

The Chimes

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH | JANUARY 2020

From Our Pastor...



Reorientation!

Many of you know that I went to the ER in December. One day I woke up at 5:00 AM and didn't feel good because my heart was beating fast. I tried to remain calm and rest, but it lasted for about an hour, so I went to ER. To make it short, my heart is fine, and my doctor says that blood pressure, cholesterol, and some other factors are perfectly fine. Thank you for your prayers.

With my doctor's help, I tried to find what caused me trouble with my heart. The first was caffeine. I'm a coffee person. I drink a lot of coffee. The more I work, the more cups of coffee I intake. I had too much. The second cause was maybe I had a little bit of stress, just like many of you. The third was dehydration. The day after I donated blood was my day off, and my wife and I went to the sauna all day. The last cause was a health supplement. To be honest, I purchased them for taste. I checked later that it has a lot of calcium, and the medicine that my doctor prescribed was a calcium channel blocker. LOL!

I should have had more water, but I drank less. I should have taken less or no caffeine, but I took more. My calcium level was just fine, but I took more than I needed. As to stress, I should have trusted in God more and laid my burden before God. My doctor said that it would be one of them, or all of them, which might have caused the rapid heart rate. The one thing I have learned the most is that real peace can be only found in Jesus Christ.

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Church Events

Tuesdays: Exercise class, activity room, 5pm

Wednesdays: Buddy bags packing, 11:30

Disciples Study, 9:30am

Handbells/Choir, 5pm/6pm

Thursdays: Exercise class, activity room, 5pm

"Parables" Study lead by Nancy Pitsch 6:25pm-7:35pm

Saturdays: Men's Bible study, 8am

Jan. 1st: Office is closed

Jan. 2nd: Greeting card ministry, 9:30am

Jan. 3rd: PADS shift, 7pm-7am

Jan. 4th: No Men's Bible study

Jan. 8th: Women's breakfast at Benny's, 8:30am

Jan. 9th: Trustee meeting, 6pm in library

Jan. 17th: Ladies luncheon at Asian Buffet, 11:30am

Jan. 20th: Membership care meeting, 2pm

Jan. 21st: Worship team meeting, 6:30pm

Jan. 22nd: Missions team meeting, 7pm

Jan. 26th: Men's breakfast, 9am

Thinking of all the causes, I happen to think about our faith journey. We need to know who we are. We need to acknowledge our limitation as human beings, but bravely accept the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives, so that we are able to be and do in God's love and grace. So, let's think about who we are as a community of faith, Sterling: Wesley United Methodist Church. We are called Christians. We are called Methodists. What does it mean to be Christians and Methodists? What is our community of faith to be and do, according to our belief and God's plan for us?

With these existential questions, I'd like to remind of our Methodist heritage this month and next month: how the Methodist began, what made the early Methodists so much passionate in loving God and loving neighbors, who they were, and how we may be God's people, following those saints we have in our legacy, particularly John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Movement. My hope and prayer is that God guides us, enlightens us, empowers us, and strengthens



us in our community and our ministries. Amen.

"I Want to Be Homo Unius Libri (the man of the One BOOK/Bible)," says John Wesley

From this month, a daily Bible verse will find you in the morning from Monday through Saturday. If you have a daily devotion every day, I want you to continue your healthy rhythm of faith journey with your devotion. But still, if you want to receive a Bible verse and take a moment with it, please send me an email with your name and cellphone number (lovegn247@gmail.com). Let us be the person of the One Book, Bible. Amen.

Peace In Christ,
Rev. Paul Lee

January Worship Schedule

January 5, 2020

Ephesians 1:3-14

< We Count in Christ >

January 12, 2020

Methodist Heritage 1

Ephesians 6:1-4, Revelation 2:1a, 2a, 4

<Methodist Heritage: Revival>

January 19, 2020

Methodist Heritage 2

1 Peter 1:13-16, Gospel of Matthew 5:1-12

<Live for the Glory of God>

January 26, 2020

Methodist Heritage 3

Romans 4:3-5, 5:1-2

< In Spite of ... >

Save The Date!

