

Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Monday, February 6	Trustees, 6:30 pm	Sara Harvey	
Tuesday, February 7	SPRC, 5:30 pm	Matthias Vieau	
Wednesday, February 8	Women's Prayer, 10 am Youth, 6 pm Town Hall Meeting, 7 pm	Ron Sanford Kathleen Van Essen	Richard & Mary Jo Griffin
Thursday, February 9	Congregational Care, 2 pm Baton, 5:30 pm Chancel Choir, 6 pm Spanish class, 6:30 pm Praise Team, 7:30 pm		
Friday, February 10	Freddi's Angels, 6:30 pm		
Saturday, February 11		Nate Folkert	
Sunday, February 12	Worship, 9 am Faith Formation, 10:10 am Worship, 11 am Youth Play Practice, noon Staff meeting, 12:30 pm	Jeff Brink Charles Volkers	Joe & Annette Jeltema

Wesley Park United Methodist Church
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Up and Down the Mountain

Up and Down the Mountain is a four-week series, beginning today and continuing through Transfiguration Sunday, February 26, the day we will vote on the VCI Prescriptions following one 10 am worship service. The Series focuses on the Mountain of the Lord, encountering God in these "thin places", and returning to the world below with work to do.

Li Bai, the legendary Chinese poet, uses mountains to great effect in many of his poems. One of his most famous, titled variously as "Green Mountain" or "In the Mountains", perfectly captures the serene solitude that people find on mountain tops. (From www.theclymb.com)

GREEN MOUNTAIN

By Li Bai

You ask me why I dwell in the green mountain;

I smile and make no reply for my heart is free of care.

As the peach-blossom flows down stream and is gone into the unknown,

I have a world apart that is not among men.

May your journey up the mountain and down again be blessed.

Randee Martin

Prayers

Julie Riemersma - Mary Ann Brink from the old Olivet UMC is now in Hospice care. I pray for God's peace for her. She is one of my dear friends and one of my prayers warriors.

Jeff & Kristen Brink - Please pray for those who struggle with mental illness as this is a hard time for them.

Pat Beadle - Hoping that Dean's dreams come true!

Tena Podein - God bless families like the Terry family. They are raising their children with God's love and grace. Happy 70th birthday to my David on Saturday. I pray that all your wishes to come true.

Ross & Erin Vanderlaan - Prayers for recovery from sickness.

Makaila Johnson - I pray that my mom's arm feels better and I hope that she didn't break or sprain it.

Stephanie Halstead - Please pray for our family during our new adventure of buying a new house. Make it as smooth as possible. Guide my students in realizing they are amazing and smart. Guide them in making good choices.

Gordon & Nancy Spalenka - Pray for our country and all the countries around the world.

Mary Tremblay - I ask for prayers as my cancer has returned and I have to visit my Oncologist to find out where in my body it has appeared and I decide what treatment plan to follow. Thank you.

Marilyn Knapp - Thank you for praying. Even though living conditions are very difficult in 3rd world countries, spiritually, I had a wonderful time in Peru. I was studying and worshipping with dear friends and meeting new ones who want to learn about Jesus.

Al Pittenger - Prayers for Mary Tremblay as she deals with her Oncologist and the return of her cancer. Welcome to the family of God - Gayle, Harry, and Jim.

Alfredo & Esther Fernandez - Please continue praying for my sister, Aida. She is getting better every day. She is going blind. She will be 80 on March 26. She is like my second mom. I love her dearly. Dear Lord watch over her and the whole world. Please pray for Pat and Judy Adams. His mom passed away on January 21st.

Janice Thompson - Please pray for a little boy named Dakota who was air lifted due to seizures. Also, for my daughter-in-law's friend, Laura, and her baby. The baby was born 40 days ago and is still in the hospital with lots of problems. Please pray that the doctor's can help her. Thank you.

Nancy Carpenter - Praying for peace, kindness, and genuine love of all God's people.

Maynard Culver - Pray for our nation.

Heinz Herzog - Prayers for courage and endurance for Brenyn Poll as he begins daily radiation treatments over several weeks as well as intermittent chemo infusions.

Ron & Dolores Sanford - Our children singing is so wonderful. Thank you to the teachers for all their hard work.

Prayers

Gayle Poertner - So blessed to be here at this exciting time. Thank you for the service, the sermon, and the wonderful welcome home again.

Abed Owusu - Starting a new construction company. I need prayers for God's guidance and blessings. If any church members have any experience in this industry, please feel free to share that knowledge with me. Thank you.

Folkert Family - Please pray for our cousin, Robert Jordan, as he has a brain tumor removed this Monday.

Jane Ellen Johnson - Prayers for clarity and calm as the folks who gathered this week discern their call and for the mentors as they prepare for this very important work for the UMC.

Lost and Found

We have 3 containers of lost and found items on the shelves and hanging up by the elevator outside the office. Please stop by and see if any of the items belong to you. Anything left after February 26th will be donated.

