



**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 community.

### Grief Support Meetings

***“So Where Do I Belong? It Seems Like I Don't Fit Anywhere Now That My Spouse Died!”***

Evening Zoom Support Group  
Tuesday, **July 14<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. Do you ever feel like a puzzle piece that won't fit anywhere you've tried to place it? You've attempted a gathering with your couple-friends and maybe felt like an awkward appendage with no place to land. Or perhaps you don't really have many single friends because you were mostly intertwined with your couple friends. Or it could be you and your spouse preferred doing things as a couple without spending much time with other people.

Whatever your particular case, now you feel like a fish out of water trying to find a pond occupied with others to jump in so you can survive the pain and uncomfortable feelings of loneliness, isolation, and depression. So, without your other half, your kindred spirit and best friend, you don't think you belong anywhere.

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).

***“Facing the Challenge of Vacations without Your Spouse”***

**Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>** at 1:00 pm

**Location:** The Grandville Library – “Babcock Room”  
(Enter off of Washington Ave.)  
4055 Maple St., SW, Grandville, MI

**Facilitator:** Mr. Mike Barnes

***“The Second Monday”***

Grief Support meeting will not be occurring for the months of July and August.

**This Meeting will resume on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>.**

**Location:** StoryPoint Activity Room,  
3121 Lake Michigan Dr., NW, Grand Rapids, MI

**Facilitators:** Maureen Bawden & David Morgenstern

***“Lonliness: How do you Cope?”***

**Tuesday, July 21<sup>st</sup>** at 1:00 pm

**Location:** Maggie's Be Café  
6490 28<sup>th</sup> Ave., Hudsonville, MI

**Facilitator:** Dr. Susan Zonnebelt-Smeenge & Dr. Bob DeVries

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

**Wednesday July 8<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 pm**  
**Location: Florentine Ristorante**  
**3245 28<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Grandville 49418**

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"

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

**SPRING DANCE FUNDRAISER**

*Rockin' for a Reason* May, 2026

**What a spectacular evening!!!**

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS:** The Bestside Restaurant, Brena, Community West Credit Union, Eve Rogus-Paul Becker Foundation, Fall Wine, Beer and Food Festival Volunteers, H.A. Irish Tree Service, Hancock and Associates, Hobart Sales and Service, Kent Family Dental, Lindo Mexico, Mike Loney, Edward Jones, McShane & Bowie, PLC, Riverbend Financial, Sobie Meats, Social Dance Studio, Success Financial, Varnum LLP, VerPlank Electric, Z & Z Tire, LLC, Erica Barbour, Tracy Blair, Michael Casullo, Lindsey Chrystan, Michele Cole, Bob Cooper, Annie Dross, Ken Fey, Dr. Stanley Fortuna, Dave Higley, Mark Kausch, Liz Kempker, Diane Lobbestael, David Morgenstern, Deborah Nykamp, Jim Stoddard, Gail Waters, All the WPS Volunteers and Anonymous Donors.

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR AUCTION SPONSORS:** Benji Salon and Spa, Centennial Acres Golf Course, Ed Duneback and Girls Farm, Gracewil Country Club, Grand Rapids Symphony, Gun Lake Casino and Resort, The golden File Nail and Spa, Ice Guru Photo Booth, Little River Casino Resort, Olive Garden Italian Restaurant, Park Center Lanes, The Pines Golf Course, Plastic Surgery Associates, Salus Wellness Spa, Sunnybrook Country Club, Trends Hair Salon, Maureen Bawden, Deb Brechting, Lindsey Chrystan, Michele Cole, Mark Kausch, Liz Kempker, Emily Levandoski, David Morgenstern, Deb Nykamp, Mary Beth Pringle, Barb Reader, Rich VanderWerf, Gail Waters and Ron Wiedenfeller.



**Pickleball**

Monday,  
**July 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup>  
and 27<sup>th</sup>**

Time: 9:00 am to  
11:30 am  
Sign-in: 8:45am

**Location:**

Del Mar Farms  
Clubhouse  
5761 Del Mar  
Grandville

Weather Permitting!!!  
We serve up fun, an  
occasionally miss  
shots. Dave H. at  
616-808-1773 will be  
our greeter, be sure  
to say Hello.



