

Sunday Announcements for November 19, 2023

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

Ray Cournoyer (friend of Bill Robbins), John Davis (Ronna's husband), Sandra O'Driscoll, Kathy Freeburn (friend of Linda D'Acri), Phyllis Yngve, 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, 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.

There's a prayer quilt today for John Davis. Please come tie a knot and say a prayer for comfort and peace.

John Sutherland, Judy Sutherland, family, and friends on the death of their mother, Joyce Sutherland, on Wednesday, November 15th. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Cards can be sent to John and Judy at 8 Hunthurst Circle, Worcester, MA 01602.

Announcements

United Women in Faith Mission Craft & Bake Sale - This Sunday, November 19th!

COOKIES BREADS PIES CAKES... AND MORE!!!

Support the UWF Mission Programs and Summer Camperships for Wesley youth and enjoy "home-made" baked goods for your Thanksgiving Celebration.

November 26 Community Supper is Turkey with all the Fixins'... All are invited to the November Community Supper which will be, for some of our guests, their Thanksgiving Dinner. This is usually our best attended supper and is in the very capable hands of Linda & Lou D'Acri.

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

The December Herald will be part of the December 3rd bulletin. Please send all articles to me no later than November 27th. *Thank you, Debi*

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

Advent Study

Friday Mornings, December 2 – 22, 10:00 - 11:30 AM in John Wesley Room

This Advent season join Rachel Billups and read through the themes of hope, love, joy, and peace by sharing the stories of Elizabeth and Zechariah, Herod, the Magi, and the shepherds. Each set of unexpected characters has something to teach about living faithfully on the journey to Christmas.

Plan to join us for this video study, discussion and fellowship each Friday morning during lent. For more information and to pick up your book please reach out to Chris Flagg at 508-414-1696.

ADVENT GIFT BOXES OR BAGS

As an Advent mission this year at Wesley, you are again invited to create Advent Gifts of small, needed items. Please place items from the list below in a shoebox and include a Christmas card. You can bring to Brewer Hall your wrapped gift box by December 24th and the gifts will be distributed at the December 30th Community Supper. Any remaining will be given out at the January 7th Community Breakfast.

We have shortened the list below to include only the most needed gifts which are easily recognizable to folks from other cultures. Also, we found that cans of fruit & vegetables were too heavy for homeless people and single serve cups were more usable. We have some backpacks left which we will give to homeless folks when they are putting the items in their pockets. Please use shoeboxes (not boot boxes) and the gift is complete when the shoebox is full. *There's no need to include all items on the list.* Also add a plastic fork, spoon & knife which a homeless person would need. Questions? Ask Linda D'Acri or Betsy Pennino.

Recommended Items:

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| * Toothbrush & toothpaste | * Cereal bars |
| * Bar or small bottle of soap | * Juice boxes or small juice bottle |
| * Tissues or Antibacterial wipes | * Single serve applesauce cups (pull-top) |
| * Wash cloth | * Goldfish or cheese crackers |
| * Socks | * Dried fruit |
| * Gloves | * Hot cocoa packets |
| * ChapStick or lip balm | * Canned tuna with pull-top |
| * Band-Aids | * Meal in a can (pull-top) |
| * Pens or pencils | * Dark chocolate |
| * Tablet of paper/small notebook | |

"Christmas... a gladdening of hearts, a renewing of faith, a sharing of love."

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, December 4 for pickup on Sunday, December 10; or order by Monday, December 18 for Sunday, December 24 pickup after the morning service.

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

GOD MOMENT

No God Moment was contributed recently. If you have a story to tell and would like some assistance in getting it to read the way you want, Betsy Pennino is happy to help. (betspenn35@hotmail.com)