Sterling Wesley UMC will have Leadership Training on Saturday, February 22nd. More details to come.

December Brunch

Joy Camp families hosting Dec. brunch were Truedsons, Halversons, Wendelkens, and Drews. Thank you!

Between Service BRUNCH "take two"!!

On 2/2 (February 2nd!) Team #2 of JOY CAMP families will host brunch for us from 9am-9:50. Please come and join us for another offering of delicious food, incredible fellowship, and supporting of our Youth who LOVE, grow, and experience Christ in personal ways through summer church camp!

Taking Down The Christmas Greens

On Sunday, January 5, please stay after the second service to help take down the Christmas decorations and take them to the Activity room.

On Monday, January 6, we will meet at 9:30 to put the decorations back in their containers in the Activity room. Please come and help. There will be various levels of jobs for all..even if you are limited.

Hello, Good-bye, and Thank You!

The Trustees are proud to announce the addition of three new members to the team: James Fitzanko, Zack Glazier, and Barb Quick. Each trustee serves for a term of three years. Trustees' responsibilities focus primarily on caring for the church building and grounds as well as the parsonage maintenance. We look forward eagerly to these individuals' wisdom and guidance in the coming months.

Each Sunday, trustees open the church, turn on the lights, straighten the Bibles and hymnals in the pews, replace offering envelopes, prayer request forms, and Kleenex packs, recycle old bulletins, dispose of trash, collect attendance sheets, and lock doors, check windows, and turn off lights after services. In addition, trustees fill the alter candles with oil, replace light bulbs, adjust and program thermostats, and see that emergency lights, exit lights and outdoor lighting are in proper working order.

Trustees arrange for plumbing, heating, and electrical service providers to attend to those areas that need repairs or maintenance. When new purchases need to be made, the trustees investigate and research the most efficient and cost effective products and means to fulfill the church's needs. For example, trustees sought the advice and estimates of five different companies to determine the best method to properly insulate the church.

The church grounds require the trustees to hire companies to provide for mowing during the summer months and snow removal during the winter. Flower beds must be raked, trimmed, sprayed, weeded, fed, and mulched. The playground area, the inner garden, and the memorial walkway must be properly maintained.

The Trustee Team wishes to express their deepest appreciation to Michele Drew, Dave Fredericks, and Rory Smith for their dedicated service. Michele and Rory served this past year to fulfill terms of others. Dave completed his third year of service, and his second year as a co-chair of trustees. Dave's excellent leadership skills and his "can-do" attitude were a special inspiration.

The trustees are blessed by our caring church family. We are so grateful for the many individuals who help, not only on the spring and fall work days, but throughout the year. Thank you, everyone, for the many ways you support the trustees in their service!

In January "Matthew Meetings" will be held during 10am worship for children age 3 through 6th grade! After children's time with Pastor Paul during worship, children will leave with Carol Cravatta, Kris Quick, and other adult helpers to answer the call of Jesus in Matthew 4:19, "Come, follow Me, and I will make you fishers of people." Lessons, activities, stories, scripture, and crafts will follow the theme of each January sermon, tweaked for their understanding, in an environment they can experience God's Word & love for them!

Matthew Meetings will replace the usual 9:25-10:15am Sunday School classes for the month of January (and also again in May!)

Looking forward to helping your children find Christ in new ways through these January weeks of worship!

In the Name and Spirit of Christ,

Nancy Pitsch

Dear Wesley Family,

Denver and I want to thank you for all the lovely cards, personal notes, and blessings. It is nice to know we are missed. I know we certainly miss all of you.

This is the first time in 56 years of marriage that no Christmas cards are going out from us. I am STILL unpacking (down to seven boxes left!). Also, my right hand (my writing hand) is still bothering me.- a LOT! I have the name of another specialist to see after the holidays so am counting on some help (hope?) from him. Will let you know.

In the meantime, thanks again for the Christmas greetings. They mean a lot to us.

Love to all,

Denver & Sharon

Directory Address Correction

Please correct the address in your directory for Janet Palmer. The city should be **Rock Falls**, rather than Sterling. Thank you!