**GOLF  
CLASSIC!**

Tuesday,  
**July 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and  
28<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Location:**

Gracewil Country Club  
2597 4 Mile Rd NW  
Walker

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 at 616-  
550-3515 will be our  
greeter, be sure to say  
hello.



**Miniature Golf at  
The Double Dip  
Depot**

Thursday, **July 3<sup>rd</sup>,  
16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<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 Par-fectly played!  
Mike C. at 781-572-  
8861 will be our  
Greeter, be sure to say  
Hello and sign-in.

**Growth  
Thru  
Loss Seminar**



Saturday,  
**August 29<sup>th</sup>**

Time: 10:00 am  
To 2:00 pm

**Location:**

Grandville Library  
4055 Maple Street  
SW  
Grandville

Facilitators:  
Dr. Susan  
Zonnebelt-  
Smeenge and Dr.  
Bob DeVries

Thank you to all those were at Russ's FOR A WEEK LONG EVENT! Russ's will be sending a percent to WPS. Thank you everyone who attended Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.



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 Logan's Road  
House**

Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup>

Time: 4:30 pm

**Location:**

3153 Alpine NW  
Walker

A laid back "come as you are" place. The atmosphere is lively,

Use the Fundraiser Coupon for Logan's to donate a % to WPS.



**Dinner at Olive  
Garden**

Sunday,  
July 12<sup>th</sup>

Time: 4:30 pm

**Location:**

3030 Alpine Ave NW,  
Grand Rapids

Whether you're looking for freshly baked breadsticks or perfectly made pasta, Olive Garden has something for any appetite.



**Culinary Sunrise  
at Cracker Barrel  
Old Country  
Store**

Wednesday  
July 15<sup>th</sup>

Time: 8:30 am

**Location:**

4340 Kenowa Ave,  
Grandville

For the best Southern Cooking in Grandville, Take a seat at our morning table.



**Let's Eat  
Together,  
First Wok Chinese  
Restaurant**

Sunday,  
July 26<sup>th</sup>

Time: 4:30 pm

**Location:**

2207 44<sup>th</sup> Ave,  
Grand Rapids

Wonderful variety of appetizers and menu items. A WPS favorite for many participants. See you there!



**West Michigan  
Whitecaps**

Tuesday  
July 28<sup>th</sup>

Start Time:  
6:30pm  
Ticket Price:  
\$23.00

**Location:**

LMCU Ballpark  
Comstock Park

**Tickets to  
include Soda  
and Hotdog.**

Contact Maureen  
for your ticket  
616-550-3515.

**Kindness Krew  
at "The  
Frederik Meijer  
Gardens"**

Thursday  
July 30<sup>th</sup>

Time: 5:45 pm to  
9:00 pm

**Location:**

Meijer Gardens  
1000 E Beltline  
NE  
Grand Rapids

Volunteering at  
the Meijer  
Gardens  
amphitheater,  
contact Maureen  
at 616-550-3515  
to help.



**Marge's Donuts**

Friday,  
July 31<sup>st</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 Potluck  
Picnic**

Sunday,  
August 2<sup>nd</sup>

Time: 11:00 am  
to 3:00 pm

**Location:**

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

City BBQ is back providing award winning Pork and Chicken. Please bring your own beverage and a dish to pass. Plates, silverware provided.



**Kindness Krew  
at "In The Image"**

Wednesday,  
August 12<sup>th</sup>

Time: 8:30 am  
to 12:00 pm

**Location:**

In The Image  
4255 Kalamazoo  
SE  
Grand Rapids

We will be greeting, fitting shoes and stockings, Will need your name and email and about 10 volunteers. Contact Maureen at 616-550-3515.



**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

**July - 2026**  
**Issue 203**

*July*

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### **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](http://wpsgr.org) | [director@wpsgr.org](mailto:director@wpsgr.org)

(616) 538-0101