

HAVE A DREAM: A Vision and an Agenda

What is your dream for Wesley United Methodist Church; a dream for the now, as well as a dream for the future? Have you ever thought about God's dream for our church; God's dream for the now, as well as God's dream for our future?

I have a dream for Wesley and I know many of you have a dream as well. There are those who have shared a dream of Wesley becoming for their children all that Wesley had been for them as a child. There are those who share a dream of Wesley becoming more involved with the poor and oppressed through mission trips and forming relationships. There are those who share dreams of new activities and programs going on seven days a week for persons of all ages; for members of our church and members of our neighborhoods and community. There are those who dream of deepening their faith, those who dream of more persons sharing in leadership within the church, those who dream of the day when the sanctuary will be filled to capacity every Sunday, and those who dream of Wesley becoming an ever more vital and growing multi-cultural and multi-ethnic church family!

Jim Wallis, in his book Faith Works has a chapter titled "Have a Dream". He begins the chapter by referring to the famous speech Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered at the Lincoln Memorial on August 28, 1963 and the most quoted line from that speech - "I have a dream". He goes on to say that King's dream had to do with ***both a vision and an agenda***. King called his ***vision*** the 'beloved community', and his ***agenda*** involved what it would take to make the 'beloved community' a reality. Wallis goes on to say that the vision was the foundation for the agenda and that visions don't mean much if they are not tied to an agenda.

Throughout these next few months we will be talking about "our dreams and our visions" for Wesley UMC. We will be talking about "God's dream and vision" for Wesley UMC. I invite you to begin the conversation now. Talk and listen around the tables at coffee fellowship, talk and listen as you meet in choir, or quilt making, or other small groups. Listen in prayer. Have a dream! Together we will bring to life our dream and vision for Wesley and create an agenda that will make it happen.

In Ministry Together

Pastor Vicki

PRAYERS, CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

LET US PRAY FOR...

- † John Mockley at Christopher House.
- † Frank Wulff, Jr. (Nancy Wulff's Brother).
- † Ruvimbo Munjoma undergoing treatment for cancer. (Pastor Shandi's sister in Cananda).
- † Rea Cragg, Debi Ritacco's grandmother.
- † Miriam McLandon, mother of Kathryn Edmunds, for strength and healing.
- † Sarah Carlson's mother who has cancer.
- † Randy Levesque, make him well.
- † All people as September 11th is remembered.
- † Andy Ingrassia as he enters a new phase of rehab in a new facility.
- † D.J. as he celebrates his 8th birthday.

OUR SYMPATHY TO...

- † Barbara Russell, John Hansen and all of the family and friends of Elaine Dunn who died on September 8th. Calling hours are at Caswell King Funeral Home, Grove St., Worcester on Friday, Sept. 11th from 5-8 PM. The funeral service will be on Saturday, September 12th at 1 PM at Hadwen Park Congregational Church, 6 Clover Street, Worcester.

LIGHTINGS AND ALTAR FLOWERS

THE TOWER lighting for September is given in loving memory of Robert L. Banks, Sr. from Tom Banks.

THE ROSE WINDOW lighting for September is given in loving memory of David & Lily Oberg, Arthur & Louise Sjosten, Phyllis & Robert Needham and Lisa Johnson by David & Arlene Sjosten and Jerry Johnson.

THE CHAPEL altar flowers on September 6th were given in loving memory of my Aunt Alice Amend by Nancy Wulff.

THE SANCTUARY altar flowers on September 6th were given in loving memory of Ruedene Best, mother of Linda Dylewicz, whose 81st birthday would have been Sept. 1st.

THE CHAPEL altar flowers on September 20th are given in loving memory of Muriel S. Gibbs by Brad Gibbs, Donna Grenier, Martha Vigeant, Jeff Gibbs and families.

THE SANCTUARY altar flowers on September 20th are given in honor and celebration of Mary's birthday by Johnnell and JP Demery.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS ~ Stewardship Opportunities

The Stewardship and Finance Committee has set the dates of October 10th, 17th, and 24th for our **Annual Stewardship Campaign**. October 24th will be Pledge Sunday. What an exciting time to be a part of the mission and ministry of Wesley United Methodist Church. There will be more details in our next Herald.

