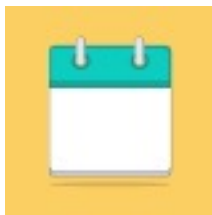


Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Monday, November 6	Trustees, 6:30 pm Young Adults Group, 7 pm	Deb Steenhagen	
Tuesday, November 7	ELECTION DAY	Ruth Noble	
Wednesday, November 8	Women's Prayer, 10 am Youth Group, 6 pm Square Dance, 6:45 pm	Doug Vander Woude	
Thursday, November 9	Congregational Care, 2 pm Baton, 5:30 pm Chancel Choir, 6 pm	Dorana Andringa Victoria Beams Heather Gast	
Friday, November 10	Freddi's Angels, 6:30 pm	Judy Bowen	Bob & Judy Colley
Saturday, November 11		Stephanie Halstead	
Sunday, November 12	Worship, 9:30 am Blood Pressure Check, 10:30 am Fellowship, 10:30 am Faith Formation, 11 am Staff Meeting, noon SPRC, 5 pm Church Conference, 6 pm	Maynard Culver Barbara Schondelmayer	

## Mark Your Calendar



- ◆ November 25: Vendor/Craft Show, 9 am-3 pm
- ◆ December 8: Christmas By Candlelight, 7 pm



# Wesley Park Weekly

November 5, 2017

## The Pastor's Page

Today is All Saints Sunday. What a perfect day to focus on justice for children, make our commitments of faith, and covenant to support the ministry of Wesley Park that started long before us and will continue long after. Joe Lovino wrote on [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org) this reflection about John Wesley's reverence for All Saints Day:

John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement, enjoyed and celebrated All Saints Day. In a journal entry from November 1, 1767, Wesley calls it "a festival I truly love." On the same day in 1788, he writes, "I always find this a comfortable day." The following year he calls it "a day that I peculiarly love."

Wesley cautioned against holding saints in too high regard.

However, he also advised against disregarding the saints altogether. In an All Saints Day journal entry dated Monday, November 1, 1756, Wesley writes, "How superstitious are they who scruple giving God solemn thanks for the lives and deaths of his saints!" If your 18th century English is as rusty as mine, it might help to know that the word scruple means, "to be unwilling to do something because you think it is improper, morally wrong, etc." ([Merriam-Webster.com](http://Merriam-Webster.com)). All Saints Day is an opportunity to give thanks for all those who have gone before us in the faith. It is a time to celebrate our history, what United Methodists call the tradition of the church.

From the early days of Christianity, there is a sense that the Church consists of not only all living believers, but also all who have gone before us. For example, in Hebrews 12 the author encourages Christians to remember that a "great cloud of witnesses" surrounds us encouraging us, cheering us on.

Let us give thanks for that Great Cloud of Witnesses who embolden us to continue the work of Christ today.

*Ron Dearholt*

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 October 29th communication cards...*

**Keith Warren** - Prayers for my sister, Barb Petit. Her husband is not able to work because of Dementia.

**Ron & Dolores Sanford** - May the sun shine for healing.

**Nancy Carpenter** - Help us Lord to follow your instructions to love one another without condition.

**Esther Fernandez** - Please pray for Tiffany Ellens. She is 15 and is missing Robert so much. She dreams about him. He was so good to her. Prayers for Frank's family. He passed away last Wednesday of cancer. He was only 66. Pray for more love in this crazy world.

**Barb DeCan** - Dad is home. So grateful for family, church, and his caregivers. He is now healthy and with mom.

**Ken & Linda McKenney** - Prayers for peace and for those suffering health issues.

**Julie Riemersma** - Thank you to all who brought candy and who passed out candy. What a great day for the trunk-or-treat. Thank you for loving the children and their families. God bless you.

**Andrew & Jess Hughes** - Please pray for our friend, Meghan. She is pregnant and due in January. She has not been feeling well and this is her rainbow baby.

**Chuck & Jane Johnson** - Pray for our friend, Jim, and his family. He had a lung transplant last week and is doing well at this point.

