

# Wesley United Methodist Church, Worcester, MA

## *Sunday Announcements for February 27, 2022*

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

- Pam Bak, Kim Harmon, and the Kane families on the death of their father, Ken Hedenburg on Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. A funeral will be held at Wesley on Thursday, March 3, 2022, at 11 am. There are no calling hours.
- The family of Michelle (Savageau) McKinstry who passed away on January 28<sup>th</sup>.
- The family of Mae (Peterson) Edwards who passed away on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Newborn Eyad Saad, who's parents are friends of Jim & Judy Hoffman's. There is a prayer quilt for Eyad today. Please come tie and knot and say a prayer for him.
- 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 Trembay, who has been going through health problems.
- Ray Campbell, Debi Reynolds' uncle, in VA rehab in RI.
- Clark Jones, a teacher of Beth Duxbury's, battling a severe blood infection and fighting cancer.
- Barbara Vietze, mom of Beth Vietze, recovering from surgery for a broken hip.
- Pamela, Linda Keister's sister, home with 24-hour care. She will need surgery in the future.
- Lorna Regentz, Judy Simoneau's daughter, recovering at home.
- Barbara Fletcher, who continues to heal. Please continue to pray for comfort and healing.
- Charles and Samira Kiefer at Oasis at Dodge Park.
- Paul Keister. Pray for peace for him.
- Bill Kilmer in St. Mary's Health Care Center.
- Bill Wong for strength and comfort.
- Anne Burrows at Sterling Village Rehab.
- 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 Janette C. Hedenburg for her birthday. They are also in celebration of the life of Kenneth B. Hedenburg who passed away on Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Beginning in March, I will have the 2022 calendar ready for altar flower dedications. If you are interested in a Sunday in March that you would like to put flowers on the altar in memory or honor/celebration of a loved one, please let me know via email ([office@wesleyworc.org](mailto:office@wesleyworc.org)) or by calling the office during the week.

*Thank you, Debi*



### Herald Update...

**March Herald...** It has been recently decided that there will not be a March Herald. Any articles will be placed in the Sunday Announcements for the month. Please have all articles to me by Wednesday afternoons at 12 noon for the Sunday announcements.

**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>.

**Going forward**, the herald will be sent out on the first of the month. The deadline date will remain the 21<sup>st</sup> of each month, giving me time to put the Herald together.

*Thank you, Debi*

### Wesley Changes Mask Policies

As COVID-19 cases decline and public health guidance changes, Wesley is modifying its mask policies. **Wesley continues to require face masks in the Sanctuary during the Sunday worship services. At other times and in other areas of the building, Wesley is changing to a mask optional policy** on Friday, February 18, 2022. Wesley will resume the fellowship hour with refreshments after church on Sunday, February 20. The recent surge has ebbed so much that the combination of improved conditions, high vaccination rates, wider availability of testing, and air filtration at the church provide confidence that this change in mask policies is a prudent step during this transition phase of the pandemic. We look forward to the spring and Easter seasons with hope for the renewal and resurrection of the church. The full announcement is available at <https://www.wesleyworc.org/wesley-changes-mask-policies/>

### Ash Wednesday at Wesley

On Ash Wednesday, March 2, from 11am-1pm and 4pm-6pm Pastor Moo will offer distribution of ashes and Holy Communion at the wooden footbridge in the rear parking lot. Should you wish to spend time in individual prayer and reflection either before or after receiving ashes and Communion outside, the sanctuary will be open during the same hours. Inside there will be a printed Ash Wednesday labyrinth meditation available for you to engage as you spend time in our sacred worship space. This meditative resource offers a scripture-based reflection focused on a finger labyrinth and invites you to set your intentions for your Lenten journey. It is our hope and prayer that the observance of Ash Wednesday will open the way for your spiritual pilgrimage through Lent.

