

Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Monday, August 29	WSMC Training, 7 pm		
Tuesday, August 30	S-PRC, 5:30 pm	Harper Terry	
Wednesday, August 31	Women's Prayer, 10 am		
Thursday, September 1	Knitting group, 10 am Congregational Care, 2 pm Food Truck, 5 pm	Alec Johnson	
Friday, September 2		John Challa Ben Peterson Joe Schafer	
Saturday, September 3			
Sunday, September 4	Worship, 10 am Family Promise, 12:30 pm		

Wesley Park United Methodist Church  
1150 32nd Street SW Wyoming, Michigan 49509  
616-988-6738 [info@wesleypark.org](mailto:info@wesleypark.org), [www.wesleypark.org](http://www.wesleypark.org)

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.



## The Storm

As the television warnings became more firm and definite, with meteorologists doing their best to explain to the public what they learned over years of schooling, fighting their urge to yell, "Just take cover, will ya?!", our community entered into prayer for one another. If you were watching the projections on the weather map, you could see that this violent storm was making its way toward familiar streets and neighborhoods. Phones started to ring, "Are you watching the news? Go downstairs. A storm is coming your way." Dogs and cats and kids and folks gathered in safe spaces - if you were at family camp, in the bathroom - and waited. And wondered where the storm would hit. And prayed that everyone would be safe. In a rush and a roar, the winds came, and passed through almost as quickly. Some came out of their shelter to find nothing much had happened. Others stepped outside to find trees twice as tall as a house twisted and snapped and fallen on a shed, a swing set, a car. The branches and leaves which are usually so majestic in the sky were now overwhelming to behold on the ground. Word began to spread, with photos of the destruction sent by trembling hands and thoughts of wonder and shock that something so violent came so close. It could have been worse. Soon the sun would come out, and neighbors began helping neighbors, and the utility workers began working, and the city cleared the streets. And over the sounds of the chain saws you could sense the compassion of the community, thankful to stand in the gentle breeze and work to serve God by serving others.

1 Kings 19:11-13 God said to Elijah, "Go out and stand on the mountain. I want you to see me when I pass by." All at once, a strong wind shook the mountain and shattered the rocks. But the Lord was not in the wind. Next, there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. Then there was a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. Finally there was a gentle breeze, and when Elijah heard it, he covered his face with his coat.

*Rae Dea Martin*

## Blue Bags Ministry Share Offering

### 100% Ministry Shares Challenge

Received To Date:

**\$19,468**

**(33 Weeks Completed)**

Remaining Balance Needed:

**\$19,182**

**(19 Weeks Remaining)**

Offered last week: **\$2,035**

## Family Promise Week

Our next opportunity to help our friends at Family Promise will be the week of September 4. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for this very worthwhile project. You could volunteer your time or donate food for one of days that week. It takes all of us together to make the project work each time that we have guests. Mary Ann Keyes and Kelly Olsen will be in the Welcome Center each week after worship from now until the end of August if you need help signing up. Or use the Signup Genius website (<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0E4AA5A62EA1FD0-wesley1>) to sign yourself up to help. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Mary Ann Keyes at 532-6361.

## We're Going to the Zoo, Zoo, Zoo – Today!

We're going to the zoo, zoo, zoo,

How about you, you, you?

You can come too, too, too!

We're going to the zoo, zoo, zoo.

All ages are invited to meet at the John Ball Zoo after worship today. Walk around and offer blessings and thanksgiving to all the animals. Try to remember animals in the Bible and pay them a special visit. Meet at the play area/picnic tables near the parking lot. Bring a lunch. Zoo entrance is \$10/adult, \$8/child.

## All-Church Book Study and Small Group

Good morning, Wesley Park! I wanted you to be among the first to know that we will be starting an exciting 6-week series September 18th - October 23rd. The sermon series and small group study will be based on the book Who Stole My Church, by Gordon MacDonald. Books are available now for \$9 (see Anna Spencer) or you can get a digital copy on Amazon for \$5.99.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to interact with the material through sermons, reading the book, and participating in a small group for the duration of the series. Our hope is that this study will help us as we embrace the Vital Church Initiative (VCI) process.

In September, you will be able to sign up for a small group. These groups will be held at a variety of times and locations in order to fit a variety of schedules. Watch your bulletin for more details!

