

the spire

wesley student center & united methodist church at the university of illinois

July 2024



WESLEY SUMMER PICNIC | SUNDAY JULY 14

Celebrate with your church family at our Wesley Summer Picnic on **Sunday, July 14** following our morning worship service. Experience a delightful afternoon featuring delicious burgers, hotdogs, and refreshing drinks. We kindly ask that you bring a side dish to share and don't forget your lawn chair for comfortable seating.

This event is a wonderful opportunity to bring your friends and family, as everyone is welcome. To keep the little ones entertained, we will have some children's games available. For more information, please contact

- Jane McCulley janekmcculley@gmail.com
- Libby Johnston at ljohnston326@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you there for a day of food, fun, and fellowship!



Volunteering at Sola Gratia Farm
Part 1



Volunteering at Sola Gratia Farm
Part 2



Kite Flying at Meadowbrook Park
June 19, 2024

Wesley Summer ESL Classes and International Coffee Hour

Wesley's Summer ESL Classes and International Coffee House are back! We are excited to have our ESL classes and International Coffee House all summer long! The ESL classes will meet every Friday from 3 PM to 4 PM, in the West Lounge. The classes are fun and engaging, suitable for learners at various levels. All international students, families, and scholars are welcome.

The International Coffee House meets every Friday from 4 PM to 6 PM in the Etc. Coffeehouse. This is a wonderful opportunity to chat, make new friends, play table games, and enjoy snacks and drinks in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. All are welcome! We look forward to seeing you!

PROVIDE SNACKS FOR OUR INTERNATIONAL COFFEEHOUSE

Your contribution of snacks or drinks would truly enhance this fellowship time and create a memorable experience for all attendees.

Please reach out to Yiwen at yiwen@wesleyui.org. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated. Thank you for considering being a part of this enriching experience!



ESL & International Coffeehouse

Staff Positions Available at Wesley. Help us spread the word!

Director of Music

This is a 12-month part-time (10 hours/week), salaried position, reporting to the Senior Pastor.

The Director of Music directs the Chancel (Sanctuary) Choir and coordinates all music for traditional services. Other responsibilities include developing a children/youth music program including supervision of volunteers or paid leaders, and contributing to the contemporary worship service in an advisory capacity.

Traditional Sunday worship is at 9:30am, with the choir call time at 8:30 am. Occasionally services are moved to 10:30 am. Time and duration of weekly rehearsals for choirs, soloists and ensembles to be determined by the director. The director is expected to participate in weekly worship planning with pastors and staff. Responsibilities in the summer months include organization of music for services during this time, preparation for the fall and other needs as identified by the Senior Pastor.

Qualifications are a minimum of a Bachelor of Music degree (advanced degree preferred) with knowledge and experience in choral conducting and sacred music.

Full job description available upon request. For more information contact: Rev. David Fuquay, Senior Pastor – david@wesleyui.org or Herb Whiteley, Search Chair – herb.whiteley@gmail.com. For full consideration, submit a letter of interest and resume by July 22, 2024 to Rev. David Fuquay, Senior Pastor – david@wesleyui.org. The position will remain open until filled. Anticipated start date of August 15, 2024.

Director of Communications

This is a 12-month part-time (15 hours/week), salaried position, reporting to the Senior Pastor/Director. Some remote work and flexible hours possible.

The Communications Director tells the stories of Wesley United Methodist Church and the Wesley Foundation and highlights the impact of their programs through engaging multimedia content. This person will serve as editor of two monthly newsletters (electronic and print) and weekly e-news blasts, manage the church and foundation websites, social media channels, and digital display screens throughout the facility, and assist in other communications-related projects.

The Communications Director must be able to relate and connect to a broad spectrum of people from a variety of social and economic levels. Qualifications include experience in a communications-related field including print, web, social media, and graphic design. Previous experience in higher education, Christian ministry, or other non-profit organization is beneficial.

Full job description available upon request. For more information contact: Rev. David Fuquay, Senior Pastor – david@wesleyui.org. For full consideration, submit a letter of interest and resume by July 22, 2024, to Rev. David Fuquay, Senior Pastor – david@wesleyui.org. The position will remain open until filled. Anticipated start date of August 15, 2024.

