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# THE WESLEY HERALD

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June 2025

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

Janice Capen, Xuan Diep (niece of Maria Gorsuch-Kennedy), Danny & Veronica Winder, Janet DeNapoli, Robert Craft (friend of Michael Terzian), Shea Pugh, Troy (David Potts brother, wife of Cathy), David Patrick (Evette Walters husband), Kathleen Herbert (Evette Walters mom), Carolyn Bellil, Debbie Plant, Sandra O'Driscoll, Melissa Houlihan (friend of Bill Robbins), Alice Douglas, Cathy (sister-in-law of David Potts), Rich Reynolds, Grace Woode, Beverly Grimshaw, Rosamond Hammond, Linda Keister, Pinamang Boateng, Joseph Boateng, Anne Burrows, Dot Ellis, Barbara Fletcher, Don Johnson, Charles Kiefer, Dorothy Norcross, David Samanen, Janet Terzian, Donald Tremblay, Barbara and the Vietze Family; Peter Woodcock, Laura Zoldak, Susan (friend of David Potts), Page (Allison Hansen's sister), Libby T. (friend of Phyllis Yngve), Paula and Calvin Kelly (sister and brother-in-law of Linda Dylewicz),  
Those who struggle with depression, anxiety, and alcoholism.

Stephen Boyns is now at Odd Fellows Home, Room 108A (new room), 104 Randolph Road, Worcester, MA 01606.

Debbie Plant is now at Holden Rehab Center, Room 228, 32 Mayo Drive, Holden, MA 01520.

## 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.

## Announcements

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**June 8 at 4 pm**

Worcester Area United Methodist Churches (WAUM)  
will have a joint Pentecost service at  
Epworth United Methodist Church, 64 Salisbury St., Worcester

***All are encouraged to attend.***

**Vacation...** Pastor Moo will be on vacation beginning May 29<sup>th</sup>, returning to the office on June 12<sup>th</sup>.  
If you have an emergency, please contact the office (508-799-4191) or Joseph Wilson (508-963-9555).

**2025 Offering Envelopes are in!** You can pick them up on Sunday - they will be located in the Narthex. You can also come to the office during the week to pick them up (Tuesday-Friday).

**From Carty Cupboard....** For the month of June we are in need of jelly, condiments, and cold cereal. Thank You to everyone who continues to shop for those in need. Nancy

**July 2025 Herald:** *There are extra copies of the Herald in the Narthex by the Welcome Office.*

**There is no July Herald.** The next newsletter will be in August. All articles are due in the office no later than Monday, July 28<sup>th</sup>. Thank you. Debi

### **Hope for Housing Cards Now All Digital**

The cause remains the same, but like many things these days, the process is digital. You can help prevent homelessness by buying gift cards online through Raise Right, an app you can download, and then specify Central Mass. Housing Alliance as your charity of choice. There are many more types of gift cards for purchase through the app, and CMHA's Hope for Housing grant fund receives anywhere from 2 to 10 percent of each card's value!

If you wish to order physical cards, you can do so with a flat-rate FedEx shipping charge.

I will be at the table in Brewer Hall on Sundays, June 1 and June 29 to help people set up the app and show them how to order gift cards through their phone. Allison Hansen

### **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.

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**WILLIAM NESS, ORGANIST**  
PLAYING THE GREAT ORGAN AT  
**METHUEN MEMORIAL MUSIC HALL**  
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GERMAN ROMANTIC MUSIC OF REIMANN,  
SCHUMANN, THEILE, MENDELSSOHN,  
RHEINBERGER, Reger.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 7:30PM**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 3:00PM**

THIS IS A TICKETED EVENT.



## UWF Mission Recognition Award

The United Women in Faith (UWF) Mission Recognition Award was presented to Allison Hansen on Sunday, May 11, 2025 during the 10 am Worship Service here at Wesley UMC Worcester. She has worn so many distinctive hats that we mentioned just some of her contributions. She grew up in Manhattan and is a wife and mother of two adult children. They both apparently inherited their parents' love of travel to faraway places.

Professionally, Allison founded a company and has run it for 28 years. She writes for business—web copy, annual reports, newsletters, etc. She has also published two books—a biography of the founder of Morgan Company and a second biography of a WPI professor and politician.

She has been active in the business community and has received recognition from her peers for her involvement—including an award from Corridor 9 Chamber of Commerce.

At Wesley, she has been a member of the choir for about 32 years which is almost as long as she has been here. She also signed up for Sarah Circle, a woman's group, and served as Circle Chair for years. Allison also has led the circle's annual Lenten Book Group for 15 years.

She was Co-President of UWF for the last 10 years and just stepped down in January. In that role, she arranged speakers for UWF meetings from many organizations, such as African Community Education. She's always knowledgeable about what's happening in Worcester and thus has recommended organizations for UWF donations too. Allison arranged panel discussions including one on housing challenges in Worcester to which the public was invited.

Always looking for opportunities to widen mission, she saw that UWF, (aka UMW) money in the Wesley Endowment could fund major mission projects. This led to the UWF (UMW) Galaxy Fund which contributed to establishing sources of clean water in Ghanaian villages. She also set up a mission at Wesley generate money which helps Worcester people (who are rent challenged) to stay in their homes. And on many Sundays for years, we've seen her selling grocery and other store cards which, allow us to help the homelessness in Worcester. Allison Hansen is supportive of all Wesley peoples' ideas for mission.

