

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](mailto:info@wesleypark.org), [www.wesleypark.org](http://www.wesleypark.org)

#### 10 am Worship Helpers:

- ☀ **Greeters:** Heinz Herzog, John & Kathy Challa
- ☀ **Ushers:** Charlie Swanson, Lynda Edsall, Max & Gail Gibbard
- ☀ **Communion Servers:** Bill & Vicky VanDalsen, Dan & Dena Scribner, Chuck & Janice Starnes, Joanne Gustafson, Lynda Edsall
- ☀ **Acolyte:** Marlow Jeltema and Allison Kinney
- ☀ **Liturgist:** Hugh Prentiss
- ☀ **Sound Tech:** Anna Spencer
- ☀ **Nursery:** Phyllis Prentiss and Sheryl Jones
- ☀ **Child Advocate:** Skyler Maitner
- ☀ **Welcome Desk:** Joanne Gustafson and Kellie O'Connor
- ☀ **Musicians:** Sara Kropp, Erin Vanderlaan, Molly Jeltema, Paula Hartley, Adrienne Prentiss

- ⊠ **Rev. Dean N. Prentiss**, Pastor, [dprentiss@wesleypark.org](mailto:dprentiss@wesleypark.org)
- ⊠ **Tabi Fischer**, Office Manager, [tabi@wesleypark.org](mailto:tabi@wesleypark.org)
- ⊠ **Al Pittenger**, Treasurer, [apittenger@wesleypark.org](mailto:apittenger@wesleypark.org)
- ⊠ **Anna Spencer**, Faith Formation Director, [aspencer@wesleypark.org](mailto:aspencer@wesleypark.org)
- ⊠ **Eric Terry**, Youth Director, [eterry@wesleypark.org](mailto:eterry@wesleypark.org)
- ⊠ **Sara Kropp**, Music Director
- ⊠ **Rostyn Properties**, Custodial Services
- ⊠ **CCLI**, #860995



# Wesley Park Weekly

March 5, 2017

## Lent Means Spring

**What is Lent?** March 1st, Ash Wednesday, marked the beginning of a new season in the church: Lent. The season of Lent lasts forty days (excluding Sundays) and ends on Easter morning.

**Why are Sundays excluded?** Because every time we gather together on the Sabbath it is like Easter - a celebration of resurrection and life and forgiveness and grace! Lent is an important time for reflection and prayer. During the forty days, we look closely at our sinfulness, we ask for help to turn from our sin and back toward God, and we dedicate ourselves to the Gospel teachings.

**Why forty days?** Moses entered the cloud on the mountain and stayed there for forty days and forty nights. Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted for forty days and forty nights. Likewise, we take forty days and forty nights to sit in God's presence, to confront our temptations, and to ready ourselves to encounter the risen savior.

**What can I do to make Lent special?** Sometimes people give up something for Lent as a form of self-denial and prayerfulness. Some people choose a day to fast (give up food for a limited time). Other people choose to do something special for Lent, called Alms-giving, which means helping the poor and those in need. What if you made a special sacrificial gift for the Good Sam Fund? You might even choose to sponsor all or part of the Food Truck for a month (\$495, or \$12.38 a day).

#### What is a prayer I can keep in my heart during Lent?

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of my heart by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that I may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Rev. Dean N. Prentiss*

# Prayers

**Nancy Carpenter** - May God bless our church as we move forward.

**Max & Gail Gibbard** - Prayers for Gail's mom. She has a doctor's appointment on Monday. Max sees a Rheumatologist Monday at U of M. Prayers for answers on both fronts.

**Ann Bellgraph** - I am so happy to see John and Kathy Challa back home. We missed you.

**Jim & Joanne Gustafson** - The man and his guitar - Wonderful!!

**Shirley Diederiks** - Please continue to pray for Don Diederiks. He is still having a lot of pain. Thank you. God is good.

**Jeff & Kristen Brink** - Please pray for Isabelle as she gets another set of ear tubes on Wednesday. Thank you for all those who bought girl scout cookies. Madeline exceeded her goal and is very excited.

**Freddi Angus** - My grandson, Hunter Clark Angus, is 22 today. March 15 he will leave for Texas to be in the Air Force. I am a proud grandma. God bless Hunter. Please pray for nursing homes and especially the workers.

**David Waugh & Tena Podein** - Praise God for opportunities our Wesley Park family is embarking on. Adrienne and Sara, thank you for your gift of music. They are amazing and beautiful. No matter our vote today, I will always be a Wesley Park family supporter.

**Pat & Keith Warren** - Prayers for peace with health and financial issues for Janet Berry.

**Linda Carter** - Please pray that the new doctor I am seeing will help my neck.

**Mike & Jill Beck** - Like the new music.

**Terry & Janice Thompson** - Continued prayers for Terry's mom, Jeanne Thompson.

**Kim Johnson** - Thank you for everyone's prayers during surgery and the healing process. I go back to the doctor Tuesday, February 28. Also, thank you so much for those who brought dinners. The meals were very tasty!

**Lynda Edsall** - Please Lord, thy will be done. Continued prayers for VCI. Prayers for discernment and a path forward.

**Bill & Jennifer Schick** - So many blessings through music today. Thank you for sharing your talents.

**Steve & Pam Bravata Sr.** - Thank you for your prayers for Pauline and Ralph Shinn. They are in need of God's grace and compassion. We love all of you and are thankful for having a church full of everything Jesus stands for. Love and peace to all of you.

**Alfredo & Esther Fernandez** - Rev. Bill, thank you for a wonderful message. Please continue praying for my niece, Becky. She is going through chemo for her cancer.

