

News Of Wesley

May 2018

He's Grabbing His Fishing Rod and Heading Outdoors

Join Wesley United Methodist on **Sunday, June 10** as we celebrate the retirement of our Senior Pastor, Vaughn Hoffman, after 14 years of serving us, and 36 years of ministry. Join us in wishing him all the best as he spends more time with his family and chasing trout at remote fishing holes.

Please feel free to join us for all or portions of the day as you are able.

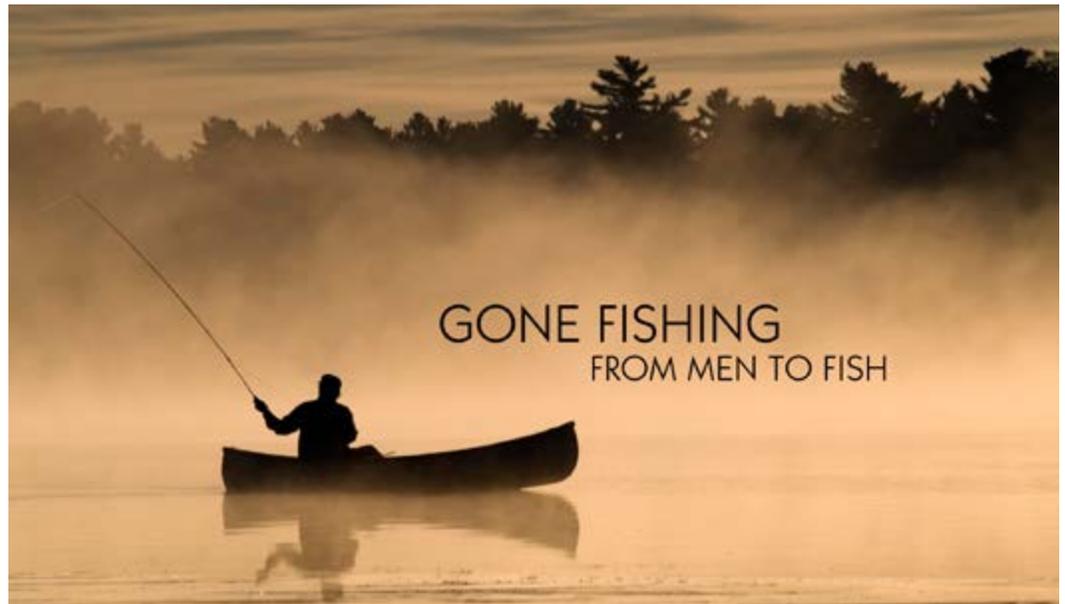
Lunch will be catered by Jason's Deli. Each lunch is \$5. Tickets will be available:

Sunday, May 20, May 27 & June 3

Wesley Garden Room

Tickets are also available on-line with payment mailed to the church.

Deadline for lunch ticket purchase is Sunday, June 3.



10:30 AM -

One Sunday Service

Reverend Hoffman's Last Wesley Sermon

all welcome - no Sunday School

1:00 PM -

Retirement Program

Wesley Sanctuary

all welcome

11:30 AM -

Lunch at Wesley

Catered by Jason's Deli

Tickets \$5 per person

2:00 PM -

Well Wishes & Cake Reception

all welcome

Go on-line to learn more, to make your Jason's Deli box lunch selection, to get directions, or to contact Wesley at www.wesley-umc.com/hoffman-retirement. For immediate questions or inquiries, please contact connect@wesley-umc.com.



NOW
NEWS OF WESLEY

Sunday Services - 9:00 & 11:15 AM • Christian Education - 10:15 AM
502 East Front Street • Bloomington, Illinois 61701 • 309-827-8046 • wesley-umc.com

Have Faith - April Snow Brings May Flowers

It's May already! Can you believe it? Each year when May comes around I think of the many changes that occur during the month. In the coming days some parents will prepare to celebrate their child's graduation. And countless other students' lives are changing yet again as they transition from one grade to the next. Many college graduates are using these days to apply and interview for their first jobs. And even the seasons are giving way to change as they transition from the coolness of spring to the warmth of summer. (A welcome blessing for those of us who experienced the winter-like weather of April!)

