

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

#### 9:30 am Worship Helpers:

- ☀ **Greeters:** Heinz Herzog, John & Kathy Challa
- ☀ **Ushers:** Charlie Swanson, Dennis Strong, Jeff and Pam Osborn
- ☀ **Communion Servers:** Charlie Swanson, Chuck and Janice Starnes, Jeff and Pam Osborn, Joanne Gustafson
- ☀ **Acolytes:** Allison Kinney and Jillian Fischer
- ☀ **Sound Tech:** Anna Spencer and Mathias Vieau
- ☀ **Computer Tech:** Kathy Carruthers
- ☀ **Video Tech:** Aaron Carruthers
- ☀ **Nursery:** Sheryl Jones
- ☀ **Welcome Desk:** Jim Gustafson and Deb Hodges
- ☀ **Musicians:** Sara Kropp, Erin Vanderlaan, Molly Jeltema, Paula Hartley, Carole Sutphen, Adrienne Prentiss, and Liz Montcastle

- ⊠ **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
- ⊠ **Sara Kropp**, Music Director, sara@wesleypark.org
- ⊠ **Skyler Maitner**, Child Advocate, Skyler@wesleypark.org
- ⊠ **Rostyn Properties**, Custodial Services
- ⊠ **CCLI**, #860995



# Wesley Park Weekly

May 7, 2017

## Witnesses

Dear friends, the Judicial Council of The United Methodist Church is much like our Supreme Court. It makes rulings based on the law as contained in the United Methodist Book of Discipline, focusing on the details of a particular case. Last week, the Judicial Council ruled that the election of Bishop Karen Oliveto of the Western Jurisdiction violates church law because of our current limit on the service of "self-avowed, practicing homosexuals." Bishop Oliveto is in a legal same-sex marriage. The ruling added that Bishop Oliveto remains in good standing as a bishop. Additional administrative proceedings will follow.

The United Methodist Church has begun a process, authorized by the General Conference, called the Commission on a Way Forward. United Methodists from around the world, spanning the theological spectrum, are gathering to consider creative and new ways of being the church. They will be considering every part of the Book of Discipline that addresses human sexuality. A special General Conference has been set for February 23-26, 2019 where this way forward will be considered. Bishop Bard of the Michigan area is encouraging on-going conversation, and will be "convening gatherings in the fall to discuss possibilities for unity in light of deeply held yet differing convictions about the nature of revelation, the love of God, and the appropriateness of same-sex attraction." Our Bishop encourages us to pray, and to enter into these conversations.

The Book of Discipline does affirm that all people are of sacred worth, and that it is our duty to invite all peoples to be disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. I hope and pray we will find a way forward so that we can focus on our mission, to build a Christian community with all people, and to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world. Let us always remember the radical love of Jesus Christ and the powerful movement of the Holy Spirit, bringing life from death, hope from despair, and a future for all creation.

*Rev. Dean N. Prentiss*

# Prayers

**Marilyn Knapp** - Thank you Sara for the challenge of “On the Emmaus Road”!

**Esther Fernandez** - What a wonderful world song. I love that song. My sister’s husband, Jose, is like my second dad. He loved that song. He passed away in 1987 at the age of 52. I miss him. He taught me a lot. Lord, thank you for people in our lives that have taught us good values, etc. Sara, thank you! Such a beautiful song. Your voice is so beautiful.

**Shirley Diederiks** - Sara, beautiful song and you sang it from your heart. Love to you and all this morning. God is good all the time. Lovely message Dean. Good to be here this morning.

**Darlene Pinder** - Service was so inspiring. Touched all our hearts, I’m sure.

**Jackie Matson** - Thank you Sara, what a beautiful and powerful song. When you came to the end, I said, “Wow!”

**Ron & Dolores** - Sara Kropp you are a blessing to our church. Thank you for all you do. Our service was wonderful today.

**Ron Thompson** - Prayers for my mom, Mae Baker, as she has shoulder replacement May 3rd. She is 90 years old.

**Julie Riemersma** - The hunger walk is Sunday May 7. Pray it goes well and we get a lot of walkers. Thank you Lord for 40 years of the walk.

