

September 2020

John Wesley United Methodist Church

270 Gifford St., Falmouth, MA 02540

(508) 548-3050; jwumcfalmouth@comcast.net; www.johnwesleyumc.org

“THE WESLEYAN”

WORSHIP

Our Worship Ministry Team and Leadership Team have discussed the many issues surrounding what worship will look like this fall, and have come up with a plan for the time being. We will continue to hold our Beach Services (7:30) and Backyard Church Services (9:30) through Sunday, September 6th. Beginning Sunday, September 13th, we will have only one Backyard Church Service at 9:30. This will continue as long as weather permits, hopefully through September 27th and maybe beyond. When the weather becomes too cool, we will return to having only the Worship Team livestream from the sanctuary.

Once we move inside, we will continue with the 9:30 am time. This is a compromise between those wanting an 8:30 service and those wanting a 10:30 service.

There will be no indoor, in-person worship for the immediate future. I know this is extremely disappointing to some of you, and others are greatly relieved. With all the protocols that are required, including social distancing, masks, capacity limits, cleaning mandates, and more, our leadership felt that the worship experience would not meet the hopes or expectations of our congregation. The livestream option worked well for us in the beginning, and there is discussion around ways of enhancing this service even more. The Worship Ministry Team is considering other ways of offering worshipful experiences in the sanctuary, so that you can be physically present at some point during the week. More details will follow at a later date. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me, or Diane Huban, Worship Ministry Team leader.

Many of you remember our dear brother, Dan Fraunfelter, who entered God's kingdom last December. Dan put our church in his will, and gave us a very generous gift. The Leadership Team discussed an appropriate use for some of the money. Since we had been using an older, borrowed keyboard for our backyard church services, the Leadership Team approved using part of Dan's gift to purchase a new high quality portable keyboard that can be used not only for our outdoor services, but for special services throughout the year. Also, Hannah plays piano, and this unit can be taken on youth mission trips and other events. We purchased a nice Dexibell Keyboard, with various sounds and options, and Mirela has done a wonderful job of learning it and playing it at our outdoor service. Dan loved music and was part of our choir for many years. Thank you, Dan!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Pep up your life with Zoom! (Doesn't that sound like an ad from the 60s?) Actually, it's our Monday Night Bible Study! We're all finding it *refreshing* and *invigorating* in our spiritual lives to follow the Lectionary Bible passages and see what each week adds to the previous week's discussion. Right now we're in the early chapters of Exodus, the middle of Romans and Matthew, and Psalms in the 100s. You're free to join us any week: to get the week's Zoom and Lectionary links, email Jenn Linton at jennifer.v.linton@gmail.com. Call 508-548-2792 with questions.

MUSIC

Choir practices to begin. Our choirs will be part of our livestream services when we are back in the sanctuary. Handbell Choir rehearsal will begin Wednesday, September 9th from 6-6:50 pm. (With set up at 5:45 pm). There will be a Choir meeting on September 9th from 7:15-8:15 pm. We will discuss our options for singing in groups and creating a game plan at the first meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Brouder at 781-385-0084 or lindabrouder5@gmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer Group: During this pandemic, we have been praying for our church and one another individually. We meet every Wednesday at 11:00 am at the fire pit behind the back-parking lot. Please wear a mask to your seat and then as long as we are social distancing, masks will be optional – it is your choice. There are benches but you may bring your own chair. In the event of rain, we will move to the sanctuary, where there is more space to sit apart. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Rebecca.

Our worship services can be seen on FCTV (13) at the following times: Mondays at 3 pm, Wednesdays at 6 pm, Sundays at 10 am (previous week's service). You can also watch us live, or any time on our website, Facebook or YouTube.

Office staffing: I am thankful to Maryellen Geoghan for filling in for me in the office while I am recuperating from a knee replacement. Maryellen will be in the office from 10 -12. I will be doing some work from home so I will still be part of the team and available to do what I can to keep us together while we work through the restrictions that keep us apart during this pandemic. *Ruth*

From the Financial Secretary: Are you like me, a creature of habit, who only remembers your pledge offering as you are physically heading for church? Are you also now like me, enjoying the 9:30 service at home, online, safe from the coronavirus, and forget to mail in your pledge envelope?

