

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

**Re-Charge with PRAYER – January 17, 2020**

Greeting

Organ Prelude

*Just as I Am* arr. William Bradbury

Craig Deets, organist

Call to Worship from Psalm 145:18

**“The Lord is near to all who call upon him, who call upon him in truth”**

Opening Prayer

Opening Song

*Open the Eyes of My Heart* (Paul Boloche)

Matt Sherrill, guitar

Children’s Time

Special Music

*Simple Gospel* (United Pursuit)

Matt Sherrill, guitar

Scriptures

Matthew 6:5-12 (NRSV)

<sup>5</sup>“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup>But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. <sup>7</sup>“When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. <sup>8</sup>Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. <sup>9</sup>“Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. <sup>10</sup>Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. <sup>11</sup>Give us this day our daily bread. <sup>12</sup>And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Romans 8:26-27 (NRSV)

<sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup> And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Sermon

*Spiritual Re-Set: Re-Charge with PRAYER*

Reverend Sara L. Isbell

Pastoral Prayer: Ignatian Spirituality

Ignatian Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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.**

Prayer Hymn UMH #496 *Sweet Hour of Prayer*

Invitation to the Offering – Human Relations Day

Closing Hymn UMH #395 *Take Time to Be Holy*

Announcements and Benediction

Worship Participants

Reverend Sara L. Isbell, Senior Pastor

Reverend Justin Iverson, Associate Pastor

Craig Deets, Organist

Matt Sherrill, Guitarist

Kathi Pritts, Children's Time

Brenna Martin, Hymn Singer

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **EPIPHANY: SPIRITUAL RE-SET**

The New Year brings us a fresh opportunity to start anew and re-center with purpose and intention. Whether you are a person who likes to make "New Year's Resolutions" or not, our

Epiphany Series, ***Spiritual Re-Set***, will help you get your spiritual life and relationship with the God who loves and empowers you, back on track.

Join us in January and February as we:

- Renew Our Covenant (Jan. 3)
- Remember Our Baptism (Jan. 10)
- Recharge through Prayer (Jan. 17)
- Reconnect with Scripture (Jan. 24)
- Refresh through Generosity (Jan. 31)
- Re-energize through Service (Feb. 7)
- Revive our Witness (Feb. 14)

Better yet, you don't have to do this on your own. COVID has been a lonely season, but the Church is about Community. If the year 2020 wore you out, a short-term sermon series, paired with the support of a small **Covenant Group**, will help get you back on track! Join together with a group of 6-12 friends for a weekly uplift. **Covenant groups** pray for each other, encourage each other, and help each other remember to trust in God.

Choose your own group – maybe a small group you're already part of, maybe a few friends you miss seeing at church. Or contact [Kathi Pritts](#) to be connected with some new friends. You can find the meeting plan attached [here](#). For more information contact [Kathi Pritts](#) or [Pastor Sara](#) .

## **“LOVE GOD, LOVE NEIGHBOR, LOVE YOU” - STEWARDSHIP UPDATE**

Thanks to the generosity of so many faithful members, we have received 203 “Love God, Love Neighbor, Love You” commitment cards, representing \$833,920 for the coming year's ministries. That brings us to about 64% of our budget goal of \$1.3M. *Thank you, Wesley, for your generosity!*

Your Ad Council and Finance Committee will meet this month to determine next steps. If you have any questions or would like to submit a commitment card, please contact Myrna Simpson ([msimpson@wesley-umc.com](mailto:msimpson@wesley-umc.com)) or Pastor Sara ([sisbell@wesley-umc.com](mailto:sisbell@wesley-umc.com)). We'd love to hear from you!

Commitment cards may be submitted in any of the following ways:

1. Mail your commitment card to 502 E. Front St., Bloomington IL 61701
2. Use the electronic commitment card found at here (<https://www.wesley-umc.com/2020/10/2021-commitment-card/>)
3. E-mail our Business Manager, Myrna Simpson at [msimpson@wesley-umc.com](mailto:msimpson@wesley-umc.com)

Drop off the commitment card in a sealed envelope at the church Monday – Friday, 9am-3 pm.

## **TODAY IS HUMAN RELATIONS DAY**

One of six churchwide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church, **Human Relations Day** gives us an opportunity to make an impact in communities where people struggle because they don't have the tools or resources to reach their God-given potential. During the challenges of the past year, we have seen how systemic inequality affects the most vulnerable people. When neighbors experience poverty and live in communities that have less access to community resources, as a denomination, we can do so much more together than we could ever do on our own. Our gifts are part of building beloved community through faith-based volunteer programs, community developers and programs that work with at-risk teens. As society begins to recover from this health and financial crisis, these programs are vital in strengthening communities that are most impacted.

You may give by writing a check to Wesley UMC with "HRD" written on the memo line or click [here](https://www.wesley-umc.com/give/) to give online. ( <https://www.wesley-umc.com/give/> )

## **PAINT THE TOWN WESLEY: ALL - CHURCH WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAM**

Wesley UMC is finding new ways to do ministry during Phase 4 of COVID-19. Please plan to join us every Wednesday evening.

Our upcoming PTTW events are accessible to everyone and invite our artistic expression, while affirming what we believe and hope for:

### **Wednesday, January 20 – Peace Poles**

Join us on January 20th as we make Peace Poles for your front porch! In this season of uncertainty, we hope to spread the message of God's prevailing peace on earth by adorning our front porches with a message of hope. Swing by Wesley West to get your materials between 6-7pm then join us via zoom for a step-by-step tutorial together at 7!

