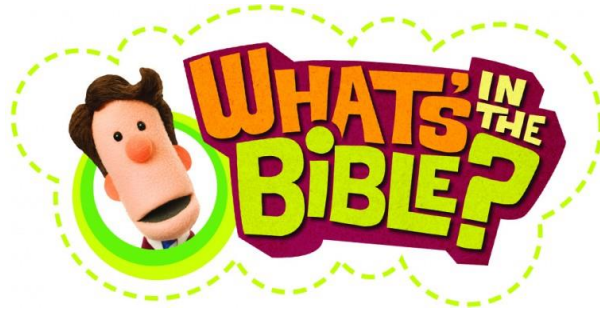


VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – 2015



Monday, July 13 – Thursday, July 16
9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

This is VBS in a whole NEW way! It's the Bible 101 for kids as only VeggieTales® creator Phil Vischer can create it. Our 4-day adventure covers the whole Bible – with the goal of children hearing God's Great Rescue Plan, the story of Jesus and what it means to live as a Christian in our everyday lives.

For children entering 1st through 5th grade.

Preschool/Kindergarten VBS each morning, too!

www.charlestonwesley.org

Registration forms will soon be available online and
in the church office, or call us at **217-345-3917**.

VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

To make this year's Vacation Bible School a success, we will need lots of adult and youth helpers! Please consider volunteering to help in one of these areas:



- ♥ Music
- ♥ Group "Shepherd"
- ♥ Registration Desk
- ♥ Arts & Crafts
- ♥ Nursery

To volunteer, or to receive more information, please contact Director of Children's Ministries, Cindy Ebinger, in the church office at 217-345-3917 or at cebinger@charlestonwesley.org.



A Financial Snapshot

As we enter into the mid-year, I want to give you a financial snapshot as to where we are in our missional giving for the ministry of Wesley. First, to all of you who made a pledge to support the missional work of Wesley UMC this past fall, thank you! When you make a pledge, it allows us to effectively plan for ministry in the coming year. As a result, we are able to make a difference in the lives of people both in the Charleston area and all around the world.

Last November, \$365,516 was pledged to the overall budget of this church for the 2015 calendar year. Comparatively, in October of 2013, \$291,044 was pledged for the 2014 budget. That represents an increase of \$74,472 in money pledged.

The 2015 budget for this year at Wesley is \$544,981. That leaves \$179,465 that we must make up through unpledged Sunday morning offerings as well as money that is already designated for specific usages from generous gifts, donations and bequests that are in "designated accounts" that can only be used for its designation.

Every year, we will have an opportunity in the mid fall to ask God, "What is it you want to give to the mission of Wesley UMC through me?" This simple question makes our giving an act of faith. And when we respond to God's leading, we are following in faith.

To some, a budget may appear as sterile numbers on a page. To me, the budget represents programs to connect people to God; improvements on the building to best demonstrate hospitality to those who come here; the missional work of the Church;

leadership development and stewarding the ministry that has been entrusted to us for this time, namely, Wesley UMC.

Thank you again for your faithful giving to the life and ministry of Charleston Wesley UMC. Your faithful giving is funding ministry and changing lives.

On the journey with you,

Bob Swickard

LAST ONE OUT?



When you leave following a meeting at church, or after walking the halls for exercise, please close any inside corridor doors you find propped open. The doors are vital in limiting damage should there be a fire, especially when the church is unoccupied. Thanks so much!

WESLEY'S CAREGIVERS

Are you caring for a spouse, parent, or friend? Are you searching for information and/or resources? Are you wondering if anyone understands? Wesley's Caregivers Group is for you. This confidential group meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month to share and support one another. You are welcome to join us at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 23rd, in room 129. For more information, call Ruth Ann Craig 345-7273 or Sue Harvey 348-1631.



Congratulations to
Adam & Cara Shoaff on the arrival of
their daughter Eva on April 21, 2015.



