



Tidings

A Newsletter of Yardley United Methodist Church

Volume 25, Issue 3

Yardley, Pennsylvania

Summer 2024



Join us for Drive Thru Coffee and Prayer @ YUMC

We would love to ask God's blessings for you and your day. You can pull up in our parking lot to the tent and receive a prayer for the day, coffee in a to-go cup, and a devotional guide. *Basic Coffee with sweeteners and creamers (while supplies last)

Monday, June 10 - 5:30 am until 7:30 am

Monday, July 8 - 5:30 am until 7:30 am

Monday, Aug 12 - 5:30 am until 7:30 am



The Staff Parish Relations Committee invites you all to participate in a **STAFF APPRECIATION** Event for our fabulous staff on **June 9th** following the service. There are brightly colored boxes in the front and back of the church for you to drop THANK YOU notes in. Please remember shared times, things to be thankful for and make them personal! We will present the bundle of cards to each staff member. If you would like to make a financial gift to staff member/s please contact Nancy Froysland Hoerl. You can give cash or check (made payable to Nancy) and send to 2007 Lynbrooke Drive, Yardley PA 19067 or give it to her in church. If you have questions: nfhoerl@rider.edu You can also donate via Venmo @Nancy-Froysland.

LET'S INUNDATE OUR GREAT STAFF WITH A TON OF THANK YOUS!

Thank you Matt, Nick, Nancy S., Denise and Pastor Lee!



2024 General Conference Decisions – Summary

Regionalization Petitions Approved

- Delegates approved legislation that would restructure the denomination to be more contextual in different regions served by the church.
- The current central conferences and the U.S. would become regional conferences, with the same authority to pass legislation.
- Delegates also approved the continuation of work on a General Book of Discipline that would be brought to the next regular session of General Conference.
- The regionalization legislation involves an amendment to the church's constitution. This would have to be approved by at least two-thirds of the total votes cast across all annual conferences worldwide for much of the regionalization legislation to take effect.

Removal of Restrictive Language Related to LGBTQ People

- The General Conference voted by overwhelming majorities to remove from the United Methodist Book of Discipline discriminatory language and bans related to ministry by, with and for "self-avowed practicing" gay and lesbian people.
- Allowance for all clergy in good standing to be appointed across annual conference lines when their bishop can't locate an appointment in their conference.

Adoption of Revised Social Principles

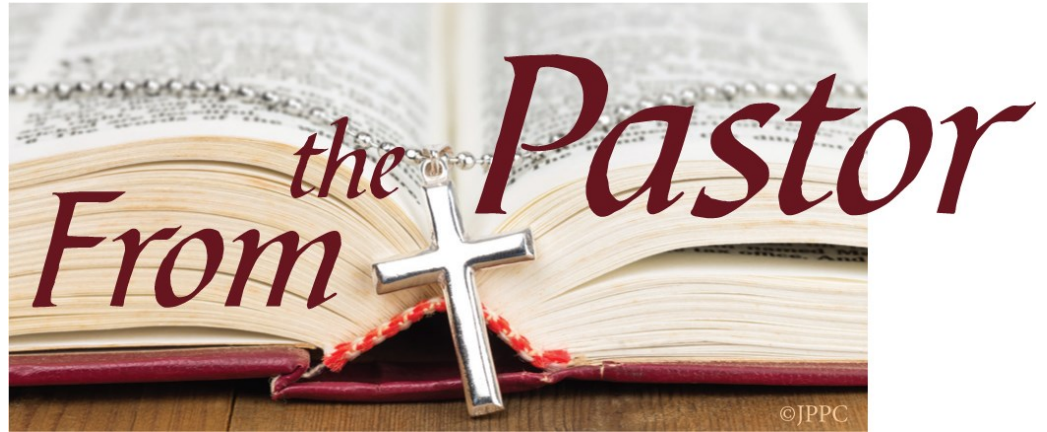
- Delegates approved the first overhaul of the denomination's Social Principles in nearly 50 years. The Social Principles, contained in both the Book of Discipline and Book of Resolutions, are statements that reflect official United Methodist teachings on a wide range of topics.