### **Wednesday, January 27 – "Easier than Bob Ross Paint Night"**

Join Kathi Pritts on zoom at 6 pm to paint/draw a picture of Wesley's stained glass windows. It will actually be more like coloring with sharpies. Kathi will walk you through the process and provide supplies. For \$3 per person or \$5 per family you can end up with your very own reminder or reminders of our beloved sanctuary for your worship and study space until we can get back to it. Contact Kathi Pritts at [kpitts@wesley-umc.com](mailto:kpitts@wesley-umc.com) to get the zoom link and supplies for this activity. NO SPECIAL SKILLS ARE NEEDED.

## **STUDY OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS**

### ***Everybody Always***

*Everybody Always* by popular author Bob Goff will be offered each week beginning January 19th. What happens when we give away love like we're made of it? In his entertaining and inspiring book, Bob Goff takes readers on a journey into the secret of living without fear, constraint, or worry. In *Everybody Always*, Bob shows us the simple truths that:

- it's easy to love kind, lovely, humble people, but you have to tackle fear to love people who are difficult;
- dark and scary places are filled with beautiful people who need our unconditional love; and
- extravagant love has extraordinary power to change lives, including your own.

The study will meet for five weeks on Tuesday evenings, 6-7 pm beginning January 19<sup>th</sup>. Contact [kpitts@wesley-umc.com](mailto:kpitts@wesley-umc.com) for more information and the zoom link.

### **Wednesday Men's Group**

In January (Wednesdays at noon) the men's group will study ***Words of Life: Jesus and the Promises of the Ten Commandments Today***. In this book of scripture and inspiration, bestselling author Adam Hamilton brings modern eyes to the most famous set of rules in history, recovering the Ten Commandments as more than just a set of onerous prohibitions. He considers the commandments in their historical context, unpacking the meaning of each commandment in Hebrew, how Jesus reinterpreted them, and how Jews and Christians have understood them over the millennia. He also explores how the latest research in science and psychology illuminates these commandments, rightly understood as a way of ordering one's life beautifully in the present day. In a culture marked by workaholism, materialism, and social media-driven envy, God has given us a time-tested path that leads to gratitude, confidence, and peace. Contact Greg Yount to get the zoom link. [gyount@cbcregroup.com](mailto:gyount@cbcregroup.com)

## **SURGE-YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES**

SURGE will continue to meet online until further notice. All youth from 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join our zoom meeting at 6:00 pm on Sundays for a game until 6:30, then small group lessons until 7:00. We are continuing with our "Bonfires of Belonging" series for this school year and invite EVERYONE in 6th-12th grade to join us and be a part of our Surge family!

Click this link to join <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88264297419>

Please feel free to reach out to Kelsey with any questions or concerns 618-558-0748 or via e-mail: [kross@wesley-umc.com](mailto:kross@wesley-umc.com)

## **WESLEY DISTRIBUTION MINISTRY NEEDS**

The following items are needed for the monthly paper goods distribution:

- Diapers – sizes: newborn, 4, 5, 6
- Depends (men & women)
- Feminine hygiene items (pads)
- Pens
- Scarves
- Ear warmers

You may drop off the items in the collection box located at the entrance door of Wesley West at any time, Monday - Friday. Monetary donations are welcome!

CLICK HERE (<https://www.wesley-umc.com/give/>) to give online (be sure to note WDM in the memo) OR mail to the church at: 502 E. Front Street, Bloomington, IL 61701

## **JANUARY JUST ONE COLLECTION FOR CARLE BROMENN COMPASSION CLOSET**

Church & Society Committee has selected the Compassion Closet at Carle BroMenn Hospital as the January *Just One* Project. When accident victims are ready to be released, they frequently do not have anything to wear. The Compassion Closet collects and provides sweat clothes to meet this need.

Current needs:

- New Adult sweatpants & sweatshirts – sizes small, medium, large
- Monetary gifts are also accepted – please be sure to mark your donation with the notation: *Just One Project*.

Donations can be dropped off during the month of January in the collection box that can be found outside the East entry of the church on Tuesdays, 10 am – 2 pm and Thursdays, 2 pm – 6 pm.

## **UNITY SERVICE FOR MLK DAY TO BE HELD TODAY**

The Three Rivers Parish (Pleasant Grove, Ellsworth and Colfax UMC's) and East Alton First UMC will host a virtual Unity Service in observance of Martin Luther King Day today at 4 p.m. Bishop Frank J. Beard, episcopal leader of the Illinois Area, will be the guest speaker for the event. Pastor Bobby Davis is the host pastor along with Pastor Ken Burgard of Downs UMC and Pastor

Ed Granadosin of East Alton First UMC.

Click [here](#) to join the service today (January 17) at 4:00 p.m. There will be a running chat function during this service where people can greet one another, share prayer requests, or comment as they watch.

If you are not able to join today, click [here](#) to view the service on YouTube at any time.

## **COVID-19 MITIGATION UPDATE**

Governor Pritzker and Bishop Beard have announced a return to “Tier 2” mitigations in the Restore Illinois/Back to the Heart of Worship COVID recovery plans for our area.

**For Wesley UMC this means we may return to welcoming 10 persons or less** for funerals, weddings, committee meetings, small groups, etc., and that staff may return to covering building accessibility from 9-3 Monday through Friday.

Conversations regarding the lifting of further restrictions will be the purview of the **newly-formed Re-Entry Task Force**, which includes members of Administrative Council, the Coronavirus Response Team, and staff. The Re-Entry Task Force is led by Administrative Council Chair, Thay Sutimek, and will be meeting soon to explore our options. We do not plan to exceed the permissions granted by Bishop Beard or IDPH.

For additional information, check our website, [www.wesley-umc.com](http://www.wesley-umc.com).