

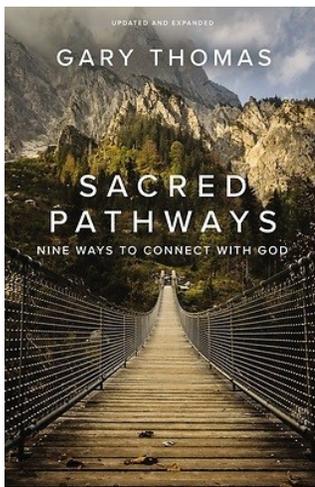


Church@Home

Our Online Congregation is Available on our Facebook page: Wellsville United Methodist Church

Inside this issue:

Safe Gatherings	2
Celebrations/Prayers	2
UMC Split Info	3
Biscuits & Gravy	4
AED training	4
VBS	4
Calendar	6



Wellsville UMC

Volume 7, Issue 4



Church Council Meeting

Things are Happening @ WUMC!

Church Council met on Wednesday May 4 and had a very productive evening!

The Council will be hosting our next all church after worship dinner. You are invited to join us for lunch on Sunday June 26.

More details will be in the June Newsletter but wanted you to get

the date on your calendar.

We also approved a fundraising request from the Mission Team. They will have a breakfast on Saturday June 25th. All proceeds will go toward the supplies needed for building a new replacement Blessing Box and other Blessing

Box supplies.

And we were reminded to sign up for the AED training being offered on May 15!

There were several other important issues discussed and more info will be found throughout the pages of this newsletter.

Enjoy!

Pastor Kathy

ZoomTues

We are beginning a new ZoomTues study on May 10th at 6:30 pm. It will last around 10 weeks and we normally meet for just over an hour each week. This study is called Sacred Pathways and suggests nine ways to

connect with God. The author outlines nine different 'spiritual temperaments'. These temperaments are how you naturally express yourself in your relationship with God. If this sounds interesting let Pastor Kathy know and she'll send you a Zoom invitation.



The Great Plains Annual Conference has been diligent in providing a biblically-based boundary awareness and abuse prevention program for volunteer workers and clergy.

The Church Council is presently updating our Safe Gathering policy to ensure that Wellsville UMC is cur-

rent with best practices as outlined by the Conference. The online certification process costs \$35 for the background checks and lasts for four years. All clergy are required to remain up to date on their certification. It is also important that all volunteer workers who come into contact with children, youth or adults from vulnerable popu-

lations be certified.

The Church Council believes that all members be invited to go through the certification process so that we are trained to be aware of boundary issues and do all we can to prevent abuse of our most vulnerable.

This is a vitally important missional objective of the church. Would you prayerfully consider giving up a few hours to become Safe Gatherings certified volunteer?

Celebrate Good Times!

- 1: Shellie Childs
- 1: Dustin & Susan Stueve
- 2: Virginia Palmer
- 5: Emily Kline
- 5: Heather Otwell
- 6: Mary Ball
- 6: Aaron & Laura Anderson
- 7: Paul Good
- 7: Michelle Lawrenz



- 11: Lyle & Cindi Mills
- 12: James & Chantel Lawrence
- 17: Sharon Hart
- 19: Carol Milroy
- 20: Donna Wasssenfallen
- 26: Michael & Marlene Wagner
- 27: Michael Wagner



In Our Prayers

Family of Thelma West
Corky, Uncle of Linda Palmer,
surgery postponed
Susan Key healing

Judy Wollen, cancer
Larry & Ann A, cancer
Ray, Shirley Fort's son, liver
cancer
Kathy P., Susan Driskoll' sis-
ter

Donna K, given 3 months,
friend of Janet B

Debbie H. Linda Palmer's
cousin

Marlene Wagner, healing
John Thomas, friend of Douglas

The Split of the United Methodist Church

United Methodists gathered for worship, attended Bible studies and joined in ministries such as housing the homeless and feeding the hungry on May 1 as they do most Sundays.

That same day, organizers of the Global Methodist Church plan to mark the official launch of their new, theologically conservative breakaway denomination. But don't expect things in the 13-million member, international United Methodist Church to look much different come Monday morning.

Both United Methodist and Global Methodist leaders agree that any separations from The United Methodist Church will take time to sort out.

After all, Methodism's founder John Wesley instructed: "Do not rashly tear asunder the sacred ties which unite you to any Christian society."

The United Methodist Church by design makes breaking up — and espe-

[https://
www.greatplainsumc.org/](https://www.greatplainsumc.org/)

cially taking church property — hard to do. Wesley himself established the forerunner of the United Methodist trust clause, which states that all church property is held in trust for the entire denomination. That means congregations can't just leave and take church buildings with them.

However, the requirements of gaining release from the trust clause have become a source of contention and confusion as churches plan for the future.

Here is a look at some frequently asked questions on where things stand.

[Wasn't a separation plan already in the works?](#)

After decades of intensifying debate over same-sex marriage and gay ordina-

tion and a tumultuous special General Conference in 2019, the coming General Conference — The United Methodist Church's top lawmaking assembly — faces multiple proposals to divide.

The most endorsed of these is the Protocol of Reconciliation & Grace Through Separation, negotiated by a professional mediator with a theologically diverse group of United Methodist bishops and advocacy group leaders. The proposal offers a series of steps that would enable churches and conferences that support restrictions on gay marriage and ordination to leave with church property and \$25 million in United Methodist funds to form a new traditionalist denomination.

