



# Wesley Window

November 2025

Volume 906 Issue 11

## MISSION OF THE MONTH

Wesley UMC Mission Trip

*"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"*  
2 Corinthians 9:15

## IMPORTANT DATES

### November 1

Men's Breakfast

Boy Scouts Chili Supper

### November 2

Daylight Saving Time Ends

New Member Reception

### November 4

Election Day

### November 7

Jason Hawkin's Birthday

### November 8

A Taste of Bangladesh Dinner

### November 11

Veterans Day - Office Closed

### November 15

Rice & Soy Blessing Bag Assembly

### November 16

All-Church Game Night

### November 23

Hanging of the Greens

### November 27-28

Thanksgiving - Office Closed





# Pastoral Letter

Pastor Don Long, Jr.  
pastordon@macombwesleyumc.com

First Thessalonians 5:18 says, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." As we enter November—a month often filled with reflections of gratitude and thanksgiving—I am reminded of the many blessings God has placed in our lives here at Wesley UMC. Chief among them are the faithful volunteers who serve our church family with open hearts and willing hands in so many ways.

From those who greet at the doors, teach our children, prepare meals, lead worship, stuff bulletins, set up coffee fellowship, clean the church grounds, assemble this newsletter, or quietly pray for others behind the scenes—each act of service is a reflection of Christ's love at work. Your time, energy, and dedication are not only noticed; they are deeply appreciated. You embody the heart of thanksgiving by giving of yourselves joyfully and faithfully. I'm reminded that Jesus said, "whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant ... For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:43-45). When I see you serving, I see the heart of Christ revealed in your actions, I experience the joy of the Lord in your words, and I celebrate the ways in which the body of Christ exemplifies the love of God by what you do!

The Apostle Paul's words in 1 Thessalonians 5:18 remind us that gratitude is not dependent on our circumstances, but rooted in our relationship with Christ. Even when life feels busy or uncertain, we are called to give thanks—to see God's presence in every moment and every act of service, and indeed I do.

So, this November, I want to pause to thank God for you. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus in our community. Your service makes a difference far beyond what you may see, touching lives and strengthening our church family in countless ways.

May your hearts be filled with peace and joy as you continue to serve. And may we all remember to live each day with gratitude—not just in November, but in every season of life.

With heartfelt thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Don Long, Jr." with a stylized flourish.

Pastor Don



**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

**sign up here**



## Serve God by Serving Others — Join a Sunday Team!

If you have been thinking about getting involved in an amazing way at Wesley, here's an idea - volunteer to be an usher during services, downstairs greeter before services, or welcome folks inside the Atrium doors. You don't have to make a long term commitment if your schedule doesn't permit it. You can choose to volunteer only during the winter or summer months if that works best for you. However, you might find that you enjoy offering hospitality and helping with various tasks so much that, before you know it, you'll want to keep volunteering all year round. If you are feeling extra generous with your time and would like to help out in a new way at Wesley, please make a note on the volunteer sign up page on the website or app and feel free to contact me for additional details.

Michele Long  
Worship Volunteer Coordinator

## November: A Season of Stewardship

In the United Methodist Church, stewardship is about much more than financial giving—it is a spiritual practice that reflects our gratitude to God. Everything we have—our time, our talents, our treasures, and even our very lives—is a gift from God, entrusted to our care. Through stewardship, we return a portion of those gifts to God's work in the world.

This month, as we enter our annual Stewardship Campaign, we are invited to prayerfully reflect on how we can support the ministries of Wesley United Methodist Church in the coming year. Stewardship is not simply about sustaining a budget; it's about deepening our faith and participating in God's mission. When we give, we join with others in feeding the hungry, nurturing faith in children and youth, caring for our community, and sharing the love of Christ near and far.

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, encouraged us to “earn all you can, save all you can, and give all you can.” His words remind us that generosity is an act of trust—a way of saying, “God, I believe You will continue to provide.” As we prayerfully consider our commitments for the year ahead, may we do so with joyful hearts, knowing that our giving makes a real and lasting difference.

