

# News Of Wesley

*"To make and nurture disciples for Jesus Christ"*

April 2017



*Alleluia!  
Christ is  
Risen!*

## **Palm Sunday, April 9**

***Traditional Worship at 9:00 AM***

***Contemporary Worship at 11:15 AM***

## **Holy Wednesday, April 12**

***Cantata, Tenebrae Service, and Holy Communion at 6:00 PM***

The Chancel Choir will present "In the Final Week: A Cantata for Holy Week." Together we will remember and reflect as we contemplate the events from Jesus' triumphal entry to His betrayal and suffering and the significance of the events of those five days to our faith in Christ.

## **Good Friday, April 14**

***Traditional Community Good Friday Worship at 12:10 PM***  
hosted this year by First Christian Church, 401 W. Jefferson Street in Bloomington.

## **Easter, April 16**

***Traditional Worship at 9:00 AM***

***Contemporary Worship at 11:15 AM***



**GEMS (Growing Each Mom Spiritually)** Are you a young mom looking for some new friends at Wesley? You're invited to visit the GEMS circle of the UMW. We meet the second and fourth Mondays of every month from 7:00 – 9:00 PM at the home of Lou Ann Pence. Childcare is always provided for \$3 per child. In April we continue our study of "One Thousand Gifts" by Ann Voskamp. For more information, please contact Lou Ann Pence at louann.pence@comcast.net.

**HOPE CIRCLE** will meet on Thursday evening, April 13, in the Wesley Garden Room. Refreshments will be served at 6:30 and our lesson will begin at 7:00. The circle will continue their study, "Small Things With Great Love: Adventures in Loving Your Neighbor" by Margot Starbuck.

**FAITH CIRCLE** will meet at 1:00 PM on April 19 in the Westminster Village Multi-Purpose Room. Elaine Stokes will lead a craft day, with members making items for the Wesley Craft Fair that will be held in October. PLEASE NOTE this is a change of date because Rummage Sale 2017.

**Job Posting:  
Communications  
Coordinator**

Wesley is looking for a Communications Coordinator. This part-time position (25 hours per week) is responsible for communicating information within and about Wesley using print and digital newsletters, bulletins, the Wesley website, social, and other media. A more detailed job description can be found on the church website, wesley-umc.com. Please email a resume and a portfolio showing writing and design examples to Myrna Simpson, msimpson@wesley-umc.com, by Wednesday, April 12.



*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.*

*~ Matthew 5:4*

*Prayers for Joanne and Richard Plimpton and family on the February 14 death of her mother, Mildred Vine of Wisconsin.*

*Prayers for Nancy and Ted Hoffman and family on the February 25 death of her mother, Nancy Fox.*

*Prayers for the family and friends of Hazel Durlinger who passed away on February 27.*

*Prayers for the family and friends of Arthur Dornaus who passed away on March 9 in Bonita Springs, FL.*

*Prayers for David Jacobs and Nicole and Eric Albertson and family on the March 12 death of their wife/mother, Sandy Jacobs.*

**Wesley United Methodist Church**  
 502 East Front Street  
 Bloomington, IL 61704  
 Phone: 309-827-8046 Fax: (309)828-9625  
[www.wesley-umc.com](http://www.wesley-umc.com)

After Hours Emergencies:  
 Pastor Vaughn (309) 212-2710  
 Pastor Angie (217) 369-1292

