

**GREAT IS GOD'S FAITHFULNESS:**

**Encouragement to be Generous**

*“For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has ~  
not according to what one does not have.” II Corinthians 8:12*

I want to tell you about the grace of God that has been granted to some churches... writes the apostle Paul in the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter of II Corinthians. During a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.

I love the way Paul speaks of a people begging earnestly to be a part of the privilege of sharing in funding the ministry of the work of the churches. They did not want to be excused from sharing in the offering just because they had fewer resources than others. We are told; they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God, voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means...

*“Their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed  
in a wealth of generosity”!*

Whether we are in a time of abundance or in a time of extreme poverty let us give ourselves first to God. My prayer is that every member and active participant of the church will make a pledge to the ministries of Wesley United Methodist Church. This coming Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, is Stewardship Sunday. Let us pray for and with one another for this day of celebration...giving thanks for the privilege of giving. A light luncheon will follow the 10:30 service.

*“Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow...  
Morning by morning new mercies I see...”*

*Pastor Vicki*

## PRAYERS, CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

### *LET US PRAY FOR...*

- ✠ Andy Ingrassia
- ✠ Frank Wulff, Jr. (Nancy Wulff's Brother).
- ✠ My cousin Carmen hospitalized with difficulty breathing (Beth Vietze)
- ✠ Mildred Olson in Memorial Hospital
- ✠ Paul Finneran, extended family member of Denise Savageau Page, that he will be in peace as he fights cancer while in ICU, give his family strength.
- ✠ Bruce Grimshaw at St. Vincent's Hospital.

### *OUR SYMPATHY TO...*

- ✠ Family and friends of Florence Field who died last week.

## LIGHTINGS AND ALTAR FLOWERS

**THE ROSE WINDOW** lighting for October is given in loving memory of Heik P. Garabedian by his wife Irene B. Garabedian, daughter and son-in-law Shirley & Robert Demers, 3 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

**THE TOWER** lighting for October is given in loving memory of Esther and Stanley Salme and Susan Salme Keith by Ruth and Fred Austin and family.

**THE CHAPEL** altar flowers on October 18 were given in loving memory of Mr. Robert Birdsong, my uncle, and Allen Birdson, my cousin, by Nancy Wulff.

**THE CHAPEL** altar flowers on October 25 are given in loving memory of Joseph H. Sherman III by his family.

**THE 2010 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS** are due in the Finance mailbox in the Church office by October 31, 2009. Forms will be distributed this week. All Budget Requests not submitted will be determined by the Finance Committee.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR... ALL CHURCH MEETING ON NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>.**



**REMINDER... DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS**

**Don't forget... Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup> before you go to bed, be sure to turn your clocks back 1 hour.**

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROJECT UPDATE

The next set of projects associated with the Capital Campaign will include replacing four retaining walls next Spring. In preparation for this work, all of the trees on two sides of the lower parking lot need to be cut down. The trees have been eroding the ground around the timbers, putting the walls at risk. We plan to begin cutting trees next week on Monday, October 26 and expect this to take approximately three days to complete. The work will only be done on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (weather permitting) to avoid conflicts with those coming to the food pantry. Cones will be placed at the entrance to the lower lot when this work is being done, so if you come to the church on one of those days, please park in the upper lot. If you have any questions, please call the Church Business Administrator at 508-799-4191, Ext. 100. Thank you for your cooperation.

*Regards, Lorna Mattus-Merrill*

## FLU SHOT CLINIC ~ OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup> ~ 12:00 PM, MARY ELLIS LOUNGE

Sandy McManus, RN BSN from the VNA Care Network Inc. will administer flu shots to parishioners after the 10:30 a.m. worship service in Mary Ellis Lounge. You ***must be*** age 18 or older to receive an inoculation by the VNA. ***PLEASE NOTE:*** Children under 18 cannot receive this shot from this clinic but they can receive it from their own pediatrician. The fee is \$25.00 cash or check made payable to: VNA Care Network.

