

Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Monday, March 19	Young Adult Group, 7 pm Council, 7 pm	Eileen Hitch Kristie Howland Hope Jahncke	
Tuesday, March 20		Jeffrey Howland	
Wednesday, March 21	Women's Prayer, 10 am Youth Group, 5:30 pm Square Dance, 6:45 pm	Barb DeCan Gary DeCan	
Thursday, March 22	Praise Team!, 5 pm Baton, 5:30 pm Chancel Choir, 6:30 pm	Pat Bloomer Willem Knoester	
Friday, March 23		Carolyn DuBuis Casey Hertgers	
Saturday, March 24		Max Gibbard Mary Jo Griffin	Rich & Lynn Austin
Sunday, March 25	Blood Drive, 8 am Foundations Service, 9:15 am Fellowship, 10:30 am IMPACT Rehearsal, 11 am	Kathy Challa Steve Hitch	

## 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 Welcome Center. You can also talk to Nancy Spalenka if you have any questions.



## Pastor's Page

The Spirit of God has inspired us to live out our mission, to build a Christian community with all people. Let me share briefly some of what has been happening at Wesley Park:

A new keyboard was purchased for the IMPACT Service, and computer for the music director and FLC Worship Space. We have been working with a local company, Allegra Marketing. 5,000 mailings have been sent out to the houses around Wesley Park, and over 400 Facebook connections (and growing) have been made inviting families to the Easter services. Signs throughout the church have been customized and will be up by Easter. New LED lights have been installed in the Narthex, Sanctuary, and Entrance to brighten up these spaces. The kitchenette in the Narthex is being remodeled to be used for Hospitality. New video projectors were installed in the Family Life Center. The Technology Team is training to develop our video capacities in worship. Sound Desk operators are being trained and organized into a team. The Children's Center hallway has been painted and is being enhanced with additional color and photographs to make it welcoming and fun. The nursery is restocked with new toys. Ministers of Hospitality have bright new name tags. Past, current, and future ushers have been and will continue to be trained. Faith Formation classes for kids have started during the Foundations worship service. A mission-based children's experience at 11 am is underway led by ideas from the kids to make a difference in people's lives. A Discipleship Process customized to Wesley Park is being created and will be introduced during the summer and fully implemented this fall for everyone. Covenant Groups, providing accountability and connection, will follow the Discipleship Process. We have received permission to install the large cross and flame from the Conference Center on our building. Funds are growing to purchase a piano for the sanctuary and an awning for the Welcome Center. Rehearsals for the IMPACT Worship and Service are underway, and I couldn't be more excited about the April 1 Easter Launch!

God is great and the Spirit is alive at Wesley Park! Thank you for your prayers and participation in the mission we have been given.

*Rev. Dean R. Griffin*

## Lord...Hear Our Prayers

*Each week, everyone who attends worship at Wesley Park is welcome to share any joys or concerns they may carry in their heart. These are the requests we received from the March 11th communication cards...*

**Val Rienks** - I had an interview last Friday (3/9). The interview went fine; however, the computer testing did not and I gave up. I received 2 other rejections as well.

**Keith & Pat Warren** - Prayers for Scott to have a fair judgement in court.

**Tena Podein** - Prayers for God's answers for Jacob and his seizures.

**Pat Johnson** - Prayers for the family of Jan Thompson, my neighbor, who lost her battle with cancer Saturday.

**Dolores Sanford** - Prayers for good results from Ron's test on Monday.

**Paula Hartley** - 3rd times a charm! Stephen's eye surgery was a success. The surgeon said it is going better than what he had hoped. Thank you everyone for your prayers!

**Ron Thompson** - Prayers for my 90 year-old mother as she fights a bad cold.

**Joan Boyd** - Choir was magnificent!

**Bill Kerby** - Please pray for Cheryl Rendak. She fell and broke her leg and had to have a rod put in it. She is still in Blodgett Hospital.