- |                                    |                     |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Senior Pastor                      | Rev. Vaughn Hoffman |
| Associate Pastor                   | Rev. Angie Lee      |
| Pastor of Visitation               | Rev. Keith Ferguson |
| Director of Music Ministries       | Adria Schumann      |
| Asst. Director of Music Ministries | Brenna Martin       |
| Organist                           | Marcia Hishman      |
| Director of Christian Education    | Kathi Pritts        |
| Early Childhood Coordinator        | Lou Ann Pence       |
| Director of Youth Ministries       | Frank Newburn       |
| Asst. Director of Youth Ministries | Stacy Ash           |
| Business Administrator             | Myrna Simpson       |
| Pastors' Executive Assistant       | Jody Robbins        |
| Receptionist                       | Molly Brown         |
| Clerical Assistant                 | Colleen Hensley     |
| Communications Coordinator         | Anne Walling        |
| Facilities Manager                 | Brad Schumann       |
| Custodians                         | Jim Robinson        |
|                                    | Matthew Dahmm       |
|                                    | Kathy Robinson      |
| Food Service Coordinator           |                     |



# RUMMAGE SALE 2017

## APRIL 29

### SAVE THE DATE!

### SAVE YOUR RUMMAGE!

## ***It's Rummage Sale Time!***

Rummage Sale 2017 still needs some coordinators for a few areas. They need a third coordinator for Women's Clothing, someone for Electronics, a second person for Flowers and Vases, two for Linens, and someone for Bags and Boxes. Please contact Frank Newburn, [fnewburn@wesley-umc.com](mailto:fnewburn@wesley-umc.com), or Brenna Martin, [bmartin@wesley-umc.com](mailto:bmartin@wesley-umc.com), as soon as possible.

Hopefully you have cleaned out (or soon will) your cabinets, drawers, closets, cubbies, attics, garages, and under the bed and are ready to bring your items to the Interstate Center beginning on Monday, April 24, from NOON - 9:00 PM and then Tuesday, April 25 - Thursday, April 27 from 10:00 AM until 9:00 PM. Pick up service is also available for large and/or heavy items. Call Jim Cowgill, 217-898-2101, by April 21 to schedule a pick up time.

If you have a larger/higher value item that you are planning to donate that you think might be one of our silent auction items on the day of the sale, please contact Frank or Brenna as soon as possible so we can make our plans for the auction items.

We cannot accept mattresses, older style cribs, car seats that are more than five years old, paint/chemicals, non-working electronics, tube TV's, older (heavy, large back) computer monitors or faucets.

You are also encouraged to come to the Interstate Center throughout the week (April 24 - 28) to help in a variety of ways. We will find the perfect job for you! You can sign up to volunteer by contacting one of the coordinators listed below, call the church office, or just show up any day that week from 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM at the Interstate Center. Then of course, volunteers are needed on the day of the sale. Our prayer circle will be at 7:30 AM on Saturday, April 29. The sale runs from 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM (Bag Sale starts at 1:00). And finally clean up starts at 2:00. Come for the whole day or an hour or two on sale day. There is no such thing as too many volunteers!

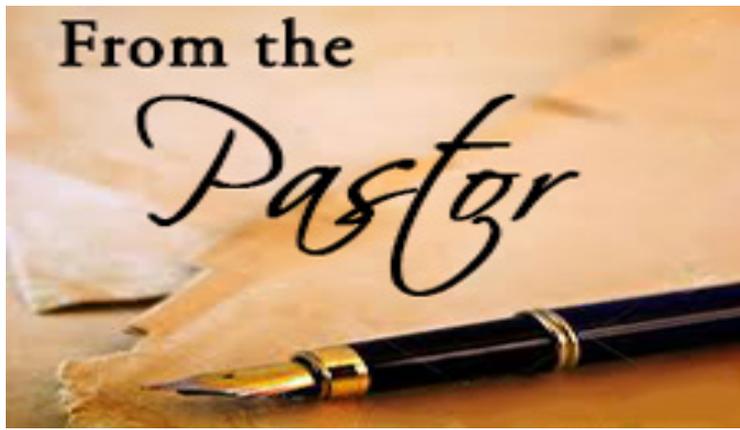
Profits from the sale will benefit our 2017 Youth Choir Tour, Youth Mission Trips, as well as United Methodist Women's world-wide, state, and local mission projects. If you have any questions, please contact Frank Newburn, [fnewburn@wesley-umc.com](mailto:fnewburn@wesley-umc.com), or Brenna Martin, [bmartin@wesley-umc.com](mailto:bmartin@wesley-umc.com). *Your support is gratefully appreciated!*



