

Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Monday, July 31	Trustees, 6:30 pm	Karin Drost	Jim & Conni Bloomer Doug & Jan McCreery
Tuesday, August 1	Small Group Study, 6 pm		Chuck & Donna Gress
Wednesday, August 2	Women's Prayer, 10 am Kitchen Team, 6:30 pm		
Thursday, August 3	Knitting Group, 10 am Food Truck, 5 pm	Angel Najjar	
Friday, August 4		Ashlinn Droski Alan Wright	
Saturday, August 5		Steven Carruthers Phyllis Prentiss Mitch Reidel	
Sunday, August 6	Worship, 9:30 am Fellowship, 10:30 am Faith Formation, 11 am Family Promise, 3 pm	Terry Losinger	

## Welcome Desk Welcomes All

Stop by the Welcome Desk this morning in the Welcome Center.

- ❖ Get a **name badge**, even if this is your first Sunday!
- ❖ Sign up to provide cookies and juice for our 10:30 am **Fellowship Time**.
- ❖ Sign up for **Family Camp**, August 18-20 at Lakeview United Methodist Camp. \$56 per site. There are 3 sites left.
- ❖ **Blessing of the Cars**, August 24 Water Donation, or volunteer August 26.
- ❖ **Circles of Grand Rapids**, sign-up if interested in connecting.
- ❖ **Family Promise** scheduling and volunteers
- ❖ Drop off **Adopt-a-Classroom** items



# Wesley Park Weekly

July 30, 2017

## The Summer Suitcase

A couple of weeks ago, we considered the benefits of trusting God and unpacking our baggage, confronting our fears and grief that we have packed away. Since then, many have shared stories of long-neglected bags in need of attention. Others have responded with great hockey stories. Did you know that they make hockey bags now that have a built-in fan and de-stinker that hockey players plug in after practice? Amazing. I had fully expected my hockey bag to be in disarray - filled with jerseys and equipment that I had long ago walked away from uncleaned and unkept. I was shocked when I opened the bag and found it to be in good order.

Adrienne explained later that night that years ago she had emptied everything out, sprayed everything down, even turned the hockey bag inside out and washed it clean, then put everything back for the time that I might want to use it again. It was a surprise. And, it was a reminder that sometimes others are helping us do the difficult work of trusting God and taking care of ourselves. Take a moment to give thanks for the people who are helping us navigate this journey of faith.

And, as we celebrate those who are entering into the covenant of Baptism and Membership, think about the people who have and are guiding your journey of faith. Who has helped you discover the Living Christ? Who is helping you to imagine the beautiful Kingdom of God that is in process all around us? Who encouraged you to trust in a way you never trusted before? Give God thanks for these people who are bearing witness to the love of God in Christ in the world.

New members: Morgan Ann Volkers and Adella Sayen by baptism; Ron Thompson by transfer.

*Ron Thompson*

## Anything But Ordinary, July - September 2<sup>nd</sup>

**11am - Noon -- Every Sunday -- Downstairs in Fellowship Hall**

Our summer Adult Faith Formation series will be an in-depth study of the Abrahamic family narratives found in the first and second books of the Bible (Genesis and Exodus). Whether you are a first-time guest or life-long member you are invited to enter into these stories (anew) through our study. This season of the church year (lectionary) is called ordinary time but we want this summer to be Anything But Ordinary for you!

## All-Church Study, September 10-October 15

**Clip In: Risking Hospitality in Your Church Small Group Book Study**  
**September 10<sup>th</sup> – Oct 15<sup>th</sup>**

“When are a cyclist and a church alike? The cyclist goes nowhere without balance and momentum. Neither does a church. For the cyclist, the risk begins when he or she clips into the pedals. For a church, the risk comes with balancing attention toward existing members while generating momentum through reaching new people. But when the focus goes from the “functions” of hospitality to creating a culture of hospitality, a church’s growth will shift into high gear.”

**If you are interested in facilitating a small group for this study, please contact Anna Spencer ([aspencer@wesleypark.org](mailto:aspencer@wesleypark.org)).**

## New Wesley Park Shirts

Stop by the Welcome Desk to check out the new Wesley Park gear. We currently have t-shirts size adult small-XL for \$10 and 2XL for \$13 and polo shirts size adult small-XL for \$15 and 2XL for \$18. We also have children sized t-shirts from small to XL for \$10. Show your Wesley Park pride and get your shirt today! We accept cash, check, and debit/credit card.

## United Methodist Women Adopt-a-Classroom

As a service project for UMW, we would like to collect the following items for a local elementary school, Oriole Park. Please consider any of the items below and put them in the tub labeled “UMW” in the welcome center. Thank you for all you do!

Disinfectant wipes  
Facial tissue  
Large glue sticks (Elmers)  
Spiral notebooks (single subject)  
#2 Pencils  
Whiteboard markers (black) skinny  
2 pocket Folders  
Crayons  
Watercolor paint  
Tape

Big erasers (no cap ones)  
Playdough  
Scissors  
Loose leaf paper  
Square sticky notes  
Pencil boxes/pouches  
Clipboards  
Lanyards  
Dollar store gift cards  
White card stock

## Blue Bags Ministry Share Offering

### 100% Ministry Shares Challenge

Received To Date:

**\$20,334**

**(30 Weeks Completed)**

Remaining Balance Needed:

**\$30,978**

**(22 Weeks Remaining)**

Offered last week: **\$376**

## Family Promise

Our next opportunity to serve guests from Family Promise will be the week of August 6, 2017. It takes many hands and hearts to make each Family Promise week work. Please check your calendars and prayerfully consider donating some time to our guests. The Signup Genius site is now up and running. To sign up online, please use the following link: [www.goo.gl/Ba88CD](http://www.goo.gl/Ba88CD).

