



October 2017

News Of Wesley



NOW
NEWS OF WESLEY

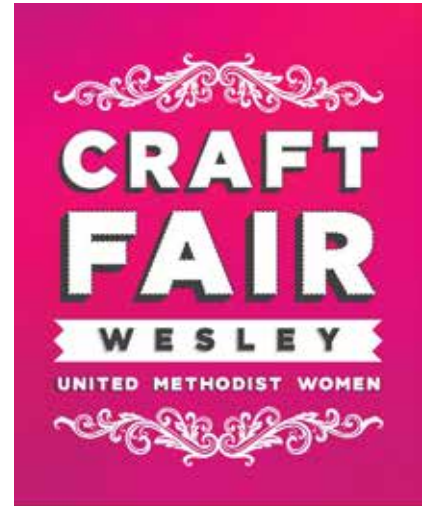
2017 Wesley Biannual UMW Craft Fair

TWO YEARS IN THE MAKING - BIG COMMUNITY WIDE EVENT

To help families in crisis throughout Illinois, the United Methodist Women hold a large, biannual craft fair. Last held in 2015, the fair is scheduled for **Saturday, October 14**, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM in Wesley Hall. All proceeds go to United Methodist Women missions. Lunch will be available. Admission is free. UMW raised over \$7,000 in 2015 when it was held. **The goal is to raise even more for those in need in Illinois!**

For the last two years volunteers from the church have been designing, creating, and diligently crafting items that can be purchased at the fair. The handmade creations are designed to be used in the home, as outside decorations, in work place offices and cubicles, and as gifts. There will be crafts for all seasons and holiday themes. Some of the featured items include: wooden pallet creations, yard art, clay pot designs, and unique golf ball art. **It's a great opportunity for holiday gift shopping!**

The Craft Fair has become a tradition at Wesley, with the first fair being held in November of 1958. Our records show "harvest fair" was mentioned as far back as November of 1955. The Craft Fair grew from the 1950's forward. The event has been not only successful, but uplifting for all of the volunteers throughout the years and has raised needed funds for family missions. **Don't miss it!**



BOOKMARK
- THE DATE -



Bountiful Harvest Generous Hearts

Kimberly and I come from the Dakotas, an area covered in farms. For many of our neighbors back there, October means one thing: the end of harvest season. So when this time of year rolls around, I can't help but think about our many friends who are spending days on end taking in this year's crop. I can just picture miles of fields lit up by dozens of combines shining their high beams late into the night, just so all the work can get done before the snow flies. And as I envision all of this hard work, my mind begins to wander, and I start to ponder new questions, like: How many passes does the average combine make over an acre of land? How many hands touch our food before it gets to our tables? Does one's rear end go numb after sitting that long in the cab of a combine? Where does all that food go? Are there ever left overs? How is it that for all these crops, we still have people going hungry in our world?

And then it hits me. I think I've read something about this before. Deuteronomy 24:19 reads, "Whenever you are reaping the harvest of your field and you leave some grain in the field, don't go back and get it. Let it go to the immigrants, the orphans, and the widows so that the Lord your God blesses you in all that you do." (CEB)

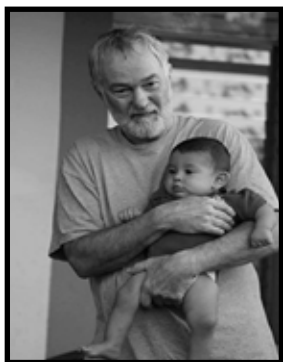
People of faith, I've known many wonderful farmers in my lifetime. Almost all of whom have been this generous, or even more so. One farmer I know plants an extra field of corn every year and takes the profits from its sale to build water wells in impoverished countries. Another plants acres of tomatoes, peppers, corn, and other easily harvested crops, then distributes them regularly throughout the summer and fall to local food pantries. It is because of their examples, and the nudging of the words from Deuteronomy, that I've begun to ask God, "What more can I do to help those who have an immediate need?"

