

# Please send emails to the Borough Council of West Chester and attend the meeting in Borough Hall, Tues., Aug. 15, at 6:30 pm.

Write to: Sheila Vaccaro, Chair of the Parking Committee; [svaccaro@west-chester.com](mailto:svaccaro@west-chester.com)

CC:

[ldbaptiste@west-chester.com](mailto:ldbaptiste@west-chester.com); [mstefano@west-chester.com](mailto:mstefano@west-chester.com); [ldorsey@west-chester.com](mailto:ldorsey@west-chester.com); [smetrick@west-chester.com](mailto:smetrick@west-chester.com); [ddidomenico@west-chester.com](mailto:ddidomenico@west-chester.com); [svaccaro@west-chester.com](mailto:svaccaro@west-chester.com); [bflynn@west-chester.com](mailto:bflynn@west-chester.com); [pmccoy@west-chester.com](mailto:pmccoy@west-chester.com); [bmcginnis@west-chester.com](mailto:bmcginnis@west-chester.com); [parkingdepartment@west-chester.com](mailto:parkingdepartment@west-chester.com)

Facts- On Tuesday evening, August 8, at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Parking Committee in WC, Parking Director Ramsey Reiner recommended that the 20 year parking lease with our church should be revoked and the 18 spaces that we used should be auctioned off by lottery to neighbors. We presently pay \$540 a month (\$30 per space) for those 18 spots. Ms. Reiner believes they could get \$75 per month per space. Her recommendation can be viewed on this youtube link of last Tuesday's meeting at 46 minutes and 54 seconds: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=txXyJT1rrhQ>.

Losing the parking lease would have a hugely negative impact on the life of our church in town. I've included a fact sheet of all the groups that would be affected by the loss of parking (see attached). Honestly, I am not sure how our church could continue to function at our present level, worshiping, serving, and building community in the borough of West Chester if we lose those parking spaces.

We need as many people as possible to show up at the borough council meeting on Tuesday, August 15, at 6:30 to show that we strongly oppose this recommendation. This is the working meeting of the borough council where the issue will be raised in the Parking Committee report. They have the power to approve the recommendation and give us 60 days notice before our parking spaces disappear.

We also need you to send an email to all of our borough officials, addressing the email to Sheila Vaccaro, Chairperson of the Parking Committee, and then copying all of the email addresses above, which include council members, the borough manager, the mayor, and the director of parking services.

This is important- please send a respectful, courteous, and concerned email. Pick one of several ministries/community groups on the attached sheet and emphasize how important the work of the church is to you and to our community. We all should include the phrase, "We have been committed to serving the borough of West Chester for over 200 years. Please let us continue." If dozens of emails come from our congregation, and neighbors, they will take notice and perhaps reconsider.

Finally, pray. The future of the Methodist witness in the borough of West Chester is at stake if this recommendation passes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rev. Dr. Truman Brooks

Senior Pastor

UMCWC