

# CORNERSTONE

## WE WELCOME OUR SUMMER PASTORAL INTERN,

**ABBY GINSBERG**

Abby Ginsberg is a first-year Master of Divinity student at Duke Divinity School and is serving as a pastoral intern at Wesleyan Chapel this summer.

Originally from Suwanee, GA, Abby previously interned at Level Creek United Methodist Church and worked as a Behavioral Health Technician at Dunwoody Behavioral Health Center. She is passionate about pastoral care, spiritual formation, and walking alongside others through life's challenges with compassion and faith.

In her free time, Abby enjoys spending time with friends and family, reading, playing piano and guitar, watching movies and sitcoms, and caring for her bunny, Sunny.



## JUNE EVENTS

- 1 UMM Dinner & Meeting 6pm
- 3 Men's Bible Study Picnic 11:30am
- 4 Girl Scouts 6pm
- 7 Communion Sunday
- 9 Stephen Ministry Meeting 10am
- 10-11 Lydia Abbey Crafting 9am
- 11 PEO Ladies' Meeting 1:30pm
- 4-H Coastal Critters 3:30pm
- 14 Pennies for Hunger
- 15 Our New Normal 10am
- 15-21 VBS Setup
- 16 JOY Group 10am
- 18 Girl Scouts 6pm
- 21 Father's Day
- 22-26 Vacation Bible School 9am-12pm
- 25 4-H Coastal Critters 3:30pm
- 28 VBS Celebration Sunday

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 8:30 am Casual Worship
- 9:30 am Breakfast
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship & Children's Church

- Monday- Friday: YMCA Summer Day Camp 7am- 6pm
- Mondays: Boy Scouts 7pm
- Tuesdays: Pickleball 7pm
- Gamblers Anonymous 7pm
- Wednesdays: Worship at PNV 10:30am
- Choir 7pm (last day 6/17)

### Wesleyan Chapel welcomed three new professing members in April:

Kathy Daniels, Drew Papio, and Linda Rankin. We give thanks for their presence and ministry among us!



*For the complete, up-to-date church calendar, please go online to [wesleyanchapel.org](http://wesleyanchapel.org)*

# LETTER FROM SAFE HAVEN:

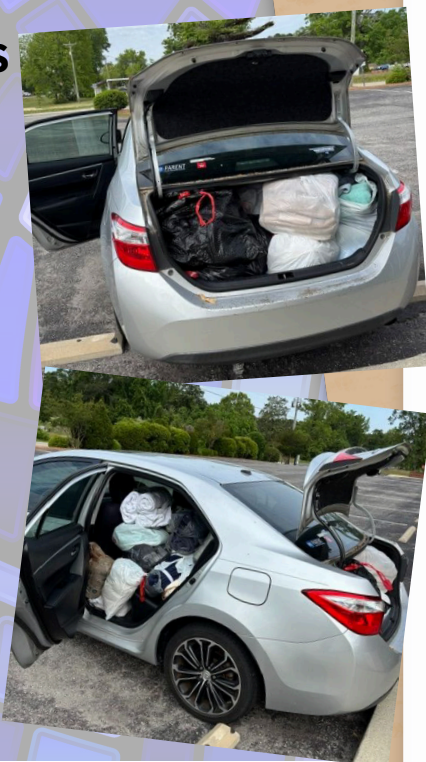


## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- Ken & Joan Jolly 1
- Mike & Gail Landon 2
- Bill & Judy Slack 3
- Marsha & Harvey Holland 5
- Jeff & Barbara Cavanaugh 16
- Nanacy & Bill Pearson 25
- Dickie & Joyce Spears 27

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- Riley Wagner 3
- Iris Taylor 3
- Beck Larson 3
- Findley Larson 3
- Judy Carter 6
- Brenda Herring 10
- Jim Wolle 13
- Oakleigh Romano 15
- Caroline Huffman 16
- Doug Patterson 19
- Gail Landon 20
- Jeremy Edens 23
- Susan Gamble 26
- Blake Nelson 26
- Rachel Leone 27
- Gretchen Simmons 30
- Geneva Jayroe 30



**A special thank you to Jennifer Guderian** for delivering all of the donated towels to Safe Haven last month. Her car was filled to overflowing with the generous contributions from so many in our church family! We are deeply grateful for her willingness to take on this important delivery and help ensure these donations reach those in need. Thank you, Jennifer, for your time and efforts!

