

Doug Lain Pastor

**Julia Hayes** 

Eunsoo Kang

Pastor

Pastor

# THE SEAGULL

#### Change

I once heard it said, "People don't mind change. They mind change being put upon them." I think there's a lot of truth to that statement. Most of us would like to see some changes in our lives, in our homes, and in our world, so long as we get to have some decision-making power in the changes we want to see. Meanwhile, we get pretty bent out of shape when something changes in our world that we have no control over. When a change occurs and no one asked for our opinion on the matter we get mad, anxious, or fearful.

But, change happens all the time. Some of it we have some control over and a lot of it we don't. One area in which we have a lot of control over the changes we make is in our faith journey. As United Methodist Christians we believe in the concept of "free will." This means that God allows us to make our own choices in life. We do not believe that God has pre-determined what will happen in our lives, or pre-determined whether we will have eternal life in heaven. The choice is up to us.

Every day we make choices that affect our own lives and the lives of those around us. Some are positive. Some are negative. And honestly, a lot are kind of neutral if we were to judge their value. But, over time these little changes and the occasional big ones lead us toward growth. I know I'm not the same person I was when I was 12, and I don't expect to be the same person I am today when I reach 80.

As your senior pastor, my question is how many of these choices we make will lead us to a better relationship with God? How many will draw us into a more faithful and fruitful discipleship of Jesus Christ? You have the ability to make some rather small or rather dramatic changes over the next year. What is God calling you to in this New Year? Where would you like to be at the end of 2025? What changes do you need to make?

The Apostle Paul tells us in Ephesians 4, "to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness." If you keep reading Ephesians 4 you will see examples that Paul gives as to how to do this. I hope we are constantly putting off the old self and putting on the new so that we can become more righteous and holy. This is the change that God would like to see in our life. But the choice is up to us. What changes do you hope to make in 2025?

I hope you all have a wonderful and blessed New Year of faithful growth and change. May the peace of Christ be with you.

Pastor Doug

**David Haley** Pastor Donna Pinckney Executive Director Carev Bland Director of Youth Music **Jamie Borum** Director of Finance Valerie Clark Administrative Assistant **Joseph Hughes** Asst. Choir Director & Accompanist Pam Hutsell Asst. Director of Children & Youth Ministries **Kelly Jewell** Morning Worship Musician Mel Kowalski Nursery Coordinator **Ryan Mansbery** Sound Technician **Gina Martin** Director of Facilities Lisa Menius Data Manager **Christina Norvell** Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries **Jackson Norvell** High School Youth Coordinator Mikki Perry Director of Congregational Care **Courtney Rickert** Preschool Director/Director of Children's Music **Kristin Selby** Director of Communications Mac Wallace Building Superintendent

Phone 910.256.4471 www.wrightsvilleumc.org <u>Office Hours</u> Mon-Thurs 8:30-2:30/ Fri 8:30-12

# Thank you, Julia Walker Jewell!

Julia Walker Jewell has blessed our congregation with her beautiful music and creative vision for almost 30 years. Our time in worship has been enriched with her music and her guidance to all of our choirs. Many Sundays of wonderful hymns and anthems, great years with our patriotic service music, pick your favorite hymn, and so many musical productions. What would the Christmas seasons have been without her direction of brilliant productions such as the Madrigal Dinner, A Christmas Carol or the Jazz Nativity? Who remembers children's productions throughout the years including Rainbow Fish and The Creation Story? And honestly, just how many feathers, sequins and yards of tulle have been used in the creation of costumes to bring her vision for these productions to life?

After decades of working with our congregation young and old, she is retiring from her position as the Director of Music and Worship. Julia will still be a member of our church family and we look forward to singing alongside her in the pew. Her leadership and dedication will be missed, but her legacy will continue. Please join us in heartfelt wishes that every moment of Julia's retirement is joyful and fulfilling. On Sunday January 5th we will celebrate Julia and her ministry at Wrightsville UMC. Please make plans to join us after each worship service for a reception and time for sharing.

