



# Wyandot Global Methodist Ministries

**Pastor Jonathan "Jon" Morris**  
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**Spring 2026**

**JOHN STEWART Methodist  
Wyandot Global Methodist  
Ministries Office**

130 W. Johnson Street  
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351  
419-294-2867

**Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.**

**MARSEILLES Methodist**

20260 Broadway Street  
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351  
(Located in Marseilles)  
740-499-3712

**Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m.**

**WESLEY CHAPEL Methodist**

12544 County Highway 63  
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351  
740-499-3712

**Sunday Worship, 9:00 a.m.**

**WHARTON Methodist**

208 E. Sandusky Street  
Wharton, OH 43359  
419-957-4715

**Sunday Worship, 9:00 a.m.**

**OLD MISSION Church**

E. Church St. at N. Fourth St.  
(Mission Cemetery)  
Upper Sandusky, OH  
(May-Aug.) 8:00 a.m.

## Pastor's Corner



Church, the past five months as your senior pastor have flown by, and I am so encouraged by your support and willingness to follow the Holy Spirit. So far we have gotten to learn the background of Jesus, and where He came from, His family, His people, and their story. We have celebrated the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and we have ushered in 2026. The signs of spring are beginning to show and the snowy winter will soon come to an end.

However, we did not spend the winter months idly, at John Stewart; the acoustic tiles are up in the FLC (Family Life Center), painting in the sanctuary has just been completed, and the new streaming cameras will soon be installed. The charge youth group "Encounter" has been formed and has begun meeting weekly. The charge mission team has met for the first quarter and have some exciting opportunities to serve coming up, and as leaders across the charge we are focusing on growth. Growth in; faith, mission, outreach, evangelism, and of course prayer. This leads us towards holiness, both personal and social, as we strive to be ever more like Christ. It is for this purpose that we chose to follow the "Altar'd" series for this Lenten season. As we continue through this Lenten season there are a few points that I want us to stay focused on.

Firstly, Lent is not about what we give up. Just giving up something and counting down the days until you can pick it back up again, does nothing. Lent is about surrender and drawing closer to God.

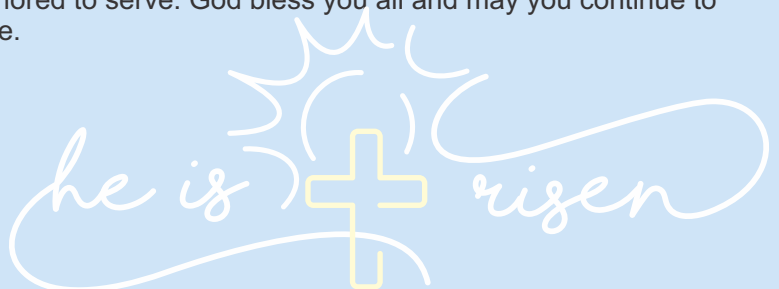
Secondly, if there is something you give up, it should not be viewed as a self inflicted punishment, but instead, it should be viewed as leaning into Christ's call to surrender in Matthew 16:24, Then Jesus told his disciples, **"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself take up his cross and follow me."**

Lastly, when we surrender to God, He does not just want our Twinkies or Twitter for a month and a half, but instead He wants every single bit of us. He wants, our reputation, our burdens, our aspirations, our priorities, our plans, our bodies, and our identities, just to get started. He wants all of us, and Lent is a perfect time to surrender more of ourselves to our Creator, Redeemer, Savior, and Lord, to be led by the Holy Spirit and become ever more like Christ.

I am praying for each one of you, as well as all four of the Wyandot Global Methodist Churches, that I am honored to serve. God bless you all and may you continue to grow in faith and service.

Peace and Blessings,

*Pastor Jon Morris*



WE WISH YOU A BLESSED AND HOLY EASTER

## Newsletter Info

This is your newsletter, prepared by you and for you for the members and friends of Wyandot Global Methodist Ministries.

Please send news items, suggestions, and creative ideas to our Editor: **Kathie VanHorn**  
kathievanhorn@gmail.com

Publisher: **DeAnn Funkhouser**  
deannrose@gmail.com

Thank you for your help!

## Moving into Spring

Pastor Betsy Bowen

Many of us are ready. We are ready for the change of seasons. It's a time of moving from winter into spring, from cold and dreariness to sunshine and new growth. It seems to have been a colder-than-normal winter. The wind has been brutal.

Happily, those seed catalogs are arriving in the mail. We are looking over them and planning and designing how our gardens will look this year. I am looking to try a few new items in my garden. Hopi Pale Green Squash is one of them, along with some different varieties of corn and bush beans. I am also considering planting some different herbs in pots around the house.