Stewardship Sunday will be celebrated on **Sunday, November 23**. During worship, we will collect our annual pledge cards as a tangible expression of our commitment to God and to one another. Submitting a pledge card is not only a personal act of faith—it also helps our church plan responsibly for the year ahead. Knowing the level of expected support allows church leaders to set ministry goals, plan outreach efforts, and ensure that our resources are used wisely to serve God's people.



## Now Hiring: Office & Communications Manager

Wesley United Methodist Church is seeking an Office & Communications Manager to join our ministry team. This full-time position plays a vital role in the daily operations of the church—managing the office, coordinating communications, and supporting our mission of sharing God's love with the community.

We're looking for someone who is organized, detail-oriented, and passionate about creating welcoming connections through administrative and communication support.

Interested applicants should submit a resume, cover letter, and three references to [office@macombwesleyumc.com](mailto:office@macombwesleyumc.com).

# WE'RE HIRING!

## Big News from Lauren — Stepping into the Financial Manager Role!

I'm excited to share that I have accepted the position of Financial Manager here at Wesley United Methodist Church! After a lot of prayer and reflection, I felt God leading me to step into this new opportunity.

My background includes financial experience from my previous work, and I'm eager to build on that foundation as I learn and grow in this role. I know there will be new things to master along the way, but I'm confident that—with the resources and support around me—I'll be able to serve Wesley well in this new capacity. During this transition, I'll continue covering both the Office & Communications Manager and Financial Manager roles until the new Office & Communications Manager is hired. While that means things might occasionally move a little slower, my focus will remain on meeting the most immediate needs and keeping everything running smoothly.

I'm grateful for your patience, encouragement, and understanding during this season of change—and I'm even more grateful to continue serving this amazing church family in a new way. I truly believe God is at work at Wesley, and I'm excited for all that's ahead! — Lauren Merritt



# Announcements

## Rice & Soy Blessing Bag Assembly

Join us on **Saturday, November 15 at 8:00am** in the Fellowship Hall to assemble Rice & Soy Blessing Bags. These meal packs will provide food for 6,000 people in need, and we need your help to make it happen.

To help us plan, we encourage you to sign up in advance. You can do so after Sunday services in the Atrium or by calling the church office. Signing up is not required but greatly appreciated.

We are also collecting donations to cover the cost of the meal packs and shipping, which is \$2 per bag. If you'd like to contribute, please note "Rice Project" on the memo line of your check. Let's come together for this fun and impactful event to help feed those in need!

## HANGING OF THE GREENS

Help Decorate Wesley For Christmas!

# NOVEMBER 23

12:30pm

After Second Service

Bring Soup or Light Lunch Items to Share

## Game Night - Fun for All Ages!

Join us for a night of fun and fellowship at Game Night on **Sunday, November 16, from 5-7pm** in the church Atrium! This event is open to all ages, so bring your family and friends along. Please bring finger foods and snacks to share—drinks will be provided. We'll have a variety of board games available, but feel free to bring your favorites, too. Come enjoy a relaxed evening of laughter, friendly competition, and great company!

## Thank You for a Wonderful Fall Festival!

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make our Fall Festival such a success! From those who donated items and volunteered their time, to everyone who came out to enjoy the fun—it truly was a beautiful day of community and connection. A special thank you to Sarah Clemente for organizing such a great event—your leadership and hard work made all the difference! We had a fantastic turnout, including many friends and neighbors from the wider community. Your support, smiles, and generosity helped make this event full of joy, laughter, and warmth. Wesley is blessed to have such an amazing church family and community!



