

Bedford First United Methodist Church
Grace United Methodist Church
Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church



Lawrence County UMC News

New Year, New Possibilities

Welcome to 2025! A brand new year full of possibilities and opportunities and challenges for sharing the Good News of Christ’s birth, life, teachings, death, resurrection and ascension. And get ready for church, too!

We ended 2024 by participating in the Covenant Renewal Service recommended by John Wesley. It is my prayer that you found it inspirational as well as motivational for your own life.

I’ve been thinking a lot about the three congregations I am privileged to serve. We’ve been though a lot together in the time I’ve been with you and have many challenges still facing us. So I thought this might be a good time to revisit our roots; to explore how Methodism began, the challenges the denomination has faced in the past, all the way up to finding out just what being a United Methodist means in the world today.

My messages will be based on information provided in a class through the General Commission on Archives & History (GCAH) of The United Methodist Church. The class is called “Getting To The Root of Us: Radicle Methodism.” The on-class is free and you can visit <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/agencies/archives-and-history/radicle-methodism>.

In 2025, I am reading the Bible chronologically on the *Bible* app. The devotional series was developed by the people who run *The Blue Letter* app that I frequently consult when crafting messages.

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New Year, New Possibilities Cont.

There are all kinds of good resolutions you can make as the new year starts. But there is none so important as getting right with God. See you in church!

Blessings,
Pastor Judi



Soul Food

Due to the first Wednesday of the month being New Year's Day, we will meet on the following Wednesday, January 8. We will be discussing a very interesting historical novel, *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. This book is based on a true story and is very well written. We will go to lunch following the meeting.

~Linda Schoonmaker



Next Generation



A huge "Thank You" to everyone who supported our drive to collect dry milk for LIFE Pantry during December.

Four youths and Pastor Judi went caroling to several homes on December 20. We would like to thank Judy Johnson, Keith and Jennifer Wadsworth and everyone gathered at the Lafferty home who let us sing to them. Also, a big "Thank You" to Keith and Jennifer for feeding us!

The group also baked and decorated Christmas-themed sugar cookies and took them to the three Bedford Fire Stations on December 22.

Most of you know that Katarina and Kayeh Kwakye are members of the varsity swim team at Bedford North Lawrence High School. During January, the team is involved in quite a few tournaments, necessitating a lot of out-of-town travel. Therefore, our youth group will not be meeting during the month of January. Good luck ladies and I'm looking forward to getting this group of amazing young people back together in February!

~Pastor Judi

Thank You!

It is such a great privilege to serve here in Bedford. You guys are the greatest. Thank you, thank you, thank you for all the gifts, goodies and support you give all year round.

~Pastor Judi

Thank you so much for the Christmas gift. You are a wonderful group of people.

~Sincerely, Kay Greenhaw

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Christmas bonuses, and to those who gave individual gifts. It is a pleasure to work at Bedford FUMC and the people here are what make it such a pleasure.

~Tammy Dodds

Thank you to everyone. I love my Christmas gifts!

~Deira Patton



Happy Birthday!

19 Wendy Adams
20 Millie Bertolino and Corrine Pruett
30 Reid Nikirk, Lee Cuba and Bob Smith



SAVE THE DATE

COMING
UP

January 7, Hospitality Committee at 9:00 AM
January 8, Soul Food at 10:30 AM
January 14, Administrative Council at 6:00 PM
Every Sunday, Chimes Practice, 8:45 AM
Every Sunday, Choir Practice, 9:30 AM
Last Monday of the month, Euchre at 2:00 PM
Every Tuesday, Men's Breakfast at Bob Evans at 9:00 AM
Every Tuesday, Grief Share at 2:00 PM (beginning Jan. 14)
Every Tuesday, Bible study at 4:00 PM
Every Thursday, Fiber Time at 2:00 PM
Every Saturday, Gideons at 8:00 AM

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*Making disciples Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the
world.*