



Wesley Park Weekly

January 1, 2017

Prescriptions for Wholeness

Happy New Year! A quick look at the calendar brings to mind these highlights: Dinners at Florentine's; VCI Phase I; Hosting Family Promise Three Times; Triangle Dinners; Disciple Bible Study; Lenten Connections with Kids' Food Basket, UCOM, and Access of West Michigan; Youth Dinner Theater; General Conference; Annual Conference; Jurisdictional Conference; Bishop David Bard Welcome; Softball; Youth Mission Trip To Marvell, Arkansas; Safe Sanctuary Training; Shepherds Training; Congregational Care Training; Summer Faith and Fun Days; VCI Phase II; Who Stole My Church Study; Wesley Park Variety Show; United Methodist Women Sunday; R-360 Survey; Welcome Desk; Trunk-or-Treat; Family Promise Christmas Store Gift-Giving; Sunday Morning Christmas Concert; St. Nicholas on Christmas Eve; Ministry Shares Paid in Full...

In 2016 we welcomed 17 people into the Membership and Connection of Wesley Park: Jennifer Allen, Michael Allen (Baptism), Danny Bloomer, Jim Bloomer, Brian Crow, Claire Crow (Baptism), Sutton Crow (Baptism), Judith Driesenga, Dale Driesenga, Bill Hoffman, Luanne Hoffman, Chuck Johnson, Rev. Jane Ellen Johnson (Elder Membership with the West Michigan Conference), Jackie Matson, Jeanne Thompson, Darlene Pinder, and Nolan Warren (Baptism)

In 2016 we have grieved the loss of people we love, including: Tyler Karlek; Sue Palmer; Bill Hoffman; Pete Brown; Don Vogel; Verl McManus; Barb Brechting; Peg Saunier; and Doreen Coates.

What will 2017 bring? This month we look forward to January 22 and our VCI Prescriptions. We are planning a Lenten conversation around death and resurrection and an exploration of a columbarium at Wesley Park. And, we will remain open to the movement of the Holy Spirit. May God bless you all the days of your life.

Roxanne R. H. H.

Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Monday, January 2	Office Closed		
Tuesday, January 3		Anna Rabine	
Wednesday, January 4	Women's Prayer, 10 am	Aubrie Chambers Dan Scribner Marie Workman	
Thursday, January 5	Knitting group, 10 am Food Truck, 5 pm Chancel Choir, 6 pm Praise Team, 7:30pm	Tabi Fischer Savannah Knight Lisa Sonke	
Friday, January 6		Jim Gustafson	
Saturday, January 7		Madeline Brink Jeff Osborn Nicholas Workman	
Sunday, January 8	Worship, 9 am Faith Formation, 10:10 am Worship, 11 am Pre-Consultation Event, 2 pm	Suzannah Harvey	

Our Mission is to build a Christian community with all people.

Our vision: by 2018, Wesley Park will strive to inspire from the youngest to the oldest and everybody in between to live out the greatest commandment: to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself.

The church office is closed whenever Wyoming Public Schools close due to weather. If there is a cancellation or closing of a church worship service or event, look for word on our Care Connection or on WOOD-TV.

Prayers

Kathy DenHollander - My sister's grandchild, Kendall, spent the fall studying nursing in Spain. Just before returning to her home in Oregon, she was in Berlin at the Market Place, but fortunately not during the terrorist attack. We are so grateful for her safety.

Esther & Alfredo Fernandez - Thank you Pastor Dean for all you do. Christmas Eve service was lovely. Happy birthday Jesus. We should celebrate his birth all year long. He is our amazing God.

Lynda Edsall - Prayers for Dixie Bruekink. She has Parkinson's Disease and the progression is becoming very difficult. Praise God for the gift of Jesus. Merry Christmas Wesley Park family.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

Pastor Dean and the staff wish to extend our deepest gratitude to the Wesley Park UMC congregation for the Love Gift we received. We are in awe of your thoughtfulness and extreme generosity on our behalf. We all want you to know what a privilege and honor it is to serve in our various capacities a faithful and God loving community as yourselves. May God bless you this holiday season and in the future as we together continue to serve our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ!