However, the protocol has yet to receive a General Conference vote. Complications from the COVID-19 pandemic have led to three postponements of the international legislative assembly, from May 2020 to now 2024.

Continued page 5



Mission Team Biscuit & Gravy fundraiser breakfast Saturday, June 25th. Proceeds will go for the materials needed to build a new bigger Blessing Box.

AED Training Scheduled

We have scheduled a training for Sunday May 15th at 1 p.m.

Please call the church office ASAP to register! We still have a few spots available for the 1 pm training.



This summer's Vacation Bible School will take place the week of July 18-23. We have not decided the actual days within that week we will hold VBS or the number of days that it will take place. Those decisions depend upon YOU! If we are to continue to offer VBS to the children of our church and community then we need volunteers.

We are asking for a 3 hour

commitment – or one shift. If you are available to do more than that, that would be a bonus!

Our theme is Food Truck Party: On a Roll with God! Using Matthew 6:11; "Give us this day our daily bread", children are invited to pray as Jesus teaches. These words serve as a reminder that everything we have comes from God - and our daily needs are met by God.

We will need volunteers to help with crafts, music, games and snacks. We will provide the materials to lead you through each morning.

Last year we were only able to offer two mornings of VBS – could we offer 3 this year or even 4?

Prayerfully consider volunteering a few hours of your time – the kids will love you for it!

Bottom line: The protocol is not currently part of United Methodist church law, and it is not operative.

What is happening now?

After the third postponement, Global Methodist Church organizers announced they were no longer waiting for General Conference to act and instead moving up their new traditionalist denomination's launch date to May 1. However, the organizers are doing so without the formal separation plan they hoped the protocol would provide.

The Wesleyan Covenant Association, a theologically conservative unofficial advocacy group in The United Methodist Church, has served as the main organizing force behind the new denomination. The WCA plans to mark the new denomination's launch at a legislative assembly May 6 and a global gathering May 7 near Indianapolis.

The Rev. Keith Boyette, WCA president and

chairman of the new denomination's Transitional Leadership Council, has served as the designated spokesman for both groups but declined to be interviewed for this article.

On its website under launch information, the Global Methodist Church announced that it would be a church in transition as it prepares for its own convening General Conference in 12 to 18 months.

Is there a way for congregations to leave with property?

With no protocol, congregations that wish to depart The United Methodist Church must do so using already existing measures in the Book of Discipline, the denomination's law book.

In practice, that means annual conferences — church regional bodies — are responsible for handling church disaffiliations. There are 53 annual conferences in the U.S., and 80 spread across Africa, Europe and the Philippines. A bishop presides over each annual

conference.

By an overwhelming majority, the United Methodist Council of Bishops has affirmed that conferences should use the Discipline's Paragraph 2553 as the primary paragraph for disaffiliation and separation.

Passed during the special 2019 General Conference, the church law allows congregations to exit with property "for reasons of conscience" related to homosexuality.

Paragraph 2553 requires that exiting churches meet certain financial and procedural obligations to be released from the trust clause. It also states that annual conferences "may develop additional standard terms that are not inconsistent with the standard form of this paragraph."

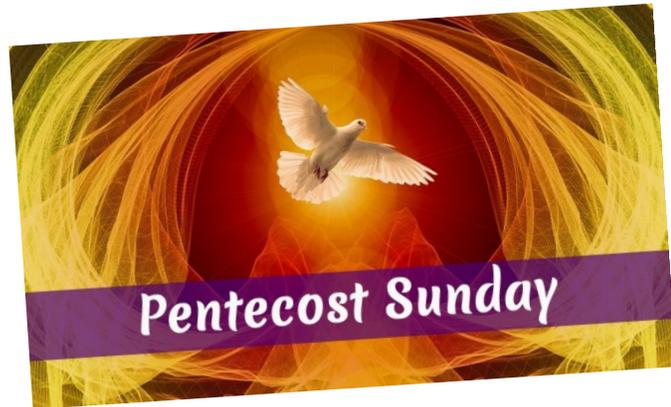
Already more than 130 U.S. congregations have used Paragraph 2553 to part ways with The United Methodist Church. However, that is a small fraction of the more than 30,500 United Methodist churches in the U.S.

(Great Plains website)

Find us @

Wellsville United Methodist
Church
302 Locust
PO Box 458
Wellsville KS 66092
785-883-2737
umcwellsville@gmail.com

Check out our
Website:
umcWellsville.org



**Pentecost Sunday –
June 5th**

MAY



10: ZoomTues 6:30 – Sacred Pathways
11: Baccalaureate 7 pm Family Church
12-13: No Weekday Devotions
15: AED Training 1 pm Register ASAP
17: Shared Experiences 10 am – noon
ZoomTues 6:30 – Sacred Pathways
19: Mission Team 6 pm Trustees 7 pm
22: Methodicals 6 pm

24: ZoomTues 6:30 – Sacred Pathways
30: Memorial Day American Legion Service 10 am @ Wellsville Cemetery, Pastor Kathy Leading

June

5: Pentecost Sunday
Wellsville H&R 1 pm
SPR training 3-5 pm Garnett UMC
8-11: Great Plains Annual Conference in La Vista NE
12: Pastor Kathy in NE
13-15: Licensing School in Schuyler, NE