

# News Of Wesley

April 2018



## Rummage Sale 2018

Wesley is once again gearing up for its large and ever-growing annual rummage sale. The highly anticipated sale is scheduled for Saturday, April 14 at the Interstate Center, 1106 Interstate Drive, Bloomington, Illinois, from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the West Expo Building. A bake sale will also be included. All proceeds go to United Methodist Women missions and youth missions and outreach. Admission is free.



### HOW DO WE DO IT YEAR AFTER YEAR?

The annual Rummage Sale dates back to the 1970's. Held every spring, the sale



is by far the largest community effort managed by Wesley alone. Donations from church members, their family, friends, and neighbors are accepted during the week prior to the sale. Hundreds of our volunteers put in more than 4,000 hours last year and brought in over \$29,000 for Wesley activities and missions in 2017.

The sale provides a wide variety of lower priced items for bargain hunters and cash-strapped families throughout the community with more than 20 departments including clothing, shoes, books, housewares, antiques, furniture, tools, sporting goods, electronics, baked goods, and others. With your help, the Interstate Center West Expo Building will be filled on Saturday the 14th ready to serve the community and Wesley missions.

### SIGN UP NOW SO WE CAN COUNT YOU IN!



You don't want to miss the joy of serving, the fun of fellowship, and the great experience of being part of something this big. With Wesley you can make a difference. **So sign up today at [wesley-umc.com/rummage-sale](http://wesley-umc.com/rummage-sale).** Check your closets and basements. Tell your friends and neighbors. Shop the sale!

#### Monday, April 9

Noon to 9:00 PM – Donations accepted at the Interstate Center

#### Tuesday, April 10 – Thursday, April 12

9:00 AM – 9:00 PM – Donations accepted at the Interstate Center

#### Saturday, April 14

8:00 AM – 2:00 PM - The Rummage Sale at the Interstate Center



**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](http://wesley-umc.com)

# Anticipating Easter Joy Then and Now

Perhaps one of the telltale signs that I'd one day be a pastor was the fact that as a child I loved Easter. It has long been my favorite holiday. There's just something about the day that gives a boost to my spirit and puts a little extra pep in my step! Adding to the joy Easter brought me over the years were the numerous traditions practiced by my family of origin. I remember with fondness waking up early to find hidden Easter baskets and the goodies they contained, enjoying breakfasts of egg bake and caramel rolls, and running in and around my uncle Donnell's barns searching for plastic eggs stuffed with quarters.

But of all the Easter memories I hold dear, I cherish most the church services I attended with family and friends. From one of my earliest memories of worship, sitting between my parents and grandparents on the cushioned pews of their big white Wesleyan Church, to the sunrise service I led with friends every Easter morning during high school, Easter Sunday worship has always been one of the events I anticipate most each year.

I am blessed to have grown up with these experiences, and I look forward to sharing them with my own children one day. This year, I have the joy of sharing my Easter Sunday with all of you and your families. So gather your loved ones together and come worship on April 1st at 9:00 AM or 11:15 AM. I look forward to celebrating the resurrection of our Savior Jesus with you!

With excitement & anticipation,  
Pastor Justin



## Sunday, April 1 – Easter Sunday

### 9:00 AM – Traditional Service

Special music performed by Amy Gilreath Major, trumpet; Tim Byrne, tenor; Andrew Johnson, organist; along with Wesley choirs, brass and more

### 11:15 AM – Contemporary Service

Special music performed by Praise Team, Jubilation, and others

– No Sunday School

### Rise Up with Jesus

Easter Children's Event

Experience Easter fun and lessons with the Easter story, games, crafts, egg hunts, treats, a bouncy house, and MORE!

During Children's Church at both services Children ages four to fifth grade (younger ones with parents)

### Come home to Wesley for Easter!



## Habitat for Humanity 20th Anniversary Concert

On Sunday, April 22 Wesley will host the 20th anniversary of "Love Thy Neighbor", a concert featuring the Bloomington-Normal Community Choir, the Children's Choir, and the Sounds of Illinois

Barbershop Chorus. Join us in the Wesley Sanctuary from 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM. While the concert is free, Habitat for Humanity will be accepting donations. Learn more at [www.habitatmclean.org](http://www.habitatmclean.org).

## Thank You

Thank you for the cards, calls, and prayers during Dick's recent hospitalization. A very special thanks to our Wesley ministers for their special visits. We appreciate the kindness expressed.