Of course, all of this change can feel scary as it brings with it uncertainty about the future. We get used to the way things have been and we begin to wonder if what comes next will live up to what we know now. I can remember the first time I set foot on my college campus. I tried to act all cool, calm, and collected, but inside I was deeply worried about moving several hours from home, having to find a part-time job, making new friends, and keeping up with all of my studies. I imagine the experience must be similar for those who are transitioning from their life-long home to an assisted living apartment or a long-term care facility. And the same is probably true for those entering into the military or those who are taking their first extended-length trip. The joy of life as it has been can quickly become overshadowed by the fear of the unknown.

Thankfully, our faith leads us back to God, who offers us reassurance in times of uncertainty. In a well-known passage from Jeremiah, the Lord comforted His people at a time when they feared what would come next. "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'" (Jeremiah 29:11, NIV) And in the New Testament, Jesus comforted His disciples as they began to consider what would happen to their little band of believers once He was no longer with them. Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:27, NIV)

People of faith, it can be both exciting and nerve-wracking that we don't know what the future holds. However, we can rest assured knowing that no matter where life takes us, God is already there. So, let us turn over to God the worries about tomorrow that are on our hearts and in our minds; and let us step boldly into our next adventures.

Shalom,
Justin

Welcome Little One

Little Myra Ilene Lorimor was born to Barton and Jenny Lorimor and big sister Robin Eulaine (3 years) on April 4th. Myra came in at 20" and weighing 7 lbs. 14oz...all of which grandparents Cindy and Randy cannot seem to stop cuddling. Congrats Springfield Lorimor's.



Wesley Financial Update

General fund receipts as of 3/31/18	\$ 330,589
General fund expenses as of 3/31/18	311,517
	<hr/>
Surplus	\$ 19,072

The Trustees have recently approved updating the sound and video equipment used in Wesley Hall. Several groups use this equipment on a regular basis, such as WISE on Sunday mornings, youth on Wednesday evenings, the recent Lenten lunch series, UMW presentations, and other activities. The old equipment was becoming less reliable and troublesome to use due to the age of the equipment. Using funds budgeted annually for large projects, the Trustees will be able to provide a new projector, updated controls and screen, and more reliable equipment.

Much thought and discussion goes into the decisions on how to best spend these limited project funds each year. Other recent upgrades have included replacement of sanctuary microphones due to changes in FCC regulations, repairs to HVAC equipment, replacement of a freezer compressor, and pump and drainage work. Last year's projects also included a new drop ceiling on the second floor, and landscaping work along Front and McLean Streets, including curb replacements.

- Myrna Simpson, Business Administrator

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this year's Rummage Sale such a wonderful success. Whether you donated, sorted and untangled items, pushed and unloaded shopping carts, folded and put clothes on hangers, picked up and unloaded furniture, measured and bundled things, researched and made labels to price treasures, broke down boxes, baked delicious goodies, carried purchases, promoted the sale, worked as security or a cashier, shopped, or cleaned up after the sale, your help was so very important!

We earned roughly \$34,700 in six hours at the Sale! We are estimating that after expenses are tallied we will have approximately \$30,000 to reach out and share God's love in so many ways - through the UMW missions, youth mission trips, and youth choir tours.

This would not be possible without your generous, kind, caring, and grace-filled hearts.

Blessings to you,

The Rummage Sale Chairpersons
Phyllis Pederson, Frank Newburn, Brenna Martin, Tammy Houtzel,
Lynne Morrison, and Karen Daudelin

