



**Thank you to all our supporters and donors. Our work isn't possible without you.** Your support allows WPS to provide resources for adults as they adapt to the immediate loss of a spouse/partner as well as the adjustments that follow in months and years ahead. Funded entirely by donations, **at no charge for participants**, WPS offers educational support groups facilitated grief workshops, outreach volunteer opportunities, varied forms of social support and guidance from experienced volunteer group leaders as well as peers. Thank you for your support that restores lives across our

### Grief Support Meetings

***“Will I Ever Be Finished Grieving My Spouse’s Death? How Long Does It Take?”***

Evening Zoom Support Group  
Tuesday, **May 5<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 pm

The meeting ID is 861 3697 3690 and the Passcode is 083243.

If you have not read the book “Getting to the Other Side of Grief”, contact the WPS office for a copy. How do you forge out of that difficult, unwanted territory and feel accepted and worthwhile again?

If you have any questions, you can email at [szsrdv@gmail.com](mailto:szsrdv@gmail.com) or phone Susan at 616-780-1082 and/or Bob 616-780-5433.

WPS invites you to participate in its monthly ONLINE educational grief support group. Will I ever be finished grieving my spouse’s death? How will I know if I do? Will it ever happen? How Long does it take? It seems like I grieve and begin to feel a little better, and then I find myself teary, feeling “down” and yearning for my spouse again. And how long does that take till I’m on an upward course?

Maybe you’ve been asking these questions yourself because you want the pain and loneliness to stop. Come and discuss this with others who are probably asking these same questions! We’d like to have you join us online even if this will be your first time.

Come, join us and the WPS group to get some helpful suggestions of ways to begin to become part of things and reconstruct your life sharing ideas with others who are also on a similar journey. Our best wishes as you navigate your way through grief. Facilitated by Dr. Susan Zonnebelt-Smeenge (psychologist) and Dr. Bob DeVries (pastor, seminary prof emeritus).

***“Beginning to Date: What Do I Need to Know?”***

**Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>** at 1:00 pm

**Location:** The WPS Office  
(Elections are happening at the Grandville Library)  
4211 Clyde Park SW (Unit C), Wyoming, MI  
**Facilitator:** Sue and Mike Barnes

***“I Still Can’t Believe My Spouse is Really Dead and Never Coming Back”***

**Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>** at 1:00 pm

**Location:** StoryPoint Activity Room,  
3121 Lake Michigan Dr., NW, Grand Rapids, MI  
**Facilitators:** Maureen Bawden & David Morgenstern

***“When Does It Get Better?”***

**Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>** at 1:00 pm

**NEW LOCATION:** Maggie’s Be Café  
6490 28<sup>th</sup> Ave., Hudsonville, MI  
**Facilitator:** Sue and Mike Barnes

### **Social Support for the Newly Widowed This Month’s Newly Widowed Social Support Luncheon**

**Wednesday May 13th @ 1:00 pm**  
**Location:** McCalister’s Deli  
2380 Health Dr, Wyoming 49519

Join this friendly group of **Newly Widowed** men and women for a luncheon with fun and friendship. WPS encourages you to take this opportunity to make new friends who are going through the same sense of loss as you are, and to help you through the grief process. By attending a social event, you begin to gain confidence in life as a single person, an important component of your grief journey. Monthly social opportunities are coordinated and sponsored by WPS volunteers and alums who have been widowed.

You are invited to attend any and all activities listed in this newsletter. Updates are found on our homepage at [www.wpsgr.org](http://www.wpsgr.org) or on our Facebook page at "Widowed Persons Grand Rapids"



## Rockin' for a Reason



With WEST MICHIGAN'S PREMIER PARTY BAND!



