



# Wesley Park Weekly

June 10, 2018

## Pastor's Page

As a Community of Faith, we share life together. We share beginnings. And we share endings, including times of death. Sometimes we do not know what to do when someone in the congregation dies. While there are no obligations, consider what you might do when someone in the church dies. Begin with prayer, then follow where that leads.

"I sit down and write someone in the family a note, thinking about the interactions I had with their loved one. I have always felt it important for the family to know that their loved one made an impression on others."

"I am a cookie-maker. When someone dies I usually begin baking. Guests and visitors like to have a cookie while they stop by to pay their respects to the family. Plus, when I am baking and mixing all the ingredients, I am thinking about all the things that came together to make that person special."

"I was taught by my parents to always attend the funeral or visitation, whether I knew the person well or not. It's a way of saying that we are connected in Christ. It feels respectful of that person's life to be a witness to the celebration of eternal life. Sometimes, when I haven't known the person very well, I hear about their life and I wish I would have been able to know them better before they died."

"I make prayer-shawls. I think about the person, and a scripture comes to mind which I write down and keep in front of me. I choose the colors and pattern carefully so that they reflect what I know and admire about the person. And then, I pray and I knit. They happen at the same time. As the blanket grows it reminds me that we are covered in prayer and warmed by the love of others."

"I always think that bereaved families are overwhelmed the days after a death. There is so much to do, so many questions to answer, so many people to see. Often they do not rest and have not eaten well, and are tired. So, when a person dies I place three notes on my calendar, to call upon them in one week, one month, and two months later. That might mean I write a note or stop by or give them a call. I have found that people still need to tell their story after the busyness of the funeral is over."

"I try to avoid cliches. I try not to say, 'God never gives you more than you can handle.' Or that 'God must have needed your little one in heaven.' I just sit with my friend. And sometimes I'll say, 'Tell me again what happened that day...'"

*Ros Dea Martin*

Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Monday, June 11	Young Adults, 7 pm Finance, 7 pm	Ken McKenney	Pat & Kathy Carruthers Dan & Dena Scribner
Tuesday, June 12	Roger Johnson Funeral, 11 am SPRC, 5:30 pm Mission Trip Meeting, 7 pm	June Jones Skyler Maitner Lynn Vander Lugt	Jeff & Pam Osborn Keith & Pat Warren
Wednesday, June 13	Women's Prayer, 10 am		
Thursday, June 14	Praise Team!, 5 pm Softball Game, 6:15 pm Mission Trip Meeting, 7 pm	Ross Vanderlaan	
Friday, June 15		Sheryl Jones	Charlie & Anna Rabine
Saturday, June 16	Raised Bed Build, 9 am	Gail Gibbard	
Sunday, June 17	Foundations Service, 9:15 am Youth Group, 9:30 am Fellowship, 10:30 am IMPACT, 11 am	Cindy Lang	

## Blue Bags Ministry Share Offering

### 100% Ministry Shares Challenge

Received To Date:

**\$12,526**

**(22 Weeks Completed)**

Remaining Balance Needed:

**\$38,810**

**(30 Weeks Remaining)**

Offered last week: **\$906**

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## *The Prayers of Our Hearts*

**Ross & Erin Vanderlaan** - Praise! Our friends got placement of their son on 6/1/18. We are so thankful their family has grown. Please keep Kay and Ray in thought and prayer for the finalization to go smoothly.

**David Waugh & Tena Podein** - Prayers for dear Kathy and her family. Lord bring them peace.

**Val Rienks** - Prayers for Pennie Jackson. She suffered a stroke as a result of a blood clot on Memorial day. She is out of ICU.

**Barb Schondelmayer** - The Master Arts Theatre actors were superb and awesome. Very inspiring.

**Delores Sanford** - Our service was wonderful. Thank you Master Arts.

**Kathy Challa** - I only have a short time they say.

**Sallie McLean** - Please pray for the staff that left Metron. I hope they keep in touch with me. I will miss them.

**Freddi Angus** - Master Arts Theatre is enlightening and wonderful.

**Kathy DenHollander** - Last week was not great. My brother with pneumonia had an x-ray that showed no improvement so they started him on new meds. He then went to the ER with what he thought was a stroke. It turned out to be a seizure. We are waiting on the results of the latest chest x-rays. My sister had a successful surgery but then developed a reaction to a medication and ended up in the ICU for 4 days.

## **Raised Flower Beds**

We have several ways for your to donate to the flower beds. You can put money in a pew envelope and mark it "flower bed", put your loose change in the flower pot at the information desk, or bring your pop cans today and put them in the trailer outside. Raised bed building is on Saturday, June 16, at 9 am.

## **Family and Youth Camp**

Save the date for this summer's family camp at Lakeview United Methodist Camp in Lakeview, MI. Dates are August 17-19, 2018. Only 4 sites left. Please see Val (wearing the camping t-shirt) at the Information Desk for more information or to make your reservations.

## **Faith & Community Building Summer Events:**

Please join us for one or all of these events. Invite your neighbors, friends, family, etc. Help us spread the word to people living in our community!

### **Potluck & Movie - Tuesday, June 26th - 6 pm**

We will provide hotdogs and lemonade. See signup at the welcome desk to see what you can bring. Because of copyright/licensing rules, I cannot list the title of the film. I can tell you that it is about two hours and is rated PG13. See Anna Spencer with questions.

### **Bikes & Books - Saturday, July 7th from 10 am -1 pm**

The Spoke Folks Bike Repair Truck will be here ready to tune up your bike and those of our community! Repairs are free. We will also be giving away stacks of new and used Kids books. Every child will receive several books to take home, while supplies last. Sign up to volunteer at this event or with prep work.

### **Faith & Tacos - Wednesday, August 8th - 6 pm**

Join us for a taco bar prepared by Laura Szczepanek and a night of conversations about faith. Questions and food will be provided. All ages welcome. Bring a friend, relative, or neighbor with you to join in on the fun!

## **Summer Women's Book Study**

**Join women from our church and community** as we study the book *Uninvited* by Lysa Terkeurst. The book and video series chronicle Terkeurst's personal experiences of rejection. The book examines the roots of rejection and its ability "to poison relationships from the inside out, including her relationship with God. *Uninvited* reminds us of a love (God's love) that can never be diminished, tarnished, shaken, or taken—a love that does not reject or uninvite.

**When:** Wednesday Nights this summer from 6:30-8:30 pm  
June 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>; July 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>; August 1<sup>st</sup>

### **Sign up at the Welcome Desk Sunday!**

Let us know if you need a book or childcare there as well. **Contact Phyllis Prentiss (616) 288-5632 with any questions. The last date to order a book (\$10) and optional study guide (\$10) through the church is Sunday, June 17th. Money is due when you receive your book at the first class.**

## **Cinch Sac**

Stop by the Information desk to purchase a cinch sac for the youth group to take on their mission trip to South Dakota.

