

# Tidings

A Newsletter of Yardley United Methodist Church

Volume 20, Issue 5

Yardley, Pennsylvania

Fall, October & November 2019

## PumpkinPalooza & PumpkinPatch

Yardley United Methodist Church  
Presents The 4th Annual

# TRUNK or TREAT!

Saturday **OCTOBER 26** 4-6pm  
Yardley United Methodist Church  
300 Langhorne Yardley Rd Yardley Pa 19067

Free Admission!

For More Information  
Please Call or Email Denise  
at 215-493-3345 or  
Denise@yardleyumc.org  
Rain Date Sunday Oct 27th 2-4pm

Games  
Food, Fun  
& Prizes!

# Pumpkin Patch

Yardley United Methodist Church  
300 Langhorne Yardley Rd  
Yardley Pa 19067

## October 13-31 12pm-Dusk

All money raised goes to support  
Missions at home and away

**YUMC is raising funds for mission:**

**Pumpkin Patch:**

October 13-31 noon to dusk (pumpkins arrive  
10/12 at 8:30 a.m.)

**PumpkinPalooza Festival & Trunk or Treat:**  
October 26 4-7 pm (raindate Oct 27, 2-4 pm)

These are fundraisers for both youth mission trips next  
summer AND local missions through YUMC Mission  
Committee. Please turn to page 6 for complete details  
on how you can help!



**Trunks needed! Oct 26 , 4-6 pm  
(rain date 10/27, 2-4 pm)**

Tidings is published by  
Yardley United  
Methodist Church  
300 Langhorne Road  
Yardley, PA 19067  
Phone: 215-493-3345  
office@yardleyumc.org

Pastor: Rev. Cynthia E. Skripak  
Phone: 215-316-1431  
pastorcyn@yardleyumc.org

#### **Sunday Mornings**

9 a.m. Celeb. Service & SS for  
ages 3 to 5th grade  
10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour and  
SS for Gr. 6-12 & Adults  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Service



*Did you know...pastors are encouraged to volunteer beyond the local church and to pursue training and education? This fall, I'll be taking on some new roles and challenges. I have been appointed as the new Chairperson of the East District Committee on Ministry (DCOM). DCOM guides and evaluates all new candidates for ministry. I will also begin a 3-year elected term on the Alumnae Association Council of Emma Willard School, my high school alma mater in Troy, NY, including weekend meetings away in spring and fall. My third new initiative will benefit the whole church. I was selected to attend the two year Financial Leadership Academy for church leaders. The curriculum includes personal financial training as well as church stewardship, fundraising and a component of coaching for local church leaders in the second year. Please keep your pastor in your prayers as I handle the learning curve and new responsibilities of these positions. I'm excited by the ways God is calling me to grow and serve.*

*Thank you for your support  
Pastor Cyndi*



**OUR  
MISSION  
CONTINUES  
October 20, 2019**

## **OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!**

On Sunday October 20th we will once again gather as one church body to serve our community. This year our mission projects will take place within the church, but will be designed to touch the lives of many outside the church. There will be some mission projects for all age groups, which will take place starting after a short 9:00 am prayer service. This hands-on service will take the place of our regular worship services that Sunday.

We are a blessed church, and we need to continue to give back and help others through our prayers, our presence, our gifts and our service.

Come and share this special day with your church family.



## **Many Thanks to everyone who made the MyCalling! Golf Outing a success!!!**

We had 26 golfers and the most beautiful day! Thank you to the volunteers for giving their time to help the golf tournament run smoothly. We are excited to see our tournament grow each year as we raise money for our mission. The total of \$2,665 that was raised at the golf tournament will go to scholarship and growth structures for MyCalling! Thank you all for your support!