Dear friends at Wesleyan Chapel United Methodist Church,  
**Thank you so much for your generous donation of towels for our shelter guests and community clients.** Your kindness and thoughtfulness will directly support so many individuals and families as they work toward safety, stability, and a fresh start. Donations like yours provide not only practical assistance but also comfort and dignity during difficult times. Many people do not realize that when guests transition out of shelter and into their next home, they are encouraged to take any linens and basic household items they may need. For many families, these simple items help create a sense of home and make the transition a little less overwhelming. Because of this, towels are always in high demand, and your donation truly makes a meaningful impact.

Community support is at the heart of everything we do. We could not continue serving survivors and families in need without the generosity of caring partners like you. Thank you for standing alongside us and helping ensure that our guests and clients feel supported, valued, and cared for during an important chapter in their lives.

With gratitude,

*Felicia*



## UNITED METHODIST MEN



The United Methodist Men gathered on May 4 for an evening of fellowship, a delicious meal prepared by Jimmy Schiff and Ken Jolly, and an informative presentation by Dr. Michael Priddy. Following a brief business meeting, members and guests enjoyed Dr. Priddy's thought-provoking discussion on the history and current state of K-12 public education in North Carolina.

Dr. Priddy traced the development of public education from North Carolina's original Constitution, which established the responsibility to provide free public schools for all children, to the challenges facing public education today. He spoke about the importance of supporting strong public schools and encouraging informed community involvement to ensure future generations receive a sound basic education and are well prepared for the future.

**The next UMM meeting will be held on Monday, June 2, at 6:00 p.m. in Lee Hall.** Victoria Hoover will prepare the meal. Please RSVP!



**June 3, at 11:30am**

at Pastor Rick's house  
143 Bowman Field Cir  
Hampstead, NC 28443

Please RSVP to Pastor Rick by May 27  
330.720.0675

**THE MEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP** will conclude their weekly sessions for the spring season on Tuesday, June 3. Following Bible study, everyone is invited to gather for a picnic at Pastor Rick's home for a time of fellowship and celebration.

We wish everyone a wonderful summer and encourage continued personal study during the break. Weekly Bible study will resume on September 9 at 9:30 a.m.



## **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: SUMMER BREAK**



The Women's Bible Study will be taking a well-deserved summer break to rest and renew, and will resume the study of The Cross on September 16 at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room.

During the summer months, participants are encouraged to continue their personal scripture reading and daily time with God. As we are reminded in Joshua 1:8, "Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day

and night... then you will be prosperous and successful."

We look forward to gathering again in the fall for continued study, prayer, and fellowship together. New members are always welcome. Let the office know if you would like a book.

## **SUMMER MUSIC MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

We are deeply grateful for all who share their musical gifts throughout the year and help lead our congregation in worship each week!

The Handbell Choir will take a summer break during June and July and return in mid-August. Chancel Choir rehearsals will conclude after June 17 and resume August 19. Summer Choir will meet Sunday mornings from July 5 through August 30 at 10:30 a.m.



# Backpack Ministry

## buddy backpacks



Dr. Michael Priddy gave a presentation on the state of public education in North Carolina to the United Methodist Men on May 4. He shared a handout which included much history and factual information on how our state system is funded and ranked. If you would like to have a copy of the handout information, feel free to email [mdpriddy@icloud.com](mailto:mdpriddy@icloud.com)

## FEEDING NEIGHBORS, SHARING HOPE

This school year, the Backpack Ministry faithfully served students and families at Cape Fear Elementary School and Topsail High School through a weekly food pantry and snack program. In addition, weekend “power packs” were provided for elementary students, supplying nutritious meals, breakfast items, snacks, juice, and milk to help sustain children through the weekend.

