



August 2018

News Of Wesley



Sunday, August 19th come to Wesley and be welcomed.

Hello & Welcome.
Come on in.
Enjoy Wesley's services. Shake hands with the greeters at the door. Chat with your neighbors in the pew.

Make yourself at home. FEEL WELCOME.

Then starting at 10:00 AM, between our two services, prepare to **WELCOME** in a new **WESLEY SUNDAY SCHOOL** year!

Welcome to Wesley Sunday

Experience a Sunday School Open House - For ALL Ages

- visit classrooms
- meet teachers
- learn about classes offered
- browse the Wesley Ministry Fair
- join a building-wide scavenger hunt
- play games
- eat treats
- enjoy Wesley fellowship
- feel **WELCOME!**

The Wesley Ministry Fair

Various Wesley ministries will be featured throughout the building. Visit their locations and learn from a member of their team. You are more than **WELCOME** to join in, get involved, make a difference!



It's all happening Sunday, August 19 - don't miss the fun!

Also mark your calendar for **Wednesday, August 29** - the first night of Wednesdays@Wesley. Learn more about that on Welcome to Wesley Sunday.

At Wesley you are always welcome!



NOW
NEWS OF WESLEY

Give That New Thing a Try ...yes, even when wobbly

"So continue encouraging each other and building each other up, just like you are doing already."

- 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (CEB)

Ready for a good laugh? I've been out on Constitution Trail re-learning to rollerblade!

You should see me. I look like a fawn that's just learning to walk. Frankly, it's pitiful. But I'm enjoying it! And though it's not been an easy process (my balance isn't what it used to be), it's been surprisingly fun and I feel like I'm getting better at it. I think one of these days I may even be able to stop without running into the grass! Okay, you can stop laughing now...

It's fun setting a new goal, or as in my case, re-learning an old skill. But sometimes attempting something new can make us feel out of our comfort zone. And then it can become easy for fear to convince us that the new thing really isn't worth the hassle.

This is where having a good friend comes in handy. Knowing someone will encourage you when you're afraid only fuels the passion that drove you to pursue your new dream in the first place. In my case, I'm fortunate that Kimberly is not only a good encourager, but she's also a good catch when I get a bit wobbly!

So, what have you got to be afraid of? What new thing have you been waiting to try? God created a big world and put even bigger dreams in your heart. Give whatever it is a go. You can do it!

See you on the trails,
Pastor Justin

The Happy Couple

Congratulations to Sydney Hunt & Jacob Harman who were married at Wesley on Saturday, July 21st. Wedding Blessings!

Welcome Little One

Edison Michael Bradley born to Emily and Jeremy Bradley. Edison is being well looked after by siblings Cameron and Lucy (6 year-old twins) and Rory (2 years-old). Welcome Edison!



Please help Reverend Sara and Andy Isbell learn your name. If you have a permanent name tag...put it on Sunday! If you don't, please grab a temporary one from the basket on the Welcome Center desk. While at the Welcome Center you may order a permanent name tag for \$5. Wearing a name tag every Sunday helps visitors, new members, and forgetful members (we are all guilty) to not only learn your name, but feel comfortable to wear a name tag too. It helps all feel welcome.

Isbell Answers

Did you play "Isbell Answers", our informational "game" to get to know Reverend Sara and Andy Isbell? In case you missed the answers in the July 1st bulletin, below are the questions to our supplied answers that could be spotted in June bulletins, the Alive e-newsletters, and the July NOW. Hopefully you guessed the question to fit the provided "answer" for Sara or Andy. Check out your questions:

- VEGETARIAN

What is Sara's food preference? But Andy is a meat-eater.

- AIR FORCE BRAT

How would Andy characterize his childhood rearing? He's used to this moving thing.

- UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Where did Sara and Andy both get their undergrad degrees? English and Engineering.

And this is the answer to another question -

Where is Andy the official "Voice of the Marching Illini" and the announcer for the Illini Women's Volleyball team?

- ANOTHER WESLEY UNITED METHODIST

Where did Sara and Andy first meet? Believe it or NOT!

- EXTROVERT AND INTROVERT

How would you describe Sara and Andy? Yes, Sara is the extrovert!

- TWO AND TWO

How many kids do you have? Two adult children and two childish cats.

- BARBERSHOP CHORUS, PIANO, TRUMPET, FLUGEL HORN, FRENCH HORN, AND FLUTE

Does the Isbell family sing or play musical instruments? Wesley IS a musical church, after all.

