empty handed. In this new year, I do hope we all continue to strive for greater health and discipline in our physical, spiritual, mental, and emotional lives individually and as a church. Doing is important, but we are called not only to do and say like Christ, but to take on the likeness of Christ in all our ways. It's more than a resolution, it's a covenant we've made and in God's mercy, He lets us renew it often and turn to Him for everything we need to get there. May we all be God's obedient children ready to receive the blessings the Lord has in store for us this year.

Blessings,
Pastor Brad

Discussion and Prayer for the Future of the UMC

Due to folks continuing to have a lot of questions about the future of our denomination, the Commission on the Way Forward, and the special General Conference in February 2019, Pastor Brad will be facilitating a series of gatherings to share new information, answer any questions, respond to concerns people have, and to pray for the United Methodist Church. On the 3rd Sunday of each month Coffee with the Pastor will not be happening as usual. Instead, Pastor Brad will host these discussions in the sanctuary after Coffee and Conversation (roughly 10:30 AM). The dates of these gatherings are listed below:

January 20, 2019

February 17, 2019

Update on Pastor Brad's Classes

Our first session of A Disciple's Class for new members, regular attenders, and those interested in Wesleyan spirituality is completed. Pastor Brad will be leading the next session of this class in the Spring of 2019.

Our Wesley Wednesday Group has finished its study on the book "Wesley and the People Called Methodists" by Richard P. Heitzenrater. We will resume on Wednesday, January 23rd at 11:00 AM as the Pastor's Book Club and begin discussing "United Methodism in America: A Brief History" edited by John G. McEllhenney.

Our Tuesday Covenant Bible Study finished the first unit of the program. We will start Unit 2 of the program on January 29th at 11:00 AM, and anyone is invited to join us for this next leg of our journey through the Bible!

Our Thursday Covenant Bible Study finished the first unit of the program. We will start Unit 2 of the program in January 31st at 7:00 PM, and anyone is invited to join us for this next leg of our journey through the Bible!



Service for The Week Of Prayer For Christian Unity at St Ann's Church in Bethany Beach

Tuesday, January 22 at 6:30 PM

The Churches in the Ministerium, as well as our MUMC choir and others, will be participating in this service. Everyone is invited to attend and join in this celebration of Christian Unity.

Dover District Events

For questions or comments, contact:
Amy Willey Administrative Assistant
(302) 526-2629

Our Financial Health: ...We Are Truly Blessed

God has truly blessed us this year. As of December 31, worship giving is more than \$11,000 greater than our budget estimate for 2018, which was \$155,970. This is a wonderful tribute to a dedicated and generous church family.

Our General Fund balance at the end of December was almost \$41,000, and as planned, an initial supplemental payment of \$4,000 was paid against the Wesley Hall mortgage, leaving a final General Fund balance of \$36,906.

We still believe it would be prudent to go into 2019, with a general fund balance of between \$25,000 and \$30,000. The Finance Committee will be meeting in early January to consider additional actions to further reduce our mortgage.

Rich Spina



Attic Fans, Street Lights: We will be requesting a proposal to replace attic fans in the sanctuary, and add an additional street light to the parking lot.

Rich Spina, Chairman, Trustees

Wesley Hall Mortgage Monthly Status

Balance on 11/30/2018.....	\$76,616.53
Special Donation by Members.....	\$ 1,220.00
Supplemental Payment Gen. Fund....	\$ 4,000.00
Budgeted Payment (less interest).....	<u>\$ 1,208.18</u>
Balance on 12/31/2018.....	\$70,188.35

We are thankful for the generosity of all of our church family who are going the extra mile to remove our indebtedness. Whereas we had predicted a mortgage balance at the end of 2018 of around \$95,000, we are clearly well ahead of that estimate.

Our plan for reaching mortgage payoff by January 2021 will have two phases:

- For 2019, we will encourage giving for mortgage reduction over and above your usual worship giving amount, and convey our progress with weekly/monthly updates.
- We will revisit the plan in November 2019, and if it does not look like we will make the payoff target, we will consider a pledge drive for the remainder of the period.