*See more photos from the Golf Outing on p. 11*



## Birthdays in October

01 Anna Salapong	19 Nancy Scurlock
01 Jonathan Parks	20 Jessie Shaffer
01 Calvin Winters	21 Peggy Guenzel
05 Ryan Breen	21 Elizabeth Miller
05 Matthew Croggon	24 Jennifer Potash
06 William Sands, Jr.	24 Janice Laba
07 Julia Ransom	24 Phil Mitchell
10 Debbie Van Aken	26 Dave Whalen
12 Ruth Logan	27 Christi Rowley
16 Jack Reed	28 Bob Smith
16 Richard Edwards	30 Emily Grace
17 Diana Hachoose	30 Christine Griffin
19 Daniel Hyland	31 Geoffrey Gonzalez
19 Rebecca Guloy	



Did we miss your birthday?  
Sorry! We must not have it on file.  
Please email us:  
office@yardleyumc.org or  
call 215-493-3345

## Birthdays in November

01 Patrick McBrayer	10 Zachary Sawyer
01 Scott Hoerl	18 Brian Bromberg
01 Rob Mayer	19 Connie Kellenbez
01 Rachel Guloy	19 Ann Scherer
02 Francesca Beavers	20 Jason Lee Lum
02 Ben Pirog	23 Steve Kyle
03 Abigail Fernandez	23 Ann Skinner
04 Mark Eppley	25 Stephanie Moser
07 Lem Guloy	26 Claire Luce
08 Paige Habgood	27 Ryan Ransom
10 Melissa Small	27 Matthew Lipton
	29 Richard Hachoose
	30 Hunter Shaffer

## WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW



### A Concert with a Diverse Group of Singers and Musicians

**Everyone who loves music** and knows the power that music has to build bridges between us is invited to the What the World Needs Now Concert on October 12th, 7-9:30 pm at BuxMont Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship in Warrington. Ten musical acts include a group from the Islamic Center, an African American soloist from Salem Baptist Church, and a song in Yiddish written by a concentration camp prisoner during WWII. The concert is free and open to all.



Pastor Cyndi talks with the children about how music makes you feel on Eduardo 'Azzati's 20th anniversary Sunday.

## Charge Conference Nov 2, 2019

Each year, the official business of the church, including the Pastor's salary and the leadership roster is approved at Charge Conference. The date this year is November 2 at 10:00 am at Christ UMC, 2010 S. Valley Forge Rd, Lansdale, PA 19446. All are welcome to attend.



**AHTN (Advocates for the Homeless and Those in Need) has been selected for the month of October for GIANT's Bags 4 My Cause Program!** During the month

of October, please shop at the Yardley Giant, located at 700 Stony Hill Road, and purchase a reusable shopping bag (*located at the cash registers*). Giant will give \$1.00 for every bag purchased to AHTN. As always, thank you for all that you do to help our friends in need!

A letter of thanks was received from Debbie Thompson of the Salvation Army in Wisconsin for the work done during our Senior High Mission trip to Milwaukee:

*...a very big THANK YOU for your wonderful team work helping us here at The Salvation Army during our Feed the Kids ministry Bible clubs!...*

*By your helping us we continued to interact with God's message to young people in our community!...Thank you for partnering with us and Next Step Ministries and maybe stepping out of your comfort zones, but everyone seemed very confident!! ...[my wish] is for you to continue serving Christ Jesus!!... give Carl a hug for me!*



What color are these Flamingos?

If you see **Pink**, You're normal

If you see **Green**, you need help

If you see **Blue**, you're being called to volunteer  
in Children & Youth Ministries at YUMC.

If you are reading this in black and white,  
you're being called to volunteer also!

Sign up to join the team or volunteer on a rotation

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F084FA9A823A6FD0-wednesday>

Questions? Email [denise@yardleyumc.org](mailto:denise@yardleyumc.org)

**We celebrated Eduardo's 20th Anniversary of serving** as Director of Music on September 22, 2019. Congratulations are in order for Eduardo Azzati on reaching the 20 year milestone at YUMC. During the worship services, a special prayer was given for Eduardo and his family. A special reception was held in Fellowship Hall which included goodies, a surprise Handbell performance, children's songs, speeches from staff and members, and gifts.



## Wednesday Night Children and Youth

Each year the Children and Youth Wednesday Night team selects a theme for the year.

This theme guides our lessons, our experiences and our calendar for the year.

We are SO excited to announce that our theme this year is "What's Your Story?"

Our theme Scripture verse is Psalm 107:2.

We all have a story. God is working in all of our lives as individuals, as a family, as a church and as humankind. We all have a story and are better when we share our stories.

We are spending the year learning to share our stories, learning other's stories and working to create a safe place for us to be ourselves.

God's Story was in the beginning and continues in each person's life.