As we head into spring and a time of renewal, it's a good time to reflect on where our hearts lie. That is what Lent encourages us to do: to reflect on our relationship with God. Where are you in your relationship with the Lord? Have you maintained a strong prayer life? Have you stayed in His Word? If not, now is the time!

We are 3 weeks into our study of altars in Scripture. We are following the book *Altar'd* by Susan Kent. There are readings for each day, and Pastor Jon and I are bringing messages from the book. Please join us by picking up a book at church, listening to the readings on Facebook, or following the sermons online.

**Pray with me:** *Lord, guide us through this time of Lent as we head into Holy Week and Easter. Help us all to examine our hearts. Help us to be obedient to your call and surrender our lives to you. In Jesus name, Amen.*

## Myrta Moody Women's Circle

John Stewart Methodist Church

Myrta Moody Women's Circle is a group of ladies that come together to make a difference for women and children in our community, surrounding area, and our country. Women from the charge and geographic area are welcome to join.

This circle meets the third Tuesday of every month at JSMC in the basement. Circle meeting begins at 6:00 pm with devotions, a program created by members, and a short business meeting. Each month there is a mission focus where members can donate their time, money or goods.

In May there is a Women's Tea for all women of the church charge. The tea is an opportunity for fellowship, to learn about a group that helps women and/or children, and to provide support either financially or volunteering. This year the circles will be reaching out to Sleep in Heavenly Peace to do a presentation about what they do.

There is no meeting in June or July. The kickoff after our summer break is in August with an all-circles Salad Supper. Another great time for fellowship and to support a mission.

In December our meeting focuses on sending out Christmas cards. This past year the two circles sent out over 200 cards and we had so much fun doing it.

Join us to help make a difference in God's kingdom. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Susan DeVene at 419-310-2737 or by email: [susandevene@gmail.com](mailto:susandevene@gmail.com).

## Marseilles Women's Gathering

The Marseilles Methodist Women will be gathering the first Saturdays of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the church to share in their faith journeys and discuss missions for our church and community. We are planning a bake sale in conjunction with the Village of Marseilles' Annual Chicken BBQ which is on April 25 from 4-6:00 p.m. Proceeds from the bake sale will be used to purchase paint and other supplies needed for painting the park's playground equipment. If you enjoy painting, an open invitation will be offered to come join in the fun! Stay tuned for more info!



## Wharton Methodist Church

It proud to continue their community outreach program

# Helping Hands

This program is for local school age children.

We will provide snacks, help with homework, and spiritual guidance.

Helping Hands will be on the second Tuesday of every month, from 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm.

**Upcoming Dates: March 10, April 14, and May 12**



Our church is located at  
208 East Sandusky Street  
Wharton, OH 43359



Please message the Wharton Methodist Church Facebook page with any questions.

All volunteers have been Ministry Safe approved.

# Happy (almost) Spring, Church Family!

As the new Children's Ministry Director for John Stewart and the Youth Director for the Charge, I just want to share how excited I am to be in these positions and working with the children and youth of our Charge and the surrounding communities! I cannot wait to see what the Lord has in store for the Children's Ministry & Encounter Youth Group at Wyandot Global Methodist Churches. What a privilege it is to help shape young hearts for Jesus!

As we look forward with anticipation to celebrating Resurrection Sunday, we also look forward to kicking off our Children's Ministry at John Stewart! Our curriculum is in, and we are revamping our classrooms in preparation to share the love of Christ with little ones on Sunday mornings. Children's Church will be for 2/3 year olds through 5th grade. Our nursery will be staffed with volunteers and available for babies/young toddlers also. Our start date will be April 12th. Children will come straight to their classrooms in the basement before service, with parents picking up their children (or grandchildren) at the end of service. Our wonderful Communion Stewards will bring Communion to volunteers in the nursery and classrooms. Registration forms for Children's Church will soon be available.



Encounter Youth Group has already begun meeting each Sunday at 6:00 p.m. at John Stewart in the upstairs Youth Room. This is open to all youth (Grades 6-12) both in the Charge and in the community. We gather and enjoy fellowship, share a meal, study scripture, and have a time of prayer together. We usually end our time together with a game of dodgeball in the Family Life Center. (Though the kids usually end up beating the leaders). Our curriculum is **The Gospel Project for Students** and currently we are studying **Creation and Covenant**.

Our youth will be attending the **Encounter Conference** this April, in Marengo Ohio. This conference is sponsored by the Allegheny West Annual Conference of the Global Methodist Church. Pastor Jon &

Pastor Betsy will be accompanying the youth on this trip. It's not too late for youth to sign up if they wish to go, just let a youth leader know and we will get it taken care of. The John Stewart Women's Group has so graciously offered to cover the cost of this year's conference for youth in the Charge.

