



The January Maple

A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition (Contemporary Version)

I am no longer my own, but yours.
Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you,
Praised for you or criticized for you.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service.
And now, O wonderful and holy God,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
you are mine, and I am yours.
So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
Let it also be made in heaven. Amen.

As we begin a new year, some of us will think of ways to improve our lives, and determine to live life better. As a church family, we will bring in the New Year in worship together, recalling the relationship we have with God and each other through John Wesley's Covenant renewal service. At the heart of this service is the above prayer. I offer it here in the Maple so we can put it someplace visible, and offer it in prayer often. I can't think of a better tool to use to improve our life and our relationships in 2017.

*Grace and peace,
Pastor Wendy*

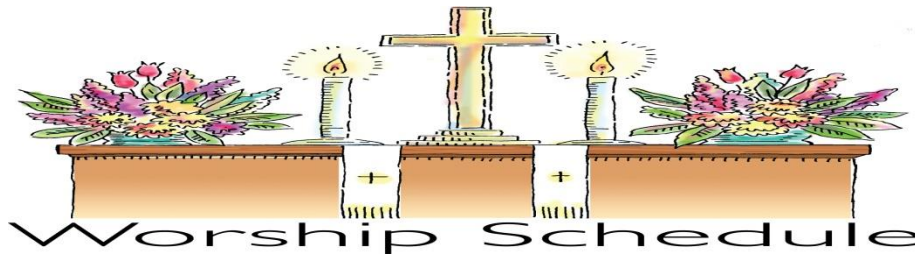


When: Friday, March 3 – Saturday, March 4

Where: Morrisville UMC

Why? To prepare our hearts and minds for Lent

- Lent tends to not be as busy as Advent, with shopping and decorating and buying gifts, but it comes at a time of the year when the winter blues have settled in and the long dark nights have taken a toll on our mood. So plan to join with your church family for our stay-at-home retreat, where we will laugh and play together; pray and worship together; and invite the rebel Jesus to infiltrate our life and challenge us to experience our faith in fresh new ways. Pick up a brochure today and register!



Worship Schedule

- New Year's Day: We will worship together as a church family at 10:15 in one service. Portions of John Wesley's Covenant Service will be shared, and we will celebrate communion together. No Sunday School.
- January 8: Epiphany
- January 13-15: The Women will be on Retreat in Lancaster. Manny Abalo will bring the morning message and lead worship.
- January 22: Pulpit Exchange with the Morrisville Presbyterian Church and St. John Lutheran church.
- January 29 Begins a Sermon Series: "The Disciple's Heart"



Tuesday Mornings in the Library -- 10:00 am

Beginning January 10th Pastor Wendy will lead a six week study in the book of Isaiah. Isaiah was a prophet of God who warned the people of Israel that a time of Exile would come because of their apostasy. Sure enough, the children of God were conquered and carried out of their home land and into slavery, causing a sever faith crisis. While in exile, words of encouragement and hope were proclaimed until God's people were returned to their homeland. We will study a few well known passages from these three time periods to hear how the words of the prophet still speak today.



With our many gifts, talents and interests, the church community works together to shine the light and love of Christ into the world. As I reflect over the past year and the many ways we celebrated 175 years of ministry, I can't help but feel blessed to be part of the Morrisville United Methodist Church Community! The number of ministries and the strength of our mission work is commendable, and made possible because of the dozens of people willing to give tirelessly of their time, resources and abilities. Thank you!

Each year the church council nominates and elects church members to specific committee positions. On January 8th in both our 8:45 and 11:15 worship services we will acknowledge and thank those who have agreed to serve in 2017. Plan to come and support your church leaders with your prayers and service.



