

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

"Dealing with Family and Others While I am Grieving"

Evening Zoom Support Group
Tuesday, October 6th at 7:00 pm

The meeting ID is 844 8812 3114 and the Passcode is 744598.

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

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 may have already encountered having to deal with some unhelpful or hurtful comments or pieces of advice from other people. If so, how have you dealt with them? Many individuals who are grieving say nothing or "agree" even though that's not an honest response just to get them off their back. Come and discuss with us some healthy considerations as you attempt to manage those unwanted comments!

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!

"Rediscovering Who You Are as Part of The Grief Journey"

Tuesday, October 6th at 1:00 pm

Location: The Pavilion at The Hope and Healing Garden (Behind Covenant Church, see the sign.)

4276 Baldwin St., Hudsonville, MI

Facilitator: Sue and Mike Barnes

"Rediscovering Happiness"

Monday, October 12th at 1:00 pm

Location: StoryPoint Community Room,

3121 Lake Michigan Dr., NW, Grand Rapids, MI

Facilitators: Maureen Bawden & David Morgenstern

"Keepsakes, and Odds and Ends: How Does That Fit With The Goals of Grief?"

Tuesday, October 20th at 12:00 pm

Location: Maggie's Place

6490 28th Ave., Hudsonville, MI

Facilitator: Sue and Mike Barnes

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

Wednesday October 14th @ 1:00 pm

Location: Chili's Grill

770 54th St SW, Wyoming

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 or on our Facebook page at "Widowed Persons Grand Rapids"



Thursday, November 5, 2026

5:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Tickets - \$55.00 per person

(\$50 if purchased by October 1, 2026)

Donnelly Center at Aquinas College

157 Woodward Lane SE, Grand Rapids

Get your Holiday shopping done early!

Widowed Persons Service has received a wonderful, unexpected grant from the National Christian Foundation (NCF). The donor has chosen to remain anonymous, preventing us from sending a direct thank-you letter. We are using our newsletter to send a public, heartfelt Thank-You to both NCF and our anonymous donor. This generous gift provides vital sustainability for our programs and the community we serve.



Pickleball

Monday,
**October 5th, 12th, 19th,
and 26th**

Time: 9:00 am to 11:00
am

Sign-in: 9:00am

Location:

Pickle and Pin
662 Leonard St NW
Grand Rapids

New location dedicated
to pickleball. The courts
have low ceiling and
walls are close, will have
to adapt your play:).

Dave H. at 616-808-
1773 will be our greeter,
be sure to say Hello.



GOLF CLASSIC!

Tuesday,
**October 6th, 13th, 20th,
and 27th**

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

Location:

The Pines
5050 Byron Center Rd
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.



Going Bowling!~

Thursday,
**October 1st, 8th,
15th, 22nd, and 29th**

Time: 10:00 am
Sign-in: 9:30 am

Location:

Park Center Lanes
2222 28th St SW
Wyoming

Cost is \$8.00 and
includes shoe rental.
Bowling, that's how
we roll! Mike C. at
781-572-8861 will be
your Greeter, be
sure to say Hello.



Note from The Double Dip Depot

It was a pleasure
having your
group here again
this past
summer. Our last
day open will be
September 24th.
Will see you in
Spring of 2027
and all the best
with bowling.

Double Dip
Depot
3284
Remembrance
Rd NW
Grand Rapids



Thank you to all those who worked and attended our Dinner Fundraiser at Culver's Restaurant. WPS and the Culver's Staff are funny, upbeat and a joy to be around.

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 Licari's Pizza Kitchen

Monday,
October 5th

Time: 4:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Location:
3627 Baldwin St.
Hudsonville

Licari's is airy, easy-going, and focus on authentic Sicilian Food which is as delicious as the atmosphere.

Dinner Together at Alfano's Italian Restaurant

Sunday,
October 18th

Time: 4:30 pm

Location:
1389 Walker Village
Dr NW
Grand Rapids

Every night is a celebration of our WPS Family. Alfano's recipes have been handed down through the generations and shared with family.



Culinary Sunrise at Cracker Barrel

Wednesday
October 7th

Time: 8:30 am

Location:
4340 Kenowa Ave
SW
Grandville

Homestyle meals and country store shopping. Where a hearty breakfast feels like a celebration in everyday life.



Friday,
October 30th

Time: 10:00 am

Location:
Marge's Donuts
1751 28th St SE
Wyoming

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



Kindness Krew and Lori's Voice

Saturday,
October 10th

Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Location:
Kentwood Community
Center
4757 Walma Ave SE
Grand Rapids

Lori's voice Pathway to Possibilities Walk, Run & Roll for Lori's Voice. Contact Wanda at 616-885-2223 to help

Dinner Together at The Broadway Bar

Sunday,
November 8th

Time: 4:30 pm

Location:
740 Broadway Ave NW
Grand Rapids

Are you ready for Christmas yet? It's coming fast and the Broadway Bar is ready all year long. **WPS has 30 seats reserved for dinner.** Contact Maureen at 616-550-3515 to save your seat.

The WPS Games

Thursday,
**October 15th,
November 19th**

Time: 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Location:

The Gaming Grotto
(aka Community Rm).
Storypoint
3121 Lk Mich. Dr NW
Grand Rapids

First Game of the Season is Pick your Card Game! Brush up on your skills and bring your own cards, beverage/snack /etc. Prizes for the winners.



Save the Date WPS Family Christmas Celebration

Thursday,
December 3rd

Time: 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Location:
Storypoint
Community Rm
3121 Lk Mich. Dr
NW
Grand Rapids

Our traditional White Elephant Game. Stay tuned, more to come.



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

October - 2026
Issue 206



Non-Profit Organ.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 70
Grandville, MI



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: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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

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

Contact Us

4211 Clyde Park, SW (Unit C)

Wyoming, MI 49509

Wpsgr.org | director@wpsgr.org

(616) 538-0101