

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

"Yearning For Your Confidant and Best Friend"

Evening Zoom Support Group
Tuesday, **August 4th** at 7:00 pm

How do you forge out of that difficult, unwanted territory and feel accepted and worthwhile again?

If you have not read the book "Getting to the Other Side of Grief", contact the WPS office for a copy.

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

If you have any questions, you can email at 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. We are going to be tackling a very challenging part of being widowed. You were a couple, and now that person who was your partner is no longer with you! That's huge for every couple who was part of a happy and well-functioning marriage.

So, how do you now deal with that emptiness? Who will partner with you in parenting or grandparenting? How can you make wise decisions without the person you trusted to give his/her perspective and be equally involved in seeing that decision through? There's a multitude of challenging pieces to figure out without that most valuable person in your life!

Join us from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. ONLINE. [See I.D. and passcode.] Share your thoughts and feelings and ways you've tried to fill some of those important missing parts!

The group is facilitated by Dr. Susan Zonnebelt-Smeenge, clinical psychologist and Dr. Bob DeVries, pastor/professor (emeritus). We hope to see you online that evening!

"One is a Whole Number: Being Comfortable Being Single"

Tuesday, **August 4th** 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 month of August.

This Meeting will resume on Monday, September 14th.

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

Facilitators: Maureen Bawden & David Morgenstern

"Who Am I Now? Widowed or Single? Increasing My Self-Esteem."

Tuesday, **August 18th** at 12:00 pm

Location: Maggie's Place Café
6490 28th Ave., Hudsonville, MI

Facilitator: Mike Barnes

Social Support for the Newly Widowed

This Month's Newly Widowed Social Support Luncheon

Wednesday August 12th @ 1:00 pm

Location: Lindo Mexico

1742 28th St SW, Wyoming, 49519

Join this friendly group **of Newly Widowed** men and women for lunch 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 or on our Facebook page at "Widowed Persons Grand Rapids"

The WPS Office is looking for help with:

Scheduling/Greeting at Events - Answering Phones –
Accounting - Research - Assisting callers and office guests.

If you can consistently do a couple of hours every week or every other week, for an interview, please contact the WPS office at 616-538-0101 or email Liz.kempker@wpsgr.org

WPS 2026 Golf Outing - WHAT A FUN EVENT!!!

Thank you to The Golf Sponsors: Carrier Law, Agnes Kempker-Cloyd, Liz Kempker, Jim Stoddard and Chris Wilks.

Thank you to The Hole Sponsors: Carrier Law, CBH Attorneys and Counselors, Memory of Richard E. Cole, Earthbound, Inc., Leandro Robles of Great Lakes Realty, Hayden's Tax Service, David Higley, J and R Trucking, Memory of Bert J. & Helen J. Kempker, Diane Lobbestael, Matthyse, Kuiper & DeGraff, Oakdale Neighbors, Rev. Kenneth W. Hoskins, Shoreline Hearing Center, Lindsey Chrystan of Success Financial, Memory of Erika West, and The WPS Board of Directors.

Thank you to The Auction Sponsors: Carrier Law, David Campbell, Gracewil Country Club, Grand Rapids Symphony with Agnes Kempker-Cloyd, Liz Kempker, Lake Side Links, The Pines Golf Course, Jim Stoddard, Rich VanderWerf, Chris Wilks, Arlene Wright and The WPS Board of Directors.

Thank you to The WPS Volunteers: Maureen Bawden, Lynn Borrucki, Tom Brasiak, Kathy Gill, David Morgenstern, Marggy Stoddard, and Gail Waters.

Thank you to the WPS Golf Committee: Rev. Kenneth W. Hoskins, Agnes Kempker-Cloyd, Jim Stoddard and Chris Wilks



Pickleball

Monday,
**August 3rd, 10th,
17th, 24th, and 31st**

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,
**August 4th, 11th, 18th, and
25th**

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

Location:

The Pines
5050 Byron Center Ave
SW
Wyoming

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, **August 6th,
13th, 20th and 27th**

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

Location:

3284 Remembrance Rd
NW, Walker

Weather Permitting!!
Mike C. at 781-572-
8861 will be our
Greeter, be sure to say
Hello and sign-in.
**"Bowling returning in
September!"**

**Growth
Thru
Loss Seminar**



Saturday,
August 29th

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.

If you have not read
the book "Getting to
the Other Side of
Grief", contact the
WPS office for a
copy.