WIU's Phi Beta Delta Presents  
A TASTE OF  
**BANGLADESH**  
Scholarship Dinner Fundraiser



AUTHENTIC CUISINE | ENTERTAINMENT | INTERNATIONAL MARKET PLACE

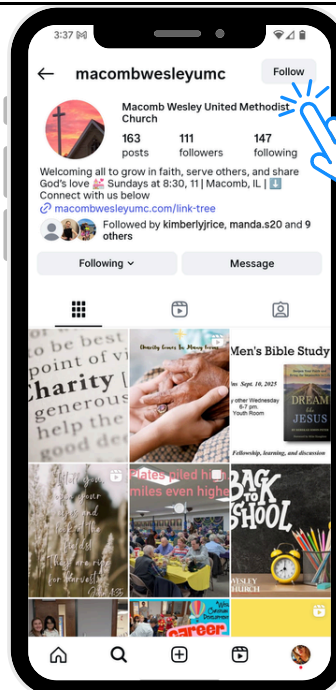
**NOV 8\***  
**AT 6PM**

Wesley United Methodist Church  
1212 W Calhoun, Macomb  
East Side Parking Lot Entrance

	Advanced	At the Door
Student	10	\$12
Non-student	\$16	\$20
Ages 6-12	\$7	\$7
Under 6	free	free



Advanced purchases recommended. Email jackmckinnon@hotmail.com



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# Announcements

## Environmental Talk

by Mary Gillingham



At least 14 tons of plastic trash end up in God's oceans each year. The GREAT PACIFIC GARBAGE PATCH is located between Hawaii and California and covers 1.6 million square kilometers—an area twice as big as Texas. It contains an estimated 1.8 TRILLION PIECES OF PLASTIC, which weigh almost 90,000 tons.



Plastic tends to stay within 100 miles of shore, and scientists estimate that 99% of plastic is under the surface of the ocean. This does not even account for the plastic in landfills. Only around 9% is recycled, 12% is incinerated, and 79% accumulates in landfills. Many of the things we label as "trash" are really stewardship failures to treat God's creation as He does, which is our calling as images of God here on earth.

A good first step to take is to take THE LAST STRAW CAMPAIGN PLEDGE. We can start by not using disposable plastic straws and lids. It may not seem like much, but even one straw can adversely impact the life of God's sea creatures such as sea turtles.

## Angel Tree Ministry

Tags for our Angel Tree will be available in the early part of November! Each tag represents a child in need this Christmas. You can choose a tag and shop for that child—or, if you prefer, you may make a monetary donation, and our Youth Group will shop on your behalf.

The Youth will be shopping on November 23, using Mission funds to bless local families. Any additional donations received will be added to that amount, allowing them to shop for even more children in need.

Thank you for helping us share the joy and love of Christ this Christmas season!

## Step Back in Time: Celebrate a 19th Century American Christmas!

It's time for another XYZ program! On **Thursday, November 20 at 1:00 p.m.**, we will have a presentation, "*Celebrating a 19th Century American Christmas*," with Stacia Bath and Nancy Chu. Retired from WIU, both of these ladies are frequently seen at our Western Museum assisting or giving programs. You won't want to miss this program with these delightful ladies!

## Save the Date - Cookie Walk!

Mark your calendars for the annual Cookie Walk on **Sunday, December 14!** By purchasing delicious homemade cookies, you'll not only save yourself the time and hassle of holiday baking but also make a meaningful difference. All proceeds from the Cookie Walk will go directly to the Wesley UMC Good Samaritan Fund, which provides financial assistance to local residents who are struggling to cover essential expenses, such as rent, utilities, or gas.

So skip the stress, fill your cookie tins with an amazing variety of treats, and join us in making an impact this holiday season! Cookie donations are warmly welcomed and greatly appreciated—together, we can make this event a sweet success! Interested in helping out? Contact Brenda Smith!



## Helping Meet Growing Needs in Our Community

The need for food assistance in our community continues to grow. The Good Food Pantry reports that from September 2023 to September 2024, the number of families served has increased by 31%—from 335 families (884 individuals) last year to 440 families (1,173 individuals) this year.

With the possibility that SNAP benefits may be ending or temporarily paused, many in our community are feeling uncertain and anxious about how they will make ends meet. At the time of printing, we are unsure how this situation will unfold, but we know the impact could be significant for local families.

There are several ways you can help meet this growing need: consider donating to or volunteering with the Good Food Pantry, or supporting Loaves and Fishes once their food voucher program reopens. Wesley is also praying about how we can respond and do our part as a congregation to help care for our neighbors during this time of increased need.