And boy, has God provided some great answers! For starters, God opened my ears to hear Matthew Sleeth, one of our August Creation Care Forum speakers, say that he gives freely by leaving his spare change in vending machines, just in case the next person needs it. I've also enjoyed watching as groups of knitters all across the country make scarves during the winter months, and then tie them onto trees and street lamps so that any cold passersby have an easy way to warm up. And about a year ago, God led Kimberly and me to start carrying around gift cards to local restaurants which we share with anyone we encounter who is in need of a meal.

I've learned that God provides numerous opportunities for us to share what we've been given. We just have to ask for eyes to see those opportunities. So let's take advantage of this harvest season and pray this prayer together, "God, please show us how we might share even more from the abundance that you've provided."

Honored to be in the field with you,
Pastor Justin

Finishing What We Began - The Nicaragua Orphanage



When - Saturday, January 20 - Sunday, January 28.

Project - Building Final Phase of Fence

Where - Orphanage at Jinotega, Nicaragua

Last year a Wesley mission team constructed about half of a fence needed along a road where locals are sneaking in and stealing items from our supported orphanage. Finishing the fence will greatly hinder stealing. Finishing the fence will also provide more security for the young teens housed at the facility. In addition there are other projects that need attention, such as painting the interior and exterior of buildings.

We are looking for 10 to 15 workers to help tackle this construction. This project is key, as this is more than likely the last trip that we will make to Nicaragua due to circumstances beyond our control. Help the orphanage...while growing in faith serving.

Those interested can contact Ron Schaad at ronschaad@hotmail.com or call 309-846-8230.



Wesley Financial Update

General fund receipts as of 8/31/17	\$ 857,474
General fund expenses as of 8/31/17	845,280
Surplus	\$ 12,194

At the end of July, our year-to-date surplus was over \$36,000. As you can see from the above figures, we used up \$24,000 of that in one month! Don't you wish you could just have one month without certain bills in order to build up your cash balance? Our offerings were significantly lower than average in August, yet the bills continued to arrive. We still have a surplus for the year, but so far September's offerings have not bounced back to average levels.

You will soon receive your contribution statement showing your financial commitment for 2017, along with the amount you have given this year. As you review your statement to see if you are on track with giving, remember that we do have an easy way for you to give on a regular basis through online giving. If you often miss church or are busy participating in volunteer duties during worship, you don't have to worry about missing the offering plate. Simply visit the church website (www.wesley-umc.com) and click on the Give button at the top of the page, then click On-line Giving on the next page. This will lead you to the page to register for automatic gifts to be made weekly, monthly, or on a one-time basis to keep your pledge current. Those who currently give through the website love the convenience, and we love the steady flow of income! It's a win-win!

- Myrna Simpson

Generous Hearts A Giving Faith

a giving
faith

Pastors Vaughn and Justin have been introducing us to people whose faith impressed Jesus, strong or weak throughout the sermon series "Faith Jesus Noticed". Jesus not only paid attention to demonstrations of faith, but he often taught about them through stories. He told us that even faith the size of a tiny mustard seed would be, could be, mighty. You just have to be willing to have **a giving faith**.

Sunday, October 29th is Stewardship Sunday. We will, *with faith*, decide how we respond to the call to support Wesley financially. How can you faithfully support Wesley's works within our church family, within our community, and the world? What size is **a giving faith** for you? And does it expand and grow with your faith journey...just like that tiny mustard seed?

Sunday, November 26th will honor another form of stewardship - the giving of our time and talents. Can your faith expand large enough to serve others in new ways?

Another date of note is **Sunday, October 15th**. James Ingold will be leading a "Wesley Family Budget Talk" to explain the Wesley budget, past expenditures, budget goals, and answer any questions you might have.

Look for more information to come by mail, online, in church, and via email.