We will miss your leadership Julia Walker Jewell, but we are so grateful for YOU and all that you have shared with us and celebrate with you as you move into the "retired" chapter of your life!







GOD SHOWS UP

Throughout the Bible, God meets people at their lowest moments. Join us this January as we journey through the inspiring stories of those who spoke with God.



#### Coffee with a Cop

Come get to know your Wrightsville Beach police officers!

> January 23 9-10:00 am Fellowship Hall



No agenda. No speeches.

Ask questions or share your concerns. The coffee is free and the conversation informal.



Have you experienced the loss of a spouse or significant other?

All men and women of WUMC are invited to join us for a Dutch treat luncheon with others who have been through the same difficult time.

> Johnny Luke's Restaurant Monday, January 27 11:30 am

We have no agenda or speeches.... just good food and good company. Please come and make some new friends!

Sign up on the deep roots bulletin board or email mikki@wrightsvilleumc.org

# <section-header>SAVE THE DATE2025DOBUSTIONDOBUST

All women are invited to join us for a weekend of sisterhood and support at Wrightsville on Oleander! Sessions will be Friday evening and Saturday from 8:30-3pm.

Registration opens January 13th. Email <u>pastorjulia@wrightsvilleumc.org</u> for more details.



#### EMPTY NESTERS & FRIENDS



## OYSTER ROAST

Friday, February 28 6:00 pm Hanover Seaside Club

MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!

#### Fellas in Fellowship

MEN'S RETREAT MARCH 6-9 Charleston, SC

IRON SHARPENS IRON RSVP TO CHRIS RICKERT AT CHRISTOPHERBRICKERT@GMAIL.COM OR 910-352-4867



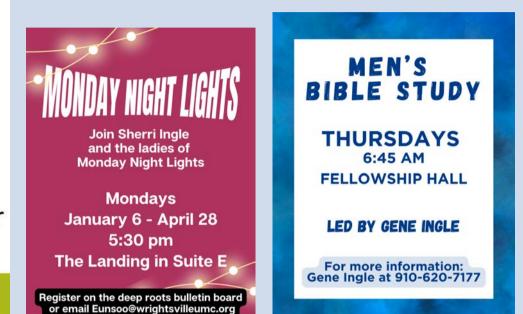


Sign up on the deep roots bulletin board today or email eunsoo@wrightsvilleumc.org.

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS (MEN & WOMEN)

Every Monday Starting February 3 7:30 am Wrightsville on Oleander

FOR MORE INFORMATION: PASTOR EUNSOO EUNSOO@WRIGHTSVILLEUMC.ORG



# SIGN UP TODAY

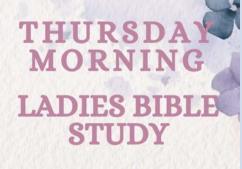
#### MOMS & FRIENDS' BIBLE STUDY

MEETS EVERY OTHER THURSDAY 9:15-10:30 AM WRIGHTSVILLE ON OLEANDER led by Pastor Julia

> January 16th January 30th February 13th February 27th March 13th Match 27th April 10th

NURSERY AVAILABLE COME AS YOU ARE & WHEN YOU CAN.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28



#### 9:00 AM PARLOR

For more information: Pastor Eunsoo eunsoo@wrightsvilleumc.org



Led by Donna Hickman



For more information: Pastor Eunsoo eunsoo@wrightsvilleumc.org



AT THE WOO!

THANK YOU FOR FEEDING OUR YOUTH!

# REMINDER

Administrative Council Retreat Saturday, January 25 9-12:00 pm Fellowship Hall



**Lydia Circle** will meet on Monday, January 13th at 4:00 pm at the home of Sandra Kittinger. Call Betsy Summey at 910-338-7379 with questions.

Ruth Circle will meet on Tuesday, January 14th at 10:00 am in the church Parlor. Call Marie Cooke at 910-620-4241 with any questions.