# November Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p><b>Daylight Savings Time ENDS November 2!</b> It's time to "fall back" and set your clocks back one (1) hour.</p>						<p><b>8:30am:</b> Men's Breakfast, Atrium</p> <p><b>5:00pm:</b> Boy Scouts #315 Chili Supper</p> <p><b>1</b></p>
<p><b>8:30am:</b> Worship <b>9:30am:</b> Coffee Fellowship &amp; New Member Reception <b>9:45am:</b> Sunday School <b>11:00am:</b> Worship <b>6:00pm:</b> Youth Group</p> <p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>10:00am:</b> Sit &amp; Sew <b>1:00pm:</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:00pm:</b> Choral Society Practice <b>7:00pm:</b> Scouts Badge Class</p> <p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>6:30pm:</b> Boy Scouts #315 <b>7:00pm:</b> Christian Education, Zoom</p> <p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Noon:</b> Prayer <b>5:00pm:</b> Praise Kids <b>6:00pm:</b> Men's Bible Study <b>6:30pm:</b> Wesley Ringers Practice <b>7:00pm:</b> Praise Band Practice</p> <p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>7:00pm:</b> Choir Practice</p> <p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7:00am:</b> Men's Coffee, Hy-Vee <b>Noon:</b> Church Office Closed</p> <p> <b>Jason Hawkins Birthday</b></p> <p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>6:00pm:</b> A Taste of Bangladesh</p> <p><b>8</b></p>
<p><b>8:30am:</b> Worship <b>9:30am:</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>9:45am:</b> Sunday School <b>11am:</b> Worship <b>1pm:</b> CFCM <b>6:00pm:</b> Youth Group</p> <p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10:00am:</b> XYZ Coffee, Hy-Vee <b>1:00pm:</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:00pm:</b> Choral Society Practice <b>7:00pm:</b> Scouts Badge Class</p> <p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>Church Office Closed</b> <b>12:00pm:</b> Prayer Shawl Ministry</p> <p> <b>VETERANS DAY</b></p> <p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>10:00am:</b> UWF <b>10:00pm:</b> Faith/Love <b>5:00pm:</b> Praise Kids Practice <b>6:30pm:</b> Wesley Ringers Practice <b>7:00pm:</b> Praise Band Practice</p> <p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>7:00pm:</b> Choir Practice</p> <p><b>World Kindness Day</b></p> <p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>7:00am:</b> Men's Coffee, Hy-Vee <b>Noon:</b> Church Office Closed</p> <p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>8:00am:</b> Rice &amp; Soy Blessing Bag Assembly</p> <p><b>15</b></p>
<p><b>8:30am:</b> Worship <b>9:30am:</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>9:45am:</b> Sunday School <b>11am:</b> Worship <b>1pm:</b> CFCM <b>5:00pm:</b> All-Church Game Night</p> <p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>10:00am:</b> Sit &amp; Sew <b>1:00pm:</b> Staff Mtg <b>3:00pm:</b> Social Concerns <b>4:00pm:</b> Missions <b>6:00pm:</b> Worship <b>7:00pm:</b> Choral Society Practice</p> <p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>5:30pm:</b> Finance Committee <b>6:30pm:</b> Boy Scouts #315 Cast Iron Chef</p> <p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>Noon:</b> Prayer <b>3:00pm:</b> Nurture <b>5:00pm:</b> Praise Kids Practice <b>6:00pm:</b> Men's Bible Study <b>6:30pm:</b> Wesley Ringers Practice <b>7:00pm:</b> Praise Band Practice</p> <p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>1:00pm:</b> "Celebrating a 19th Century American Christmas" Program <b>5:00pm:</b> WCCDC Board Meeting <b>7:00pm:</b> Habitat for Humanity <b>7:00pm:</b> Choir Practice</p> <p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>7:00am:</b> Men's Coffee, Hy-Vee <b>Noon:</b> Church Office Closed</p> <p><b>Newsletter Deadline</b></p> <p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>1:00pm:</b> Eagle Scout Court of Honor, Boy Scouts #315</p> <p><b>22</b></p>
<p><b>8:30am:</b> Worship <b>9:30am:</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>9:45am:</b> Sunday School <b>11:00am:</b> Worship <b>12:30pm:</b> Hanging of the Greens <b>6:00pm:</b> Youth Group</p> <p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>1:00pm:</b> Staff Mtg <b>5:00pm:</b> Advent Bible Study <b>5:30pm:</b> Staff Parish Committee <b>7:00pm:</b> Trustees Committee <b>7:00pm:</b> Choral Society Practice</p> <p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>11:30am:</b> XYZ Lunch, Old Diary <b>5:00pm:</b> Witness, Hospitality &amp; Communications Committee</p> <p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>Noon:</b> Prayer</p> <p></p> <p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>Church Office Closed</b></p> <p> <b>Happy Thanksgiving</b></p> <p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>
<p><b>8:30am:</b> Worship <b>9:30am:</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>9:45am:</b> Sunday School <b>11am:</b> Worship</p> <p><b>First Sunday of Advent</b></p> <p><b>30</b></p>	 <p><b>Advent 2025</b></p> <p><b>November 23:</b> Hanging of the Greens - Decorate the Church <b>November 30:</b> Week 1 of Advent <b>December 6:</b> Festival of Choirs <b>December 7:</b> Week 2 of Advent <b>December 12:</b> Interactive Movie Night - Muppet Christmas Carol <b>December 14:</b> Week 3 of Advent; Cookie Walk; Church Caroling <b>December 21:</b> Week 4 of Advent; Praise Kids Christmas Program <b>December 24:</b> Christmas Eve Services (4pm, 7pm, 11pm)</p>					