## RUMMAGE SALE 2017 STARTS EARLY!

We have our first auction item for Rummage Sale and we're going to sell it before the sale! It's a 2007 Pontiac Torrent with 215,000 miles on it. It has been well maintained and has maintenance records available. Would be a great first car or for local transportation. If you would like to take a closer look at the car, it is parked in Wesley's main parking lot.

We will accept bids on this car until 4:00 PM on April 19. Whoever has the highest bid at 4:00 PM that Wednesday will get the car for the price they bid. E-mail your bid to Molly Brown, [mbrown@wesley-umc.com](mailto:mbrown@wesley-umc.com), before 4:00 on April 19. There will be a page on the church website where you can see how the auction is going and what the highest bid is at any given time.



In the movie "Snow White," Snow White's stepmother constantly checks her beauty in the mirror each and every day. She asks the mirror, "Mirror, mirror on the wall, who in this land is the fairest of them all?" The mirror replies, "You are, my queen." She goes away satisfied, smiling. But then one day, after Snow White is grown from childhood into blooming womanhood, the talking mirror replied, "You are not the most beautiful woman anymore. Snow White is." When she hears this, the queen turns green with envy and anger and a whole violent story is started.

Why is she obsessed with looking at the mirror that much? Why couldn't she understand that beauty comes in many different ways? Or why couldn't she embrace the fact that she does not have to be the fairest of them all? It may be because she has no stable sense of self. Her self-confidence is dependent on other people's evaluation about her outer appearance. The talking mirror can be her inner voice telling her that she is not beautiful enough, thin enough, young enough, healthy enough, strong enough, good enough, etc. The list can

go on. As she is harsh on herself, her harshness spills over to those around her.

People may have their own talking mirrors inside. When we look into the mirror, maybe we are looking towards the depths of the unconscious. When you see your mirror each morning, what kind of reflection do you see? When you think of your flaws and blemishes in your life, what kind of voice do you hear?

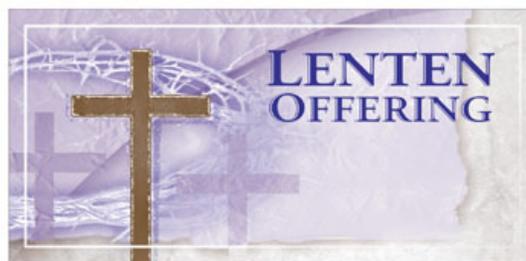
Compassion isn't only something that we should apply to others. Just as we'd have compassion for a good friend who was going through a hard time or felt inadequate in some way, why not for ourselves? I think self-compassion is the way we see ourselves with God's eyes who loves us, cares for us, forgives us, and sustains us. When you feel ashamed, insecure, and not good enough, polish your mirror, so that you are able to see yourself as God sees you.

Christ's victory over sin and death gives us a full picture of our worth as one who is created in God's image. Through the Easter experience, may you see the hope that God intends for you. May you hear God's voice who will pick you up when you fall and help you reach your full potential in times of uncertainty.

~ *Pastor Angie Lee*

Revised from my article "Mirror, Mirror on the Wall," Pastoral Care Counseling Newsletter, February, 2017.

