

Date	Event	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Sunday, December 25	Worship, 10 am		
Monday, December 26	Office closed	Pamela Hoag	
Tuesday, December 27		Deb Workman	
Wednesday, December 28	Women's Prayer, 10 am	Shirley Diederiks Cameron Owusu	
Thursday, December 29	Spanish, 6:30 pm	Patricia Lowe Mary Workman	
Friday, December 30		Paula Hartley Jon Rice	
Saturday, December 31	Youth Lock-In, 5 pm	Joanne Gustafson	
Sunday, January 1	Worship, 10 am		Larry & Ann Bellgraph

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.



Wesley Park Weekly

December 24, 2016

Silent Night, Holy Night

There is something special that happens when we gather for worship on Christmas Eve. Some are sitting close to family that you don't see very often. Many are grieving those who are no longer in the pew. All of you have made a special effort to be here, to bring your hopes and your dreams, your hurts and your pain. To be here. In worship. On Christmas Eve night. The message resonates, doesn't it? God choosing to join us in this crazy world, born into poverty, vulnerable to human violence. Jesus comes into the world as a baby, and we all feel like we have been invited to the celebration. The story of Christmas reminds us of the power of new life, bringing new possibilities and a new future. The Christmas Story ends our year, but begins our journey of growing alongside Jesus.

And, when the lights in the sanctuary go out, and the light of the candles are passed person to person, and our voices sing, "Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright..." Well, I hope you feel a sense of peace. And I hope you feel connected to one another, reminded that we need one another to experience this kind of beauty, and to sing this kind of song. Thank you for being here tonight.

Please place on your 2017 calendars the following dates for our Vital Church Initiative next-steps: **January 8**, 2 pm, All-Church Pre-Consultation Event; **January 21**, 10:15 am - 3:00 pm, All-Church Workshop with Potluck; **January 22**, 10 am (one worship service), Reading of our Prescriptions in Worship; **February 8**, 7 pm, All-Church Town Hall Meeting; **February 15**, 5 pm, All-Church Town Hall Meeting; **February 19**, 2 pm, All-Church Town Hall Meeting; **February 26**, Church Conference VCI Vote.

May God bless your Christmas Eve, and all the days and years to come!

Ra. Dean Martin

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.

Annual Youth Lock-In

The Youth will be attending the Griffins Hockey Game, then sleeping the night at the church December 31. What a great way to ring in the new year!

Caroling Thank You from Carolyn

Carolyn Forbes called to say that the Christmas Caroling at Vista Springs on Sunday, December 18 was wonderful. Thank you to all!

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

Pastor Dean and the staff wish to extend our deepest gratitude to the Wesley Park UMC congregation for the Love Gift we received. We are in awe of your thoughtfulness and extreme generosity on our behalf. We all want you to know what a privilege and honor it is to serve in our various capacities a faithful and God loving community as yourselves. May God bless you this holiday season and in the future as we together continue to serve our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ!

Volunteer in 2017 as a Teacher

We are in need of another 4th + 5th Grade Room Teacher. You will work with a helper to teach engaging lessons to 4th + 5th graders every other month. Training will be provided so that you feel comfortable and prepared in the classroom. This is a great group of kind and insightful kids! If you have a heart for this specific age group, we would love to have you join the faith formation team. If interested please indicate it on your communication card or contact Anna Spencer (aspencer@wesleypark.org).

Celebrate the New Year at Wesley Park

★ Worship on New Years Day will be at 10 am. Let us bless 2017!

Blue Bags Ministry Share Offering

100% Ministry Shares Challenge

Received To Date:

\$33,767

(51 Weeks Completed)

Remaining Balance Needed:

\$4,883

(1 Week Remaining)

Offered last week: **\$678**



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

- **Dave & Marcia Coates** - Thank you Pastor Dean and church family for the love and support you have given our family.
- **Toni Pullen** - Please pray for the 80 people that are displaced because of a massive apartment fire in Hart.
- **Lynda Edsall** - Prayers for all of those who are traveling for the holidays. Catie and Alec came in on Thursday and will fly out on the 22nd for California.
- **Julie Riemersma** - My uncle Tom is doing a lot better after he had a stroke. Thank you, Lord. Please keep us safe in the snowy weather. Lord, please be with people missing loved ones who passed away. Give them peace. We love you Lord.
- **Nancy Carpenter** - Praise God! I have asked for prayers for Vicky, who has cancer. She is in remission! Thank you for your prayers.
- **Ken & Linda McKenney** - What a glorious and beautiful musical program to inspire us all. Thank you for a most delightful program.
- **John & Kathy Challa** - Beautiful!
- **Brian & Judy Hepp** - Please continue to pray for the Hepp family. We need strength, and wisdom, and guidance.
- **Annette Jeltema** - What a glorious Christmas program!!
- **Maynard Culver** - Big change coming. Pray for strength.
- **Donna Muller** - It was a very nice program.
- **Ron & Delores Sanford** - Thank you for all the beautiful music; especially the children and directors.
- **Chuck Johnson** - Prayers for healing. I fell and broke a rib last Monday.

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- **Esther Fernandez** - I love Christmas and our Christmas program. Thank you Phil and all the people that helped. God is so good. Happy birthday Jesus! Happy 2017 church family. Children, you did wonderful. Praise team, you are amazing. Peggy, nice job. Sara and Ava, that was beautiful.
- **Peggy Pittenger** - Please pray for our daughter, Kimberli McMahan, as we await test results regarding some medical issues she is experiencing.
- **Anonymous** - What great big hearts dwell in this church. Thank you God for our beautiful children, for the adults who empower and lead them, for beautiful music and great big windows of every kind to see and know your beautiful world.
- **Barb DeCan** - Beautiful music ladies. Thank you!
- **Elaine Urrutia** - Please pray for Griffin as he learns to drive.
- **Joanne Gustafson** - Pray for good results from a heart cath that I am having tomorrow.
- **Freddi Angus** - What a meaningful concert. We've got some young talent in this place. We've got plenty of not so young talent too. Christmas love to all.
- **Shirley Diederiks** - Please pray for my granddaughter, Jennifer. She is having a lot of pain due to psoriasis. She is on a new medication. Please pray it helps with the pain. Thank you and God bless! Merry Christmas to all!!

Wesley Park UMC Contact Information

1150 32nd Street SW, Wyoming, Michigan 49509

website: www.wesleypark.org

prayer camera: <http://www.wesleypark.org/sanctuary.html>

email: info@wesleypark.org

phone: 616-988-6738

Watch worship using the Periscope App, search for @wpworship

Give anytime at www.easytithe.com/wesleypark

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