We will spend the year learning God's Stories in the Bible and paralleling them to our own story and the stories of others.

We are excited about a year that will include guest speakers, testimony writing, journaling, prayer stations, Speed Chatting and more!

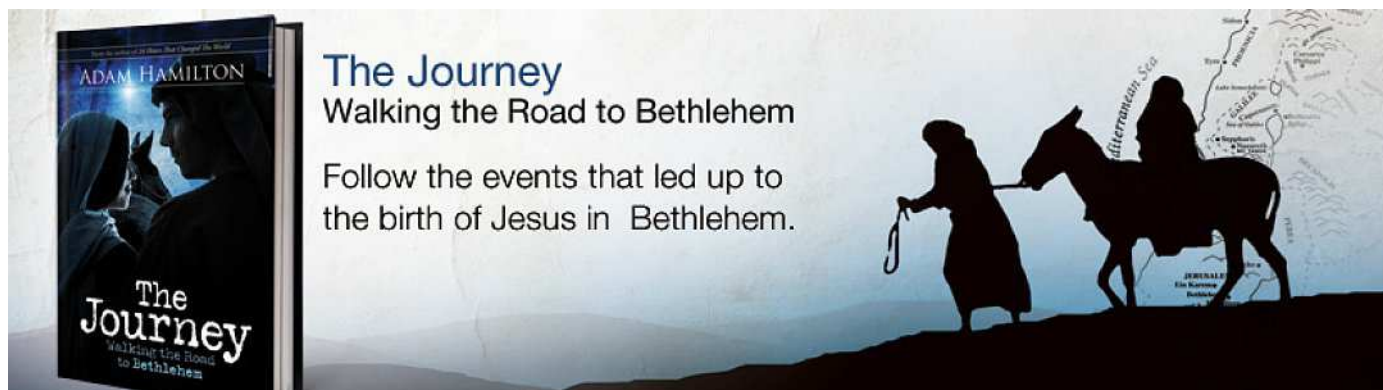


I want to express my most heartfelt gratitude to SPRC, my fellow staff members, everyone that was involved in the planning and the preparations as well as the entire congregation for the wonderful celebration of my 20th anniversary at the church, the prayers, the gifts, the cards, the words of recognition and the love that all of that represents.

Thank you all for a fun and meaningful "Eduardo day!"

-Eduardo





## The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem

A simple girl

An ordinary man

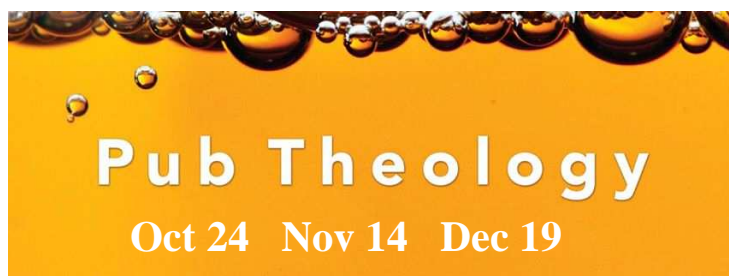
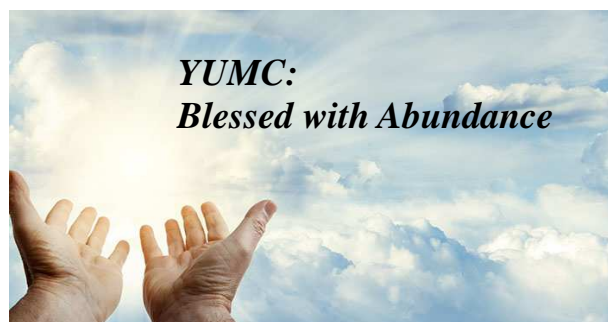
An unforgettable destination

Beginning Thursday November 7<sup>th</sup> 1 pm-3 pm, our church will offer a five-week study you won't want to miss: "The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem." In the study, Adam Hamilton travels with us from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. Using historical information, archaeological findings, and personal reflections, Hamilton illuminates this most amazing moment in history. We follow the footsteps of Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and others, gaining insight into our own journeys with Christ..

Whether you are a long-time Christian or simply curious about the story of Christmas, you are invited to join us on this inspiring journey. For more information about this special event and how you can participate, please call the church office at 215-493-3345.