No? Then, thank you for remembering your pledge! You are helping to keep John Wesley UMC financially stable and secure.

Yes? Then, please remember to mail your pledge to:

John Wesley United Methodist Church
270 Gifford St.
Falmouth, MA 02540

Or, you may make a recurring or one-time online payment from your checking account or your credit card by going on our [website](#). You can find the link to the Online Giving page in the "About Us" drop down menu at the top of the home page, or by clicking the red "[Online Giving](#)" button after scrolling down to the very bottom of the home page. It will prompt you to set up a profile and you can put in the amount and how often you want to give.

If you have any questions, need help, or need to adjust your 2020 pledge due to financial uncertainty, please contact me at: 774-836-2512 or love2growcc@aol.com . I pray you all stay safe, healthy, and well!

Blessings, Carrie Leonard

AN UPDATE FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

AN UPDATE FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM ...

Blessings to all from The Leadership Team (TLT)!

Your TLT continues to meet monthly and held our first 'in-person' meeting on 3 August. We met in the Fellowship Hall, adhering to the social distancing protocols – it was good to meet in person and share thoughts and ideas for the future. The main discussion topic was 'what does 'church' look like in this new reality'? We're thinking of this more broadly than our worship services for which we have a workable plan for the coming months.

We've completed, very successfully, our VBS program and now our second yard sale plus the plant sale. These significant events are reassuring in that we can function during these different times. Our next TLT meeting is on September 8th and we'll be continuing the discussions on what does 'church' look like in this new reality? Your input and thoughts are welcome.

As a reminder and an invitation, please consider your interests and joys – we're sure they align with one of our Ministry teams, so please reach out to the Ministry Team Leader and / or Pastor Rebecca or Larry Ward to discuss a very rewarding engagement in one of our ministries.

Ministry Teams	Leader
Children / Youth	Hannah Duclos
Facilities & Grounds (Includes Trustees)	John Mincieli
Finance	Fred Sievert
Invitation & Hospitality & Fellowship	Tim Cline
Outreach / Missions	Julie Immelt Whelden
Spiritual Growth	Ann Komer
Staff Parish Relations	Rob Blomberg
Worship	Diane Huban
At-Large Leaders	Ted Burt, Mel Trot, Matt O'Connor
Recording Secretary	Jean Dawson

Be safe and stay well – we can't wait to "see" you again!
Blessings,

The Leadership Team

JOHN WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S & YOUTH MINISTRIES CHURCH



Recap: Vacation Bible School

The week of August 17-21, 20 Kindergarten through 5th grade students and their families joined us for a week-long Vacation Bible School program where they learned that Jesus' power pulls us through, no matter what the situation! Every day, we met in the backyard of John Wesley to learn a Bible point, story, and verse through song, dance, imagination, and story. We also learned about a correlating animal buddy that went with the days theme. Everyone had an amazing time together and we learned to trust Jesus with everything! A total of 15 adults and 6 youth helped volunteer during the week and we are so thankful for everyone who helped in any way. We wouldn't have a growing and spirit-filled program if it weren't for all of you. Our greatest thanks to all of you! [Click here](#) to view the rest of the photos from VBS!

Recap: Family Ice Cream Social



The first Sunday in August, 16 children and youth met in the backyard of John Wesley to enjoy ice cream and meet Hannah! We enjoyed a variety of flavors and even had some dairy free treats to enjoy as well. This was a great opportunity for our youth and children to get to know Hannah and it was a good time to see friends. We practiced social distancing and wore masks when we weren't enjoying our treats and overall had a great time getting to be together!

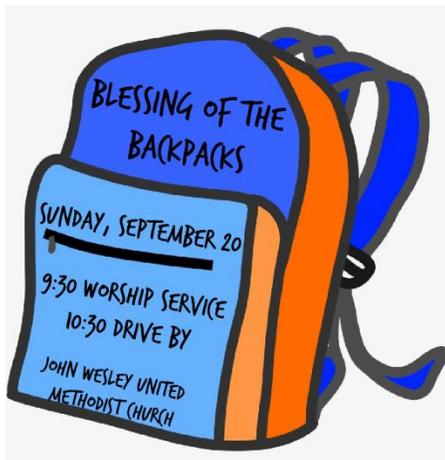
Sunday School and Youth Group Fall Updates:

Following several discussions, we have decided that we will begin meeting for Sunday School and Youth Group outside when school begins. We will try to meet outside as long as we can before it becomes too cold. An email will be sent out soon that will have a survey to gauge interest and availability so be on the lookout!