RUMMAGE SALE REPORT

The recent ASP/Church Rummage Sale was a great victory! As Paul implies it takes a body, a village, and a church, to do God's work. The folks at Wesley have been a busy bunch. We offer many thanks to those who kicked it off - the **40 Bags in 40 Days** folks who saved oodles of stuff to donate to our sale. The hands of many folks helped throughout sale week as they donated, placed, arranged and priced our numerous sale items. Again, we offer many thanks and are grateful for their hours of work. Countless feet walked into our sale which helped us net a total of \$4,404! We are appreciative, and offer many thanks to them. Another big thanks goes to our youth whose strong backs cleaned the Fellowship Hall and loaded the remainder of the items which were given to local charities and ministries (HOPE, Habitat ReStore and Standing Stone). We are so grateful to them for their help. The entire event illustrates a vision of how this yearly sale is not complete without each of YOU giving items, time and effort which together make our sale such an awesome SUCCESS. Again, many, many THANKS from the Wesley Rummage Sale Team!

Darlene Stoltz

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY BEGINS JUNE 3



We are offering a summer **Financial Peace University** session at WUMC. This nine-week course will show you how to get out of debt and

take control of your money. These principles can change your life and your legacy if you apply them earnestly. Each class will be held on Wednesday nights from 7:00 P.M. until 8:30 P.M. in the Parlor. We will also have free child care available.

This class is for anyone who wants to change their financial path. The time is now. We have a link to register on our Facebook page (Wesley United Methodist Church), or you can contact the Church Office for assistance. The cost of the course is \$93, which includes materials.

MEET OUR NEW YOUTH DIRECTOR!



Hello! My name is Ben Pertl and I'm absolutely thrilled to join the Wesley family here in Charleston. I grew up in church in Albion, a small farm town of 2,000 in Southern Illinois. I've always been passionate about working with kids and young adults, so when I came to EIU, I knew a degree in education was for me. A few years and a three month stint in Kenya later, it became clear that God had different plans.

I began volunteering with a local youth group, and have been there leading small groups and helping in a number of capacities for the last four years. Since graduating EIU with a degree in Psychology, I've worked briefly for a Kenya-based missions organization and currently substitute teach at most grade levels around Charleston, as well as coach basketball at the high school.

One of the most rewarding feelings to me is seeing a kid understand something new for the first time. Whether it's a basketball concept or, even better, a deeper connection in their walk with Christ, to be a part of the bigger story is a huge honor.

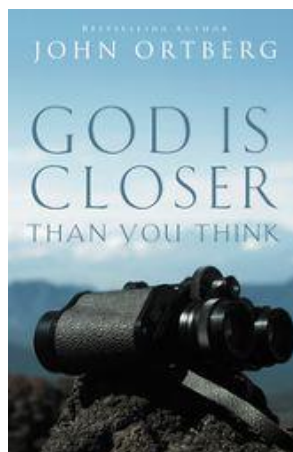
(Continued)

(Youth Director, continued) When I'm not in the schools, on the basketball court, or in the church, you can probably find me out fishing or camping, or watching the only baseball team that matters, the St. Louis Cardinals. Once again, I'm so excited to begin getting to know you all as I begin my stay here at Wesley. Please don't hesitate to get ahold of me! Thank you for this opportunity, and God Bless!

~Ben Pentl

EVENING BIBLE STUDY TO BE OFFERED

We will be offering an evening Bible study beginning **Thursday, June 25, at 7:00 P.M.** in the church parlor. Written by bestselling author John Ortberg, this six-week session combines video and class discussion (using a participant's guide).

