

Wesley United Methodist Church – Bloomington, Illinois
Spiritual Re-Set: Revive our Witness – February 14, 2021

Greeting

Organ Prelude

Dialogue on “O Waly Waly” and “Finlandia” (arr. Cooper)

Craig Deets, organist

Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 19.1, 14 NRSV)

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord our strength and our redeemer.

Invocation

Opening Hymn UMH #73 *O Worship the King* vs. 1, 2, 4, and 5

Children’s Time

Special Music

I’m Going to Sing When the Spirit Says Sing (arr. Krug)

Bells of Wesley

Scripture Romans 10:10-15 (NRSV)

For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confessed with the mouth and so it saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written. “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Sermon

Spiritual Re-Set: Revive our Witness

Reverend Sara L. Isbell

Prayer Song

Oceans (Where Feet May Fail) (Hillsong)

Matt Sherrill, guitar

The 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.

Invitation to and Blessing of the Offering

Closing Hymn UMH #156 / *Love to Tell the Story*

Announcements & Benediction

Going Forth to Witness Song

Send Me Out (Steve Fee)

Matt Sherrill, guitar

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 and Ron Kieseewetter, Hymn Singers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING COLLECTION TODAY

The Souper Bowl of Caring collection will take place today, February 14th. SURGE Youth are planning to be at Wesley West collecting loose change for Safe Harbor from 10-11 am! Take time to drive through, donate, see the SURGE students, and help provide meals for the hungry!

LENT 2021: WANDERING IN THE WILDERNESS AND WHAT WE LEARNED THERE

Join Wesley Church as we remember a journey, long ago, traveled by Moses and the Israelites as they made their way through a never-ending wilderness and toward the Promised Land. The

journey is adaptable to whatever COVID sends us and can be engaged entirely from home. You may be surprised to learn that the Lessons of the Wilderness are still true today! We will use a devotional booklet, items from a Lent kit, and worship experiences to guide us on the journey. For additional information visit our website, www.wesley-umc.com, and our weekly e-newsletter, *Alive* publication.

A LENT KIT prepared especially for you, to provide hands-on connections to our weekly worship and daily devotions can be picked up at Wesley West during the following dates and times:

- 4:30pm-6:00pm, Monday February 15th
- 11:00am—12:00 pm, Tuesday, Feb 16th
- 4:30pm-6:00pm, Wednesday Feb 17th

You can also call the church office at (309) 827-8046 and ask for a Lent Kit to be delivered to you.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE, FEBRUARY 17

The service will feature harpist Rex Moore and a time for the imposition of ashes on your own forehead. If you'd like ashes for the service, stop by Wesley West to pick up a Lent Kit during one of the times listed above. The worship service will be posted to our website, www.wesley-umc.com by 6:00 pm.

WILDERNESS THEMED LENTEN SACRED SPACE CENTERPIECE

Join us in creating a Wilderness themed Lenten Sacred Space, a place where you can sit each day to pray and spend time in personal devotion. More details will be shared during the Ash Wednesday service, but in the meantime, you are invited to create a centerpiece for your own Lenten Sacred Space. Follow this [link](#) for ideas on creating a "Wilderness" themed centerpiece.

2021 LENTEN OFFERING

Make an impact in the lives of people around the world by giving to the 2021 Missions Lenten Offering. This offering will support the work of the following projects and missions:

- *Africa University Scholarships*
- *Central Conference Pastor Pension Fund, El Porvenir – Clean Water for Nicaragua*
- *Mid-West Mission Distribution*
- *Our Conference Our Kids (OCOK) Endowment*
- *United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)*
- *UM Ganta Hospital – Liberia*
- *UM Kissy Clinic - Sierra Leone*

Check our [website](#), for additional details on each recipient and to [give online](#). You may also mail donations to Wesley UMC, 502 E Front, Bloomington, IL 61701 – be sure to mark your check “Lenten Offering”. Give as you can. Every donation is appreciated.

