

A CHRISTIAN IS A MINISTER (i.e. Servant)

“To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.” I Corinthians 12:7

This past Sunday, Pastor Vicki and I called upon you to share with us, through a survey, your interest and passion for ministry and service through our church. We give thanks to God for the response that we have received. Some new people came forward indicating an interest to serve God through new ministry from the various service areas indicated. A good many were indicating areas in which they were already serving. For all these, we rejoice! If you did not have a chance to complete the interest survey, we are providing you with another opportunity to do so.

This survey is meant to help us discern your calling and interest for leadership and service in and throughout the church here at Wesley. Most fundamentally, we would like to hear from you about what you are passionate about – either remotely or strongly. Please prayerfully complete the survey, reflecting on how you see yourself being in ministry with our church. Prayerfully consider the following service areas, checking off areas of interest to you, or listing new ones if these do not speak to your interest. Submit the survey to myself, or place in my mailbox, or the offering plate on Sunday.

If you are unclear about what some of these areas mean, or what they will entail, do not worry. Our commitment following this survey is to begin prayerful conversation about what ministry through these areas will look like for our church. So, for instance, if you have an interest in the ministry of hospitality or feel unclear about what it means and entails, we will gather together to learn and discern about what hospitality has meant for the Church and what it will look like for Wesley.

If you have an interest in a service area but you do not feel equipped or confident to serve in that area, indicate your interest still. Our commitment to you is to provide opportunities for leadership training for equipping lay ministry through our church. Again, our next step will be to gather you together in small groups, to hold focused and prayerful conversation about your passions, and about what it means to serve together through the service areas you've indicated.

You may notice that the administrative areas of our church are not included. These will be handled differently, through the lay leadership committee. If you have interest in our administrative work areas, simply check-off the “Administration” box. We will submit your name to the lay leadership committee as it forms.

We invite you: Come and join us! It is Jesus who first summons us to “Come and follow!” We seek to partner with you as we serve God’s Kingdom. Thank you for your prayers and faithful response.

~ Pastor Shandi

PRAYERS, CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

LET US PRAY FOR...

- The family and friends of Rev. Sam Dixon and Rev. Clint Rabb, Christian ministers with The United Methodist Church's mission and humanitarian organization, the General Board of Global Ministries, who died of injuries received in the January 12 earthquake in Haiti. Good friends, they were trapped with four other people, who survived, for 55 hours in the ruins of the Hotel Montana. Dixon headed the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and Rabb worked with mission volunteers. They were in Haiti in an effort to improve health services in the very poor country.
- The family and friends of Britney Gengel and the other students and faculty from Lynn University still missing following the earthquake in Haiti.
- The Berthod Family
- Barbara Ingrassia's friend who needs our prayers.
- Stephen Boyn's mother, Beverlea Patten who fell and broke her hip and dislocated her shoulder.
- The homeless that live on the streets and for the hungry.
- All those who are unemployed – may they have hope and the strength and faith that they will find the right job soon.
- All the college students returning to college that God may guide them through another year.

LIGHTINGS AND ALTAR FLOWERS

THE ROSE WINDOW lighting for January is given in loving memory of Mrs. William B. Smith by the United Methodist Women.

THE TOWER lighting for January is given in loving memory of my mother, Mary Fletcher, and my brother, David Fletcher, by Barbara Fletcher.

SUNDAY MORNING CHURCH CLOSING

A decision will be made by Saturday night or early Sunday morning if worship will be held. It is possible that the 8:30 service will be cancelled and the 10:30 service held. To know if services are happening call the church office at 508-799-4191 for an updated recorded message announcing a cancellation.

The message will indicate immediately whether or not worship has been cancelled. Our church IS NOT listed on the television station closings. There are several Wesley United Methodist Churches in our area so when you read "No Services Wesley United Methodist" it is not Wesley in Worcester.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

2009 BUDGET RESULTS

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Budgeted Income	\$ 639,368	\$ 627,317	- \$ 12,051
Non-budgeted Income	0	21,195	21,195
Total Income	639,368	648,512	9,144
Budgeted Expense	638,559	634,584	- 3,975
Non-budgeted Expense	0	19,778	19,778
Total Expense	638,559	654,362	15,803
2009 Net Loss	809	- 5,850	- 6,659
Carryover Deficit from 2008		- 19,894	
Total Deficit beginning 1/1/2010		- 25,745	

Despite the net loss, all 2009 bills, including mission shares, were paid in full.

YEAR END STATEMENTS

Statements will be mailed on Friday, January 22, 2010. Please review your information and let the Church Business Administrator know of any corrections by 1/31/2010.

