

Sunday Announcements for September 17, 2023

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

Daniel Ankrah, Phil Johnson, Linda D'Acri, Judy & Jim Hoffman, Joseph Boateng, Anne Burrows, Al D'Ambra, Dot Ellis, Barbara Fletcher, Tom Friend, Joan Hirst, Don Johnson (Phil's brother), Charles & Samira Kiefer, Bill Kilmer, Dorothy Norcross, David Samanen, Alicia Simoneau, Janet Terzian, Donald Tremblay; Barbara, Frank & the Vietze Family; Bill Wong, Bill & Laura Zoldak, Susan (friend of David Potts), Malika Gujarati (family of Jim & Judy Hoffman), Margie (Linda Keister's sister), Page (Allison Hansen's sister).
Those who struggle with depression, anxiety, and alcoholism.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Matt Crane, the Church Business Administrator, will have set office hours on Wednesdays from 10 am to 1 pm. Please email or call Matt to let him know you're coming in (508-799-4191, ext 111 or email him at Matt@wesleyworc.org). Thank you.

Vacation... I am on vacation and will return to the office on Monday, September 25th. If you need anything that cannot wait for me to return, please speak with Moo or Matt Crane. Otherwise, please email me and I will get back to you when I return. Thank you. *Debi Reynolds*

Harvest 2023... The annual Harvest will be on Sunday, September 24th with the International Lunch to follow. If anyone has an item(s) they would like to donate for the main Harvest on September 24th, please bring it to the Church Office or speak with Gifty Bentum-Asante. 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.

International Lunch

As most of you already know, the Harvest Service will be held on the last Sunday of September. Following the service, we will hold an International luncheon.

In the past, members of our congregation made a favorite dish from their heritage to share with fellow members. We are looking for those of you who love to cook and try new things to join us on this celebratory day! There are foil pans out for you to take to fill with what you would like to bring on Harvest Sunday.

I am also looking for volunteers to help with setting up beforehand and clean up afterwards.

For those of you bringing food, please email me the name of your dish, Country of where your dish is from (so I can make a flag of the country it represents to place next to it) and list of ingredients (for those who have allergies or are gluten free).

My email is smyth0822@gmail.com

Thank you in advance and I look forward to hearing from each and every one of you!

Stephanie Smyth

Wesley United Methodist Church

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

The September Herald will be part of the October 1st bulletin. Please have all articles to me no later than September 25th. *Thank you, Debi*

Mission Matters... The Abby's House 5K (3.1 mile) Run or Walk is on Saturday, October 14, 2023. Starting at 9 AM at the West Boylston Middle/High School, participants will have views of Wachusett Reservoir. There's no need to obtain sponsors because the Registration Fee is the donation. Registration before Oct. 1 is \$30 per adult. All adults, students and babies in strollers are welcome (no pets). Abby's House provides shelter and advocacy services to homeless, battered and low-income women and their children. More info at abbyshouse.org/event/.

Do You Love to Sing?

If you answered "Yes!" to this question, then please consider joining the Wesley Chancel Choir. Did you know that singing in a choir has many health benefits? Singing not only exercises your brain, it has many physical benefits. Research has shown that singing can improve breathing, posture, and muscle tension. It is also a wonderful way to meet and get to know new friends.

We rehearse upstairs in the Clark Choir Room beginning 15 minutes after the end of our Sunday service (approximately 11:15) until approximately 12:30.

In addition to the full Chancel Choir, there will be opportunities for smaller group singing such as quartets, treble groups, and duets.

Everyone is invited to sing with the Chancel Choir. Don't worry if you can't attend every rehearsal. Join us when you are able. Enjoyment of music is the only requirement.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

David Potts - pdpotts@yahoo.com

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. Order by Monday, October 2 for pickup on Sunday, October 8. Order by Monday, October 23 for pickup on Sunday, October 29.

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

Wesley United Methodist Church

Tower & Rose Window Lightings & Altar Flowers

The Tower lighting for September is given in loving memory of Rev. Blaine Taylor by Lois Taylor.

The Rose Window lighting for September is given in loving memory of Ralph Ellis.

Know any crafty crafters?

UWF wants them for our Craft/Quilt Fair on October 21!

Calling all crafters

that could be you or friends and colleagues.

United Women in Faith will be hosting a fundraising Craft and Quilt Sale on Saturday, October 21. Quilts like the one in this photo made in Uganda will be auctioned off that day.

Please let Chris Flagg know if you or a friend want to buy a table for that day. Email Chris at erf115@msn.com.

All funds raised will support missions for women and children.



GOD MOMENT

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 from Steve Boyns

For 70 plus years I have been to the same roadside burger and fry stand in Grafton for onion rings and foot-long hotdogs. I introduced Polly to Bradish's in 1975, and we have gone every year since then for the opening the day after Memorial Day. This year because of her cancer and not feeling up to it she could not go. I went anyways and ordered the usual - onion rings and a hotdog and sat at our favorite table. Suddenly, a pair of cardinals arrived, unafraid and enjoyed sharing the rings with me. When I saw Polly later, I told her what happened, and she said she knew she was there with me. Talk about a God Moment.

A note on cardinals from Betsy --

"Seeing a cardinal might be a sign that a passed loved one is visiting you and telling you that they'll always be with you. Many Native American tribes believe that cardinals, or redbirds, carry messages between the physical and spirit world. Cultures around the world have similar beliefs."