

## Sunday Announcements for October 8, 2023

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

Nana Boadi Amoah, Deborah Plant, Tim Murphy, Linda D'Acri, Judy & Jim Hoffman, Joseph Boateng, Anne Burrows, Al D'Ambra, Dot Ellis, Barbara Fletcher, Tom Friend, 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

#### SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars... The Church Conference will be held on  
Monday, November 13, 2023 via the Sunday worship zoom link online.

#### **Attention All Committees:** *All the bulletin boards are to be cleaned off!*

Phil will be cleaning the walls, painting, and freshening up the boards. If your committee/group has anything posted in Brewer Hall, we are asking you to please remove your items October 15<sup>th</sup> from the bulletin boards, arch boards and the columns.

If your committee/group would like space on one of the bulletin boards, please let Debi know by October 25<sup>th</sup>. Once we have a list of everyone, we will let you know where your space will be.

***We will have a temporary place for limited flyers.*** If you have something you would like posted, please drop it off on Debi's desk with a note who it's from. Once approved, Debi will put it up.

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

The November Herald will be part of the November 5<sup>th</sup> bulletin. Please have all articles to me no later than October 25<sup>th</sup>. *Thank you, Debi*

#### **From Carty Cupboard....**

To everyone who has donated gift cards for Thanksgiving 2023, we thank you so very much! We will be accepting gift cards from Shaw's or Stop and Shop until the end of the day on October 15<sup>th</sup>. You can help two missions at once if you purchase the gift cards for Thanksgiving from the Hope for Housing table on Sundays.

At this time in the food pantry, we really need meals in a can like Chef Boyardee, or stew. We are also in need of hot or cold cereal.  
*Thank you! Nancy*

## Wesley United Methodist Church

### Mission Matters

#### Invitation to Fall Harvest Days at Dismas Family Farm...

We are invited to the Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Fall Harvest Days at the Dismas House Family Farm. Both dates are Saturdays, and the hours are noon to 4 pm. Hayrides, the hay maze and barn slide, face painting, pumpkins, and delicious fall treats are planned. Admission is free. 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 Dismas House a significant gift every year.

#### Volunteering for Wesley's IHN Week-- Sunday, Oct. 29 to Sat., Nov. 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 In the Hour of Need Family Shelter (IHN). (I expect to be at Wesley every Sunday until then, or you can use the sign-up sheet on the Mission Bulletin Board.) If you would like an explanation of how to do either shift, please ask Betsy.

Currently volunteers may choose to stay in the IHN office or move around the house to 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 Oct. 29 to Nov. 4 week. Your donating these Big Y cards would save money to give to another mission.



#### 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). **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.

## ✿ QUILT SHOW AND AUCTION ✿

Saturday, October 21, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Wesley United Methodist Church  
114 Main Street, Worcester

Enjoy a showcase and auction of quilts  
handmade by women in Uganda.



Limited number of quilt sizes and wall hangings on offer.

Light lunches will be available for sale.

All sales support United Women in Faith's missions  
for women and children.

Email Chris at [erf115@msn.com](mailto:erf115@msn.com)

### Kofi & Ama Results from Harvest

Here are the totals from the Kofi & Ama on Harvest Sunday. ***Congratulations Sunday!!!***

Sunday	\$ 719
Monday	206
Tuesday	202
Wednesday	208
Thursday	351
Friday	246
Saturday	145
No day specified	<u>80</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,157</b>

## Wesley United Methodist Church

### Tower & Rose Window Lightings & Altar Flowers

**The Tower lighting** for October is given in loving memory of Joseph Ventura by his family.

**The Rose Window lighting** for October is given in loving memory of John Hansen by his family.

**Altar flowers...** 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.

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

#### A God Moment from Betsy Pennino

About 2 years before I met my husband, I asked my dad, and tried to find the old church in a park where we had picnicked every year until my twenties. My dad said it was in West Boylston on a reservoir. When I was living in Acton and met my husband-to-be, I found out that he lived half a mile from that old church! Almost no one I'd met in Massachusetts knew the location of Plattsburgh, NY where I had grown up-- but he did. Bruce had often heard about it from his mother who had attended Plattsburgh Normal School (where people trained to be teachers in the 1930's). She had decided to go there as a high school graduate in northern New Jersey! Her father believed that young women didn't need higher education and refused to contribute, so Betty cleaned houses.

Move ahead 25 years and little Betsy went to that very same school for nursery school through grade 8! By then it was Plattsburgh State Teachers' College (and eventually SUNY Plattsburgh). PSTC had a Campus School through grade 8 where every class had a head teacher and one or two student teachers who were in training.

Bruce's mother's name was Elizabeth Marie and mine is Mary Elizabeth. She went by "Betty" and I've always been "Betsy." Betty was a teacher for 40+ years and I was a teacher and then a counselor for most of my 40+ year career. Bruce says his mother would have loved to see me preparing classes on the same table she used.

I used to tell this story as a series of coincidences which people found remarkable. The story expanded as I recognized more connections. Now that I'm aware of God Moments, I feel that this story re-assures me that God had a plan for my life and, with God at my side, I found my way to a marriage and life in which I would be happy. May each of you Wesley folks see such connections or other signs that God is in your life! The reason for this column is to perhaps help others see the kinds of signs which contributors to the column have done their best to communicate.

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#### Reger 150 Festival Concert at Wesley

The Wesley congregation and friends are welcome to attend, at no cost, the Reger150Festival concert to be held here at Wesley United Methodist Church on Saturday, Nov. 4, at 7:30 pm. The program will include works by Max Reger and will be performed by several members of the Worcester American Guild of Organists and friends. Selections will include organ, piano, violin and trumpet. For more information, see the website [www.reger150.org](http://www.reger150.org). This event is supported by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Commission.