

Phone: 701-772-1869
 Fax: 701-772-1940
 E-mail: gfwesley@midconetwork.com
 Check out the Newsletter online at: www.gfwesley.org

Worship Schedule

See Calendar and front page for worship times

Office hours: Mon. thru Fri. 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Pastor: Reverend Howie Baird
 Coordinator of Lay Ministries: Judy Christy
 Choir Director/Organist: Marjorie Myrold
 Choir Accompanist: Carol Lamberson
 Youth Leader: Mark Schlasner
 Bookkeeper/ Office Assistant: Tanya Murphy

The Wesley Witness

A publication of Wesley United Methodist Church. Published 12 times each year to keep members and friends informed of programs of the church and to report news about the Wesley family.

NEW WEBSITE

Check out our new website! The address is the same at www.gfwesley.org and like us on Facebook to keep up with what's going on at Wesley



The Wesley Witness

HEY, FRIENDS & FAMILIES!
 YOU ARE INVITED TO THE WESLEY UNITED METHODIST ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL, GRILL OUT, AND PIE BAKING CONTEST!



WHEN: SUNDAY, JULY 12
 TIME: 12 - 3 PM
 WHERE: WESLEY UMC



BRING YOUR BEST PIE FOR THE PIE BAKING CONTEST!
 JUDGING AT 1:00 P.M.

Wesley Worship Schedule

9:00 Coffee Fellowship
 9:30 Worship

Church Office Hours

M—F 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Our purpose is to provide a nurturing Christian home in which all may grow in faith and service.

For our Prayers ---
In Care or Assisted living facilities:
 Carol Clark, Virgil Haake, Charlene Kotts, Dave & Jean Beach, Joan Bristol, Dean Hruska, Ellen Gray, Beulah Hodges, Shirley & Phyllis Sand, Emolyn Skinner, Lois Weisser, Darlene Hinsz, Kent Cable, Velma Fruetel, Verle Ralston, Billie Dixon's mother(in Bismarck)
At Home: Dora Graham, Karen Griffin, Coleen Nygaard, Ole Dahlen, Alice Darling, Marlo Gade, Marie Koth, Pat Klokstad, Carolyn Strand, Kyle Whitcomb's mother, Marijo Whitcomb's mother and father
We offer Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of Cathy Marler; of Bill Kerzman's brother Jim; and of Marlene Nolte's father.
We offer a prayer of joy as we celebrate the marriages of Emily (Asche) and Jonny Heidbrink and of Diane (Lord) and David Daucsavage in June
 If there are joys or concerns that you would like to have included in this monthly prayer list, please email them to judy.gfwesley@midconetwork.com.
 If you are interested in being part of a Monday morning prayer group that will get meet at the church to pray for joys and concerns expressed in worship on Sunday mornings or shared on prayer request cards, please talk to Pastor Howie, Judy Christy or Penny Millspaugh.



July



Birthdays

- 1 Eric Jose
- 3 Matthew Ernst
Sara Juneau
- 6 Richard Ellis
- 7 Danielle Holm
- 9 Ryan Scheevel
- 10 Paige Bloom
Melissa Ernst
- 11 Jacob Iiams
- 13 Ben Holien
Jakob Sturges
Brad Westman
- 15 Katy Nannenga
- 16 Dave Beach
Gail Steckman
- 17 Dan Rice
Jeff Van Looy
- 18 Dora Graham
- 19 Barbara Spicer
- 20 Marian Van Duyn
- 21 Nicholas McConnell
- 22 Aileen Sandwick
Abbigayle Sturges
- 25 Ron Elliott
Chad Goetz
Larry Machart
- 27 Denise Bischoff
- 28 David Kiefel
- 30 Rich Curtis
Bill Hutchison
James Kerzman
- 31 Donna Hutchison

Anniversaries

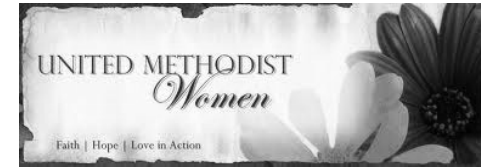
- 2 Burt & Dora Graham
- 5 John & Joyce Kramer
- 8 Keith & Tammy Rutherford
- 10 Glenn & Beverly Hopman
- 12 Tanya & Stephen Murphy
- 16 Greg & Tracy Wicken
- 20 Harold & Jacqueline Evans
- 22 Terry Larson & Naomi Yaeger
- 23 Jeff & Brooke Van Looy
- 25 Jay & Linda Croy
- 26 Richard & Penny Millspaugh
Nicolai & Krystal Ispen
- 28 Kyle & Marijo Whitcomb

We need



Cookie Makers

Would you be willing to make 2-3 dozen cookies for a Sunday this month to support our Fellowship time? Pick a Sunday and put your name on the sign-up sheet on a table in the Fellowship Area.



