

Wesley United Methodist Church – Bloomington, Illinois

Spiritual Re-Set: Serve – February 7, 2021

Greeting

Organ Prelude

*Christ for the World We Sing!* (arr. Smith)

Craig Deets, organist

Call to Worship Isaiah 58:10

**If you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.**

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn #581 *Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service* vs. 1-3

Children's Time

Special Music

*Suite No. 3 in C Major Bourree I & II* (Bach)

Kimberly Martin-Boyd, cello

Scriptures

Ephesians 2:8-10 (NRSV)

<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

James 2:14-17 (NRSV)

<sup>14</sup> What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup> So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Sermon

*Spiritual Re-Set: SERVE*

Reverend Sara L. Isbell

Sermon Reflection

*Thank the Lord* (arr. Clausen)

Chancel Choir Virtual Choir

Prayer Song

*Follow You* (Leeland)

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

Service of Holy Communion

Communion Song

*Humble King* (Brenton Brown)

Matt Sherrill, guitar

Prayer After Receiving

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Announcements

Closing Hymn #581 *Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service vs. 4*

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 at [Spiritual-Reset-Covenant-Groups-2021.pdf \(wesley-umc.com\)](#). For more information contact [Kathi Pritts](#) or [Pastor Sara](#) .

### **DATE CHANGE – SOUPER BOWL OF CARING TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 14**

Due to the forecast of extreme cold for today, the Souper Bowl of Caring collection has been moved to Sunday, February 14th, 10am-11am. SURGE Youth are planning to be at Wesley West next Sunday collecting loose change for Safe Harbor! Make plans to drive thru, donate, see our 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](http://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 15<sup>th</sup>
- 11:00am—12:00 pm, Tuesday, Feb 16<sup>th</sup>
- 4:30pm-6:00pm, Wednesday Feb 17<sup>th</sup>

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](http://www.wesley-umc.com) by 6:00 pm.

## **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](mailto:kross@wesley-umc.com).

## **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 events are accessible to everyone and we hope you will join us weekly!

### **Wednesday, February 10 – Valentine Jam**

Wesley UMC, Heartland Church and First Presbyterian Church will partner for a FUN Family Experience called Valentine Jam. It will be a 30-minute whirlwind of fun including games, dancing, family discussion and a fun message. Bring a donut, box, and a balloon along on February 10<sup>th</sup> to join in on the fun at 6pm. Prizes are a possibility so don't miss out. Contact [Kathi Prittts](mailto:kprittts@wesley-umc.com) at [kprittts@wesley-umc.com](mailto:kprittts@wesley-umc.com) for the Zoom link.

### **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

### **WESLEY DISTRIBUTION MINISTRY NEEDS FOR FEBRUARY 20**

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

- Diapers – sizes: newborn, 5, 6
- Facial tissues
- Paper towels
- Toilet paper

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 5<sup>th</sup> 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!

## **RUMMAGE SALE 2021**

The Rummage Sale Chairpersons would like to announce tentative dates for this year's sale. After conversations with the Interstate Center, a decision was made to schedule the sale for June 26 with preparation work dates of June 21-25.

We are hopeful that holding the sale later in the year will give us a chance to do so safely. Although, if this pandemic has taught us anything, we know that nothing is certain. The Rummage Sale planning team will continue to monitor the virus and the distribution of the vaccine in our area. As we get closer to our sale date, if we feel we cannot safely hold the sale, we will make the decision to cancel. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we navigate through these unprecedented times together. If you have any questions you may contact Brenna Martin at [bmartin@wesley-umc.com](mailto:bmartin@wesley-umc.com).

## **STUDY OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS**

### ***NEW STUDY! The Miracles of Jesus***

Join Barb Phend for an 8-week study of *The Miracles of Jesus* by Jessica LaGrone. The class will meet via Zoom on Thursdays at 1:00 pm beginning February 11. 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 [kpritts@wesley-umc.com](mailto:kpritts@wesley-umc.com) for the zoom link.

### ***Everybody Always***

*Everybody Always* by popular author Bob Goff will be offered on Tuesday evenings. 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;
- extravagant love has extraordinary power to change lives, including your own.

The study will meet for five weeks (Jan. 19-Feb 16) on Tuesday evenings, 6-7 pm. Contact [kpitts@wesley-umc.com](mailto:kpitts@wesley-umc.com) for more information and the zoom link.

### **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](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)

### **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)].

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](http://www.wesley-umc.com)
- Subscribe to our [YouTube](#) channel
- Follow us on [Facebook](#)