

WEEK AT WESLEY	
Sunday, January 4th	EPIPHANY SUNDAY
8:30 a.m. Worship Service (In Person)	
9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School, 2nd Floor Classrooms	
11:00 a.m. Worship Service (In Person & Livestreamed)	
6:00 p.m. Davis Gym Reserved (Mission Church)	
Monday, January 5th	
7:30 p.m. Davis Gym Reserved (Core)	
7:30 p.m. NA Meeting (Lecture Room)	
Tuesday, January 6th	
10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry, Lecture Room	
7:00 p.m. Davis Gym Reserved (Moore)	
7:30 p.m. Book Club (Zoom)	
Wednesday, January 7th	
6:00 p.m. Lectionary Study (Zoom)	
Thursday, January 8th	
1:00 p.m. BSF, 3rd Floor	
7:30 p.m. NA Meeting, Lecture Room	
Saturday, January 10th	
9:30 a.m. Altar Guild Undecorate	
4:00 p.m. Circle of Friends, Davis Gym	
6:00 p.m. Davis Gym Reserved (Mission Church)	

**Backpack Feeding Program - Scott's Run House**  
**Wednesday, Jan 14th - 12:30 p.m.**

We pack food bags that are sent home with school children so they have food over the weekend. The goal at Scott's Run is to ensure that no school child spends the weekend hungry. The task takes about 90 minutes. We're a fun group and have a good time but we're on the move for the entire packing time. (Cheat Lake location)

 **Wesley Book Club - Zoom Only**  
**7:30 PM - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays**  
**(January 6th & 20th)**  
**Book Club Leader - Mary Ragland**  
**304-282-1947 / mhragland5@yahoo.com**  
**Please contact for more info.**

**January book study is on**  
**Immortal Diamond by Richard Rohr**

**CALLING ALL MIDDLE-AND HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENTS!**

We will be launching The Sanctuary Youth Series on January 11 at 9:30 AM! This series of 8 sessions explores questions about faith and mental health. Every week we will focus on a different topic with a film, discussion, exercises, and prayer. The class will be facilitated by Pastor Martha and Kelsey Stancliffe, Licensed Clinical Social Worker. Parents are invited to continue the conversations at home through use of the Parent and Caregiver's Guide available at [sanctuarymentalhealth.org/youth](http://sanctuarymentalhealth.org/youth). You can also contact Martha for a copy.

**ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

Greeters  
Scripture Readers  
Communion Stewards  
Ushers  
Sound & Media

Linda and Mike Bagby (8:30)  
Mike Bagby (8:30)  
Linda and Mike Bagby (8:30) Bill Wasson and Brittany Lucci (11:00)  
Frank Cox, Alan Waters, Dennis Chambers, and Karl Yagle  
Colton Davis, Scott Blosser, Kyle Swisher, Wesley Davis, Shelby Davis, Brad Davis, Bob Beach and Ellis Oti Boateng  
Bill and Nancy Wasson (11:00)  
Nancy Wasson (11:00)

**2025 Wesley UMC**  
**Sunday, Dec 21st: Christmas Cantata**  
**173 In Person / 300 Online**  
**Wed. Dec 24th: Christmas Eve Services**  
**229 In Person / 269 Online**  
**Sunday, Dec. 28th: 31 In Person / 318 Online**  
  
**Online Offering Option!**  
**Scan the QR code with phone or device.**  
**Thank You!**  


**2025 Financial Budget Thermometer**



# Wesley United Methodist Church

503 N. High St.  
Morgantown, WV 26505  
304.292.9485

Website: [wesleymorgantown.org](http://wesleymorgantown.org)  
Email: [wesleymorgantown@gmail.com](mailto:wesleymorgantown@gmail.com)

Livestreamed 11:00 Service:  
[facebook.com/wesleymorgantown](https://facebook.com/wesleymorgantown)

GATHER as a community for worship ~ GROW in relationship with God and others ~ GO to serve Morgantown and the world

## Epiphany Sunday

January 4, 2026

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

### WELCOME TO WESLEY CHURCH

We are glad you are here. Whether you are here for the very first time or a lifelong member of Wesley Church, you are welcome. May this day be filled with God's presence and blessing. Please fill out the Connection Card and drop it in the offering plate so that we will be able to contact you.

