

Sunday Announcements for February 11, 2024

Special Prayers for these Wesley Family, Friends, and Others...

Edith Isaac, Linda Keister, Todd (Linda Keister's friend), Pinamang Boateng, John Davis (Ronna's husband), Dot Ellis, Earl Flagg, Jim Hoffman, Dorothy Norcross, Grace Woode, Baby "T" with a heart condition (friend of Carol Samanen), Beverly Grimshaw, Peter Woodcock, Joseph Boateng, Anne Burrows, Ray Cournoyer (friend of Bill Robbins), Al D'Ambra, Barbara Fletcher, Kathy Freeburn (friend of Linda D'Acri), Don Johnson (Phil's brother), Charles & Samira Kiefer, Sandra O'Driscoll, David Samanen, Alysia Simoneau, Janet Terzian, Donald Tremblay, Barbara, Frank & the Vietze Family; Laura Zoldak, Susan (friend of David Potts), Malika Gujarati (family of the Hoffmans), Margie (Linda Keister's sister), Page (Allison Hansen's sister).
Those who struggle with depression, anxiety, and alcoholism.

Announcements

March Herald: *There are always extra copies of the Herald in the Narthex by the Welcome Office.*

The March Herald will be part of the March 3 bulletin; however, it will be posted by March 1st. Please send all articles to me no later than Friday, February 26th. *Thank you, Debi*

From the Trustees

We continue to have occasional "visitors" in the building during hours when the building is closed, or when only custodial staff is present. We are sympathetic to the plight of the homeless, especially during these winter days and nights, and we try to address this issue in our community in a number of ways, but we cannot have unauthorized people in the building during off hours, for obvious safety and liability reasons. If you see anyone in the building you do not recognize, especially at off hours, please contact a member of our staff. We are contacting renters and those who use the building at off times to be diligent about not propping doors open or leaving them unattended. We have new security measures in place which should help, but it is just a reminder to keep the building secure, especially if you should be in the building at off times. Thanks!

Ash Wednesday, February 14th

5:00 – 6:30 pm	Labyrinth Walk, Chapel
6:00 pm	Soup & Bread, Brewer Hall
6:30 pm	Service, Sanctuary

2024 Ash Wednesday Labyrinth Walk

Walking a labyrinth is a contemplative spiritual practice which symbolizes the Christian spiritual journey. The physical walking of the labyrinth provides time and space for interior reflection. On Ash Wednesday Wesley's floor labyrinth and materials for a self-guided walk will be available in the chapel from 5-6:30 pm as well as following the conclusion of the evening Ash Wednesday service. The walk is intended to open the way for your Lenten pilgrimage and to provide an opportunity for you to set your intentions for your spiritual walk through this holy season. All are welcome.

Lenten Brochures Available

The Lenten brochures are available to pick up in the Narthex. If you cannot come in and would like one, please email or call Debi to have one mailed.

UWF to Host Affordable Housing Conversation on March 9 with Ed Augustus

Ed Augustus, the Massachusetts Secretary of Housing and Livable Communities, will be the keynote speaker for a program on the affordable housing crisis at Wesley on Saturday, March 9. Together with panelists from local agencies, he will address approaches the state is taking to create more homes.

United Women in Faith will host the meeting with lunch at noon in Brewer Hall and the program will begin at 1 p.m. in the Sanctuary. **All are welcome.** Childcare will be available. Invite your friends!

Here's a Chance to Prevent Homelessness

It's a simple idea -- buy your groceries (or your coffee or toiletries) and help a local family stay in their home. You'll be joining area stores in contributing to a fund that gives grants to families facing eviction. One back rent payment, utility bill or storage unit fee can keep families out of the shelter system and all the disruption to their children's schooling.

Here's how it works: When you purchase gift cards from Big Y, Shaw's, Stop & Shop, CVS, Dunkin Donuts, Panera, Starbucks, Amazon, Target or TJ Maxx/Marshalls/Home Goods, a percentage of that card's value is donated by those stores to Central Mass. Housing Alliance. Families come to CMHA seeking assistance, and since this program began, hundreds of families have received aid.

Look for the birdhouse in Brewer Hall -- at a table near the stage -- after church services. Cards are for sale every Sunday and by email to AChis4788@aol.com. Order by Monday, February 12 for pickup on Sunday, February 18 pickup after the morning service.

Come choose a Sunday to help with card sales -- it takes a team to tackle a challenge as big (and fast-growing) as homelessness.

Tower & Rose Window Lightings & Altar Flowers

The February Tower Lighting and Rose Window Lighting and the March Rose Window lighting are available for dedication. The cost of each is \$40 for the month. If you are interested, please email me (office@wesleyworc.org) or call the office and let me know. *Thanks, Debi Reynolds*

The 2024 altar flower calendar is now available. If you'd like to order altar flowers in honor, celebration or memory of a loved one, come to the Welcome Office and sign up in the book. Please take a form to complete and return it to the office with your payment. It's \$60 for both arrangements on the altar.

GOD MOMENT

If you could share a story of seeing God's work in your life, please tell me or email it to me. The story can be anonymous or signed, and all are invited to participate. Betsy (betspenn35@hotmail.com)

A God Moment Quote from Betsy...

Below is a quote from last September's "Wesley's Daily Reflection." It speaks to me of God Moments.

"...God works in quieter ways, obscure ways, ways that seem natural — like coincidence, like happenstance, like in the everyday decisions that we make all the time. God is at work in and through what happens around us, even when it doesn't seem like it. God is present, even when it feels like absence. God is acting, even when it feels like stillness."
Derek Weber