

WESLEY PARK United Methodist Church

Coronavirus Coping



Bishop David Bard has lovingly reminded all United Methodist Churches of the importance of continuing to act in ways that promote public health, that further the common good, and that demonstrate loving care for the well-being of others. We are not ready to resume in-person worship or ministries at Wesley Park UMC. We are keeping track of the data from the Kent County Health Department. One of the important markers is the Positivity Rate for our area. The Joshua Task Force has said that this number must be under 5% for three consecutive weeks before we can come back together with masks, social distancing, hand washing, and prayer. For the safety, the church building is closed to all but staff. If you need to go to the church, please call me. It is important that we know who is in the building at all times. In order to love and care for one another, let us continue to worship online, reach out to one another by phone and notes, and pray for one another always.

Peace,

Treasurer's News

Dear friends, 2021 is off to quite a start! I shared with a dear friend recently that it feels more clear now than ever how much we need God to work around us, within us, in our country and in our world. We need to shine God's light brighter, we need our voices of love to be louder, and we need to humble ourselves before the only One who can make our paths clear. We do that work as individuals, and also collectively as a family of faith. We learn and grow together. We do good things. We love one another within our church, our families, and our community.

1. In 2020, we were able to pay 100% of our ministry shares to our conference and to our district. This is an amazing accomplishment! We will once again work toward this goal in 2021, to help our conference and district lovingly contribute to ministry programs throughout West Michigan and the world. Directly from our Wesley Park family, we will continue to support vital ministries within our community that feed, house, and promote inclusion and justice. This is all such important work, and we need your continued support.
2. If you have not submitted your pledge form for 2021, I would ask that you pray about the ways that you can help Wesley Park "Be the Church" outside of our 4 walls, and submit your form via mail or by email to sara@wesleypark.org. If you need giving envelopes, please let me know. Please continue to give lovingly and generously of your financial gifts. Be involved. Stay connected. Shine your light. Much love to you all. Sara

Wesley Park United Methodist Church Virtual Variety Show Fat Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7 pm

It's time to laugh and play! Can you read a poem? Reenact a Bible Story? Sing a song? Play an instrument? Tell some jokes? Act silly? Or share a serious talent or ability? The day before the beginning of Lent is a good time to share.

This year, our Variety Show will be on video. No matter what, your variety of gifts will be celebrated. Video yourself or have someone help you. The deadline to submit something is Valentine's Day, February 14. We will put whatever comes in together so that all can watch it online at 7 pm February 16, or later at a time that is available for you. Participation is open to anyone! You do not need to be a member of Wesley Park. When your video is ready, email us at info@wesleypark.org and we will help you send it in.

**If there are children or youth in your home or neighborhood
who need support, please contact the church.**

January Birthdays/Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <i>Ann & Larry Bellgraph</i>	2
3 Anna Rabine	4	5 Tabi Fischer	6 Jim Gustafson	7 Jeff Osborn	8	9 Freddi Angus Jillian Fischer
10 <i>Cindy & Doug Lang</i> Kelly Wasnich	11	12	13	14 Steve Ellens	15 Frank Moss Joey Schick	16
17 Annette Jeltema Sally Morrow	18 Peg Pittenger Kirgin Tanis	19	20	21 Ginny Hughes	22 Danny Bloomer Sally McLean Keith Warren	23
24 Colbie Jeltema	25 Brian Hartley	26 Ken Oesch	27 <i>Sally & Chuck Dear</i> Terry Essex Paula Hartley	28	29	30
31	1	2	3 Steve Bravata	4 <i>Allen & Shirley Myers-Jones</i> David Waugh	5	6

Addresses to add to
your church directory:

Sally Morrow
Green Acres of Lowell
11546 Fulton Street #316
Lowell, Michigan 49331

Allen and Shirley Myers-Jones
1485 Rila Street SE
Palm Bay, Florida 32909

*This newsletter has been sent to our entire mailing list. We hope it feels good to connect.
Please let us know if you would not like to receive a newsletter in the future.*

Giving Thanks to God

- ✿ We thank God for the ability to worship in this time apart. Worship will continue online until it is safe for us to gather in person together again. Go to www.wesleypark.org for the link to the service. If you do not have the internet, call 616-383-9221 to listen to worship anytime during the week.
- ✿ Are you or someone you know interested in learning how to help put together online worship videos? If so, please contact the church at info@wesleypark.org and we can share additional information. It is a ministry filled with many blessings.
- ✿ We thank God for the life, love, friendship, and faith of Dolores Sanford who died December 25, 2020. Dolores made it one of her ministries to reach out to others by phone and in prayer to lighten the day. You can honor Dolores today by calling someone you know, or someone you do not know very well, and wishing them blessings today.
- ✿ Our all-church prayer schedule. Fill a bowl of water and remember your baptism as you pray:
 - ✿ **8 am:** Jesus, help me be present to your Spirit throughout the day. Amen.
 - ✿ **Noon:** Jesus, I hunger and thirst for peace. Show me the way. Amen.
 - ✿ **6 pm:** Jesus, give me the resolve to love my enemies as much as I love my friends. Amen.
 - ✿ **Bedtime:** Jesus, forgive the things I did not say or do, or the things I said and did, that did not lead to peace. Bless the people you put in my path today. Help me rest tonight and try again tomorrow. Amen.

Wesley Park United Methodist Church
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