Our **Annual Harvest Celebration** will be November 8th. Together as a community of faith we have pledged to receive \$36,000 on Harvest Sunday. This is a service where we give thanks and praise to God for our many blessings, and for God's steadfast presence in times of difficulty in 2009. The Harvest Committee has said let's make it \$60,000! Invite your neighbors and family members to this service. Wesley offers many programs, ministries and services for the Greater Worcester Community: Carty Cupboard, Medical Ministry, First Night, Stand Up for Kids Drop In Center, AA, Music Academy, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Contra Dance, and much more. This service is a time when others beyond our church community can share in making all these ministries possible.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2009 AT 12:00 NOON

The primary responsibility of the Charge Conference in the annual meeting shall be to review and evaluate the total mission and ministry of the church. Par 247.3 UM Book of Discipline

At this annual meeting, presided over by our District Superintendent, Rev. Ron Wilson, "Breath Taking Disciple Making" will be our theme. We will focus on:

- Connection with God and God's Purposes
- Connecting with current reality and
- Connecting with God's future for our church and community.

With the help of modern technology, Bishop Peter Weaver will share a brief message with us. He will outline a few themes from the last Bishop's Day on the District and Adam Hamilton's presentation at Annual Conference.

The Church Conference will be different this year because we will not be doing business as usual. We will, however, include the agenda, items of business that do require Charge/Church Conference action (membership report and pastor's compensation). Written reports will be received, but only the pastor and lay leaders will make oral presentation. The budget will be approved at the December Church Council meeting. Written reports (except trustees and finance) are due in the church office no later than November 22.

MESSAGES FROM THE CHURCH BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

First, my thanks to all for your cards and well wishes as I recovered from my recent fall. I am so grateful to you for your caring words, and to God for my complete recovery!

Men's Mini-Harvest

The men's mini-harvest netted \$1,813.60. Congratulations!

Statements

Statements capturing your contributions through 8-31-2009 will be mailed during the week of September 14, 2009. If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Stand Up for Kids Drop-In Center

Effective 9/5/09, the local Stand Up For Kids organization will have their drop-in center at Wesley Church every Saturday in Mary Ellis Lounge from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. The center will be staffed with counselors who will be able to offer support and some resources to help kids with various issues. We welcome them and are grateful we can provide space to young people in need.

Greenwashing

Have you heard of this term yet? In a recent copy of the Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light's monthly newsletter, a very interesting article was written about it. The term derives from the word "whitewashing" which is defined as 'anything, as deceptive words or actions used to cover up or gloss over faults, errors, or wrong doings, or absolve a wrongdoer from blame.' Greenwashing is a similar concept that refers to trying to make a product or company appear greener than it actually is. Greenwashing tries to cover up poor environmental records by emphasizing purportedly environmentally friendly programs. Look for more information about this in future articles of the Herald.

Help Us Avoid Colds and the Flu

We have installed 6 Purell hand sanitizing dispensers in the church, and have placed bottles of Purell in various conference rooms and other frequently used areas of the church. We invite you to take advantage of using this hand sanitizer to help keep cold and flu germs at bay. Thanks!!

Can you believe it's really September already!!!

Regards,

Lorna Mattus-Merrill

Church Business Administrator

IHN VOLUNTEER TRAINING... Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) is an agency that shelters homeless families in churches, including Wesley. It is time we update our IHN volunteers on relevant policies and procedures, so even if you have helped in the past, I would like you to attend one of the upcoming training sessions. If you have ever wondered what hosting IHN is all about, this is your chance to find out without making any commitment. There will be a session on Sunday, Sept. 29th after church, approx. 11:45. There will also be training on Thursday, Oct. 1st at 7:00 pm. Each session will last about 45 minutes and you need attend only one. We will be hosting the families the first week in November. Thanks for helping with this outreach program. Nancy Cook (508-393-6076)

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY... Your mission committee will be sponsoring at least one table of eight at the Habitat Gala Dinner being held St. John's High School in Shrewsbury. The Gala will be on Saturday October 3 beginning at 6:00 PM. The reserved seats are not for mission committee members but rather for members of the congregation who have an interest in learning more about Habitat and how they meet low income housing needs in the Worcester area. Please see Jerry Warren or Susan Williams to reserve your - no cost to you - seat. Let's fill the table plus a few more!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH ~ 9:30 AM ~ EAST HALL... To all our kind friends who have volunteered to work at the Indoor Yard Sale. We will meet in East Hall briefly to go over all pertinent details of the sale. See you there. Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE! November 14, 2009 for *Breakfast With Mary and Martha*, a church fund raising event presented by UMW and Prayers and Squares

CARTY CUPBOARD NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The Carty Cupboard is in need of volunteers on Monday nights to distribute food. For more information please speak with Nancy Spencer at 508-886-6376.

