



# The Spire

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

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January 25, 2012

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**THIS SUNDAY—  
JANUARY 29TH**

**WESLEY LITERARY TEA  
OUR FOREFATHERS' LEGACY:  
A LOOK at AMERICA**

**2-4:30 P.M.  
West Lounge**

Join us for a lovely literary afternoon this Sunday! The following Six books will be briefly reviewed by fellow Wesleyites, while you relax with tea and cookies. There will be time for questions and comments. Bring a friend and pick up some ideas for your winter reading.

**Empire of the Summer Moon**

by S.C. Gwynne  
Reviewer -Virgie Young

**Mayflower**

by Nathaniel Philbrick  
Reviewers - Jean and Dick Flood

**Destiny of the Republic**

by Candice Mallard  
Reviewers - Lois and Ernie Gullerud

**The Last Call**

by Daniel Okrent  
Reviewer - Paul Kapp

**Lords of Finance**

by Liaquat Ahamed  
Reviewer - Morgan Lyng

**Unbroken**

by Laura Hillenbrand  
Reviewer - Mike McCulley

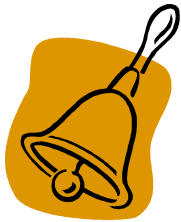
Moderator - Chuck Lansford

Plan on spending a literary and enjoyable afternoon at Wesley!

Bring a friend and hear about some great reads for the winter!



**Sponsored by the  
Wesley United Methodist Women**



**Looking for a Fun and Easy Way to Get Involved in Worship Service? Join the Wesley Handbell Choir!**

Rehearsals are on Monday nights in the Choir Room at 7:00 p.m., so come on down and join us for an hour of making music (no rehearsal on March 19th). If you have any questions, please contact Morgan Boes at [mboes2@illinois.edu](mailto:mboes2@illinois.edu) or 918-808-3743.



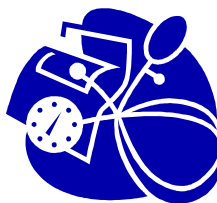
**Balance Young Adult, Young Families and Friends Small Group on Sundays - New Folks Welcome!**

Seeking a little balance in your life? Young adults, young families, and friends are welcome to participate in the Balance Group for study, service, and fellowship **on Sunday evenings at 5:00 p.m. in the West Lounge**. We will share a potluck meal followed by a devotion. The group will continue to meet bi-weekly. Child care will be provided. All are welcome!



**Training for New Announcement Submission Form**

Need to learn how to submit your announcement using the new online form? Come to one of the special training sessions on Sunday, February 5th, one immediately after church and one at 11:00 a.m. Donna Camp will explain the new announcement format, show you how to use the online form, and give you some tips for writing announcements that work well both online and in print. We'll be using the form for web site posts, Sunday announcements, and *Spire* submissions.



**Blood Pressure Checks**

The Parish Nurses will be giving blood pressure checks on the 2nd Sunday of the month during Coffee Hour in the Wateka Lounge and also at the back of the Sanctuary after the Contemporary Service .



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**All are invited!**

**Wesley's Delicious Potluck!!**

**Sunday, February 12th**

**12:30 PM**

**Wesley's Great Hall**

Students and visitors are our guests---no need to bring anything. If Wesley families could bring 2 food dishes and single persons one dish, that would be great! Table service will be available if you need it. **Join us in the Warmth of Fellowship!**



**Spire Deadline**  
 Articles for the next issue of *The Spire* are due at 9:00 a.m. on **Monday, February 6th**. All articles should be submitted in writing, faxed to 344-1830 or submitted electronically to [info@wesleyui.org](mailto:info@wesleyui.org)

# Wesley Women



Jan. 29th:  
2:00 p.m.  
Wesley Literary Tea  
in the West Lounge.

Feb. 8th:  
5:15 p.m.  
WesCare  
in Room 210.



Feb. 9th:  
9:30 a.m.  
Knitting Ministry  
in the Conference Room.



Feb. 9th:  
1:30 p.m.  
Mary & Martha Circle  
in the West Lounge.