Vital Church Initiative Dates

* February 8: 7 pm, All-Church Town Hall Meeting

* (Time to explore the prescriptions and ask questions.)

* February 15: 5 pm, All-Church Town Hall Meeting

* (Time to explore the prescriptions and ask questions.)

* February 19: 2 pm, All-Church Town Hall Meeting

* (Time to explore the prescriptions and ask questions.)

* February 26: 10 am, Worship

* February 26: 11 am, Church Conference Vote on Prescriptions

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 series will inspire and compel us to better live out our mission "to build a Christian community with all people". All are welcome!

February Schedule

- * Feb 5 - Ruth + Naomi
- * Feb 12 - Interfaith Kinship with Len Robinson (Judaism)
- * Feb 19 - Exercises in Kinship

Please consider volunteering as a 4th-5th Grade Teacher.

Contact Anna Spencer

Other Learning Opportunities in the Community

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

A Dare for Lent

All are welcome to join in a book discussion of "One Thousand Gifts: A Dare to LIVE FULLY Right Where You Are" (Ann Voskamp). Jennifer Schick will be guiding this discussion on Wednesday nights from 6:30pm-7:30pm. The class will run from March 8th thru April 12th (no meeting on April 5th).

If you are interested in participating, please sign up at the Welcome Desk. While there you can also order a hardcover copy of the book for \$7. You can pay with cash, check, or debit/credit card. Please let us know if you will need childcare during the book study. In addition to the book, please also bring a small notebook or journal. You'll get started on counting your One Thousand Gifts (and more) in this time together.

We Appreciate You

On behalf of the congregation, we want to express our appreciation for Adrienne. Her willingness to serve in Liz's absence, along with her beautiful talent is a blessing for all of us. The piece you played during the offertory was absolutely marvelous and uplifting! God bless you! Pat Bloomer

Marque

Ever wonder how the marque gets changed anytime we have something special going on at the church? The answer to that question is David Waugh. David has been changing the sign for more than a decade. He comes out and changes it rain, shine, sleet, or snow. Next time you see David, give him a hand shake or even a high five and tell him thank you for what he does at Wesley Park.

Blue Bags Ministry Share Offering

100% Ministry Shares Challenge

Received To Date:

\$2,373

(5 Weeks Completed)

Remaining Balance Needed:

\$48,939

(48 Weeks Remaining)

Offered last week: **\$364**

Childcare Help

Are you in need of childcare for any of the town hall gatherings (Feb 8 or 15th)? Please contact Anna Spencer aspencer@wesleypark.org so that we can plan accordingly. We are still in need for one more helper in the Little Lambs Hallway for February 19th.

Show Some Love For Devos Children's Hospital!!

The Youth Group wants to help children and teens in the hospital feel loved!! We will be delivering cinch-sacs filled with comfort items to Devos Children's Hospital in late February with your help!!! Each cinch sac is \$23.00 and will contain books, puzzles, air fresheners, and snack items for the children and teens. The bonus is the child/teen will keep the high quality cinch-sac as a back pack. Your part is easy! Please donate at the Welcome Desk after service today and in the upcoming weeks so we can order as many cinch sacs and comfort items as possible between now and February 20th!!! Thank you! The Youth

Florentine's Fundraiser

Isn't it amazing how fast time goes? We are already selling tickets for Florentine's spaghetti dinner in February. It will be Monday, February 27 from 4pm to 8pm at the Florentines in Grandville. Tickets are \$10/adult and \$4/child (11 and under). Meal includes all you can eat salad bar, spaghetti, bread, and drink (tip not included). Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Welcome Desk with cash, check, or debit/credit card. They can also be purchased at the door. The proceeds this month will go to the General Fund.

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.

Marriage Retreat - A Weekend to Remember

Great marriages don't just happen. But with an understanding of God's blueprints and a willingness to work at it, you can return to, even surpass, the honeymoon phase and create a legacy of greatness.

FamilyLife's Weekend to Remember offers priceless tools to improve communication, resolve conflict, and rekindle passion in your marriage.

<http://www.familylife.com/weekend-to-remember>

Grand Rapids weekend - Feb 24-26 OR Kalamazoo March 31 - April 2nd
See Tom or Loretta Jahncke for more information - (616) 706-4781 /

TomJahncke@gmail.com

11 am Worship Helpers:

Greeters: Lynda Edsall, Jayne Schafer

Usher: Lynda Edsall

Acolyte: Angel Najar

Sound Tech: Pat Carruthers

Nursery: Zorah Vieau

Child Advocate: Skyler Maitner

✠ **Rev. Dean N. Prentiss**, Pastor, dprentiss@wesleypark.org

✠ **Tabi Fischer**, Office Manager, tabi@wesleypark.org

✠ **Al Pittenger**, Treasurer, apittenger@wesleypark.org

✠ **Anna Spencer**, Faith Formation Director, aspencer@wesleypark.org

✠ **Eric Terry**, Youth Director, eterry@wesleypark.org

✠ **Rostyn Properties**, Custodial Services

✠ **CCLI**, #860995