

## Sunday Announcements for April 2, 2023

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

Al D'Ambra, Charles (friend of David Potts), Rick (Jan England's brother), Donald McLaren, Rhianna Burke, Earl Flagg, Janet Tezerian, Joseph Boateng, Polly Boyns, Anne Burrows, Dot Ellis, Barbara Fletcher, Charles & Samira Kiefer, Bill Kilmer, Dorothy Norcross, David O'Driscoll, David Samanen, Alicia Simoneau, Donald Tremblay; Barbara, Frank and the Vietze Family; Bill Wong, Laura Zoldak, Kelly, a friend of David Potts, Margie (Linda Keister's sister), Malika Gujarati (family of Jim & Judy Hoffman), Page, Allison Hansen's sister, Ralph (friend of Dorothy Adams).

Those who struggle with depression, anxiety, and alcoholism.

### Tower & Rose Window Lightings & Altar Flowers

**The Tower lighting** for April is given in loving memory of Julius Sr, Helga, Julius Jr, Arthur, Lorraine, Jean, Dorothy, and Irene Tremblay by Donald Tremblay and nieces.

**The Rose Window** lighting for March is given in loving memory of Doris L. (Swan) Tremblay and Margaret A. (Swan) Fuller by their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

**Altar flowers...** The 2023 calendar is 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

**April Herald:** The next Herald will be sent out on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Please send your article(s) to me no later than Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

### The following Tower & Rose Window lightings are available for dedication in 2023:

The August Tower, October Tower, November Tower and December Rose window lightings are available. If you are interested in lighting any of these, either in memory or honor of a loved one(s), please let Debi in the office know. The cost of each lighting is \$40 for the month.

### UWF Mission Recognition

Each year the United Women in Faith sponsor a "Mission Recognition Award" to someone who has given of herself to Wesley Church. This award is open to any woman who attends Wesley Church, young or old. In recognition of this person's service, a donation is made to the mission projects sponsored by the District and Conference United Women in Faith.

We are now collecting ballot submissions. Forms can be found in the Welcome Office. You can drop your ballot in the box in the Welcome Office or mail it to Wesley Church, Attn: UWF Mission Recognition. Deadline for submissions is April 30, 2023.

## Music Note on the Prelude - Blessed City of Jerusalem

This hymn is remarkable for its theology of the Church as the Bride of Christ and what it means for the Church to be built of living stones, the Christian faithful. The mystery of being Church is repeated throughout the hymn in a manner that is very much tied to both the sacred scriptures and to the movements of the Christian soul. This hymn on Palm Sunday can represent the procession of Christ into Jerusalem to meet his bride. Willan's setting uses a large reed stop, namely the Tuba Mirabilis to bring out the hymn tune ending triumphantly on a full organ registration.

## Wesley's Centennial Celebration

### Wesley Centennial T-Shirts --- **ORDERS DUE BY APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>!!!**

Students of Wesley Church will be designing a Centennial T-Shirt! Stop by and grab an order form and order your Centennial t-shirts today to wear on April 23<sup>rd</sup> during our celebration. The cost of each t-shirt is \$10. Checks are to be made payable to: Connor Sign & Graphics.

You can leave your order in the Welcome Office (in the box provided) or mail it to: ATTN: Centennial T-Shirts, Wesley UMC, 114 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608.

All Orders **MUST** be in by April 4<sup>th</sup> the latest. You can also drop your order off during the week when the office is open.

### Sunday, April 23, 2022 – Worship and Lunch

Join us on Sunday, April 23, 2023 starting with Worship at 10 am to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Wesley Church! Rev. Vicki Woods will join our worship service, then after we will continue to celebrate with a sit-down lunch in Brewer Hall. Come see photos and a slide show of the church when it was built, and the people from the early years and onwards to 2023!

We are now taking reservations for the luncheon. Please see an usher for a form, pick one up in the Welcome office, or make your reservation online via the link on the Announcement page of the website ([www.wesleyworc.org](http://www.wesleyworc.org)).