'Mission u' - July 16-19 in Jamestown

The In-depth themes this year will be: "Learning Together for Transformation of the World"


The studies are:



Latin America: People and Faith—This study will take into consideration cultural identity, language, history, and even religious affinity of the region.


The Church and People with Disabilities—

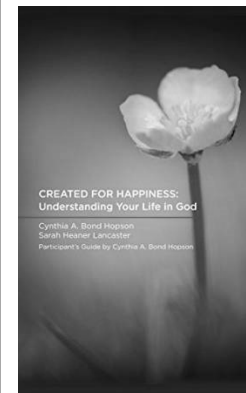
This study is meant to touch the heart as well as inform and prompt action. Topics range from Biblical perspectives to overviews of living with and adapting to varying disabilities.



The Church and People with Disabilities:
Awareness, Accessibility, and Advocacy

Peggy A. Johnson





Created for Happiness: Understanding Your life in God—This study will examine the understanding of happiness and how to live the life that God calls us to.

Contact Judy Christy or Pat Henry for additional information. Registration is due July 3.



Summer is upon us and thus we will be taking a break from most of our regular circle activities. But keep watching the bulletin and newsletter in case something is suddenly planned!



Remember the August picnic for the whole church community to be held on **August 5th at Lincoln Park.**

Reading counts. The list of books is in the back of the UMW program booklet. Keep track of what you read and let Irene Wagner know for the credit to our unit.



Pull for the House.

Also, save those pop tabs, there is a container in the narthex for them. **Please have them in by August 1 to be turned in.** We also save printer cartridges and send them off to be reimbursed for them.



Reminder, continue to save your soup labels and box tops. If you contribute these to some place other than Wesley-- keep track of the numbers and we can still get credit for our unit. Turn in the amounts to Pat Henry.

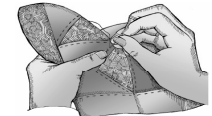


Crafters are looking for Scrabble games if anyone has one to donate please bring it to the church or contact Mary Ferguson for pick-up. Thank you!



UMW Picnic

UMW will be hosting a potluck picnic at **Lincoln Park** on Wednesday, August 5 at 5:30 pm. All are welcome! Please bring a dish to share and come to enjoy the fresh air with good food and good fellowship.



QUILTING GROUP

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the quilting room on 3rd floor.

Everyone is Welcome!

For questions, call Helen DeMaster at 701-772-3584

Wesley Camp-out and Picnic at Turtle River State Park

If you are thinking about joining us for the Wesley Camp-Out at Turtle River State Park on August 14-15, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the lobby. We will like to know how many spots to reserve for camping on Friday night. You are also welcome to come just for the activities on Saturday such as a potluck picnic and games. There will be some fees for camping and park entrance. Watch for more details.

Pop Can Tabs

It's time to bring in your tabs from pop cans and other food cans. United Methodist Women need them turned in by August 1st for Ronald McDonald House. There is a red pail in the lobby to put them into when you bring them.



Introducing Natalie Buck!

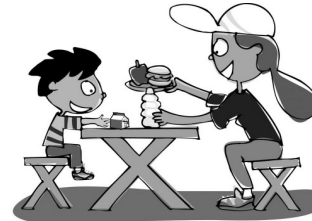


My name is Natalie Buck, and I'm excited to serve Wesley UMC this summer as an intern! I grew up in Oakes, North Dakota, which is about three hours south of Grand Forks. I'm an Elementary Education major at UND and will start my Junior year in the fall. After I complete my undergraduate degree,

I plan to attend seminary and then serve as a pastor in the United Methodist Church. I've felt called to ordained ministry since I was in Junior High, and I'm excited for this opportunity to get to see what it's like to serve a congregation.

This summer I will attend committee and staff meetings, assist with Sidewalk Sunday School, and preach a few times. I'm also excited to lead a new worship service on Wednesday nights this summer, starting on June 17. This worship service will be an excellent chance to reflect your day and what God is calling us to do as His people. We will sing short choruses, spend time in silent prayer and reflection, and hear a devotion related to the scriptures read that evening. If you are a guest here at Wesley I'd like to say "welcome," and that I'm excited to meet you! For those of you who I have already met here at Wesley, I'm excited to worship and serve with you here this summer.