Each week, the team also packed food pantry bags designed to provide multiple meals for families, including shelf-stable entrees, breakfast foods, pantry staples, snacks, and personal care items not covered by SNAP benefits, such as soap, toothpaste, shampoo, and toilet tissue. Snack bags were prepared weekly for students in need, with additional juice and snacks distributed through school counselors and nurses. At Christmas and the end of the school year, gift cards were also provided to families identified by school social workers as needing extra support. Through these efforts, Wesleyan Chapel provided an estimated 16,000 meals to neighbors in need during the school year—and the ministry continues. During the summer months, families without transportation to local food pantries are offered monthly food deliveries, and several families have already requested assistance. Thank you to everyone who has given through time, prayer, and financially in our church family for this school year’s Backpack Ministry. Wesleyan Chapel continues to live out Christ’s call to feed the hungry, care for those in need, and serve others with joy and compassion.

## FAREWELL TO PRESCHOOL'S BARBARA RAYNOR AND ROSIE CHRISTIAN

This year, sisters Barbara Raynor and Rosie Christian are retiring from preschool teaching. Barbara has taught for years at WCUMC in the two's classroom. Rosie served as a floating teacher assistant. Through their encouragement, creative lessons, and nurturing care, they helped many children feel safe, loved, confident, and excited to learn.

We are deeply grateful for the wisdom, joy, and dedication they brought to our preschool program. Their presence will be greatly missed, but the impact they made on generations of children and families will continue for years to come. We wish Barbara and Rosie happiness, good health, and many wonderful adventures in this new chapter of life.

*Below: Rosie, Kerry, Barbara, Martha, Lori, Kim, Lisa, and Meghan*



**LIFT:**  
***Growing in Faith and Fellowship***  
 LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) concluded the season with a delicious dinner at K38 Baja Grill, where everyone enjoyed great food and meaningful fellowship together.  
 The group will begin meeting again on August 10 at 7:00 p.m. upstairs in Lee Hall. If you are looking for a small group of women to grow in faith, share meaningful conversation, support one another in prayer, and enjoy fellowship and laughter together, we would love for you to join us!





# PRESCHOOL GRADUATION

As we come to the close of another wonderful school year, our preschool has been filled with joyful celebrations, special memories, and excitement for what lies ahead. Over the past month, our classrooms have remained busy with spring activities, learning adventures, and opportunities to grow together in faith and friendship.

One of the highlights of the month was our Mother's Day Brunch. The children were excited to celebrate their special moms with songs, smiles, handmade gifts, and delicious food. It was a beautiful morning filled with laughter, love, and meaningful moments shared among families and teachers. We are grateful to everyone who helped make the event such a success.

As the school year comes to an end, we are also preparing for one of our most meaningful traditions—our Preschool Graduation Ceremony. We are incredibly proud of our graduating students and all they have learned and accomplished this year. From learning letters and numbers to building friendships and growing in confidence, each child has blossomed in their own unique way. Please join us in praying for our graduates as they take their next steps, and for all of our preschool families as they begin their summer adventures.



## SERVING, GROWING,

# MYF

## AND GIVING BACK

Our youth have wrapped up their regularly scheduled meetings and are preparing for a summer filled with missions, volunteering, and being the hands and feet of Jesus. Throughout the spring, they studied moral conflicts, enjoyed fellowship, and played fun games such as Human Hungry Hippos.



They also packed 45 school supply bags for Disaster Relief and ended May with a celebration at Mrs. Jamie's home.



This summer, many opportunities for service are planned. Our youth will help decorate for Vacation Bible School,

and many will serve as guides and mentors for younger children during VBS. This is a wonderful opportunity for them to grow as leaders and role models.

In July, the youth will participate in Youth Mission Week, July 27–31, serving nonprofit organizations throughout our community. Each day will include mission projects, lunch together, and a fun activity to end the day. Please let Mrs. Jamie know if you can attend, and be sure to mark your calendars!

# children's ministry in action



On May 10, we created three beautiful backdrops for families to enjoy taking selfies with their mothers on Mother's Day. Many mothers, grandmothers, and aunts shared special memories with their families. Thank you to Steve Beuth for arranging the flowers on the gazebo cross for one of our photo backdrops.



