

Welcome to...



We're glad you're here!

Connect with us:

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Wesleychurchbethlehem



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Week two of seven



Journey of Stones

What's up in worship?

Today: "Rejected Stones:" We know how it is that Jesus was rejected in real life, but have we considered how we (yes, us!) reject him all over, perhaps even day after day? There are a lot of things that are important to us, but when we choose them over Jesus... we reject him all over. A tough one to hear today.

Next Week: "Sticks and Stones" (John 8:1-12) It would be a relief if we could say we didn't throw rocks anymore, especially at our fellow human beings. But let's face it: Every time we stand in judgement, a proverbial rock hits its mark. Contrast Jesus' word to the woman. Brothers and sisters, sticks and stones still hurt.

Today's Community Connections:

- If you are interested in providing fresh flowers for worship, please sign up at the *Connections Corner* table. (See bullet point below.)
- **Feel like you missed something? The *Connections Corner* table can help. Head across the atrium and get the information you need just under the tv monitor.**
- Don't receive our weekly e-news? To get on the list email SueK@wesleychurch.com or sign up at the *Connections Corner* table.
- The backpack team wishes to extend a thank you to the congregation in support of last weekend's events. "Backpack" will be here before you know it!
- Be sure to check out your e-news for information on ongoing groups and classes for personal growth.
- **Want to support a missionary? Short term missionary Lori Dietz will be heading to Manaus, Brazil. She needs our help. To see what you can do, drop by the desk outside the chapel.**
- **Thanks to our youth group and everyone who pitched in to help create a welcoming place for Youth Annual Conference yesterday. Thanks for volunteering! What a great time!**
- Forrest Taylor's celebration of life will be held at 11 AM on Saturday, March 23. Calling hours begin at 10 AM.
- On March 23, there will be a Spring Craft Fair from 10 AM to 3 PM with an Easter Egg Hunt at noon. For more information, connect with Debbie Ace at debcat71@rcn.com.

Wesley Church Staff

Pastor Andy Krpata – Ext 13

pastorandykrpata@gmail.com

Minister of Discipleship

Bob Keiderling – Ext 11

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Office Administrator

Susan L. Maticavage – Ext 12

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Director of Children's Ministries

Deb Silliman - dlj@silliman.org

Minister to Youth Brian Graybeal

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Tracy Leszczynski – Ext 14

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Bell Choirs/Organist/ Pianist

Frank Arbushites

610-866-1718 arbus@rcn.com

Children's Choirs Heather Hunter

610-863-9443 shorething@rcn.com

Child Care Coordinator

Keranie Whipple

610-997-0832 kwhipple@rcn.com

Today's morning schedule:

9:00 – Contemporary worship

10:15 – Sunday School for all ages

11:00 – Classic (traditional) worship

Hospitality is offered in the atrium.

Church office hours are
from 9 AM-3 PM weekdays
during the school year.

† invites all to stand, if able.

Contemporary Worship Order

March 17th, 2019: Journey of Stones Week #2: 2nd Sunday in Lent

† Welcome and Greeting

Bob Keiderling, Minister of Discipleship

Please stand and take some time to say hello to those around you and remind them that Jesus is here! Peace!

† Praising God in Song

Open the Eyes of My Heart and Give Us Clean Hands

The Ensemble

† Scripture

Psalm 118 and Mark 12:1-2

Terry Nighan, Reader

Children's Message

Andrew Krpata, Pastor

Congregational Prayer

Whether offering your prayer aloud or keeping it confidential, please continue to fill out the blue cards and place them in the offering so that the prayer team may continue to faithfully do its work. Thank you!

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Giving Our Tithes, Offerings and Other Gifts

The blue *Sign-in Cards / Prayer Cards* are available in the pew racks. They, as well as your morning offering, can be placed in the offering plates as they are passed along your pew. Thank you!