Feb. 12th:  
9:30 a.m.  
UMW Sunday Worship Service  
in the Sanctuary.

## Parish Nurse Column

### LIFE'S SIMPLE 7

Here are seven steps you and your loved ones can take to reduce your risk of cardiovascular disease. America's No. 1 killer.

**GET ACTIVE** - Exercising for as little as 30 minutes each day can lower blood pressure, increase HDL "good cholesterol, control blood sugar, reduce feelings of stress, control body weight and make you feel good about your self.

**CONTROL CHOLESTEROL** to avoid clogging your arteries and increase your risk of heart attack and stroke, eat low fat foods and no trans fats.

**EAT BETTER:** a healthy diet and lifestyle are your best weapons to fight heart disease. For information on smart choices visit [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org)

**MANAGE BLOOD PRESSURE:** check your blood pressure regularly---see your doctor if you need to control it.

**LOSE WEIGHT:** If you have too much fat.... especially around your waist and belly, you may be at risk for high blood pressure, high cholesterol and diabetes.

**REDUCE BLOOD SUGAR:** the American Heart Association considers diabetes one of the six major controllable risk factors. Check your blood sugar levels to see if you need to change eating habits, reduce weight, exercise and see a doctor about medication.

**STOP SMOKING:** smoking is the most preventable cause of premature death in the U.S. Quit aids are available and easier to use than in the past. Ask your doctor.

**GIVE YOUR LOVED ONES A PRECIOUS GIFT----MANY MORE YEARS TOGETHER!**



Pat Tymchyshyn,  
Larriane Jordan,  
& Barb Kronas,  
Parish Nurses

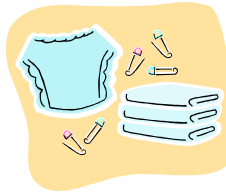


## Donna Camp Receives Humanitarian Award

On February 13<sup>th</sup>, Wesley's Director of Community Services, Donna Camp, received the **2012 MLK Countywide Celebration Committee James R. Burgess, Jr. - Susan Freiburg Humanitarian Award**. As part of the county-wide celebration of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, the Cities of Champaign and Urbana, Champaign County, Parkland College and the University of Illinois join together to recognize and honor those who work for the betterment of our community.

The James R. Burgess, Jr. - Susan Freiburg Humanitarian Award honors the humanitarian efforts of individuals/organizations that improve the human condition by alleviating suffering and contributing to the basic human dignity of those in need. Campus Middle School for Girls nominated Donna.

As Donna said in her acceptance speech, "I couldn't possibly do this work alone. Thank you to all the volunteers, donors, and partners of the Wesley Evening Food Pantry."



## DIAPER DRIVE!!!

The Wesley Evening Food Pantry will be conducting a special Diaper Drive during February. Diapers are increasingly hard to come by and the agencies that used to make them available have had to stop distribution or limit their availability to a small amount for only their current clients. If you can pick up a package - or a case - when you are out shopping, you can help a young family conserve their funds for other necessities. All sizes are welcome. You may leave them outside the food pantry door near the east kitchen.



## 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 which is now located in the Main Office**. They can help stretch the purchasing power of our families. Be sure the coupons are not out of date.

**The Green Team** is in the process of researching ways to "green Wesley". As Christians we are morally and ethically called to be "earth keepers". "The Holy God took the human one and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it". (Genesis 2:15). Our efforts combine two important goals. One, wise use of our dwindling God given resources. Two, save money for Wesley that can be used for other worthy projects.

The Green Team needs your help because the task before us is daunting. There are those at Wesley who possess the expertise to help us look for ways to improve our use of energy and water. There are others who can educate and lead the congregation to become good stewards of the earth. Will you join us?

Call Charles Evans at 217-840-9454 or e-mail at [charles.eleanor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:charles.eleanor@sbcglobal.net). You will enjoy the ride!---The Wesley Green Team (Charles Evans, Eleanor Evans, Scott Lux, Lashuna Mallett, Ray Norton, Joe Peacock, Jean Peters, Bryan Smith, and Pat Tymchyshyn).