***NOTE:*** If 65 or older, *you must bring* your Medicare card (Part B coverage) ***and*** your Medicare HMO Blue, Medicare PPO Blue, Fallon Senior Plan, First Seniority (HPHC), or Tufts Health Plan Medicare Preferred to receive the inoculation for free. The VNA will bill the Health Provider for the \$25.00 fee. ***It is important for you to bring your insurance cards for people over 65.***

The shot is not covered by Medex or Medicaid (Mass Health). Pregnant women with a doctor's prescription in hand may receive the flu shot. For promptness, please have the exact amount of \$25 or a check can be made payable to: VNA Care Network. Thank you.

**YOUTH CHOIRS ARE SINGING!** The youth of Wesley have resumed choir rehearsals, and it is not too late to have your children join us. Unlike last year, all youth are rehearsing together in one large choir. We meet in the second floor library immediately following the 10:30 AM service, ending at 12:30. If you have any questions, please contact Brett at 508-667-0655 or [brett@wesleyworc.org](mailto:brett@wesleyworc.org).

**FUN FOR ALL AGES!** Get those costumes ready, and step out to Sarah Circle's annual **Halloween Dinner, Games/Crafts, and Parade: Friday, October 30th, 5 to 7 pm in Brewer Hall** Prices are \$6/adult, \$3/child, or \$12/family for the lasagna/macaroni and cheese, salad, and dessert. If you wear a mask or costume, it should not frighten very young children. Tickets will be on sale on Sunday 10/25 and at the door. Questions? Contact Betsy Pennino or Liz Burrows.

## **FALL CLEANING AT FLORENCE HOUSE...**

Florence House of Worcester is a transitional living center for teenage mothers. Each year during the month of October Wesley members collect cleaning products to give to the Mom's in that program. Please consider helping us by bringing in some of your favorite cleaning products and adding them to the silver box marked "Florence House" located below the UMW bulletin board in Brewer Hall. *Chris Flagg, UMW*

## **FRIDAY NIGHT SPORTS NIGHT**

The Friday Night Sports Night for youth, young adults and adults proudly announces our first of many sports nights on Friday November 6<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-8:30 pm. The Sports Night will operate every Friday night the church's schedule, supervision coverage, and membership attendance allows from November through May. Notifications will be made through announcements at church, the Herald and email.

Each Friday night the program will provide a time to join in prayer, practice and full court games with the goal of involving all who attend and want to play. Approximately 40 people responded on the sign up sheet therefore we anticipate well attended Friday night events.

Our Vision: (1) to expand the body of the church through fellowship and sports, (2) to promote the glory of God, (3) to promote good health, (4) to be inclusive, (5) to work with sports activities with the youth and young adult fellowship. Our Mission: Advance Wesley as an active church in the heart of Worcester through the Friday Night Sports program and beyond.

The program will also pursue other sports opportunities such as (but not limited to) volleyball, soccer and hiking. For further information please contact Youl Bellil at 508 829 7817 or email [youlbellil@gmail.com](mailto:youlbellil@gmail.com).

## **PIPES ALIVE!**

The 2009-2010 Music Alive! series began this month with our first Pipes Alive! concert. Our next organ recital takes place on Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 12:30 PM. Award-winning improviser Peter Krasinski will be improvising an organ symphony based on All Saints hymn tunes that we will have sung during the 10:30 AM service. This is a unique opportunity to hear some spontaneous composition by an extremely gifted organist.

**CARTY CUPBOARD** is in need of Bags!!! Paper, plastic, reusable from any store, and large shopping bags for clothes. Thank you.

## DRUMMING NIGHT CONTINUES

Please mark your calendars for our second drumming night that will take place on Tuesday, November 3, at 7:30 PM. You don't need to have any experience whatsoever to have a really great evening.