**Gibbard Family** - Prayers for seniors and graduates this time of year. May they be blessed and be a blessing to others.

**Anonymous** - Prayers for my children and relationship.

**Carolyn DuBuis** - Beautiful service this morning. Always a treat to hear Sara sing.

**Myrtle Hartzog** - Prayers for Mary Beem and her family.

**Joan Boyd** - Please pray for Mary Beem as she is preparing to “go home”.

**Nancy Carpenter** - Sara, absolutely beautiful song. Thank you.

**Val Rienks** - First treatment done. Blood work to check it on Friday. The second treatment will be on the 19th.

**Jane Ellen Johnson** - Lifting up prayers for our denomination.

**Annette Jeltema** - Prayers for my 97 year old mother-in-law who is now in a nursing facility at Raybrook manor.

**Cindy Lang** - Please pray for my cousin, Sue Lounsberry. They found her in her home unresponsive. She is in intensive care currently with no diagnosis.

**Ava Kropp** - Prayers for my grandma, Linda, she is on oxygen because someone is smoking around her. I also have a really bad cough and is hurting my throat.

**Kellie O’Connor** - My best friend, Krista, has a 16mo old son who was diagnosed w/ leukemia on Easter. He has been in ICU in Washington DC since Easter receiving chemo. His tests are coming back better each time, however, now they are trying to wake him up & he's having severe withdrawal even with Methadone. Pray for Karter.

Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Monday, May 8	Basketball, 5:45 am		
Tuesday, May 9	SPRC, 5:30 pm	Tristan Bloomer Karen McCarty	
Wednesday, May 10	Basketball, 5:45 am Women’s Prayer, 10 am Youth Group, 6 pm VCI Team Meeting, 6 pm		
Thursday, May 11	Congregational Care, 2 pm Baton, 5:30 pm Chancel Choir, 6 pm Softball, 6:15 pm Praise Team, 7:30 pm Softball, 7:30 pm	Casey Kinney Ava Reidel	Dan & Judy Bowen Larry & Wendy Harr Tom & Ruth Noble
Friday, May 12	Basketball, 5:45 am	Kyle Christensen Tommy Schick	
Saturday, May 13		Harry Blauwiekel Dianne Rietberg	
Sunday, May 14	Worship, 9:30 am Blood Pressure Check, 10 am Faith Formation, 11 am	Tom Jahncke	Tom & Heidi Young

## Fellowship Time

Let us continue enjoying coffee, cookies, and juice for everyone in between worship and the Faith Formation hour. Please prayerfully consider signing up to help at the Welcome Desk to supply the cookies and juice for a Sunday. If you have any questions feel free to contact the office or talk to Tabi or Anna.

## Blue Bags Ministry Share Offering

### 100% Ministry Shares Challenge

Received To Date:

**\$12,086**

**(18 Weeks Completed)**

Remaining Balance Needed:

**\$39,226**

**(35 Weeks Remaining)**

Offered last week: **\$1,428**

## Wesley Park's Very Own "A" Team

It is that time of year again, when we support the men of Wesley Park while they play various churches in softball. They play every Thursday at Orchard Hill Reformed Church, 1465 3 Mile NW. This week they have one game that starts at 6:15 pm on field 3.

## Take Me Out To The Ballgame

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 3. Wesley Park will be heading out to Fifth Third Ballpark for a night of White Caps baseball. We have opted for the padded seats behind home plate. Tickets are \$16 each. There is no food voucher included this year. You will have until May 10 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).

## Prayers

**Ken & Linda McKenney** - Prayers for Ken's older brother, Gary, who fell and is healing and unable to drive. The music was inspiring and beautiful. Prayers for all who are suffering from cancer and pain. Great sermon, Dean.

**Anonymous** - Prayers for Marie Hartford as she heals from her surgery.

**Freddi Angus** - My grandson, Hunter, will graduate on Friday, May 4, from the United States Air Force. He calls this his "adventure" and has a beautiful attitude. Pray for me on Saturday, May 13. I will run the River Bank run with the power of Jesus.

**Sallie McLean** - Please pray for me. I am not walking so easy and I don't want to end up in a wheelchair.

**Dorie DeCommer** - Prayers for Sallie that her hand gets better and she walks better.

**Paula Kay Pawloski** - Thanks be to God! Fred is out of the hospital and back at Medilodge. Please pray for his continued recovery.