**Thursday Afternoon 1 pm:** November 7, 14, 21, Dec 5, 12 and we will end with a Christmas Celebration Dec 19  
or:

**Thursday Evening 7:30 pm:** Nov 7, 14, 21, Dec 5, 12 and a Christmas Celebration at the parsonage Dec 19



*The September issue of Tidings really moved me! The variety of articles and pictures all seemed to point to one thing: our reason for "being" here at YUMC....to praise our God for the abundance of blessings we receive and to show our thanks by sharing that abundance with others, so that we all can have "enough."*

*Thank you to the many persons who wrote the articles and contributed the pictures, to those who participated in the ministries that are represented in those articles and pictures, and to Nancy Scurlock, our Tidings editor, who arranges it all into this beautiful and inspiring and motivating church newsletter that informs us and others in our community of what goes on at YUMC!*

*(Signed) A grateful church member*

## Adults, let's meet at the Continental Tavern for Pub Theology

in Yardley at 8 pm on October 24th, November 14th & Dec 19th! People have been gathering in pubs and public spaces for ages, talking about life, philosophy, faith, and deep questions of meaning. We will have conversation about God. Come bring your questions, your curiosity, and pull up a chair. Be ready to engage with people of varying religious traditions, philosophical perspectives and life experiences. You'll be able to share your own wrestlings and thoughts while learning something new along the way. **Rsvp by 9 am on the day of Pub Theology for that nights' event.**

## October = Pumpkins at YUMC!

Starting on the 12th of October, the congregation of YUMC will embark on a HUGE fundraising project which will help fund the mission trips this summer and local missions through the YUMC Mission Committee.

There are two events: the **Pumpkin Patch** which goes from Oct 13-31 (pumpkin unloading starts Oct 12 at 8:30 am). The congregation and community are invited to purchase their pumpkins at the Pumpkin Patch. AND we will hold the **PumpkinPalooza** which is a fun fall festival from 4 to 7 pm on Oct 26 for all ages (rain date 10/27, 2-4 pm). Please invite your friends and neighbors! **During the PumpkinPalooza, we will have a Trunk or Treat.** Children are invited to wear costumes and gather treats in the church lot.

We are in need of the support of the congregation for this huge fundraising project! But, it's going to be fun! Please sign up to help on the sign up sheets in the lobby or at <https://www.yardleyumcyouth.org/events>

**V**olunteers are needed to unload pumpkins on Oct 12 at 8:30 am

**V**olunteers are needed to staff the Pumpkin Patch from October 13-31.

**V**olunteers are needed for PumpkinPalooza on Oct 26 & we need people to decorate their car trunk for Trunk or Treat!



**Oct 26**  
**PumpkinPalooza**  
**Fun Festival & Trunk or**  
**Treat!**

**Trunk or Treat is 4-6 pm**

**Palooza is 4-7 pm**  
**(rain date Oct 27 2-4 pm)**

**Pumpkin Patch Oct 13-31**



## Mission Committee News

The church's dedication to mission has been very apparent this summer and continues to grow as a new school year begins. Many members of our church generously gave a total of 35 gift cards to the Bucks County Housing Group to help children get prepared for school this year. We collected and delivered food to the Pennel Food Pantry throughout the summer and will continue to do so throughout the year. If anyone would like to help deliver the food to the pantry on the first Tuesday of each month, contact Kelly Rymer, Janice Laba, or Steve Kyle. YUMC along with help from the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection welcomed 10 guests including 3 babies from Family Promise during the fourth week in September.

Other activities to look forward to from your mission committee this year and next is a Family Promise Week in November and The Angel Tree collection of gift cards for Bucks County Housing Group to help parents in need provide a Christmas for their families. We will be supporting more Family Promise weeks (see below), and serving meals to the homeless in Philadelphia's Grace Cafe. The Mission Committee is always looking for mission-oriented people to help in the missions, or to join our small group to plan and coordinate. If mission is your calling, reach out to the church office for information at 215-493-3345