We had about 15 people show up for our first gathering earlier this month, and in just over an hour we had uproarious laughter, engaged in some free drumming, learned traditional African rhythms and songs, and even had some quiet, contemplative moments as well. Several congregation members said that they came without knowing what to expect and were surprised at how much fun they had. Why not give it a try on November 3<sup>rd</sup>?

## MISSION OPPORTUNITY...

Wesley Church has been invited to join in partnership with several other area churches and World Vision, in an event called Central Mass Aids Africa (CMAA). On Saturday November 14, 2009 at 10 AM at the Hope Chapel in Sterling, MA volunteers will be assembling hundreds of Caregiver Kits which will be used to benefit AIDS patients and their caregivers in Africa. This is a very busy Saturday in our church but I'm hoping to get at least six Wesley members who will commit about two hours of their time toward packing the kits. Please contact Jerry Warren. Good opportunity to work with other local churches in mission work.

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## CHRISTMAS WREATHS FROM MAINE

Each November families all over the Western mountains of Maine gather Balsam fir tips to make Christmas wreaths. In this area of high unemployment and under-employment, this is a vital industry.

If you would like to celebrate this season with one (or more) of these beautiful wreaths an order form is available in the church welcome office.

Undecorated wreaths are \$10.00 each and you can add a large red bow for an additional \$3.00. **All orders must be received by November 1<sup>st</sup>.**

*If you would like to know more about the different ways that you can support the United Methodist Economic Ministry efforts to support these families or to place orders by phone, please contact Earl Flagg @ 508-852-7745*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS...

Looking ahead... the children and youth will participate in a special "Living Nativity" on Sunday, December 20. As part of this meaningful time the children will also present a special music offering lead by Deanna Wong. Please sign-up Sunday!

~ Valerie Jansson

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## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

A special thanks goes out to the committee that worked and organized the annual UMW Prayer Retreat on Saturday, September 26: Chris Flagg (chair), Janice England, Lorraine Kronberg, Chloe Sundberg, Susan Williams, and Margaret Wissell. Many attended to learn about various methods of prayer and were blessed by these experiences.

It's time to think ahead to the Thanksgiving season! The UMW annual fall bake sale will be held on Sunday, November 22. The event is co-chaired by Margaret Wissell and Sue Proulx. Circle Leaders, please contact your members so they can plan for their contributions. Thank you.

On Stewardship Sunday, October 25, a luncheon will be provided following the 10:30 worship service. Emily Smith is coordinating this event. We need assistance for preparation and serving. If you can help in any way, please contact Emily.

## RESULTS AND THANK YOU'S ~ UNITED METHODIST WOMEN YARD SALE ON

**OCTOBER 3<sup>RD</sup>...** We had the Yard Sale on Saturday, October 3rd; a gloomy day on the outside but a sunny day inside. Thanks to the many volunteers who came in out of the rain at 8 am; thank you to all of you for your hard work. Especially Dot Ellis who put it all together and to her co-chairmen Betty & Richard Nevers. To Chloe Sundberg for making the beautiful hats that identified us as Wesley workers (and who to pay). To Dorothy Palmgren for taking care of the advertising. To Debi Ritacco for her help in designing the flyers. To Lorraine Kronberg and Lorna for taking care of the finances and to the men who so graciously joined in with us to make this a success and to the kitchen crew headed by Renelle and Gary Picard for their wonderful chili. Thank you also to all our friends who contributed items to the sale. We made \$3,000 on that rainy Saturday.

## OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2010

This year we are asking everyone who wishes to have offering envelopes sign up for them using the form below. We are hoping to avoid waste (by not printing envelopes for those who no longer want them) and ensure that we have an accurate list for submission to the printing company. We will only print envelopes for those who return this form. The deadline for returning this to the office is October 23, 2009.

Once the order is submitted to the printing company, we cannot submit any more requests unless we have a minimum of 50 boxes. So if you wish to have envelopes for next year, it is important that you meet the deadline because we may not accumulate another 50 requests after the first submission.