Director of Outreach and Guest Services

This is a 12-month part-time (15 hours/week), salaried position, reporting to the Senior Pastor. Some remote work and flexible hours possible.

The Outreach and Guest Services Director tells stories of Wesley Church and Wesley Foundation through engaging multimedia marketing content published through our website, social media channels, press releases, and other relevant channels. This person also ensures a warm welcome to all members, guests, and students on Sunday mornings at Wesley, serving as first point of contact for students and guests and overseeing the follow-up process via texts, emails, and phone calls. In addition, this person works to promote paid use of the building for weddings, events, and for student groups.

The Guest Services and Outreach Director must be able to relate and connect to a broad spectrum of people from a variety of social and economic levels. Previous experience working with, or in, hospitality or sales, and previous experience with marketing via social media platforms and local advertising and news organizations preferred. Previous experience in higher education, Christian ministry, or other non-profit organization is beneficial.

Full job description available upon request. For more information contact: Rev. David Fuquay, Senior Pastor – david@wesleyui.org. For full consideration, submit a letter of interest and resume by July 22, 2024 to Rev. David Fuquay, Senior Pastor – david@wesleyui.org. The position will remain open until filled. Anticipated start date of August 15, 2024.

All open positions are posted on our website: wesleyui.org/employment

Hymn Sing Sunday on July 14!



On July 14, we will celebrate "Hymn Sing Sunday" at our 9:30am worship service before our church picnic.

Help us prepare by sharing your most-loved hymns from The United Methodist Hymnal. You can submit up to five (5) of your favorites.

The best and easiest way to share your favorite hymns is by completing this online form:

<https://forms.gle/juNsrVyeBBkJSCP96>

Alternatively, you can submit your favorites in writing by completing the form in the bulletin on Sunday July 7 or by emailing david@wesleyui.org. All submissions must be received by Wednesday, July 10. Our services will include several medleys of the most requested hymns.

For reference, you can find a full list of hymns here: <https://www.hymnsite.com/abc.sht>

Great Rivers Annual Conference Report

Em Fielden, Lay Delegate from Wesley

June is always a busy, yet exciting time in the United Methodist Church with moves, new or renewed appointments, and most especially: Annual Conference. The Illinois Great Rivers Conference (IGRC) Annual Conference took place from June 6-8 in Peoria, Illinois. We had a great conference this year. Personally, I always sincerely appreciate the opportunity to participate in the IGRC Annual Conference because, as a young adult raised by The United Methodist Church, it is an empowering feeling to have a say in both the present and future in a conference and church that has shaped me and my faith.



This year was especially monumental and special after General Conference, and all the decisions that were made in that space. We had two legislative items on the table pertaining to the actions taken by the General Conference delegation. The first was a resolution supporting the creation of educational opportunities regarding worldwide regionalization for conference members before the ratification vote at the 2025 Annual Conference. This resolution was approved on a 457-144 vote. The second was a resolution that authorized the creation of a conference-level LGBTQ+ Ministry Team that will curate, create, and share resources for churches that wish to expand its ministry to the LGBTQ+ community. This was approved on a 433-177 vote. This was a historic Annual Conference in terms of increasing awareness and inclusion of the LGBTQ+ community in our churches. Finally, in anticipation of a special called session of General Conference in 2026, the Conference voted 365-235 to hold new elections in 2025 – the first since the current delegation was seated in 2019.

Per usual, we made several decisions regarding the budget, including the approval of an \$8,013,000 conference budget for 2025. We approved the health insurance allowance paid to full-time pastors will be \$18,000 for 2025, this is a \$500 bump from the previous rate we set in 2017. The conference also approved a 3.3 percent increase to its minimum salaries. In 2025, the salaries will go to \$52,100 for clergy in full connection, associate members and provisional elders; and \$47,809 for full-time local pastors.

