

WELLS SPRING

A Publication of Wells Church

A United Methodist Congregation

July 2026

To What Big Dream Is God Calling You?

By Sue Keen Hyland

Pastor, Tuesday Morning Ministries

*It's a new dawn,
It's a new day,
It's a new life for me.
And I'm feeling good.*



Hyland

Can you hear the words of Nina Simone singing to you? I sure can, and I for one am excited about all of the possibilities. Wells is welcoming its new pastor, the Rev. Dr. Lewis Logan!

I am so excited about all the possibilities and the dreams that we will all dream as we move Wells Memorial United Methodist Church into a new day.

I know this type of transition is not something that Wells is used to, but my prayer is that we will live into this new day and this new opportunity together, knowing that the God who seeks us, loves us and walks with us, continues to be with us as we transition into a new day and as we dream new dreams.

I've been thinking about big, God-sized dreams, and I hope that in the coming days, you might think about the same. What God-sized dream is God calling you to? Where is God asking you to go? Who is God asking you to connect with? What is God asking you to put away to move forward? What is God asking you to pick-up and run with? Isn't dreaming fun?

My friend, God is calling you, God is calling me, and God is calling us. How will you answer?



Photo by Greg Campbell

Q&A with Wells' New Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Lewis Logan

Editor's Note: The Rev. Dr. Lewis Logan is Wells Church's new senior pastor. He will join us on Sunday, July 12, for his first sermon. Dr. Logan comes to us from Aldersgate UMC and previously served churches in California and Georgia in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a graduate of Morehouse College and holds advanced degrees from Candler School of Theology and Columbia Theological Seminary. He is married to Bishop Sharma Lewis Logan of the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church. Dr. Logan responded to a few questions about his new role here at Wells.

What are your first impressions of Wells?

My first impressions of the Wells family were from the Ash Wednesday experience on Feb. 18, 2026. The pastor and members were warm, welcoming and responsive in worship and fellowship. Now with the prospects of partnership in ministry, I shake my head when I consider the potential and innate giftedness of each of you I've had the pleasure of meeting. WOW!

What are your priorities?

Developing relationships based upon respect and love with both Wells

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July 1	Shawn Carter, Alix Williams
July 3	Diane Grubbs
July 4	Tommy Smith
July 5	Debi Lewis, Shelley Tonkel Herndon
July 7	Mary Lundgren
July 8	Doris Smith
July 10	Carl Curtis Jr.
July 12	Maurice Hinton
July 14	Tommy Smith
July 15	Bruce Reynolds
July 16	Judi Adams, Debbie Konkle-Parker, Mary Stubblefield
July 17	Janet Moore
July 19	Haley Jones Wells, Renee Green, Jill Nicholas
July 20	Stephanie Feigler, Cameron Williams
July 21	Margrit Garner, Mark Weilenman
July 22	Lewis Logan
July 23	Joey Armstrong, Loy Moncrief, Kaleb Johnson
July 24	Steve Norquist
July 25	Jason Bobbs, Woody Woodward
July 26	Andrew Pates, Passion Sims
July 27	Akech Garkouth, Kim Jordan, Richard Haynes
July 28	Kristie Bobinger
July 30	Kathryn Dollarhide, Steve Rozman

Dr. Logan
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members and the larger community is key. Nothing is more important than cultivating trusting connections for the purpose of sharing and experiencing the transformational love of Jesus.

What strengths do you think you bring as a pastor for Wells?

During the staff onboarding I asked, “What are your superpowers?” While I am certain that you, the Wells family, are quite familiar with theirs, I will posit that mine is empathy. From that superpower comes three proclivities or strengths: One is for intentional listening to the Holy Spirit, and the needs of people. Two, is as a protector and/or advocate. In the presence of the injustices of bullying on every level, I am fiercely loyal to people I care about. The third is as an encourager. Every disciple is gifted by the Holy Spirit and therefore capable of expressing God’s presence and power in impactful ways no matter what happens in life. I enjoy seeing people thrive!

What is most important to you in conducting and leading worship?

What is most important to the conducting and leading worship experiences is discerning and anticipating the presence and leadership of the Holy Spirit, by giving excellence in prayerful planning, meaningful devotional representations, well-prepared musical offerings, relevant biblical preaching, gratitude-based stewardship and intentional discipleship.

The modern church overall faces many challenges with intergenerational declining Sunday worship attendance, and ministry participation. Questions of relevance with new generations prevail. How can we address those disturbing trends?

The global and local modern Church must see the “disturbing trends” of diminishing intergenerational membership as opportunities to reimagine new possibilities by intentionally meeting all people’s needs. We have to be courageous enough to recognize through honest and probative conversations and plenaries that our calling is not to merely maintain traditional systems and structures. We are called to be led by the Holy Spirit in the uncomfortable dynamic of evolving into authentically Jesus-centered disciples, connections and communities. Ultimately, we must see people as the “end” and not a “means to an end.”

What can we do to help you lead us as pastor?

Let’s choose to be partners in this leadership experience. All of us have roles that require the coordination of our Spiritual gifts. In 1 Corinthians 12, all of us are operating together as a coordinated and intentional body with many parts. Respecting and supporting each other’s unique assignments are requisite to following and leading in

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2026 Wells Church Giving

Jan.	\$44,428	July
Feb.	\$30,345	Aug.
March	\$37,910	Sept.
April	\$39,164	Oct.
May	\$32,575	Nov.
June		Dec.

Based on the 2026 budget, \$43,897 is needed monthly to support operations and ministries of the church in 2026.