- Joanne & Dick Plimpton

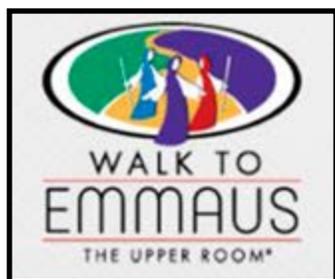


# Wesley Financial Update

General fund receipts as of 2/28/18	\$ 221,054
General fund expenses as of 2/28/18	204,198
	<hr/>
Surplus	\$ 16,856

You know Spring has finally arrived when you see articles about the Church's Rummage Sale! I am always humbled by the amount of effort our congregation puts into this annual fund-raiser, from the advanced organizing team to the set-up process and clean-up when the sale is over. Dozens of people working hundreds of hours make this the largest fund-raiser of the year. And it's not all about the money raised—the people who shop the sale are influenced in many ways by the Christian spirit of the workers. If you have never been a part of this sale, try it out this year, even if you just attend the sale on April 14. You will be amazed.

- Myrna Simpson, Business Administrator



## Walk to Emmaus 2018 Weekend Opportunities

### What is the Walk to Emmaus?

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.

### Who Should go on a Walk to Emmaus?

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.

### When are the 2018 Walks to Emmaus Scheduled?

Men: April 26-29 or September 13-16  
Women: May 3-6 or October 4-7

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 or kferguson@wesley-umc.com.

## Dates to Note

- **Thursday, March 29**  
Maundy Thursday Service - 7:00 PM
- **Friday March 30**  
Good Friday Community Service  
First Baptist, Bloomington - 12:10 PM
- **Sunday, April 1**  
Easter Sunday  
9:00 AM and 11:15 AM Services  
NO Sunday School  
"Rise Up With Jesus" Children's Church at both services  
NO afternoon or evening rehearsals
- **Monday, April 9**  
Noon to 9:00 PM – Rummage Sale donations at the Interstate Center
- **Tuesday, April 10 – Thursday, April 12**  
9:00 AM – 9:00 PM – Rummage Sale donations at the Interstate Center
- **Thursday, April 12**  
PAWS Canine Good Citizen Class Begins
- **Saturday, April 14**  
Rummage Sale 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- **Monday, April 16**  
NOW May 2018 edition deadline
- **Tuesday, April 17**  
New Member Info Meeting - 7:00 PM  
  
WBB Portillo's Fundraiser - 5:00-8:00 PM
- **Saturday, April 21**  
Wesley Distribution Ministry - 9:30 AM  
  
Feed My Starving Children - Youth Event
- **Sunday, April 22**  
Habitat "Love Thy Neighbor" 20th Anniversary Concert - 3:00 PM  
  
Youth Mission Trip Training - 1:15 PM
- **Saturday, April 28**  
Rent-a-Youth Fund-raiser begins

## LOL Circle

LOL Circle (Ladies, Outreach and Lunch) will meet for lunch at the Olive Garden on Monday, April 2.

On Wednesday, April 18 the Circle will travel to Chatham, Illinois to serve at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center. Reservations are due on Friday, April 6 to ensure a church bus for the trip. (Note the Wednesday not Monday service date.)

If you have questions or would like to add your name to our email list, please email Elaine at [estokes65@gmail.com](mailto:estokes65@gmail.com).

## Hope Circle

Hope Circle will not meet in April due to the Rummage Sale.

## Faith Circle

Faith Circle invites you to our April 25th meeting at 1:00 PM. We meet in the multi-purpose room at Westminster for light refreshments and fellowship. The program is a "Celebrate Spring Surprise"! Please join us.

## GEMS

GEMS (Growing Each Mom Spiritually) will work at the Rummage Sale on Monday, April 9 (no childcare). A new study, "MOM SET FREE", will begin Monday, April 23, at 7:00 PM at the home of Missy Dundov.

Contact Liz Tomera for more information or with questions at [tomeras@comcast.net](mailto:tomeras@comcast.net).



## Troop 18 is Growing

Wesley's Boy Scout Troop 18 is very pleased to announce the addition of eight new scouts to our troop. We couldn't be more pleased and we are very encouraged to add this sizable group of young men to our ranks.

Congratulations and welcome new scouts! Troop 18 is very proud to have you.



**Thank you** to everyone who supported Wesley's Bright Beginnings "Dine to Donate" at Jason's Deli on Thursday, March 8. 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 has openings for toddlers, 2's, 3's, and 4's classes for the 2018-2019 school year. Please call Julie at 309-827-8046 or email [wesleysbrightbeginnings@gmail.com](mailto:wesleysbrightbeginnings@gmail.com) for more information.