**Circle of Hope** will meet on Monday, January 14th at 12:00 pm in Room 206. Please contact Jeannie DeGaetano at 910-617-7268 for more information.

**Esther Circle** will meet on Tuesday, January 14th at 6:00 pm in Room 206. Contact Kristi Jarnigan at 910-538-5221 with questions.

# **A PAGE OF THANKS!**

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The Wrightsville UMC Staff would like to thank you, our church family, for the love offering given to us in late December. Though never expected, it is greatly appreciated. Thank you, also, for all the goodies you shared with us!

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness and generosity!

The Wrightsville United Women of Faith extend a heartfelt thank you to all the bakers, volunteers, and shoppers who contributed to making the 2024 Cookie Walk our biggest and most successful event yet!

This year, we had over **13,000 homemade cookies, cakes, candies, sweets, and even dog treats** donated.

The proceeds from this event will support the following ministries:

- The Methodist Home For Children
- Wilmington Domestic Violence Shelter
- WUMC Campus Ministries
- Step Up Wilmington
- Coastal Horizons Center
- A Safe Place
- W.A.R.M.
- The Olive Leaf Fund right here at Wrightsville UMC

Additionally, cookie trays were shared with the Wrightsville Beach Police & Samp; Fire Departments, our local Coast Guard, several assisted living facilities, including Carolina Bay, Liberty Commons, Cambridge Village, and Lower Cape Fear Hospice. Cookies were also donated to Project Cookie Drop via the USO of Camp Lejeune.

Your generous contributions made a meaningful difference in our community, and we are so grateful for your support. Thank you for making this event truly special!



To the Agape Sunday school class of WUMC,

I wish to thank all of you for the gift made to the Life Center in memory of Bill. He would have been so honored.

With love, Florence McClain and family Chairperson Vice Chairperson Secretary Lay Members to Annual Conference

Staff Parish Relations Ministry Chair Finance Ministry Chair Trustees Chair Nurture Ministry Team Chair Outreach Ministry Team Chair Spiritual Formation Ministry Team Chair Worship Ministry Team Chair Financial Secretary UMM President UWF President Young Adult Representative (under 40) UMYF President Lay Leader

Kim Edwards Emily Lackey Jeannie DeGaaetano Barbara Gowdy Donna Pincknev Dick Morrison Barbara Gowdy JC Lvle TBD by Trustee Committee Nancy Noel May Scott Whisnant Donna Hickman TBD Jamie Borum Tom Mansberv Melissa Wagenseller Meredith Harris Everett Lain Michelle Clark-Bradley

#### <u>Class of 2025</u>

Teresa Smith Chris Brown Jason Toups

#### Members At Large: Class of 2026

Cathy Barlow Clayton Hamerski John Sandlin

#### **Class of 2027**

Jeff Turpin Lesli Musselwhite Kent Locklear

#### Wrightsville UMC 2025 Church Budget 2025 Budget Approved by the Administrative Council on September 23, 2024.

Conference apportionment	\$175,169
Personnel & benefits	\$1,122,328
Administrative expenses	\$84,200
Utilities	\$63,000
Maintenance expenses	\$227,750
Insurance	\$85,000
Outreach	\$50,000
Racial Unity	\$2,000
Worship	\$8,000
Youth	\$46,950
Spiritual Formation	\$20,250
Music	\$28,500
Finance	\$20,000
Fellowship	\$7,000

A note from the finance office. Contact Jamie Borum will any questions.

# **IRS**

According to IRS regulations, in order for your contribution to be credited to 2024, you must have it into the church office (or postmarked) no later than December 31, 2024.



*bountiful fruit* The Wrightsville United Methodist Church Outreach Committee supports and nurtures individuals and organizations who are in need in our community, nation and world. We also seek to provide members of our congregation opportunities to define their own ministry in service of Christ.