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**JUNE 22-26**  
**9AM-12PM**

SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE

QR CODE



Our Children's Ministry has also been busy preparing for Vacation Bible School. We need volunteers to help decorate during the week of June 15-19 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School will be held June 22-26 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Have you registered your children yet? Register at [wesleyanchapel.org/registervbs](http://wesleyanchapel.org/registervbs) or scan the QR code.

**SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL** STARTS JUNE-AUG

JOIN US **JUNE 7 & 14 12PM**

**SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING**

Summer Sunday School will also begin at 10:00 a.m. each Sunday from June through August. At the beginning of each month, we will welcome guest speakers to share what Wesleyan Chapel means to them. On the remaining Sundays, children will enjoy God's creation through nature walks and crafts while learning about the story of creation and the beauty of the world God has made.

If you would like to volunteer, please plan to attend one of the Safe Sanctuary trainings on June 7 or 14 at 12:00 p.m.



# Living Hope

day center

# June

## ministry item

This month, Wesleyan Chapel is partnering with Living Hope Day Center to support individuals experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity in our community. The Day Center serves as a place of rest, nourishment, connection, and care, offering meals, coffee, showers, case management, and spiritual support for those in need. On a typical week, the center serves dozens of guests daily, providing not only basic necessities but also a safe and welcoming space where people can find dignity, stability, and encouragement while working toward longer-term housing solutions.

This month, we invite donations of these key items: bug spray, rain ponchos, instant ice bags, umbrellas, bucket hats, packaged snacks, and personal fans. The best snacks for shelters are non-perishable, nutrient-dense, and easy to consume without needing cooking or utensils. Top choices include pop-top canned meats, protein/granola bars, nut butter pouches, trail mix, and applesauce cups. These practical gifts help meet immediate needs for those who rely on the Day Center's services.

Donations may be placed in the ministry collection bins located in Lee Hall, outside the choir room, and in the Narthex of the Sanctuary. Thank you for your continued generosity and for helping extend Christ's love in tangible ways to our neighbors.

## OUR NEW NORMAL: Finding Hope Through Shared Grief

Our New Normal grief support group continues to be a source of friendship, encouragement, and connection for those walking through seasons of loss. Sharing the grief journey together provides comfort and reminds participants that they are not alone as they move forward after the loss of a loved one.

Group member Gladys Booz shared how much she has cherished the connections formed through the group, especially after missing the past two meetings.

The next meeting will be held on June 15 at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room. All who are grieving are welcome. God bless everyone.



## REFUGEE ASSISTANCE TEAM

Islam continues working toward an important milestone for his family—purchasing a reliable seven-passenger vehicle to help with everyday needs such as grocery shopping, medical appointments, school activities, and work opportunities. He began driving lessons on May 15 and is preparing for his road test with hopes of gaining greater independence for his family in the near future.

Halima continues sharing her beautiful handmade fabric, knitted, and crocheted creations, now including dresses and other new items, at The Village. Every purchase helps support the family while also blessing others with meaningful handmade gifts. During May, two of the girls celebrated birthdays, and your generous support also helped provide clothing and cleaning supplies not covered by SNAP benefits. The family was additionally blessed with a replacement couch after a wonderful bargain was discovered at Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

Like many families, the Zazais continue facing rising costs for food, rent, and daily necessities. Islam is currently balancing both full-time and part-time work to support his family during this challenging season. Your continued prayers, encouragement, and generosity remain a tremendous blessing to both the Zazai family and the Refugee Assistance Team as they continue building their new life in America.

# PENNIES FOR HUNGER

2nd Sunday Each Month  
Next Collection date: June 14

May Collection: \$ 323.64  
2026 Total: \$1,631.88  
May's collection marked the first time in the history of this ministry that we received no pennies or coins in our baskets. With pennies no longer

being produced and more people using cashless payment methods, we know this may become more common. Thank you to those who contributed the "green bills," which are simply pennies in larger amounts!

This month, we will contribute \$400 to our Rise Against Hunger packaging event scheduled for August 22, bringing the number of ministries we have supported this year to four.