**Easter Flower** orders have been extended to Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. A form is included in this Herald, will be available in the Narthex, and on the website. Please submit your orders as soon as possible.  
*Thank you, Debi*

**2022 Offering Envelope Update...** I recently heard from the supplier that our order is in line to print. Due to COVID they are still experiencing a paper/envelope shortage.

### ***HURRAY!***

The reentry team, the worship team and the Education Committee have determined that it is safe (with masks and social distancing) to resume the children's time with the Pastor.

On February 6<sup>th</sup> Pastor Moo began inviting the children to come forward to the altar rail for a brief time together.

We are still working to reopen Sunday School for our elementary school children, we have curriculum and a temporary plan in place for this program, but we still need volunteers who are willing to teach.

In the meantime, we will have children's activity bags that will be updated weekly to help children stay busy during worship.

Please consider volunteering, whether it's one Sunday a month or one a quarter, whatever frequency you feel most comfortable with, we need you!

\*All Curriculum and materials will be provided well in advance.

Please speak with Pastor Moo for more information or if you are interested in helping with this ministry.

### **Prevent Homelessness through Grocery Shopping**

The next order date for Hope for Housing cards is by end of day Tuesday, March 8. I will have the cards available on Sunday, March 13 after church, or at another arranged time if you worship remotely. Please email me to submit an order or make pickup arrangements ([AChis4788@aol.com](mailto:AChis4788@aol.com)).

I want to thank everyone who supported this ministry last year. Together, Wesley Church members bought \$20,205 in cards, which helped dozens of families on the verge of homelessness.

Buying groceries or prescriptions, eating a donut or having a meal at Panera, they're all ways to help our neighbors stay in their homes despite a tough economy.

We have cards for Panera (\$10, \$25), Shaw's and Stop & Shop (\$10, \$25, \$50, \$100), Big Y (\$25, \$50, \$100), CVS (\$10, \$20, \$50), and Dunkin' Donuts (\$10, \$25).

*Thank you! Allison*

## Monday Night Eye Clinic

The Monday night eye program has reopened. We are seeing patients on two Monday nights per month and our hours are 6PM to 8PM. There have been some changes in our process due to COVID. Appointments are recommended, only patients may come in (exceptions for translators and necessary support people), masks are required as well as social distancing. We are offering exams and the same optical services as offered in the past.

As with any situation that is suspended and then restarted, we are now looking for some people to help with several parts of the program. registration. and assisting with patient flow. If helping people in our community with their vision needs sounds interesting to you, please contact me at the number below to discuss the possibilities.

Ron Ramsay (774-287-9002)

## Advent Gifts

Thanks to everyone who made a shoebox gift of personal care items and healthy snacks. Forty-five gift boxes were created. Beth Duxbury's volunteers made 20 of the gifts. Beth also purchased small backpacks which were especially appreciated by our homeless guests and are now spreading Wesley's name around the city. The plan had been to distribute the gift boxes/bags at the January 2<sup>nd</sup> breakfast, but Wesley was closed that Sunday because of Covid. Then Linda D'Acri and her family got approval to hold a Community Breakfast on Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup>.

We were disappointed by the number of guests. About 18 of them chose gifts and we had also handed out some near Sally's Place where a free lunch is offered to anyone. All expressed delight at receiving theirs and thanked us more than once. Then an Outreach Worker from StandUp for Kids (SUFK) arrived at the breakfast and told us that the items we had collected are exactly what he needs to give out to people on the street or in overnight shelters such as Grace Hotel. StandUp for Kids works with homeless youth, ages 14 to 24. He was very happy to accept the remaining gifts.

## Stop & Shop's "Bloomin 4 Good"

February is almost over... one more day!!! So go on over to Stop & Shop on Lincoln Street and grab a bouquet of flowers with the sticker on them to help support the Community supper program through the **Bloomin 4 Good** program. Remember to look for the flowers with the sticker on them! What a great way to enjoy some flowers and brighten your home and be able to support the Community Supper program!