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, a 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."**

WPS Potluck Picnic

Sunday,
August 2nd



Time: 11:00 am to
3:00 pm

Location:

Maplewood Park
8049 12th Ave
Jenison

City BBQ is back providing award winning Pork and Chicken. Please bring your own beverage, a dish to pass, and a game to play. Plates, silverware provided. Liz will be our greeter, be sure to sign in and say hello.



Dinner Together at Putt Putts

Thursday, August
13th

Time: 4:30 pm

Location:

1148 Fulton St. W
Grand Rapids

Putt Putts where you are only a stranger once. Stay for the 6:15pm music and dance by Colin, who plays cover bands and classic rock. Jan will be our greeter, be sure to sign in and say hello.



Fundraiser Dinner at BJ's

Wednesday,
August 5th

Time: 4:30 pm

Location:

3445 28th St
Grand Rapids

Enjoy delicious food in a fun atmosphere. With each flyer presented between 11am to 10pm BJ's will donate 20% to WPS.

Dinner at 76th St. Diner and Car Show

Monday,
August 10th



Time: 4:30 pm

Location:

329 48th Ave
Coopersville

76th St. Diner hosts its 3rd annual car show running from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm weather permitting. A family-friendly environment, no matter the time of day.



Kindness Krew at "In The Image"

Wednesday,
August 12th

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, DOB, and Email and about 10 volunteers. Contact Maureen at 616-550-3515.



Dinner Together at Fred's Italian Restaurant

Wednesday,
August 25th

Time: 4:30 pm

Location:

3619 Plainfield
Ave NE
Grand Rapids

Fred's Pizza is a mainstay of the community. Pasta, Sandwiches and the best pizza Grand Rapids have to offer. Tom will be our greeter, be sure to sign in and say hello.



Culinary Sunrise at New Beginnings

Wednesday
August 19th

Time: 8:30 am

Location:

4735 Lk.
Mich.Dr NW
Grand Rapids

A WPS Favorite, join us to start the day with smiles and sunshine.



Marge's Donuts

Friday,
August 28th

Time: 10:00 am

Location:

Marge's Donuts
1751 28th St SE
Wyoming

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



Kindness Krew at The Berlin Raceway

Friday
September 11th

Time:

Location:

2060 Berlin Fair
Dr.
Marne

Volunteering at the Berlin Raceway for their 911 race. We will be helping in the concessions and with their raffle, Contact Maureen at 616-

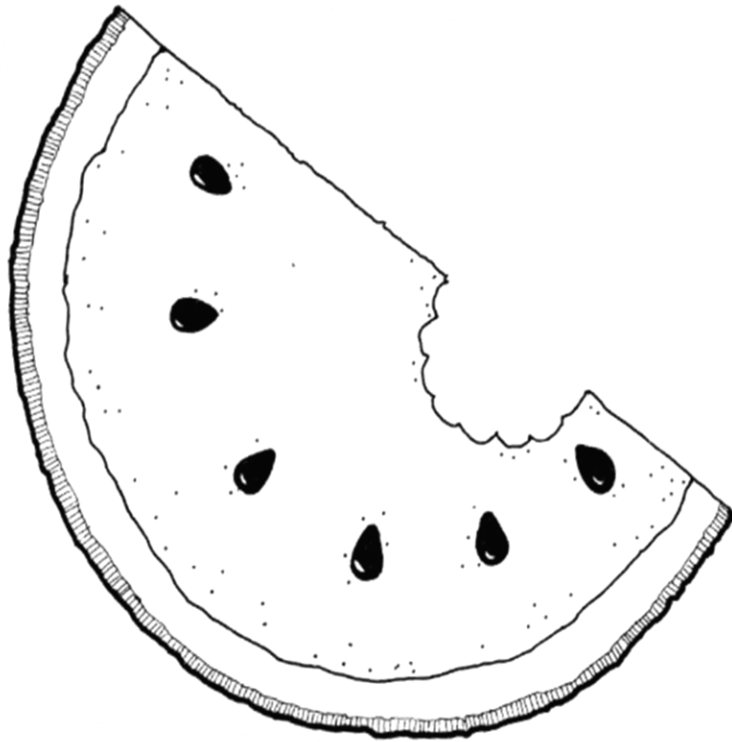


2026 Board Members

Maureen Bawden (Widow), Tom Braciak (Widower), Lindsey Chrystan, Rev. Kenneth W. Hoskins, Agnes Kempker-Cloyd, Diane Lobbetael (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

August - 2026
Issue 204



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.

WPS Updates

Stay updated with Widowed Persons Service online:



www.wpsgr.org



Widowed Persons Grand Rapids

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

(616) 538-0101