



# The Spire

Wesley United Methodist Church and The Wesley Foundation  
at the University of Illinois

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August 24, 2011

## AN INVITATION

to  
**WESLEY'S ALL CHURCH FALL  
POTLUCK**

**All are Welcome!**

**Students and visitors  
are our guests.**

**Sunday, September 11th**

**12:30PM**

**Wesley's Great Hall**



**Wesley families, please bring 2 dishes to  
share; singles bring 1 dish.**

**New staff members will be  
introduced! See you at Wesley  
on September 11th!**

## WESLEY FALL SEMINAR

**Monday, OCTOBER 24th  
7-9 pm, Watseka Lounge**

### RELIGION and WAR

Featured speaker- Professor Jon Ebel, Department of Religion, University of Illinois.

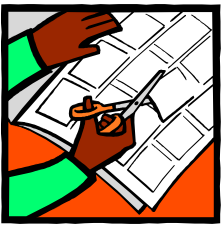
Professor Ebel has written two books and a number of articles on religion and war, which is his area of study.

Why are many wars driven by religious extremism? Religion can be very divisive. Some feel that this is due to the fact that most religions emerged in collective societies, which tend to treat their in-group very well and their out-group harshly, making it easy for collectivists to be violent against out-groups. Further, it has been suggested that in the struggle for power, people learn to disguise their struggle for power by dressing up their actions with religion.

How have these and other factors played out in wars throughout history and how are they playing out today? Where are we, as Americans and Christians, in this regard? Comments and questions from the audience will be entertained.

Plan to join us for an interesting discussion on October 24th! This event is open to the public. Bring a friend! Students are welcome.

*Sponsored by  
Wesley United Methodist Women*



## Grocery Coupons Needed for Food Pantry

Do you get coupons for food and personal items in your newspaper or mail? Trim the coupons and put them in the box on the Sharing Shelves in the hall by the Conference Room. They can help stretch the purchasing power of our families.

## WESLEY GREEN TEAM!!!

Would you like to see Wesley "greener"? Come to a meeting to explore the possible creation of a Wesley Green Team. A Green Team would study and suggest green projects for Wesley Church, the Foundation and our homes. The meeting will be in the Wesley Church Conference Room on September 12th, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. Please join us at this meeting. If interested but unable to attend this meeting please call Charles and Eleanor Evans at 217-840-9454.



**Sympathy** to Charlotte & Don Houts at the death of Charlotte's brother, Gene Stelcik on Saturday, August 20th at the age of 71. He lived in Fullerton, California.



## Looking for a Fun and Easy Way to Get Involved in Worship Service? Join the Wesley Hand bell Choir!

Rehearsals are on Monday nights in the Choir Room at 6 p.m., so come on down and join us for an hour of making music. If you have any questions, please contact Morgan Boes at [mboes2@illinois.edu](mailto:mboes2@illinois.edu) or 918-808-3743.



## WHO WAS THAT NICE PERSON?

Did you ever wonder who that person was you talked to at Coffee Hour? How about the name of the person you greeted at church the last two Sundays?

Isn't it nice when someone can call you by your first name or you can call them by their name? This is all part of becoming friends. And—it's part of Wesley's welcoming others to worship and to participate with us. So let's try this:

Give a warm hello and welcome.

Everyone wears a nametag – even you and me! Names are easily forgotten. At the back of the Sanctuary, there is a board of nametags. If you do not have a nametag made out for you, please fill out a temporary nametag located there. Next, sign up at the nametag board. A new nametag will be made for you and be ready for you at Wesley.

Then each Sunday, put on your nametag and give your warm greeting attaching their name to it. Importantly, wear your nametag down to Coffee Hour. That's where you use names informally and you can introduce people to others. You won't have to have them introduce themselves to others. Nametags can be put in the basket labeled "Nametags" that is sitting on the table as you go into the Watseka Lounge. Your nametag will be waiting for you on the nametag board back in the church Sanctuary for the next Sunday.

Don't you feel good when someone can greet you by your name?