2017

➤ Church Council:

Church Council Chairperson: Dave Sample
Council Secretary: Lee Sonnhalter
Lay Leaders: Emmanuel Abalo and VK Macwana

Delegate to Annual Conference: Emmanuel Abalo
UMW Co-Presidents: Linda Mier, Rhonda Rea **Men's Fellowship:** Dave Miller
Memorial Sec./Women's Bible study: Michelle Martin
Finance Chairperson: Jim Rea
Worship Chairperson: Margy Dickson
Outreach/Mission Rep.: Becky Kent
Chairperson of Capital Investment Fund: Linda Mier
Trustee President: George Duthie
Chairperson of Invest./Stewardship Fund: David Sample
Investment Stewardship Fund Treasurer: Sue Gotta
Staff Parish Relations Chairperson: Joyce Bigley
Treasurer: Lillian Mannon
Staff Members: Rev. Wendy Bellis, Kim Jakimowicz, Jennifer Arruda
At Large Members: Carol Young, Charlotte Swenson, Becky Kent, Brian Doron

➤ Worship Team:

Margy Dickson, Carol Young, Sue Urbano, Jim Rea, Christine Bonno, Sue Gotta, Rhonda Rea, Steve Decker
Staff members: George Gray, Amanda Kelly, Sean Kelly and Abigail LaVecchia
Communion Stewards: Margy Dickson, Dean Dickson, Sue Gotta
Flowers/Greening: Carol Somers
Usher Coordinator: Carol Young
Celebration Service Hospitality: Rhonda Rea
Christian Cups Coordinator: Charlotte Swenson
Altar design: Rhonda Rea, Pam Manners, Christine Bonno

2017 Lay Leadership continued

- **Outreach and Missions Team:** Pastor Wendy Bellis (chairperson) Lois Avery (Bloodmobile), Vera Straley (food pantry), Karleen Miller, Becky Kent, Nancy Sample, Jeanette Sonnhalter, Marian Makemson
- **Trustees:** George Duthie (President), Dave Burkhardt (Vice-President)
 2017: George Duthie, Hal Long, John Koba
 2018: Carol Somers (Secretary), Dave Burkhardt
 2019: Walt Pabers
- **Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee:**
 Joyce Bigley (chairperson), Lay Leader: Manny Abalo or VK Macwana
 Pastor: Wendy Bellis
 2017: Barbara Lombardo (Sec.), Deb Price, Tom Martin
 2018: Joyce Bigley, Charlotte Duthie
 2019: Amy Surdy, Chili Obbo, Diana Pabers
- **Finance Committee**
 Jim Rea (chairperson), Lillian Mannon (Treasurer), Shirley Malmsbury (Finance Secretary), VK Macwana, Linda Mier, Joe Urbano, Harold Long
SCRIP Coordinator : Dave Sample
- **Family Ministries:** **Coord: Kim Jakimowicz**
 Janet Fabian, Frances Rivera, Nick Doan, Bethany Macwana, Lee and Jeanette Sonnhalter, Rashmi Swaroop
- **Investment Stewardship Fund:** David Sample (chair)
 Church Council Chair: Dave Sample
 Secretary/Treasurer: Sue Gotta
 Church Treasurer: Lillian Mannon , Finance Chair: Jim Rea,
 SPPR Chair: Joyce Bigley, Trustee President: George Duthie
 Pete Wisnosky, Don Swenson, Lay Leader: Manny Abalo or VK Macwana
- **Capital Investment Fund:** Linda Mier (chairperson)
 Church Council chair: Dave Sample, Finance chair: Jim Rea,
 SPPR chair: Joyce Bigley, President Trustees: George Duthie,
 Lay Leader: Emmanuel Abalo/VK Macwana
 Dean Dickson, Dave Burkhardt
- Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominations) – Chairperson: Pastor Manny Abalo (Lay Leader), VK Macwana (Lay Leader)
 2017: Barbara Lombardo
 2018: Charlotte Swenson
 2019: Edith Massaquoi
- Native American Rep: Hal Long

DEVELOPING A Disciple's Heart

Sermon Series

The heart symbolizes the center of our human life, physically, emotionally and spiritually. Ezekiel 36:26 says, "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you. I will remove your stony heart from your body and replace it with a living one."

Beginning January 29 and every week until Lent begins, we will hear Scripture passages that refer to the condition of a disciple's heart to assist us in growing in love and grace.



Our next Family Promise week is January 29th through February 5th. Volunteers can go to the [Family Promise Sign Up](http://www.mumcpa.org) on the church website (www.mumcpa.org) or call Dave Miller at 215-943-2046 or 267-614-3836 to sign up for this week. Our hope is that more members of our congregation will feel called to help so the load can be spread among more people. New volunteers will need time to get the required clearances. Call David and Marianne Miller at 215-943-2046 or 267-614-3836 if you are interested in learning more about these opportunities.