Thanks for your help!

Lorna Mattus-Merrill  
Church Business Administrator

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### WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH REQUEST FOR OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2010

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

My envelope number is: \_\_\_\_\_

or

I do not have an envelope number at this time \_\_\_\_\_

*Return to the Church Business Administrator by 10/23/09. Thank you.*

## **Thank You, THANK YOU, THANK YOU**

Beloved in Christ, thank you so much for the overwhelming support and prayers you have shown me during the loss of my sister. The pain has been deep and my grief great especially as I have watched and witnessed the sorrow of my parents and siblings. But, you have been a means of grace and a source of strength. Your cards, your thoughts, your prayers - all are appreciated more than you can know. I am grateful for the kindness and compassion you have shown me. I am very grateful for your friendship, for our communion in Christ, and for your presence in my life. May God surely bless you as you have been a blessing to me. May grace abound for you and the love of Christ surround you in all your living. May you cling to the faith and to the hope your support has reminded me of. Surely, this I call to mind: Great is God's faithfulness for the Lord's mercies are new every morning and so, because Christ lives, I am able to face tomorrow with grace. Thank you!

*With love, in Christ, Pastor Shandi*

Thank all our friends, members and groups of Wesley Church and all others for your calls, visits both lay and pastoral, cards, and flowers during my extended illness. May God bless you for such wonderful caring.

*Stanley and Natalie Gutridge*

**Food for the body  
God's Word for the spirit  
Community of love for the heart  
Opportunity for those who desire action**

Coming back from our mission trip of gleaning with Harvest of Hope, Society of St. Andrew, my heart is full of thankfulness for being able to take part in such a moving experience with three youth from Wesley. We learned much and contributed much. Through the effort of the twenty-five people we shared this amazing retreat with, and another hundred local folks who turned out to help in the orchard, we collectively picked a total of 450 bags of apples, almost 8,000 lbs of apples that would have been left to rot is now in food pantry's around the state of Pennsylvania. And we did this all in the worst weather conditions the director had ever gleaned in, strong winds, driving rains, and cold temperatures. The food pantry we delivered 25 bags of apples, started as just a bookshelf of canned goods by the Sunday school children of a local church, now is in a store front building on the main street in town.

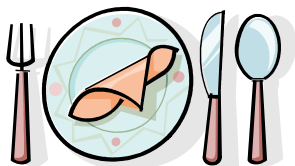
During our closing time of worship, Pastor Scott shared a personal reflection of what stirred him to become the Director of Harvest of Hope. He always had a passion for the hungry and he would hear of the power of God working all around the world, but was wrestling with not sensing God's power working in his life. With much prayer, he then heard God speak to his heart, "what are you doing that you need my power?" Then he really thought about what he was doing... and his answer revealed what he was doing was not a stretch, he was living in his comfort zone. He now looks back and realizes he always wanted to know for sure, that if he did something it was the call of God, wanting to do the next thing right and not make any mistakes, but he missed so many opportunities, he missed the calls for help. He now lives not doing the next thing right, but, doing the next right thing. When he started doing the next right thing, God's power was at work, giving opportunities to do the next right thing again, and then again and again. It is in the personal connections that make the biggest impact for him... seeing someone lonely he gives them friendship, seeing someone needing clothes, he clothed them, seeing someone needing food, and he feeds them, all in Jesus' name.

Although, we left with much knowledge of the staggering statistics about hunger in America, there is certainly much to process from the weekend, however, it was the message that one person, child or adult, really can make a difference that matters.

*With a heart grateful for God's gracious blessings, may God's power be at work helping us live out what it means to make a difference for Him!*

*~ Valerie Jansson*

# BREAKFAST WITH MARY AND MARTHA



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2009  
9:00AM - 10:30AM

**(A FUNDRAISER FOR THE UMW PLEDGE TO WESLEY)**

This will be a wonderful morning of fellowship. A delicious breakfast will be served and you will be invited to pick out a lovely apron made especially for this morning by the Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry sewers.