## Pets Are Working Saints

Are you and your dog interested in the PAWS (Pets Are Working Saints) ministry? The PAWS ministry will be offering a Canine Good Citizen class in April and May. When you receive your CGC certificate - you are encouraged to visit nursing homes and other locations where you and your four-legged friend can offer love, memories of former best friends, and other Christian gifts of friendship. These classes will be offered weekly beginning April 12th. Classes will be held every Thursday evening from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM at the church for 6 weeks. The final night will be a testing night for the CGC certificate. There is no charge for the class, but class size is limited and members of the church will be given priority. Please contact Gail Scoates at 309-310-3697 or email [ghscoates@gmail.com](mailto:ghscoates@gmail.com) to register.

## Thanks From Just One

Thank you, Wesley congregation, for the 41 blankets donated during the February Just One collection. Homeless residents at the Salvation Army and Home Sweet Home Mission truly appreciated the warmth you provided - in more ways than one. Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

# JUST ONE

Relay for Life has asked Wesley's Just One Ministry to help them collect dishwasher detergent pods to supply Hope Lodge in St Louis. For the month of April we will accept containers of dishwasher pods which will go directly to cancer patients and their families who stay free of charge at Hope Lodge during treatment.

Just One has a NEW wood donations box attached to our large collection box in the Garden Room hallway. This 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.

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## Upcoming Just One Collections -

May  
New or gently used children's books

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

WESLEY  
DISTRIBUTION  
MINISTRY

## Serving Our Community

- Submitted by Karen Daudelin

The third paper distribution on March 17, 2018 occurred on a cold, rainy day. Despite the fact that we don't open the doors until 9:30 AM, people began to gather at 7:30 AM. We watched the people come as we set up for the distribution and by the time we opened the door, there was a line stretched around Wesley West. Old, young, women, men, children they came to fill their bags with paper goods. One older man caught my attention as he stopped to greet me before getting his bag to begin his shopping. His name was "Pete" and he said he was shopping for himself and his wife. He was warmly dressed but had no hat to protect his head from the elements and no gloves to warm his hands. He did have a sunny disposition and seemed happy to be at Wesley West.

With his bag full, Pete headed for the door but once again stopped to talk to me. "I want to go into your big building sometime." I told him we would be happy to have him come to any of our worship services, Sunday School classes, or special events. "I know some of your members," Pete said. "Then you need to come," I replied. "I'm going to do that sometime," Pete said. With a warm thank you and a smile, he was out the door with a bag of paper goods to share with his wife.

We may see Pete back for our April 21st distribution. I hope we see him at worship before that.

## Wesley Distribution Ministry - Needs for April -

Size 4, 5 & 6 Diapers  
Disinfecting Wipes  
Band Aids  
Feminine Hygiene Items  
Paper plates



# ANCHORED Mess WITH Texas

I know, it should be “don’t mess with Texas”, but Anchored knows that there is still a BIG mess in Texas after Hurricane Harvey last August. They are ready to clean up the mess and help rebuild lives.

A mission trip to Victoria, Texas is being planned for this summer - **July 22-28, 2018.**

The trip is open to anyone post high school to 40 and will be in conjunction with UMCOR. The cost will be very minimal. More information to come. Contact Pastor Justin with questions at [jverson@wesley-umc.com](mailto:jverson@wesley-umc.com).

## Spring Rent-A-Youth

The youth of Wesley are here to help! On Saturday April 28th the youth will be holding our annual spring “Rent a Youth” service day. Whether it’s raking leaves, mowing the grass, mulching, washing windows, or other needs, Wesley youth are here to assist.

If you are interested in having them come to your house to help, sign up in the Garden Room on April 8, 15, or 22nd or contact Frank Newburn at the church by April 23rd. There is no charge for this service, but free will donations are gladly accepted and will go directly to youth missions for this summer.

## Trip to Serve

Saturday, April 21st Surge will be traveling to Naperville, Illinois to serve at Feed My Starving Children. For an afternoon Wesley youth will help put together packaged meals for kids in need around the world.

Feed My Starving Children is a Christian non-profit that provides nutritionally complete meals specifically formulated for malnourished children. Donations fund the meal ingredients, volunteers hand-pack the meals, meals are donated to those in need around the world.



## We Sure Filled the Sills

Throughout the month of February our eighth-grade junior high students served fifth-grade students at Irving School by collecting much needed personal hygiene products that were placed into health kits and given out during health class.