## Family Ministry at Wesley

Wesley Church and Foundation strives to be a safe, loving place for all people. Thank you for welcoming all ages into worship and community. To help ensure Wesley remains a safe and loving place, the Education Ministry Team has been shaping a Safe Sanctuaries Policy to protect our children, youth, adults, and volunteers from emotional and physical abuse. We will be educating the congregation, volunteers, and children why this policy is necessary and what it entails. All volunteers working with children should attend Safe Sanctuary training and undergo a background check. As part of the policy, children and youth classes and activities will adhere to having two adults in each room or maintain an open door and meet off an much used hallway. If you have questions attend Saturday's training, talk to Amy Shreve, Barb Hughes, or a member of the Education Ministry Team.

## Sunday School Teacher Training

**Saturday, January 28th, from 10-11:30 a.m. in the Watseka Lounge**

We need caring, Christian adults to engage the children each week for both pre-school and grade school classes as teachers, shepherds, and mentors. **And we need you to attend this training event** to learn about our child and adult protection policy, gain teaching tips, and understand the mission of Christian Education at Wesley. Breakfast will be provided. To RSVP or have questions, contact Amy Shreve, [ashreve@wesleyui.org](mailto:ashreve@wesleyui.org).



## Think About Summer Camp!

Don't be bored this summer, enjoy the outdoors, roast s'mores, make new friends, and uncover the Secrets of

the Kingdom! There are United Methodist camps across the state and for every age level. Take your grandma with you! Go to Night Owl camp! Check out the option online at [igrc.com/camping](http://igrc.com/camping) or pick up a flyer from the Children's Ministry Bulletin Board.

Want to go to camp with other families from Wesley? Talk to Amy Shreve or Virginia Uhlig about a weekend at Family Camp. Possible dates include:

June 29th-July 1st, July 13th-15th, or August 3rd-5th.

**Mark your Calendars for an All Ages:  
Dinner & Trivia Night March 3rd!**



## Youth Ministry at Wesley

**Souper Bowl Sunday**



## Mark Your Calendar for the Souper Bowl Party!

**February 5th at 4:15 pm**

It's back, we'll be making soup for the Times Center and cheer on the Patriots or Giants (or just watch the commercials). Meet at the Metcalf's house (602 Indigo, Savoy) with a snack to share and a vegetable to put in the pot.

## Summer Mission Trip: July 8-14, 2012

**Planning meeting: Sunday, February 12th at 10:45 am in Etc. Coffeehouse.**

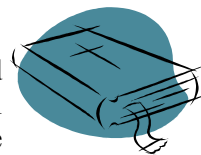
**Who:** Middle School and High School Youth are encouraged to come and serve as we grow closer to each other and to Christ. We need parents and adults to come and serve alongside us.

**What:** We're heading to Indianapolis to serve with Fletcher Place Community Center, a United Methodist affiliated center that strives to "break the cycle of poverty through the compassion of Jesus Christ." It will be a 7-day trip (Sun.-Sat.) where we'll have the opportunity to help with community meals, the free clothing room, food pantry, summer camp, and various other projects. We'll have the opportunity to learn about issues of poverty in the inner city as well as have fun in Indy.

**Cost:** About \$200 per person and we plan to fund raise the majority of it.

## Middle School Sunday School

We're starting a new video series called Re: Form in Middle School Sunday School and we'd love to have you be a part of the fun!



Have you ever wondered:

- Is the Bible true? Why does the Bible contradict itself?
- Is God male?
- Why do Christians believe Christianity is the best religion?

**Join us at 9:45 Sunday mornings in the Conference Room as we tackle these questions and more!**

Sneak a peek on YouTube, search re:form.



# **Moonlight Bowling for Liberia!**

**February 25, 2012**  
**Begins at 4:00 p.m.**

**Arrowhead Lanes**  
**6 member teams**  
**\$20.00 per person for 3 games**

## **All proceeds to benefit a special vehicle project for Liberia!**

If you have a heart for mission and enjoy bowling, this event is for you! You are invited to join United Methodists from all across our district at Arrowhead Lanes on February 25<sup>th</sup> for an evening dedicated to raising the money needed to send a vehicle to the Superintendent of the Kakata District in Liberia, West Africa. Members of our district have been working for quite some time to find the right truck and secure the appropriate shipping to provide this much needed vehicle to our partner district. We are within \$3,500 dollars of reaching our goal. You are invited to help close the gap and make this project a success.