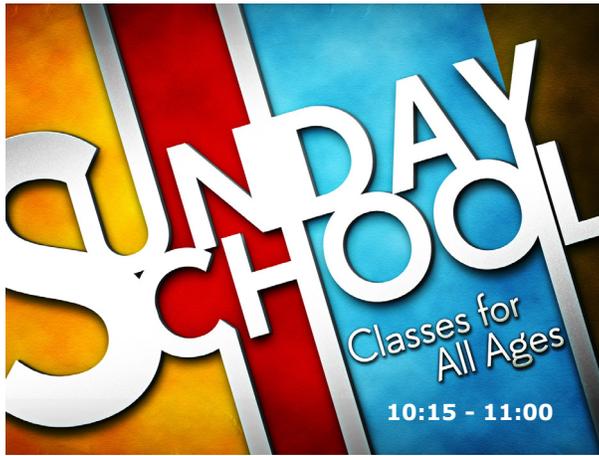
Christ's victory over sin and death gives us worth as one who is created in God's image.



## 2017 Lenten Offering

The goal for the 2017 Lenten Offering is \$12,000. This offering supports the work of United Methodist national and international projects. Your gift will continue our support of **Ganta Hospital in Liberia** and the **Kissy Clinic in Sierra Leone**. With our help, additional funding will be available for **Africa University** student scholarships and the **Haiti Hot Lunch Program**.

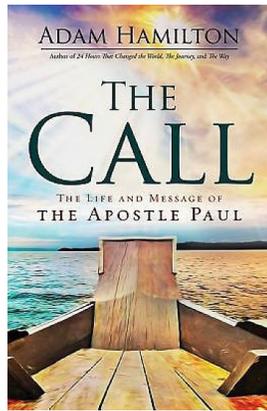
The **United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR)** and the **Midwest Mission Distribution Center** in Illinois work together to get cleaning buckets and health kits to people in need. **Bethlehem Bible College** works to train Arab Christian leaders to serve and strengthen the church and communities in the Holy Land. **The Central Conference Pastor Pension Fund** provides financial assistance to retired Methodist ministers and their families in Africa and the Philippines; in many cases, this may be the only pension they receive. **El Porvenir** is an organization which provides sanitation and clean water in rural areas of Nicaragua. We hope that you will give generously to support the efforts of these organizations.



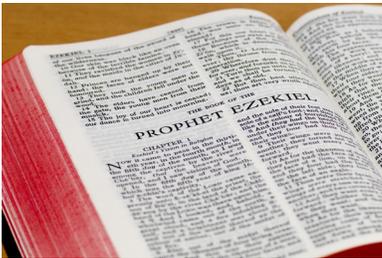
**SPECIAL EASTER CELEBRATIONS ON APRIL 16! SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES WILL NOT MEET!**

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

**EXPLORATIONS CLASS** will begin a new study on April 23. They will begin "The Call: The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul" by Adam Hamilton. You'll see exactly where some of the most dramatic events in the spread of Christianity took place, and through Hamilton's insightful and colorful teaching style, you'll quite likely gain a better understanding of Paul's missionary travels than if you had covered the many miles in person. This class meets in the Room #39 each week at 10:15.

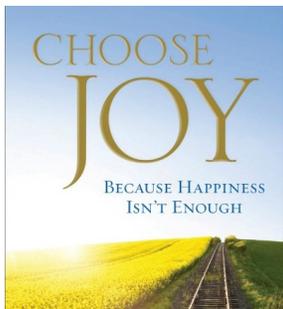


## WALKING THROUGH THE BIBLE TOGETHER CLASS



This class continues their study in the book of Ezekiel. The class is led by Richard Johnson in the Wesley Conference Room.

**Sharing Our Grief Group** will meet for four weeks, April 19 - May 10, on Wednesdays at 6:15 PM in the Wesley Conference Room. They will be studying "Choose Joy: Because Happiness Isn't Enough" by Kay Warren as she shares the path to experiencing soul-satisfying joy no matter what you're going through.



## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL



### Preschool Classes

**In April, our preschoolers will learn that JESUS IS #1 with stories of Easter.**

**2's** meet in Room #117 with Miss LouAnn and others

**3's AND 4's** meet in Room #207 with Bunny King, Pamela Kersten, Tammy Alsene, and Carol Lou Eisenhardt.

### W.I.S.E. -- Kindergarten - Fifth Grade



**In April our elementary kids will study Humility with stories of Jesus and the events surrounding the Easter story.**

**W.I.S.E.** is where families learn together, strengthen the bonds of family and faith, and have conversations of faith. Children and families begin in Wesley Hall at 10:15 as a large group and conclude in small groups.

## YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

**SIXTH AND SEVENTH GRADE** students meet in Room #37 with Donnie Pence and Lori Hoffman.

**EIGHTH GRADE** students meet from **10:10 - 11:00** in the Junior High Lounge with Stacy Ash, Josh Houtzel, and Darcy Bogle.

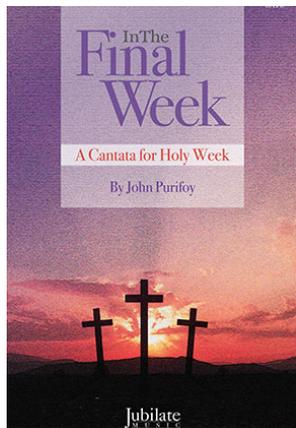
**HIGH SCHOOL** students meet in the Senior High Lounge with Frank Newburn and others.

# WESLEY CARES SINGLES

Wesley CARES Singles will meet on Monday, April 3, at the Activity & Recreation Center (ARC) in Normal for the Sunshine Bell Ringers program at 1:00 PM.

If anyone wants to have lunch there, we'll gather at 11:45 AM in the ARC Dining Room, then enjoy the music afterwards. If you have any questions about ARC, call 309-888-9099.

Questions involving our singles group, call Dianne West, 309-828-8028 or e-mail me at my new address, crfty.ldy.76@gmail.com.



**"In The Final Week: A Cantata for Holy Week" presented by The Wesley Chancel Choir Wednesday, April 12 at 6:00 PM**



## RENT-A-YOUTH

The youth of Wesley UMC are here to help! On Saturday, April 22, the youth will be holding our Spring "Rent a Youth" Service Day. Whether it's raking leaves, mowing the grass, mulching, washing windows, or other needs, we are here to assist.

If you are interested in having us come to your house to help, sign up in the Garden Room on March 26, April 2, April 9 or contact Frank Newburn at the church by April 16. There is no charge for this service, but free will donations are gladly accepted and all donations will go directly to support our 2017 Summer Youth Mission Trips.

# UPcoming EVENTS

**April 7**

Cantus Novus Concert  
7:00 PM in the Sanctuary

**April 9**

**Palm Sunday**

**April 9**

Illinois Wesleyan Choral Concert  
3:00 PM in the Sanctuary

**April 12**

Holy Week Service  
with "In The Final Week"  
Cantata presented by Chancel Choir

**April 16**

**EASTER**

**April 23**

Habitat for Humanity  
"Love Thy Neighbor" Concert

**April 24 - 28**

Rummage Sale Week  
Interstate Center

**April 29**

Rummage Sale  
Interstate Center

**Happy 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
Ferne Ferguson**

Please join Ferne and her family for a  
Birthday Celebration on April 22, 2:00 - 3:30,  
at the Westminster Village Social Center.

# \$\$ FINANCIAL UPDATE \$\$



General fund receipts as of 2/28/17	\$247,793
General fund expenses as of 2/28/17	<u>\$204,545</u>
<i>2017 Surplus</i>	\$43,248

You may wonder why some people use pre-printed offering envelopes, some use a blank envelope from the pews, and others simply place their checks or cash in the offering plate. Still others mail their offerings to the church office or use electronic giving for consistent giving through out the year. All of these methods are acceptable, and except for cash receipts with no name attached, giving statements showing these donations are mailed periodically to all who give.

The pre-printed offering envelopes are especially convenient, both for the giver and for the church office, for those who give during worship on a regular basis. The blank envelopes in the pews are available for visitors or others who do not have pre-printed envelopes but would like to give discreetly. During certain times of the year, there may be special envelopes in the pews or bulletins for giving to specific areas such as the Lenten or Advent offering.