Giving Envelopes

The 2017 giving envelopes have arrived! Visit the Welcome Center to pick up your new booklets. If you don't have one and would like a booklet assigned to you; please see Al Pittenger or Paula Hartley and they will make sure to get one for you.

Lunch with the Youth

The youth are currently working on their 3rd annual Dinner Theatre production that will take place in March. The kids stay after church every Sunday to practice until about 3 pm. We are looking for volunteers that would like to have lunch with the "Best Youth On The Planet" and bring in a lunch for about 20 people. Please prayerfully consider having a lunch with a great bunch of kids. If you have any questions or would like to sign up for a Sunday, please contact Bill Schick (616-261-0428) or put it on your communication card and Bill will give you a call.

Blue Bags Ministry Share Offering

100% Ministry Shares Challenge

Received To Date:

\$34,043

(52 Weeks Completed)

Remaining Balance Needed:

\$0

(0 Weeks Remaining)

Offered last week: **\$276**

Volunteer in 2017 as a Teacher

We are in need of another 4th + 5th Grade Room Teacher. You will work with a helper to teach engaging lessons to 4th + 5th graders every other month. Training will be provided so that you feel comfortable and prepared in the classroom. This is a great group of kind and insightful kids! If you have a heart for this specific age group, we would love to have you join the faith formation team. If interested please indicate it on your communication card or contact Anna Spencer (aspencer@wesleypark.org).

January + February Series: Cultivating Kinship

We are not meant to walk alone. We are built for community. We long for spaces and people with which we can be completely ourselves. We long to feel seen and heard. We crave a sense of identity, belonging, and mission (individually and communally). In a world riddled with unrest, we crave true community and kinship all the more. By cultivating kinship with one another, we live into the Kingdom of God.

So we begin 2017 Faith Formation by gathering around stories of kinship. In the hopes that this January + February series will inspire and compel us to better live out our mission "to build a Christian community with all people". All are welcome!

January Schedule

- * **Jan 8** - Friendship of Justin Skeesuck + Patrick Gray (TedTalk)
- These two are speaking at Calvin College January 12th (12:30-1:30 pm) for the January Series.
- * **Jan 15** - David + Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9)
- * **Jan 22** - No Faith Formation. There is a VCI gathering.
- * **Jan 29th** - Fifth Sunday. One 10 am service. No Faith Formation.

Other Learning Opportunities in the Community

Calvin's January Series Lectures <http://calvin.edu/january-series/>



Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Welcome Center and pick up your Name Tag! You can leave your name tag in the baskets by the church exits on your way out. Enjoy getting to know one another!

January + February Series: Cultivating Kinship

We are not meant to walk alone. We are built for community. We long for spaces and people with which we can be completely ourselves. We long to feel seen and heard. We crave a sense of identity, belonging, and mission (individually and communally). In a world riddled with unrest, we crave true community and kinship all the more. By cultivating kinship with one another, we live into the Kingdom of God.

So we begin 2017 Faith Formation by gathering around stories of kinship. In the hopes that this January + February series will inspire and compel us to better live out our mission "to build a Christian community with all people". All are welcome!

January Schedule

- * **Jan 8** - Friendship of Justin Skeesuck + Patrick Gray (TedTalk)
- These two are speaking at Calvin College January 12th (12:30-1:30 pm) for the January Series.
- * **Jan 15** - David + Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9)
- * **Jan 22** - No Faith Formation. There is a VCI gathering.
- * **Jan 29th** - Fifth Sunday. One 10 am service. No Faith Formation.

Other Learning Opportunities in the Community

Calvin's January Series Lectures <http://calvin.edu/january-series/>



Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Welcome Center and pick up your Name Tag! You can leave your name tag in the baskets by the church exits on your way out. Enjoy getting to know one another!