### Spire Deadline

Articles for the next issue of *The Spire* are due at 9:00 a.m. on **Monday, September 12th**. All articles should be submitted in writing, faxed to 344-1830 or submitted electronically to [info@wesleyui.org](mailto:info@wesleyui.org)

# Wesley Women



 **Sept. 8th: 9:30 a.m. Knitting Ministry** in the Conference Room.

**Sept. 8th: 3:00 p.m. Mary & Martha Circle** in the West Lounge.



**Sept. 13th: 10:00 a.m. WesCare** in the West Lounge.



**September 15th: 1:15 p.m. Wesley Quilters** will meet at the home of Myrna Smith, 1008 Broadmoor in Champaign.

**Sept. 24th: 9:30a.m. — 2:00 p.m. UMW District Fall Meeting in Villa Grove.**



**Sept. 28th: UMW Executive Board Meeting** in the Conference Room.

## Parish Nurse Column

**The Parish Nurse/Spiritual Caregiver office has returned to Watseka Lounge.**

During the Sunday Coffee Hour, starting September 11th, Parish Nurses will resume monthly blood pressure screenings on the 2nd Sunday of each month.

Also, on Sunday, November 13th from 10:15 a.m.—12:00 p.m. in Watseka Lounge, Heartland Health Care will be here performing cholesterol levels, blood glucose levels and blood pressures. Please mark your calendars for this date.

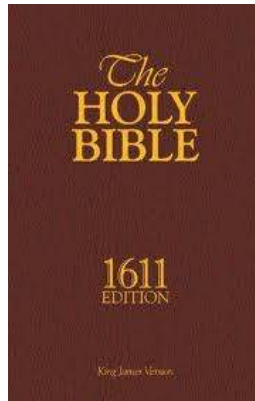
Inquiries have been made by some members requesting ways to assist with blood pressure screenings and other activities. Please contact Barb, Pat, or Larrienne to discover ways to assist the Parish Nurses or leave a note in the Center Office Parish Nurse mailbox. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated.

If anyone has a specific topic of interest for the Parish Nurse column, please place the request in the Parish Nurses mailbox in the Center Office.

Pat Tymchyshyn, Larrienne Jordan,  
& Barb Kronas  
Parish Nurses



# Children to Celebrate 400 Years of King James Bible This Sunday



**This year, the King James Version of the Holy Bible is 400 years old. Under the direction of the Christian Education Committee, the children of Wesley will celebrate this milestone on Sunday, August 28th, during Back to School Sunday with a lesson on the influence of the KJV in the lives of Christians around the world.** They will conclude the celebration by hosting a birthday party for the KJV in the Watseka Lounge during Coffee Hour and singing “Happy Birthday” to the greatest book ever written.

Printed in 1611, the King James Bible took forty-seven scholars, all members of the Church of England, seven years to translate from Hebrew and Aramaic, Greek, and Latin. This is actually the third English version of the Holy Bible and was authorized by King James I of England as a compromise between the Puritans and the established Church of England. Acceptance of this new version was not mandated, but by the first half of the eighteenth century, the KJV had become the predominant English version used in the Protestant Churches of England.

The dominance of the King James Version was unparalleled for over 300 years. When the British travelled the globe, conquered new lands, and settled new colonies, they took the King James Bible with them, spreading both the English language and the gospel throughout the world. It remains the most powerful book in the English language, even as its popularity in the pulpit and pew has waned in America since the 1960’s. Even so, linguists suggest that over 250 idioms from the King James Bible are prolifically used in our language today, including “out of the mouths of babes,” “my brother’s keeper,” and “a wolf in sheep’s clothing.”

Please join us this Sunday as we thank God for the everlasting gift of His word: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God” (John 1:1, *KJV*)

## Thanks for the Welcoming Beginning I've had at Wesley!

I'm excited to serve in Christ with you all as I serve as your Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministries. Here's a look at what's ahead this Fall.

### Children's Sunday School Begins a New Year on August, 28th at 9:45 am.

We're kicking it off with a 400<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party of the King James Version of the Bible. We'll follow up the fun in September as we learn about Noah through our Rotational Sunday School, spending each week exploring Noah through crafts, music, cooking, computers, games, and video.