Regards,
Lorna Mattus-Merrill

CARTY CUPBOARD IS IN NEED OF SOME TEMPORARY HELP

We currently need someone to come in and help sort and flatten bags and also someone to flatten cardboard boxes for recycling. These jobs can be done at your convenience during the day (9-5). Please call Nancy Spencer (508-886-6376) if you are interested in helping out. This is a perfect opportunity for high school students that need community service hours.

MEDICAL AIDS TO BE GIVEN AWAY

There are some medical aids available for free at Wesley Church. These include a small wheelchair, crutches, stairs used for entering and exiting a tub, an oxygen tank, and bed rails. Please contact the office by January 31st at 508-799-4191 if you or someone you know can use any of these items. First come, first serve.

BISHOP WEAVER CALLS FOR PRAYER FOR HAITI

Bishop Peter D. Weaver of the New England Annual Conference is calling all New England United Methodists to be in prayer for the people of Haiti in the wake of the devastating earthquake there.

If you wish to provide support to the relief efforts, checks can be made out to Wesley UMC. Please include [UMCOR Advance # 418325](#) in the memo field.

GAMES AND PIZZA NIGHT ON JAN. 23RD

When cold winds are blowing and cabin fever is setting in, it must be time for Sarah Circle's annual Games and Pizza Night:

Saturday, Jan. 23rd, 4 to 7 pm

\$4/ individual, \$12/ family for the pizza, salad, beverages, and dessert

Everyone is invited. Please bring your favorite board games, especially if you or your child would enjoy a quieter activity than relays, runaround toys, etc. Questions? Call Betsy Pennino (508-829-7131).

ADULT BOARD GAME NIGHT ~ FEBRUARY 8, 7:00 PM

On Monday, February 8th, we will have our second adult board game night, starting at 7:00 PM and going until we just can't play any more! We had a lot of laughter the last time we had a board game night and I hope you'll stop in to join us this time around. There will be all sorts of games, from social/party games to more thoughtful strategic games. The more people who show up, the more games we'll get to play! Please note that this evening is geared towards adults, ages 18 and up. Bring your friends from the community as well!

DRUM CIRCLE ~ TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 7:30 PM

Our monthly drum circle will continue on Tuesday, February 2nd, at 7:30 PM. No two circles have been the same, but each time we have gotten to experience fellowship, excitement, and some quiet, centering moments as well. I cannot stress enough that you do not need to have any experience or special skills to participate. We have all the drums and percussion instruments needed, so all you have to do is show up at 7:30 with an open mind and heart. Members from the outside community are more than welcome to join you, so please feel free to bring some friends along. While all ages are welcome to attend, children under the age of 8 or so will probably get tired after a short while. I'm looking forward to seeing you there! - *Brett Maguire*

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST MEN PRESENT:

SHILOH

Gospel Acoustic Music

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2010

Coffee & Dessert at 6:30 pm, Concert at 7:00 pm

No admission charge--invite your friends!

Freewill offering will be taken during intermission.

Need more information? Check www.shiloh-band.com
or speak with Jerry Warren, George Proulx, or Steve Boyns.

SCOUT SUNDAY CELEBRATED AT WESLEY UMC

FEBRUARY 7, 2010 AT THE 10:30 SERVICE

Wesley United Methodist Church has a long history in scouting. Currently three Girl Scout troops meet here and for many years we were the home of Boy Scout Troop 8. Many Wesley youth and adults have also participated and are presently participating in scouting programs throughout Worcester County.

- Youth and adults currently involved in scouting are invited to attend the 10:30 worship service *in uniform*. Scouts (who wish) will process in at the beginning of the service and sit together.
- In honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts, Scouting Alumni from Troop 8 and elsewhere are invited to share their scouting memorabilia in a display that will be set up in Brewer Hall. Uniforms, equipment, photographs, and any other memorabilia may be brought to Bill Kilmer in Brewer Hall at anytime after 9 AM on Sunday, February 7th, to be set up. Items will remain on display through the coffee hour after the 10:30am service. (Please put your name on each item and plan to pick them up after 12:30pm).
- Girl Scouts will be selling Girl Scout Cookies in Brewer Hall after church.

Please join us in this great opportunity to celebrate scouting, past and present at Wesley, and to encourage other youth seeking a scouting experience to connect with those at Wesley who are involved in scouting.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

With the devastation of the earthquake in Haiti, I just wanted to pass along the opportunity to give our Sunday School children and youth something concrete to help those who have been hurt by the disaster. If you are seeking ways to make a difference, you may want to join us by helping purchase and assemble health kits which UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief) will distribute. These emergency kits provide the necessary items as strictly planned out by UMCOR.