Upcoming Family Promise weeks:  
2019: Nov 17-24

2020: Feb 2-9, May 3-10, Sept 13-20, Nov 8-15



## How Serving at Family Promise Made a Difference for Me....

*reflection from a YUMC member*

Recently, our church hosted 3 families (10 people) from the Family Promise program. I signed up to cook a meal and deliver it, ready to eat, to Room 004, where two other persons who had signed up to be Hosts, would take over the serving of it and share dinner and friendly conversation with the families there. Room 004, the room where we usually meet for Adult Sunday School and Thursday Bible Study, had been "brightened up" with colorful tablecloths. Our guests from Family Promise arrived around 6:15 p.m.; some of them looked tired, and all of them looked hungry! They seemed "shy" and quiet, at first, but our Hosts for the evening, one a member of YUMC and the other, from a partner church, greeted them warmly, which helped them to relax, and by the time we sat down together, we were all more relaxed and talking together. The guests seemed to enjoy the dinner and the conversation with us; they even went back for second helpings. One of the mothers asked me to hold her 12-month old baby while she finished her second helping of dinner. I considered that a sign of trust.... and an honor ....since she didn't know me until an hour before. By 8:15 p.m., both families had gone upstairs to their bedrooms; they had to be ready for pickup back to the Family Promise Day Center by 5:00 a.m!

Meeting these families who were currently homeless but were making the effort to gain the knowledge and skills needed to be self-sufficient was a humbling experience.

We lead very different lives, the Family Promise guests and me. I've never been homeless, and rarely

"inconvenienced" by the lack of what I physically need for a safe and healthy life. Cooking a meal as my contribution to our church's effort to participate in the Family Promise program turned out to be much more than just "cooking a meal;" it became an opportunity to touch the lives of people who need a helping hand, at the moment, and an opportunity to respond to that need, as Christ taught us to do.

Family Promise families will return to YUMC for another week in November.



Every effort is made by YUMC volunteers to make the Sunday School classrooms feel "homey" for the Family Promise guests.

## 60 Year Anniversary in this building is on the Horizon: A Brief History

**On Sunday, November 24, 2019, we will celebrate 60 years of worship and fellowship in our church building.** As we look back on our notable history, we give thanks for the ways that God has used our church to serve God and God's people in Yardley and beyond. God's not finished with us yet, and we look forward to our future with hope and excitement. Our history reflects a church that has welcomed all persons to worship, supported their growth in our Christian faith, and encouraged the expression of that faith through word and action.

The earliest written record of our history lists a baptism in 1834. By 1835, Methodists were meeting at an old storehouse on Bridge Street, now Afton Avenue, near the Delaware Canal. The growing congregation built a brick church in 1838 on South Main Street -- the current site of the Yardley Town Center. The church would join a 9-church 'charge' to which a pastor was assigned. The "charge" grew and divided several times, until in 1952, Yardley Methodist Church, with 301 members, became a separate pastoral charge. After enlarging its building twice, in 1955, the congregation purchased 3½ acres of land just outside Yardley Borough at Scammell's Corner in Lower Makefield, the site on which the present church stands. It was completed in 1959, and the first worship service was held in the new building on November 22, 1959. It was soon joined by a parsonage in 1962 and later enlarged by an Education Wing and Office Suite in 1991.

In the tradition of United Methodism, our church has ministered to the surrounding community and to the world in ways that authentically reflect the Good News of Jesus Christ. It took a stand for civil rights in our community during the turbulent 1960s. In the early 1970s members established an after-school children's tutoring program and joined others in the community to establish the Yardley Head Start Program. They have helped Yardley residents clean up following occasional flooding of the Delaware River and Delaware Canal.

Members have been involved with the Bucks County Emergency Shelter since its inception. They regularly serve meals to homeless and other needy individuals at the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen and at Grace Café in Philadelphia, the Pennel Food Pantry receives our monthly donations of non-perishable foods. Each year, since 2011, a Sunday morning ministry, "The Church Has Left The Building," has sent members and attenders out into the community to help organizations fulfill their stated purposes in a variety of ways, from light construction and painting to food preparation, to providing companionship to persons in residential care facilities. A new opportunity for ministry is Family Promise, a program designed to transition persons from homelessness to housing and self-sufficiency. The church hosts up to 14 people for a week, four times a year, providing dinner, a sleeping room, and breakfast the next morning before they return to their program center.