Welcome home John & Kathy. So glad to see you. Prayers for all the people that do not have faith and hope. Prayers for those who don't know Jesus.

Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Monday, March 6	Trustees, 6:30 pm	Jessica Hughes	
Tuesday, March 7			
Wednesday, March 8	Women's Prayer, 10 am Dinner, 5:30 pm Youth Play Practice, 6:00 pm Book Study, 6:30 pm		
Thursday, March 9	Congregational Care, 2 pm Baton, 5:30 pm Chancel Choir, 6 pm Spanish Class, 6:30 pm Praise Team, 7:30 pm	Chuck Dear Kiarra Jones Nancy Spalenka	
Friday, March 10	Freddi's Angels, 6:30 pm	Richard Jackson Jr. Caleb Jahncke Josiah Jahncke Brian Kropp Al Pittenger	
Saturday, March 11	Estate Planning, 10 am	Kathy Carruthers	
Sunday, March 12	Worship, 9:30 am Faith Formation, 11:00 am Youth Play Practice, noon		Gary & Barb DeCan

## The Schedule for Lent

- **Sunday, March 5, 9:30 am Worship, 11 am Faith Formation**
  - *Growing a Memorial Garden 1; Living Fully*
- **Saturday, March 11, 10 am - Noon**
  - Free Estate Planning Workshop
- **Sunday, March 12, 9:30 am Worship, 11 am Faith Formation**
  - *Growing a Memorial Garden 2; Theology of Aging*
- **Sunday, March 19, 9:30 am Worship, 11 am Faith Formation**
  - *Growing a Memorial Garden 3; Our Culture's View of Aging*
- **Sunday, March 26, 9:30 am Worship, 11 am Faith Formation**
  - *Growing a Memorial Garden 4; Finding Purpose and Meaning in Life*
- **Monday, March 27, 6 pm - 8 pm**
  - Free Estate Planning Workshop
- **Sunday, April 2, 9:30 am Worship, 11 am Faith Formation**
  - *Growing a Memorial Garden 5; Dying Well*
- **Sunday, April 9, 9:30 am Worship, 11 am Faith Formation**
  - *Growing a Memorial Garden 6; What Happens When We Die?*
- **Thursday, April 13, 7 pm**
  - Maundy Thursday Worship
- **Friday, April 14, 7 pm**
  - Good Friday Worship
- **Sunday, April 16**
  - Easter Sunrise Worship, 7 am
  - Easter Breakfast
  - Easter Celebration Worship, 9:30 am

## Sunday Morning Adult Faith Formation

March 5th - April 9th

Study of the Book: *Living Fully, Dying Well*

by the late Rueben Job (United Methodist Pastor + Bishop in Iowa)

Rueben Job believed, "we cannot live fully without serious consideration of life and it's meaning, we cannot die well without consideration of death and it's meaning for all of us." This book will bring us into a conversation about these important and difficult topics. This study will also connect with Pastor Dean's sermon for March and April. Books are \$5 and can be purchased at the welcome desk or in class. You do not need a book to participate but it will provide additional readings about the topics we will study together. All are welcome to join us!

## 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 pick up your 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. This class will meet in the sanctuary. Please read chapters 1 and 2 before the first class.

## Heifer Peace Pole

Throughout the season of Lent we will again fill the "Peace Pole" with quarters to help Heifer International end hunger and poverty for families around the world. Recipients of Heifer International gifts of animals are required to "Pass on the Gift" by giving the first born or equivalent of the gift received to another poor family in the community causing the original gifts to multiply. When the pole is full, it will hold over \$120, enough to purchase a sheep, pig, or goat. The Peace Pole is on a table in the narthex. You can also talk to Nancy Spalenka if you have any questions.

## Youth Dinner Theatre

Save The Date!! Saturday, March 18th at 5:30 pm in the FLC, 3rd Annual Youth Dinner Theater, Mystery Murder Fundraiser. Come enjoy an evening of food, fellowship, and fun as the youth present an Aesop versus Grimm theater experience!! This will be a free will offering event to fund the youth mission trip this summer to West Virginia. Sign up at the Welcome Desk through Sunday, March 12th!!

## Blue Bags Ministry Share Offering

### 100% Ministry Shares Challenge

Received To Date:

**\$6,415**

**(9 Weeks Completed)**

Remaining Balance Needed:

**\$44,897**

**(44 Weeks Remaining)**

Offered last week: **\$2,043**

## Blood Drive

Be a hero to someone today. Please consider donating blood. Remember, Christ said the life is in the blood. Stop by the Family Life Center to give a donation. Michigan Blood will be here from 8am-noon. If you are wondering if you can donate, please talk to one of the nurses and they will be happy to answer any of your questions.

## Free Estate Planning Workshops

Wesley Park will be hosting a free estate planning workshop March 11 from 10 am-noon and March 27 from 6 pm-8 pm. Gravelyn Law will be conducting the workshop. Space is limited. Sign up by calling (616) 288-9527. Let us know if you are in need of childcare. Stop by the Welcome Desk for a flyer.

## Wednesday Night Dinners Are Back

For the season of Lent, That Polish Lady Catering will be serving up some delicious dinners from 5:30pm-6:15pm every Wednesday night (except for April 5). There will be a donation bucket to help cover the cost of the food. All are welcome! On the menu this week is: Chicken Noodle soup, Salad, Bread, Hotdogs, Dessert, and Beverages.

## Annual Bus Trip

The annual bus trip will be going to Virginia Beach. The trip features a tour of Battleship Wisconsin, a visit to Colonial Williamsburg and the Yankee Candle Village Store. The dates are October 1-7 and cost is \$775. If you would like more information please contact Joanne (616.706.7186) or Carolyn (616.538.3085).