Continued on p. 4

Tidings is published by
Yardley United
Methodist Church
300 Langhorne Road
Yardley, PA 19067
Phone: 215-493-3345
office@yardleyumc.org

Worship In-Person 9:30 am
Worship on Facebook 9:30 am
Worship on Zoom 11 am

Pastor: Rev. Lee Corpier
Phone: 267-393-4230
Pastorlee@yardleyumc.org



Hello Again,

We are coming to the season after Pentecost, as we follow the Christian calendar and the lectionary, the guide for when to celebrate holy days in our typical calendar year. In fact, the season after Pentecost is the most lengthy season on the calendar. Some might be tempted to think we all need a break from all the holy day events to live out at least some of our lives without too much busyness and excitement. While there is always a necessary time for rest, as God instituted the Sabbath, the season after Pentecost can hardly be called a time of rest. Consider the time after Pentecost (one of several festivals celebrating a harvest); the Holy Spirit came to be with Jesus' disciples, and Jesus' disciples set out on an immediate and explosive expansion of the church.

Like any child in the first years after their birth, the church grew so much that those considered authority figures quickly found themselves surrounded and sometimes overwhelmed at the prospect of leading this new family of believers. It's like Jesus left behind older siblings to find and care for younger ones as they sought together to live out what their heavenly parent taught them. While some things were clear and held in joint agreement among those early disciples, other things weren't so clear. So exciting and tumultuous this time must have been that they needed to gather and discern where God was leading them. While you might think that time of discernment might only come through contemplation and prayer, that is not the case. Peter, John, and Paul had different approaches and sometimes verbal disagreements about who they ate with or who was accepted in leadership roles. Even when they agreed, necessary grace was extended until they understood in wisdom and saw its benefits.

This is undoubtedly a time of change in the church, specifically our denomination. Many disagreements have been had over the years in many different areas. Some may have felt relieved by the recent decisions and have reveled in joy, while others may have felt dismissed, discouraged, and undermined. Wherever you find yourself today, know that God remains with you; only continue to believe in him for your salvation. I hope that you have pondered and prayed over your decisions with all the importance they are due. And I hope that you find peace with the decision that you have made so that you can continue to live with purpose according to the mission of God for the restoration of the world. Like Paul and Barnabas, we may work in different directions, but we all seek to increase the grace-filled work of God.

I continue to pray that the Lord blesses you and keeps you. May God turn his face toward you and give you peace, sibling in Christ. Amen.

Still Your Brother in Christ,

Pastor Lee

Birthdays in June

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 02 Cherron Crane | 20 Adrienne Frye |
| 04 Kathryn Ortolf | 24 Nancy Coles |
| 06 Sonia Baker | 24 Lily Griffin |
| 09 Erica Lipton | 25 Michael Lipton |
| 10 Jeanette Leonhauser | 26 Makayla Frye |
| 10 Pam McCreery | 30 R. J. Cox |
| 15 Andrew Grace | |
| 17 Shayna Winters | |



Birthdays in July

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 03 Susan Hunt | 17 Lisa Hammelman |
| 04 Lisa Grayson | 18 Hank Zygmunt |
| 09 Nancy Roberts | 20 Alexander Schettino |
| 10 Henry Rooney | 21 Scott Sanford |
| 11 George Isaacson | 23 Janet B. Smith Tolbert |
| 11 Thomas Habgood | 25 Adam VanAken |
| 12 Betsy Sanford | 27 Lamar Frye |
| 13 Mollie Mitchell | 27 Linda Heilig |
| 14 Nancy Binder | 29 Eva Haas |
| 16 Pat Roth | 31 Patricia Coiante |
| 17 Joyce Lee | |

Birthdays in August

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 01 Nicholas Lefebvre | 14 Richard Edwards |
| 02 Dale Van Aken | 15 Kevin Heilig |
| 05 William Binder | 19 Ken McDaniel |
| 05 Everett Haas | 20 Kevin O’Keeffe |
| 05 Evan Luce | 22 Jane Rooney |
| 05 Doris McDaniel | 24 Carolyn Richards |
| 06 Marge Quallis | 24 Rebecca Van Aken |
| 06 Lauren Moody | 27 Emma Menzel |
| 08 Kathleen O’Keeffe | 27 Anjali Baker |
| 09 Alaina Seifert-Cocco | 30 Cooper Winters |
| 10 Marsha Snyder | |
| 13 Harrison Laba | |



From Matt Pashley:

A big THANK YOU for all the prayers, cards and well wishes during my back surgery & recovery.

