

Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Monday, December 19		Bob Williams	
Tuesday, December 20	Senior Saints, noon Rock and Mineral, 6:15 pm		Al & Deb Parkey
Wednesday, December 21	Women's Prayer, 10 am Youth, 6 pm	Nicole Bates Aimee Terry Vicky Van Dalsen	
Thursday, December 22	Chancel Choir, 6 pm Spanish, 6:30 pm Praise Team, 7:30 pm		Bruce & Brenda Payne
Friday, December 23		Amy Carpenter Aubrielle Valdez	
Saturday, December 24	Christmas Eve, 7 pm Christmas Eve, 11 pm	Zoe Christensen	
Sunday, December 25	Worship, 10 am	Zach Kinney	

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 church office is closed whenever Wyoming Public Schools close due to weather. If there is a cancellation or closing of a church worship service or event, look for word on our Care Connection or on WOOD-TV.



Hail to the Lord's Anointed

December 24, 1913, The Western Front

"A beautiful moonlit night, frost on the ground, white almost everywhere."
Private Albert Moren

The brutality of war was real. Soldiers dug into trenches, forces just 100 feet apart. Enemy troops were so close that they could hear each other talking, and smell their cooking.

And then, a miracle.

"First the Germans would sing one of their carols and then we would sing one of ours, until when we started up 'O Come, All Ye Faithful' the Germans immediately joined in singing the same hymn to the Latin words *Adeste Fideles*. And I thought, well, this is really a most extraordinary thing - two nations both singing the same carol in the middle of a war."
Graham Williams

The next morning German soldiers emerged from their trenches, calling out "Merry Christmas" in English. Germans help up signs reading "You no shoot, we no shoot." One account mentions a British soldier having his hair cut by his pre-war German barber; another talks of a pig roast. Several mention impromptu soccer games.

Excerpted from Time Magazine, December 2014

As we sing, worship, prepare and pray in the days ahead, let us believe in the miracle of Peace. Remember that tonight the church is going Caroling at 5 pm. Imagine the carols that you sing will stir someone to come out and sing along. Remember that our Christmas Eve services are at 7 pm and 11 pm, and our Christmas Day worship is at 10 am. Together let us welcome the Prince of Peace into a world that desperately needs a miracle.

Roxie Dean

Lunch with the Youth

The youth are currently working on their 3rd annual Dinner Theatre production that will take place in March. The kids stay after church every Sunday to practice until about 3 pm. We are looking for volunteers that would like to have lunch with the "Best Youth On The Planet" and bring in a lunch for about 20 people. Please prayerfully consider having a lunch with a great bunch of kids. If you have any questions or would like to sign up for a Sunday, please contact Bill Schick (616-261-0428) or put it on your communication card and Bill will give you a call.

Advent and Christmas at Wesley Park

- ★ **Christmas Eve Services**, including singing, a Christmas message, and the lighting of candles, will be at 7 pm and 11 pm.
- ★ **The Bishop's Special Offering** on Christmas Eve will go to support the people of Haiti.
- ★ **Worship on Christmas Day** will be at 10 am. Bring a gift to exchange!
- ★ **Worship on New Years Day** will be at 10 am.

Christmas Eve Surprise

We have just received word that there will be a very, very special guest arriving at some point at both the 7 pm and 11 pm Christmas Eve services. We are not allowed to share much more than that. Come early. Bring your family and friends. And be prepared to be blessed.

Coffee Hour After Christmas Concert

Please gather in the Family Life Center for cookies, coffee, treats, and conversation after the 9 am Christmas Concert. Then, stay for worship at 11 am. We are blessed that Julianne Howe-Bouwens will be sharing her gift of music.

Senior Saints this Tuesday

All Senior Citizens are invited for a meal at noon, this Tuesday, in Fellowship Hall downstairs. The menu is going to be a potato bar. Please mark your communication card with "Senior Saints" and how many people to RSVP.

Blue Bags Ministry Share Offering

100% Ministry Shares Challenge

Received To Date:

\$33,089

(50 Weeks Completed)

Remaining Balance Needed:

\$5,561

(2 Weeks Remaining)

Offered last week: **\$2,536**



Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Welcome Center and pick up your Name Tag! You can leave your name tag in the baskets by the church exits on your way out. Enjoy getting to know one another!

Prayers

Freddi Angus - Freddi's Angels would like to thank you for all the donations, cards, and stamps. Your support is a real blessing all year.

Mary Mingledorff - Prayers for the family and friends of Peg Saunier; a longtime member of Wesley Park who died this past week.

Marilyn Knapp - Please pray for Mary H, a pastor's wife, in Nepal. She is 26 years old, has 2 small children and had cancer surgery last year. It is now back. They're distraught because they have no money for help, but also are clinging to and praising Jesus.

Esther Fernandez - Please pray for my brother, Robert. He is coming home from Cuba the 17th of this month. His Cat passed away last week and Saturday the 10th, his beloved dog, Peanut, passed away. Prayers for Robert and Lucy. Thank you dear Lord Jesus for all your blessings.

Deb Parkey - Thank you for all your prayers. We had a wonderful vacation, but it's good to be home.

Dan Scribner - Prayers for a safe trip home today for sister, Mary, and husband, Dave. There is so much beauty in this season. Thank you for a white Christmas, Jesus.

Chuck Johnson - Prayers for my friend, Jimmy. He lost his sister to cancer.

Annette Jeltema - Thank you Lord. My house sold. Such a reminder that He is always there for us and to remember not in our time, but in his time. You are truly an awesome God!!

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11 am Worship Helpers:

Greeters: Charlie Swanson, Linda Hagen

Ushers: Lynda Edsall

Acolyte: Allison Kinney

Sound Tech: Pat Carruthers

Nursery: Kim Johnson

Child Advocate: Skyler Maitner

Musicians: Phil Pletcher, Paula Hartley, Carole Sutphen,

Sara Kropp, Molly Jeltema, Erin

Vanderlaan, Julianne Howe-

Bouwens

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Bouwens

Christmas Caroling

Come caroling event today at 5pm! Please contact the office, stop by the Welcome Desk, or mark your communication card with "caroling" and if you can drive and how many people can fit in your vehicle. If you know of someone that would enjoy having some carolers, let the office know and we will compile a list of homes and/or retirement villages. After caroling you are invited to gather in the Family Life Center for a light dinner. Phil will provide the meat again this year, but is looking for volunteers to provide buns, chips, hot chocolate, and cookies/brownies. Stop by the Welcome Desk for more information or to sign up.

Custodial Services

Did you ever notice when you walk into Wesley Park on Sunday mornings how clean it is? Keeping our church clean is a big job. The company we use cleans our church weekly with most areas done on a regular basis, and then handles special events as scheduled. There are times, however, when a dusty corner here, cobweb there, may be missed. Communicating these needs of the church is important so if you see something the cleaning crew should address, please contact Tabi in the church office (616-988-6738) or Larry Harr (616-291-3927 or firstshirt.lh@gmail.com).

If you would like to schedule a special event, contact Tabi in the church office. She will be happy to assist you with all the setup details to suit your needs.

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