

Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Monday, January 18	Council, 7:00 pm	Peggy Pittenger Kirgin Tanis	
Tuesday, January 19	Rock & Mineral, 6:15 pm Praise Team, 7 pm	Jackie Andary Carolyn Forbes	
Wednesday, January 20	Prayer Group, 10 am Fellowship Meal, 5 pm Youth Group, 6 pm Disciple Class, 6:15 pm Ladies Bible Study, 7 pm	Kevin Graham David Mosqueda Rev. Myron Williams	
Thursday, January 21	Chancel Choir, 7 pm	Virginia Hughes Becca Steenhagen	
Friday, January 22		Sallie McLean Keith Warren	
Saturday, January 23			
Sunday, January 24	Worship, 9 am Faith Formation, 10 am Worship, 11 am		

## Dates to Remember

- ☆ Florentine's Dinner: **January 25**
- ☆ *Purchase your ticket (\$10 adult, \$4 child) after worship today just outside the sanctuary or at the door. Remember to add on your tip for good service.*
- ☆ One Worship Service at 10 am: **January 31 (Fifth Sunday)**

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.



## Radical Hospitality and Places to Serve

Over seventy people met together at 10 am on the first Sunday of January to learn more from the Vital Church Initiative "Away Team" about the VCI process. The focus was on one of the Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation, Radical Hospitality. Chuck Starnes encouraged all of us to be prayerful and ever mindful of the opportunities that are all around us to show radical hospitality to others. In particular, we were given time to imagine ways we could welcome people into Wesley Park UMC with grace and joy. At the end of the session people shared around the tables reflections on these two questions: "What is the one thing you can do to assure visitors and attendees of our Church feel welcome, important, and loved?" And, "What changes to our facilities and practices will make it easier for visitors to feel comfortable and find things easier?" The thoughtful responses were shared with the VCI team, who were excited about many common themes: name tags would help us know one another better; an information desk might help people find answers to their questions and increase the ease of entering a new church for the first time; and some work could be done to make the Welcome Center more welcoming, to name a few.

Already, work is being done around name tags for everyone who walks through the doors of Wesley Park for worship. And, ideas are being shared about what an information center might look like. And, some have begun to draw sketches of ways to open up the Welcome Center and create a coffee center and areas for conversation.

If you feel like Hospitality is one of your Spiritual Gifts and would like to carry on the long "Marv Tanis" tradition at Wesley Park of radical and loving hospitality, please mark that on your Communication Card and place it in the offering. The possibilities are exciting!

The Next VCI Home Team meets February 7 at 10 am.

Peace,

*Roxanne Pittenger*

# Prayers

- **Linda Hagan** - Please pray for my brother in Arizona. He is in the hospital. I am not sure what is happening.
- **Rick & Sheryl Jones** - Our friends baby girl, who was born two months early and diagnosed with Down's Syndrome, is having heart surgery Tuesday. She has had a rough start, but is a feisty little one.
- **Esther Fernandez** - Please pray for Alfredo and me. Alfredo's factory is going to move to Mexico in a few months. He has been there 26 years. He is 57 years old. Prayers for peace for him. I trust our dear Lord and know he is taking care of us. Thank you.
- **Adrienne Prentiss** - Please continue to pray for the right people to help discern getting Will's schooling needs met. Pray for strength and wisdom for me and Dean and open minds and hearts for all school and professional personnel. Pray that we will know what God wants for Will next.
- **Lynda Edsall** - Prayers for the Ilbrink family as they mourn the loss of Jo Ilbrink. She was a dear friend and so knowledgeable in the Lord. We shared so many wonderful conversations about God.
- **Julie Riemersma** - My great niece was born Sunday, January 3rd with low oxygen. She is in ICU. Please pray for her. Maria, is her name. While I was there visiting her, I saw an old co-worker whose child is also in ICU. Her name is Emily.
- **Steve & Pam Bravata** - Thanks be to God! Ralph Shinn's chemo is working. Renee Bravata is in the hospital. Prayers for healing, please.
- **Jason & Kim Johnson** - Praise! I will be working in the lunch room at Alec's school. I start toward the end of the month.
- **Gibbard family** - Prayers for the family of Tim Rideout (Gail's cousin), who passed away this week. Prayers for answers for health issues Max is dealing with.
- **Dan & Dena Scribner** - Prayers for a friend, Jill, facing the finding of breast cancer and all that follows. Prayers for baby Glen, that he continues to heal from his second open heart surgery. He is only two.
- **Tena Podein** - Wesley Park family, please continue your cards, prayers, and well wishes for Ted and Jennifer. As I spend time with them weekly, the stress and strain of so much is weighing heavily on them.
- **Ron & Delores Sanford** - Daughter, Rhonda, is having brain surgery on Thursday.
- **Continued Prayers:** Prayers for Hannah Steenhagen, Ben Peterson, Warren Slesman, Bill VanDalsen, Jack Boyer, Jan Kutschinski, Rev. Myron Williams, Bev Slesman, Mary Tremblay, Rev. Gordon Spalenka

## Adult Faith Formation

January through March @10am Sundays we will be discussing a book called Tattoos on the Heart. I read it this summer and have not been able to stop talking and thinking about it since. This book showcases a brilliant vision of the kingdom of God made tangible for all.

Books are \$9. If you would like a copy please let Anna Spencer know.

## Florentine's Dinner Monday, January 25

Buy your tickets today for all-you-can-eat Spaghetti, salad, and bread sticks (\$10 adults, \$4 children, not including drink or tip). Tickets will be sold after each worship service. This all-church fund raiser is the fourth Monday of each month.

## Parents Faith Formation Class Begins

Attention Parents, Kathy Carruthers is forming a new group for Parents with Youth in Faith Formation. The group will meet every Sunday youth Faith Formation is held in the Cornerstone Room from 10:10-10:55. You are invited to join us as we study how to best help our children and students grow in their walk with Christ. There is no need to RSVP, just head over the Cornerstone Room to join us!

The first book we will study is Boundaries with Teens by Dr. John Townsend. This book provides many problem solving skills to help you set healthy boundaries for your child(ren). The book is available on Amazon for \$15 but do not feel like you have to purchase a book to participate.

Contact Kathy Carruthers with questions or for more information. 616-530-0456 or [carruthers1125@gmail.com](mailto:carruthers1125@gmail.com)

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