**Earl & Sally Morrow** - Prayers of strength and healing for Peg Kerby.

**Vicky Van Dalsen** - Bill has a CT scan on Monday. This will tell us if the oral chemo is keeping his cancer from spreading. Pray for good results. Also, prayers for my cousin's 17 year old grandson, Dylan, who is going through chemo for Ewings Sarcoma, a rare bone cancer.

**Charlie & Kathy Swanson** - Prayers for Lynda Edsall as she recovers from hip surgery.

**Linda Hagan** - Praising God as this past week 2 young women in our family made vows to God. One by membership to her church and the other by making her first communion!

**Deb Workman** - I would like prayers for myself and family. I found out I have dementia.

## Wesley Park Game Night

Join us for Game Night, on **Wednesday, May 17th at 6:00 pm** in the FLC (the gym). The church will provide popcorn, lemonade, and a few board/card games to share. Bring your favorite games and snacks to share together with our faith community! Invite your neighbors, friends, and family! All are welcome!

## Adult Faith Formation: 11 am Sunday Mornings

New Study starting April 30th - through the month of May

### Parables of the Kingdom of God

Jesus often spoke and taught in **parables**. These metaphoric stories are **hard** and often **confusing to categorize**. They lend themselves to multiple and sometimes contradictory interpretations. **So, why did Jesus speak in parables and how do we best handle them?** Join us as we experience the parables anew. Everyone is welcome!

**May 7th:** Parable of the Weeds

**May 14th:** Parables of Mustard Seed + Yeast

**May 21st:** Parables of Hidden Treasure + Pearl

**May 28th:** Parable of the Net

## ATTENTION: WESLEY PARK FAMILY

I would like to offer all of you a very worthwhile opportunity to proclaim our mission "to build a Christian community with all people." Annual conference will take place in Traverse City on June 1-4, 2017. As a member of Michigan United Methodists, we can participate by offering financial assistance for Bishop Judith Craig's Children's Village in Liberia for orphaned children and/or feeding 20,000 Haitian children suffering from the devastation of a hurricane last year (see bulletin insert); and by supplying household items (stop by the welcome desk for a list) for a permanent shelter, Safe Harbor of Grand Traverse. I pray that our church will find it in their hearts to help these very needy causes. Nobody needs to be lonely or hungry, or without shelter, clothing, and protection. Please make out checks to Wesley Park UMC noting on the memo line "Haiti/Liberia Offering," and drop off household items in the office. We will want to send the money and items with Deb Hodges when she goes to Annual Conference on June 1 so please make sure we have your contributions by May 30th. Thank you for your support and your efforts on behalf of the needy. God bless! Al Pittenger, Treasurer

## Summer Kids Faith Formation

starting May 14 through August

**Volunteers are needed** in each of these ministry areas. If you are interested in serving this summer or in the fall please let Anna Spencer know or call the office.

**The Play & Learning room (9:30 -10:30 am)** will continue throughout the summer, after the children's blessing, except on 1st Sundays (Communion Sundays) of each month.

**Preschool - 3rd grade (11 am - Noon)** will be combining classes this summer with age specific breakouts for the discussion of the Bible Story. The combined class will be meeting in the Preschool room each Sunday. The older children will have the opportunity to buddy up with a younger child and help with crafts and activities.

**4th - 5th grade class (11 am - Noon)** will continue as usual throughout the summer. Keep an eye on your bulletin and email for family and community events happening this summer!

## Got Extra Yarn?

The first Thursday of every month we have LaRee Ellens knitting group that meets in the Cornerstone room. They are running low on yarn. If you have some extra yarn that you are not going to be using or can purchase some to donate, please drop it off to the office during regular business hours or on Sunday at the Welcome Desk.

## Summer Camp

Every year, Wesley Park UMC has a camp scholarship fund to help send our kids to a United Methodist camp. Prayerfully consider donating to this wonderful fund to help send Wesley Park UMC kids to a summer camp this year. Checks can be made out to Wesley Park UMC and mark the envelope with "Summer Camp".