



The Chimes

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SEPTEMBER 2017

Pastor's reflections

16 Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

"17 In the last days, God says,

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy.

Your young will see visions.

Your elders will dream dreams.

18 Even upon my servants, men and women,

I will pour out my Spirit in those days,

and they will prophesy."

Acts 2:16-18

Some things in life need to be done by a professional. I don't want an amateur practicing dentistry on me, performing surgery on loved ones, or messing with the wiring or pipes here at church. It is appropriate that we have professionals do many things; this ensures safety, quality of work, and that we don't need to do the work over and over again.

Sadly, too often Christians have been told, directly or indirectly, that they need to be a professional to serve Jesus in important ways. Too often I've heard people say, "Well I don't have a calling because I'm not a pastor or missionary." However, God can and does call people to medicine, teaching, farming, or any number of other important jobs in society. Too often I've heard people say, "I don't have enough faith, or I am not a good enough Christian to help others." In fact, their story of faith is powerful and offers life-changing

Cont'd on Page 2.

Church Events

- Sept. 5 - Trustee meeting 6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 7- Greeting card ministry 9:30 a.m.
- Sept. 8- PEO Chapter JL garage sale 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.
- Sept. 10- Back to Sunday school
- Sept. 10- Confirmation class begins 5 p.m.
- Sept. 13- Women's breakfast 8:30 a.m.
- Sept. 16- Men's bible study 8 a.m.
- Sept. 18- Disciples bible study 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.
- Sept. 26- Prayer shawl ministry & crosses for 150th 1-3 p.m.
- Sept. 27- Missions meeting 7 p.m.
- Thursdays - Coffee with pastor (Airplay sports) 7:30 a.m.

good news. We are all gifted by God to serve Christ and humanity in this world. No one is without the gift of the Holy Spirit; no one is without some way they can serve and share. No, not all people have the same gifts, not by a long shot, but all people have a gift. The gift of each follower of Jesus can change lives, change our world, and invite others to know God through Christ.

In the month of September, many activities will begin or return to our church. Disciple Bible Study which will last 32 weeks will start. