

# Wesley United Methodist Church, Worcester, MA

## *Sunday Announcements for March 20, 2022*

### **Special Prayers for these Wesley Family, Friends and Others...**

- Linda Keister and Family on the passing of Paul Keister on March 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Lauren Meltzer (16), grand-daughter of Susan Richard, with a heart condition and is unable to attend school.
- Peggy, Maggie Madsen's mom, who was recently diagnosed with terminal cancer.
- Family and friends of Enid Holmberg who passed away on Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. A graveside service will be held at 10 AM on Tuesday, March 15 in Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton.
- Paul Hayfron and the entire family in your prayers. Paul's sister, Grace Hayfron passed away on February 28 after a short illness. Condolences may be sent to at 173 Eastern Ave, #1, Worcester, MA 01605. Details about services will be shared when they are available.
- Newborn Eyad Saad, who's parents are friends of Jim & Judy Hoffman's.
- Baby Casey Webber (7 months old), who is very ill. He was born with a rare genetic disease and recently underwent a double-lung transplant. Please pray for his parents Molly Hammond Webber and Taylor, big brother Jack, and his grandparents Lynne and Philip Hammond during this difficult time.
- Donald Tremblay, who has been going through health problems.
- Clark Jones, a teacher of Beth Duxbury's, battling a severe blood infection and fighting cancer.
- Barbara Vietze, mom of Beth Vietze
- Pamela, Linda Keister's sister, home with 24-hour care.
- Barbara Fletcher, who continues to heal.
- Charles and Samira Kiefer at Oasis at Dodge Park.
- Bill Kilmer
- Bill Wong
- Dorothy Norcross
- Anne Burrows
- David Samanen
- Peter Woodcock
- Those who struggle with depression, anxiety, and alcoholism.

## Tower & Rose Window Lightings & Altar Flowers

**The altar flowers** today are given in loving memory of their mother, Rose Ventura, who passed away 9 years ago on March 26<sup>th</sup> and also in celebration of her birthday on March 26<sup>th</sup>, and for their brother Thomas Ventura in honor of his birthday on March 3<sup>rd</sup> by Gary Ventura, Thomas Ventura and Deborah Surette.

**The Tower lighting** this month is given in loving memory of Dr. C. James Brenneman by his daughter Betsey.

**The Rose Window lighting** this month is given in loving memory of Heik P. & Irene B. Garabedian, Robert Demers, and my grandson, Jason Sullivan by Shirley and family.



**The April Herald** will be sent out on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Please have all articles to me by Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.

*Thank you, Debi*

### Support Ukraine through gifts to UMCOR

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), the humanitarian relief arm of Global Ministries, is taking part in the humanitarian response for Ukraine. Support UMCOR's international disaster response efforts by making a gift to [Advance #982450](#). [UMCOR: how to assist the Ukrainian people](#)

*Note about UMCOR disaster relief: Rather than assigning special numbers to be used for giving to support specific disasters, UMCOR has changed to using only 2 numbers for disaster relief efforts: one for disasters in the US (Advance #901670) and one for international disasters (Advance #982450). 100% of giving to these funds goes toward relief projects. Your offerings on UMCOR Sunday, March 27 this year, underwrite UMCOR's cost of doing business. [See more on UMCOR Sunday here](#).*

### Prevent Homelessness through Grocery Shopping

Buy Gift Cards before Easter, New Options There will be two opportunities before Easter to purchase gift cards to support the prevention of homelessness, with new options for cards from Target, Amazon, TJ Maxx and Starbucks. Orders are due Tuesday, March 29 for distribution Sunday, April 3. A second round of orders will be taken by end of day April 12 for distribution at church on Saturday morning, April 16 during the Easter Egg Hunt, or at another pre-arranged time.

In addition to the usual cards from CVS, Shaw's, Stop & Shop, Panera, Big Y and Dunkin' Donuts, we will have Target (\$10/\$25/\$50/\$100), Amazon(\$25/\$50/\$100), TJ Maxx (\$25/\$50) and Starbucks(\$10/\$25). A few calorie-free alternatives for your Easter baskets! Contact Allison at [ACHis4788@aol.com](mailto:ACHis4788@aol.com) for orders or more information.

