

Wyoming Park United Methodist Church

Connections

April 24, 2024

Pastor's Paragraph

The 2024 General Conference of the United Methodist Church is finally meeting, April 23 - May 3. Every quadrennium lay and clergy representatives from every Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church across the world meet to revise the Book of Discipline and to set direction and goals for our denomination. The Covid pandemic kept the General Conference from meeting in 2020 which led to not being able to deal with a resolution put forward to help us find our way through theological differences, especially concerning the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ individuals. As a result, a way was put forward for churches to leave the United Methodist Church who didn't want to wait another four years. December 31, 2023 was the expiration date for that process.

The Opening worship service was held at 2 pm on April 23. The theme for the Conference is "...and Know that I am God." Approximately 20% of churches have disaffiliated and either joined the newly formed, more conservative Global Methodist Church, joined another Wesleyan denomination (such as Free Methodist) or become independent churches. The hope for many is that those churches who have remained with the United Methodist Church will become a fully inclusive denomination. Many progressive members are praying for General Conference to "**Regionalize, Revise, and Remove.**"

Regionalize, meaning allowing geographical areas of the UMC to govern in a way that is socially appropriate and make decisions for their areas that are appropriate without imposing those guidelines on other regions or be allowed to vote on those decisions. **Revise** our Social Principles, which are not "law" like the Book of Discipline, but are guidelines for how we engage the world. **Remove** refers to taking out the language in the Book of Discipline which states that "homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching."

You can keep abreast of General Conference news at the following link <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/general-conference-2020>. And livestream the proceedings here <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/general-conference-2020/live-stream>. Bishop Thomas Bickerton gave a rousing message at Opening Worship. You can hear his message on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jr0fFEywnZU>.

What is most important is that we continue to be faithful to God's calling here on the corner of Wyoming Avenue and Porter St SW while keeping an eye on what is happening worldwide in the Church and our denomination bathing all of it in prayer. "Be still and know that I am God."

Grace and Peace, Pastor Kim

The logo for "Singers Wanted" features the word "Singers" in a large, elegant, pink cursive font, with "Wanted" in a smaller, similar font below it. There are small starburst graphics around the letters.

Singers and Families of Singers...and Those Who Want To Be Singers!!! We're planning a wonderful idea for Mothers Day on May 12th! Please grab your family members and join Debbie McFalone for special music! **Rehearsals on 3 Sundays: April 21, 28, May 5 for 15 min after morning worship.** Let's join together to do church differently!!

Feeding America Food Truck

The Feeding America food truck is scheduled from Monday, 4/29, at Wyoming High School. Volunteers are always welcome to help out. Plan to arrive at about 3:45-4:00. The truck usually arrives around 4:00. They have started handing out boxes of food when the boxes are ready. So last month we were done by 5:00.

Connections

This Week's Events

Saturday, April 27

9am Casa De Mi Padre

Sunday, April 28

10am Worship

1:30pm Casa De Mi Padre

7pm Casa De Mi Padre

Monday, April 29

Tuesday, April 30

Wednesday, May 1

Thursday, May 2

10:30am Olivet Bible Study

6:30pm Wine, Women, and The Word

7pm Casa De Mi Padre

Friday, May 3

Saturday, May 4

9am Casa De Mi Padre

Sunday, May 5

10am Worship

1:30pm Casa De Mi Padre

7pm Casa De Mi Padre



Birthdays

May 14 Nicole Beauchamp

May 27 Pat Agema

May 28 Katy Kohley

May 29 Grayson Meredith

May 31 Terri Velding

May 31 Karla VerHage

Anniversaries

May 9 Ted and Connie Swinger

May 27 Dave and Jerrie Garvin

Please pray for the following:

General Conference.

Bunny, and her brother John DeVoss

Della and her family.

The Meredith families caring for parents and grandparents.



Sunday Leaders

	April 28	May 5	May 12
Communion		Mary/VerHage Family	
Prayers	Karla VerHage	Don Williams	Bunny Swank
Fellowship Table	Connie Swinger		
Music/Video	Debbie McFalone	Debbie McFalone	Debbie McFalone
Screen	Jason Squires	Simon Kramer	Paige Borda
Sound			