Here is the list of the contents of one kit: *Important- all items must be NEW!*

1 hand towel (no kitchen towels)

1 washcloth

1 comb (not pocket-sized)

1 nail file or fingernail clippers

1 bath-sized bar of soap

1 toothbrush (adult sized only)

6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages

All placed inside a sealed one-gallon plastic bag.

We have started to bring items in, and if you are interested to join us in this mission, just bring items listed above to the third floor Sunday school or just bring a completed kit that you worked on at home, either would be great! We will be assembling the kits before and after Sunday School class time. Children of all ages can make a difference, fulfilling a great need and giving hope, with this important hands-on project. Thanks for your support!

May we bless others as we serve a God of Hope, Valerie Jansson

Due to a printing error, part of the following paragraph was not printed in the last Herald on Val's page.

We were truly blessed by Deanna Wong as she led the children in bell ringing, "Still, Still, Still" for the closing of our Christmas Pageant. Just amazing to see and hear all the children of all ages, from High School to our little ones, as young as Preschoolers ring and make a joyous noise for the Lord! We are looking forward to having her lead the children again in the coming months. ~ Valerie Jansson

STANDUP FOR KIDS – 2009

StandUp For Kids - Worcester program had a very busy 2009. Our program reported 1,120.25 volunteer hours of outreach and administrative work. We outreached to over 290 kids, provided 132 meals, assisted with two ID/Birth Certificate requests, **and sent one kid home by their request.**

All this was done by 18 volunteers. Imagine how much we can do if we double the number of volunteers we have today. Contact us at worcester@standupforkids.org if you are interested in helping our program.

Thank you to everyone at Wesley United Methodist Church for your continued support!

Sincerely, Kristina England
SUFK Executive Director '09

F.Y.I. - Together with your Mission Committee and funding from the Bessie Carty endowment, Wesley UMC helped to fill some of the StandUp for Kids program needs by:

- Providing administrative meeting space 2-3 times per month
- Providing a weekly outreach center in Mary Ellis Lounge.
- Hosting the “24 hours on the Street” event, held in April.
- Donating 72 lunches, packaged with prayer by members of our congregation.

Praise God!
Chris Flagg
On behalf of your Mission Committee

WILD WANAKEE WOMEN WEEKEND ~ JANUARY 29-31 (for Women 18+) at Wanakee United Methodist Camp

Wanakee United Methodist Center,
75 Upper New Hampton Road, Meredith NH 03253

Need that break from the family and job? Need to be rejuvenated? Come be a Wild Wanakee Woman and enjoy a different side of Wanakee! Be a couch potato without guilt or get out in the snow with your cross country skis or snow shoes. Enjoy wintery Wanakee with a cup of cocoa, a friend and a blazing fire. Hike in the woods or down to the water. No matter what the weather, you will enjoy the company of other women and grow in faith and friendship.

Register by calling 603-279-7950 Cost: \$75 Leader: Lynne Lemay

Thank You, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

FIRST NIGHT 2009... Thank you to all the volunteers who came out to help for this event. We could not have had a successful program without everyone's contribution and help. And we made money this year. The weather did cooperate, finally, and the hall was full for every show up until 10:00pm. With the new kitchen help, Bill Wong & Youl Bellil assisting Brent and Renelle the food was superb. And I cannot thank enough all the floor volunteers who showed up for set up, serving, tear down and clean up. See you at 2010 First night.

~ Gary & Renelle Picard

Thank You to all who brought in peanut butter this month we received a total of 34 jars. The item for Sunday February the 7th is Meal-in-a-Can, at the moment we really need Baked Beans and Pasta, (like ravioli or spaghetti O's) but stew is good too. Thanks again!

~ Nancy Spencer

At this time I would like to say a personal THANK YOU so very much to all of the Carty Cupboard Volunteers for their very hard work over the past year!! To those who help bring in the food, donated or purchased, you have helped move 91,488.25 pounds of food!!! To those who work on distribution days you have helped pack and have given out a total of 100,498 meals to our clients in need. This does not include the 227 complete Thanksgiving meals that we also distributed to our clients.

A very special *Thank You* to Dot who once again has made sure that each person that came in during December received a gift from the mitten tree and from her "special stash" of wonderful things.

So to Dot, Russ, Solomon, Carolyn, Ann (who has flattened and sorted even more bags!) Janet, Barbara, Margaret, Donna, Susan and Bill, Millie, Bill W., Marion and Jerry, Becky, Sandy, Isaac, Munah, Kate and Libby, Jean, Eliana and Don and their Children, Debi, Brianna, Nick, George, Betty and Dick, Phil D., Chris and Earl, Ming, Joe and all of the Foreign Exchange Students, Jill and Jeff, Luv, Nancy C., Greg and Joan, Julie and her Boys, Jan, Ray and his Guys, Martha and the Gibbs Children, Cordelia, the Girl Scouts of Troop 30838, Judith and Rebecca, Carol and Michael and Danny, The Teachers and Students of Bancroft School, The Staff and Students of the Mercy Centre, Sharon, Paul, Patrick, Mackenzie, Steph, Kim, Phil, Kurt, Erin and Harry.