Congratulations to

- special arrival Callahan Eich born to Sarah (Yount) and Andrew Eich, and proud big brother Colton, 1, on August 15th.

- new arrival Hannah Ray Scritchlow born to Ryan and Carrie Scritchlow, and proud big brothers Nolan, 4, and Jeffrey, 2, on September 13th.

Thank You Wesley

Thank you for your kindness!

September 18th was our annual Pizza Ranch Fundraiser. Due to your generosity we raised \$883.59 that will go towards our 2018 Mission Trips.

Thanks to all who came out to support Surge! We couldn't have done it with out you.

Habitat for Humanity

Saturday, October 21 is the next build day at the Mulberry home. We'll sign in at 7:45 AM and begin work at 8:00 AM.

Everyone is welcome. Grab your hammers, tape measures, and other tools and be ready to put them to good use. Don't have tools? Don't worry. We will make sure you have what is needed. We can use everyone, regardless of your talent level.

Join our team and enjoy building up lives by building home. Contact Jeff Snyder for more information -

jsnydes_normal@hotmail.com
<http://www.habitatmclean.org/home>



Surge Retreat

All current Senior High students are invited to join us for our Sr. High Fall Retreat at East Bay Camp October 7-9. We have lots of fun activities planned including games and team building, lots of time to hang out with friends, and a chance to reconnect with God. Cost is \$20 plus one travel meal and friends are welcome to join us. We will meet at church Saturday, October 7th at 11:00 AM and return to church on Monday, October 9th by 10:00 AM. Sign up at the welcome table and grab an information sheet with details about the retreat. If you are not able to join us for the whole retreat please come for what you can and let Frank know if you are arriving late or leaving early. Deadline to sign up is October 4th. See Frank with questions.

Leaf Rakers Available

It's autumn again and the leaves are falling. Tired of raking all those leaves up yourself? The youth of Wesley UMC are here to help. Stop by the Garden Room on Sunday mornings between services on October 15, 22, or 29 to sign up or call Frank or Stacy at the church and on Saturday, November 4th we will rake your leaves for you. Once the November 4th date fills up, we will put you on the list for Saturday November 11th.

The service is free but we gladly appreciate any freewill donations given - all of which will go towards our 2018 mission trips to Memphis and Wisconsin. Questions? Call Frank or Stacy at the church at 827-8046.

**THANKS AGAIN
for supporting us at
PIZZA RANCH**

Upcoming Events

Corn Maze
October 21st

Surge Trick-or-Can
October 25th

Coffeehouse Night
October 28th

Join us!



Get Involved. Get Blessed. Join the Bright Beginnings Board

Becoming part of the Board is a wonderful way to serve Wesley Bright Beginnings and ensure the future success of the school. Board members are people who care about WBB and want to make it a thriving, educational program for current and future children in our community.

Our current board members have or had children/grandchildren enrolled in the program. They may also be members of Wesley UMC. It is not necessary to have a child enrolled in WBB to be a part of the board.

The board handles various annual tasks like deciding the number of classes, the yearly budget, and orientation meetings. On a monthly basis, we decide on marketing and fundraising ideas, review expenses, and monitor enrollment. We also work with the Director at every meeting to address any concerns or issues that may arise. The board ensures WBB grows in a positive direction for students, parents, and staff.

Board meetings are on the 4th Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM at the church.

If you're interested, would like more information, or would like to learn more contact President Audrey Borgra at audbeach@hotmail.com.

WBB is a treasure. Help keep it strong. Check it out - Get involved - and Get Blessed!