- HER DAD, AND HE DID TOO

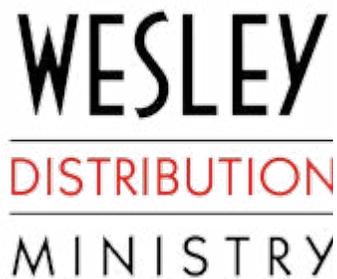
Who inspired Sara to become a preacher and get her MDiv at Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary at Northwestern?

Wesley Financial Update

General fund receipts as of 6/30/18	\$ 661,688
General fund expenses as of 6/30/18	655,090
Surplus	\$ 6,598

Timing of expenses was the main cause of a shortage of funds in June, and we are thankful there was a surplus built up earlier in the year to cover it. The above surplus of \$6,598 may not carry us through the summer, but we have faith that giving will increase in time for fall activities. Meanwhile, please remember to check the giving statements that were mailed earlier this month to see if you are on target with your commitment for 2018. If you have fallen behind, this would be a great time to catch up. Thank you for your faithful support of all of Wesley's ministries!

- Myrna Simpson, Business Administrator



WDM Dedication Celebration

Saturday, August 18 - 11:30 AM
Wesley West
Ribbon Cutting - Lunch - Games

Bloomington support agencies had a need. They serve families who might not have access to basic paper goods. Wesley United Methodist Church had a new facility with a large storage area in a big basement - Wesley West. The two needs appeared to mesh seamlessly.

So a little over a year ago a few of Wesley's Church and Society Committee members mapped out a way to provide household paper products for families in need and created Wesley Distribution Ministry (WDM). Partnering with the Midwest Food Bank, they began collecting paper products including: paper towels, toilet paper, diapers, wipes, and paper feminine hygiene products for monthly distribution. Families from The Baby Fold and elementary schools with social workers serving low income families throughout the Bloomington-Normal area, were told that products were available the third Saturday of every month at Wesley West.

A good idea that turned into a life-changing ministry. And word spread.

"We opened up our first distribution in January 2018 to anyone in need. We had 24 families that first distribution. We are now serving over 125 families representing some 500 family members. And we anticipate the ministry growing even more."

- Karen Daudelin, Wesley Distribution Ministry, Lead

Wesley will officially dedicate this ministry on Saturday, August 18 at Wesley West. The monthly distribution begins 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM. The dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony begins at 11:30 AM. A free lunch of hot dogs, chips, and cookies will be served afterwards. The community will be invited. **Come celebrate and learn how you can get involved in this life-changing experience!**

Dates to Note

- **Sunday, August 5**
NO Sunday School
Junior High Mission Trip Departs
- **Sunday, August 12**
NO Sunday School
United Methodist Women's Sunday
- **Monday, August 13**
NOW September Edition Deadline
- **Tuesday, August 14**
Anchored Serves at Safe Harbor
- **Wednesday, August 15**
Senior High Kickoff Pool Party
- **Thursday, August 16**
Youth Serves at Safe Harbor
- **Friday, August 17**
Youth Cabinet Retreat
- **Saturday, August 18**
Wesley Distribution Ministry - 9:30 AM
WDM Dedication Celebration - 11:30 AM
- **Sunday, August 19**
Welcome to Wesley Sunday
Sunday School Open House - 10:00 AM
- **Wednesday, August 22**
Youth Family Night - 6:30 PM
- **Wednesday, August 29**
Wednesdays@Wesley Begins - 5:00 PM
- **Monday, September 3**
Labor Day - Wesley Offices Closed

LOL Circle

LOL ladies will meet for lunch on August 6 at 11:30 AM at the Pizza Ranch.

Our monthly service project will be at the Children's Home and Aid on August 20 from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. We will then meet at Denny's for lunch at 11:30 AM.

It's not too late to join our fun and charity work! Email Elaine Stokes at estokes65@gmail.com.

Hope Circle

September 13 at 6:30 PM will be the first meeting after summer break.

Unafraid by Adam Hamilton will be the study book. If you need a book, contact Robin Rinker at rinker_robin@comcast.net.

Saturday, September 15 come and bring friends to help with the WDM distribution at Wesley West. We need 20 people.

GEMS

GEMS will continue to meet in the summer at the home of Missy Dundov. They are studying "Mom Set Free". Childcare is \$3/child.

August dates are 8/13 and 8/27.

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

Wesley Clothing for Sale

The Church and Society Committee has chosen a few items of clothing to sell with the Wesley logo. This effort is starting slow with just a few items to ensure that our process with partner, The Harlan Vance Company, is seamless...no pun intended.

T-shirts will be available for purchase in the Garden Room between services on Sunday, July 29, August 5, and August 12. Oxford shirt samples will be available to view and order. After these three Sundays shirt orders will be taken online or via a print form (available at the Welcome Center). The print form should be returned to Project Lead, Steve Bute.