### Wesley UMC Values Children in Worship and in Sunday School

Children of all ages, birth to age 107, are encouraged to attend worship every Sunday. We begin our Sunday School classes after "Children's Moments" and our adult shepherds will guide children out of the Sanctuary and to their classes. Parents are an important influence on their children and we want to empower you to share your faith and practices with your children. On the first Sunday of the month, we do not hold Sunday School classes because we encourage parents and children to participate in worship and communion together. There are "Quiet Bags" in the back of the Sanctuary available with coloring pages, books, and activities related to the worship theme. May we all be gracious and loving and embrace all ages in our Sanctuary. We hope this makes worship an enjoyable, meaningful, and educational time for all ages.



### We're Kicking Off Our Youth Ministry, on Thursday, September 8th from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Middle School and High School Youth, bring your entire family and favorite ice cream topping to the back lawn. We'll enjoy sundaes, play games, and learn about the fun to come this semester. In the meantime, I'd love to be in contact! Add me, Amy Shreve as your friend on Facebook, or text me (217.649.3233) your name, grade, and favorite sport.

**Blessings,**  
**Amy Shreve**



## **With A New Name and Renewed Vision, the Discipleship Ministry Team is Ready to Serve**

By Rev. Miriam Snider

In May the Membership Committee at Wesley began a renovation project. No, we're not redecorating a room or tackling major construction at the church, but we have taken on a new name and are spending time rethinking our goals and work as a team. What you perhaps once knew as the Membership Committee has now become the Discipleship Ministry Team, and that is just what we desire to be about – making discipleship for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. That is the mission statement of the United Methodist Church and as a ministry team our goal is to help people become disciples of Jesus, to help those who are already disciples to grow in their faith and to help us all grow as a community who follows Jesus Christ.

Some of our focus, as the Discipleship Ministry Team will remain the same as before. We're still planning and preparing for the Fall All-Church Potluck on September 11<sup>th</sup> in the Great Hall and all-church fellowship events will continue to be a priority for us. We hope you will join us on September 11th for a great event in the life of our church. This will be a great opportunity to catch up with people you might not have seen all summer, to welcome students back to Champaign/Urbana, as well as to make new friends and greet new students and welcome them to Wesley Church. Save the date on your calendar now and make plans to attend.

Another of our main areas of focus will continue to be to foster a welcoming environment for newcomers to Wesley and even improve the ways in which we welcome and offer hospitality to guests who join us for worship at both services, attend classes and connect with the Wesley Foundation. We especially feel called to help educate the greater church body, so as Paul Unger has said, "we 'think' hospitality and welcoming at all times." We think it's important that guests and newcomers feel comfortable not just in worship, but that they feel comfortable getting connected and involved in the life of Wesley Church at a deeper level earlier in their relationship with our church. We'll be continuing to contact guests at our services in a timely and warm way. But we'd also like to offer our guests a more effective way to offer us feedback about their visit to our church as well as let us know how we might meet some of their spiritual needs.

We've also added a couple of new goals to the work of the Discipleship Ministry Team. Beginning in a limited fashion this fall and working towards more in the Spring we plan to initiate small groups for learning, friendship, and spiritual growth. Our goal is also to offer other one-time to very short-term studies, classes or discussions so that people of the church, guests and foundation students may find opportunities to grow in faith and fellowship. Pastor Miriam has become a part of the Discipleship Ministry Team to aid and assist us in many areas, but specifically in this area in particular. If you have ideas for small group studies or would be interested in leading or helping to lead a small group study or discussion group please talk with Miriam. Be looking for more information about upcoming small group studies or groups in the near future.

Again, our overall goal as a ministry team is to help our church be more effective in reaching new people, introducing people to Jesus and to our church as well as to help people in our congregation grow as disciples. If you would be interested in joining us and serving as a member of the Discipleship Ministry Team contact Jane McCulley at [JKMcCulley@aol.com](mailto:JKMcCulley@aol.com), Kristen Dean-Grossman at [deangrossm@aol.com](mailto:deangrossm@aol.com), or Pastor Miriam at [msnider@wesleyui.org](mailto:msnider@wesleyui.org).

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the church. Anyone is welcome to join us. The Discipleship Ministry Team has a new name, renewed vision and were ready to serve!

## A Few Thoughts From Pastor Miriam~

I've been using a prayer book called, "Common Prayer; a Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals" written by Shane Claiborne, Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove and Enuma Okora. I ran across a reflection this week that intrigued me and I thought I might pass it along.