Music during the Offering

Lord, I Need You

The Ensemble

Message

"Rejected Stones"

Pastor Andy

Response

All You've Ever Wanted (Casting Crowns)

The Ensemble

During the Ensemble's musical response, the congregation is invited to come forward with the stone given to you when you entered the sanctuary and leave it where it belongs – at the foot of the cross. Please note – this rock we hold represents the times when we have knowingly or ignorantly rejected Christ. It is our choice to leave it. But if you struggle in this area, you are welcome to bring it home with you, and much like the original rock, be responsible for it while you consider what to do with it. There is grace enough to bring it back next week and lay it down. Be blessed either way.

I just looked up today and realized how far away I am from where You are
You gave me life worth dying for, but between the altar and the door
I bought the lies that promised more and here I go again

Lord, I know I let You down, but somehow, I will make You proud
I'll turn this sinking ship around and make it back to You
But all my deeds and my good name are just dirty rags that tear and strain
To cover all my guilty stains that You already washed away

(chorus) 'Cause all You've ever wanted, all You've ever wanted / All You've ever wanted was my heart
Freedom's arms are open, my chains have all been broken / Relentless love has called me from the start
And all You wanted was my heart

I was chasing healing when I'd been made well / I was fighting battles when You conquered hell
Living free but from a prison cell / Lord, I lay that down today
So, I'll stop living off of how I feel and start standing on Your truth revealed
Jesus is my strength, my shield and He will never fail me

No more chains, I've been set free / No more fighting battles You've won for me / Now in Christ I stand complete (to chorus)

(ending) All You wanted was my heart, all You ever wanted was my heart / And all You wanted was my heart

Community Connections

Please see front of bulletin.

† Closing Song

Cornerstone

† Closing Words and Dismissal

Dismissal Song

I Surrender All (arr. C. Curry)

The Ensemble

† invites all to stand, if able.

Classic Worship Order

March 17th, 2019: Journey of Stones Week #2: 2nd Sunday in Lent

Prelude Rhosymedre (Ralph Vaughan Williams) Frank Arbushites, organ

† **Welcome and Greeting** Bob Keiderling, Minister of Discipleship
Please stand and take some time to say hello to those around you and remind them that Jesus is here! Peace!

† **Opening Hymn** *How Firm a Foundation* #529, United Methodist Hymnal (UMH)

The Sacrament of Baptism: Brooks Jeffrey Opp (Jeffrey and Melissa) page 39, UMH

Congregational Prayer

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Giving Our Tithes, Offerings and Other Gifts

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Offertory *The Solid Rock* (arr. Joel Raney) Frank, Piano

† **Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* #95, UMH

† **Scripture** Psalm 118 and Mark 12:1-2 Patti Tironi, Reader

† **Hymn** *My Faith Looks up to Thee* #452, UMH

Message "Rejected Stones" Andrew Krpata, Pastor

Response *I Need Thee Every Hour* (arr. S. DeFord) Chancel Choir

During the Choir's musical response, the congregation is invited to come forward with the stone given to you when you entered the sanctuary and leave it where it belongs – at the foot of the cross. Please note – this rock we hold represents the times when we have knowingly or ignorantly rejected Christ. It is our choice to leave it. But if you struggle in this area, you are welcome to bring it home with you, and much like the original rock, be responsible for it while you consider what to do with it. There is grace enough to bring it back next week and lay it down. Be blessed either way.

The text is the same as that of Hymn #397, verses 1-3.

Community Connections Please see front of bulletin.

† **Closing Hymn** *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* #559, UMH

† **Benediction and Response** *Into My Heart* (H. D. Clarke) Chancel Choir

† **Postlude** *Rigaudon* (Jean-Baptiste Lully) Frank, organ

*"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell Him what you need and thank him for all he has done."
Philippians 4:6 New Living Translation*

