

Sunday Announcements for January 22, 2023

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

Susan Williams, recovering at home after being in the hospital. Polly Boyns recovering from surgery.

Vicki (cousin of David Potts wife) who lost her long-time partner to Leukemia.

Kelly, a friend of David Potts, Alice & Joseph Boateng, Anne Burrows, Barbara Fletcher, Charles & Samira Kiefer, Bill Kilmer, Kris (daughter of Lorraine Kronberg), Dorothy Norcross, David O'Driscoll, David Samanen, Alicia Simoneau, Donald Tremblay; Barbara, Frank and the Vietze Family; Bill Wong, Laura Zoldak, Margie (Linda Keister's sister), Malika Gujarati (family of Jim & Judy Hoffman), Emily (Donroy Ferdinand's cousin), Paige, Allison Hansen's sister, Ralph (friend of Dorothy Adams).

Those who struggle with depression, anxiety, and alcoholism.

Tower & Rose Window Lightings & Altar Flowers

The Rose Window lighting for January is given in loving memory of Mrs. William B. Smith by the United Women in Faith.

The Tower lighting for January is given in loving memory of my mother and father, Mary & Norman Fletcher and my brother, David Fletcher, by Barbara Fletcher.

The February Rose Window and Tower lightings are available for dedication. If you are interested in lighting either in memory or honor of a love one(s), please let Debi in the office know. The cost of each lighting is \$40 for the month.

Altar flowers... The 2023 calendar is now available. If you'd like to place flowers on the altar on a particular Sunday, please stop at the Welcome office and sign up in the book. Please be sure to fill your name in on the day, then take an order form and submit it to Debi in the office with a check.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vacation Schedule:

Moo will be on vacation from Thursday, February 2 – Wednesday, February 15, returning to the office on Thursday, February 16th. If you have a pastoral need or emergency, please contact Rev. James Hoffman at jhoffman24661@yahoo.com or at 860-965-2575.

Herald: The next Herald will be sent out on February 1st. Please send your article(s) to me no later than Friday, January 27th. Thank you.

January Community Supper

All are invited to the January Community Supper which will be Homemade Macaroni and Cheese, Salad, Bread, and baked goods for dessert. This month's supper will be prepared by the United Women in Faith.

Prevent Homelessness with Gift Cards

It's a simple idea with community-wide impact -- buy gift cards for your groceries or other shopping and help Worcester-area families stay in their homes! Working with the Central Mass. Housing Alliance, Wesley offers gift cards for sale each Sunday. A portion (anywhere from 2 to 10 percent) of the face value goes into a fund that helps families who are facing eviction. One rent check or utility bill payment from this fund can keep a family together in their home, rather than the upheaval of living in a shelter or on the street.

Available in a variety of denominations, grocery gift cards are on sale from Shaw's, Stop & Shop and Big Y. Cards are also for sale from CVS, Target, Dunkin' Donuts, Starbucks, Panera, TJ Maxx/Marshalls/Home Goods and Amazon. Look for the display near the stage in Brewer Hall after church! Volunteers are always welcome -- pick a Sunday that suits your schedule.

If you placed an advanced order, pickup will be this Sunday, January 22.

New Bible Study Series on 1st and 3rd Tuesday Evenings

Everyone is invited to participate via Zoom in the ongoing Tuesday group from 6:30 to 8 pm. This small group meets on the first and third Tuesdays, starting on Feb. 7th. The new book is The Life of Jesus, Participant's Guide. The group just finished a book from this series which requires no "homework." The book is mostly topics to notice in the videos, questions to discuss, and optional daily reflections. The videos explore the main events of Jesus' life to understand what made him so extraordinary. What is learned will be applied to life today.

Betsy Pennino will be facilitating the discussion and technical expert Bill Wong will make sure the videos run smoothly. Please contact Judy Hoffman to sign up. You can get a book (\$7) from Judy or Betsy.