### PRAYER FOCUS

Dear God, We are entering a new year. Guide us onto the path you need us to take. Let us do all the good we can. Amen.

  
**In Memoriam**  
**Christopher Floyd Phillips**  
**May 8, 2025**

A private celebration of life was held in Ormond Beach, Fla. A second Celebration of Life will take place in late August in Davis, WV. Details TBA. Christopher is the son of Wesley Members Mary Jane Phillips and Bradley Phillips and brother, Timothy Phillips.

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

There will be NO Children's Sunday School January 4, 2026. Next Sunday, January 11th will be the start back date. Classes are offered for children 3 years old thru 12th grade are invited to attend Children Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. on the 3rd floor.

### CHANCEL CHOIR

Wesley's Chancel Choir will start back on Wednesday, January 14th at 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Floor in the Choir Room. New voices are welcome!

### HELPING HANDS

Be sure to join us on Saturday, January 10, as we nestle the Christmas decorations gently into their long cozy sleep...the Altar Guild will be "undecorating" the Sanctuary and first floor, and we could use your help! See you at church on January 10 at 9:30 AM.

### Lectionary Study w/Pastor Martha

We'll be meeting weekly via Zoom on WEDNESDAYS at 6:00 PM. Everyone is invited to take part in this lively discussion of the upcoming Sunday's scripture lessons. Contact the church office to get the Zoom link. [Study resumes Jan 7th](#).

### Lectionary Readings

Baptism of the Lord Sunday, Jan 11th  
Isa 42:1-9 / Ps 29 / Acts 10:34-43 / Matt 3:13-17

### PRAYER SHAWL

Can you crochet, knit, or would like to learn? Join Wesley's Prayer Shawl Ministry on Tuesday, January 6th at 10:00 a.m. in the Lecture Room. All are welcome!

### FINANCIAL NEWS

#### 2025 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Contribution statements that include 2025 offerings will be mailed the week of January 12th. Please notify the church office if you do not receive your statement by the end of January.

#### CONTRIBUTION LETTER

Anyone that provides their Wesley UMC (nonprofit organization) Sunday offerings or special offerings from their Retirement Accounts and requires a donation letter please notify Wesley's Bookkeeper, Coleman Guenther at [wesleymorgantownfinance@gmail.com](mailto:wesleymorgantownfinance@gmail.com).

#### 2026 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

2026 Offertory Envelopes are ready to be picked up. Stop by the Lecture Room and grab your box. Anyone that would like to provide their Sunday offering with your very own set of envelopes, please stop by the table and fill out the information needed and a box will be assigned. Thank You!

# John Wesley's Covenant Service

Congregational Responses and Prayers are in ***bold italic print***

† Congregation Standing (as you are able)

PRELUDE

*"Trumpet Voluntary"*

H Heron

† GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† OPENING HYMN #606 (UMH) *"Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine"*

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the Christian life is redeemed from sin and consecrated to God. Though baptism, we have entered this life and have been admitted into the new covenant of which Jesus Christ is the mediator. He sealed it with his own blood, that it might last forever. On the one side, God promises to give us new life in Christ, the source and perfector of our faith. On the other side, we are pledged to live no more for ourselves but only for Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us. From time to time we renew our covenant with God, especially when we reaffirm the Baptismal Covenant, gather at the Lord's Table, or at the turn of the year. Today we meet, as the generations before us have met, to renew the covenant that binds us to God. Let us make this covenant with God our own.

Let us worship our creator, the God of love, who continually preserves and sustains us. We have been loved with an everlasting love; through Jesus Christ we have been given complete knowledge of God's glory.