“Sunday” School is going to look similar to what we did for VBS. We are going to invite families to bring chairs and blankets for a quick lesson and activity taught by some of our wonderful teachers. The time and day of this lesson will be up to the result of the survey!

Youth Group is going to be split 5th – 8th and 9th – 12th grade. It will be a similar structure to what we have done in the past with a short Bible lesson and then a time for games. The day and time of these lessons will be determined after the survey, however both groups will be on a biweekly schedule.

Fall Event Updates:



Rally Day:

We will NOT be having a Rally Day similar to what has been done in the past. Instead, on September 20, we will be having a backpack blessing during the 9:30 backyard service. There will also be an opportunity for a drive by backpack blessing after the service ends at 10:30. At both of these times, students will receive a giftbag with school supplies and treats to get them ready for the upcoming year!

Trunk or Treat:

While October is still a while away, we are planning to have a drive by Trunk or Treat. Check your email for more details coming soon!

Remind App:

The Remind App is a texting service that many churches and schools in Florida use to provide reminders for students. This is a quick and easy way for me to get information out quickly to students and parents. It is a text that will go straight to your phone. You are able to reply to me, but you are not able to reply to other people. This will be a great resource to have in the fall as we begin new routines and schedules.



To register for Sunday School Remind: text @jwumcss to 81010

To register for Youth Group Remind: text @jwumcyg to 81010

Feel free to send me a message if you have any questions!

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

August Yard Sale: A HUGE thank you to everyone who donated, sorted, organized, set-up, worked the sale, helped with the breakdown and finally the cleanup. Yes, it takes a village to do these sales. So excited to announce we made close to \$3200 with this sale which is truly astonishing at the prices we were charging...\$5.00 for a bag of clothing, amazing! ***Besides of course the money we made for our church, it was so warming to feel the excitement from the community.*** We showed the community despite a pandemic we are still a vital church family. With so much appreciation and gratitude, I Thank You! Aline Ward

September Yard Sale: We still have lots of stuff in the church to clear out so we will have another outdoor yard sale on Saturday, September 19th, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Rain date will be the following Saturday the 26. Please mark your calendar, remember it takes a village to put these sales on. We need YOUR help! Any questions, contact Aline Ward. 508-444-6038 or aw7050@comcast.net



PRESERVE TABLE AT THE SEPTEMBER JWUMC YARD SALE

The John Wesley Preservers have been busy so far making over 300 jams, jellies, pickles, relishes, oils, vinegars, and herbs. We plan to have our own table to display more than thirty different varieties. So, plan to come and get your favorites for you, friend's gifts for the Holydays and more.

If you would like to get some of your past favorites in quantity now, call Bud Tracy at 508-540-6987 or email mistyharbor@comcast.net and we will get it to you to enjoy ASAP.

Donations for the Yard Sales: You ask, "Are we accepting donations?" Well, that is a Yes & No answer, however, it's mostly a NO answer. Besides raising money for the church, the goal in having the September yard sale is to clean out what we currently have stored away. Just like everyone else it's time to clean our church house. We still have A LOT to clear out. Thank you for understanding.

Donations we would like for the sale are:

- ✓ Lots of puzzles; CD's, DVD's, CURRENT books only
- ✓ Jewelry
- ✓ Collectables
- ✓ New clothing with tags still on them or designer clothing
- ✓ Designer pocketbooks
- ✓ Anything brand new, still in original packaging

If you have any questions, please contact me, Aline Ward. 508-444-6038 or aw7050@comcast.net

Important Fair Announcement:

I'm certain most of you will not find this surprising BUT our traditional annual Christmas Fair will not take place as we know it. The Fair Chairpersons unanimously voted on having a Fair, "Christmas Fair in the Fall". It will use the yard sale format outside and will be held Saturday October 17th from 9 am to 2:30 pm. The rain date will be the following Saturday or the next until we get a Saturday with good weather.