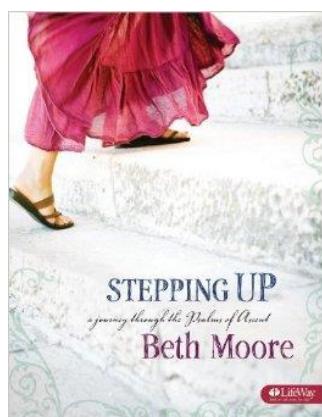


The cost of the participant's guide is \$8.99 (plus shipping, approximately \$12.99). To become a part of this study contact Nancy Marlow in the church office at 217-345-3917 or

e-mail her at nmarlow@charlestonwesley.org.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY RETURNS

Stepping Up: A Journey Through the Psalms of Ascent by Beth Moore provides a personal study experience five days a week plus viewer guides for the group video sessions of this in-depth women's Bible study of Psalms 120-134. Traveling pilgrims sang these psalms both on the way to the great festivals of the LORD and as key elements of the worship at those festivals. Just as a song or



poem can express feelings of fear, doubt, hope, and joy, these 15 psalms model how we can voice our own petitions and praises to our God, who is always available and ready to hear us. This seven-week session will begin June 30 and will be held from 9:00 until 10:30 A.M. in the parlor. The cost of the viewer guide is \$12.99 plus shipping. If you are interested in joining this study, call Nancy Marlow at the church office (217-345-3917) or e-mail nmarlow@charlestonwesley.org.

JUNE MISSION PROJECT



The Missions Work Area has selected Africa University Endowment

Scholarship as our June Mission Project. At the 2013 Annual meeting of our Illinois Great Rivers Conference (IGRC), lay and clergy members voted to establish a \$1 million, two-year Endowment Scholarship Campaign beginning in 2015. Congregations were asked to make pledges toward the achievement of this important goal. The Missions Work Area, in consultation with Rev. Swickard, has set a goal for Wesley UMC of \$2,500 for 2015.

The development of Africa University was a result of the growth of United Methodism in Africa. The idea of establishing a university began in the 1980s, and it received its official charter in 1992. Africa University is located in Zimbabwe, and IGRC has designated this effort as "Making Dreams Possible." The conference currently offers four endowed scholarships with existing funds on hand. The results have been outstanding. Melvin Payekar of Liberia, for example, received an IGRC scholarship and has returned to his home country to work for a non-governmental organization for treating and preventing Ebola which has ravaged Liberia this past year. This new scholarship campaign would provide funding for eight scholarships, annually, for the life of the institution. *(Continued, next page)*

(Mission)

If you would like to support this effort, please make out your check to Wesley UMC with **SCHOLARSHIPS** on the memo line or donate online by visiting our website: charlestonwesley.org. Click on the Online Giving option under the Worship tab. If you prefer to make a cash donation, there are blue mission offering envelopes in the pew backs. Once again, thank you very much for your support.

The Missions Work Area

**Stressed?
Feeling Down?
Need Encouragement?**



Stephen Ministers don't just provide care for people experiencing a major crisis. They also provide care and support for people weighed down by the little things in life. If you're feeling down, lonely, stressed, or discouraged, you could benefit from the care, support, and encouragement of a Stephen Minister. It's free. It's confidential. And it will really make a difference in your life! To find out more, talk with Nancy Marlow or e-mail her at nmarlow@charlestonwesley.org. Wesley's Stephen Ministers are there to care.



A WORD FROM CHURCH & SOCIETY

From CCDCC to Charleston Community Early Learning Center:

On July 1 the Charleston Community Day Care Center takes on a new name—the Charleston Community Early Learning Center. This renaming better reflects the centrality of education and child development to the mission of this long-standing partner of WUMC. With this profile, we highlight

key facets of another important organization assisted through the budget of the Work Area on Church and Society.

The Charleston Community Early Learning Center is a non-profit organization established in 1968, with WUMC central to its origins and ongoing existence. WUMC has supported the Center over the years through providing building space, with monthly payments to the Church for costs associated with building use (e.g., heating/cooling, electricity, water, etc.). Without this facility and financial relationship, the Center really would not be possible, particularly since it operates on a very tight budget. Also reflective of the importance of WUMC, 3 of the 9 seats on the Center's Board of Directors are WUMC members.

The children at the Center range in age from 6 weeks on through 10 years old, and the Center serves a diverse group of children. Also, some of the Center's children have special needs, and 25 to 40% of the families receive State assistance. Revenues for the Center are derived from a variety of sources, primarily from parent fees (65-70% of the total); state government child care payments (20-25%); USDA food program assistance (5-6 %); and other sources such as the United Way, the Charleston Charitable Foundation, and individual contributions (5-6 %).