Rich Spina, Chairman, Finance Committee

Trustees Report

Sanctuary Security: At the last Administrative Council meeting, we started a discussion about how, and when, and where we should provide protection for persons who are within our facilities if an armed intruder attempts to enter and threaten their lives. At this time, the only initiative we are pursuing is training for reaction to an armed intruder. Other initiatives may be considered in the future.

Audio System: Earlier this year, we acquired new microphones, which seem to be working quite well. We will be requesting a proposal to consider improvements to other components of the audio system in 2019.

Missions Update

Listed below are our Missions efforts for 2018;

• Christmas Shoes	\$2,125
• Salem Food Pantry	\$2,000
• Local Needs	\$ 973
• Crop Walk	\$ 900
• Union Wesley UMC Food Pantry	\$ 600
• UMCOR Sunday	\$ 330
• Pen-Del Scholarship Sunday	\$ 340
• Sussex Ministerium	\$ 200
• Other	<u>\$ 171</u>
Total	\$7,639

Our balance at the end of December was \$152.67. Our Missions chairwoman, Ellen Hitchens, would like to thank our church family for the generous outpouring of support for our Missions effort.

Please prayerfully consider your missions giving, especially on Communion Sunday, so we can do more to care for our local needs.

“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”
Matthew 25:40 NIV

United Methodist Women’s Group

Many Thanks and Many Blessings --

I would like to thank all the members of the UMW, who worked many hours getting ready for the Christmas Bazaar last November. It was totally a team effort and frankly a lot of fun. But we couldn’t do this without the generous support we get every year from our Millville church family and their friends. I have already started to get donations from friends for 2019’s Bazaar.

As promised in November, here a list of mission work we supported in 2018:

- The Memorial Luncheon Fund
- MUMC’s Sunday School
- Blankets for the Mercy Homeless Shelter

- Lord Baltimore Elementary School Student Assistance Program
- Pastor's Travel
- Lenten Soup & Salad Luncheon for the Southeast Sussex County Ministerium
- Student mission trip to Asheville, NC
- Church Pavers for past UMW Presidents
- CPR Class for MUMC
- Pen-Del Conference College Scholarships
- WBOC's Bless Our Children Allen Harim Challenge
- ACTS Legacy Foundation in Memory of Charlotte Conaway

I am looking forward to an exciting new year with all of my great ladies right beside me. First meeting of the UMW in 2019 is February 5th.

Donna Binaut

Special Events

Pot Luck Dinner

Pot Luck on Sunday, January 6 at 4:30 PM.

Please bring your favorite side dish. Contact Elizabeth Skinner with any questions.

Fit for Life

Each Tuesday at 9:00 AM join in the fun and get healthy at the same time, as Carol leads us in "gentle exercise." Everyone is welcome!!

Carol Gorden, Instructor

Ageing Faithfully

Cookie Bingo

Tuesday, January 8th at 10:00 AM

Please contact Cathy Witmer @ 302-732-6284 with any questions.

Please note: If you have ideas for future programs for **Ageing Faithfully**, or if you would like to help with planning events, contact Connie Warner at 539-7488

Coffee and Conversation

Immediately following the Worship Service

Sunday, January 20

Everyone is welcome to join in for a time of fellowship and refreshments, followed by a discussion of "The Way Forward." This is a time for questions and answers led by Pastor Brad. This gathering will be held in place of Pastor's Coffee/Bible Study.

Note: Coffee and Conversation is the third Sunday of each month. There is a sign-up sheet on the back table. There will be a place for 5 or 6 of us to put our name and what we'll be bringing for the upcoming Coffee and Conversation Sunday. We're only talking about 12 Sundays a year so maybe you'd like to sign up 3 or 4 times, or every month, or whatever would work for you. It really is a fun time to be together and share for just a little while! Please think about looking at the sheet this Sunday and signing up.