#### Wrightsville Plunge 2025

Join us at Wrightsville Beach on January 1st and kick off your New Year by Plungin' for a Purpose! The 9th Annual Wrightsville Plunge benefits <u>Communities in Schools of Cape Fear</u>, which works to help keep kids in school and on the path to graduation. What a great way to support our region's youth and have a blast at the same time! Register by click <u>here</u> to save your place for the 2025 Plunge!



Cans of Beanie Weenies Canned Meats Brown Pasta Large juices (no glass) Brown paper grocery bags w/handles





"Meals of Love" lunches at Lower Cape Fear Hospice and Life Care Center make it possible for family members to remain close to loved ones. Our church hopes to provide simple lunches such as sandwiches, pizza, etc for 15-20 people on the third Wednesday of each month between 11:00 am and noon. No utensils or drinks needed. Food should be dated and put in disposable containers.

If individuals and or groups are interested in providing a lunch, please contact Kay Warren at kwarren51@hotmail.com or 910-231-3667 for dates available and more details. Dates to provide lunches are January 15, February 19, March 19, April 16, May 21 & June 18. Thank you!



ALL STH GRADERS ARE WELCOME! JAN 26 FEB 23 MARCH 23 APRIL 27 3:00-4:30 PM FELLOWSHIP HALL Questions? christina@wrightsvilleumc.org











#### Click here to register for the mission trip this summer.



4:12 YOUTH MISSION TRIP SUMMER OF 2025 **CROSS CONNECTION** ASHEVILLE, NC JULY 27-AUGUST IST \$650 (FUNDRAISERS WILL BE AVAILABLE)

Questions? christina@wrightsvilleumc.org

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#### wrightsville remix

ON WEDNESDAYS

Dinner + Joyful for Jesus + Young Adult & Family Fellowship & Discussion

5:15- 6:00 pm: Family Dinner 6:00- 7:00 pm: Joyful 4 Jesus (ages 4-4th grade) Adult Bible Study Nursery (ages 3 & under)

> JANUARY 8 & 22 FERUARY 5 & 19 MARCH 5 & 19 APRIL 2

Questions? christina@wrightsvilleumc.org CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!

#### Palm Sunday ( Palooza

Sunday, April 13th

9:15-11:15 am

Come enjoy donuts and have your pictures taken with our two guest donkeys...

Sterling and Sherlock! All ages invited!

#### Click here to order your taco kit!



Order a support the 4:12 High School ski trip!

> Order through the link by 8pm on January 13th!

Pick up in front of the church Tuesday, January 14th between 5-5:30 pm

Questions? christina@wrightsvilleumc.org

#### Children & Youth No Sunday School

Enjoy worship & communion as a family.

> January 5th February 2nd March 2nd April 6th May 4th

SATURDAY, MARCH 15 J 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

We are excited to announce a district-wide mission event! With multiple opportunities to get involved, there will be ways for all ages to come together and help at a number of locations in the Harbor district. Please save the date for **Saturday, March 15, 2025**. More details and registration will be available soon.