Note from Marge Quallis:

Thank you so much for such a happy gift. The treats, puzzle book etc. were fun to explore, eat and read.

Most of all I appreciate your time to pray for me. I need courage to get through the day and to not worry about falling. Your kindness is so thoughtful.



The Tea Party in May was very well attended and raised funds for mission projects. A wonderful time was had by all! See more photos on page 10 & 11.



2024 General Conference Decisions – Summary

(continued from p. 1)

- In addition to the language changes regarding human sexuality and inclusiveness, the Social Principles address the importance of advocating for human dignity and combating racism and other threats, caring for creation and the environment, standing against social ills, and supporting healthy community in all its forms, including economic, social and political.

Disaffiliation Policy Ended, Re-affiliation Measure

Approved

- Delegates removed Paragraph 2553 from the Book of Discipline, ending the disaffiliation policy that was added by the special 2019 General Conference. They also required annual conferences affected by disaffiliation to develop grace-filled policies for reaffiliation of churches that want to rejoin the denomination.

Apportionment Percentage Decreased

- Conferences will shift from their current base rate of 3.29% to a base rate of 2.6% for 2025 and 2026. Then, if the apportionment collection rate is 90% or higher in those years, the base rate will increase to 2.9% for 2027 and 2028.

Budget Approved

- Delegates approved a 2025-2028 budget of \$373.4 million per year. [2019: \$604 million]

Other Key Items:

- Approved adding two bishops for Africa, for a total of 15, and set the number of U.S. bishops at 32 – a decrease from the 39 active bishops and one retired bishop currently serving episcopal areas in the U.S. [A loss of 8 bishops in the U.S.]
- Approved a new retirement plan for U.S. clergy, called Compass, which would be a defined contribution plan similar to what many corporate employers provide. The plan takes effect in 2026. [No more new entrants or contributions to CRSP (pension) as of 2026]
- Approved allowing deacons to preside at the sacraments “when contextually appropriate.”
- Approved a constitutional amendment addressing the denomination’s commitment to eradicating racism.
- Approved an amendment to include “gender” and “ability” among the attributes that should not impede full participation in the life of the contribution.
- Approved an apology to victims and survivors of sexual misconduct by clergy and lay leaders in the church.

(continued in next column)

- Approved a full communion agreement with the Episcopal Church if the Episcopal Church affirms the agreement.
- Adopted a new Book of Resolutions, including readopting many resolutions and approving new ones, addressing topics such as climate change, rights of farm workers in the U.S., the observance of the Children’s Sabbath, caring for Native people and opposition to racial profiling.



Sunday school will run through

June 19th and then take a break for the summer. In the fall Sunday school will return on Sunday, September 8th. Children are welcome to attend worship during the summer. Please feel free to pick up coloring and activity pages for use during worship.



All in the congregation are invited to the youth Golden Plate Awards on Sunday, June 9 at 6:30 pm. Join us for dessert and to celebrate this year of youth ministry.



THE PRAYER CHAPEL IS NOW OPEN! YUMC now has a Prayer Chapel for anyone who wants to spend some quiet time talking to God. It is located in the room next to the library and can be entered there or through the door behind the choir loft. In addition to seats and a kneeler, there are prayer shawls and books on prayer available. Please stop by to see it. It is available any time before or after the service and whenever the church is open.