Volunteering for Wesley's IHN Week-- Sunday, January 29 to Saturday, February 4

Please let Betsy Pennino know if you are able to provide coverage for the evening shift (5:30 to 8:30 pm) or the overnight (8:30 pm to 6:30 am) during Wesley's week at IHN. (betspenn35@hotmail.com or call 508-829-7131) If you would like an explanation of how to do either shift, please tell Betsy.

Currently volunteers may choose to stay in the IHN office or interact with the families. Volunteers no longer provide dinners but are encouraged to bring food to prepare their own.

The Mission Committee will give IHN Hope for Housing cards to pay for food and housing staples during Wesley's Jan. 29 to Feb. 4 week. Your donating Big Y cards would save money to give to another mission.

New Member Class

Would you like to become a member of Wesley Church? Would you like to learn more about Wesley UMC? Are you interested in learning more about the United Methodist Church? Two class sessions will lead you to know more about the United Methodist Church and about Wesley UMC; then, if you choose, you can become a member of Wesley Church.

Classes are scheduled for:

Sundays, January 29th and February 5th at 11:15 am.

OR Wednesdays, February 1st and 8th at 7 pm.

Classes will cover the history and organization of the United Methodist Church as well as the history and opportunities of Wesley UMC. Both classes will be identical.

Please contact the church office at 508-799-4191 to let Debi know you are interested, or email Jim Hoffman at jhoffman24661@yahoo.com.

ONECALL TELLALL

Don't sit and wonder on a Sunday morning if a storm church is going to be cancelled. Instead, receive a phone call and find out immediately!

Whether it be a cancellation because of a snowstorm, a meeting that has been cancelled or even to remind you of a special event taking place at Wesley, we will reach out to you by phone. This is a pre-recorded call, so please make sure your voicemail has space and it should save the call in case you miss it.

If you would like to sign up for this, please put your name, home phone number and **one phone number per household** on the sign-up sheet just outside the Welcome Office.

This is just another way for us to help keep you informed of what is going on at your church.

God Moments

If you could share a story of seeing God's work in your life, please tell me or email it to me. The story can be anonymous or signed, and all are invited to participate. Betsy (betspenn35@hotmail.com)



A God Moment by Debi Reynolds

As I was getting ready for my latest vacation, an international cruise, I was asked for my license at the bank on Saturday. I was in complete horror when I noticed my license was not in my wallet. She let me process my request, by asking lots of questions, and then off I went in search of my license. I retraced my steps to every single place I had been that morning. On my way home to look I called my mother and was about to cry telling her I can't find my license. I asked her, 'who do you pray to when you need to find something?' She told me and I said my prayers. When I got home, I searched everywhere! High and low, looked in the same places 3 times, maybe more!

At this time, I decided to go to church because that's the only other place I had been. Again, I searched everywhere! Every folder I made the last few days, between papers I touched or filed, in the kitchen... absolutely everywhere! I was so sick to my stomach that I couldn't find my license. I needed it to travel! I was heading out to leave and as I walked by the counter in the sewing room, I found a debit card. I spoke with Allison and Barbara for a minute in the kitchen while they were preparing the Community Dinner, then went and dropped the card off in Matt's office.

As I was about to leave again, I walked through the kitchen yet again and Judy Hoffman had just come in and said, "fancy seeing you here." As my stomach turned in knots, my reply was "I can't find my license." She said to me, "I have a copy of it." I shook my head and thought to myself, 'What good will a copy do?', and replied to her 'What?', and she said again, 'I have a copy of it, for the Cori check.' And just then the lights came on!

I remembered taking it out to make a copy of it for SPRC for my Cori check. I ran to the office and there it was sitting on my printer in my office! I happily heading out, through the kitchen, thanking Judy ever so much for coming in! and I said to her, "This is a God Moment!"

I was not going to come to work to look for it because I honestly believed I had it with me on Thursday and Friday! But, as I was in complete despair at home, my gut told me to go to work to look! Had I not come to work, and had I not found that debit card and stopped to talk to Allison and Barbara, I would have left earlier and missed Judy coming in. And I probably would not have remembered taking it out to make a copy of it.

I firmly believe in the power of prayer and that God directs us to where we need to be.