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## From the Pastor's Desk . . .



A Time to Renew  
Genesis 1:1-5

“In the beginning God created the Heavens and the Earth.”

The mail brings them to us: envelopes with the words, “Time to Renew”, printed on the outside. The magazine subscription is about to expire and it is Time to Renew. An email comes to our inbox about virus protection’s “Time to Renew.” The calendar turns to another year. It’s time to renew.

Here we are in January 2012, still recovering from the busy pace of the Advent and Christmas message and it’s time to renew. What this year will bring no one knows, but the possibilities are unlimited -- the possibility of personal growth, spiritual growth and how our community at Wesley Grove can shine. It is time to renew. It is time to come together and work for the Kingdom of God on Earth.

I would like to suggest we live this year with a “What if” attitude. What if we lived as

though all the hopes and dreams of our lives were really going to happen? What if we approached this year with the expectation that life truly can be renewed? The gospel is about beginning again. It is about renewal. We can walk away from yesterday into the freshness of tomorrow. That is the good news I bring from my desk to your heart.

“What if” is what the sun asks every morning, beginning a new day. “What if” we lived each day for others? What if the heavens opened up and God said to us individually, “What if ...\_\_\_\_\_” (*fill in the blank*)

God’s story of creation is a drama of renewal. Seasons change, time passes and through it all the cycle of life brings forth the things that make possible the existence of life on earth. It is as if the physical world teaches us a Lesson – renewal is the heart of everything.

In a scene every Sunday is

an opportunity to begin again. This is why having a new year begin on a Sunday was very symbolic and important. We celebrated Communion together. Is there any better way to begin the new year with a fresh new beginning then Communion? It brought it all together, the Life teaching and ministry of Jesus. We are present in worship to renew ourselves, body, mind and spirit.

In the beginning God created and in your life, God is creating. Now is the time to let that energy of renewal embrace you and make you new. It is time to turn over a new leaf, and Jesus is always present to help you begin anew.

It’s time to Renew and Live our “What if” for Jesus Christ.

-Reverend Ken

## WESLEY GROVE TRUSTEE NOTES

The Trustees would like to thank all those members and friends of Wesley Grove who have contributed not only financial support for various maintenance and repair projects at the church in 2011, but have expended 'sweat equity'. We have had members hold fund raising projects and many people have pitched in to dress up the church in new paint, extensive cleaning and decorating of various rooms. Our

new vinyl windows have all be 'dressed' in new vinyl trim and sealed to protect the wood and a gift allowed us to upgrade the lighting in the Sanctuary. Thanks to fundraising by our "Nutty" ladies, we will be able to repair our Sanctuary sound system.

While much has been accomplished in 2011, there is still more work to do to bring our church up

to the level of those areas that have been upgraded so far.

If you would like to "Adopt" an area for cleaning, painting or just to monitor the general conditions, please contact the Trustees or Donna Biddinger for areas in need of help.

-Bill Allison, Chairperson  
Trustee Committee

## WESLEY GROVE PRE-K

Happy New Year! Hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas. With all the parties and Christmas programs behind us, the months of January and February bring back a normal routine for our teachers and children. We can finally slow down a little.

Registration for the 2012/2013 school year will begin in March. January and February will be set aside

to have perspective parent and children visit our school and see what we are all about. If any member of the church plans on registering a child to begin school in the fall, please call the school office to receive a registration packet. Also, please pass the word on to anyone you may know interested in finding a Pre-K for their child.

Some of our Pre-K classes will be

visiting Morningside Assisted Living during the month of February. The residents always seem to enjoy the children singing and the little handmade gifts that they receive from the children.

Blessings to all in the new year.

-Susan Russo

## 2012 SWEETHEART BREAKFAST

### Annual Sweetheart Breakfast will be held on February 11, 2012

The Wesley Grove Men's Club will sponsor their annual Sweetheart Breakfast on February 11, 2012 at 9am. We hope that everyone will be there.

Our cooks will do their utmost to satisfy your food needs with a varied and tasty menu. There will be the normal selections of eggs, pancakes, sausage and various other items.

The auction that we held last year

was extremely successful and will be done again this year. Once again the proceeds of the auction will go to the Jen Wurtzer Scholarship Fund. If you are able, please bring an item or baked good that may be auctioned off.