### *Offering a Sacrifice of Praise*

"There is an old saying many Christians use: "Offer the Lord a sacrifice of praise," referring to Hebrews 13:15. In many circles this notion of a "sacrifice of praise" almost becomes cliché. (Perhaps because worship does not often come at much cost, especially compared with the sacrifices of saints who've gone before us.) But when we worship with folks of various traditions, there are times when we may hear a prayer that uses language we might not naturally use or sing a song that isn't really our style. That is part of what it means to be a member of a community as diverse as the church is. And perhaps that also helps shed some light on why it might require some sacrifice for us to give up ourselves.

When a song isn't working for you, consider praising God, because that probably means it is working for someone else who is very different from you. Offer your worship as a sacrifice rather than requiring others to sacrifice for your pleasure or contentment. There is something to the notion of becoming one as God is one; it doesn't mean that we are the same; it just means that we are united by one Spirit. After all, we can become one only if there are many of us to begin with.

Liturgy puts a brake on narcissism. Certainly, there is something beautiful about contemporary worship, where we can take old things and add a little spice to them, like singing hymns to rock tunes or reciting creeds as spoken word rhymes. But liturgy protects us from simply making worship into a self-pleasing act. So if a song or prayer doesn't quite work for you, be thankful that it is probably really resonating with someone who is different from you, and offer a sacrifice of praise."

## Prayer before Studying

by Saint Thomas Aquinas

*Come, Holy Spirit, Divine Creator, true source of light and fountain of wisdom!*

*Pour forth your brilliance upon my dense intellect, dissipate the darkness which covers me, that of sin and of ignorance.*

*Grant me a penetrating mind to understand, a retentive memory, method and ease in learning, the lucidity to comprehend, and abundant grace in expressing myself.*

*Guide the beginning of my work, direct its progress, and bring it to successful completion.*

*This I ask through Jesus Christ, true God and true man, living and reigning with you and the Father, forever and ever. Amen.*

Wesley United Methodist Church  
1203 W. Green St.  
Urbana, IL 61801

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*Wesley United Methodist Church is a diverse and welcoming community united in Christ.  
We welcome and extend the grace of God to everyone.*



### It's Here!

The Wesley website has a whole new look and lots of new information. Each Wesley group, activity, and event has the opportunity to have a description, contact person, and, if appropriate, calendar item on the web site. Information and calendar items will be updated frequently. For example, a Sunday School class page might include a general description of the class, but update the calendar items monthly with the titles books they will be discussing. This is a new and exciting opportunity to tell the community more about what we do at Wesley.

Please contact Donna Camp at [dcamp@wesleypantry.org](mailto:dcamp@wesleypantry.org) if you have any questions or if you are the leader of a group or activity and haven't received a form to enter your information on the web site.

**Worship Schedule**  
**9:30 a.m. Traditional Worship**  
**9:30 a.m. Church School**  
**10:30 a.m. Coffee/Punch Hour**  
**11:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship**

### Wesley Staff

Rev. Dan King Crede.....Senior Pastor/Director  
Rev. Rob Kirby.....Campus Minister  
Rev. Miriam Snider.....Associate Minister  
Brian Sullivan.....Director of Contemporary Worship & Music  
Amy Shreve.....Director of Christian Education & Youth  
Zachary Klobnak.....Organist  
Dr. Barrington Coleman.....Director of Choral Music  
Morgan Boes.....Bell Choir Director  
Dolly Hsu.....Kingdom Singers Director  
Barb Kronas.....Spiritual Caregiver  
Michelle Ingram.....Business Administrator  
Rebekah Rauschenberger.....Ministry Secretary  
Donna Giffen.....Administrative Secretary  
Wayne Wilson.....Aide for Development  
Donna Camp.....Director of Community Services  
Chris Livesay.....Custodian  
Michael Glenn.....Custodian  
Ron McClellan.....Maintenance  
Justin & Megan Farkas.....Weekend Custodian  
Caleb Rhinehart.....Weekend Custodian

### Volunteer Staff

Don Houts & Joe Peacock.....Assisting Pastors  
Pat Tymchyshyn, Larrienne Jordan, Barb Kronas.....Parish Nurses