In the midst of legislative sessions, we both mourned the losses of this year, including the lives of many friends and the closure of 19 churches, and celebrated new life chapters as we recognized 29 retirees. The IGRC Annual Conference ended with the recognition and celebration of the election of five elders in full connection, the recognition of orders of one elder, and recognition of five local pastors on their completion of the Course of Study. Overall, there was much to celebrate at the 2024 Annual Conference, and it truly was a time to dance.

To learn more, go to: igrc.org/ac2024

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Wesley Alum, The Rev. Tabi Nelson, who was ordained as an Elder in Full Connection at the Illinois Great Rivers Conference session in June.



Student In Need Of Housing

We have received a request from an incoming international student. The student is admitted to a Master's program, and is looking for anyone willing to rent out a room during the 10-month program from August of this year to May of next year. If you are interested, please contact Yiwen (yiwen@wesleyui.org) for more details about the student.



Next Parents' Night Out On Friday, July 12

On Friday, July 12, drop off your children or youth at the church from 6-8 pm for a fun-filled evening. We'll eat out first, then play mini golf or go bowling at Old Orchard Lanes & Links. Please sign up or contact Barb Hughes: blhughes3@gmail.com. We also need adult volunteers to help supervise the event.

WESLEY FOOD PANTRY

Сіз қазақша сөйлейсіз бе?

Do you speak Kazakh? Our Thursday evening pantry has seen a large increase in the number of families who speak Kazakh as their predominant language. We need volunteers that can help our shoppers navigate the registration process and our shopping choices who are able to speak either Kazakh or Russian. If you are interested, please contact Dawn, operations@wesleypantry.org.



WHO WE HELPED
May 2024

794 HOUSEHOLDS

1918 INDIVIDUALS

509 CHILDREN

A Busy Summer for Pantry Outreach

The Wesley Food Pantry's mobile program is taking advantage of the weather and the opportunity to be on the road with our big blue van. This summer, we'll be making stops at our three monthly locations – Washington Square, Steer Place, and Eden Supportive living. Here we serve guests who lack mobility or transportation and can use more individual items we don't have available at our weekly distributions.

Wesley will be a part of the Hill Family Celebration at Wesley Park at the end of June where we'll provide food and books for the children participating. This celebration is a community event with the goal of healing from the trauma of gun and drug violence. Our mobile unit will make a stop at Orchard Downs on July 27 with our partners at Campus Recreation. Orchard Downs houses many of our University of Illinois grad student families and international student families. These students are particularly vulnerable to food insecurity as they often are not eligible for other types of government food assistance such as SNAP benefits.



Mobile Food Pantry

SAT JUL 27 | 10AM-12NOON
ORCHARD DOWNS COMMUNITY CENTER
510 George Huff Drive | Urbana

BRING YOUR OWN BAG!
NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS & HYGIENE PRODUCTS AVAILABLE.*
Open to current Illinois students.
Must show i-card to shop.

DONATIONS ACCEPTED
If you have unopened, unused food and personal hygiene items, please consider dropping them off at our donation box during this event to support the Food Assistance and Wellbeing Program.
*Limited quantities.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

FOOD ASSISTANCE & WELLBEING PROGRAM

Student Affairs | campusrec.illinois.edu | **Campus Recreation**

Stewardship Updates

Wesley United Methodist Church & Foundation Student Center Income and Expenses through May 31, 2024

Foundation

Income:

Gifts to Operating Fund	\$ 18,767
IGRC Support	\$ 54,893
Building Use	\$ 11,164
Gifts to Building Improvement	\$ 2,500
Gifts to Etc. Coffeehouse	\$ 4,219
Total Income	\$ 91,543

Expense:

Staff	\$ 208,781
Administrative Expense	\$ 13,596
Program Expense	\$ 32,873
Building Expense	\$ 75,400
Building Improvement	\$ 11,477
Total Expense	\$ 342,127

Surplus/(Deficit-transferred from reserves) \$ (250,585)
(Budgeted transfers for 2024=\$128,279)

Church

Income:

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 170,311
Loose Plate Offering	\$ 994
Parking Lot Income	\$ 4,673
Total Income	\$ 175,978

Expense:

