

Sunday Announcements for October 29, 2023

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

Jim & Judy Hoffman, Margaret Watson, Nana Boadi Amoah, Deborah Plant, Tim Murphy, Joseph Boateng, Anne Burrows, Al D'Ambra, Dot Ellis, Barbara Fletcher, Tom Friend, Don Johnson (Phil's brother), Charles & Samira Kiefer, Bill Kilmer (now home), Dorothy Norcross, David Samanen, Alicia Simoneau, Janet Terzian, Donald Tremblay; Barbara, Frank & the Vietze Family; 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.

Joseph Fletcher and family on the death of his older sister, Joyce Gibson (nee Fletcher) in London.

Announcements

SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars... The Church Conference will be held on Monday, November 13, 2023, at 7 PM via the Sunday worship zoom link online.

Spiritual Renewal Leave: Pastor Moo will be on Spiritual Renewal from October 25 – 31, returning to the office on November 1st. If you have a pastoral emergency please call Debi in the office, leave a voice mail if necessary.

Carty Cupboard: We are in need of meals in a can (chef Boyardee, stews, soups, chili...) and cereal (hot and cold). Thank you for your continued support.

Sunday School: Rhianna Burke, Sunday School Director, contact information is education@wesleyworc.org.

Advance Pie Orders for Bake Sale: We are now taking advance orders for pies for the holiday. Order forms are available in Brewer Hall. Payment must accompany orders. Order deadline is Sunday, November 12th.

Thank you, United Women in Faith

Missing: We are missing a 6' resin table and many of our plastic chairs. If you borrowed these items, please return them to the church immediately.

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 5th bulletin. If you have an article, please make sure I have it by Monday, October 30th at 10 am the latest.

Thank you, Debi

Wesley United Methodist Church

Mission Matters:

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). 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.

Gerard Piscitelli on another Overseas Mission

Gerard has volunteered for a mission to Guam. The Pacific Island was battered by 140 mph typhoon winds on May 24th. Many other denominations beside Methodists will be helping with the rebuild. The U.S. Government's "State of Emergency" funds are paying for the re-build, and FEMA is funding the volunteers' flight costs and accommodations.

If you might be interested in being part of an international mission, Gerard could give you information and contacts for Methodist mission sites all over the world. Gerard is the New England Conference's Disaster Response Coordinator. That's part of the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM).

He has gone to help clean up and rebuild after hurricanes (Katrina, Sandy) and river flooding (Vermont).



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, November 13 for pickup on Sunday, November 19.

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

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)

God Moments from Debi Reynolds

While on vacation we took a bus tour of Curaçao, visiting Mambo Beach. I enjoyed the water and then sat on the beach. A father and his son, Jess (3 years old) played in the sand. With several family members in the water, the dad looked at Jesse and told him to stay right there and he would be right back. Jesse watched his 'papa' run to the chairs, but he lost sight of him and started walking into the water towards his family. I started to become more and more nervous because I knew there was a substantial drop-off.

Just as I was jumping up to run in, Jesse's 6-year-old sister swam quickly to him. From my peripheral vision I saw the dad running. He looked at me quickly and just tossed his phone at me as he ran into the water

In these days, anything can be misconstrued. If I had grabbed him earlier anything could have happened to me. However, the dad came over thanked me profusely for going to his son's aid. He said that though he kept his eye on his son, he was watching me too, as a safety. He said that when he saw me stand and quickly go in the water, that is when he saw his son in the water.

Is think God wanted me there at that time. Every time we saw the family on the ship, the father and the mother said Thank You to me. We became quick friends.

While in Bonaire, we found a beach and jumped in the water. While swimming I shared with Derick that I had an 'off feeling' about a couple of men who would come and go from the dock area to a wall and sit down.

Derick and I decided to go on the dock, and me being me, I connected with a couple of young ladies (mid 20's) and they shared their concerns... same as mine. So, we conversed on the dock like we were all together. The two men left. Then one of them returned with a coconut drink and gave it to the ladies. They were both surprised and did say no thank you, but he proceeded to give it to them (he did not speak English). They took it and said thank you and pretended to drink it. He ran off and quickly came back with another... but while he was gone, they threw it in the trash. He tried to converse with them, but they didn't respond. He continued to jump off the dock and kept trying.

A little later I met a local mom and her three young kids. While talking with her, she mentioned to be careful of some of the men, and if the girls in the water were ours, to have them stay close. I decided to tell the ladies, loudly, that we were headed back to the ship. I was thankful the girls took my message and left the beach too. As it turned out, the ladies were on the ship too as our Thursday night entertainment.

I don't like to judge people, but when you have a 'feeling' and others tell you something similar about a possible danger, I believe that's a sign from above.

Wesley United Methodist Church



Wesley UMC Community Suppers has been selected by the Store Leadership Team at Stop & Shop to benefit from the Bloomin' 4 Good Program. This time, your organization will receive \$1 from every specially marked \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good bouquet sold during the month of October 2023 at: 545 Lincoln Street, Worcester MA.



This is a great opportunity to bring some beautiful flowers into your home and help support the Community Supper program as well.



Reger 150 Festival Concert at Wesley

The Wesley congregation and friends are welcome to attend, at no cost, the Reger 150 Festival 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. This event is supported by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Commission.