

**Wesley United Methodist Church - Bloomington, Illinois**

**“Cultivate Your Faith” - July 12, 2020**

Greeting

Organ Prelude                      *The Peace may be exchanged*                      -Locklair  
Andrew Johnson, organ

Opening Prayer

Opening Song                      *Thrive*                      -Casting Crowns  
Matt Sherrill, guitar

Hymn UMH #395 *Take Time to Be Holy*

Children’s Time

Special Music                      *Crown Him with Many Crowns*                      -Elvey  
Cohen Boyd, violin; Killian Boyd, viola; and Kimberly Martin-Boyd, cello

Scripture Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (NRSV)

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. 6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 Let anyone with ears listen!”

18 “Hear then the parable of the sower. 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21 yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. 23 But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who

indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

Sermon

*Cultivate Your Faith*

Reverend Justin Iverson

Invitation to the Offering

Prayer Song

*Simple Gospel*

-United Pursuit

Matt Sherrill, guitar

The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Closing Hymn UMH #571 *Go, Make of All Disciples*

Announcements and Benediction

Worship Participants

Reverend Sara L. Isbell, Liturgist

Andrew Johnson, Organist

Matt Sherrill, Guitarist

Kathi Pritts, Children’s Time

Brenna Martin, Hymn Singer

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PHASE FOUR GUIDELINES FOR RE-ENTRY AT WESLEY CHURCH DURING PANDEMIC**

As of July 1, 2020, the State of Illinois has formally entered “Phase Four” of Governor Pritzker’s “Restore Illinois” and Bishop Beard’s “Coming Back to the Heart of Worship.” Phase Four allows churches and businesses to move toward a re-opening of facilities and a resumption of activities, within limits, and with careful observance of precautions proven to slow or reduce the spread of COVID-19. You can find the guidelines on our website at [www.wesley-umc.com](http://www.wesley-umc.com).

## **RACIAL JUSTICE CLASS BEGINS TODAY AT 10 AM (JULY 12<sup>th</sup>)**

Join Pastor Justin Iverson and Youth Director, Kelsey Ross for a 3-week study of Ijeoma Oluo's book, ***So You Want to Talk About Race***. This introduction to the topics of racism, white privilege, and racial justice is a New York Times bestseller and is on the 'Bonus Books' page of this year's UMW Reading Program catalog. While the book contains some strong language and challenging ideas, it is a helpful read for anyone wanting to broaden their understanding and work toward racial equality in the United States. We'll begin with a discussion of the first five chapters today and chapters 6-11 on Sunday, July 19. The link to join can be found on our website at [www.wesley-umc.com](http://www.wesley-umc.com).

## **RAISING WHITE KIDS STUDY CONTINUES – IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN!**

Join Kathi Pritts and other parents for a book study, ***Raising White Kids: Bringing Up Children in a Racially Unjust America***, to help children function well in a diverse nation. *Talking about race, privilege, and fear is not easy, but silence is not an option. The resources and tools offered in Jennifer Harvey's book will help parents creatively explore ways to have dialogue with their family, their church, and their community. Let's work together to become outposts of love.*

- **Sundays, 8:00-9:00 p.m. via zoom.**
- Purchase the book online or follow along without a book
- Kathi will send highlights of the reading each week that will be discussed.
- Please contact Kathi Pritts at [kpitts@wesley-umc.com](mailto:kpitts@wesley-umc.com) if you'd like to participate.

## **DONATIONS NEEDED FOR WESLEY DISTRIBUTION MINISTRY**

The following items are needed for the July 18 paper goods/food distribution: toilet paper, diapers (size 3T-4T, 4T, 5T, 4, 5), Dawn dish soap, and 2021 calendars. Items can be dropped off at Wesley West on July 13-16 from 1-4 pm.

## **SURGE AND YOUTH CHOIR PARENTS MEETING**

**As our church moves toward a "Phase 4" Covid model, Kelsey and Brenna are excited to offer some opportunities for in-person ministry with social distancing. Please plan to join us Wednesday, July 15th at 6:30 pm for a parent zoom meeting to discuss our plans. Contact Brenna at [bmartin@wesley-umc.com](mailto:bmartin@wesley-umc.com) or Kelsey at [kross@wesley-umc.com](mailto:kross@wesley-umc.com) to be included in the zoom invitation. (Or you can find the link in the July 13<sup>th</sup> *Alive* e-newsletter)**

## **JOB OPENINGS**

Wesley UMC is seeking applicants for organist and video editor. Additional information and application process can be found on our website at [www.wesley-umc.com](http://www.wesley-umc.com).

Wesley's Bright Beginnings Preschool is seeking applicants for a teaching assistant for the 3-day 2-year-old class for the 2020-2021 school year. Please submit letter of intent and resume to [wesleysbrightbeginnings@gmail.com](mailto:wesleysbrightbeginnings@gmail.com)

## **CHILDREN AND YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES**

Looking for some summer fun? We are still providing opportunities to connect with our elementary children and youth. Following are some things you might like to try:

- SUNDAYS, Children K-5 can join online fun at 11 am via Zoom. Contact Miss Kathi at [kprittts@wesley-umc.com](mailto:kprittts@wesley-umc.com) to sign up to receive a link to all the fun. Kids will enjoy videos, science experiments, and crafts.
- WEDNESDAYS, Youth Grades 6-12 can join SURGE online via Google Classroom. Please use classroom code "jtsrquh" to log in. Contact Kelsey Ross with questions at [kross@wesley-umc.com](mailto:kross@wesley-umc.com)

## **PRAYER WITH THE PASTOR**

Sundays 4-5 pm – All are welcome. We want to be available to you during this time, not just to pray *for* you, but to pray *with* you. If you have prayer requests, joys or concerns, let's bring them to the altar together (virtually) Sunday afternoons by Zoom. Pastor Sara will meet you there and we'll pray together for each other, our families, community, nation and world. The Zoom link can be found in the June 12 *Alive* e-newsletter. (**Meeting ID: 926 3446 4078; Password: 628292**)