You may prefer to set up electronic giving through the church website. Simply go to the church website, [www.wesley-umc.com](http://www.wesley-umc.com) and click on "Give" at the top of the home page, then click on "online giving." Follow the directions for either a one-time gift or to create an online profile for recurring donations.

If you are not receiving pre-printed envelopes and would like to, please contact the church office at 827-8046. Likewise, if you receive these envelopes and don't use them, please let us know. We want to make it easy for you to be a cheerful giver!



Dish washing soap will be collected as the needed Just One item during the month of April. The Methodist Ministries Food Pantry at Park United Methodist Church requested dish soap. Thank you for your generosity.

The Church and Society Committee

## ***Your Bibles Delivered to Love Packages in Butler, Illinois***

Thank you, Wesley, for the hundreds of precious Bibles and Christian books, magazines and devotionals you so generously provided in the February "Just One" Collection.

Seven Wesley volunteers delivered dozens of cartons to the Love Packages warehouse/shipping facility in Butler, Illinois, just south of Springfield. After a two hour drive, we were greeted by Director, Steve Schmidt, and his assistant. These two are the only staff who operate the large warehouse facility. Volunteers do most of the work sorting, packing, and taping boxes to be shipped in 20 Ton ocean-going containers that are 20 feet long. These are sent to port cities all around the world where Love Packages has pre-arranged distribution centers. From there, the materials are given freely with great respect and received like treasure into the hands of people who are hungry for the Word of God.

At lunchtime, Steve Schmidt shared some heart-warming stories. He told of one group who had travelled 15 days on foot to reach the distribution center for the free Bibles and books to take back to their village. In another country a pastor arrived whose only Bible was a spiral notebook in which he had hand copied the book of Matthew. When the distributor handed him a handsome leather bound Bible, the pastor inquired how long the distributor would remain at the center. Learning that the distribution was planned to go on for several weeks, the pastor promised to "write fast". He was overwhelmed to learn that the beautiful Bible was his to keep, rather than just to be copied by hand into his spiral notebook and returned.

Our amazing God provides funding for the operation through gifts from churches and volunteers. Printed materials are donated by publishing companies as well as congregations like Wesley. In 2016, Love Packages shipped over 2,000 Tons of Christian literature around the world and will be read by over 60 million people! Shipping cost per container averages \$4,000.

Love Packages welcomes volunteers, small groups, and youth groups. To arrange, call 217-532-6701. More information is available at [www.lovepackages.org](http://www.lovepackages.org). Go to the church website to see pictures of our volunteers at work at Love Packages.



Wesley United Methodist Church

502 East Front Street  
Bloomington IL 61701

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Permit No. 103

**JOIN US FOR A THREE-WEEK SHORT COURSE SUNDAYS AT 10:15**  
**UMC 101: Belief Matters**

*Have you ever wondered if belief matters? I think our belief shapes our values, action, attitude, and life style. This class will help you to grasp distinctive Wesleyan emphases on their belief. Through this class, you will learn more about what it means to be United Methodist in the 21 century in the U.S.*



**April 23 - Grace: A Key Word to Understand Salvation & Sacrament**  
How can I be saved? What shall I do after I am saved? What is the meaning of the baptism? Who can take Holy Communion and what does "Open Table" mean?

**April 30 - Social Principle: Key Words to Understand Church's Role in Community** How does the church understand the relationship between personal spirituality and social concern? Where does The United Methodist Church's stand on social issues? What is social creed?

**May 7 - Connectionalism: A Key Word to Understand Organization and Administration**  
What is the vision and mission of the Church? What is connectionalism, episcopacy, itinerancy, annual conference, etc.?

*It is the mission of Wesley United Methodist Church "To make and nurture disciples for Jesus Christ."*