OUTREACH/MISSIONS

Falmouth Service Center: They are not accepting food or school supplies at this time. If you would like to send a monetary donation you can mail it to The Falmouth Service Center, P.O. Box 208, Falmouth MA 02541 or go to falmouthservicecenter.org. A \$100 donation will help them purchase over 700 lbs. of food!

Bourne Friends Food Pantry: We are collecting paper towels, toilet paper or soap/toiletries in the bin in the Fellowship Hall. This food pantry serves on average 700 individuals (304 families) to the most vulnerable in our community.



I Support the Girls: We are continuing to collect lightly used bras and new menstrual hygiene products. Please drop donations in the bin in the fellowship hall. Let's try to double the amount we brought in last year which was roughly 140 bras! The homeless need our help in a way that they don't normally get. I Support the Girls collects and distributes essential items, including bras, underwear, and menstrual hygiene products, allowing women experiencing homelessness, impoverishment, or distress to stand with dignity.

Women's Book Club: Weekly Tuesday night from 8-8:45 pm we are having a Women's Book Club. This is a Zoom meeting for now and possibly be a future house book club to be moved from house to house. If you would like to join Please email jimmelt11@aol.com, text or call 508-221-4958 to find out what we are currently reading and discussing.



Virtual Big Fix: Big Fix-A-Thon volunteer event is going **VIRTUAL!** Due to COVID-19, volunteers can't gather in large groups to help homeowners in need, but they can gather virtually, complete individual, socially-distant acts of kindness for our neighbors, and raise funds to help year-rounders stay housed and safe.

BIG FIX FUNDRAISER + NEIGHBOR: Help raise essential funds for the [Workforce Housing Relief Fund](#) and perform an act of kindness by giving back to a neighbor in need.

Launched in April, the Relief Fund goes directly to prevent families and individuals on Cape Cod and the Islands who have been impacted by the pandemic from becoming homeless.

BIG FIX NEIGHBOR: Small deeds make the biggest difference. This statement embodies what the Big Fix-A-Thon is all about and the difference you can make by signing up as a Big Fix Neighbor.

Today through October, consider giving back to a neighbor in need by mowing their lawn, weeding their garden, cleaning their gutters, raking their yard, etc., all while maintaining social distancing protocols.

BIG FIX FUNDRAISER: The need for safe, stable housing has never been greater. As a Big Fix Fundraiser, you will show your commitment to our mission while raising money for our Workforce Housing Relief Fund.

Please email Julie Immelt Whelden if you would like to participate at jimmelt11@aol.com

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY BESSINGS

God's blessings to our family members celebrating birthdays this summer. September Birthdays: 2 – Bobye Anderson, 3 – Al Croft, 10 – Cherylann Randall & Helen Bresnahan, 12 – Louise Bailey 14- Nancy Mars, 30 – Julie Immelt Whelden

Let us celebrate life among our church family. It's a great thing to have a birthday, a gift from God. Please give your birthday information by recording it on the calendar on the Fellowship bulletin board.



Queen Anne's Lace and Bleeding Heart

There is a wild flower...Queen Anne's Lace,
Growing in an unusual place.

One blossom appeared in a bleeding heart.
I thought to myself," What a work of Art!"

Amid the flowers of pink, the white lace
Enhances the plant with beauty and grace.

The intricate blossom, standing tall
Makes all around her appear so small.

Gently wafting in the warm summer breeze,
Her mission in life seems only to please.

Special gift from God, delicate and free,
Sharing her loveliness for all to see.

Joy Stosz
July 18, 2020

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(508) 548-3050 www.johnwesleyumc.org

Rev. Rebecca Mincieli, Pastor

Staff: Hannah Duclos, Director of Children & Youth Ministries | Ruth Moulton, Office Administrator
Linda Brouder, Director of Music Ministries | Mirela Chisbora, Pianist/Organist
George Cary, Treasurer | John Loewen, Sexton