



WESLEY CHURCH OF HOPE

United Methodist Church Newsletter

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2025



Rev. Vaughn L. Cook,
Pastor

Pastor's Message

Dear Wesley Church of Hope UMC Family and Friends,

We are both blessed and humbled to have been so warmly received by the entire congregation since coming alongside you in service to our wonderful Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, just a few short months ago. Indeed we are thankful that in the Lord's providence, He matched us up with this beautiful vineyard!

Our sense about our new Church family is that it consists of individuals who genuinely love the Lord, care about each other, and have a heart to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the surrounding community. What a blessing and honor to be part of this body of believers!

We follow in the footsteps of so many great Pastors and families, particularly Pastor and Lady Dunbar in celebration of the great legacy that they all have established during their shephardship. However, we are extremely blessed to be chosen, for such a time as this, to celebrate Wesley Church of Hope's 20th Anniversary.

The Bible says "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" [Matthew 5:16].

Family, let's continue to open ourselves up to be salt and light, used by God, in service to each other and to our fellowman, so that God gets the blessing and honor He so richly deserves, all done in Jesus' name!

Loved and adored,

Pastor Vaughn and Sister Pavanne Cook



NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

20TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- NOV 2 COMMUNION SUNDAY
- NOV 4 VOTING DAY
- NOV 5 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- NOV 6 FALL FEST @ WATKINS ELEM.
- NOV 11 BIBLE STUDY
- NOV 12 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- NOV 16 ADVENTURE CLUB
- NOV 18 BIBLE STUDY
- NOV 19 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- NOV 25 BIBLE STUDY
- NOV 26 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- NOV 29 HANGING OF THE GREENS
- NOV 30 ADVENT/COMMUNION SUNDAY
- DEC 3 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- DEC 9 BIBLE STUDY
- DEC 10 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- DEC 14 CHRISTMAS KARAOKE SUNDAY
- DEC 16 BIBLE STUDY
- DEC 17 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- DEC 20 CHRISTMAS PARTY FUN NIGHT
- DEC 21 YOUTH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
- DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
- DEC 24 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- DEC 28 WORSHIP & PRAISE SERVICE



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Send your offering using CashApp



**Join us LIVE on
Facebook!**

www.facebook.com/WesleyCOH

WHAT GOD HAS JOINED TOGETHER

A JOURNEY OF FAITH, RESILIENCE, AND RENEWAL

In 2005, after seasons of challenge and prayerful discernment, Wesley United Methodist Church and Church of Hope UMC joined together to form Wesley Church of Hope UMC — a union approved by the West Ohio Conference and joyfully celebrated on July 3, 2005, under the leadership of Pastor Mamie Jenkins. That day truly felt like “a marriage made in heaven,” marking a new beginning for two faithful congregations who became one family in Christ.

Over the past two decades, Wesley Church of Hope has been shepherded by seven pastors, each bringing unique gifts to guide our ministry. Through their leadership — and the faithfulness of our members — worship attendance grew, new ministries were formed, and lives were changed. Music and praise have always been at the heart of our worship, from the youth and senior choirs to the gospel and praise teams. Our fellowship has reached beyond our walls through nursing home ministry, children’s sermons, Bible studies, and audio ministry.

Outreach has been a cornerstone of our calling. Partnering with Southside Hope CDC, the church has hosted summer camps for children, distributed coats, shoes, and fresh produce to hundreds of families, and supported Watkins Elementary School through mentorship and community service. Wesley has also helped keep our neighborhood clean, provided blessing bags to the unhoused, and served meals at local shelters — continuing the legacy of love begun by our elders.

When COVID-19 forced churches to close in 2020, Wesley Church of Hope did not lose faith. Led by Lady Merissa and Pastor Charles Ferguson, members gathered safely for outdoor prayer, continued worship online, and even celebrated communion and baptisms virtually. The only thing COVID did was bring us closer together.

As the world reopened, God continued to guide our steps through new seasons of leadership.



Pastor Theresa Wallington-Tipton encouraged each member to “Have a Personal Relationship with God,” and the congregation embraced lay leadership and shared ministry. When Pastor Richard Dunbar returned to lead Wesley, he strengthened the church’s foundation and oversaw key improvements to the building — even as he battled illness with unshakable faith and love for his flock. Before his passing in June 2025, Pastor Dunbar’s greatest joy was seeing the church continue its mission and welcome new leadership.

On July 1, 2025, Pastor Vaughn Cook was appointed as our new shepherd. His dynamic spirit, pastoral care, and connection with young people have breathed fresh energy into our ministry. In these few short months, hearts have been renewed, new baptisms have taken place, and our church family continues to grow.

Through every trial and triumph, Wesley Church of Hope remains what its name declares — a church built on hope, joined together by God, and steadfast in sharing His love with all.

Our story of faith and unity, however, began long before 2005. The roots of Wesley Church of Hope reach back more than a century — to believers who gathered in homes, prayed in faith, and built the foundations upon which we now stand. Their story reminds us that from many, God made us one.