March 10

Laurie Bilheimer & Scott Stackhouse prayers for Stephen as he faces 6 months of treatment for a large, deep thrombosis in his leg. Prayers for Scott's friend, Colleen, who just faced a breast cancer diagnosis. **Ksenzakovic family** ask prayers for Dad's upcoming surgery; for the country & world; for the Wesley Congregation. Prayers and love for Joe & Sharon Schultz & family. We are here for you! **Lockhart Family** is thankful to have Maia home this week during spring break. Prayers for safe travels to all traveling. **Frank Madura** asks God's healing for Joe, Chuck, & Dennis – all with cancer; God's wisdom as my mother's caregiver; God's guidance for all seeking employment. **Kasey Renowden** prayers for Donna, knee surgery complications; Brenda, Karen, Jacquie with cancer; Hank, Betty & Charlie for health concerns; Jeffery Tabor on passing of his mother this week. **Ray & Lin Robey** ask continued healing prayers for Donna, Shirley & Penny; prayers for grandson Derek; prayers of thanks for safe travels for Ray. **Jan & Rich Schultz** our friends' daughter, Kelly, recently diagnosed with breast cancer; undergoing chemo. **Janet Soos** for strength and patience for friend, Evelyn, as she recovers from back surgery. **Deb Silliman** For friend, Michael, who is in the hospital for gastro issues and surgery. Prayers for family who are struggling with health, relationships and purpose.

JOYS AND PRAISES:

Christian Lockhart gives thanks for the work of the church council and their dedication, open minds, and desire to continually make Wesley a home for everyone. **Frank Madura** gives praise to God for His forgiveness and mercy and the opportunity to serve.

CONTINUED HEALING /PRAYER CONCERNS:

Melissa Day, new health cares. **Kelly Hines'** father, Parkinson's disease. **Tom Keel**, foot surgeries & rehab. **Andy Kereczman**, cancer. **Beverly Marriner**, pain relief. **Carolyn & Larry Miller** prayers for healing. **Chuck & Wendy Stehly** for **Jeff**, brain cancer; for **Ivelisse**, breast cancer, & **Jennifer Grube**, battling cancer. **Frank Vitali**, cancer. **Diana Rivera**, eye problems. **Bev** (WCOF preschool teacher) knee replacement.

THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND WORSHIP

At Home George & Martha Danner, Naomi Jones
Abington (Easton) Sylvia Thele
Gracedale Jane Sandt, Dorothy Coolin
Kirkland Village Barbara Guldner

Moravian Village Agnes Smith, Carol Beach
Sterling Heights Peggy Jacobson
Traditions of Hanover Marian Jeffery
Westminster Village Shirley Beiseigel

WESLEY CHURCH MINISTRIES: Our teachers and facilitators; Good Grief; Men's & Women's Small groups; TEACHRwanda; Visitation/Stephen Ministry; We've Got Your Backpack Day; Backpack Buddies; Cancer Support Groups; Wesley Community Garden; Lehigh Valley Outreach Depot; and UMC Leadership.

WESLEY LEADERSHIP TEAMS:

Committee on Nominations and Leadership: Pastor Andrew Krpata, Lenore Mohr, Mike Maticavage, Chris Jacobsen, Brian Graybeal, and Christy Hume.

Committee on Staff/Parish Relations: Dave Siegfried, Andrew Krpata, Mike Maticavage, Karen Marmaras, Meg Ksenzakovic, Liz Lewis, Mike Krom, Jaimee Walters, Samir Kakade and Nicole Lockhart.

Board of Trustees: Rich Chambers, Jeff Rose, Deb Silliman, Andrew Krpata, Frank Madura, Kim Krupka, Kraig Hume, Lisa Jacobsen, Doug Jantzi, and Bob Long.

Committee on Finance and Stewardship: Jim Hunter, Peter Marmaras, Andrew Krpata, Mike Maticavage, Karen Marmaras, Dave Siegfried, Rich Chambers, Sharon Schultz, Wayne Muffley, Anita Dalske, Aaron Hook, Bob Sopko, and Matt Dietz.

Church Council: Christian Lockhart (chairperson), Mike Maticavage (Lay Leader), Karen Marmaras (Lay Member to Annual Conference), Chris Foster (Alternate to Annual Conference), Jason Walters (Social Justice Ministries), Sue Kiefner (Outreach & Ministries), Ryan Adamson (Representative of UM Youth), Kailyn Whipple (Young Adult Representative) and Christine Bainbridge (Member at Large).

Also included in Church Council are the chairpersons of our administrative committees.

We ask that you please update your prayer request information at least every two weeks.
This ensures that your request will remain on the Prayer List.
Thank you!