Kelly Olsen and Mary Ann Keyes will be at the Welcome Desk between service and Faith Formation each Sunday if you need assistance.

# Prayers

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**Aimee Terry** - Please pray for my sister, Annica. She is having a biopsy on a spot on her right breast on August 2nd. We believe in the power of prayer. We pray that the spot will be completely gone on August 2nd. We pray for negative results. We pray that God will be in control and will continue to love our family.

**Esther Fernandez** - Thank you for all your prayers for me and my family. My brother, Robert, was a kind, forgiving, and loving man. He lives in my heart. I do miss him so so much. He lived in Tampa like the rest of my family. I know he is with Jesus. He is a believer. Wonderful message Pastor Dean. Thank you for all you do Pastor Dean. Thank you Al.

**Marilyn Knapp** - Thank you for praying! Our retreat for families with disabilities was such a blessing for all 200 of us. The parents were amazed at the special care received.

**Barb DeCan** - Many ask about Dad. He is home with us and doing well. Al, thank you for your song. So enjoy this series of sermons.

**Mike & Jill Beck** - Al, nice choice of songs - everyone can understand it.

**Linda & Ken McKenney** - Thank you Al for your powerful and beautiful song. Great sermon - God carries us, cannot hide from God, God loves us, watches over us, God is with us. Great music! Thank you.

**Chuck Johnson** - Prayers for safety for my self and others doing MBHV Hero's Ride for 6 days.

**Tim & Tabi Fischer** - Praise! The youth had a fantastic trip. Thank you for all the prayers while we were gone.

**Chuck & Sally Dear** - Beautiful singing Al, Eric, Keith, and Sara. We are so blessed to have you all.

**Ross & Erin Vanderlaan** - Prayers for those suffering from loss.

**Nancy Carpenter** - Praying for Esther Fernandez. Prayers of comfort and peace after the sudden loss of her brother.

**Joan Boyd** - What a wonderful message in the song that you sang, Al.

**Bill & Vicky VanDalsen** - Al - beautiful song! Thank you for your gift. I'm sure the words of your song touched many hearts this morning. Great sermon, great music, great fellowship! I'm so glad I came to church today!!

**June Jones** - Wonderful service Pastor Dean.

**Rich Austin** - Thank you for the song intro to "Even If". It sounded great. Fine message Dean! Excellent reminder that God's always present. Woohoo quartet!!

**Jason & Kim Johnson** - Prayers for Makaila and all the students leaving for band camp. Safe travels, good weather, and lots of fun and memories.

**Phyllis Prentiss** - Be with Esther on the death of her brother, Robert.

**Tom & Ruth Noble** - Wow! Great job Al!

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**Anonymous** - Prayers for all the children that are in foster care. Prayers that people involved are given discernment as they make plans for these vulnerable children's future.

**Larry & Wendy Harr** - Prayers of thanks to all the men of the softball team for a great season of fellowship and fun!

**Ron & Dolores Sanford** - Many thanks to Al for a wonderful song. Our service was wonderful. Thank you!

**Harry Blauwikel** - Special music was fantastic. Thank you to all! God bless.

**Myrtle Parrish** - Thank you Al. Your song was beautiful. Great sermon Dean. Thank you.

**Ann Bellgraph** - I loved the music and the sermon.

**Jackie Price** - Wonderful music. I am so glad I came.

**Kellie O'Connor** - Thank you to all the youth leaders who took time off work and away from their families to go to West Virginia. Zorah had a great time.

**Pat & Kathy Carruthers** - Karleena drove from East Lansing with her bike that was broken in her move. She said that her bike repair caused her eyes to leak tears. Thank you Wesley Park Family!

**Alan & Susan Wright** - Our thoughts and prayers are with Esther Fernandez during this sad time in her life. Absolutely beautiful song Al.

**Kathy DenHollander** - Safe travels for me as I go to Portland, Oregon to be with my sister. My other sister fell on the outside steps. She has some pains and bruises. We're very grateful that she'll be fine. Prayers for all who are lonely. God loves you.

**Peggy Pittenger** - Great job Al - great messages! Thank you, Dean, for this sermon series, "The Summer Suitcase"!! Great quartet Sara, Al, Keith, and Eric! Our church is so blessed.

**Andrew Hughes** - We laid Jess', Grandma Gert, to rest this week. Thank you Lord for her 95 years of faith, love, and a true servant's heart. What a legacy she left behind.

**Val Rienks** - Thankful to have my port out. Radiation simulation on Wednesday when they will mark my treatment area. Then 5 business days to formulate the treatment plan.

**John & Kathy Challa** - Al, great song.

**Carolyn DuBuis** - Al - Beautiful song! God gave you a beautiful gift! Dean, what a beautiful sermon.

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