As the Children's Ministry & Encounter Youth are both new, we have ongoing wishlists on Amazon for supplies.

Children's Ministry: Becca Morris - Children's Ministry - Upper Sandusky

Encounter Youth: Becca Morris - Youth Group - Upper Sandusky

We are also looking for 2 gently used CD players for the Children's classrooms and gently used DVD's of Veggie Tales for the nursery.

To keep these programs up and running for the future of the church, I ask that you prayerfully consider volunteering. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

I look forward to serving alongside you.

**Becca Morris**

(419) 230-4062

jonandbeccamorris@gmail.com

*... to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God*

## Top o' the Morning to Ya!

From the lush meadows of its countryside to the cobblestone streets of its cities, there is something to delight the senses everywhere we turn in Ireland. So journey with us to *Emerald Crossing: An Irish Adventure Through Psalm 23*.

Beauty and adventure await us each day as lads and lasses enjoy games, snacks, and more on their shepherd's journey across the Emerald Isle. So pull on your work boots, grab your walking staff, and get ready for a grand ol' time at *Emerald Crossing*! Contact us today!



July 19-23, 2026

6:00 - 8:15 pm

John Stewart Methodist Church

130 West Johnson Street, Upper Sandusky

For information call: 419-294-2867

or 419-569-7310

# Community Cookbook!



Wesley Chapel is busy working on their community cookbook project slated for publication this summer. Unlike most church cookbooks, this cookbook will be a compilation of recipes from cooks all over Wyandot County highlighting the tastes and talents of not only current-day contributors, but also their predecessors. In an effort to

celebrate the foods that have been the staples in our county's homes, potlucks and gatherings over the years and the hands that have prepared those foods, the cookbook committee has taken on the ambitious task of seeking out recipes from all of the churches in the county.

Though coincidental, it is appropriate that the production of this cookbook will be issued during our country's celebration of its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Memorializing the recipes and the cooks that are our heritage seems to be fitting in this very special year. This is an opportunity for contributors to not only provide their best-loved recipes, but also to honor those who are no longer with us by sharing cherished recipes of the past that their mothers, grandmothers or special church family cooks were known for.

You still have the opportunity to be included in this novel cookbook. Just submit your recipes along with your name, name of recipe originator if deceased, and church affiliation.

By mailing to:

**Wesley Chapel Cookbook Committee**

c/o Mary Fox  
14370 State Route 37  
Forest, Ohio 45843

**By dropping off at:**

116 E. Wyandot Ave.  
Upper Sandusky, Ohio

Or by emailing [foxosbornlaw@yahoo.com](mailto:foxosbornlaw@yahoo.com).

Submission cut-off will be April 15, so please make sure you don't miss out on being a part of this unique tribute to the cooks of Wyandot County.

All proceeds from the sale of the cookbook will go towards the building of a handicap accessible entrance for Wesley Chapel. Your support in the sharing of recipes and purchase of the cookbook would be greatly appreciated.



## Women's Tea

Sponsored by John Stewart Methodist Women

For All Women of the Wyandot Global Methodist Ministries

May 11, 2026

6:30 pm



Bring Your Favorite Tea Cup and Friend!  
Cake, Tea and Coffee Provided

**Our Evening's Guest Speakers are**

**Shelli and Duane Coldiron**

From

**Sleep in Heavenly Peace**



A free-will donation will be collected for Sleep In Heavenly Peace

## Charge Mission Update!

Several ideas for Charge Missions were discussed at our last meeting. We talked about the Wyandot County Fair briefly and we will revisit that at our June meeting.

Our main topic of discussion was centered on sponsoring laundry days in our community. On August 1st we will sponsor a laundry day in Upper Sandusky and on November 7th we would like to sponsor a day in Forest. There will be a laundry jug or other container available for our congregations to put quarters and/or dollar bills in to help sponsor these two days. We will start this collection at each of the churches in the next few weeks. Exact times for these two events have not been set yet, but most likely will be a 4-hour window where our volunteers are at the laundry mat placing money in the machines for the clients. We will want to be available for prayers and as listening ears for those in need. A three-load limit will be set for each person. Four to eight volunteers will be needed to help at each of these laundry days. More information will follow, such as which laundry mat in Upper and how we choose to advertise.

The next Mission meeting will be held June 1 at Wharton at 7:00 p.m.