Dates to Note

- **Saturday, April 28**
Rent-a-Youth Fund-raiser begins
- **Sunday April 29**
New members join during both services
- **Thursday, May 3**
Women's Walk to Emmaus begins
- **Friday & Saturday, May 4 & 5**
Jr. High Confirmation Retreat
- **Sunday, May 6**
Music Appreciation Sunday
- **Wednesday, May 9**
Last Wednesdays@Wesley for summer
- **Friday, May 11**
Choir Lock-In
- **Sunday, May 13**
Wesley Bell's Mother's Day Bake Sale
- **Monday, May 14**
NOW Newsletter deadline
- **Thursday, May 17**
WBB Picnic - Last Day
- **Saturday, May 19**
Wesley Distribution Ministry - 9:30 AM
Jr. High Confirmation Banquet - 6:00 PM
- **Sunday, May 20**
Senior Recognition - 9:00 AM
Vaughn Retirement Lunch Ticket Sales
Jr. High Confirmation - 11:15 AM
- **Tuesday, May 22**
UMW Spring Fellowship Dinner & Program
- **Sunday, May 27**
Vaughn Retirement Lunch Ticket Sales
- **Monday May 28**
Memorial Day Holiday - Office Closed
Memorial Day Parade - Church Walk
- **Wednesday, May 30**
Surge first BBQ & Bible Study - 6:00 PM

LOL Circle

LOL Circle (Ladies, Outreach and Lunch) will meet for lunch at the Imperial Buffet on Monday, May 7. On Monday, May 21, our Circle will travel to Urbana to serve at Cunningham Children's Home.

If you are interested in joining our lunches and service projects, or would like to be on our email list, please email Elaine at estokes65@gmail.com.

Hope Circle

Hope Circle will meet in the church lounge May 10 at 6:30 PM. We will be discussing Chapters 16-19 of the study book, "The Best Yes", which finishes the book.

Faith Circle

Faith Circle invites you to our May 23rd meeting at 1:00 PM. We meet in the Community Room at Westminster for light refreshments and fellowship. Kim Iverson (Assoc. Pastor Justin's wife) will present our program on "Music Therapy" --- healing experiences with music. JOIN US!

GEMS

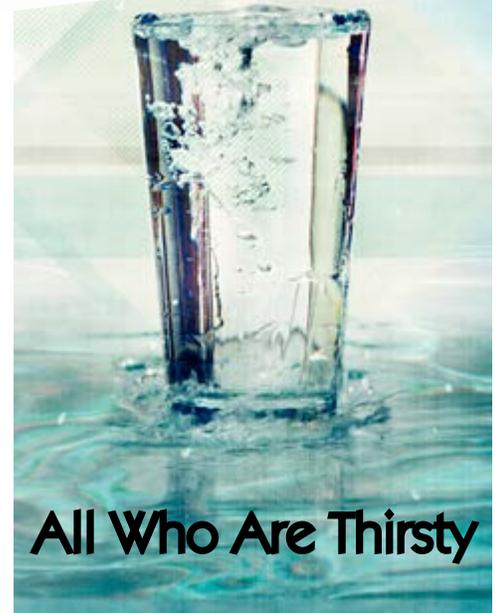
GEMS (Growing Each Mom Spiritually) will continue the study of "Mom Set Free" on May 14 at 7:00 PM at the home of Missy Dundov. Childcare is available for \$3 per child.

We will NOT meet May 28 due to Memorial Day.

Contact Liz Tomera for more information or with questions at tomeras@comcast.net.



Samaritan's Purse
INTERNATIONAL RELIEF



May UMW Program

Save the date for United Methodist Women's Spring Fellowship Dinner & Program -

May 22

6:00 PM - Wesley Hall

Dinner & Program - \$5 per person

The program, "All Who Are Thirsty" will be given by trauma/war nurse Emily Barker, BSN, RN. Emily is a member of the Samaritan's Purse International Medical Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART). DART has been contracted by the United Nations/World Health Organization to provide medical care in war zones throughout the world - during battle and in the months following.

Come and join us as Emily shares her stories of being on the "front line" as a first responder, dealing with fear, life-and-death decisions, and God's grace and miracles throughout. Don't miss this interesting and inspiring evening. All are welcome.



The United Methodist Church was officially formed on April 23, 1968.



Troop 18 is Advancing

Wesley's Boy Scout Troop 18 is very pleased to announce the advancement of Nolan Anderson and Vishva Karthikeyan to Eagle Scout. Congratulations! Your hard work and organizational skills have paid off. We are all very proud of you.