Sales of adult shirts will be offered first. We hope to be able to add children's clothing and more items in time. Help us get this started!



T-SHIRTS -

Blue is the only color available in this quality shirt. A white Wesley logo is screen printed on the front. All adult sizes are available. Shirts are \$10 each.

This low price is possible by ordering these shirts as a bulk order. When there are 36 shirts requested a bulk order will be made to our supplier. Payment for shirts will be made to Steve Bute upon pickup at the church on Sunday's between services. You will be notified once they are available.



DRESS SHIRTS | OXFORD -

Dress shirts with embroidered logo will have prices ranging \$25 - \$30 depending on size and selection. These are available in all sizes and various colors. These are ordered on an individual basis and are not bulk orders. Once ordered payment and pickup will be at The Harlan Vance Company, 1741 West Hovey Avenue, Normal, IL.

For more information, to download a print order form, or to order shirts online, go to www.wesley-umc.com/clothing. Contact Steve Bute with questions - sbute@gmail.com. See you in the Garden Room between services 7/29, 8/5 & 8/12 to shop and buy!

Wesley, Can You Help? This is a Test...

We need your help. To properly test the McLean County Health Department's ability to quickly and efficiently dispense medications to McLean County residents in the event of a large-scale public health emergency, we need to test our procedures in a simulated emergency environment. We are reaching out to Wesley in hopes that you would like to volunteer.

The full-scale exercise will be held at ISU Redbird Arena from 8:15 AM until 12 noon on Friday, September 14th. Volunteers must be 18 years of age or older and will be expected to participate in the exercise for the entire duration of the shift selected.

To learn more go to health.mcleancountyil.gov. You can also contact Wesley member, Tory Lynch-Dahmm at tlynch@chestnut.org.

"Our Conference Our Kids" Baseball

The Illinois Great Rivers Conference is hosting "Holy Baseball" - fundraising games to support "Our Conference Our Kids". The last game:

Sunday, August 12

The Corncrib
1000 Raab Rd.
Normal, IL
worship - 5:05 PM | game - 6:05 PM

To order tickets for this game call
309-454-2255.

All tickets are \$10

**MAKE SURE YOU MENTION IGRC FOR
50% DONATION FOR OUR KIDS**



2019 Holy Land Trip

I invite you to join me on an 11-Day "Journey through the Bible" program March 5-15, 2019 that will expand our knowledge of the Bible and this sacred land. This Holy Land journey will follow 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".

For more information go to www.wesley-umc.com or contact me at jiverson@wesley-umc.com to join the trip. Save the date and bring a friend!

- Pastor Justin

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:

Reverend Sara L. Isbell (217) 299-4870
Reverend Justin Iverson (701) 809-1203



Back to Preschool

Wesley's Bright Beginnings preschool is gearing up for the 2018-2019 school year. Our director, board, and teachers are busy making plans for an exciting year of learning and play.

Thursday, August 30 - WBB Parent Orientation - 6:30 PM

Tuesday, September 4 - WBB One-Hour Visit Day - all classes

Wednesday, September 5 - WBB First Full Day

Our preschool is looking for lead teachers/assistants for the 2018-2019 school year. Responsibilities include planning and implementing developmentally appropriate practices and curriculum for a play based program. If interested please provide a letter of intent and a resume to Director Julie Loy at wesleybrightbeginnings@gmail.com.

Currently we have some openings in our - Toddlers, Threes, and Multi-age (Threes & Fours) classes. Contact Julie Loy at the email above if you have a preschooler you would like to enroll or you know of someone interested.

Spread the word about this amazing program!



New and gently used children's underwear and sweatpants sizes 4-12 will be collected for Just One during the month of August. Donations will be distributed to those in need by the Church and Society Committee.

Upcoming items to watch for on sale in the coming months are:

September - Diapers for Adults and Children

October - New and gently used coats sizes infant through teen

November - Thanksgiving Bags : canned goods and non-perishable foods

December - New school supplies, 24 count crayons, markers, pencils

Thank you for your continued generosity, Wesley Congregation!



Memphis Blues? Not for Wesley Senior Highers

Our Senior High just returned from Memphis, TN where they spent a week dedicated to mission work and enriching their faith walk. They partnered with area churches to help with local home construction and repair projects in their community and also helping with local after school ministries and homeless shelters.

SENIOR MISSION TRIP 2018 - THE IMPACT IN THE SENIOR'S OWN WORDS

I was challenged throughout this trip with God wanting me to challenge myself and travel outside my comfort zone. I developed relationships with God and with everyone on the trip that I'll surely never forget.

- Nolan Anderson

Through this week God has helped me become okay with and embrace changes happening in my life. He helped me finally accept them and move past them.