Whole congregation & friends firepit & cookout! Save the date to have some fun at church: Everyone, all ages is invited to a firepit on **Friday, June 21 at 7 pm.** We will be grilling hot dogs hamburgers. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.



notes
from the
Belcher Room

A big thanks from the Trustees to the Asares for replacing the old, dingy ceiling tile in the downstairs hallway! The new tiles really brighten up the hallway. Also, the Trustees recently replaced three doors at the parsonage. We have an electrician coming out in early June to work on a few issues we have with lighting in the Sanctuary above the altar, various electrical outlets and the kitchen hood exhaust and lights.

Prayer for Youth

Submitted by Joyce Lee

This summer, the youth of YUMC and other churches will gather at MyCalling!, our local mission trip experience, to serve people in need of our help in surrounding communities in a variety of ways. This prayer was written by an African young adult in Ghana, for the youth of Africa and America.

The little book, [I Lie On My Mat and Pray](#), is a collection of prayers written by Ghana's young Christians and sent to young Christians in North America. The editor of this book, Fritz Pawelzik, writes, "With these prayers, Ghana's young Christians send greetings to young Christians in North America. We pray often for Christians in America. We must stammer out our thanks for the help you have given. We pray for you, pale brothers. We pray for you, darker brothers. But you in mighty America must pray much and persistently for us."

As we approach the busiest time of year for our youth, with mission trips on the horizon, this prayer from that book seems appropriate:

YOU ARE THE LEADER OF YOUTH

We pray, O Lord, for young people. For the youth of our land. For the youth of our church. It is you who help them grow in body, mind and spirit.

We know that they can do nothing without you. Please bring these youth into your manhood. We nag them continuously. We constantly find something wrong about them. And yet they are no worse than we were, With age, we become ever more proud. And I am only a few years older than they.

You are the true leader of youth. You know exactly what they need. They do not need our musty moralizing. They do not need our "I know better." They need your commandments and your grace. Give the youth of the world patience, obedience, humility, energy and joy.

We have read that youth in Europe and America are sad. Give to them a heart full of gladness. Let them be your youth, so that they are not as negative as we adults; Let them do better than we!
Amen.



God is moving! Let's Celebrate!

by Denise Harris

GOD SQUAD

In the Spring, we tend to have lower numbers. Families get busy, spring sports are popular in this community, etc. So we expect lower attendance. However, something happened in April that brought kids back! We are averaging 9-11 God Squad kids each week! Friends have started coming and attend even if their friends can't make it that week.

Each week, the kids are so excited to be together and continue to create a strong community together. The kids have started visiting Praise Band practice in their travels on Wednesdays. It's a fun experience and the kids are being exposed to worship in the Sanctuary.

YOUTH GROUP

Last week, one of our youth that has been coming for a year asked if she could take a Bible home with her. She wants to start reading the Bible but doesn't have one at home. She also shared that she has noticed she feels less anxious in life, since coming to youth group. Each week, youth ask excitedly if this is a Support Group night and our small groups have become a safe place youth can rely on to share deeply and honestly. Again, friends have joined in and felt a part of things! We have a student leadership team! Two youth applied!

NUMBERS

We are connecting with 17 families on a weekly basis. Our average attendance on a Wednesday is 15-18 kids and youth. We have 13 adults leading our Wednesday nights.

GOD IS MOVING!

In the fall of 2022, we had 3 God Squad kids and 4 youth. Over the last 18 months, our Wednesday evenings have experienced a 166% increase in Youth Group and a 266% increase in God Squad!!! God is moving!!!!

And even more important (but less measurable), the kids and youth are creating a community and growing in their relationship with God.

While this growth is bringing challenges we need to address for the fall, it also brings us to an amazing place where we can sit back and say "Look at what God is doing!" How amazing is that?!?!?

God is leading! God is using the faithfulness of our leaders and congregation to reach kids, youth and families! Thank you to all who participate in and support youth ministries at YUMC.





Our new Praise Band has been leading music on certain Sundays. For more information or if you are interested in joining, please contact Nick.



The Mission Committee thanks everyone who stayed after the service on May 26 to bundle over 1,100 diapers for Maker's Place in Trenton.