**Annette Jeltema** - Prayers for my brother, Jim, and his health issues.

**Jessica Schick** - Prayers for my friend, Liz Vanderslice. Her dad passed away yesterday.

**Ann Bellgraph** - Wonderful service.

## Blue Bags Ministry Share Offering

### 100% Ministry Shares Challenge

Received To Date:  
**\$28,977**  
(44 Weeks Completed)

Remaining Balance Needed:  
**\$17,670**  
(9 Weeks Remaining)  
Offered last week: **\$1,165**

## Family Promise



We will again be serving Family Promise guests the week of November 26, 2017. Please check your calendars and prayerfully consider when you might be able to donate some time to our guests or possibly donate some of the food we need that week. The Signup Genius site is now up and running. To sign up online please use the following link: [bit.ly/2z3FbL6](http://bit.ly/2z3FbL6). Kelly Olsen and MaryAnn Keyes will be in the Welcome Center after services each Sunday if you need assistance.

## Wesley Park Memorial Garden

Wesley Park United Methodist Church has approved the creation of a Memorial Garden, containing a columbarium. Funding for the columbarium and Memorial Garden is provided through the sales of niches, donor contributions and memorial gifts. The construction of the columbarium will not begin until the funds for the construction are in hand. If you are interested, or would like more information, you can go to the Welcome Center and check out the brochures or you can contact Glen Haight (616-240-3804), Jeff Osborn (616-862-7936), Chuck Dear (616-970-1310), or Tom Noble (616-446-5982)

## Faith Formation Series

Here is the list of upcoming worship service topics for our Children's Sabbath series. I have also listed the speakers and events we will be doing for Adult Faith Formation during this series. **Please pay special attention to November 5th and November 26th as these are intergenerational service projects we are participating in during our usual Faith Formation time.**



**Nov 5th - Today's focus is hunger.** After worship, everyone will be invited to participate in an **intergenerational service project led by the youth.** This project will be our Faith Formation experience for children, youth, and adults. We will be decorating lunch sacks and packing popcorn bags for **Kids Food Basket.** If you are able please bring a \$1 to help cover the cost of purchasing of lunch sacks and popcorn supplies. Any leftover money will be donated to Kids Food Basket.

**Nov 12th - Today's focus is children with special needs and their families.** A representative from **The Kings Table ministries** will be joining us to share about how they serve families with special needs children and adults in churches, schools, and group homes.

**Nov 19th - Today's focus is refugees and foster care.** **Bethany Christian Services Refugee Ministries** program will be presenting on their work and how we can get involved.

**Nov 26th - Today's focus will be Family Promise.** We will be decorating cards, drawing pictures, and praying for those that are here for Family Promise Week (November 26th - December 2nd). This project will be our Faith Formation experience for children, youth, and adults.

## Donations for West Elementary

Just a reminder that we are collecting new and gently used winter gear for West Elementary. They are in need of boots (size 12/13-6), snow-pants (gender neutral, size 4-16), gloves (water proof ones), and coats (size 4-16). They would also love to gather up about 30 sleds for their sliding hill.

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## Circles Grand Rapids

Circles Grand Rapids THANKS YOU, Wesley Park, for your generous gift of \$500 in honor of Bishop Don Ott and Cecile Adams! Your support is a witness to your commitment to ending poverty in our community. And with your help, Circles GR is making a difference: in just 18 months, our current **Circle Leaders have increased their monthly income by an average of 96%**! They've increased their savings from an average of \$42 to \$796. And they are claiming the power of self-confidence that comes from personal achievement.

## Area Agency on Aging

You are invited to meet with the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan Thursday, November 9 at 2 pm at Wesley Park United Methodist Church. This event is hosted by the Wesley Park Congregational Care Team, and provides an opportunity to learn about helpful services available for seniors in our community.

## 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!
- ✦ **Circles of Grand Rapids**, sign-up if interested in connecting.
- ✦ Drop off **Adopt-a-Classroom** items.
- ✦ Purchase a wreath for **Wreaths Across America**.

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