Free Summer Lunch for Youth 2015



Summer Food Rocks!

TIME: 12 Noon

Monday—Friday

DATES: June 8—July 31

PLACES: Listed Below

ITTS-WILTT-S-WILLIAMS PARK (EGF)

300 15TH ST NE

LAGRAVE LEARNING CENTER

832 4TH AVE SOUTH

UNIVERSITY PARK

320 NORTH 25TH ST

RICHARDS WEST PARK

4700 6TH AVE NORTH

GRAND FORKS PUBLIC LIBRARY

2110 LIBRARY CIRCLE

NEW SITES FOR 2015!

BRINGEWATT PARK

2205 24TH AVE SOUTH

MIDTOWN (SMILEY) PARK

4TH AVE N AND N 6TH ST

ELKS PARK

1002 13TH AVE SOUTH

~Rain or Shine~

Please call 701-795-8614

with any questions!

United Way Supported

Summer WOW

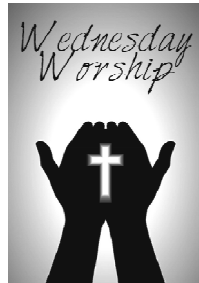
Wesley on Wednesdays



Join us on Wednesday evenings this summer, beginning June 17, for supper, worship and children's activities. Supper will be served at 6:00 pm in the

dining room. Worship will be in the chapel at 6:30 pm with activities for children age 3 - 5th grade in room 105 during the worship time. Both will be 30-40 minutes.

If you are willing to help lead the children's activities for a Wednesday or two (or more), please contact Judy Christy



(judy.gfwesley@midconetwork.com) or Jessica Zerr (jessmzerr@gmail.com). We will have the lesson materials ready to go, we'll just need a couple adults each week to lead the lessons. We'd also love to have youth as helpers. The children's lessons will be based on the Dr. Seuss sermon topic for the upcoming Sunday.

We have decided not to have a week-long Vacation Bible School this summer at Wesley or Zion, but encourage families and children to come on Wednesday nights and to Sidewalk Sunday School July 19-23 at Richards West Park.

The meal will be catered and a free-will offering taken, but a couple people will be needed each week for serving and clean up. If you are willing to help, watch for a sign-up sheet or contact Judy Christy at the church office.



Fun in the Sun

Sunday – Thursday, July 19-23 at Richard's West Park
5:15pm – 7:30 pm

Let us know how you can help (and have fun too)!

Do you want to help prepare or serve supper? Do you want to help with registration? Do you want to help with crafts? Do you want to help with games? Do you want to be a shepherd with a group of kids?

Please contact Judy Christy at judy.gfwesley@midconetwork.com or 772-1869 if you would be willing to donate some time to this very important ministry in our community-- even if you can't be there each day. There are also sign-up sheets in the church lobby.

Children age 5- 12 from Wesley and Zion are encouraged to join us at the park as we get to know our neighbors who live near Richards West. All are invited to come and enjoy supper, Bible stories, music, crafts and games, beginning at 5:15 pm each evening.



There are many ways that you can participate in the life and ministries of Wesley Church!

HOW CAN I HELP?

1. By Sharing your Prayers

Prayer Focus for July: Fun in the Sun program, volunteers, families (See back page for additional prayers)

2. By sharing your presence, time & talents

This month, we say Thank You to:



Thanks to Our Volunteers!

- All who have helped with Sunday morning worship by serving as Welcome Teams, Lay Readers, Communion Preparers and Servers, Sound Board Monitors, Nursery Helpers, and by providing special music for our Sunday worship services.
- Wesley Youth, Zak & Dustin, and leader Mark Schlasner for representing our church on a mission trip to St. Paul, MN.
- Those who serve on Church Council, Board of Trustees,

Staff-Parish Relations Committee, Finance Committee, Memorial Committee, as lay leaders, and in all other leadership roles within our church.

- Quilters for making quilts to donate to RRVCA's Shelter House.
- Members of the Board of Trustees who are working on ceiling repairs, painting and other projects.
- **and those who:**
- are working as part of a Safe Sanctuaries policy and procedures task force.
- are helping plan and lead children's activities on Wednesday evenings this summer.
- are part of the MCCI self-study task force.
- served as our Wesley UMC and as Lay Equalization delegates for the 2015 Dakotas Annual Conference in Fargo on June 3-6.
- help provide, prepare, serve and cleanup for Sunday coffee fellowship and provide cookies, other treats or coffee.
- polish brass offering plates, candle holders, etc., and fill the oil candles.
- count the weekly offering.
- care for and water the plants inside and outside the church building.
- take care of the garden areas around the church.