If you are interested in playing on a Wesley team contact Pastor Miriam by February 15<sup>th</sup> (preferably sooner) ([msnider@wesleyui.org](mailto:msnider@wesleyui.org) or 217-390-9964). Miriam is hoping to create at least 2 teams of six members.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** You do not have to be a good bowler to participate. We don't plan on taking ourselves too seriously, so bowlers of all ability levels are welcome! Feel free to invite non-Wesley friends to join us.

Email or call Miriam today and reserve your spot on a Wesley bowling team for Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>! The only cost to you is \$20 and you'll help us reach a very important goal. The more teams the better!

### **The Liberia Annual Conference Partnership**

Just in case you haven't heard what's happening with the Liberia partnership or in case you've never heard about the partnership here's a bit of information.

The partnership between the Illinois Great Rivers Annual Conference and the Liberian Annual Conference continues to flourish as districts, churches and clusters creatively support the ministries of the Liberian Annual Conference and as more Illinioians travel to Liberia on short-term mission adventures. Lives in Liberia, West Africa are being improved with access to clean drinking water, church communities are worshipping in new buildings, pastors are being paid a living wage, teachers are receiving needed training and children are going to school on scholarships made possible by this partnership. This partnership in ministry began in 2006 and has changed thousands of lives on both sides of the ocean.

Over 250 members of the Illinois Great Rivers Annual Conference have now been to Liberia to participate in many projects since the partnership began. Those who have attended include our bishop, newly ordained ministers, and men and women from across IGRC churches. Those who have gone have been changed and most claim they will never be the same. I know I share this testimony. My husband Justin and I went on a trip with the Embarras River District in 2006 and it continues to shape us as people and pastors. Our son Samuel's middle name is Jerome, named after the Rev. Jerome Kennedy, superintendent of the Voinjama District in Liberia, and our dear friend (now attending Seminary at Drew in New Jersey).

Our partnership has aided the Liberian Church in being able to minister to the great needs of the people after a devastating 15-year civil war. The church is one of the most highly functioning organizations in the country caring for the whole person by providing everything from medical care and education to the spiritual and emotional needs of a people recovering from war, poverty, and violence. The Holy Spirit is at work in the lives of their leaders and members and it's obvious when you see the church in action that lives are being changed for and because of Jesus Christ.

### **Your Part in the Partnership**

There are many ways individuals can be involved in the partnership. Individuals can participate in events like Bowling for Liberia which make partnership projects successful. Individuals can give one time financial gifts or monthly financial gifts to aid particular projects like education, building projects, or pastor salaries. Individuals can also go to Liberia either through district or conference level mission trips (most often during the months of January – March). There will be a district trip to Liberia led by Rev. Randy Robinson (Senior Pastor at St. James in Danville) in January of 2013. The team will consist of 8-18 members of our district. If you are interested as an individual in participating in any of these ways, please talk with Pastor Miriam.

### **Wesley's Part in the Partnership**

There are also ways that Wesley Church can be involved in the partnership. One simple way is to commit to sending \$20 per month to pay the salary of a pastor in Liberia. Our church can choose a particular project to contribute financially to and hold special events or offerings that would help us reach a set goal amount. In one of my former churches we raised \$2,500 to build a clear drinking well in a village. That year other churches in the Embarras River District got behind the vision and over 25 wells were dug through the generous gifts of members of district churches.

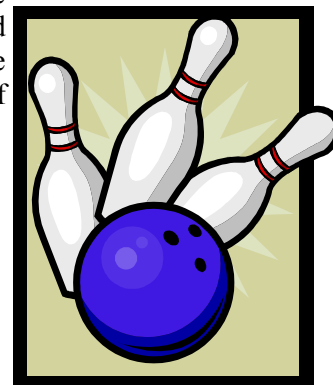
One particular area I believe might become dear to Wesley's heart is the great need for education. The majority of the population is illiterate and very few families can afford to send their children to school. Without United Methodist Schools in Liberia the educational gap would be even greater. It costs \$35 to \$50 per year to send a child in Liberia to school (this cost includes paying for school buildings and teacher's salaries). The cost to send a student to college ranges from \$800 to \$1,500 per year.