Make plans for you and your loved one to attend this function. And remember that you are also more than welcome to come alone. Mark your calendars so that you will not forget.

We look forward to seeing you there. What better way to start out your day than with a delicious breakfast and a charity auction that will enable some children to attend our pre-school program this coming year?

Good food, good fun and good fellowship always warm up cold days.

-Wesley Grove Men's Club



# Happy Birthday!

Brittany Mitchell	1/09	Shawn Arnwine	2/03	Betty Terry	3/01
Tommy Pope	1/10	Joy Bowers	2/07	Angela Blackstone	3/01
Nick Stanco	1/11	Patricia James	2/07	Brandon Kwakye	3/01
Scott Williamson	1/13	Romy de la Cruz	2/07	David Eric Allison	3/02
Alice Seal	1/15	Ann Fishell	2/10	Libby Anderson	3/10
Mel Gardner	1/20	Teresa Marie Temple	2/10	Jack Seal	3/11
Ann Bromery	1/22	Arthur Shell	2/11	Teresa Holland	3/13
Cathy Culver	1/22	Amy Monforte	2/14	Michael Hopkins	3/15
Cora Ruby	1/24	Paul McGee	2/15	Maria Gowen	3/16
Ashley Baillargeon	1/24	Amy Everhart	2/16	Noah Blackstone	3/16
Kate Guyer	1/28	Kathy Hopkins	2/16	Sue Cimino	3/17
		Niles Maroney	2/16	Sandy Slappo	3/20
		Margaret Disney	2/21	Rachel Boyer	3/25
		Brian Rosser	2/21	Catherine Gable	3/25
		Samantha Solloway	2/21	Catherine Allison	3/26
		Lynda Yeager	2/26		
		Martha Lee Crandell	2/27		
		Betty Belt	2/29		



## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS AT WESLEY GROVE

December 2011

### **In loving memory of:**

Our fathers by Cheryl and Ken Valentine  
 Mom and Dad Myers by Bill and Catherine Allison and family  
 Mom and Dad Allison by Bill and Catherine Allison and family  
 William and Miriam Koerner by Betsy Koerner  
 Ezra and Elizabeth Short by Betsy Koerner  
 W. Leroy and Galen Heatwole by Lois, Karen, Charlie and Ashley  
 Naa-Adei Kotey by the Kotey family  
 Joseph Shaver by Lucille Shaver

### **In honor of:**

Our children by Cheryl and Ken Valentine  
 Our grandchildren, Richie, Rhea and Roman by Mary and John Pineda  
 Ashley Baillargeon by Mom and Dad  
 Gloria Smoot by Patty and Danny Smoot-Wood  
 Evelyn McClintock by Patty and Danny Smoot-Wood

### **Monetary Donation:**

In loving memory of Maurice S. Anderson by Elizabeth E. Anderson  
 In loving memory of Ethel M. Anderson by Elizabeth E. Anderson  
 In loving memory of John and Ruth Schillinger by Joy Bowers  
 In loving memory of Robert and Virginia Bowers by Bud and Joy Bowers  
 In loving memory of John and Alice Christopher, Bill Christopher, Bob Christopher, Everett and Ora Stevens, Dorothy Myers, Elmer Stevens, Phyllis Stevens, Holly K and Edith Stratton by Ed and Sharon Stratton  
 In loving memory of Our parents, Pauline and Richard Sawyer and Naomi Salas Pineda by Mary and John Pineda  
 In honor of Richard Koerner by Betsy Koerner  
 In honor of Shirley Myers, Lawrence and Donna Myers, and Ronnie Christopher by Ed and Sharon Stratton

All requests for use of the church for any event or meeting should be placed through the church administrative assistant, Marie Temple. No one is to place an event on either the desk calendar or the wall calendar in the reception area. Please submit your request for any calendar posting to Marie at [wgumcoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:wgumcoffice@yahoo.com) or in writing and place in mail box in room six stating date of event, purpose of event with a contact name and number of person requesting the posting.