Safe Sanctuaries: A Policy on Safe & Sacred Spaces

The Dakotas Annual Conference has asked that all churches form a policy for the protection of children under their care. We have been very lucky in our church so far that we have never had a report of abuse but we know this can and does happen in even the best churches. We recognize how devastating abuse is for both the victim and our church community. We also recognize that even a false accusation of abuse can impact both the accused and our congregation for years to come. For this reason, we are in the process of creating our own policy for the protection of children, youth, and vulnerable adults in our church.

Last fall Jessica Zerr, as Lay Leader for Faith Development, began the process of creating a Safe Sanctuaries policy for our church. Together with Elise Christy, information about just what Safe Sanctuary means and what that means for Wesley was gathered. Through this research, it was determined that creating a Safe Sanctuary policy was a task that needed to be completed by more than just two individuals and that the policy should include more than just the protection of children, but extend to the general safety of our congregation. Other members of the church were contacted and a task force was formed this past spring.

During May and June, the taskforce reviewed examples of policies from churches around the country, determining what would and wouldn't work in our church. At the June Church Council meeting the taskforce was able to present their policy for a first reading by Council. Because of the importance of this action, it was determined that a second reading was necessary to give council and congregation members adequate time to review the policy before them. At the August Church Council meeting, Council will vote whether or not to adopt this policy. As there may be questions regarding how this new policy will affect the way the way Wesley does ministry, the task force intends to present the policy to the congregation before the final vote by Church Council.

As the policy awaits approval, the Safe Sanctuaries Taskforce continues to work on developing procedures for implementing this new policy. It is their hope that these new procedures will be complete and approved in time for the start of Sunday School this fall.

If you would like a copy of this policy for review, please contact the church office or stop in and pick one up.

A special message for summer travelers:

Would you find it helpful to have your offerings debited directly from your bank account as you probably do with other obligations? Wesley UMC offers electronic giving for those of you who wish to have contributions transferred electronically to the church's account. If you have plans to travel this summer, electronic giving gives you a convenient way to keep up with your intended offerings. Simply complete and return an electronic giving authorization form to get started. Forms are available in the lobby or from the church office.



And thank you to the many others who share their time with our church and community in ways that we do not always know about.

3. By sharing your gifts, such as

- Additional contribution to the general fund of Wesley UMC.
- Batting for the Quilting Group.
- UMCOR kit supplies – see list on the newsletter calendar.
- Funds for church building updating/repair projects.
- Men's jeans, new or slightly used, for the Free Mobile Thrift store in Watford City.
- Coffee mugs with lids, back packs or small suitcases, sheets & towels for the Northlands Rescue Mission.

Contact Judy Christy, Coordinator of Lay Ministries, at 772-1869 or judy.gfwesley@midconetwork.com for more information or to volunteer. Also watch for sign-up sheets in the church lobby, or announcements in the weekly bulletin. Training will be provided as needed.

Are there are other projects or activities you would like to see happen? Email Judy about that too!

Volunteer Needs for this month:

- Wednesday nights Meal hosts
- Wednesday nights Children's activity leaders or helpers
- Fun in the Son helpers
- Ice Cream Social servers
- Sunday Welcome Team

	<u>Offering Received</u>	
	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Prepaid Pledges		
January	13,020.00	14,372.06
February	11,885.66	19,922.87
March	18,656.71	21,351.98
April	21,336.78	24,764.61
May	21,070.22	19,552.28
June	19,298.40	25,286.44
July	20,128.93	18,509.97
August	16,937.53	
September	21,595.63	
October	20,016.66	
November	19,531.40	
December	22,929.07	
Total	31,844.18	143,760.21

<u>SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>	
June 7	98
June 14	93
June 21	94
June 28	83



Wesley United Methodist Church Council and Finance Meetings,

May 18, 2015 @ 7:00pm

Present - Pastor Howie Baird, Elise Christy, Judy Christy, John Galegher, Berniece Holm, Penny Millspaugh, Doug Williams, Richard Wills, George Wogaman, Ryan Zerr, Steve Schlasner

Absent - Pat Henry, Jeff Steckman, Sharon Stewart, Jeff Van Looy, Jessica Zerr

Opening Prayer - Howie

Recite Purpose – Our Purpose is to provide a nurturing Christian Home in which all may grow in faith and service.