### **January 2025 Birthdays**

- 1. Kitsie Auman, Lisa Weeks, Carol Brown
- 2. Keith Carter, Chelsey Files, Amy Chang
- 3. Tyler Bagley, Waylan Dobbins, Jayson Williams
- 4. Phyllis Kosicki, Jim Hardee, Janet Allen, Tim Neatherly, Kingsley Soles, Amy Akers, Matthew McLain
- 5. Kris Ludtke, Tonya Blalock, Paul Knott, Jackson Isear, Millie Marks, Peg Braddy
- Tom Rowland, Ella Kullberg 6.
- 7.
- Stephanie Landon, Reece Jones, Ludo Zirilli, Amy Leister, Conor Kerr, Jim Ross, Thomas Whitney 8.
- 9. Sara James Ham
- 10. Sidney Nykanen, Gwen O'Ouinn, Chris Painter, Paul Clarkson, John Pollard, Chloe Norvell, Camie Greene
- 11. Kay Warren, Jason Tam, Erik Schuette, Campbell Neatherly, Landon Mazer, Isabella Rader, Loren Hodges, **Carrie Roberts**
- 12. Katie Dattilo, Tommy Huettl, Jody Murphey
- 13. John Midgett, Ralf Henry
- 14. John David Allen, Stone Turner, Grace Smith, Lee Bruton, Rocco Rizzo, Justin Batson
- 15. Holly Ray, Patrick Renton, Justin Leas, Ron Reinke, James Kehaya, Wick McIntyre, Alison Carroll
- 16. Bobbie Edwards, Lisa Brewster, JaNell Dowless, Jenny Crittenden, Campbell Collins, Victoria Holtberg, John Windham
- 17. Ted Hughes, Pat Britton, Jean Sandlin, Ed Wagenseller, Allison Tam, Kennedy Farrell, Josh Salem, Virginia Kehaya, Mason Akers, Collin Spaller, Hadley Hodges, Leo Primavera
- 18. Vince Hernandez, Shawn Hicks, Savannah Speight, Mason Buckner
- 19. Linda Avant
- 20. Sandy Spiers, Taylor Fagan, Evans Lackey, Caroline Steadman, Jessica Hodges, Marley Andersen, Jordy Rawl
- 21. Judy Noll, Tonya Boulware, Jackson Davenport, Susan Flater
- 22. Linda Coleman, Allen Riggan, Regan Scherer, Hudson Smith, Melanie Reinke, Joyce Lewis, Cambell Nay, Matthew Maus, Cy Thompson, Evans Kehaya
- 23. Dawn Williams, Jonathan Harris, Jackson Norvell, Jack Scherer, Brent Brouse, Nikki Willetts, Charlie Williams, Molly Gillis
- 24. Carol Lander, Terri Littlejohn, Spencer Jarnagin, Pam Hutsell, Presley Dills, Oakley Benson, Mary Deal
- 25. Frank Efird, Dallas Elliott, Niel Brooks, Ryan Bradley, Ainsley Senter, Kyle Heustess, Ben Griffin
- 26. Lois Steele, Gene Ingle, Sherri Ingle, Kevin Hampson, Bob Stone, Tara Sullivan, Steve Campbell
- 27. Frances Mitchell, Steve Wells, Tyler Newman, Jen Fagan, Whitney Adams
- 28. Grady Richardson, Luke Menius, Gary Cram, Debbie Smith, Natalya Krimmel, Mercer Rhyne
- 29. Cameron Pearson
- 30. Anne Pleasants, Gina Good, Ben Kittinger, Luli Nickerson, Tiffany Knight
- 31. Doug Hewett, Ann Lyon, Melanie Shelton, Britt Baker, Tom Harris, Jennifer Emerson, Bryce Smith, Blaire Harkey, David Gill

If you have news to share with your church family, please email Kristin Selby (kristin@wrightsvilleumc.org) by January 15th so it may be included in the next newsletter.



#### Prayer List for January 2025

"Pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." (James 5:16)

Sandee Swain Frances Fiel Doug Leonard The Family of Baker Williams David Culp Janet Sutton Pam E. Carroll Dina Corpening Betty Shumpert Patsy Miles Mary Price Bryan Janney Bev Pitts Marian Careatti Stephanie Jamieson

Anna McDowell Jason Herring Brian Eure Linda Banks Grey Davis Emilia Torello Sarah Burris Joann Harmon Bobbie Edwards Roger Hill Pastor David Haley Nicole Buffong Judie Eakins Terri Littlejohn Bill Barr Hector Sanchez Peace in Israel Carolyn Finley Lydia Desmond Shelvie Harris Pat Boyer Don Steele Jim Farrior Janet Harper Jonathan Rowell TC Godwin Lisa Anderson US Military & their families

A requested prayer of thanks from many who have benefited from your prayers.