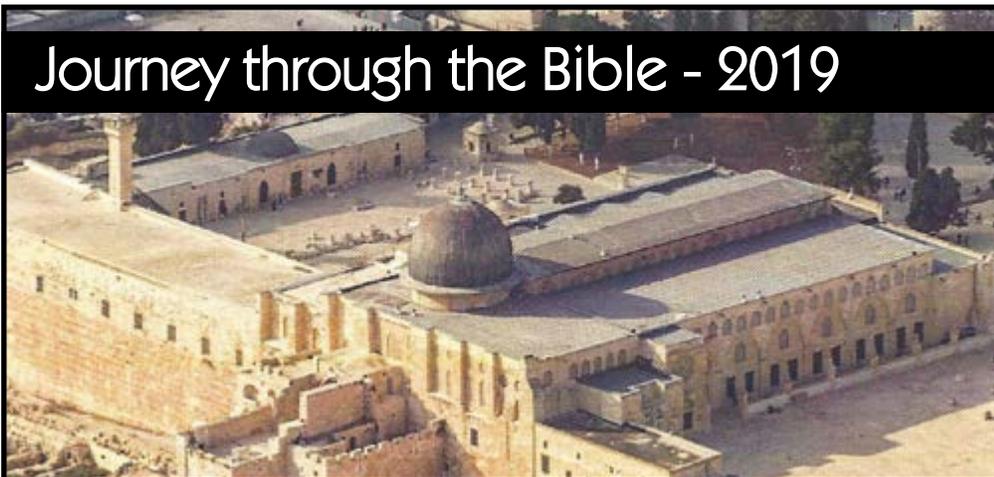


Thank you to everyone who supported Wesley's Bright Beginnings from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Portillo's on Tuesday, April 17. Whether you dined in, did the drive thru, or gave a cash donation, we sincerely appreciate your support!

- WBB Staff and Board

Wesley Bright Beginnings Preschool is currently seeking substitutes for the 2018-2019 school year. If you enjoy little ones and have a few extra hours here and there, we would love your help! All it requires is passing a WUMC background check and completing tax forms and turning them in to Myrna, Wesley's business manager.

Wesley's WWB preschool's last school day for the school year is Thursday, May 17. Teachers, students, parents & family members are welcome to join in a celebratory picnic after class time. Have a fun and safe summer!



Journey through the Bible - 2019

Wesley Holy Land Trip

I invite you to join me on this 11-Day "Journey through the Bible" program that will expand our knowledge of the Bible and this sacred land. A journey following in the footsteps of Jesus, Paul, Samuel, and David will change the way you read the Bible, and you will learn why scholars refer to the Holy Land as the "Fifth Gospel".

Please consider this my personal invitation to be a part of this adventure in faith and join me in experiencing a once in a lifetime journey as we see the Bible come to life! Save the date and bring a friend! Contact me for more information at jiverson@wesley-umc.com.

- Pastor Justin

Travel Itinerary -

March 5 & 6 -

Fly from the USA to Bethlehem

March 7 -

Jericho and Qumran

March 8 -

Herodion and Bethlehem

March 9 -

Caesarea, Mount Carmel, Tel Megiddo

March 10 -

The Galilee

March 11 -

Cana, Nazareth, Samaria, Jacob's Well

March 12 & 13 -

Jerusalem

March 14 -

Ein Karem, Nebi Samuel, Emmaus, and Valley of Elah

March 15 -

Return to the USA

STARTING AT

\$ 3,298

FROM CHICAGO (ORD)

Price Includes:

basic tour & sightseeing, roundtrip airfare, entrance fees, first class hotels, food, transportation, gratuities, taxes

REGISTER EARLY & SAVE

\$125 by May 5

\$100 by June 5

\$75 by July 5

\$50 by August 5

\$25 by September 4

Music Appreciation Sunday

Sunday, May 6th Wesley will extend a large

THANK YOU

to the multitudes of singers, musicians, instrumentalists, and conductors who share their spectacular talents and volunteer countless hours rehearsing and perfecting performances for our inspiration on Sunday morning and during special services.

Join us during the 9:00 AM service for, special music...of course...and the opportunity to give a nod to our wonderful Wesley musicians.

It's another not-to-miss Sunday!



Bell's Bake Sale

Mother's Day is around the corner... Sunday, May 13. Looking for a sweet treat for Mom? We have just the thing. The annual Bell's Bake Sale will be held between services to tempt you, and Mom, with delicious sweets and treats.