An active childrens' ministry at YUMC includes Sunday School, a singing troupe, Wednesday evening God Squad (supper, singing, recreation and fellowship), special activities for 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders, and a summer Vacation Bible School, open to all children in the community.

There's a strong emphasis on nurturing youth in growing as Christian disciples at YUMC. A full-time youth leader and dedicated parents and adult volunteers guide and support youth as they study and discuss together, and plan and carry out fund-raising events to help pay for mission trips in the summer -- a Goods and Services Auction, Chili Cook-off, the Pumpkin Patch and Pumpkin Palooza - events that provide fun and fellowship for all in the congregation. In 2014, three senior high youth felt "called" to provide a mission trip experience for middle schoolers, so they founded My-Calling!, a five-day mission experience, housed at the church, that welcomes youth and their leaders from other congregations, twice a year.

We are blessed with exceptionally capable and caring staff members: a Senior Pastor, who in 2017 was granted a Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Grant and who helped prepare this congregation and fellow staff members to function during her 4-month absence; an Office Manager, who manages the daily responsibilities of the church office and is the chief communicator to the congregation; a beloved Youth Director, who plans and resources the youth ministry program, and loves and supports each one of her students; the Director of Music, who plans music for both services to mesh with the emphasis of that day, then performs it, on organ and piano, with bells and voice. These staff members, except for the Pastor, have all served at YUMC for between 16-20 years. A Nursery Caregiver cares for our infants and toddlers each Sunday, while our Sexton cleans and prepares our building for the week's activity.



*article continued on p. 11*



## YUMC YOUTH MINISTRY

*Youth Ministry at Yardley UMC exists to share God's love with teenagers, equip them to experience the work of ministry, honor the Lord and enjoy one another.*

**Do you have questions? Need someone to talk to?** See Denise or any youth leader. Or, email [denise@yardleyumc.org](mailto:denise@yardleyumc.org)

**Not sure of dates for events? Have a sports event, concert, or other activity that you want your youth ministry friends to know about?** Check out the calendar on our website at [www.yardleyumcyouth.org](http://www.yardleyumcyouth.org). You can add your birthday, activities or even prayer requests by clicking on dates on the calendar.

**Need to sign up for an event?** You can go to the youth website at [www.yardleyumcyouth.org](http://www.yardleyumcyouth.org) and click on sign up, OR you can go to the 'SIG NUP' board outside of the youth room and sign up there!

**Pumpkins arrive Oct 12, 8:30 am!**

**Pumpkin Palooza! :**

**Oct 26, 4-7 pm (rain date 10/27, 2-4 pm)**

**Pumpkin Patch Oct 13-31**

Pumpkin What????? Please turn to  
page 6 for information!

To get funds for YOUR mission trip, you must sign up to  
work at least 4 shifts plus help unload pumpkins. Sign up at  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a084aa9a728a13-pumpkin2>



### FRIENDS LOCK IN

Oct 11, 8 pm -

Oct 12, 8:30 am

Bring your friends for a night  
of games, escape room  
Christians & Romans, fun &  
food!

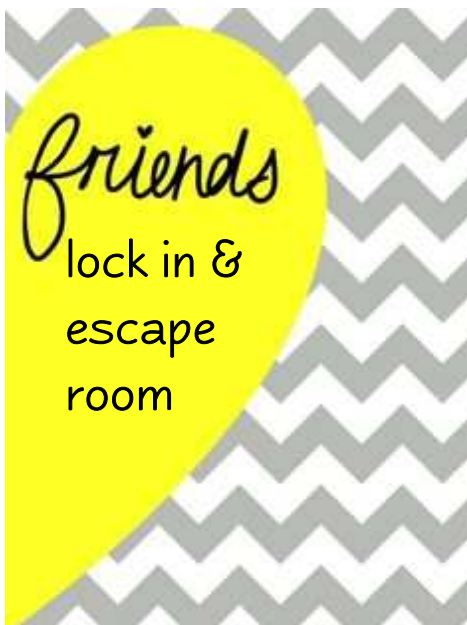
Cost is \$10

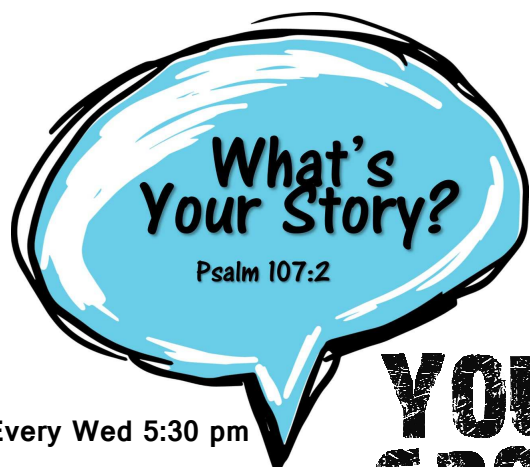
Girls bring soft drink

Guys bring snack

Invite your friends & sign up!

