

## **Church Profile 2025**

**Wesley Freedom UMC**

**961 Johnsville Rd**

**Eldersburg, MD 21784**

Carroll County      Central Maryland District

Parsonage \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  No      Housing Allowance \$22,477      Salary \$52,000

Number of worship services: 3

Average Worship Attendance 370 in-person/170 on-line

Number of appointed clergy: 2      Number of additional paid staff: 10

**What are the characteristics of the church and community?** Wesley Freedom is situated in the thriving Eldersburg and Sykesville communities. Wesley Freedom values children and youth and serves hundreds of young people weekly through a church preschool, large Sunday School, and dynamic youth ministries. The church has many community partners to support neighbors through feeding ministries, personal hygiene items, and mental health and recovery. Wesley Freedom values careful Biblical scholarship and allows space for wholehearted conversations and diversity in convictions. Our pastors promote anti-racism and LGBTQ+ affirmation.

**What is the vision for the next 3-5 years?** The vision is more about who the church is called to be in the community than what they hope to do primarily by modeling graceful community.

The vision also includes expanding the worshiping congregation and community engagement through a culture of invitation (Launched in 2023) and developing communities of belonging so that every worshiper has the opportunity to “belong” and grow in faith (2024 focus).

### **What are the expectations of the pastor?**

The AP will join a healthy, collaborative staff team and engage in the church’s mission to share God’s grace in ways which help persons belong, grow, and serve. A galvanizing leader who is passionate about inviting people to explore faith and establish places of belonging. The AP leads and equips the discipleship team (supporting 20+ adult groups), teaches pastor studies, and contributes to ministry with children and youth ministry teams (200+ young people in program weekly). The AP will lead community engagement ministries and contribute to missions of compassion and justice.

Opportunities also abound for living out one’s calling by sharing in preaching, worship leadership, celebrating the sacraments, pastoral care, communication, and ordering the life of the church.