Nancy Bowers

Weekly Happenings at Millville

Monday	Bible Study	10:00 AM
Tuesday	Fit for Life	9:00 AM
Tuesday	Covenant Bible Study	11:00 AM
Wednesday	Prayer on the Beach	8:30 AM
Wednesday	Pastor's Book Club	11:00 AM
	Choir Rehearsal	6:30 PM
Thursday	Bible Study	9:00 AM
Thursday Eve	Pastor Brad's Home:	
	Covenant Bible Study	7:00 PM
Saturday	Praise Service	6:00 PM
Sunday	Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Coffee/Bible Study w/Pastor Brad	10:30 AM

Pastor Brad's Office Schedule

Monday	By Appointment
Tuesday	10:30 AM to 4:30 PM
Wednesday	10:30 AM to 3:30 PM
Thursday	10:30 AM to 4:00 PM

If you'd like to make an appointment, need a pastoral visit or help, or want to talk to him for any other reason, you can contact him by email, phone or text.

~ Monthly Meetings~

UMW	No meeting in January
Finance Comm.	Monday, Jan. 14, 6:30 PM
Trustees	Monday, Jan. 14, 7:30 PM
Admin. Council	Monday, Jan. 21, 7:00 PM
SPPRC	No meeting in January

Small Groups - Weekly

Coffee with Pastor Brad - Sunday at 10:30 AM in Wesley Hall. A time to study and discuss the primary Scripture reading and message from worship that day. If you have ever had any questions about Pastor Brad's message or wanted to talk more about the reading of the day, this is your place to ask, share and grow. The third Sunday for the next two months will be dedicated to discussing the possible changes facing the Methodist Church. Everyone is invited.

Covenant Bible Study - Our Tuesday Covenant Bible Study will start Unit 2 of the program on **January 29th** and anyone is invited to join us for this next leg of our journey through the Bible! Our Thursday Covenant Bible Study will start Unit 2 of the program on **January 31st** and anyone is invited to join us for this next leg of our journey through the Bible!

Pastor's Book Club – Wednesday, **January 23rd** at 11:00 AM in Wesley Hall, led by Pastor Brad. We will be studying "United Methodism in America: A Brief History" edited by John G. McEllhenney.

Thursday Bible Study – Meets at 9:00 AM in Wesley Hall, led by Donald Maebly

Missions

Instructions to Donate to UMCOR:

Make check payable to: Millville United Methodist Church and note UMCOR on memo line.

**NOTE: US Disaster Response
Advance # 901670**

**NOTE: Relief for Refugees in
Europe Disaster
Response, International
Advance # 982450**

Remember To Bring Donations For: Salem UMC Food Pantry

Lord Baltimore Elementary School Student Assistance Program

Items needed: Backpack food items
Weekend Snacks
Kleenex tissues

Needed all year: Construction paper
Glue Sticks
#2 pencils

Ministries

To activate the Prayer Chain

Call Nancy Bowers at 1-410-598-5600
Or email nanbowers4@comcast.net

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Pocket Prayer Shawl is meant to bring comfort, love, and knowing that prayers have been asked for whomever touches this tiny piece of yarn. It can be carried in a pocket, purse, or pinned to a loved ones pillow. The Pocket Prayer Shawl can be tucked into a card and mailed across country or across an ocean. Please include your prayers when giving it to someone.

We now have available, Pocket Prayer Shawls. They are located at the back of the church sanctuary in a small basket. The full size Prayer Shawls are still located in Wesley Hall, in the wooden chest. Bless someone today with your smile. Please contact Sharon Graham @ 537-0772 with any questions.

"Loving Care"

If you need a helping hand, please contact Nancy Bowers 1-410-598-5600 or email nanbowers4@comcast.net

Feed My Sheep - Soup Kitchen

Thursday, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM at Mariner's Bethel UMC

Volunteers for ACTS are needed!

Fill out an Application at 34634 Atlantic Ave., Ocean View (Phone 539-3513).

Prayer at the Beach!

Every Wednesday, 8:30 AM, Bethany Beach @ Campbell Place. A time of prayer and fellowship on the beach with more fellowship and breakfast at the Bethany Beach McDonalds.