PLEASE RESPOND
Records Update

The church has installed a new computer application. The application handles the membership, donations, and accounting for the church. One of the functions available is an on-line directory of the people. In order to create this directory, we need to have our membership information updated. Because the access is controlled by email and the current email application was not converted with the other membership information, please take the time to complete the following form drop it by the office, place it in the offering plate on Sunday, or email the information to yumcoffice@gmail.com.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Primary Email: _____

Mobile Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

YUMC YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry at Yardley UMC exists to share God's love with teenagers, equip them to experience the work of ministry, honor the Lord and enjoy one another.

Do you have questions? Need someone to talk to? See Denise or any youth leader. Or, email denise@yardleyumc.org

Not sure of dates for events? Have a sports event, concert, or other activity that you want your youth ministry friends to know about? Check out the calendar on our website at www.yardleyumcyouth.org! You can add your birthday, activities or even prayer requests by clicking on dates on the calendar.

Need to sign up for an event? Go to the youth website at www.yardleyumcyouth.org/events



Check out our QR CODE!

Scan this code and it will take you to our youth events page. You can sign up for events, ask questions or see more details about each event.



The Golden Plate Awards! Sunday, June 9th 6:30pm

All youth, Kids, Parents, Families, Leaders & Adults are invited to YUMC for a night of celebration & dessert! We will celebrate our year together, look back at some great moments, celebrate each Kid & Youth with a super fancy Golden Plate Award and end by praying for our seniors and summer. It will be a fun night together!

Sign Up by going to www.yardleyumcyouth.org/events or use the QR code above



Congratulations to our High School graduates:

*Anya Abel
Grace Asare
Ruth O'Keeffe*



Nerf Wars June 5 6-7:30 pm

Plus hot dogs, water ice and sidewalk chalk. Invite friends!



FIREPIT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY June 21 7 pm

Invite family & friends...we'll be grilling hamburgers & hot dogs. Bring a side or dessert to share.



CAMPING TRIP FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES! 5/31-6/2

Get ready for a weekend of fun, rest, swimming, hiking and more! Friends are welcome! Families welcome! Young Adults welcome! Youth are welcome! God Squad welcome! Let's get out in nature and enjoy a weekend together!



**WHATEVER FLOATS YOUR BOAT NIGHTS
June 28 and July 26**

Youth, Adults, Young Adults, Families... Come to Core Creek boat launch Friday 5:30pm. Bring a bagged dinner and anything else you want!

If you plan to join, please sign up! www.yardleyumcyouth.org/events
Bring your kayak, boat, paddleboard, etc! If you need a boat, we have them! Let Denise know when you sign up!



Blessing of backpacks is Sunday, Aug. 18th. Attention all Students, Families, Teachers and Administrators! Bring your backpack, homework book, etc. We will pray for you and your new school year.

Friends welcome to Backpack Blessing!



**WATER & FIRE NIGHT
Wednesday July 10th at 6:30 pm**

All Kids & Youth are invited to join a night with something for everyone! We will start at 6:30 pm with Water Games. At 7:30 pm the Youth will have a Fire Pit night with s'mores and discussion.



Wednesday Nights!





Tidings of
Yardley United Methodist Church
300 Langhorne Road
Yardley, Pennsylvania 19067



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Worship is every Sunday at 9:30 in the Sanctuary and on Facebook Live & at 11 am on Zoom

Young Adults meet every Wednesday at 9:30 pm on Zoom.

June

- 9 Staff Appreciation Sunday
- 9 Trustees on Zoom, 12:30 pm
- 9 Golden Plate Awards, all invited, 6:30 pm
- 10 Drive Thru Prayer, 5:30-7:30 am
- 21 Firepit & Cook out for All, 7 pm
- 28 Float Your Boat, 5:30 pm

July

- 8 Drive Thru Prayer, 5:30-7:30 am
- 10 Water & Fire Night 6:30 pm
- 14-18 MyCalling! Mission Experience
- 26 Float Your Boat, 5:30 pm

August

- 12 Drive Thru Prayer 5:30-7:30 am
- 12-14 Girls' Retreat
- 18 Backpack Blessing
- 19 Newsletter Deadline



June, July, August 2024