I have been thinking about how Wesley might become more deeply involved in the Liberian partnership and I'm convinced that we can make a difference in the educational lives of students in that country. We can start by contributing to scholarship funds, or by sponsoring a particular student and work our way towards creating a team to travel to Liberia to work on a school building project, participate in teacher trainings, and to engage in the lives of students seeking to make a difference in the life of their country. Perhaps we can dream and plan for something to take place early in 2014.

One young person I spent a lot of time talking with when I was in Liberia was a 15-year old young girl. She was desperately behind in her schooling, being only in about 6<sup>th</sup> grade at the time, but she had the goal of becoming a doctor. Even though many of the children were behind, many had high hopes of becoming someone great so they could make a difference in the lives of others and to help their country progress. They desire to be doctors and teachers, pastors and leaders, even president and the church is who is helping them to make this a reality.

Our partnership with the Liberian Annual Conference will continue to help them transform the lives of children and adults all across their country. Will you be praying about how you and how Wesley might participate in this partnership more fully. Don't hesitate to talk with me about Liberia. You can also get more information, see pictures and read the reflection of others who have gone to Liberia on the conference website – [www.igrc.org](http://www.igrc.org).

*Grace & Peace,  
Pastor Miriam*



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

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
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Champaign, IL

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



## Sound System Volunteers Needed

Wesley has opportunities for volunteers who would like to learn how to operate the Sanctuary sound system, then be available about once a month to help with a worship service. Training is provided! Anyone is welcome — no experience necessary.

## 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

## Volunteer Staff

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

# **empty tomb's Mega Work-A-Thon** **Saturday, March 3, 2012, 8AM-12Noon**

Please Mark Your Calendar For This Event of  
Oneness in the Body of Christ



## **Before**

**A dresser makes a difference:** Christians delivered the love of Jesus Christ by delivering this dresser to this family. "I'm an unemployed vet. I do tree work. But as it is getting cold, work is really slow. The dresser was very helpful for my son's room, so now he has something for his clothes and they are not all over his room".

—Says the Daddy of the young boy

Our 2012 Mega Work-A-Thon will focus on the needs of children for a place to store their belongings. We are building new clothing cupboards for children in our community. Your help is needed to put a smile on the faces of many other children like this one. And there's more. We will be gathering together with many different churches in the area to work on a common purpose.

Also, the funds you raise will help fill up our No-Late-Bills Fund, to avoid our cycle of challenge in paying bills and salaries. Wow. What a way to help others and help empty tomb to continue helping others at the same time.

## **Sign up begins in January 2012**

Limited Space – Be one of the first 1,500 to register

*empty tomb's* Mega Work-A-Thon Saturday, March 3, 2012

## When was the last time you did something to celebrate our oneness in the Body of Christ?



### **This is what you can accomplish along side other Christians:**

- Help put smiles on kids' faces when a clothing cupboard you assembled is delivered to them free in Jesus' name. There are many other things you will be able to do to make this day special. Other ways to serve include: prayer team, hospitality team, furniture delivery team, materials shuttle team, assembly leadership team or one of seven other teams.
- Help continue the services of empty tomb – helping others in Jesus' name. We want to fully fund our No-Late-Bills Fund, to avoid our cycle of challenge in paying bills and salaries.

Please pray for 1,500 volunteers receiving an average of \$20 an hour in donations for 4 hours of work. Please pray for 500 sheets of  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch and 250 sheets of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch finish grade plywood for the clothing cupboards. Thank you for your prayers.

Email Carolyn Casteel, to request sign-up materials or to learn how you can help with planning now: [Casteel.carolyn@yahoo.com](mailto:Casteel.carolyn@yahoo.com)

**Sign up begins in January 2012**