

Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Monday, April 9	Young Adult Group, 7 pm Finance, 7 pm	Nathan Harr	
Tuesday, April 10	Softball Practice, 5:30 pm SPRC, 5:30 pm Cindy's Bible Study, 7 pm	Heinz Herzog	Brian & Judy Hepp
Wednesday, April 11	Women's Prayer, 10 am Youth Group, 5:30 pm Internal Readiness Team, 6 pm Faith Development, 7:45 pm	Marilyn Knapp Jim Willmer	
Thursday, April 12	Congregational Care Team, 2 pm Praise Team!, 5 pm Baton, 5:30 pm Chancel Choir, 6:30 pm	Cindy Rice Tonya Seim	Alfredo & Esther Fernandez
Friday, April 13	Freddi's Angels, 1 pm	Artie Howland	
Sunday, April 15	Foundations Service, 9:15 am Fellowship, 10:30 am IMPACT, 11 am	Kodey Howland Sarah Mitchell	

## Blue Bags Ministry Share Offering

### 100% Ministry Shares Challenge

Received To Date:

**\$6,882**

**(13 Weeks Completed)**

Remaining Balance Needed:

**\$44,454**

**(39 Weeks Remaining)**

Offered last week: **\$443**

### Piano/Awning Collection Update

Entrance Awning: **\$5,590.70**

Yamaha Piano: **\$16,209**

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# Wesley Park Weekly

April 8, 2018

## Pastor's Page

It is early in the morning, Monday, April 2. I have been reflecting on the experiences of yesterday. Many of the youth were at the church by 6 am helping Laura get ready to serve an amazing Easter breakfast. Wasn't the breakfast beautiful and delicious?

The sunrise service was started with the pronouncement of Easter by a choir of birds. They were insistent in their singing. When people walked in through the dark morning, they said, "Did you hear those birds singing?"

The Foundations Worship was filled with joy as we sang with gusto "Christ the Lord is Risen Today!" The piano, organ, guitar, chancel choir, and congregation lifted praise in song. Wasn't the time of worship amazing?

This morning I am thinking about the hospitality teams that worked so hard to ready the church, with coffee stations, a renovated kitchen nook, a new welcome desk and transformed information desk, new signs throughout the church, and an amazing outpouring of love. Did you feel welcomed into a safe space?

And, I am reflecting on the launch of the new IMPACT Worship and Service. I felt the Holy Spirit present and an openness to come together trusting where God is leading us. It was amazing to watch the planting of the garden markers, and to feel the love in the music and the connections. Did you feel a sense of hope?

This morning Will rubbed the sleep from his eyes and sat beside me. He touched my arm to get my attention and had a question for me. Will signed, "Is today Easter?" I was about to sign back "No. Easter was yesterday. Easter is all done." But then I stopped and thought about his question. Yes, today is Easter. The song goes: "Every morning is Easter morning from now on! Every day's resurrection day, the past is over and gone! Goodbye guilt, goodbye fear, good riddance! Hello Lord, Hello Sun! I am one of the Easter People! My new life has begun!" Today is a good day. Today is a new day. Today is Easter.

Easter people, are you ready for all that awaits us?

*Randee Artis*

# *The Prayers of Our Hearts*

**Pat & Terry Essex** - Prayers for a friend suffering from cancer.

**Hughes Family** - Happy Easter! We are grateful for our church family. God's blessings to all of you!

**Kathy DenHollander** - Health prayers for my friend, Marilyn, as she travels to Mayo. My nephew, Mark, continues to make poor choices. The children have been bounced around so many times. Special prayers for those two precious children.

**Ron & Dolores Sanford** - All of our Easter services have been wonderful. Thank you Pastor Dean.

**Donna Mulder** - I'm thankful to be much better and able to be in church.

**Harry Blauwikel** - Good to have the organ again!!

**Rug & Nancy Harrington** - We would like to thank everyone for their prayers and cards. It's been a long haul. Hopefully he can get stronger again. A special thank you to Pastor Dean for his visits and help with decisions.

**Ron Thompson** - Continued prayers for my brother, Joe, as he seeks a different treatment.

**Terry Thompson** - Happy Easter to all! Christ is risen!

**Anonymous** - Pray for the Westret family. They lost their Grandpa Herman. He was 94 years old and a WWII vet.

**Nancy Carpenter** - Please pray that we will be worthy of Christ's sacrifice. We can do better.

**Esther Fernandez** - Beautiful Easter service. Beautiful music. Thank you all. Jesus lives!! Good Friday was a good service too. Jesus is so good!

**Leo & Arvilla DeVries** - Pray for our niece, Brenda. She has lung and brain cancer.

**Ken & Linda McKenney** - We are thankful for a safe trip home. Saw so many beautiful sights and people. God made a beautiful world.

**Val Rienks** - Therapy appointment went well. I have lots of neck and shoulder exercises to do at home. Appointment with Behavioral Oncology (Psychologist) went well. In talking with them we determined that there does not need to be further memory testing and said that for short term I will just need reminders. I will keep my calendar and make lists like I already do.

**Barb DeCan** - Praise! My co-worker, Kara, got the very job she has been praying hard for. She so appreciated our prayers. God is good!

**Nancy Chambers** - So good to have Rug and Nancy in church today.

**Pat & Keith Warren** - Pray that the Glasson Family will have safety and peace and do the right things.

## **Whitecaps - May 19**

Wesley Park UMC at the Whitecaps Baseball with Fireworks! Tickets are \$13 at the Welcome Desk. The deadline for ticket purchases is April 15.

## **Bus Trip - September 20-25**

The annual bus trip this year will head to Washington, DC September 20-25, 2018. The cost of the trip is \$556. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

## **United Methodist Women**

The United Methodist Women will meet during the daytime in addition to their 4th Tuesday nighttime meeting. Contact the office if you are interested in attending.

## **Wesley Park Rummage Sale - April 21**

You can start bringing your items today. We can pick up anything that needs a truck and trailer on Friday, April 20. Call the office if you need a pick-up.

## **Circles of Grand Rapids**

Circles is seeking a lead teacher for our 7-11 year old class. Small stipend. Please contact the office with any questions.

## **Wesley Park Softball**

If you are interested in the Men's Softball, please contact the church office. Practices begin April 10

## **Funeral Lunches**

We are looking for a new funeral lunch coordinator. Training available. Call the office if you are interested in more information.