Christian Education Classes for All Ages all throughout the week

ADULTS - Sunday 10:15 - 11:00 AM

Stroll Through the Bible

Richard Johnson, leader
Conference Room
The Book of Daniel

Five Marks of a Methodist

Reverend Justin Iverson, leader
Lounge

Faithful - Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph

Starting Sunday, October 22
Lounge

STUDIES THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

TUESDAY

Women's Bible Study

2017 Disciplines and Other Topics

7:00 AM - Lounge

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University

9-week course starting September 5
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM - Garden Room

WEDNESDAY

Men's Bible Study

Moses - Adam Hamilton
12:00 PM - Garden Room

The Salvation of Dr. Who

Stephanie Hoy, leader
6:15 PM - 7:15 PM - Lounge

On Our Way - Anchored

Reverend Justin Iverson, Matt Sherrill, leaders
7:00-8:30 PM - Wesley West

Thursday

Companions in Christ

Embracing the Journey
9:00 AM - Garden Room

New Adult Study

Beginning October 22nd

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Faithful - Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM - Lounge

We're not that different from Joseph. True, we may not be part of a story that will be remembered for all time, but like Joseph, we encounter circumstances that we'd never choose for ourselves. At times, it can be tempting just to walk away, but Joseph provides us a great example of humbly obeying God even when we don't understand, faithfully moving forward in the strength that God provides. Join Adam Hamilton as he examines Christmas through the eyes of Joseph and learn to accept and glorify God's will even when our situation makes it difficult to do so.

For more information contact Kathi Pritts at kptritts@wesley-umc.com.

- FALL FAMILY NIGHT -

Friday, October 27

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

fun details to come

Children's Ministry -

STEWARDSHIP

In October our elementary kids will be concentrating on stewardship with biblical stories of talents and treasures from the book of Matthew and Psalms.

GOD IS ALWAYS WITH THEM

Preschool children will learn about David all month and how GOD HELPS!

New LOL Circle

A new United Methodist Women circle is forming that will afford additional opportunities to serve, grow, and socialize. It is named Ladies Outreach and Lunch (LOL).

We will meet the first and third Mondays of the month at 11:30 AM. The first meeting is dutch treat lunch at Avanti's, 3302 E. Empire, Monday, October 16.

Please RSVP by Thursday, October 12th to Mary Ann Knudson maryann.knudson@frontier.com if you are interested in joining the first LOL lunch.

GEMS

Young mothers are invited to visit this circle which meets the second and fourth Mondays of every month from 6:45 PM -8:45 PM at the home of Missy Dundov. They will continue their study of "Growing Together" by Linda Anderson.

For more information please contact Liz Tomera at tomeras@comcast.net.

Hope Circle

HOPE CIRCLE will meet - **October 12** at 6:30 PM in the Garden Room for refreshments and at 7:00 PM will continue their study, "The Best Yes (Making Wise Decisions in the Midst of Endless Demands)."

Craft Fair Volunteers

The Wesley UMW Craft Fair is around the corner, on Saturday, October 14. Volunteers are needed to help in a variety of tasks. We would welcome two hours, half day, or full day participation. Please contact Elaine Stokes at estokes65@gmail.com or Karen Fleming at karen@acomtreenconsulting.com if you can help with this biannual fair.

W@W Communion

Partake of the Lord's Supper on Wednesday evenings. Starting Wednesday, October 4, Communion will be served at W@W (Wednesdays@Wesley) at 5:30 PM in the Library. Pastor Iverson will be serving the sacrament in this quiet, small setting. Come as you feel led.

Boy Scout Troop 18 Meet Wesley's Troop



Did you know Wesley had a chartered troop?

...and has for a long, long time! After a history of over 70 years at Wesley, Troop 18 became inactive from 2000 to 2008. In April 2008 it was re-chartered and has been going strong at Wesley ever since. You will find scouts in Wesley Hall on Mondays from 6:30-8:00 PM.

Meetings are built around a monthly topic and can be led by the scouts, guest speakers, or turn into field trips. Service projects, rank work, fishing, bike trips, sports, and monthly campouts/overnights keep the troop learning and leading. Summers can include camps such as Ingersoll Scout Reservation, Cache Lake (in Canada), backpacking in New Mexico, or other adventures.

