

Sunday Announcements for June 18, 2023

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

Polly Boyns, Joan Hirst, Jim & Judy Hoffman, Lea Shea (Carol Samanen's sister), Terry Mosso (Phil's SIL), Don Johnson (Phil's brother), Bill Zoldak, Al D'Ambra, Charles (friend of David Potts), Rhianna Burke, Earl Flagg, Joseph Boateng, Anne Burrows, Dot Ellis, Barbara Fletcher, Charles & Samira Kiefer, Bill Kilmer, Donald McLaren, Dorothy Norcross, David O'Driscoll, David Samanen, Alicia Simoneau, Donald Tremblay; Barbara, Frank & the Vietze Family; Bill Wong, Laura Zoldak, Kelly (friend of David Potts), Malika Gujarati (family of Jim & Judy Hoffman), Margie (Linda Keister's sister), Page (Allison Hansen's sister), Ralph (friend of Dorothy Adams).
Those who struggle with depression, anxiety, and alcoholism.

Phil Johnson and family on the death of his sister, Ginelle Chisholm on Thursday, June 7th.

Peter and Allison Hansen and family on the death of his father, Holger "Hogie" Hansen on May 27th.

Tower & Rose Window Lightings & Altar Flowers

The Tower lighting for June is given in loving memory of Hazel & Sherman Langille by The Bellil Family.

The Rose Window lighting for June is given in loving memory of George Hammond by The Hammond Family.

The altar flowers today are given in celebration of Father's Day and my husband, son and son-in-law by Judy Hoffman.

August Rose Window lighting is available. If you'd like to dedicate this lighting in memory/honor or celebration of a loved one, please call Debi in the office. The cost of the lighting is \$40.

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

Upcoming Heralds: *There are always extra copies of the Herald in the Narthex by the Welcome Office.*

During the summer we generally have one Herald. However, we are going to try something a little different. On the first Sunday of July and August, the Announcements will be replaced with the Herald. Please mark your calendars with the following deadline dates: June 23rd for the July Herald, and July 28th for the August Herald.
Thank you, Debi

Upcoming Vacation... Debi is on vacation beginning Friday, June 9th, returning on Tuesday, June 20th. All bulletins and announcements are complete. If you need anything, please speak with Matt or Moo, or email me and I will reply when I return. Please email (office@wesleyworc.org) any calendar requests and I will get back to you when I return.
Thank you.

Nursery / Child Care... We are not able to provide childcare for ages 0-4 at this time, however we invite you to take advantage of the 0-4 family play space that is conveniently located in the formal parlor just outside of the sanctuary.

CELEBRATION



Today in Brewer Hall
immediately following the service



Please plan to join us in sharing our appreciation for the musical gifts of William Ness while we celebrate his retirement.



A light luncheon will be served

Upcoming Mini-Harvests

It's that time of year again to prepare for our annual Harvest. The Men's Mini-Harvest will be held on Sunday, June 25th, the Women's Harvest will be on Sunday, July 30th, and the Children's Harvest will be August 26th. The main Harvest will be on Sunday, September 30th. Let us all pray about ways we plan to give to the Lord and know that is our little token of saying Thank you for all that He has done for us. Thank you.

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 began on June 6th and meets on the first and third Tuesdays. ***You can still join us!*** The new book is The Miracles 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.

Lorraine Kronberg 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 (\$10) from Judy or Chris Flagg.

***"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."
1 Thessalonians 5:11***

Mission Matters

Shaw's will hold its 29th Annual Food Drive - June 5 to 11

One in 12 people in Worcester County does not have enough nutritious food to eat. There are many outreach groups offering food and Shaw's will collect food for those centers. Both of Shaw's Supermarket locations in Worcester will be collecting food and essential household items. For more information, check the Mission bulletin board in Brewer Hall.

Invitation to Father's Day Cookout at Dismas House

We are invited to the Sunday, June 18th Cookout at the Dismas House Family Farm. "Free food, animals, cornhole and more" are offered. The hours are noon to 3 pm and the location is 687 Lincoln Road, Oakham, MA. Questions? Call 508-882-0000. RSVPs are appreciated.

Across the U.S., Dismas Houses are geared to successful re-entry of former prisoners ("returning citizens") into society-- with vocational and life skills. John Wesley often visited the incarcerated and the Wesley Mission Committee gives them a significant gift every year.

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. ***Please send your orders by the end of day Monday, June 26 for pickup on July 2.***

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

From Carty Cupboard Food Pantry

2023 Thanksgiving at Carty Cupboard Food Pantry...

We are changing with the times at the cupboard. Over the past couple of years more and more clients have said that they are not interested in cooking a turkey for Thanksgiving and are instead wanting to make other dishes that are special to their families or to their culture. To still be able to help them celebrate, we are no longer distributing the Turkey boxes but instead giving them gift cards to purchase the items they would like. We would like to give each family that signs up in advance at least \$30.00 in gift cards from Shaw's or Stop and Shop. Here's how you can help, when you see the Hope for Housing table on Sunday morning you can purchase a gift card and tell the person at the table that it is for Carty Cupboard Thanksgiving, and they will get it to us. Any denomination gift card will be helpful.

To Everyone who continues to donate to Carty Cupboard Food Pantry we thank you.

Nancy

Free Organ Concert Series

This June the First Unitarian Church will hold a concert series each Sunday. William Ness will be playing on Sunday, June 18th at 4 pm. For more information, see the TV in Brewer Hall or refer to the June Herald online. This concert series is made possible by a grant from the Worcester Arts Council.

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 Betsy Pennino

The weeks between Memorial Day and July 4th are a good time to remember one of the great coincidences-which-was-more-than-just-a-coincidence: our 2nd President John Adams and 3rd President Thomas Jefferson died on the same day which was the 50th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence! Adams had been a major promoter of winning freedom from England and had written the Massachusetts State Constitution which influenced the U.S. Constitution. Jefferson had written the Declaration of Independence. Both were Ambassadors to France and won French support during the Revolutionary War and its aftermath when there were no laws in place about paying war debts and collecting money through taxes.

Each was near death but wanted to live until the 50th anniversary of their grand experiment: it was unheard of in the 1700's that citizens could elect their leaders and government representatives and that people would have equal rights before the law. It took generations for the country to live up to the hopeful vision set forth in the Constitution.

On the morning of July 4, 1826, Thomas Jefferson was near death at Monticello and asked, "is it the 4th yet?" John Adams also hovered near death in his Quincy, MA home. When he died, his last words were, "Thomas Jefferson survives." Jefferson had actually died 5 hours before that, but the fastest news could move then was on horseback. Five years later, the 5th American President, James Monroe, also died on July 4th.