All sales proceeds will go directly to support the Wesley Hand Bell ministry. Meet you at the tempting table in the Garden Room!

CHOIR 18 TOUR

WESLEY

Youth Fierce Tour

The Wesley UMC youth choirs hit the road for choir tour this June. First up – Newark, Ohio, followed by Washington, D.C. While in D.C. they'll tour FBI headquarters, then head out for an evening concert in Richmond, VA. The next day they'll have fun exploring the area. Next up, off to Charlotte, NC and then they'll finish up their tour in the Lexington, KY area. The last day of tour they'll experience the Ark Encounter before heading home to Bloomington.

At each stop, the youth choirs will give an hour-long concert featuring four musical ensembles: Jubilation (junior and senior high vocal choir), Celebration Ringers (junior and senior high bell choir), Exaltation (small ensemble of senior high, college and young adult singers) and Bells of Adoration (small ensemble of senior high ringers). Each ensemble will share several musical selections, a mix of contemporary and traditional Christian music. Each concert will also feature a student sharing his or her faith story and special music for children!

Mark your calendars for the home concert on Sunday, June 17 at the 11:15 AM service!



JUST ONE

Children's books for infants through kids age 12 will be collected during May as the Just One project of the Church and Society Committee. Please leave new or gently used books in the bin across from the Garden Room. These will be given to local families identified by school social workers and family counselors. Heartland Head Start workers will also take some books for home visits.

Just a reminder - Just One has a wood donations box attached to our large collection box in the Garden Room hallway. It was designed to make it easy to contribute with gift cards and monetary donations. Just place your gift card or check (specifying Just One on the memo line) in an envelope and slip it in the slot. Please indicate which ministry you wish to support - either the monthly Just One project or the on-going Wesley Distribution Ministry paper distribution.

Thank you, in advance, for blessing numerous families with your donations and prayers.

Upcoming Just One Collections -

June
Peanut butter for local food pantries

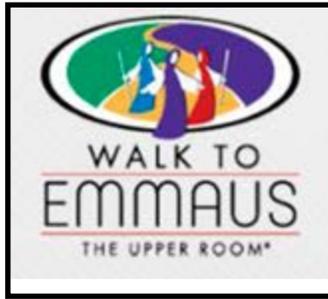
July
Gift cards

August
Children's underwear and sweat pants sizes 4-12

Wesley United Methodist Church

502 East Front Street
Bloomington, IL 61701
Phone: 309-827-8046 Fax: (309)828-9625
www.wesley-umc.com

After Hours Emergencies:
Pastor Vaughn Hoffman (309) 212-2710
Pastor Justin Iverson (701) 809-1203



Walk to Emmaus 2018 Weekend Opportunities

The walk to Emmaus is an experience of Christian spiritual renewal and formation that begins with a three-day short course in Christianity. It is an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed to you through other believers. The objective of Emmaus is to inspire, challenge, and equip the local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, communities, and places of work. Emmaus lifts up a way for our grace-filled lives to be lived and shared with others.

Emmaus is open to members of any Christian denomination. Emmaus is for the development of Christian leaders who are 1) members of a local church, 2) have a desire to strengthen their spiritual lives, 3) may have unanswered questions about their faith, 4) understand that being a Christian involves responsibility and 5) are willing to dedicate their everyday lives to God in an ongoing manner.

2018 Walks to Emmaus -

Women: May 3-6 or October 4-7
Men: September 13-16

All Emmaus weekends are held at Spalding Renewal Center in downtown Peoria.

Anyone interested in attending one of these weekends please contact Reverend Keith Ferguson at 309-846-2056.





Mission Trip Update

This summer students at Surge will have two mission trips that they can participate in. Our junior high students will travel to Wisconsin to work at the Christian Discipleship Farm working with children and young adults with special needs. They may be spending one-on-one time with kids, helping make sure a camper gets their medications from a nurse, pushing a wheelchair over rough surfaces, or other various tasks.

Our senior high students will travel to Memphis, Tennessee for a week of mission work and ministry. The team will be partnering with a local church to help with construction projects and help with after school ministries, serve at a homeless shelter, and host a community BBQ event. Both teams will spend an extensive amount of time in personal devotion and Bible Study.