Devotions - Penny

Finance Meeting - Doug/John G

Current General Fund Balance is \$1,432.41. All bills are current, including Apportionments. The congregation has responded positively to requests for financial support. Pastor Howie asked that we pause to celebrate our progress thus far. We need this response to continue and become more consistent in order to continue the mission of the Church. People don't give to budgets they give to the vision of the church.

Council Meeting—Call to order- Penny

Agenda

I. Approval of March minutes - Berniece moved to approve. Judy seconded. Minutes approved as submitted.

II. Reports

a. Finance - Doug/John G.

We need to continue to encourage people to sign up for electronic giving.

b. Trustees—Jeff/Richard

Working on the same items as last month. Our Simplex fire system keeps us in good stead with insurance. Doors are being replaced. The elevator trim will be painted by Danielle. Trustees discussed the small leak in sink at the Parsonage. There has also been water in the Parsonage basement. Pastor Howie purchased a utility pump and a sensor which has helped. The yard needs some strategically placed dirt to keep water from running toward the house. Kyle will be checking on this.

They are going to review the master plan and take stock of current projects. Special projects are on hold and there are no funds to take on additional projects. They do not plan to meet in July.

c. Staff Parish—Ryan

Developing policies for paid time off. They discussed how Nursery is staffed and Natalie Buck's internship, which will start June 8th.

d. Lay Leaders:

Care and Outreach— Open position

Faith Development—Jessica

We celebrated Sunday School on Sunday with 5 children receiving attendance pins. Total enrolled/active this year – Preschool – 5th grade: 26, Middle school: 8, Sr. high: 4 and Adults (in 2 classes): 22. Average attendance overall: 36 (preschool – adult). We recognized 24 adult teachers (Sunday School and music), substitute teachers, and helpers who make Sunday School possible with their gifts of time and talents. Recruiting for 2015-16 Sunday School teachers has begun. Megan Baird has expressed willingness to be a co-director for Sunday School.

The short-term class on prayer was very good, and may provide a model for short-term studies in the fall. Thanks to everyone on council for your support of Sunday School

programs, and please pray for new directions.

We are meeting this week to plan and discuss children's programming for the summer to be offered during the Wednesday worship Natalie Buck is planning. Please watch for information in the newsletter and upcoming Sunday bulletins. Planning continues for Sidewalk Sunday School.

Worship –Steve

Pastor Howie's summer series is based on Dr. Seuss. Natalie will be planning Wednesday services. We are planning a monthly worship experience at Richards Park West. The first event will be held the week after Sidewalk Sunday School (the end of July). Pastor Howie and Steve WILL MEET this month. This Sunday, May 24th will be the first Sunday of one service.

Mission –Sharon

125 people were served at the Mission. Plenty of food and fellowship. Most of the meat and potatoes were donated.

e. UMW—Pat

Salad Potluck supper this Wednesday at 6:00. All are invited. Donations will be given to Spirit Lake to fund Sidewalk Sunday School position.

f. Memorial Committee - Berniece

Memorials still has a grave problem. Mr. Purcell of the GF Cemetery Association said we cannot sell the grave lot. They will help connect us to someone who might need assistance of a plot. Amundsons has also been asked to let us know of any family in need that we might donate it to.

A policy for declining gifts that we are not equipped to use needs to be established.

g. Safe Sanctuary

The task force has met – Staff Parish focus, Education focus & general policy. They hope to bring the general policy to the Church Council in July. The process has been positive so far.

h. Pastor's Report – Pastor Howie

Natalie's internship will include visitation with Howie and Wednesday worship. MCCI - Sue Nilson Kibbey is our coach. Today's meeting topic was "how to create change". There has been some concern is that the church as a whole is not as much of a part of the MCCI as it should be. There will be a training soon at Wesley on Welcoming. Pastor Howie's "peddling for Jesus" video has been shared outside of our conference. This has been a life-changing experience in his ministry.

Our MCCI Resource Refocus event to consider what it truly means to be in Ministry to God, will be in August. How do we refocus resources (people, money, etc)? In October the MCCI facilitators will present us with our "prescriptions". After that we have a month period to decide if we want to move ahead with the process. Bob Boyd is working on the Congregational self-study.

III. New and/or Old Business

IV. Looking ahead

EGF Newspaper is still showing Jerry Bass as the pastor. Judy will look into fixing this.

Annual conference will be in Fargo. It starts on June 3rd. Howie, John, Jessica and Judy will be attending. Details can be found on the Dakotas UMC Website.

John noted that having travelled to Africa recently he realizes the importance of the UMC's No More Malaria mission.

Closing Prayer – Penny led us in prayer

Adjourn