To finance these activities, the troop holds three fundraisers. In the fall the boys sell popcorn and holiday greenery, and in the winter the troop holds a spaghetti dinner here at the church.

To learn more about Wesley's Troop 18, visit their site linked to wesley-umc.com (under the "outreach" menu), or contact Scoutmaster, Ken Anderson at kdanderson.homeydc@gmail.com.



Christmas Greens Orders

Plan ahead and order your holiday greenery through Troop 18. Fresh wreaths, roping, door swags, mailbox swags, mantelpiece greens, and decorative centerpieces can be ordered and will be delivered to the church for easy pick up. Order yours:

Sunday, October 1 and 8
Wesley - Garden Room

Scouts will have order forms and information on those days or contact Troop 18 Fundraising Coordinator, Vanessa Kile at 309-808-2678.

Contata Retreat

The Music Department is presenting a Christmas Cantata on December 10th at both services. You don't have to be a regular member of any choir to get involved. You have to be high school age or older. Our first retreat to begin work on the Cantata is Saturday, September 30 from 9:00 -11:00 AM. If you are interested in joining in on the fun, please attend. For more information contact Adria (aschumann@wesley-umc.com) or Brenna (bmartin@wesley-umc.com).

Bells of Wesley

Our adult handbell ensemble has openings for new ringers. Ringing experience is not required. We will teach you everything you need to learn. The ability to read music is helpful but not required. Rehearsals are every Wednesday evening from 7:00-8:30 PM. Childcare is available. We ring in worship about once per month. Come join the fun. For more information contact Gail Welk at josling2355@comcast.net or call 309-825-4402.

Missions Bake Sale

The Missions Committee of Wesley United Methodist Church will be raising funds for Missions on **Saturday, September 30**, at the Farmers' Market on the Square in downtown Bloomington from 7:30 AM to Noon. We will be located on the Northwest corner of the Courthouse Square.

Money from our sales will support both domestic and foreign adult mission trips.

Baked goods should be delivered to Wesley Friday, September 29 between 7:30 AM and Noon. Questions? Call Karen Daudelin 662-8401 or Betty Hornbrook 862-3304.

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 Hoffman (309) 212-2710
Pastor Justin Iverson (701) 809-1203

JUST ONE



Coats for Children - New and gently used winter coats sizes infant through 14 will be gathered during the month of October. These will be distributed to needy families through Bloomington Day Care Center, Boys and Girls Club, Heartland Head Start and Sarah Raymond Pre School Program.

Thank you, Church & Society

Wesley received this handsome plaque, flag, and many handwritten "thank you's" in appreciation for our Munchies for the Military from the Blackjacks Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, Task Force Mustang.

The flag was actually flown in a combat mission over Kabul, Afghanistan, September 11, 2016. These special items are located above the Just One box in the Garden Room hallway.

There is a need for new or gently used children's shoes in Nicaragua. If you can contribute, please place them in the Just One box with the mission's current items. The collection for those children in need will end October 13th. Contact Donna Schaad for more information - dschaad@mchsi.com.

UMCOR FLOOD/CLEANING BUCKET COLLECTION

Wesley will continue to collect buckets and cleaning supplies for UMCOR through **Sunday, October 8**. All collected contents in the hallway box will then be taken to the distribution point for assembly and delivery. Thank you for your generosity! Go to www.midwestmissiondc.org for bucket supply lists and more information.



WESLEY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

502 East Front Street
Bloomington, Illinois 61701
309-827-8046
www.wesley-umc.com
Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Bloomington, IL
Permit No. 103

★★★
Charles Wesley Singers

**SHARING the GOSPEL
in SONG**

★★★
October 17 - 6:30 PM

★★★ Music for UMCOR Disaster Trip ★★★

- Wesley United Methodist -

502 East Front Street
Bloomington, Illinois
Sanctuary

★★★

CW Sextet and CW Quartet
sing Gaither Vocal Band &
Ernie Haas Signature Sound

for more on this evening of music - wesley-umc.com