*Thank you! Sandra McManus*



### Here's a Chance to Prevent Homelessness

It's a simple idea -- buy your groceries (or your coffee or toiletries) and help a local family stay in their home. You'll be joining area stores in contributing to a fund that gives grants to families facing eviction. One back rent payment, utility bill or storage unit fee can keep families out of the shelter system and all the disruption to their children's schooling.

Here's how it works: When you purchase gift cards from Big Y, Shaw's, Stop & Shop, CVS, Dunkin Donuts, Panera, Starbucks, Amazon, Target or TJ Maxx/Marshalls/Home Goods, a percentage of that card's value is donated by those stores to Central Mass. Housing Alliance. Families come to CMHA seeking assistance, and since this program began, hundreds of families have received aid.

Look for the birdhouse in Brewer Hall -- at a table near the stage -- after church services. Cards are for sale every Sunday and by email to [ACHis4788@aol.com](mailto:ACHis4788@aol.com). Please send your orders by the end of day Monday, April 17 for delivery April 23.

Come choose a Sunday to help with card sales -- it takes a team to tackle a challenge as big (and fast-growing) as homelessness.

# EASTER EGG HUNT

Join us for a morning of Easter fun. Learn about the story of Easter, make some spring crafts, enjoy a snack, and participate in an Easter Egg Hunt.

**Wesley United Methodist Church**

**Saturday, April 8, 2023**

**10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

\*Please bring 12 filled eggs for each child that will be attending

\*Due to covid concerns we are requesting that all treats be prepackaged, individually wrapped

Examples: Hershey kisses, mini candy bars, stickers etc...



## Mission Matters

### **Sarah Circle collects outdoor toys for Families needing Help with Housing**

Central Mass. Housing Alliance (CMHA) has asked if Wesley could collect outdoor toys and activities for them. This collection will replace the circle's 12-year Lenten Mission called Small Gifts for Shelters.

Sarah Circle gives CMHA gently used children's books, but *the toys should be new with all of the safety information.* Here are more suggestions than you could possibly need:

- kickball, soccer ball-- could be smaller than regulation size or Neuf/sponge balls -- and/or goal-net (small)
- Basketball and/or hoop which hangs on a post or door
- plastic bat and/or baseball, Whiffle ball, Neuf ball
- beachball, Frisbee, toss-and-catch toys
- ride-around toys for toddlers
- bubbles solution with larger wands as well as small ones
- toddler push toys such as a fake lawn mower
- kid garden set/tools (plastic); jump ropes
- bean bags for games such as corn-hole
- chalk for sidewalk games such as hopscotch

Please bring your donations to the labeled carton in Brewer Hall. Questions? Contact *Betsy Pennino*.

## 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](mailto:betspenn35@hotmail.com))

### A God Moment from Jean Grant

*The Mission Committee and Sarah Circle spent a Saturday in May 2013 planting flowers and spreading mulch at the IHN house. Homeless families had first moved there during the previous February. Jean Grant wrote this after returning that fall to tend to the new plants:*

As I finished up at the IHN house on June St. yesterday, pruning back flowers planted in the spring, I noticed that one lone flower still bloomed. A lone Easter lily trumpeted headstrong out of the garden. I was surprised to see a lily like that bloom in mid-autumn, but there it stood, petals open, announcing its presence like a white trumpet. As the rest of the flowers were browning, their blooms spent, save for a few yellow tickseed at the end of their bloom, the lone lily (brought by Emi Smith, I believe) stood tall. I couldn't bring myself to cut it back, so I left it there. I left IHN after a morning of work... the rest of the perennials pruned back to the ground for their winter slumber, awaiting their own rebirth in spring... while the lily, a symbol of purity, Easter hope and peace, stood resplendent in the fall sunshine, noting the almost 1-year anniversary of the house's opening. I don't think it was a coincidence.

### Betsy adds...

I recently read a related story at the quaint home in Yarmouth, MA of the cartoonist Edward Gorey and his sister. Protected by two wings of the house was a huge magnolia, maybe 25 feet tall. Gorey and his sister had both stated that they wished to have only flowers from their yard at their funerals. As the years went by, each died when the magnolia had finished blooming. Yet, on the morning of each funeral, one perfect, white flower appeared on the magnolia tree!