

News Of Wesley

"To make and nurture disciples for Jesus Christ"

May 2017



RUMMAGE SALE 2017

APRIL 29

AT THE

INTERSTATE CENTER

Come to the Rummage Sale on Saturday to shop or to volunteer! The sale runs from 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM (Bag Sale starts at 1:00). Clean up starts at 2:00. Come for the whole day or an hour or two. There is no such thing as too many volunteers or shoppers! Come join the fun!

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



The Annual Handbell Ministry Mother's Day Bake Sale will be held Sunday, May 14. Join us in the Garden Room before and after each service for some tasty treats. Enjoy all kinds of special breads, cakes, pies, cookies, gluten-free items, sugar-free items, and much more. The proceeds will benefit our travel to the Handbell Musicians of America Conference in June and our trip to Handbell Camp in July.



\$\$ FINANCIAL UPDATE \$\$



Not long ago, I came across a story by an author named Robert Fulgum. The story is that he once took a class in Classic Greek Culture from a well-known Greek scholar. At the end of the class, the professor asked if there were any final questions. Fulgum said that as a young and rather brash college student, he raised his hand and asked what he thought was a “wise-guy” kind of question: “Yeah, I’ve got a question. What is the meaning of life?” Everyone laughed.

To his surprise though, the professor said that he would be happy to answer that question. He reached into his pocket and took a small mirror out of his billfold and showed the class. He said that he grew up in a very poor household, and one day was playing in an inner city junkyard when he found a mirror broken off of a wrecked motorcycle. Having nothing else to play with, he began to work on the mirror fragment... rubbing it on a stone, until it was round and the edges were smooth. It became his favorite toy. He loved that mirror because he soon learned that he could make it reflect light into the darkest of places, into holes, caves, closets, under his bed.

He said that when he grew up this mirror became a metaphor for his life. He learned that although he was not the source of light, it was possible for him to reflect light in as many dark places as he came across, and to do that every day. That became the purpose of his life.

In a larger sense, that is the meaning of life for people who call themselves Christian as well. We do not have a monopoly on light, and we aren’t the source of the light. We are not called to judge, condemn, or cajole people who don’t see things our way, but instead to reflect the light and love we feel from God, every place we can. To live that way is to practice a resurrecting faith. And it can happen long before we die.

Hope you had a good Easter holiday. May you find a place today to reflect some of that light of Easter morning into a life, or a situation that needs resurrecting!

*See you in church!
Vaughn*

General fund receipts as of 3/31/17	\$344,995
General fund expenses as of 3/31/17	<u>\$304,890</u>
<i>2017 Surplus</i>	\$40,105

Quarterly giving statements were mailed in early April to those who have made a financial faith commitment for 2017. Please check to see if your giving is on track for the year.

It’s time for the annual rummage sale to raise funds for Choir Tour, Youth Mission Trips, and the worldwide missions supported through the United Methodist Women. If you have not witnessed the rummage sale in the past, I encourage you to come out to the Interstate Center on April 29. It is amazing to watch as those doors open at 8:00 and eager people come rushing in to find the day’s bargains. For some, it’s not only an opportunity to get good deals on much-needed items but also to find warmth in the friendly faces of those who are there to offer assistance and inspiration. Over \$25,000 was raised last year, and we topped \$29,000 in 2015. This year’s profit will be announced shortly after the sale is completed.

Graduating Senior?

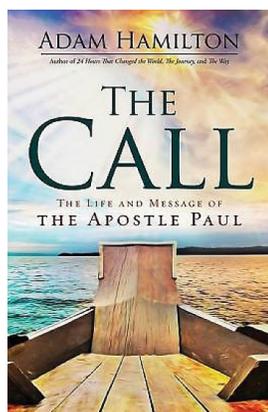
Senior Recognition for our graduating high school seniors will be May 21 at the 9:00 service. A mailing has been sent to all graduating seniors. If you did not receive this mailing or need more information please contact Stacy Ash or Frank Newburn at the church as soon as possible. The deadline to submit information and a senior photo for the Senior Insert is May 14. Get yours in TODAY!



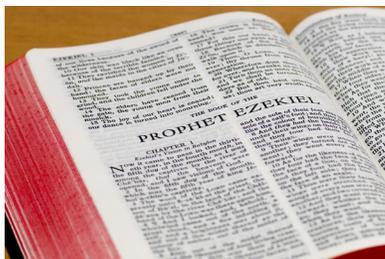
IN CELEBRATION OF MEMORIAL DAY, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES WILL NOT MEET ON MAY 28!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