We're so honored to have had her volunteering her tireless efforts here at Wesley United Methodist Church, Worcester, MA.

Written by: Betsy Pennino

Presented by: Co-Presidents of UWF, Barbara Ingrassia, Sandra McManus and Cordelia Ferdinand



## RESTLESS? SEARCHING?

If you experience a spiritual hunger...  
If you desire to bring a deeper dimension to your faith...

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## COMPANIONS in Christ

A new small group that will provide support for your search.

A path to explore prayer, scripture, and the spiritual journey.

An experience of God's grace and love in daily times of reflection.

This study runs for 28 weeks beginning in the fall – day and time TBD.

Contact: Susan Williams at 508-795-7331 for more information.

*What is*

**COMPANIONS** *in Christ*™

*Companions in Christ is...*

- ◆ A small group of people praying together.
- ◆ An opportunity for daily individual reading and reflection.
- ◆ A focus on how you experience God.
- ◆ A group supporting your spiritual growth.
- ◆ An opportunity to learn various styles and forms of prayer.
- ◆ A record or journal of your walk with Christ.
- ◆ An invitation to let scripture form your faith.
- ◆ A time to reflect on where God is calling you and to affirm the gifts God has given you.
- ◆ A discovery of spiritual friends who will listen to and pray for you.

*The five study areas are:*

Spiritual Journey • Prayer • Scripture  
Vocational Gifts • Spiritual Friendship

If you would like more information or are interested in this study,  
please contact Susan Williams at 508-795-7331.


## DID YOU KNOW?

The “Great Fifty Days” of the liturgical calendar begin with Easter Sunday itself and end seven weeks later with the celebration of Pentecost. You may have noticed that in the bulletin that the Sundays during this season are referred to by numbers—the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter, etc., as a reminder that we are still very much in the midst of the church’s celebration of Easter throughout this entire period. The 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter is often designated as Ascension Sunday, which recalls Jesus’ ascent into heaven as described in the book of Acts (and mentioned also in the Gospels of Mark and Luke). As the Book of Acts traces the story of the Christian movement from the resurrection of Jesus to the time when the Apostle Paul was in Rome preaching the Gospel, it begins with the events which are commemorated in our church calendar as Ascension Day and Pentecost. The mention of “a period of forty days” in Acts 1:3 seems to have been the source for designating the sixth Thursday of Easter as Ascension Day. Most Protestant denominations commemorate this event in worship on the 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter.


Perhaps we do not observe Ascension in the same way as we celebrate other events in Jesus’ life, such as his birth and resurrection, but each time we recite the Apostles’ Creed, we say, “the third day he rose from the dead; *he ascended into heaven*, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.” In our sanctuary we also have a very prominent visual reminder of this event as well. The *Te Deum* window above the altar is filled with images derived from the text of the very ancient hymn, *Te Deum Laudamus* (We praise you, O God), which is not only a testimony of praise and thanksgiving but also an expression of the faith of the church. It depicts events of the life of Christ from the Annunciation and Nativity through the Resurrection, Ascension, and Enthronement. If you look closely at the window the image of Christ Enthroned is at the apex of the window, and below this image very prominently in the upper portions of the central lancets are images of the Resurrected Christ (on the left) and the Ascended Christ (on the right). These images are accompanied by the portion of the text of the *Te Deum* which proclaims, “When Thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death, Thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.”

*Submitted by,*

*Deborah A. O’Driscoll*



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### WESLEY STAFF & LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pastor	Rev. Byungmoo Lee	Education Committee Co-Chairs	Joseph Fletcher
Organist	Ronna Davis		Ivy Hammond
Chancel Choir Director	David Potts	Youth Bible Study	Joseph Fletcher
Ghanaian Choir Director	Desmond Cheetham	Finance & Stewardship Co-Chairs	William Wong
Director of Children's Ministries	Rhianna Burke		Peter Hansen
Church Business Administrator	Matt Crane	Financial Secretary	Earl Flagg
Church Secretary	Debi Reynolds	Church Auditor	Cynthia Fletcher
Building Superintendent	Phil Johnson	Ghanaian Association	Paul Hayfron
Custodians	April Dylewicz	Hospitality Chair	Linda D'Acri
	Gerard Piscitelli	Medical Ministry	Ron Ramsay
Head Usher	David Dagle	Mission Coordinators	Maria Gorsuch-Kennedy
Communion Steward	Earl Flagg		Donna Hirtle
Wesley Tech Team	Mark Muncey	Staff-Parish Relations Co-Chairs	Chris Flagg
Sunday Security	Adam Flagg		Judy Hoffman
Church Council Chair	Brent Drajesk	United Women in Faith Co-Chairs	Barbara Ingrassia,
Co-Lay Leaders	Gifty Bentum-Asante	Sandra McManus,	Cordelia Ferdinand
	Joseph Fletcher	Music Committee	Debbie O'Driscoll
Board of Trustees Chair	Gary Robinson	Worship Committee Chair	Debbie O'Driscoll
Carty Cupboard Food Pantry	Nancy Spencer		