Bring sleeping bag, etc.





Every Wed 5:30 pm

# YOUTH GROUP



ReFuel meets every Sunday  
morning at 10:10 am!

Service Sunday Oct 20

Speed-Chatting Oct 23

Punny Party Oct 30

Socvember Nov 13

Youth Progress-  
sive Dinner &  
lock-in: Dec 6  
-7

save  
the  
date®

**Parent and Teen Night** is  
Sunday, October 6 at 6 pm.  
Dr. Debbie Van Aken will  
speak on over busy-ness.  
The youth will have a  
breakout discussion on  
dealing with stress. **Bring  
a pot luck dish to share** –  
drinks and dessert provid-  
ed. Invite your friends and  
their families.





**60 Year Anniversary** *(continued from p. 8)*

The church also hosts and engages in programs promoting interfaith dialogue, peace and social justice issues. Interested members attend events sponsored by The Peace Center in Langhorne, PA and POWER Bucks, newly-organized, grass-roots organization dedicated to finding solutions to issues of social injustice in Bucks County.

Our church building is a vital partner in the church's ministry. It serves as our meeting place for worshipping God, for educating and nurturing our members and attenders in the Christian faith, for housing ministries like Family Promise and MyCalling!, and for providing a welcoming, well-maintained, and safe meeting environment for community programs: several 12-step programs, Boy Scout Troop 10, and others.

The church's passion for service has taken it well beyond its Yardley home. Annual intergenerational mission trips have served those in need in inner cities and underserved areas of our country, on Native American reservations, and in areas of our country recovering from disaster in Maine, West Virginia, the Gulf Coast, Mexico, Washington, D.C., South Dakota, and the coastal areas of New Jersey and New York. The Life Giving Water Project, begun in 2002 by church members at YUMC, has grown to include other congregations and individuals around the U.S., and, to date, has funded the drilling of over 100 deep water wells that provide accessible clean water for people, crops, and livestock in villages in Zambia in southern Africa.

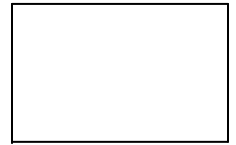
The future of Yardley United Methodist Church will be written by an inclusive and mission-minded community of Christians that continually looks for different and better ways to serve its neighbors, near and far, in Christ's name.



*more Golf  
Outing  
photos*



*Tidings of*  
**Yardley United Methodist Church**  
300 Langhorne Road  
Yardley, Pennsylvania 19067



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## Upcoming Events



**OUR**  
**MISSION**  
**CONTINUES**  
**October 20, 2019**

PumpkinPalooza!  
Fun Festival & Trunk  
or Treat! Oct 26 4-7 pm  
(raindate Oct 27, 2-4 pm)

**Fall 2019**

[www.yardleyumc.org](http://www.yardleyumc.org)

### October

- 6 Parent-Teen Pot-Luck Dinner and meeting
- 9 Special Administrative Council
- 11-12 Friends Lock-in and Escape Room
- 12 Pumpkin Unloading 8:30 am
- 13 World Communion Sunday
- 13 Trustees, 12:15 pm
- 13-31 Pumpkin Patch
- 20 Service Sunday
- 24 Pub Theology, 8 pm
- 26 PumpkinPalooza & Trunk or Treat, 4-7 pm
- 27 PumpkinPalooza rain date, 2-4 pm

### November

- 2 Charge Conference, 10:00 am Lansdale Christ UMC
- 10 Trustees, 12:15 pm
- 11 Administrative Council
- 14 Pub Theology, 8 pm
- 17 Newsletter Deadline
- 24 60th Anniversary Celebration