### SPRING DANCE FUNDRAISER



Heavy hors d'oeuvres and cash bar from Sunnybrook Country Club, 625 Port Sheldon St., Grandville Photo Booth, Raffle, Auction Items  
FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2026, 5:00 – 10:00pm TICKETS: \$50.00 PER PERSON

WPS GOLF OUTING FUNDRAISER TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2026  
Gracewil Country Club TICKETS: \$100.00 PER PERSON

WPS FALL AUCTION FUNDRAISER THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2026.  
Aquinas College, Donnelly Center TICKETS: \$55.00 PER PERSON

#### Growth Thru Loss Seminar



Saturday,  
June 13<sup>th</sup>  
September 12<sup>th</sup>

Time: 10:00 am  
To 2:00 pm

#### Location:

Grandville  
Library  
4055 Maple St  
SW  
Grandville

Hosts: Susan  
Zonnebelt-  
Smeenge, RN,  
EdD and Robert  
C. De Vries,  
DMin, PhD



#### Pickleball

Monday,  
May 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>,  
18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>

Time: 12:00pm  
to 2:00pm  
Sign-in:  
11:45am

Location: MSA  
5435 28<sup>th</sup> st, SE  
Grand Rapids

Cost is \$5.00  
per player. Be  
sure to say  
hello and sign-  
in. June 1<sup>st</sup>, we  
will be outside  
at 5761 Del  
Mar, Grandville

#### GOLF CLASSIC!



Tuesday,  
May 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and  
26<sup>th</sup>

Tee off Time: 10:00 am  
Sign-in: 9:45 am

#### Location:

Gracewil  
2597 Four Mile Rd NW  
Walker, MI 49544

Weather Permitting!!

Not a guarantee, but **IF**  
the Golf Course has an  
earlier tee-off, we may  
have an earlier tee-off.  
We will be golfing unless  
the course is closed.  
Maureen will be our  
greeter, be sure to say  
hello and sign-in.



#### Miniature Golf at The Double Dip Depot

Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>,  
14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>

Time: 10:00 am  
Sign-in: 9:45 am

#### Location:

3284 Remembrance  
Rd NW, Walker

Weather Permitting!!  
This game of mini  
golf is teee-rific!  
Mike C. will be our  
Greeter, be sure to  
say Hello.



#### Kindness Krew



Saturday  
May 9<sup>th</sup>

Time: 1:30 pm

#### Location:

Berlin Raceway  
2060 Berlin Fair  
Marne 49435

We will be  
working  
concessions,  
selling tickets,  
then watching the  
races. Please  
contact Maureen  
at 616-550-3515  
or Michele at 616-  
901-2839 to help.



Thank you to all those who joined us at Herb & Fire Pizzeria. Was the HOT SPOT that evening. Herb & Fire will be sending a check to WPS. Thank you everyone.



GROWING THROUGH GRIEF

WPS encourages the maintenance of friendships gained through participation in our services. If you find Widowed Persons Services helpful, these opportunities may be of interest to you as you adapt to your life as a single person. For further information or questions, feel free to contact the WPS Office at (616) 538-0101. As a non-profit organization, your yearly \$25.00 contribution to the newsletter renewal enables WPS to inform all current and past participants of support/social opportunities and helps provide this newsletter to those who are recently widowed. Updates will be posted on our Facebook page; "Widowed Persons Grand Rapids."

**Dinner Fundraiser at Culver's**



Monday,  
May 4<sup>th</sup>

Time: 5:00pm to 8:00pm

**Location:**

330 Wilson Ave NW  
Walker, 49534

WPS will be working at Culver's, delivering food, cleaning tables, and welcoming patrons. Please contact the WPS Office 616-538-0101 if you are willing to pitch in for a shift between 5 and 8 pm. Will need 5 to 6 people per shift. Please let us know you are available to help.



**Dinner at Buffalo Wild Wings**

Sunday,  
May 17<sup>th</sup>

Time: 4:30pm

**Location:**

3050 Alpine Ave,  
Walker 49544

"Bdubs" serving up wings, tenders and burgers. Great Food, Great Friends and Great Fun.

**Kindness Krew**



**America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Wednesday  
May 20<sup>th</sup>

Time: 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

**Location:**

2950 Monroe Ave.  
Grand Rapids 49505

Each Person must sign up ahead of time. Please use fb link to sign up. For questions contact Maureen at 616-550-3515.