- Dana Siverly

During the trip, God challenged me to hang out and talk to people who aren't my core. He also showed me that we truly don't deserve His grace.

- Jacob Tomera

During the trip, I got closer to a lot of people who I wasn't really close to. I also grew in my faith and got closer to Him.

- Austin Neal

While on the mission trip, God made it clear to me how important it is to obey Him without hesitation and how you can use difficult times in your life to grow spiritually and expand His kingdom.

- Kendall Gerber

During the trip, God pushed me to use the confidence I've always had to talk to strangers that I have never met before. Creating bonds with them and also with Him through praying and listening.

- Sara Lizakowski

MORE PICTURES ON - THE BACK COVER -



Surge Summer Study

There is **NO SURGE** on Wednesday, August 8th as we take a week off to prepare for the new school year.

Surge Fall Kick-off -

Surge will be officially kicking-off our new year on Wednesday, August 15 at the Oakridge Gazebo in Bloomington (604 Chelsea Dr). Bring a side dish OR dessert OR chips PLUS your swimsuit/towel/change of clothes (there is a pool!). We will have various games and activities available and will be welcoming our new sixth graders to Surge on this night. Our event will run from 6:00-8:00 PM. If it rains we will be at the church.

Surge Family Night -

On Wednesday August 22nd we are inviting all students and PARENTS of students who will attend Surge this year to our Family Night from 6:15-8:00 PM in Wesley Hall. From 6:15-7:00 PM we will have activities and information for both students and parents and have a chance to meet both our adult volunteer leaders and our student leaders for the year. From 7:00-8:00 PM students will go to their small groups and parents will have the chance to hear from Frank and Stacy about what's coming up this year at Surge. We hope to see many of you there!

ANCHORED

Anchored will be meeting at 7:00 PM on August 8th at Wesley West to discuss our summer study - "The Orthodox Heretic" by Peter Rollins.

Tuesday, August 14 this group of 20/30 year-olds will serve at Safe Harbor.

Anchored will meet weekly once again when W@W resumes on Wednesday, August 29. Check out this group and join us as we walk deeper in faith.



Christian Education Classes for All Ages throughout the week

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL -

Sunday, July 29 - VBS
Sunday, August 5
Sunday, August 12

WELCOME TO WESLEY SUNDAY

Sunday, August 19
Sunday School Open House
- meet teachers - games - treats -

ADULTS - Sunday 10:15 - 11:00 AM

Journey Through the Bible - Book of Acts

Richard Johnson, leader
Conference Room

Everybody, Always

Book by Bob Goff
Lounge - begins August 26

STUDIES THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

TUESDAY

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

- Wednesdays@Wesley -

W@W will resume after summer break
on Wednesday, August 29.

Children's Ministry

God's way is perfect
Our preschoolers will learn that
God's way is always perfect.

Wisdom

In August our elementary kids will
learn all about wisdom.

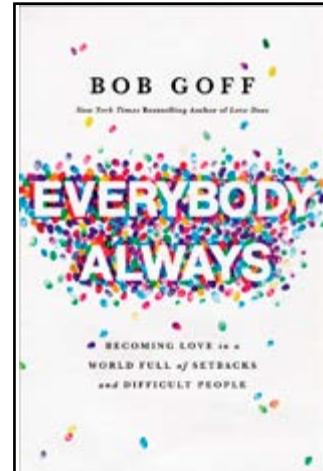
Wednesdays@Wesley Study
Half Truths by Adam Hamilton
led by Stephanie Hoy - 8/29
location and time TBD

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

New Sunday Study

- Starts August 26 -

Adult Study in the Lounge



In *Everybody, Always*, author Bob Goff's eagerly awaited follow-up to *Love Does*, he reveals what happens when we stop worrying about a challenging world full of difficult people and instead simply love them: we discover the outsized, unfettered, liberated existence we've always dreamed of.

Built around Bob's hilarious and insightful storytelling, each chapter reveals a lesson Bob learned--often the hard way--about what it means to love without inhibition, insecurity, or restriction.

Legacy Journey Study

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.

Leaders - James Ingold and Kelly Snyder
Wednesdays beginning September 5

Contact Kathi if you are interested and would like to order a study kit.

Contact Kathi Pritts
Director of Christian Education
for more information
kpritts@wesley-umc.com





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Wesley Missions - Making a Difference

Welcome home Wesley Men's Mission Team (Honduras) and Wesley Senior High Mission Team (Memphis, Tennessee)! Your dedication and service to our brothers and sisters in the US and beyond demonstrated the love of Christ. We are glad that you are safely home, we hope you had a faith-building experience, and we thank you for representing Wesley so admirably.

