



Wesley Park Weekly

March 12, 2017

Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Monday, March 13	Finance, 7 pm	Amy Vander Woude	
Tuesday, March 14	SPRC, 5:30 pm		Gale & Carol Eckert
Wednesday, March 15	Women's Prayer, 10 am Dinner, 5:30 pm Youth Play Practice, 6:00 pm Book Study, 6:30 pm	Kurt Christensen Andrew Hughes	
Thursday, March 16	Baton, 5:30 pm Youth Play Practice, 6 pm Chancel Choir, 6 pm Spanish Class, 6:30 pm Praise Team, 7:30 pm	Brittany Howland	Phillip & Elaine Urrutia
Friday, March 17	Youth Play Practice, 6 pm	Carson Chambers	
Saturday, March 18	Dinner Theatre, 5:30 pm	Edward Newton	
Sunday, March 19	Worship, 9:30 am Faith Formation, 11:00 am Staff Meeting, 12:20 pm	Eileen Hitch Kristie Howland Hope Jahncke	

Vital Church Initiative Updates

On Sunday, February 26, 2017 Wesley Park UMC voted to accept the Vital Church Initiative Report, including the five prescriptions. One of the requests was to do all we could to keep everyone posted on the progress and the needs so that we could all be supportive and involved. Here is the first of those updates, two weeks after our vote.

1. **Worship:** A worship transition team (Sara Kropp, Kathy Carruthers, Loretta Jahncke, and Dean Prentiss) has begun to meet to plan, implement, and review the blended services. The 9:30 am blended service started March 5. Liturgists have been scheduled for all Lenten services. A concerted effort is being made to include creative and appropriate music for every time of worship. The coaching sessions with Cathy Townley will begin March 15. A Video Ministry Team guideline has been developed and the search has begun to find a creative team of visual artists to work with the pastor and worship transition team. The pastor has read and will be reviewing with our Coach the book Communicating for Change.
2. **Structural Support for Unifying Mission and Vision:** The pastor has contacted our Coach to schedule and plan for a Day of Prayer and Healing.
3. **Radical Hospitality:** The congregation is mindful of opportunities to show radical hospitality. The prescriptions begin with an Internal Readiness Team by April 30.
4. **Intentional Faith Development:** Material for the Discipleship Process has been ordered and is being reviewed by the pastor and the Faith Formation Team.
5. **Leadership Development and Staff Alignment with Vision:** The pastor is consulting with our Coach to name a task force to develop a Lay Leadership Development Team. SMART Goals are being set by all staff, regular staff meetings have been occurring, and Staff Parish Relations have developed and implemented an annual evaluation process.

Randee Martin

Prayers

Deb Hodges - Thank you for the meals, prayers, cards, and visits while I was recovering from foot surgery. Our Wesley Park family is loving and kind! We love you.

Kellie O'Connor - Please pray for my family.

Maynard Culver - Jean is back at St. Mary's. Prayers for the both of us.

Tom & Ruth Noble - Continue to pray for Sherry Noble as she battles with cancer. Also for Dave Noble as he lovingly cares for his wife.

Steve Bravata - Pam's brother passed away Monday, February 27. We had the blessing of having the service at one of the most loving churches led by one of the most compassionate pastors. Jesus was lifted that day. The message was how awesome it is having Jesus in our lives not just at the end, but our whole life.

Pam Bravata - Please pray for my mom, Pauline Shinn, for healing and happiness. She just lost her 3rd child. Thank you for all your love!

Ann Bellgraph - Children's choir did a great job!!

Ron & Dolores Sanford - Our grandson, Dominic, is having a very serious back surgery on Thursday.

Kim Johnson - My wrist is healing very well. I have a brace to wear for 4 weeks and I'm still not allowed to use my left arm. At the end 4 weeks I'm supposed to get the rods taken out. After that, I will start physical therapy.

David Waugh & Tena Podein - Prayers of comfort for our hurting Wesley Park family members. Dean, thank you for reading the scripture and for your sermon directly reflecting the scripture. It was awesome!

Val Rienks - Praise! My mother-in-law, Phyllis, is going home this week. She will start with a home visit on Monday with discharge on Wednesday or Thursday.

Jillian Fischer - Congratulations Marlow!

Craig Cox - My stepfather, Bruce, is having medical issues and is in need of prayers.

Terry & Janice Thompson - Many thanks for everyone's thoughts, prayers, and kindness during our dear mom's illness and passing.

Freddi Angus - Within these walls I can feel a wonderful spirit. Thanks for the children's choir. It was awesome! Love the birds in the garden.

Sallie McLean - Thanks for prayers for a ride. We got one this week. We hope to have a ride from now on. Keep praying. Thank you.

Esther Fernandez - Children, you did great. You are all so cute! Marlow, thank you for serving Wesley Park. You are so beautiful.

Tena Podein - Lord, please hear the prayers of our sick, lonely, tormented, and our faithful. We know all is possible to those that trust in you.

Joan Boyd - Jan McCreery is in Hackley Hospital and in need of prayers.

Chuck Johnson - Prayers for a veteran friend's health issues.

The Schedule for Lent

- **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

New Fellowship Time

We want to continue having coffee, cookies, and juice for everyone to enjoy in between the service and Faith Formation hour. Please prayerfully consider signing up for a slot. I have put a sign up sheet at the Welcome Desk for a family, small group, or just a group of friends to sign up to supply the cookies and juice for a Sunday. If you have any questions feel free to contact the office (616-988-6738) or talk to Tabi or Anna.

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!!

Florentine’s Fundraiser

The Florentine’s Dinner will be Monday, March 27 from 4 pm to 8 pm 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.

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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: Broccoli Cheese 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 have been changed from October 1-7 to September 24-30 and cost has changed from \$775 to \$755. If you would like more information please contact Joanne (616.706.7186) or Carolyn (616.538.3085).

Blue Bags Ministry Share Offering

100% Ministry Shares Challenge

Received To Date:
\$6,804
(10 Weeks Completed)

Remaining Balance Needed:
\$44,508
(43 Weeks Remaining)

Offered last week: **\$389**

Free Estate Planning Workshop

Wesley Park will be hosting a free estate planning workshop March 27 from 6pm-8pm. 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.

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