## September 11 Begins Kids Faith Formation!

Mark your calendars, kids Faith Formation classes begin Sunday, September 11th! Children from age 3 to 5th grade are invited to participate in exciting developmentally appropriate classes. These classes include videos, crafts, games and activities all centered around a specific Bible story for the day!

For younger children, we have a welcoming nursery. For youth, Eric Terry hosts a Bible Study during our 10am Faith Formation time as well. Adults, don't worry, we didn't forget about you! Starting in September you will be able to sign up for our All Church 6-week Book Study + Small Groups.

## September 11 Worship Time Change

Worship times will change Sunday, September 11. Worship will be at 9 am and 11 am, and Faith Formation for all ages will be at 10 am.

# Prayers

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**Nancy Carpenter** - Please pray for my neighbors, Larry and Carolyn Hilton, whose granddaughter was murdered on Thursday.

**Mary Tremblay** - Jeff and Kristen, wonderful and uplifting. It was just what we needed! Thank you. God bless you!

**Cindy Lang** - Thank you for your gift of music, Kristen and Jeff. It was great being greeted by your daughters as I entered the church. Thank you.

**Barb DeCan** - Prayers for my work week - some additional challenges this week.

**Marilyn Knapp** - Please pray for patience, provisions, and guidance for Pastor Rastegar's family as they wait in Greece after being forced out of the country due to teaching about Jesus.

**Peggy Sonke** - Thank you for your prayers, cards, and concerns for me in these last few weeks. My situation has not fully resolved itself, but I am calmer within and I am trusting the Holy Spirit to lead me and make clear the path I am to follow through this personal crisis. I love you all and thank God for the gift of your friendships.

**Alfredo and Esther Fernandez** - Wonderful and beautiful music Jeff, Kristen, and Phil. You did a great job. Please pray for Joy Herweyer. Her husband was killed at work. She had her first baby last week. I know her heart is happy for her son, but so sad that Robert is not there. Robert was only 23 years old.

**Jean and Maynard Culver** - Prayers for our world. So much unrest and hate.

**Pat Beadle** - Please pray for my sister, Barbara, and her children as they cope with their husband/father's worsening Dementia. Prayers of safe travel for me as I head to Texas on Friday.

**Pat Johnson** - Loved your music, Jeff and Kristen.

**Gary and Deb Hodges** - We are thankful to have our grandson, Gavin, here from California. He will be starting at Western in a few weeks. Prayers for all who are starting college.

**Fischer family** - Prayers for the 4 teenage girls that were involved in a bad car accident this past week. All 4 girls attend Jenison High School. Prayers for the parents of those girls. It is a call that no parent wants to get.

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**Carole Sutphen** - Please keep my sister, Patricia, in your prayers as she nears the end of her life on earth. Prayers for me as well as I do my best to help.

**Jessica Hughes** - Praise God for the safety of us and our neighbors. We praise God for our homes and literal shelter from the storm. If anyone needs help, please let us know. Andrew and I would like to help.

**Julie Riemersma** - I know a lot of people with cancer. Eric, Sandy, Sophia - please pray for them. They are all in fear of the unknown. God be with them.

**Kathy DenHollander** - I'm so terrified of tornadoes. It was a blessing that I had been reading and fell asleep, missing the storm. I'm grateful that my house and neighbors are ok. We even have electricity! God was also with my sister, Rosemary. She is fine now after being badly bitten by her dog. Also, a friend and I are ok now. It's been really hard

**Tena Podein and David Waugh** - Thank you for all who weathered the storm. Praise God. Thank you, Jeff and Kristen. It was beautiful. Prayers of healing for the Mallory Hilton family.

**Ron & Delores Sanford** - Prayers of healing for Bill and Luann Hoffman.

**Sallie McLean** - Pray for a new roommate.

**Toni Pullen** - Thank you Liz and Phil. You are both so talented!!

**John & Kathy Challa** - I'm ready to hear that beautiful music again. Thank you!

**Terry Thompson** - Janice's birthday was yesterday and our anniversary is tomorrow (46 years). I am so thankful for our time together.

**Peggy Sonke** - Please add prayers for our former accompanist, Judy Vandermeer and her husband, whose home and property were severely damaged during last Saturday's storms. A tree came through their bedroom and there was extensive structural damage to the house, which they had been renovating and were ready to place on the market. Judy's neighbor, Rose, a widow with 2 children, also was hard hit with numerous trees down on her property. Please pray for them all as they try to put the pieces back together and find God's direction and peace.

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