

## Upcoming Events

TODAY: CHURCH PICNIC AFTER GATHERING

**THIS WEEK:**

**Thursday, Aug 4:**

Wesleyan Women, 1:30pm  
LBA meeting, 6:45pm

**Saturday, Aug. 6:**

Teen Outing to Michigan Adventure, 9:30am  
**Aug 6-13:** Hopkins Mission Trip to Canada

**COMING UP:**

Aug. 11-12: Pastor Mark at Leadership Conference  
Aug. 14-20: Branch Adventures Extreme UP  
Aug. 15-22: Lipscombs on vacation  
Aug. 18: Wesleyan Women, 1:30pm  
Aug. 27: Back-to-School Block Party  
Sept. 16-18: Women’s Retreat at Winding Creek  
Sept. 21: Next Saranac Community Meal  
Sept. 24: Branch Adventures Harvest Fest  
Oct. 7-8: Men’s Retreat at Winding Creek

SECRET PAL PRAYER GROUP: Don’t *forget*  
to *remember* your *Secret Pal* this coming month!

Notes:

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[www.wbwc.us](http://www.wbwc.us)

## Ministry Contacts

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Please have information to be included in the *Bulletin* to Holly Bandfield (616-318-4857 or hollybandfield@msn.com) by 5pm Thursdays.

To pay online: go to our website or scan the QR code below.



West Berlin Wesleyan Church  
4960 Portland Road  
Saranac, MI 48881

# 07.31.2016

## The Bulletin

### OUR LIVES BEING TRANSFORMED BY JESUS CHRIST



WE WILL LOVE, LEARN, LIVE AND LEAD THE WAY OF JESUS

*One in Heart  
and in Mission  
Better together*

# WELCOME

Today we will be hearing about forgiveness. It's not always something easy to do – but it is always the right thing to do. Even more so when you think of the forgiveness God extends to us. It is God's grace and forgiveness that show how much He loves us.

It says in Ephesians 4:32, “And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.” Paul talked in his letter to the Ephesians of our spiritual blessings – forgiveness being one of them.

I love that his letter starts with “Grace to you . . .”. Isn't that the best way to approach everyone! God's forgiveness to us is a form of grace. We certainly don't get what we deserve.

So what a great way for us to show God's unconditional love to others, by extending that same grace and forgiveness – even when it isn't asked for or even deserved.

I am sure there are many things in this world that seem impossible to forgive – and only with God's help are we able to do so. Sometimes it takes a while to get there. But God always shows up to heal and help, because forgiveness is less about the other person and more about our own hearts.

Collette Wheelock

# SCRIPTURES

1 John 1:5-10; Matthew 6:9-15

LOVE LEARN LIVE LEAD

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THINKING ABOUT MEMBERSHIP AT WEST BERLIN WESLEYAN?

*If you have questions, we have answers! A sign-up sheet is on the info table; sign your name to let our pastoral staff know that you are interested in learning more about becoming a member or transferring your current Wesleyan membership.*

## GOOD JOB, EVERYONE!

*As the Hopkins leave for Canada on Saturday, they will be taking almost their entire “wish list” of supplies provided by our church family! And you were generous with your donations for travel expenses, too. BETTER TOGETHER has never meant more!*

## AUGUST MISSION FOCUS:

*BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLOCK PARTY ON AUGUST 27th (volunteer sign-up sheets near info table) and GET ON THE BACKPACK BUS – donate \$12.50 per backpack through your offering envelope!*

## FAITH PROMISE-GLOBAL PARTNERS:

June 1, 2016–May 31, 2017

Goal: \$5,500

Rec'd Y-T-D: \$227 (4%)

## MISSION PROJECTS UPDATES:

HOPKINS MISSION TRIP	\$2,140
PASTOR ELIO VAN	\$3,125
BACKPACKS	\$ 285
BLOCKPARTY	\$ 700

## Trustees' Projects

*Interior repairs & painting the Ebenezer Center:*

Goal: \$5,000

Received to date: \$3,886 (78%)

*New Generator:*

Goal: \$23,000

Received to date: \$ 4,598 (20%)

*EC Parking Lot Extension:*

Goal: \$20,000

Received to date: \$ 370 (2%)

7/24/16

GIVING

\$3,758

Attendance

100

**WB, Gateway & Bridge**

Sunday, July 31, 2016

Servant Series

Who Will We Serve

**Worship Gathering 8:15 am**

Joyful Gathering of the Church

Welcome/Announcements

Scripture Reading . . . . . 1 John 1:5-10

Pastoral Prayer

Receiving of Tithes & Offerings

Hymn #661 . . . . . *Since I Have Been Redeemed*

Communion

Hymn #476 . . . . . *Whiter Than Snow*

Message . . . . . Forgiven Servants Forgive

Hymn #393 . . . . . *If My People Will Pray*

Benediction

Scriptural Reference:

Matthew 6:9-15

**The Ebenezer Center Generator Story**

Originally planned as a center for receptions, meetings and recreation, the Ebenezer Center has also evolved into a worship center to accommodate a growing congregation. The current generator project is part of a long-range planning strategy to provide emergency shelter to the community. In conjunction with Ionia County Emergency Management and the American Red Cross, the Ebenezer Center was designed with shower facilities and a spacious kitchen. The main center area can easily be adapted to provide sleeping space with cots and blankets provided by the Red Cross. Several West Berlin people were part of a core group who completed an emergency preparedness course several years ago. The only obstacle to becoming a certified emergency center – in an instance of threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other man-made disasters – is a lack of a generator that would provide power for water, lights and heat.

Another key factor in our need for a generator is that in times of power outages, we have to rely on individuals to provide generators and round-the-clock fueling to prevent the water pipes from freezing and bursting. Heat for the Center is provided through water pipes embedded in the concrete floors. In recent years the Ebenezer Center has had power disruptions lasting up to 6 days! Fortunately there were folks on hand to supply and re-fuel generators, but if they had not been available, the church would have incurred great expense.

Funding for providing generator capability is ongoing. Step 1 was raising funds (\$3,846), for purchasing, installing and connecting an automatic generator switch. That process will be completed on Monday, August 1, when the switch connection is made. Step 2 is raising funds for the purchase of the generator. To date we have raised 20% of the cost, estimated at \$23,000. As soon as the funding is in place, the generator will be purchased and then our building can be re-evaluated and considered for certification as a designated Ionia County emergency shelter. At the same time, we hope to have more people take the course to be ready to serve as shelter volunteers.