Charge Missions Chair, Todd Goodman

## Note from Trustees at John Stewart

We would like to thank the congregation for their continued support while the Sanctuary has been under much needed repair from putting chairs and equipment away after service in the Family Life Center, contributing time and talent, or contributing financially towards the project. We will be back in the sanctuary soon! The repair of the plaster and painting has wrapped up, church pews needed repairs while they were out of the sanctuary, carpets, woodwork, windows cleaned, lights and monitors added. I'm sure everyone will appreciate the transformation as we celebrate the Easter season. Anyone wanting a wedding ceremony or renewal of vows in the sanctuary will be able to have their ceremony recorded soon! To reserve your date contact the church secretary at 419-294-2867.

The chairs and tables in the basement meeting room have also been replaced so we can safely sit at a meeting, there are Wifi capabilities also. Sound panels were installed this winter in the Family Life Center greatly improving the sound quality. Now you can have conversations and music without lots of echo. There is now a sound board in the FLC to use for events allowing speakers and music at receptions and parties! The Sunday school rooms are being freshened up for children's Sunday school classes. Please contact the church office regarding classes or signing up to help volunteer as a teacher.

Like at your own home, we have a wish list at the church too. Please ask a Trustee what is on that list. There are special accounts for the parsonage, FLC and church, so you can specify for and we can save for future projects. Anyone in the charge can contribute.

The wish list for the parsonage includes fixing the front porch, replacing the windows, adding a downstairs stand up shower, replacing the refrigerator, washer and dryer. The church still has areas that need plaster repaired and painted, we would like to add security measures, stain glass maintenance on windows are just a few additional projects.

Each church in the charge also has wish lists and projects needing done, so please ask a Trustee. I would like to thank each person who has contributed, even if you would like to remain anonymous, we couldn't do it without you. Thanks for working together on these projects.

John Stewart Trustees  
Kathie Van Horn, Chris Swartz,  
Bruce Clinger and Allen Boes

## Living Life Forward SEMINAR

**Saturday, March 21, 2026**

**9AM to 12PM**

Gathering and registration begin at 8:30

**Trinity Evangelical Church**

108 Malabar Dr., Upper Sandusky

**Overview:** Helps participants navigate change with hope, practical tools for managing worry and grief, and guidance to find renewed purpose and joy.

**Who Is Invited?** Anyone facing loss, change, grief, stress, or seeking meaning and purpose.

**Speaker:** Elaine J. Sturtz, LPCC – Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, Pastor, Author, Former Hospice Chaplain, and Blogger

**No fee to attend.**

**Register by calling the church office at 419-294-1535  
or sign up on the day of the seminar.**

**[www.livinginthedifferent.com](http://www.livinginthedifferent.com)**

## Living Life Forward Seminar

Rev. Elaine Clinger Sturtz will be leading a seminar – “Living Life Forward” – on Saturday, March 21st from 9 am to 12 PM at Trinity Evangelical Church – 108 Malabar Drive, Upper Sandusky.

You are invited! Please RSVP to Trinity Church office – 419-294-1535 or email Elaine - [ejsturtz7@gmail.com](mailto:ejsturtz7@gmail.com) so that we have a seat and handouts for you. If you forget to RSVP and decide at the last minute to come, you can still come.

The seminar will focus on taking steps forward into living after change, loss, different season of life, anxiety or whatever has made life difficult and different. The seminar will also include practical ways to deal with stress, anxiety, and offer ways to find meaning and purpose in this present season of life you find yourself. It will offer ways to simplify your life and deal with relationships going forward.

The seminar is Jesus-center, scripture based. Music will be provided by Bob and Mary (Harris) Fry and Sheryl Clinger.

No cost. Elaine's books will be available for purchase.

## Greetings from Sabrina ~

I am a certified lay minister in your charge and am sharing a spring update about some of the things I've been doing lately in our churches, circuit and conference. At John Stewart Church I am involved in Great Banquet Share Group, Myrta Moody Women's Group, MIT Group and VBS. I am currently serving as our Findlay Flatlands Circuit Coordinator for women's ministries.



This past year we held a women's retreat at John Stewart for the women of the circuit. In the fall the Kenton Walnut Grove church held a circuit gathering for women's ministry featuring a virtual Bible study with Priscilla Shirer. Our next event was held on Saturday, March 7th, 2026 Women of Evangelism in Perrysburg, Ohio.

I am also currently serving as Allegheny West Women's Ministry Conference Coordinator. Our conference has almost 600 churches. It's one of the largest conferences for Global Methodist. Some of those duties and roles include participating in zoom meetings with all the circuit coordinators in the conference, traveling to churches speaking on behalf of women's ministries, traveling to the Awaken events and hosting women's ministries tables, sending emails, newsletters, answering questions, messages pertaining to women's ministries, and finding volunteers and circuit coordinators for areas that are in need.