Please pray for us now, as we train and prepare for the two trips; and while we are on the trips this summer, that God might bless us and the people we meet and serve. We look forward to sharing all that God did in and through us during these experiences.



Spring Service Event

During the month of March Surge participated in our annual spring service events. Our girls went to the Midwest Food Bank and the guys went to the Home Sweet Home Warehouse to serve on a Wednesday night. At each location we learned about the long-standing ministry and the far-reaching impact that these organizations have had and how groups like ours make their ministry possible. Our students did a great job of packing food at the food bank and sorting clothes and cleaning at the warehouse. We also enjoyed a delicious pizza dinner before we served.

Learn more about these important local ministries by following the links provided:

Home Sweet Home-
www.missionmart.org

Midwest Food Bank-
www.midwestfoodbank.org



Christian Education Classes for All Ages throughout the week

ADULTS - Sunday 10:15 - 11:00 AM

Journey Through the Bible - Book of Acts

Richard Johnson, leader
Conference Room

Forgotten God

Book by Frances Chan
Pastor Justin Iverson, leader
Lounge - ends May 20

STUDIES THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

TUESDAY

Women's Bible Study
2017 Disciplines and Other Topics
7:00 AM - Lounge

WEDNESDAY

Men's Bible Study
Study To-Be-Determined
12:00 PM - Garden Room

The Grand Sweep
365 Days From Genesis to Revelation
by J. Ellsworth Kalas
5:45 PM - Garden Room

THURSDAY

Companions in Christ
Embracing the Journey
9:00 AM - Garden Room

A **NEW** Companions in Christ is forming - contact Kathi if interested.

- Wednesdays@Wesley -

Wednesday, May 9th is the last Wednesdays@Wesley before the summer break. W@W will resume Wednesday, August 29.

Memorial Day Parade Monday, May 28

Join the parade route and walk with area churches to show a united front and feature our churches, our activities, and our multi-church efforts...like the upcoming Party in the Park....

Party in the Park on June 3 at Fairview with four area churches. 6:30-8:30 PM.

- More info to come on both events -

Contact Kathi Pritts
kpritts@wesley-umc.com

Children's Ministry

Great Big Plan

Our preschoolers will learn that God has a great big PLAN.

Honesty

In May our elementary kids will learn honesty with great spy stories from the Bible.

Third Grade Bibles

On June 3rd children entering third grade will receive Bibles during the 11:15 AM worship service. The Bible will be celebrated during Children's Church. Please contact Kathi Pritts to make sure your child or grandchild is on the list even if they cannot attend on this date.

Adult May Study

Sunday Morning Study

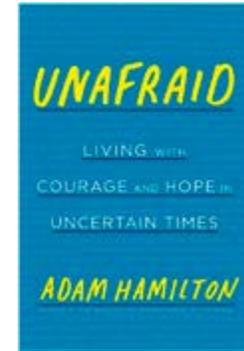
Unafraid

by Adam Hamilton

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM

Lounge

COMING JUNE 3



Bestselling author Adam Hamilton shows in Unafraid, we can escape the echo chamber of anxiety and dread. With insight, intention and faith, we can learn to overcome what oppresses us, and

live with courage and hope.

For anyone struggling with fear, worry, or anxiety, or who wonders how families and communities can live as peacemakers in troubled times, Unafraid offers an informed and inspiring message full of practical solutions.

Legacy Journey Study

Want to live full and abundant lives in ways that will impact your families, friends and community both today and in the future? The Legacy Journey is a biblically based seven-lesson study that will show you how to live well now so you can leave a legacy of generosity and purpose. You'll learn how to grow your money, train your kids to be diligent and smart with money, plan for retirement, create a will, and more. This study helps you put together a plan for today and tomorrow to ensure your family is taken care of.

Legacy Journey-Growing and Leaving a Legacy

Leaders - James Ingold and Kelly Snyder
Mondays July 9 – August 20

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Contact Kathi if you are interested.



WESLEY

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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JOIN WESLEY UMC

Journey through the Bible

March 5-15, 2019



REGISTER BY MAY 5
SAVE \$125

- LEARN MORE INSIDE -