Wells Memorial United Methodist Church Staff

Dr. Lewis Logan, Pastor

Chuck Reynolds Choir Director	Jamie Ward Accompanist	Ashley Rogers Children’s Director	Sue Keen Hyland Pastor, Tuesday Morning Ministries
Harry Tiebe Facility Manager	Jane Everly Pastoral Assistant	Kay Olliver Treasurer	Elaine Collins Nursery Coordinator

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Wells Notes

Blessing of the Backpacks

The summer is going by quickly and it is time to think about returning to the classrooms for another school year. Wells wants to get everyone off to a good school year start with a blessing of the backpacks on July 26 during the morning worship service.

Students and school-related adults are invited to bring their backpacks, lunch boxes, totes or briefcases to the altar for a few minutes of prayer and reflection as we set out for the school year ahead. Everyone will receive a small token as a tangible reminder of the love and support WellsFolk feel for our students and educators. There will be a splash party following the service for children to cool off and enjoy some summer fun.

Welcome Reception

Everyone is invited to a reception to warmly welcome our new pastor, the Rev. Dr. Lewis Logan.

The reception will be held following the 10 a.m. worship service on July 12 in the Tonkel Fellowship Center.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Logan and his family.

Preaching Schedule

Our new pastor, Dr. Lewis Logan, will join us on July 12. Ashley Rogers will be preaching on July 5.

Dr. Logan's theme for his July sermons is **"Forging Family Foundations, Futures in Strong Present Relationships Valuing One Another."**

Scripture: *Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them. Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.*

— Ephesians 4:29-32

What's Been and What's to Come

By Ashley Rogers
Children's Director

Whew! June was a complete whirlwind of activity for me, both personally and in my life as a Wells UMC staff member. I'm excited for some downtime in July but wouldn't trade a moment in June for anything!



June started strong with my getting to attend the Mississippi United Methodist Annual Conference, which is always a blessing to attend. Reconnecting with old friends while hearing and voting on the UMC's plans for the upcoming year is never dull and something I always look forward to!

Rogers

As soon as Annual Conference wrapped, Rev. Sue and I went straight into Operation Shoestring VBS and got to host 30 of the most amazing middle school students imaginable. The tweens, their leaders who stayed from Operation Shoestring, and our own Wells kitchen volunteers allowed for an amazing week of learning about peace, discovering some exciting, lesser-told stories in the Bible (read Abigail's story in 1 Samuel 25!), and letting creativity shine in daily arts and crafts. We're already dreaming and scheming about how we can keep them connected once the school year begins again!

Once VBS ended, Rev. Sue and I had two days to recover, prep and pack for the youth trip to Memphis! After a delicious pizza dinner on our arrival night, we woke up bright and early and headed to our first mission site, Mana House, where we served the 50 or so clients who came to shower, receive fresh clothes, hygiene products, hot coffee, clean water and multivitamins. After a morning at Mana House, we headed to SOS (Service Over Self) to help provide some sweet summer relief to the staff crews re-roofing homes across Memphis. Our teens shared popsicles with the crews and especially liked tossing the treats onto the roofs, so the workers didn't have to unclip their safety harnesses. Wednesday saw us heading to Room in the Inn, a collaborative mission of churches across Memphis that work together to provide warm shelter every night from November through March and then as needed during the warmer months. We served in their long-term family complex that also houses their recuperative care mission, which provides a safe space for folks who are released from the hospital without having stable shelter to return to. Our youth were so engaged in all we did and really allowed themselves some true moments of vulnerability when discussing homelessness and all that stands in the way of people "getting back on their feet" again. I could not have been prouder of our teenagers the entire time we were away and know some deep change took place in many of their hearts. I am wildly appreciative of our Wells family who makes it all possible! Thank you for helping these young people get out of our Jackson bubble for a few days and experience a bigger slice of the world!

Coming up on July 26 is our annual Blessing of the Backpacks during worship, followed by our summer splash party immediately after worship! Families are welcome to attend, and visitors are always very welcome!

Write Ashley at ashleyrogers@wellschurch.org.

Electronic Service Requested



Dr. Logan

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love. In my opinion, discerning our collective vision and mission means “optimal input from everyone assures optimal outcomes for everyone.”

You are Wells’ first African American Pastor. What does that mean to you and what should it mean to us?

From a personal standpoint, I see being Wells’ first African American pastor as a blessing and an invitation. The blessing is the gift of being welcomed into this faith community as a first among “firsts” in your first 100 years history. It gives all of us the sacred space to be unapologetically who we are. In one way or another, many of us have been or are first in our own unique journeys. From a collective Wells Church perspective, our individual choices and collective faithfulness have brought us together for such a time as this. This Kairos “Divine” moment, this

shared assignment is far from accidental. It is the result of bold faith community, and pastoral choices which have bequeathed to us a rich courageous legacy suitable for fearless reimagining. Therefore, right here and right now in the heart of the confederacy, at a time when bullying, bigotry, and hatred are again on the rise, we are called together in the love of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit to be both Christ in culture and Christ against culture (Niebuhr) — to bear witness faithfully in the world as it is, while also pointing toward the world God intends and creates through and with us (Brueggemann, Cone, and Guterrez).

How should we pray for you and the church?

Jesus said in Luke 18:1 that we should always pray and not grow

weary. Please pray Wells family that we have the willingness to listen, the humility to learn, the strength to love (King), the audacity to lead and the power to repeat. Thank you for this opportunity to reflect.

Thank you Dr. Logan and welcome to Wells.

Write Dr. Logan at drloganlistening@wellschurch.org.

To view a video message from Dr. Logan, please scan this QR code.