#### Condolences to the families of...

Billy Edwards, David Leonard (Doug Leonard's father), Charles K. O'Quinn (Jerry O'Quinn's brother), Connie Humphries, Gaye Rowland, Baker Williams

We encourage you to lift up the names of people in our church, your family, or friends you know personally so that the church might pray for them.

If you would like to add a person's name to the prayer list please contact Mikki Perry at mikki@wrightsvilleumc.org.



Worship in the Sanctuary at 8:15,	the 8:15,			20	Sunc 9:	Sunday School Hour 9:45-10:45 am
9:45, and 11:15 am Coffee Hour 9:15 & 10:45 am	Dur 5 am	R			Nur 3 years & & 1 2 years the	Nursery provided. 3 years & under during 8:15 & 11:15 services. 2 years and under during the 9:45 service.
NUS	NOM	TUE	WED	тни	FRI	SAT
			1 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	2	<b>3</b> 2pm Funeral Service of Gaye Rowland	<b>4</b> 2pm Funeral Service of Billy Edwards 8pm NA
<b>5</b> 11:45am Youth Faith Keeper Planning Meeting	<b>6</b> 9:30am Peace, Love & Yoga 5:30pm Monday Night Lights	7 6pm Young Women's Group	<b>8</b> 5:15pm wrightsville remix 7pm HS Bible Study	<b>9</b> 6:45am Men's Bible Study 9am Ladies Bible Study 10am Women's Bible Study 8pm AA	10	<b>11</b> 9am New Member Class 8pm NA
12 4pm God's Girlz 4:45pm High School Youth Escape Room Event 5:30pm 4:12 Youth (Middle School only)	<b>13</b> 9:30am Peace, Love & Yoga 4pm Lydia Circle 5:30pm Monday Night Lights	14 10am Ruth Circle 12pm Circle of Hope 5:30pm Outreach Committee 6pm Esther Circle	<b>15</b> 5:30pm Confirmation 7pm HS Bible Study	16 6:45am Men's Bible Study 9am Ladies Bible Study 9:15am Moms & Friends' Bible Study 10am Women's Bible Study 8pm AA	17	18 <sup>8pm NA</sup>
19	20 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	<b>21</b> 6pm Young Women's Group	<b>22</b> 5:15pm wrightsville remix 6pm Middle School Boys 7pm HS Bible Study	<b>23</b> 6:45am Men's Bible Study 9am Ladies Bible Study 9am Coffee with a Cop 10am Women's Bible Study 8pm AA	24	<b>25</b> 9am Administrative Council Retreat 8pm NA
26 Bam Children of JOY/Family Planning Meeting 10:45am Baptism Brunch 3pm Faithful 5th 4pm Empty Nesters & Friends 5pm Children's Choir Rehearsal 530pm 4:12 Youth	<b>27</b> 9:30am Peace, Love & Yoga 11:30am Healing Connection Luncheon 5:30pm Monday Night Lights	<b>28</b> 6pm HS Ski Trip Parent Meeting	<b>29</b> 5:30pm Confirmation 7pm HS Bible Study	<b>30</b> 6:45am Men's Bible Study 9am Ladies Bible Study 9:15am Moms & Friends' Bible Study 10am Women's Bible Study 8pm AA	31	



4 Live Oak Drive / PO Box 748 Wrightsville Beach, NC. 28480

**Return Services Requested** 

# Deep Roots Bountiful Frui (it happens here.

#### Please check out the following information...

Letter from Pastor Doug	Page 1	Outreach	Page 9
Thank you, Julia!	Page 2	Children of JOY	Page 10
January Events	Page 3	4:12 Youth	Page 11
Save the Date	Page 4	Family Ministry	Page 12
Adult Studies	Page 5	January Birthdays	Page 13
More Information	Page 6	Prayer List	Page 14
A Page of Thanks	Page 7	January Calendar	Page 15
Administrative Council 2025	Page 8		