Although we are currently slightly behind where we were at this time last year, we believe we will still be able to fund the same number of ministries. Our next collection date is June 14. In addition to pennies, we gladly accept coins, paper money, checks, and online contributions.

*Pennies Fact: During World War II, demand for metals such as copper reached an all-time high. As a result, the U.S. Mint experimented with alternative materials for producing one-cent coins, including glass pennies. Although the experiment was unsuccessful, authentic test glass pennies are now considered rare historical novelties. Only two are known to exist, and one sold for more than \$70,000 in January 2017.*



**The United Methodist Church  
HANDBOOK 2025–2028**

Designed to help you understand the heart of The United Methodist Church, including who we are, how we are organized, and how we live out our mission.

## EXPLORE THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HANDBOOK 2025–2028

On Sunday, May 17, Al Howard shared briefly about the United Methodist Church Handbook 2025–2028, a helpful resource for anyone wanting to learn more about the structure, beliefs, mission, and ministries of The United Methodist Church.

The handbook explores a wide variety of topics, including the mission and vision of the church, what United Methodists believe, how the denomination is connected, how governance works, and how connectional giving and apportioned funds support ministries around the world. It also includes information about ethnic and racial ministries, general agencies, designated giving, regional conference maps, and commonly used United Methodist terms.

Whether you are new to The United Methodist Church or have been a member for many years, this handbook is an excellent guide for better understanding our shared ministry and connection. Download at: <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/topics/united-methodism/umc-handbook>



# girl scouts

This spring, the girls visited a local nursing home where they spent time with approximately 40 residents. They donated Girl Scout cookies and shared homemade bookmarks with the residents, which was a wonderful service opportunity for the girls.

Our troop has also been learning about nature and the environment through activities and badge work. Earlier this year, the girls traveled to Ripley's Aquarium in Myrtle Beach and enjoyed an overnight experience sleeping under the shark tank. This special trip was made possible through the girls' hard work and success during Girl Scout cookie season.

We also have several exciting summer activities planned, including:

- An overnight backyard camping trip in Hampstead this June

- A roller skating outing at Topsail Skating Rink in June

- A visit to the turtle hospital later this summer in August

The girls are continuing to build friendships, confidence, teamwork, and community involvement through these experiences, and we are very proud of all they have accomplished.



The Coastal Clovers 4-H Club is a group of kids ages 5-11 who are learning how to be leaders in their community. You will find them weekly during the summer months at WCUMC having fun, learning how to work together, practicing public speaking skills, and growing as unique individuals. The club is led by 4-H volunteers who grew up as 4-H members themselves and are excited to provide this experience for a new generation of young people.

In May, seven of our members participated in a county-wide 4-H public speaking contest. They each did an amazing job planning, practicing, and finally, presenting their own demonstration that highlighted their own unique skills and interests. We are so proud of them!

If you are interested in learning more about the 4-H program, including camps and clubs, contact Traci Spencer at [tjspenc2@ncsu.edu](mailto:tjspenc2@ncsu.edu) for Pender County 4-H or Cecilia Tadt at [cjtadt@ncsu.edu](mailto:cjtadt@ncsu.edu) for New Hanover County 4-H.



## Welcome TEAM

The summer months are a wonderful time to watch for visitors! Members of the Welcome Team do their best to intentionally speak with

each visitor and those returning as guests, but sometimes a visitor may still be missed. That is why your help in welcoming those around you is so important.

Please take an extra moment to look around, share a smile, extend a hand of friendship, and start a short conversation. It is also helpful to mention the yellow Connection Card, which visitors may fill out and place in the offering plate or in one of the yellow wooden boxes.

You never know when your smile, handshake, or warm welcome may be exactly what helps someone become a regular worshipper at our church. You may also jot down visitors' names and share them with Terry Baxley, Pat Myers, Denise Freitag, or Karen France, who assist with visitor follow-up. Thank you for your continued welcoming spirit!

# LYDIA ABBEY CRAFT CIRCLE PREPARING FOR THE FALL BAZAAR

Another wonderful group of crafty ladies gathered in May to continue creating beautiful projects for the Fall Bazaar in November. The Lydia Abbey Craft Circle will meet again on June 10 and 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Everyone is welcome to join us for as little or as much time as they would like.