We are also in need of plastic bags and reusable grocery bags for food distribution.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2009 ~ 9 AM TO 2 PM ~ WESLEY UNITED METHODIST WOMEN—INDOOR YARD SALE (to help with our Mission Pledge) Gather up your contributions and bring them to church from 9 am to 8 pm on Sept. 30, Oct. 1 & 2. Nothing accepted on the day of the sale. No computers and no large items please; items one person can carry. If you would like to help on the sale day, please call Dot Ellis at 508-829-2384. We are in need of coat and pant hangers, jewelry, holiday items and nice linens. All items should be in good condition and clean. There is a possibility we can pick things up, speak with Dot. Thank you for helping us meet our Mission Pledge.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The UMW Steering Committee will meet this Saturday, Sept. 12 at 9:15 in the Mary Ellis Lounge (please note change in the place of the meeting). Circle Leaders are encouraged to attend and give their up-dates and plans for fall. We will be making programmatic plans and discuss some financial matters. Officers are requested to attend. Thank you.

The UMW will host a table at the Ministry Fair to be held on Sunday, Sept. 13. Our printed materials should be ready for distribution, including the new UMW brochure for the next year. Help will be appreciated.

The presentation for the UMW annual award for Woman of the Year will be made at the 10:30 service on Sunday, Sept. 27. Nominations will be accepted through Sept. 20. Forms can be found in this mailing and also in the Wesley Office.

We have just received notice that the Fall 2009 UMW Central District Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 4 from 2-5 p.m. at the Community Methodist Church in Wayland, MA. The theme is "Who is MY Neighbor." Information concerning this meeting is posted on the UMW bulletin board.

THE POWER OF PRAYER

*A one day retreat for all Women

Wesley United Methodist Church

114 Main St. Worcester, Ma.

Saturday September 26, 2009

9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Please plan to join us for a day of worship, inspiring music, powerful testimony, creative workshops, wonderful food and fellowship.

For more information contact Chris Flagg or Susan Williams
*sponsored by the United Methodist Women of Wesley Church

We need your Help!

We are putting together a journal of stories from people that have experienced the power of prayer. Do you have a story that you would like to share about the way that prayer has affected your life?

Please send your stories either signed or unsigned to the church office at Wesley to the attention of Chris Flagg or you can e-mail them with a subject line "power of prayer" to erfl15@msn.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS...

Sunday, September 13... Join us in East Hall for a special activity with children during the Ministry Fair! This is an important time for Sunday School Registration!

Sunday, September 20, 9:30 AM ...*Children's Sunday School begins!* Our teachers are looking forward to meeting with the children and sharing a year of important faith experiences together! We give thanks for the faithful commitment of our teachers to serve in our Education Ministry. On this day, we will honor our teachers with a special prayer dedication during the 10:30 AM church service. We welcome your involvement in this ministry, please come explore and discover how you can serve the Lord through Education!

Come celebrate our tradition of beginning our Children's Sunday School year with a special "**Pancake Breakfast**" with all the sweet fixings! Join us in Wagner Hall, 3rd floor - pancakes will be served from 9:15-9:45AM, and class time will follow.

***"We who teach and lead Christian education
are teaching and influencing others
by our walk through life..."***

Betty Heavner

Hey Kids – Our Sunday School Mission Project is collecting new socks to support our neighbors in need! You all did a great job during VBC in bringing socks, so let's keep going for this great cause... help us reach our goal from the Sunday School families of 50 pairs of socks!

*Looking forward to sharing the many amazing surprises
God has planned for us this year! ~ Valerie Jansson*

JEWISH HOLY DAYS IN SEPTEMBER

The month of September includes some important and sacred holy days for our Jewish neighbors and friends. In an environment that acknowledges Christian holy days, let us be aware of Jewish holy days as well.

Rosh HaShanah is September 19-20. Rosh HaShanah (literally, "head of the year") marks the new year celebration. It is followed later in the month (September 28) by **Yom Kippur** (literally, "Day of Covering"), usually translated in English as *Day of Atonement*. These two fall festivals mark out the span of life under covenant: rejoicing in the abundance of provision and new life God brings, and soberly recognizing the mess we willingly make of what God has provided.

REMINDER... GIRL SCOUT TROOP 30838 BOTTLE & CAN DRIVE ~ SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH... Bring you bottles and cans to St. Charles parking lot (June Street, Worcester) from 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM. Your donation will help support their Europe trip in June 2010. This troop is one of the four troops that meet here at Wesley Church. Thank you in advance for your support.