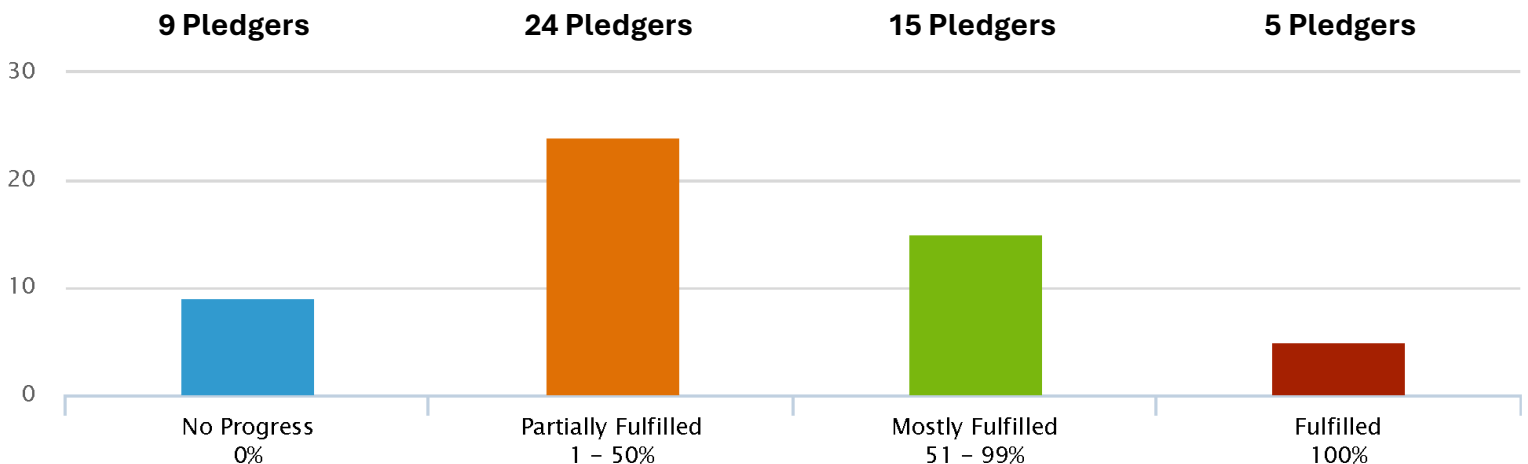
Staff	\$ 169,824
Administrative Expense	\$ 11,260
Program Expense	\$ 5,529
Building Expense	\$ 23,576
Apportionments	\$ 22,515
Total Expense	\$ 232,704

Surplus/(Deficit-transferred from reserves) \$ (56,727)
(Budgeted transfers for 2024= \$138,299)

Church Pledge Report through June 30

<u>2024 Pledged and Non-Pledged Giving Goal:</u>	<u>\$330,000.00</u>
Total amount pledged in 2024:	\$293,032.00 (53 pledges)
Non-Pledged Giving Goal:	\$ 36,068.00
Pledged amount received:	\$145,243.06 (\$149,538.94 in remaining pledges)
Non-Pledged amount received:	\$ 48,275.76
Amounted Needed to Reach Goal	\$136,481.18

Pledge Fulfillment Status



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

TEMP-RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit 299
Champaign, IL 61821



Wesley Staff

Senior Pastor/Director **Rev. David Fuquay** | Campus Minister **Rev. Julie Dowler**
Associate Pastor **Rev. Yiwen Bi** | WesCare Coordinator **Dr. Emily Lux**
Director of Advancement and Engagement **Donna Camp** | Office Manager **Donna Giffen**
Business Manager **Chanda Davidson** | Childcare Coordinator **Christina Holderly**
Food Pantry Director **Dawn Longfellow** | Food Pantry Assistant **Brian McDermott**
Maintenance Specialist **Rick Sansone** | Part-Time Custodian **Christopher Livesay**
Residential Custodian: **Josh Hall**

Main Office: 217.344.1120

Emergency Contact: Donna Giffen – 217.377.8042

Sunday Services

9:30 a.m. Traditional Service

Eleven20 Coffeehouse Worship (11:20 a.m.)

Wesley Building Hours:

Open Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sundays 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.