*Thank You, Thank You for your generosity, kindness,
and time in our mission to fight against hunger.*

Fondly, Nancy J. E. Spencer

THANK YOU'S CONTINUED...

The family of Jack Pantanella would like to thank Pastor Vicki, Pastor Shandi and the congregation for their thoughtfulness, prayers and condolences during the recent illness and passing of my father.
~ Susan Richard

Thank you to the many people who made contributions to the Christmas Card tree fund this year (2009). Your donations have enabled the church to present a gift of \$120.00 to the Interfaith Hospitality Network for the purchase of gasoline for their van. This vehicle transports the clients which IHN serves to the various churches which provide temporary housing for those in need. Thank you for your support.

UNITED METHODIST AND EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 11TH AT 4PM

The United Methodist Church (UMC) and Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) have voted in the past two years to enter into “full communion.” Full communion is not a merger, but means that the two churches express a common confession of Christian faith and mutual recognition of Baptism and sharing Holy Communion; agree to mutual recognition of ordained ministers for service in either church; express a common commitment to evangelism, witness and service; engage in common decision-making on critical matters; and mutually lift criticisms that may exist between the churches.

As a celebration of this new relationship, **Bishop Margaret Payne (New England Synod, ELCA) and Bishop Peter Weaver (New England Conference, UMC) are hosting a joint worship service on Sunday, April 11, 2010** beginning at 4pm at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Worcester, MA (73 Lancaster St). It is our hope that Wesley United Methodist Church will be well represented at this historic service.

OPEN HOUSE AT ST. PETER'S

St. Peter's Central Catholic Elementary School, 865 Main Street, Worcester will host an Open House on Sunday, January 31 from 1—3 pm.

St. Peter's has openings in Grades Pre-K thru 7. Please visit us on January 31, or call 508-791-6496 for information or visit our website www.stpetercc.com.

CONSERVE HEAT AND \$\$\$

We're asking that everyone make deliberate efforts to close all doors if they're the last ones in a room, especially the doors off Brewer Hall, the Sanctuary and the Chapel. We are trying to maintain heat in these areas for as long as possible, at the lowest possible cost. If you've turned a thermostat up, you are responsible for turning it back down so the heat doesn't run all night long. So, to quote Mark 13:33, "Be on guard! Be alert!". Please remain deliberately aware of all the costs of operating this building. Thank you for your help.

HERALD DONATIONS

Our church budget depends on those of you who receive the Herald to share in the cost of publication and mailing. Your donation of anywhere from \$10 – \$15 is much appreciated. You can send in your donation to Wesley with "Herald Donation" in the memo field.

~ Thanks for your support.

GARRISON KEILLOR ON METHODISTS

Many Methodists are bred from childhood to sing in four-part harmony, a talent that comes from sitting on the lap of someone singing alto or tenor or bass and hearing the harmonic intervals by putting your little head against that person's rib

70 cage. It's natural for Methodists to sing in harmony. They are too modest to be soloists, too worldly to sing in unison. When you're singing in the key of C and you slide into the A 7th and D 7th chords, all two hundred of you, it's an emotionally fulfilling moment. By our joining in harmony, we somehow promise that we will not forsake each other.

I do believe this: these Methodists, who love to sing in four-part harmony, are the sort of people you can call up when you're in deep distress:

- If you're dying, Methodists will comfort you.
- If you are lonely, they'll talk to you.
- And if you are hungry, they'll give you tuna salad.
- Methodists believe in prayer, but would practically die if asked to pray out loud.
- Methodists like to sing, except when confronted with a new hymn or a hymn with more than four stanzas.

~ From "We Confess," Vol. 15, Issue 6, Nov./Dec. 2009

2010 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., Feb. 1	Wed., Feb. 3
Tues., Feb. 16	Thurs., Feb. 18

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

office@wesleyworc.org



Welcome!

Here are the topics for the next meetings.

JANUARY 29, 2010:

How Becoming a Mom Changes a Marriage

FEBRUARY 19, 2010:

How Becoming a Mom Changes Your Relationship with Family

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. We look forward to meeting you!



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WESLEY HERALD
JANUARY 21, 2010

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

Ron Ramsay

Layleader

Deborah O'Driscoll

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Nancy Spencer

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Michael Edmunds

Ghanaian Association

Joseph Wilson

Lay Members Annual Conference

Mary Beth Dziejewietin and Johnnell Demery

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