Start the New Year right by attending the January meeting of our Men's Group. The meeting is on the 14th of January at 8 AM. We meet in the church lounge on the second Saturday of each month. Join us for good fellowship, light refreshments and encouragement from God's Word. If you have any questions call Dave Miller at 215-943-2046 or 267-614-3836.



Yes! It is coming soon! The *MUMC Talent Show*, and *Gifts and Talents Auction*. Proceeds are split with the Youth Mission Trip and the General Fund. Enjoy a night of entertainment, Fellowship and bidding for good food, arts, crafts and other gifts and talents of our congregation. Invite your friends to this evening of fundraising and fun. Doors open at 6:00pm to inspect and bid on the auction items and the talent show starts at 6:30pm. Admission price is \$5.00 per person with a maximum of \$15.00 per family. Please contact Jim Rea @ 215-493-9505 if you would like to be included in the Talent portion of the evening and Jenn Arruda at: arruda223@comcast.net for the auction portion of the evening. Refreshments will be provided. Please come and support your youth and church family as we enjoy this special evening.



We welcome all women who commit themselves to our Purpose, including you. You don't have to be a member of The United Methodist Church to join. Our membership is diverse: women of many races, cultures, languages, young and old. There is no minimum age requirement. We hope you will prayerfully consider joining this multicultural, multilingual, and multiracial organization of women. *All women are welcome to attend.*

January Schedule

(There is no Unit meeting in January.)

JANUARY 3

UMW Mission Team (Executive Board) – 7:00 P.M. Church Library

JANUARY 16

MARCIA/RUTH CIRCLE – 7:00 P.M.
Location, Hostess and Devotion TBA

JANUARY 18

ELIZABETH CIRCLE – 1:30 P.M., Church Lounge
Hostess, Devotion/Study TBA

February

FEBRUARY 5 (Sunday)

UMW GENERAL MEETING – 12:30 P.M. (After 11:15 service)
Program: TBA

Thank you to Carol, her cookie tray team, and all who baked and delivered the Christmas cookies for our homebound and others! We had enough delicious cookies to make 26 trays that were delivered to members' homes. We also shared trays with our 9 MUMC staff members. This hands-on mission project of United Methodist Women is always well-received and most appreciated!



Happy New Year! Thank you Morrisville United Methodist Church Family for making 2016 amazing for our youth. We did amazing things and amazing things we're done for us. What is really exciting is that the Lord is leading us towards an incredible journey! This summer seems so far away but it is really right around the corner. We will praise the Lord because 2017 is already a great year to be a youth at MUMC!

The MUMC talent show is coming and we need your help. If you have any items, services and/or gifts you would like to give - we would love to accept them. The youth are creating the baskets for the silent auction and we need you to help us make this year's auction the best it's ever been. We need gift cards, specialty baskets, talents (babysitting, dog walking, car washing, airport driving...) and arts pieces/ craft creations. We have some amazing people in our congregation and you always come through!

Please reach out to me (mumcyouth@comcast.net) or Janet Fabian so that we can count you in. A portion of the money raised goes towards our summer mission trips. Thank you!



- A new Women's Bible Study will be coming later in January. Look for information and details to follow soon.

THE MOUSETRAP

Presented by: The MUMC Players

Do you like drama? The first weekend in April the MUMC Players will perform "The Mouse Trap" for our church and community under the direction of Steve Decker. The first meeting of the cast and stage crew will be Wednesday, January 11th at 7 pm in the church lounge. If you are interested in learning more about how YOU can be involved in this production, plan to come to this meeting. Contact Steve Decker for information.

Backpack Food Ministry

Two Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings a month, the Back Pack center is open to over 20 families in our community to shop for grocery and home cleaning needs. Christmas gifts were shared with every member of the families thanks to the generosity of the many sponsor partners of the center. Food donations, personal hygiene items and household cleaning supplies are in constant need for the center.



The staff of the church say "thank you" for your love and support throughout the year, and especially your generous Christmas gift. It is an honor and a pleasure to serve with you.

