

# Wesley United Methodist Church, Worcester, MA

## *Sunday Announcements for April 3, 2022*

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

- Anne Burrows, who celebrated her 75<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 29<sup>th</sup>.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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
- Bill Kilmer
- Bill Wong
- Dorothy Norcross
- David Samanen
- Those who struggle with depression, anxiety, and alcoholism.

### **Tower & Rose Window Lightings & Altar Flowers**

**The Tower lighting** this month is given in loving memory of Doris L. (Swan) Tremblay and Margaret A. (Swan) Fuller by their children and grandchildren.

**The Rose Window lighting** this month is given in loving memory of Julius Tremblay, Sr., Helga (Erikson) Tremblay, Julius Tremblay, Jr., Irene (Tremblay) Salonis, Dorothy (Tremblay) St. Armand, Jean (Tremblay) Quilliam, and Arthur Tremblay by the Tremblay Family.

The 2022 altar flower book in the Welcome Office is now available. If you'd like to place flowers on the altar on a particular Sunday, please fill your name in on the day, then take an order form and submit it to Debi in the office with a check.

**2022 Offering Envelopes are here!!** Please stop by the table in the Narthex before or after church and pick up your envelopes. If you did not request them and would like them, please complete the form on the table and they will be made.

**May Herald** will be sent out May 1st. Please have all articles to me by Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

*Thank you, Debi*

### **Support Ukraine 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**

The next order date for Hope for Housing cards is by end of day Tuesday, 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*

### **Upcoming Musical Events at Wesley**

Istan Slamet, clarinetist and WPI student, will play on April 3 the Prelude and will accompany the Wesley Choir in a favorite anthem entitled "Lenten Song" by Mark Hayes. Also participating in the service is the Medwin Quartet from WPI playing two works.

On Easter our service will be graced with the Weeks Brass Quintet and Timpani playing throughout the service with choirs, hymns and voluntaries. This quintet is a superb musical organization with top notch players on all parts. This service will include three hymns and praise songs we all know and love. Both choirs will be accompanied by brass and also heard on the Hallelujah chorus of Handel at the close of the service. Look forward to an exciting and exhilarating service you will not forget. Invite your friends to experience a grand Wesley Easter! You will not be disappointed!

## Small Gift for Shelters

**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)).

## Have You Experienced a “God Moment”?

*If you could share a story of seeing God's work in your life, please tell me or send it to me. The story can be anonymous or signed, and all are invited to participate. Betsy*



A “God Moment” from Debbie O'Driscoll

As we have recently passed various two year markers of what has become a long journey through the Covid 19 pandemic I have been having flashbacks to the start of the pandemic and was reminded of a God moment I experienced near the beginning. It was March 13, 2020—I was at home late in the afternoon preparing to come to church for a Lenten study but delayed leaving in order to hear the news conference in which the President declared a national state of emergency. Meanwhile a heavy rainstorm had passed through, but the sun was coming back out when I left the house with my head full of thoughts about the virus, the unimaginable death and suffering already witnessed in Italy and on the upswing in NYC, the fear and uncertainty of what would happen here. As I drove down my street ahead of me in the sky I saw a bright rainbow. I immediately felt a deep peace, recalling God's promise sealed with a rainbow in Genesis to not ever again destroy creation. I knew that no matter what happened as the pandemic unfolded, God would be with us, even or maybe especially in the midst of terrible illness and death, that somehow humanity as a whole would come through this. By no means did I take it as a guarantee of personal safety for me or my loved ones, but instead it was the assurance of God's sustaining and accompanying presence and the hope of a way through. I knew that somehow, in terms of the big picture, everything was going to be okay. More than two years later, when we are still experiencing many ups and downs, and might be asking “How long, O Lord?” it is also good to be reminded that God's time is not necessarily our time. Nevertheless, where we are now is vastly different from those dark early days—we have seen the miracle of vaccines and treatments, and the resilience of the human spirit. The pandemic is not over yet, but God has been with us and will continue to be with us for sustenance, comfort, and guidance. Thanks be to God.