Saturday Praise and Worship Service 6:00 PM at Wesley Hall

Every Saturday evening there is an informal fellowship here at Millville UMC. We open our service with singing - both hymns and praise music. Our service continues with a special time of sharing our joys and concerns, followed by prayer. Each week we are blessed with a message from the scriptures and from the heart by one of our speakers:

- Week 1 – Janet Smith
- Week 2 – Pastor Brad
- Week 3 – Lori Ciccanti
- Week 4 – Donald Maebly
- Week 5 – As needed: Janet Smith
Donald Maebly
Lou Ciccanti

Following the service, we visit and enjoy coffee and dessert together. Join us and bring a friend!

~Special Notes~

Elder Care/Companion

Elder Care/Companion Care Available. If interested, please call Alice @ 845-596-6700. Alice

is a friend of Lois Lathbury. You may contact Lois with any questions. (Cell phone) 302-745-2111 A flyer is posted on the bulletin board.

January Note on the Yard Sale

Thanks so much for saving shopping bags and for sorting through your Christmas decorations. The Christmas bazaar and the yard sale appreciates the effort. You will appreciate having it all done in the heat of July. Thank you.

In the coming months, please take the time to sort through your costume jewelry. We could save a lot of work hours if we had your donated jewelry months BEFORE the yard sale. It's a job easily done at home by a handful of people. We will start collecting it in the spring. Please put each individual piece in a small baggie.

If you have any broken pieces of 14k jewelry like a single earring, a broken bracelet, a ring without its stone, please donate it. In the past 2 years all those little expensive tidbits have brought us almost \$300. Please be sure to label it as 14k on the baggie.

We now have two ladies who deal in vintage jewelry coming to look over our merchandise before the sale. They do not charge. It's also a good feeling to know we are selling treasures at the correct price. Kathy Cropper

Recipe Corner

Cherry Cheese Cake – Martin Freas 3/8/82
Submitted by Janet Smith

½ lb. Butter (softened)
2 Cups Flour
2 TBSP. Sugar
Mix well – Roll into a ball
Press mixture into large sheet cake pan to cover
Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes (until light brown). Cool.

2 8 oz. Pkg. Cream Cheese (softened)
2 Cups Confectionary Sugar
1 Large Container Cool Whip (softened)
Mix together. Spread carefully on crust.

2 Cans Cherry Pie filling (Pineapple is delicious)
Spread across Cream Cheese mixture.

CHURCH INFORMATION



If you have questions regarding:
~ **Scheduling Requests for use of Wesley Hall~**
~ **Flowers on the Altar~**
~ **Prayer List Additions or Correction~**

Please contact Marilyn Ferry (539-9598) or email wingferry@aol.com

Keeping Wesley Hall Clean

After completion of any activities and events that take place in the Wesley Hall at which food has been served, please make sure that the Hall is left as you found it. Thank you for helping keep our Wesley Hall clean. Many hands make light work.

Donna Binaut

Church Supplies Needed

We are currently in need of the following supplies for Wesley Hall:

- Clorox cleanup liquid spray
- powder room hand towels
- kitchen sponges

Fire Extinguisher Locations:

Sanctuary

- * **Immediately inside the front entrance**
- * **Inside the entrance to the choir room/lavatory area.**

Wesley Hall

- * **Immediately inside office entrance**
- * **Immediately inside Main Hall entrance**
- * **Conference room front porch entrance**

Defibrillator Locations:

Sanctuary

In the Choir Room at the entrance to the Sanctuary

Wesley Hall

In the Main Hall at the handicapped ramp entrance

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Millville, DE 19967

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Pastor Brad Schutt (302) 249-2337

Church e-mail:

millvillechurchwesley@yahoo.com

Church website:

www.millvillemethodistchurch.org

Please contact your Dove editors, Marilyn Ferry and/or Rich Spina at the above church e-mail address for submission of future articles or suggestion to improve content.

The editors offer a special thanks to Connie Warner, who, among all her other church "jobs," assembles the Dove Newsletter for distribution and mailing.



Another Year Is Dawning

*Another year is dawning:
Dear Father, let it be,*

*In working or in waiting,
Another year with Thee;*

*Another year of progress,
Another year of praise,*

*Another year of proving
Thy presence all the days.*

.....Frances Ridley Havergal