I have also just recently been asked to be 1 of 2 representatives for Findlay Flatlands and join the liaison team for Allegheny West partnership with Kinsasha DRC in Africa. We have been in prayer, been on zoom calls, preparing for this partnership with reading material and learning French so we can communicate with our brothers and sisters in Kinshasa. Our first goal is to bring their Superintendent Rev. Dr. Henriette and Treasurer Nicholas to the annual conference in June at Mt. Vernon to sign the memorandum. Then we plan to send a small team over to Kinshasa in July to see what all their needs are and how we can help.

Things we currently are anticipating are building churches, getting clean water, and purchasing some mopeds so the pastors are able to get around to the congregations. The main thing needed right now are your prayers. Due to the recent hold on Visas, Henriette and Nicholas have not been able to get their documents to come in June. We all know all things are possible through Christ. Please continue to be in prayer.

The Kinshasa conference has 70 people expected to be ordained at their annual conference this year. How exciting that we get to be in partnership with this growing group of people. Another way we can help is by supporting this mission financially. This year at annual conference the Miracle Offering will be going to Kinshasa, so please consider giving to that and if your congregation hasn't set an Easter offering yet, checks can be sent to the church secretary's office in Columbus. Make checks payable to Allegheny West and on the memo line please list it for **Kinshasa** so they know where to apply those funds.

Our brothers and sisters in Kinshasa didn't have the funds to buy out their churches when they disaffiliated from the United Methodist organization. They went from 140 churches to 1. Pastors lost their living quarters, transportation and everything they had to become Global Methodist.

We have found a company in Florida who can build a church for around \$10,000 church. I hope you are just as excited about this opportunity as we are and look forward to seeing all God has in store. I am excited to learn all the ways God continues to use me in helping build his kingdom.

Love your sister in Christ,

*Sabrina Swavel*

*Below are some pictures from women's ministries events and our Global Methodist Kinshasa family with Superintendent Rev. Dr. Henriette.*



# CALENDER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

**March 22 - Jackson Seed Ministry**, seed collection. Place your seed donations in the basket on the alter by March 22.

## *Holy Week Services*

**March 29 - Palm Sunday Services** at each church.

**April 2 - Maundy Thursday** at Wharton at 6:30 p.m.

**April 3 - Good Friday Services** at Marseilles at 12:00 p.m.

**Good Friday Services** at Trinity at 7:00 p.m.

**April 5 - Sunrise Services** at Wesley Chapel and Old Mission at 7:00 a.m.

**April 14 - Wharton's Helping Hands** after school program from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

**April 15 - Recipes Needed!** Please see article on Page 4 Cookbook proceeds benefitting Wesley Chapel for constructing a handicap accessible entry.

**April 23 - Charge PPRC Meeting** at Marseilles at 6:30 p.m.

**April 24-25 - Encounter Conference 2026** in Marengo for youth 6th-12th grade. Contact Becca Morris at 419-230-4062 with any questions.

**April 25 - Marseilles Village Chicken BBQ** at the park from 4:00-6:00 p.m. See Barb Arnold for tickets! Marseilles Methodist Church will be sponsoring a bake sale with proceeds going to repaint the playground equipment.

**April 28 - Charge Ad Council Meeting** at Marseilles at 7:00 p.m.

**May 11 - Women's Tea** at John Stewart at 6:30 p.m. See page 4 for more details.

**May 12 - Wharton's Helping Hands** after school program from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

**June 1 - Charge Mission Mtg.** at Wharton at 7:00 p.m.

**June 9 - Circuit Wide Gathering** at Good Shepherd Church in Benton Ridge, 7-8:00 p.m.

**July 19-23 - VBS - Emerald Crossing** at John Stewart from 6-8:15 p.m. See page 3 for more information!

**August 9 - Wharton Methodist Church Car Show** from 2-6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday Community Meals** at John Stewart, serving begins at 5:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!





**JOHN STEWART Methodist  
Wyandot Global Methodist  
Ministries Office**

130 W. Johnson Street  
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351

**Volume 2, Issue 1  
Spring 2026**



### *Letter from the Editors*

Thank you for all the contributions to the spring newsletter for Wyandot Global Methodist Ministries.

If anyone would like to contribute an article for the next newsletter coming due in June let us know.

Also if anyone is needing a newsletter emailed or mailed please contact a church office so we can make sure you get one.

Kathie Van Horn      kathievanhorn@gmail.com  
DeAnn Funkhouser      deannrose@gmail.com

