

Wesley United Methodist Church



Nov. 2016

In This Issue

Pg. 2: Announcements

Pg. 3: Trustees Church wish list

Pg. 4 What do we do with this election?

Pg. 5

Birthdays and Anniversaries

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

For the last few weeks I have been deeply moved by the grace and power of God. As I continue to spend time in prayer and continue to open my eyes to the world around us, what I see deeply moves me. Amidst the fear, the anger, and the frustration, amidst the wonders of the unknown is the BIG QUESTION of Why. I see hope and desire. In the process of figuring out whom to vote for I see people truly wanting to do the right thing. In all of this wondering and fear, something has hit my heart with great joy. The musical that our kids so wonderfully put on has warmed my heart. I begin to think of the words that they said, the words that they sang, and tears begin to flow down my face. Tears of joy, tears of happiness and tears of love for these kids and message they brought overwhelm me. As I sit at my desk the words of these two songs pop into my head and will not stop playing.

"And the peace of God will calm your hearts, and the peace of God will calm your mind, it's a peace too great to comprehend, the peace of God will reign"

"The Lord is my strength the Lord is my shield, my hearts trusts in him, and he helps me, Yeah, he helps me. Oh he gives me joy."

May the one who is our strength and our shield, the one who gives us hope and joy, overwhelm our lives with a sense of peace that surpasses all understanding.

Our Mission: As members of Wesley Church we are called by God to make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.

DID YOU KNOW?

Basket Auction:

Last reminder for the Theme Basket Auction and dessert tasting event that will be held on November 13th starting at 2:00 pm in the fellowship hall. Tickets for the event will be \$1.00 in advance and \$2.00 at the door and are still available. You can contact Joyce Hewell (684-2919), Darlene Ritter (684-4834) or the Church office (684-3341) for tickets. Also, all baskets should be in no later than November 4th.

Greening Service:

It's hard to believe that we are fast approaching the Christmas Season in which we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. In that spirit, we will have our Greening of the Church Service on November 27th starting at 5:00 pm with soup and sandwiches in the fellowship hall; a visit from the jolly old fellow himself, Santa Claus, at 5:30 and then head upstairs to the Sanctuary at approximately 6:30-7:00 for the greening service. Please mark your calendars accordingly and plan on attending this evening of fellowship.

Operation Christmas Child:

We had a good response and the boxes were assembled on October 30th with the help of the children. They are to be complimented for a job well done. We still are in need of donations in the amount of \$7.00 to cover shipping costs (it cost \$7.00 for each box shipped). Cash or check will be accepted. If you pay by check, please make your check payable to Wesley Church. All donations should be in by November 4th. Any questions please contact Jean Bressler (684-5303).

Food Bank:

If anyone knows of someone who would be interested in volunteering to help the food bank with packing bags and taking them to the client's cars, please contact Jean Bressler. As some may know, we lost a very dedicated worker, Jon Hoffman, who was faithful every week with this service to the food bank. Please keep his family in your prayers. Also, if you know of anyone in our community who is in need of the services of the food bank, let them know the hours and days for use of the food bank.

Small Groups:

During the restructure and vision for small group ministries, please consider joining or starting a covenant discipleship group. For more information, contact Meredith Peachy at (814) 355-0521 or email her at meridithpeachy@gmail.com

Our Mission: As members of Wesley Church we are called by God to make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.

Trustee's Wish List

Things to be done Now and in the Future

NOW:

1. Side Walks, Step and Railings: Total Cost: \$5,935
 - a. Remove bad sections
 - b. Seal all cracks with latex or epoxy and then Seal and stain Sidewalk
 - c. Remove railing and Repair steps
 - d. Weld plates on steps, paint replace railing
 - e. Stain concrete with acrylic stain
 - f. Clean up
2. Parking Lots sealed and lined: Total Cost: \$1000
3. Emergency Lights: Total Cost: \$355
 - a. 20 New Batteries needed
 - b. \$17.75 for each Battery
4. Door Closers: Total Cost: \$300
 - a. There 2 Closers needed
 - b. \$150 Dollars for each closer
5. Valves: Total Cost: \$500
 - a. The Sanctuary is in need of some valves

FUTURE:

6. Carpet in the Sanctuary
7. Sanctuary Roof
8. Ceiling Lights in the Sanctuary

Our Mission: As members of Wesley Church we are called by God to make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.

What do we do with this election?

An author I have been reading a lot lately is a pastor named Carey Nieuwhof. He writes a lot about spiritual direction and leadership. He just wrote an article that hit close to home that I agree with and hope is true. This article that he wrote was about his hopes for this election process. No this not an endorsing of a candidate, but the hope for what the church can do.

1. **THERE WILL BE A RENEWED INTEREST IN GOD.** Carey says, “It’s easy to think that if your party doesn’t win, or your viewpoint isn’t represented in the halls of power, that somehow God has let you down.” He talks about how God continued to work even in the Roman, Babylonian and yes even the Egyptian empires. Not all of these were good, most of them were bad, but God was still at work. It would seem to many of us that it is a lost cause. That whomever we vote for, it is out of our hands as Christians. Overall it is not a lost cause. Carey says, “When matters are taken out of your hands, never conclude they have been taken out of God’s hands.”
2. **THE CHURCH WILL LOOK TO CHRIST MORE AND THE STATE LESS.** Carey talks about how in the early church that no government accepted the truth and teachings of Christ and never accepted scripture for itself. Carey talks about how Paul met with Government leaders a lot and so did Christ, but never once did they ask them to change government policy in their favor. Then Carey really says something alarming, “If God has all of the same opinions as your political party, you are probably not worshipping God.” We must look to God to create a Christian nation and not the government.
3. **LIVING OUT YOUR VALUES BECOMES MORE IMPORTANT.** Carey says, “We must live out our values and not legislate our values.” Laws are created to match what society believes is true and important. We need to live the way Christ would call us to live even when society does not believe what God believes. We are in the world, but not of the world. We live in a post-Christian world. So Carey says, “Change what people believe and laws will catch up.” How do we change what people believe? We show them God’s love by the way we live. We don’t force them to believe what we believe.
4. **THE WORK OF THE LOCAL CHURCH IS MORE IMPORTANT NOW THAN EVER.** What a better time to be the church than right now. We have an opportunity to be the church. In the darkest of times we have the greatest of hope, the true light that can shine in the darkness. The church is at its best when there is crisis. We need to get better during the times when there is no crisis. So in this time of crisis, it is time for the church step up. Carey says, “The government can never do the work of the church, and it can never be the voice of the church. Only the church can be the church, and our culture deeply needs the church to be the church.” It is time for us to step up and be the church. Let’s give the world the light and peace it is so desperately looking for. We have the answer to the world’s question: What is the meaning of life? Let’s give it to them.

Our Mission: As members of Wesley Church we are called by God to make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.

Birthdays

1st - Karen Ashcroft

6th - Rick Stever

7th - Jacob Miller and Scott Hunter

8th - Leslie Rodgers

9th - Reagan Irons

17th - Julie Dillon

23rd - Joyce Hewel

26th - George LeGrand

27th - Myra Hess

30th - Sarah Ammerman