

Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Monday, February 13	Finance, 7 pm		Hugh & Phyllis Prentiss
Tuesday, February 14			Rick & Sheryl Jones
Wednesday, February 15	Women's Prayer, 10 am Youth, 6 pm Town Hall Meeting, 5 pm		
Thursday, February 16	Baton, 5:30 pm Chancel Choir, 6 pm Spanish class, 6:30 pm Praise Team, 7:30 pm		Maynard & Gene Culver
Friday, February 17			
Saturday, February 18		Arvilla DeVries	
Sunday, February 19	Worship, 9 am Faith Formation, 10:10 am Worship, 11 am Youth Play Practice, noon Town Hall Meeting, 2 pm	Duane Frick Lonnie Mosqueda	

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.

Wesley Park United Methodist Church
1150 32nd Street SW Wyoming, Michigan 49509
616-988-6738 info@wesleypark.org, www.wesleypark.org



Up and Down the Mountain

Whether it is journeying up and then down again a mountain, or simply trying to navigate the flat terrain of this world, we take our lumps. It's not easy living in a world with so many stresses and demands. Faith in Christ can lift us up when we are down, can lead us on when we are lost, can fill us up when we feel empty.

March 1 is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the 40 day season of Lent concluding on Easter Sunday, April 16. Lent is a set-apart time of prayer and examination, spiritual practices such as fasting and alms giving, and renewal. Our focus during the season of Lent will be on death and resurrection. We will take the time to talk about what happens when we die, how we can prepare ourselves for that transition from this earthly life to everlasting life, and the power of the resurrection. And, we will be in prayer and conversation around an extremely generous proposal - to transform the garden next to the sanctuary into a Memorial Garden, and to build in that space a columbarium to inter the ashes in this sacred space of those who have died. Lent is 40 days of prayer and exploration into the depths of our spirit and faith and the context for deep conversation.

This Lenten journey begins on Ash Wednesday with repentance and the forgiveness of sin. The palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday are burned and the ashes are imposed in the sign of the cross as a reminder of the forgiveness that comes from God. From noon to 1 pm we will host a drive-in service, where people will offer repentance and receive forgiveness and the sign of the cross while they are in their car on lunch break from work, because of mobility issues, or because of personal preference. We will also host an Ash Wednesday worship service at 7 pm in our Sanctuary. Let us be in prayer for one another on this journey of life and as we approach this season of renewal.

Randee Martin

Prayers

Jessica Schick - Prayers for those who have no place to call home. I hope that they may soon be given the gift of love.

Annette Jeltema - Thank you Dean for your sermon. It was wonderful!!

Kim Johnson - Thank you for the prayers for my arm. I do have a broken wrist and need surgery.

Lynda Edsall - Prayers for our vision for Wesley Park. Please God, bless us as we navigate what is before us as a church. Soften our hearts to your vision for us. Thank you, Dean, for the great message.

Nancy Carpenter - Praying for consideration, compassion, and inclusion in our country.

Tjeerdsma/Volkers Family - Bless families everywhere.

Steve Bravata Sr. - When I'm in the clouds I've learned to say to myself... How much of this is not for me to carry, or how much of this is not meant for me to carry alone. God says to me... I'm ready. I am right here when you decide.

Pam Bravata - Please pray for my mom, Pauline Shinn. Prayers of healing and happiness. Prayers also for my brother, Ralph.

Kathy Carruthers - Please pray for peace and healing for my friend, Dawn, who had open heart surgery.

Gibbard Family - Prayers for our nation and for unity.

Ron & Dolores Sanford - Prayers for Mary Sanford's surgery on Tuesday.

James Willmer - Thank you all for welcoming me to your family.

Ken & Linda McKenney - Prayers for safety and good health as we travel.

Barb DeCan - Thank you Phil for your time here and with our choir. Your work with them is nothing short of beautiful and astounding. God bless your future journey.

Tena Podein - Thank you so much to our WP family and friends who came to celebrate my David's 70th birthday Saturday. God bless Eric and Aimee again for your faithful service. We love you. Pray for our church always.

Peggy Pittenger - Blessing and prayers for our choir director, Phil. He will be greatly missed. We love you Phil!! Thank you for what you have done for the music at Wesley Park.

Judy Wilson - Prayers for my niece in Indiana. Her husband passed away on Tuesday and the funeral is today.

Esther Fernandez - Please continue praying for my niece, Yaimara, and her family. She is making really bad choices in her life. I am concerned about her children, Michael and Raquelita. Pray for my sister, Raquel. Thank you Lord for all your blessings to us.

Sallie McLean - Please pray for the staff and residents at Metron of Forest Hills.

Terry & Janice Thompson - Prayers for Jeanne Thompson who fell and is in the hospital.

Craig Cox - Pray for peace in the nation. It is very disturbing to have so much violence and riots.

Vital Church Initiative Dates

* 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

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.

Childcare Help

Are you in need of childcare for any of the town hall gatherings (15th or 19th)? 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.

Blue Bags Ministry Share Offering

100% Ministry Shares Challenge

Received To Date:

\$3,470

(6 Weeks Completed)

Remaining Balance Needed:

\$47,842

(47 Weeks Remaining)

Offered last week: **\$1,097**

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 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.

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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.

11 am Worship Helpers:

Greeters: Lynda Edsall

Ushers: Max & Gail Gibbard

Acolyte: Jillian Fischer

Sound Tech: Kyran & Matthias Vieau

Nursery: Jessica Schick

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

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