**Kelly Wasnich** - Prayers for Susan, a dear friend, who needs some extra love right now.

**Annette Jeltema** - Continued prayers for my brother, Jim.

**Sallie McLean** - Please pray for Dorie. She does not do well when she doesn't come to church.

**Nancy Carpenter** - Please pray that we will take care of this beautiful world that God has given to us.

**Esther Fernandez** - It was so nice to see Jason Beck here today. Molly, it was so nice to get hugs from you and to see you. May God continue to bless our church and family members.

## The Schedule for Lent

- **March 18**
  - Foundations Worship, 9:15 am "Tempted to Turn Away"
  - IMPACT Worship Rehearsal, 11 am
    - Technology, Sharing, Social Media Practice
- **March 25**
  - Foundations Worship, 9:15 am "Tempted to Betray Christ"
  - IMPACT Worship Rehearsal, 11 am
    - Full Service Practice
- **March 29**
  - Holy Thursday, 7 pm Worship
- **March 30**
  - Good Friday, 7 pm Worship
- **April 1**
  - Easter Breakfast, 7:30-11 am in Fellowship Hall
  - Easter Celebration Foundations Service, 9:15 am
  - Easter Celebration IMPACT Worship Launch, 11 am

## Blood Drive

Wesley Park blood drive is on March 25 from 8am-noon. You can be a hero - the need is great! If you scheduled somewhere else, please consider donating at our church. Our goal is 15 donors. Let's do it! Contact Bill Kerby (261-9958) with any questions.

## New Bible Study

**Bible Study at Cindy Lang's.** Workshop video by Robyn Dykstra, "**Journey to Trust**", starting **Tuesday April 3, 2018 at 7:00 PM**. The bible study will run for 4 weeks. Would you like to trust in Jesus, to understand if the Holy Spirit is talking to you, and how to pray. If you would like to join us or want more information, please call Cindy at (616) 822-9679

## Kids Faith Formation - Updates

The kids at 11 am Faith Formation have been diligently making bracelets and other jewelry to sell in order to raise money to help Family Promise. They voted on the project and where the proceeds would go to. Now we need your help! The kids will be in the welcome center between the services to share their bracelets and earrings with you for a donation to Family Promise (cash or checks will be accepted). **The sale will be happening March 18 and 25th. Please help the children as they use their gifts and talents to help Family Promise.**

If you are interested in helping the children lead missions projects at 11 am or teaching them Bible stories at 9:15 am, **we would love to have you join us!** Leave a note on your communication card, email, call or see Anna Spencer on a Sunday.

## Florentine's Fundraiser

The Florentine's Dinner will be Monday, March 26 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.

## United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women will meet in the Marv and Omie Tanis Welcome Center at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, March 27, 2018. Connie Swinger, former UMW Secretary of Program Resources, will be on hand to tell us how to become involved in the UMW Reading Program. All women are invited to attend. Childcare is provided.

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## **Blue Bags Ministry Share Offering**

### **100% Ministry Shares Challenge**

Received To Date:

**\$5,856**

**(10 Weeks Completed)**

Remaining Balance Needed:

**\$45,480**

**(42 Weeks Remaining)**

Offered last week: **\$275**

### **Piano/Awning Collection Update**

Entrance Awning: **\$2,935**

Yamaha Piano: **\$14,049**

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Even though it is still snowing out, the youth leaders are already thinking about the spring rummage sale to benefit the 2018 mission trip. The sale to help the youth will be Saturday, April 21 from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm. More details to come as to when you can start bringing in your items, where to put them, and what kinds of items we are not excepting this year. We can pick up anything that needs a truck and trailer on Friday, April 20. Call or text Eric at 616-446-7679 or email at [eterry@wesleypark.org](mailto:eterry@wesleypark.org) if you need a pick-up. Please spread the word. Much love and thanks! The Wesley Park Youth

## **Take Me Out To The Ballgame**

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 19. Wesley Park will be heading out to Fifth Third Ballpark for a night of White Caps baseball. Tickets are \$13 each. There is no food voucher included this year. You will have until April 15th to purchase your tickets. Please stop by the office or Welcome Desk to purchase. You can pay by cash, check, and debit/credit card. There are fireworks after the game. Please join us for what is going to be a fun evening with our church family. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact the church office (616-988-6738).

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