The group is also accepting gently used "attic treasures" for the upcoming bazaar. Donations may be dropped off on the back pews of the Chapel beginning after the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, June 7, through Tuesday, June 9. Thank you for your support!

Several specialty items have already been completed, and we are excited to share a sneak peek of what's to come at this year's bazaar.

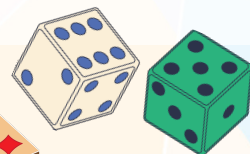


## JOY GROUP WELCOMES NEW FRIENDS AND NEW GAMES

The JOY Group welcomed Bruce and Pat Thompson, who joined us for the first time and introduced everyone to a new card game called Euchre. Since most of us had never played before, they had quite a challenge teaching us the game, but everyone enjoyed the fun and fellowship.

Following our devotional and game time, those who wished to continue the fellowship gathered for lunch at Cornelia's Restaurant at The Davis Community, where we enjoyed a wonderful meal together.

Our next gathering will be June 16 at 10:00 a.m. in Lee Hall. After our devotional and games, we will head to Cracker Barrel for lunch.



# WHAT IS THE TRUSTEE COMMITTEE?

You may wonder, "What is the Trustee Committee?" The committee is made up of nine members who oversee and maintain church property while also ensuring adequate insurance coverage for the church.

Recently, BLJ Painting completed painting the exterior of Lee Hall, including sanding and making minor repairs where needed beforehand. The committee appreciates the work that was done to help maintain and beautify our facilities. In addition, the church's insurance renewal date is approaching, and several committee members will meet with the insurance company to review coverage proposals and make recommendations.

The Trustee Committee works diligently to help provide a safe, welcoming, and well-maintained environment for all who visit Wesleyan Chapel. The committee also welcomes suggestions that may help improve our church facilities and grounds.



# RISE AGAINST HUNGER®



Register & donate!



Help package  
20,000 meals  
to fight global hunger!

Wesleyan Chapel UMC  
Saturday, August 22nd  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

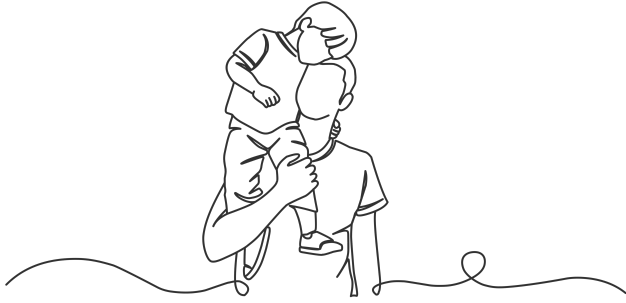
# Children's Church

Throughout the summer months, Children's Church is going strong! Each week, children are invited to leave the Sanctuary at the end of the Passing of the Peace during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. A quick walk—sometimes in the rain—takes the group to the Chapel, where they continue with their own worship service. Children ages 5 through middle school enjoy the remainder of the morning with music, scripture lessons, prayer, bell ringing, the "offering," and sharing announcements while following the order of worship for the day. All children, including visitors, are welcome to join us for Children's Church each Sunday. Curious adults are welcome as well. Family members may pick up the children from the Chapel at the conclusion of the Sanctuary worship service.



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.  
**WESLEYAN CHAPEL**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
10255 US Highway 17 N  
Wilmington, NC 28411

Change Service Requested



*Happy Father's Day!*



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

# Wesleyan Chapel

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**June 22-26 VBS week 9am- 12pm**  
**June 28- VBS Celebration Sunday**

## June Worship Schedule

8:30 am Casual Worship  
9:30 am Breakfast  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Traditional Worship and  
Children's Church

VBS kids lead worship at 11am

Watch Sunday sermons live or later!

Visit [wesleyanchapel.org](http://wesleyanchapel.org) and click on the link for our YouTube Channel. Follow us on Facebook!

[www.wesleyanchapel.org](http://www.wesleyanchapel.org) • [churchoffice@wesleyanchapel.org](mailto:churchoffice@wesleyanchapel.org) • (910) 686-4041