## November Worship Volunteer Schedule

DATE	TIME	USHERS	GREETERS (Downstairs)	WELCOME (Upstairs)
Nov 2	8:30am	Dennis Danowski & Beth Shryock	Marti Dallmeyer	Marilyn Hopper
Nov 2	11:00am	Scott Smith & Dana Walker	Kim Smith	Sharon Evans
Nov 9	8:30am	Lois Bigham & Wayne Steward	Merritt Family	Laurie Black
Nov 9	11:00am	Michele Long & Scott Smith	Jon & JoAnn(Hairston) Jones	Kim Smith
Nov 16	8:30am	Dennis Danowski & Marlin France	Merritt Family	Genie Marshall
Nov 16	11:00am	Marcia Moulden & Dale Hample	Ben & Kim Lampitt	Dave & Marilyn Eck
Nov 23	8:30am	Jerry Lieber & Beth Shryock	Steve & Janet Hopper	Kessiena Erebi
Nov 23	11:00am	Michele Long & Sharon Evans	Param & Abha Singh	Jan Armstrong
Nov 30	8:30am	Rick Iverson & Wayne Steward		Marti Dallmeyer
Nov 30	11:00am	Dale Hample & Dana Walker		Louise Reynolds



## **Mission of the Month: Wesley UMC Mission Trip**

Each year, Wesley UMC sends a team on a week-long mission trip within the United States—an opportunity for hands-on service, fellowship, and faith in action. These trips are open to everyone in our congregation, and no special skills are required—just a willing heart and a desire to help others. Whether it's rebuilding homes, supporting community outreach projects, or serving those in need, our mission teams make a lasting impact while growing together in Christ.

Your support this month helps fund travel, materials, and project costs for our 2026 trip, making it possible for more people to participate and serve. Thank you for helping us share God's love beyond our own community!

You can support the Wesley UMC Mission Trip this month by giving online (see QR code) and selecting "Mission of the Month," or by writing a check to Wesley UMC with "November Mission of the Month" in the memo line.



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### **Sunday Services**

**Contemporary Worship: 8:30 am**  
**Coffee Fellowship: 9:30 am**  
**Sunday School: 9:45 am**  
**Traditional Worship: 11:00 am**

### **Office Hours**

**Monday-Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm**  
**Friday: 8:00am-NOON**  
**Closed daily NOON-1:00pm**  
**Closed on national holidays**

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**REV. DON LONG JR.**  
**SENIOR PASTOR**

**REV. MELLY MOMO**  
**ASSOCIATE PASTOR**