*Thank you! Allison*

## Sunday School

Weekly In-person Sunday school for grades K-6 resumed on Sunday, March 6th!

All children and youth should come into the sanctuary at the start of Sunday services and plan to leave together for Sunday school with Cordelia Ferdinand after the Conversation with the Pastor.

**Please note:** children will be returned to the sanctuary during the closing hymn.

## IHN Giveaways to Announce their New Name and Variety Show/Fund Raiser

As you leave the sanctuary on Sunday, help yourself to IHN pens, refrigerator magnets and invitations to their Virtual Variety Show on Thursday, March 24 at 7 pm. They had to change their name but were able to keep the IHN abbreviation-- In the Hour of Need Family Shelter.

## Small Gift for Shelters

### Donate "Gently Used" Children's Books?

Many more children are sitting for hours at the Central Mass. Housing Alliance office, now that homelessness in Worcester increased 30% in one year. Sarah Circle has heard about how much your donated books have been appreciated at the housing office. Some are taken to shelters where their clients live. Please give any books you have to Betsy Pennino or another member of Sarah Circle.

**Sarah Circle** will again be collecting useful or edible items for Worcester shelters. On Sundays in Lent through April 10th, you're invited to leave any of the following in the purple bag you'll find in the church pantry:

- Soap, hand sanitizer, shampoo, toothpaste, lotion, deodorant
- First Aid supplies, sunscreen, Chapstick
- Chocolate, dried fruit, cereal bars, small bags of cookies or crackers, or other snacks which have some food value
- Packets of hot chocolate, small juice containers
- Socks, hats, washcloths, pens, Post-its, Scotch tape
- whatever else you think a person at a shelter would appreciate

The items will be delivered to shelters on Easter weekend.

Questions? Contact Betsy Pennino ([betspenn35@hotmail.com](mailto:betspenn35@hotmail.com)).

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Hi Wesley Church,

It's time to **Celebrate!**

Your benefiting month in the Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program has ended. You raised **\$91** for **Wesley UMC Community Suppers** in February 2022.

Stop & Shop thanks you for your commitment to fighting hunger in our local community. We appreciate all you do to give back to those who are in need. We stand with you in the fight against hunger. To learn more about the Bloomin' 4 Good Program, [please click here](#).

 **STOP&SHOP**



## Have you experienced a "God Moment"?

This is a suggestion from the Tuesday Bible Study/Book Group started by Jim Hoffman 3 years ago. Susan Williams, leader of the new study, asked, "Where have you experienced God working in your life?" Another way of saying that is, "Have you experienced a God Moment?" Often God Moments are remarkable coincidences which seem to be God's encouraging us.

I thought it would be inspiring to hear from the congregation stories of seeing God at work in our midst. These could be anonymous or signed in the Herald. If someone wanted to tell a story but not write it down, I could be the listener who tries to capture the God Moment in writing.

In a time when Covid is separating us, sharing God Moments could bring the congregation together. Sharing God Moments would perhaps allow others to perceive similar experiences in their lives. If you could share a story of seeing God's work in your life, please tell me or send it to me ([betspenn35@hotmail.com](mailto:betspenn35@hotmail.com)). All are invited to participate. Betsy Pennino



### A "God Moment"

Susan Williams shares this story--

Several years ago, she arrived early at Wesley to help prepare refreshments for a collation. She saw a bus schedule on a kitchen counter and picked it up because it was different from the bus schedules she had. Her friend Carolyn asked if Susan could do a favor after the collation. The favor was to pick up a bus schedule in a Main St. store with no parking. What a surprise for Susan to realize that the bus schedule Carolyn needed was the very one she had picked up earlier!

*Welcome*

**YOU ARE INVITED!**

**Wesley United Methodist Church**

114 Main St., Worcester, MA

*(Please enter using the upper Gertrude Ave door across from the side parking lot.)*

**On Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 6 pm**

You are invited to a **FREE** Community Dinner.

Comfort Food: **Corned Beef, cabbage, potato, carrots, salad, bread and butter, beverages and dessert.**

***Come Share a Meal Together.***