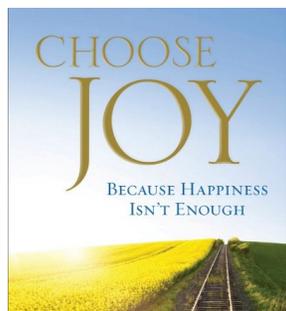
EXPLORATIONS CLASS will continue their study of "The Call: The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul" by Adam Hamilton through May. You'll see exactly where some of the most dramatic events in the spread of Christianity took place, and through Hamilton's insightful and colorful teaching style, you'll 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 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 on May 3 and May 10 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

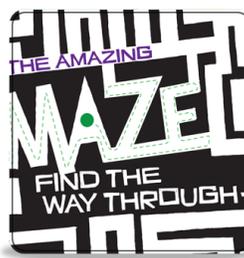


Preschool Classes

Our preschoolers will learn that Jesus is our friend with castle stories about Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, Hagar, Gideon and Daniel.

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 May our elementary kids will learn determination with stories of Peter and the early church.

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.



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

~ Matthew 5:4

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, meeting the second and fourth Mondays of every month from 7 - 9 PM at the home of Lou Ann Pence. Childcare is always provided for \$3 per child. On May 8, we will finish our study of "One Thousand Gifts" by Ann Voskamp. On May 22, we will start "Hope Unfolding." For more information, please contact Lou Ann Pence at louann.pence@comcast.net.

HOPE CIRCLE will meet on Thursday evening, May 11, 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 on May 24 in the Westminster Village Multi-Purpose Room. This will be our last meeting before our summer recess. Our program will focus on "Our Mission as Elders." Refreshments will be served.

Prayers for Linda Burks and family on the March 17th death of her mother, Catherine Runge.

Prayers for Frank and Sara Newburn and family on the April 6th death of his mother, Nancy Newburn, of Nashville, TN.

Prayers for John and Tina Thomas and family on the April 10th death of his mother, Virginia "Sissy" Thomas.

Prayers for Charlie and Anita Crowe and family on April 16th death of his brother, Cecil Crowe, of Normal.

WESLEY CARES SINGLES

It's Spring and the flowers are blooming, so let's visit the historic gardens at the David Davis Mansion, where tours are offered. Everyone meet at the church on Wednesday morning, May 17, at 9:45 to take a church bus or carpool there. Afterward, we'll go back to the church for lunch at 11:30 in the lounge. If it rains, we'll still gather for our lunchtime. Questions? Call Dianne West @ 828-8028, or e-mail, crfty.lidy.76@gmail.com.



The United Methodist Women collect General Mills Box Tops to benefit Cunningham Children's Home in Urbana and Campbell's Soup Labels to benefit Red Bird Mission in Kentucky.

Thank you to everyone who is so faithful to continually save box tops and soup

labels. Recently we were able to donate 324 soup labels and 606 box tops.

If you would like to add to their collection please clip and save your box tops and labels and drop them at Wesley in the containers on the shelves in the stairwell near the main parking lot entrance. It is a very easy way to help those in need!

The Last Wednesday at Wesley for this school year will be May 10.

Wesley United Methodist Church

502 East Front Street
Bloomington, IL 61704

Phone: 309-827-8046 Fax: (309)828-9625
www.wesley-umc.com

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

Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor
Pastor of Visitation
Director of Music Ministries
Asst. Director of Music Ministries
Organist
Director of Christian Education
Early Childhood Coordinator
Director of Youth Ministries
Asst. Director of Youth Ministries
Business Administrator
Pastors' Executive Assistant
Receptionist
Clerical Assistant
Communications Coordinator
Facilities Manager
Custodians

Food Service Coordinator

Rev. Vaughn Hoffman
Rev. Angie Lee
Rev. Keith Ferguson
Adria Schumann
Brenna Martin
Marcia Hishman
Kathi Pritts
Lou Ann Pence
Frank Newburn
Stacy Ash
Myrna Simpson
Jody Robbins
Molly Brown
Colleen Hensley
Anne Walling
Brad Schumann
Jim Robinson
Matthew Dahmm
Kathy Robinson



SAVE THE DATE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2017 July 28-30

It is going to be so much fun with The Lads with us for the whole weekend! Mark your calendars and invite your friends!

UPcoming EVENTS

May 10
Last Wednesday at Wesley
for 2016-17

May 14
Music Appreciation Sunday

May 14
Mother's Day Bake Sale
in the Garden Room

May 21
Senior Recognition Sunday at 9:00 Service
and
Confirmation Sunday at 11:15 Service



***The 2017 Season will begin on June 1!
Rides will be offered Tuesday -
Sunday in the afternoon.
Call the church office, 827-
8046, to schedule your ride!
For more information, go
to healingrides.com.***



Wesley United Methodist Church

502 East Front Street
Bloomington IL 61701

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JOIN US FOR A 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 lifestyle. 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 30 - Social Principle: Key Words to Understand the 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 the church's social creed?

May 7 - Connectionalism: A Key Word to Understand the church's 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."