***You are God; we praise you; we acknowledge you to be the Lord.***

Let us glory in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, for our sakes he became poor. He was tempted at all points as we are, but he was without sin. He went about doing good and preaching the gospel of the kingdom. He accepted death on the cross; he was dead, and is alive for ever. He has opened the Kingdom of heaven to all who trust in him. He sits in glory at the right hand of God. He will come again to be our judge.

***You, Christ, are the King of Glory.***

Let us rejoice in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life. Through the Spirit we are born into the family of God, and made members of the body of Christ. The witness of the Spirit confirms us; the wisdom teaches us; the power enables us. The Spirit will do far more for us than we ask or think.

***All praise to you, Holy Spirit.***

GATHERING HYMN #242 (UMH)

*"Love Came Down at Christmas"*

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

HYMN OF PREPARATION #254 (UMH)

*"We Three Kings"*

SCRIPTURE

PSALM 147:12-20 AND MATTHEW 2:1-12  
Let us humbly confess our sins to God. O God, you have shown us the way of life through your Son, Jesus Christ. We confess with shame our slowness to learn of him, our failure to follow him, and our reluctance to bear the cross.

***Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.***

We confess the poverty of our worship, our neglect of fellowship and of the means of grace, our hesitating witness for Christ, our evasion of responsibilities in our service, our imperfect stewardship of your gifts.

***Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.***

Let each of us in silence make confession to God. Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.

***Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. In your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put an new and right spirit within me.***

Now the message that we have heard from God's son and announce is this: God is light, and there is no darkness at all in him. If we live in the light-just as he is in the light-then we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his son, purifies us from every sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and there is no truth in us. But if we confess our sins to God, he will keep his promise and do what is right; he will forgive us all our wrongdoing.

***Thanks be to God.***

Let us pray:

***Father, you have appointed our Lord Jesus Christ as Mediator of a new covenant. Give us grace to draw near with fullness of faith and join ourselves in a perpetual covenant with you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

In the old covenant, God chose Israel to be a special people and to obey the law. Our Lord Jesus Christ, by his death and resurrection, has made a new covenant with all who trust in him. We stand within this covenant and we bear his name. On the one side, God promises to give us new life in Christ. On the other side, we are pledged to live not for ourselves but for God. Today, therefore, we meet to renew the covenant which binds us to God.

Friends, let us claim the covenant God has made with his people, and accept the yoke of Christ. To accept the yoke of Christ means that we allow Christ to guide all that we do and are, and that Christ himself is our only reward. Christ has many services to be done; some are easy, others are difficult; some make others applaud us, others bring only reproach; some we desire to do because of our own interests; others seem unnatural. Sometimes we please Christ and meet our own needs; at other times we cannot please Christ unless we deny ourselves. Yet Christ strengthens us and gives us the power to do all these things. Therefore, let us make this covenant of God our own. Let us give ourselves completely to God, trusting in his promises and relying on his grace.

***I give myself completely to you, God. Assign me to my place in your creation. Let me suffer for you. Give me the work you would have me do. Give me many tasks, or have me step aside while you call others. Put me forward, or humble me. Give me riches, or let me live in poverty. I freely give all that I am and all that I have to you. And now, holy God, Father, son, and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. So be it. May this covenant made on earth continue for all eternity. Amen.***

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. 12-14; P. 17-18 MUSICAL SETTING (UMH)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.***

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

† PRESENTATION OF GIFTS & OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY #94

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;***

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!***

***Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit***

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

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† CLOSING HYMN #561 (UMH)

*"Jesus, United by Thy Grace"*

† BENEDICTION

† POSTLUDE

*"Lord of the Dance"*

arr H Hopson

**PSALM 147:12-20**

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion! For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you. He grants peace within your borders; he fills you with the finest of wheat. He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly. He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes. He hurls down hail like crumbs—who can stand before his cold? He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow. He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel. He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances. Praise the Lord!

**MATTHEW 2:1-12**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup> And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." <sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.