By Shirley Mixon



**CELEBRATING 20 YEARS
WESLEY CHURCH OF HOPE UMC**





BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

In October, United Women in Faith sponsored Breast Cancer Awareness Sunday at Wesley Church of Hope. They invited the entire congregation to wear pink in honor of those fighting, recovering and surviving breast cancer.



New Comers Classes will be held on the 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Saturdays each month at 11am only if persons are registered in advance. **Contact the church office at 614-491-0580 to register for an upcoming session.**

WESLEY CHURCH OF HOPE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

YOU ARE INVITED TO

KARAOKE

BACK BY
POPULAR
DEMAND

11AM SUNDAY SERVICE

DECEMBER 14, 2025
2935 BULEN AVE,
COLUMBUS, OH 43207

Families Groups and Duets

Choose your favorite Christmas Song, and Come let's have fun Singing and Worshipping together.

WATKINS
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL
FALL
FESTIVAL

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 6
5:00-
6:30 PM

FUN & GAMES
READING AND MATH ACTIVITIES
FOR ALL GRADE LEVELS

WE WILL HAVE COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

WESLEY CHURCH OF HOPE
MARION FRANKLIN REC CENTER
MARION FRANKLIN LIBRARY
FACCES

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS
PLAY

DECEMBER 21, 2025
11 AM



PRAYER LIST

Lord, we lift up those members of our church family who are on our prayer list. We pray that you will anoint them with your strength and your life-giving power. Remind them that your Holy Spirit is watching over them and that their church is praying for their comfort and care.

*Rev. Dr. Archibald Bing
Marcella Conner
Prudence Duncan
Maia Dillard
Zackery Edwards & Family
Lester Finney
Mattie Ruth Hill
Ronald Jordan
Lilly Lim
Art Little
Godfrey Ludaway Sr.
Sharon Ludaway
Wendy Martin
Kaia Dilliard-Mixon
Helena Mobley
Eileen Neale
Zion Shakhan
Gloria Smith
Kevin Smith & Family
Lauren Smith
Pam Smith
Christopher Williams
Dr. Zawadi YaAshantawa*



Make It Happen Group

Celebrating 1 year of embracing a community with support for sobriety.



Meetings are held on Wednesdays from 6pm - 7pm at Wesley Church of Hope.



PRAYER REQUESTS

LET US PRAY FOR YOU!

Submit your request online or place a prayer request on the prayer board at the church.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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- NOV 4 VOTING DAY
- NOV 5 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- NOV 6 FALL FEST AT WATKINS ELEMENTARY
- NOV 11 BIBLE STUDY
- NOV 12 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- NOV 16 ADVENTURE CLUB
- NOV 18 BIBLE STUDY
- NOV 19 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- NOV 25 BIBLE STUDY
- NOV 26 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- NOV 29 HANGING OF THE GREENS
- NOV 30 ADVENT/COMMUNION SUNDAY



United
Women
in Faith

ANNUAL HOLIDAY NUTS & CANDY SALE



- DEC 3 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- DEC 9 BIBLE STUDY
- DEC 10 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- DEC 14 CHRISTMAS KARAOKE SUNDAY
- DEC 16 BIBLE STUDY
- DEC 17 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
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- DEC 24 MAKE IT HAPPEN GROUP
- DEC 28 WORSHIP & PRAISE SERVICE



ADVENT CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30 HOPE Celebrate the season in person at WCOH	1 Leave a kind note on a stranger's car.	2 Share your testimony of the goodness of God with someone.	3 Invite someone to attend Sunday worship at WCOH	4 Send a motivational text to someone.	5 Reach out to someone you haven't seen in a while.	6 Send a holiday card to a neighbor.
7 PEACE Give someone a hug.	8 Let a fellow driver merge into your lane.	9 Do something in your home (play music or decorate) to remind you of the season.	10 Pray for a stranger	11 Thank God for the opportunity to be a blessing to others.	12 Donate to the charity of your choice.	13 Pray today, thanking God for His grace and peace.
14 JOY Spend time playing with a pet or child.	15 Make someone laugh.	16 Smile and say "Hello" to people you pass by daily but never speak to.	17 Drink Hot Chocolate	18 Tell someone you are proud of them.	19 Share your testimony of the goodness of God with someone.	20 Send or give someone a handwritten note.
21 LOVE Spend time with an elderly person.	22 Smile at a stranger.	23 Help a friend get active.	24 Share your testimony of the goodness of God with someone.	25 Tell someone you love them.	26	27
28 WORSHIP & PRAISE SUNDAY	29	30	31			

Be the Gift: 25 Acts of Kindness

This Advent season, share the love of Christ through simple daily acts of kindness.

Complete one act each day, and place a Christmas sticker over that day's box. As your calendar fills, may your heart do the same—with hope, peace, joy, and love.

Join us for worship and celebration of the season. Learn more at wesleychurchofhope.org