STUDY OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS

NEW STUDY! *The Miracles of Jesus*

Join Barb Phend for a study of *The Miracles of Jesus* by Jessica LaGrone. The class will meet via Zoom on Thursdays at 1:00 pm. The study looks at the definition and history of biblical miracles such as healing the sick, casting out demons, raising the dead, and how the miracles speak to us today in our times of difficulty and desperation. Contact kpitts@wesley-umc.com for the zoom link.

NEW STUDY! *Moses*

A Lenten study, *Moses* by Adam Hamilton begins February 23. Turn your reluctance into boldness by walking in the footsteps of Moses.

It doesn't get much more dramatic: rescued baby, life in the courts of Pharaoh, parting the Red Sea, leading his people out of Egypt...Moses' life was one challenge after the next. Although he resisted God's calling, by the end of his life he successfully fulfilled the role he was given. As Hamilton shares historical information, archaeological data, and biblical text, you'll gain a better understanding of Moses' significance in your life today, and you'll discover how you, too, can turn your own reluctance into boldness.

This 6-week study meets on Tuesday nights, 6-7 pm beginning March 23. Contact Kathi Pitts kpitts@wesley-umc.com to get a book and the link to join.

Wednesday Men's Group

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 workaholicism, 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

PAINT THE TOWN WESLEY: ALL - CHURCH PROGRAM

Wesley UMC is finding new ways to do ministry during Phase 4 of COVID-19. Please plan to join our upcoming events. All events are accessible to everyone.

Wednesday, February 17 – Ash Wednesday Service

Join us on Wednesday, February 17th at 6:00pm for Ash Wednesday worship online. The service will feature harpist Rex Moore and a time for the imposition of ashes on your own forehead. If you'd like ashes for the service, stop by Wesley West to pick up a Lent Kit at one of these times:

- 4:30pm-6:00pm, Monday, February 15th
- 11:00am-12:00pm, Tuesday, February 16th
- 4:30pm-6:00pm, Wednesday, February 17th

CAMPING REGISTRATION FOR THIS SUMMER IS OFFICIALLY OPEN!

Specific details about summer programming are yet to be announced, but we can assure you that the Conference is taking all steps necessary to keep everyone safe this summer. If you have an interest in having your child attend camp this summer, please consider registering them early to reserve a spot. Link for registration: <https://igrc.campbrainregistration.com/>

If you have any questions about summer programming at our Conference, please reach out to Kelsey at kross@wesley-umc.com.

WESLEY DISTRIBUTION MINISTRY NEEDS FOR FEBRUARY 20

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

- Diapers – sizes: 5, 6, 4T-5T
- Facial tissues
- Baby wipes

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

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please go to (<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

JUST ONE COLLECTION FOR FEBRUARY – COATS FOR KIDS

Too many children are arriving at school with inadequate winter wear. The Church and Society committee wants to help fix that problem. For the month of February, we will be collecting new or gently used winter coats for children in kindergarten to 5th grade – around sizes 6 to 14. We will then distribute those coats to some of our local schools.

The coats can be placed in the *Just One* box which will be located just outside of the parking lot (east) door of the church anytime starting February 1. Staff and committee members will empty the box daily.

Thank you, Wesley, for all that you do!

SURGE-YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES

SURGE will continue to meet online until further notice. All youth from 6th-12th 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

SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars – Wesley Rummage Sale is scheduled for June 26th!

COVID UPDATE FROM BISHOP BEARD

On January 27, 2021, Bishop Beard released a COVID update, moving Region Two (including McLean County) to Phase Four of the Restore Illinois/Coming Back to the Heart of Worship plan. [See news release at [Coronavirus \(igrc.org\)](https://www.igrc.org/coronavirus)].

Wesley's "Re-Entry Task Force," established in November to help navigate changing restrictions and church community activity, will meet soon to make a recommendation to the Ad Council regarding adjusting COVID restrictions. The Re-Entry Task Force includes Administrative Council chair, pastors, facility manager, public health and environmental health professionals in our congregation.

WAYS TO CONNECT

- Visit us online at www.wesley-umc.com
- Subscribe to our [YouTube](#) channel
- Follow us on [Facebook](#)