Thank you for your contributions to Loose Coins in the month of November, we were able to raise \$492.86 for FISH. Thanksgiving envelopes also went to FISH, and we raised \$450 with your generous donations!

A Big Thank you to Jean, Joan & Gyneth, Carolyn, Sharon, Sue, Darlene, Amy, Cory & Katie, Rosemary, Fabiene, Marc & Cindy, Graves Family and Jan. Your bell ringing raised \$486.62 for the Salvation Army, Well Done!

Thank you to all of the carolers for the beautiful singing!

Marion Quick

THANK YOU to all of you who sent birthday cards and greetings for my 95th birthday.

Luther Stutzman

Thank you for all the cards and prayers while I was in the hospital and in rehabilitation, I appreciate them very much.

Marion Quick

The Many Blessing's of The Christmas Season at Wesley UMC



Wesley UMC hosted a Red Cross Blood Drive in December that was Sponsored by Sterling Bethel Reformed Church. This was a GREAT success where enough units were donated to help with 336 transfusions!



Thank you to ALL who so graciously share their time and talent with Wesley UMC as well as our community!



Birthdays

January 1 Joan Partridge
January 3 Norma Church, Steve Michel
January 5 Joshua Greenfield
January 8 Joe Gatz, Carol Shaw
January 11 Susie Cedro, Melissa Freas
January 12 Matthew Taylor
January 13 Molly Papoccia
January 14 Michael Quick, Christie Freas
January 15 Max White
January 16 Toby Hodges

January 18 Reid Blackburn, Ryan Blackburn, Bowen Mallhi, Lucy White
January 20 Randy Clodfelter, Janne Rausa
January 22 Mitchell Clodfelter, Cathy Williams
January 23 Katie Spangler
January 24 Antonio Castaneda
January 26 Darrin Driscoll, Cal Jacobs, Kaitlyn Williams
January 29 James Melton
January 30 Lexi Hinrichs
January 31 Wendy Fitzanko

Anniversaries

January 6 John & Christie Freas
January 28 Edd & Marianne Rosser



Coffee Hosts

January 5 Renee Duncan & Lynn Majewski
January 12 Bill & Sue Abate
January 19 Toby & Debbie Hodges
January 26 Dave & Sharon Siex

Servers for January- 8 a.m.

	Greeters/Ushers/Acolytes	Liturgist
Jan. 5	Brian & Chris Babel	Zack Glazier
Jan. 12	↓	Sharon Siex
Jan. 19		Nancy Pitsch
Jan. 26		Dylan Hinrichs

Bread Hosts

Thanks to Beth Mathew for hosting December.

Hosts for January is Antonio & Amber Castaneda.



Servers for January 10 a.m.

	Greeters	Ushers/Acolytes	Liturgist
Jan. 5	Bill & Sue Abate	Amy & Greg Bontz Cory Canas & Katie Herath	Rick Palmer
Jan. 12	↓	Schwingle Family	Sharon Siex
Jan. 19		Andy & Nancy Pitsch David & Sharon Siex	Dave Fredericks
Jan. 26	↓	Andy & Nancy Pitsch Bruce & Debbie Kramer	Stacey Wendelken

Wesley United Methodist Church

2200 16th Ave.

Sterling, IL 61081

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Wesley United Methodist Church

Phone: (815) 625-1968

Website: www.sterlingwesley.org

Email: office@sterlingwesley.org

Open Heart, Open Minds, Open Doors

You are invited to join us for worship
Sundays at 8 and 10 a.m. with Sunday
School and fellowship at 9 a.m.

Mission Corner

Wesley has always been a mission-minded church. The purpose of this space is to keep the congregation informed of our various mission efforts.

We currently are receiving:

- **Donations of bedding, small appliances, and other household items to support Trinity UMC and the VA Clinic/Valor Program, as they work to find homes for local veterans. A list of needed items is on the table in the fellowship hall.**
- **Laundry detergent for Bear Necessities, Everyday Essentials and the FISH Food Pantry.**
- **Travel-sized toiletries for the Trinity and FISH pantries.**
- **Loose coins to benefit Betty Tshala-Zambia for the month of January.**