DID YOU KNOW?

At the heart of the service order of our celebration of Communion each month is the prayer generally referred to in our bulletin as “The Great Thanksgiving”. In some traditions it is also called the “Eucharistic Prayer” from the Greek *eucharistia*, (=thanksgiving) or “Anaphora”, a Greek word meaning “offering”. Such prayers have been central to the celebration of the Lord’s Supper throughout the centuries of Christian worship and most likely have their origins even earlier in the form and content of Jewish prayers of thanksgiving which offer thanks to God by the recital of God’s saving acts.

Over the centuries of Christian worship there have been many variations in the details of the texts used by various denominations. However, there are many common elements that are presents in most forms of the Great Thanksgiving. These common elements include:

- Introductory dialog
- Thanksgiving and remembering God’s acts of salvation
- Narrative of the institution of the Lord’s Supper by Jesus
- Anamnesis*—commemoration; “Do this in remembrance of me”
- Epiclesis*—invocation of the Holy Spirit
- Intercessory prayer
- Concluding doxology

This prayer is led by the pastor with intermittent responses by the entire congregation. In our services we sometimes sing musical settings of portions of the text, such as the *Sanctus* (Holy, Holy, Holy), the *Memorial Acclamation* (Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again) and a concluding threefold *Amen*, an affirmation of our participation in this mystery of faith. Often certain portions of the Great Thanksgiving are varied by the addition of textual content related to the specific season of the liturgical year. Nevertheless the basic form connects us with ancient traditions of our faith and offers a concise summary of the central beliefs of our faith.

Submitted by, Deborah A. O’Driscoll

INDOOR YARD SALE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD
9 AM – 2 PM IN BREWER HALL



WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
114 MAIN STREET, WORCESTER, MA
IN CONJUNCTION WITH FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH
YARD SALE NEXT DOOR.



Small furniture, costume jewelry, yarn,
children's items, toys and games, books,
clothing and accessories, tools,
special section of vintage linens on stage,
holiday table, small appliances.



Hot dogs and Chili
will be available for lunch.



Plenty of Parking!



2009 HERALD SCHEDULE

Below are the next couple of Herald mailing dates along with the deadline dates for each mailing.

Please note that the deadline date is Monday at 9:00 AM unless otherwise specified.

Article Deadline Date	Herald Mailing Date
Mon., Sept. 21	Wed., Sept. 23
Mon., Oct. 5	Wed., Oct. 7

If you have an article, please email it as a Word attachment to:

office@wesleyworc.org



Welcome. Below is a schedule and topics for the first couple of weeks.

SEPTEMBER 25:

Mini-brunch welcome; topic: "I'm a mom, now what? Parent/Caregiver Relationships"

OCTOBER 2:

Alternative childcare

If you are interested in joining our group or to just find out more, please contact Jean Grant at grantgirl05@yahoo.com or 508-886-6571 or Jill Bailey at bluejillfish@gmail.com or 774-745-0294. We look forward to meeting you!



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Pastors

Vicki Woods & Shandirai Mawokomatanda

Director of Music Ministries

Brett Maguire

Ghanaian Choir Master

Charles Ato Brown

Music Assistant

Deborah O'Driscoll

Sunday School Superintendent

Valerie Jansson

Building Superintendent

Phil Johnson

Business Administrator

Lorna Mattus-Merrill

Church Secretary

Debi Ritacco

Custodians

Mark & Carol Flionis and Gerard Piscitelli

Assistant Custodian

Steve Boyns

Administrative Council

Scott & Mary Beth Dziewietin

Layleader

Deborah O'Driscoll

Board of Trustees

Harry Spencer III

Carty Cupboard Food Pantry

Nancy Spencer

Education Work Area

Ann Openshaw

Finance & Stewardship

Michael Edmunds

Ghanaian Association

Joseph Wilson

Lay Members Annual Conference

Mary Beth Dziewietin and Johnnell Demery

Medical Ministry

Ron Ramsay

Membership & Evangelism

Gary & Renelle Picard

Memorial Gifts

Carolyn Bellil

Mission Coordinator

Jerry Warren

Chris Flagg

Music & Worship

Staff-Parish Relations

Janet M. Maguire

Youth Group

Phil & Emily Smith

Wesley United Methodist Church
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WESLEY HERALD
SEPTEMBER 10, 2009

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