WUMC members can directly help the Center in a number of ways, including contributions to the annual development campaign; assistance with funds needed for updating the lighted sign on Fourth Street; and donations such as school supplies at the beginning of the school year. The Center's Director Barbara Warmouth always has a list of what is needed; she can be reached at 345-3111.

Gifts have been given to our
Memorial Fund in memory of
Robert Gillespie, Jerry Heath
and Carolyn Paul.

**Happy June
birthday
to the following
Wesley folks!**



Rosalie Addison
Carolyn Adkins
Jayne Bardsley
Dorothy Bennett
Mark Bonnstetter
Isaac Choate
Jim Dietz
Dylan Doughty
Dale Downs
Howard Eads
Emily Esker
June Giffin
Lois Hockman
Cheryl Lair
Peg Pierson
Cara Shoaff
Betty Simon
Mark VanHise

Jerri Biggs
Eva Carrell
June Cooper
Michele Diss
Derik Doughty
Jan Eads
Dick Enslen
Cassie Flack
Debbie Green
Karen Honnold
Ed Marlow
Foster Rinefort
Ann Sidwell
Danner VanHise
Rich Wandling
Verna Wilson
Donna Wieck

**OUR PRAYER WALL IS
COMPLETE**

In the main hall just outside of the sanctuary, our new Prayer Wall allows you to submit a prayer request or a special praise, and view requests that have been posted by others. There are also pre-printed prayer cards to take home with those requests submitted each week on the Making Connections* cards, and blank cards for you to copy names from the wall that you would like to pray for this week. Prayers and praises will remain on the wall throughout the current month. **(PLEASE NOTE:** *Prayer requests that are submitted on the Making Connections cards that are marked "private" will not be posted. You may add your prayer request or praise reports to our prayer wall using the cards provided. If you are requesting prayer for someone else, please have their permission to do so before posting, only use their first name, and keep private details generalized in nature.)

VISITATION TRAINING



Do you have an hour or more a week to volunteer as a visitor to our shut-ins? Would you like to become part of Wesley's Visitation Team? If so, please attend a short training on Sunday, June 14th at

2:00 p.m. in the parlor. If you have questions, contact Director of Visitation Diane Hutchins at dkhutchins@charlestonwesley.org or 345-3917.

Our condolences are offered:
to Lowell & Judy Gillespie on the death of
Robert Gillespie, April 24, 2015;
to Earl & Elizabeth Halbe on the death of
Patricia Halbe, April 28, 2015;
to the family of Carolyn Paul
who died on April 28, 2015;
and to the family of Marcellus Bacon
who died on May 6, 2015.

SCOUT NEWS

Wesley's Boy Scout Troop 141 planted 25 Red Bud trees on Arbor Day at Charleston schools. The scouts also participated in monthly service projects at the Charleston Food Pantry, and at PADS in Mattoon, and as a fundraiser have been cleaning O'Brien Stadium following each day of the state high school track meets. On Memorial Day, Wesley's Scouts posted flags on Lincoln for the VFW, and participated with them in the commemoration service at Rose Lawn Cemetery. The troop later observed its own custom at the cemetery, firing 21 minute gun rounds at noon, when flags are traditionally raised to full staff. Samuel White passed his board of review to become our 33rd Eagle Scout. The Troop currently has 14 Life Scouts, the last rank prior to achieving Eagle. Twenty-nine of our scouts and six adults will be heading to Rhodes-France Scout Reservation near Pana for camp this month.



WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2206 4TH Street
Charleston, IL 61920-3903
Phone: 217-345-3917
www.charlestonwesley.org

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Fax: 217-345-3922

www.charlestonwesley.org

Follow us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/charlestonwesley>

OUR SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Worship - 8:30 & 10:45 AM

A Time of Fellowship takes place at 9:30AM

Sunday School for all ages - 9:50AM

**THE WESLEY CIRCUIT
JUNE – 2015**



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