Sixty-eight kits and 608 products were collected and distributed for those students in need.

Thank you Wesley for your generosity!



## Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University

Did you know that 76% of Americans live paycheck to paycheck? Or that 64% of Americans can’t cover a \$1,000 emergency? This doesn’t have to be true for you! All you need is a practical plan for your money—and Financial Peace University IS that plan. In nine easy-to-follow lessons, you’ll learn how to get out of debt, create a budget, make wise spending decisions, save for the future, and so much more!

### Financial Peace University - Back at Wesley

Mondays April 2 - May 28

Leaders - Kathi Pritts and Missy O’Shea

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Contact Kathi Pritts for information or to register at [kpitts@wesley-umc.com](mailto:kpitts@wesley-umc.com).

[www.daveramsey.com/fpu](http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu)

**While supplies last we have class kits for \$50 - normally at least twice that price!**

# Christian Education Classes for All Ages all throughout the week

ADULTS - Sunday 10:15 - 11:00 AM

## The History of the Development of the Four Gospels

Richard Johnson, leader  
Conference Room

## Made for a Miracle

Book by Mike Slaughter  
Nancy Bollman, leader  
Lounge

## Forgotten God

Book by Frances Chan  
Pastor Justin Iverson, leader  
Lounge - begins April 8

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## STUDIES THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

### TUESDAY

#### Women's Bible Study

2017 Disciplines and Other Topics  
7:00 AM - Lounge

### WEDNESDAY

#### Men's Bible Study

**Boundaries: When to Say Yes,  
How to Say No to Take Control of  
Your Life** by Dr. Henry Cloud & Dr.  
John Townsend  
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

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## - Join us for Dinner -

Before the Wednesday study have  
dinner with your class and catch up  
or simply get to know each other.

Learning & Fellowship  
the two go hand-in-hand  
5:00 PM - Wesley Hall  
Wednesdays@Wesley

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Need Info on Classes?  
Contact Kathi Pritts  
kpritts@wesley-umc.com

## Children's Ministry

### Big News

Our preschoolers will learn BIG NEWS  
about Easter and the early church.

### Patience

In April our elementary kids will learn  
patience with stories about Easter and  
the road trip the Gospel has taken.

## Children's Easter Morning

Easter morning will be special for young  
children as they experience a high flying  
adventure during Children's Church time  
at both services. Children will follow  
Miss Kathi downstairs after Children's  
Time and "Rise Up with Jesus" - with the  
Easter story, games, crafts, egg hunts,  
treats, a bouncy house, and MORE!

## Adult March Study

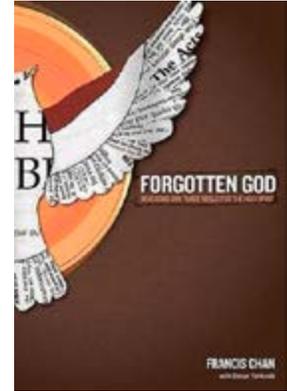
Sunday Morning Study

### Forgotten God

by Frances Chan

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM

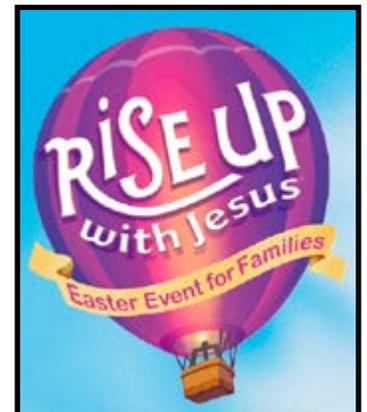
Lounge



In the name of the Father, the Son, and...  
the Holy Spirit. We pray in the name  
of all three, but how often do we live  
with an awareness of only the first two?  
As Jesus ascended into heaven, He  
promised to send the Holy Spirit - the  
Helper - so that we could be true and  
living witnesses for Christ. Unfortunately,  
today's church has admired the gift but  
neglected to open it.

Author Francis Chan gets at the true  
source of the church's power - the  
Holy Spirit. Chan contends that we've  
ignored the Spirit for far too long, and  
we are reaping the disastrous results.  
Chan invites us to stop and remember,  
the Spirit of the living God.

Join Pastor Justin when this class begins  
April 8th.





**WESLEY**

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Non-Profit Org.  
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Permit No. 103



**WESLEY**

# **RUMMAGE SALE**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 14**



**8:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

**INTERSTATE CENTER**

WESLEY-UMC.COM