**Culinary Sunrise at New Beginnings**

Wednesday  
May 20<sup>th</sup>

Time: 8:30am

**Location:**

Lk Mich. Dr  
Standale

May you begin every day with a smile on your face and with happiness for your soul to embrace.

**Let's Eat Together, BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse**



Sunday,  
May 31<sup>st</sup>

Time: 4:30pm

**Location:**

3445 28<sup>th</sup> St.  
SE, 49512

Featuring deep dish pizza, burger, specials and favorites. Don't forget the World Famous Pizookie!!!

**Kindness Krew & Lori's Voice**



Wednesday,  
May 27<sup>th</sup>

Time: 9:00 am to 11:00 am

**Location:**

Millennium Park  
1415 Maynard Ave  
SW  
Walker, Kent County

Lori's Voice will be raffling off two vans and needs help setting up tables and putting on tablecloths, etc. Looking for 4 to 6 people. Please contact Maureen at 616-550-3515 to help.



**Marge's Donuts**

Friday,  
May 29<sup>th</sup>

Time: 10:00 am

**Location:**

Marge's Donuts  
1751 28<sup>th</sup> St SE  
Wyoming

Come join us for coffee, donuts and conversation. All are invited to share in conversation in the private back room on the last Friday of each month. A WPS Board Member will be Greeting.



**WPS Volunteer's Day**

Sunday  
June 28<sup>th</sup>

Time: 11:00am to 5:00pm

**Location:**

Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park  
1000 East Beltline  
Ave NE  
Grand Rapids

Please mark your calendar. ALL Volunteers – This is Your Day!!! Chihuly will be the exhibition. Please RSVP to 538-0101



**Michigan Whitecaps**

Tuesday  
July 28<sup>th</sup>

Start Time: 6:30pm  
Ticket Price: TBD

**Location:**

West Michigan  
Whitecap Games

Tickets to include Soda and Hotdog. Contact Maureen for your ticket 616-550-3515.



**WPS Potluck Picnic**

Sunday  
August 2<sup>nd</sup>

Time: 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

**Location:**

Maplewood Park  
8049 12<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Jenison 49428

Mark your calendar for a day of games with fun people.

**2026 Board Members**

Maureen Bawden (Widow), Tom Braciak (Widower), Lindsey Chrystan, Rev. Kenneth W. Hoskins, Agnes Kempker-Cloyd, Diane Lobbestael (Widow), Susanne Miller-Schachinger, David Morgenstern (Widower), Julie Myers, Deb Nykamp (Widow), and Chris Wilks.

4211 Clyde Park, SW (Unit C)  
Wyoming, MI 49509  
Return Service Requested  
Monthly Newsletter  
**May - 2026**  
**Issue 201**



### Our Mission

Widowed Persons Service (WPS) is organized exclusively for the purpose of offering supportive services to those individuals in Kent and Ottawa counties who have suffered the loss of a spouse through death.

### Our Vision

To provide actively grieving widowed adults a safe and healthy environment in which to process their grief, resulting in an enriching life as a single person.

### Our Process

WPS offers each grieving individual peer-to-peer support based on the belief that a widowed person is best helped along his/her grief journey with the help of other widowed people who have had similar experiences.

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### WPS Updates

Stay updated with Widowed Persons Service online:



[www.wpsgr.org](http://www.wpsgr.org)



Widowed Persons Grand Rapids



**Widowed  
Persons  
Service**

GROWING THROUGH GRIEF

### Office Hours

Monday: 11:00am -2:00pm

Tuesday thru Thursday: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Please call for an appt. or feel free to stop in.

If you call and do not get an answer, please leave a message and we will return your call ASAP.

### Contact Us

4211 Clyde Park, SW (Unit C)

Wyoming, MI 49509

wpsgr.org | [director@wpsgr.org](mailto:director@wpsgr.org)