Many surprises are in store for you during this morning of Christian fellowship. Your donation for this event is \$20.00...which may seem a bit high but all the proceeds will go towards the \$10,000 mission pledge of UM Women for the 2009 church budget.

A dedicated group of sewers have been working all summer for this event and we ask your support. These lovely aprons will make wonderful gifts (Christmas is coming) or something very special for you to enjoy. **THE SUPPORT OF EVERY WESLEY WOMAN IS IMPORTANT!**

**TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE**

**SEE: JUDY SIMONEAU, JAN ENGLAND OR LORRAINE KRONBERG**

Do you have a vintage apron to put in our display?  
Let Lorraine, Jan or Judy know before November 14<sup>th</sup>.

## HARVEST 2009

*“Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
and pay your vows to the Most High.”*

Psalm 50:14

On Sunday November 8<sup>th</sup> we will gather in worship (10:30am ~1pm) to celebrate our Sixth Annual Harvest. The Harvest is a tradition brought to us by our African brothers and sisters; a tradition of bringing the best of what we have, or make, or money we have saved as a special thanks offering to God.

At our Charge Conference last year we pledged together as a church to raise \$36,000 at this year's Harvest. However, that is the bottom line... our goal is \$60,000. What a witness it would be to our friends and community (and one another) if we came together for a time of prayer and sacrifice and in this service alone contributed \$60,000 for our ministries. It is possible! *Why would we offer such a sacrifice of thanksgiving?* First, it is our response to a radical trust in God. Second, because Wesley UMC changes lives, gives hope to people who are suffering and struggling, forms community for families and children, offer a place of sanctuary to laugh and cry, it is a place to have fun, join in a drum circle, learn scripture and sing praises to God.

Let us begin now preparing for this sacred time. (1) It will not happen without prayer. Pray without ceasing. (2) Bring your items to the church for the auction and the silent auction (3) We invite you on the 8<sup>th</sup> to bring a snack (cheese and crackers, finger sandwiches, vegetable plate, etc) to share at the end of the service. (4) Volunteer to help on that day; helping to set up snacks, working at the silent auction in Brewer Hall, etc... (5) Invite others to this service... it is meant that we cannot collect \$60,000 on our own... we are suppose to bring others!

*“Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven, to the throne thy tribute bring...Alleluia”  
(UMH 66)*

## Did You Know?

“I got a home in-a dat rock”... “Rock of ages, cleft for me”... “On Christ the solid rock I stand”...“the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land”... Did you ever wonder why Christians would sing about rocks? The Bible uses the image of a rock in many ways, and it is not surprising that this imagery has found its way into hymn texts. Most of the images of rocks in the Bible are associated with God, either as a refuge and source of shelter and protection or as an obstacle to those who oppose God’s purposes.

In Deuteronomy 32:30-31 God is specifically referred to by the name Rock. In the New Testament Paul refers to Jesus as a rock: “and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ.” (I Corinthians 10:3-4)

Of course not all references to rocks are limited to the Divine. Simon’s new name Peter is actually a translation of *Cephas*, meaning “rock.” Finally in his letter, Peter reminds us that we are all “living stones”: “Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” (I Peter 2:4-5)

*Submitted by*

*Deborah A. O’Driscoll*

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Miss Toni / Miss Judy

## 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.

<b>Article Deadline Date</b>	<b>Herald Mailing Date</b>
Mon., Nov. 2	Wed., Nov. 4
Mon., Nov. 16	Wed., Nov. 18

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.

### NOVEMBER 20:

Alternative holiday gifts to make the holiday special; Florence house project/gift

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



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## WESLEY STAFF & LEADERSHIP TEAM

### 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**  
**114 Main Street**  
**Worcester, Massachusetts 01608**

**WESLEY HERALD**  
**OCTOBER 21, 2009**

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