## January

01	Sunday	HAPPY NEW YEAR	
		9:00 AM	Contemporary Service
		9:45 AM	Sunday School
		11:00 AM	Traditional Service with Communion
		3:00 PM	N.A.
02	Monday	6:00 PM	T.O.P.S
		6:30 PM	Girl Scouts – All Ages
		8:30 PM	A.A.
03	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts
04	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
		7:00 PM	Bible Study
05	Thursday	7:30 PM	Choir rehearsal
08	Sunday	9:00 AM	Contemporary Service
		9:45 AM	Sunday School (w/ Bring a friend breakfast)
		11:00 AM	Traditional Service
		12:30 PM	Annual Planning Meeting
		3:00 PM	N.A.
09	Monday	6:00 PM	T.O.P.S
		6:30 PM	Girl Scouts – All Ages
		8:30 PM	A.A.
10	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts
11	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
		7:00 PM	Bible Study
12	Thursday	7:30 PM	Choir rehearsal
14	Saturday	8:00 AM	Men's Monthly Breakfast
15	Sunday	9:00 AM	Contemporary Service
		9:45 AM	Sunday School
		11:00 AM	Traditional Service
		12:10 PM	UMW Luncheon
		3:00 PM	N.A.
16	Monday	6:00 PM	T.O.P.S
		6:30 PM	Girl Scouts
		8:30 PM	A.A.
17	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts
18	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
		7:00 PM	Bible Study
19	Thursday	7:30 PM	Choir rehearsal
22	Sunday	9:00 AM	Contemporary Service
		9:45 AM	Sunday School
		11:00 AM	Traditional Service
		3:00 PM	N.A.
23	Monday	6:00 PM	T.O.P.S
		6:30 PM	Girl Scouts
		8:30 PM	A.A.

24	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts
25	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
		7:00 PM	Bible Study
26	Thursday	7:30 PM	Choir rehearsal
29	Sunday	9:00 AM	Contemporary Service
		9:45 AM	Sunday School
		11:00 AM	Traditional Service
		12:30 PM	Annual Planning Meeting (w/ lunch)
		3:00 PM	N.A.
30	Monday	6:00 PM	T.O.P.S
		6:30 PM	Girl Scouts
		8:30 PM	A.A.
31	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts

**February**

01	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
		7:00 PM	Bible Study
02	Thursday	7:30 PM	Choir rehearsal
03	Friday	5:00 PM	Girl Scout Sleepover
05	Sunday	9:00 AM	Contemporary Service
		9:45 AM	Sunday School
		11:00 AM	Traditional Service with Communion
		3:00 PM	N.A.
06	Monday	6:00 PM	T.O.P.S
		6:30 PM	Girl Scouts
		8:30 PM	A.A.
07	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts
08	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
		7:00 PM	Bible Study
09	Thursday	7:30 PM	Choir rehearsal
11	Saturday	9:00 AM	Annual Sweetheart Breakfast
12	Sunday	9:00 AM	Contemporary Service
		9:45 AM	Sunday School
		11:00 AM	Traditional Service
		3:00 PM	N.A.
13	Monday	6:00 PM	T.O.P.S
		6:30 PM	Girl Scouts
		8:30 PM	A.A.
14	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Boy Scouts
15	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
		7:00 PM	Bible Study
16	Thursday	7:30 PM	Choir rehearsal
19	Sunday	9:00 AM	Contemporary Service
		9:45 AM	Sunday School
		11:00 AM	Traditional Service
		12:30 PM	UMW Luncheon (brown bag)
		3:00 PM	N.A.

20	Monday	6:30 PM	Girl Scouts – All Ages
		6:30 PM	T.O.P.S
		8:30 PM	A.A.
21	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts
22	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
		7:00 PM	Bible Study
23	Thursday	7:30 PM	Choir rehearsal
25	Saturday	4:00 – 7:00 PM	Boy Scouts - Blue and Gold Dinner
26	Sunday	9:00 AM	Contemporary Service
		9:45 AM	Sunday School
		11:00 AM	Traditional Service
		3:00 PM	N.A.
27	Monday	6:30 PM	Girl Scouts – All Ages
		6:30 PM	T.O.P.S
		8:30 PM	A.A.
28	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts
29	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
		7:00 PM	Bible Study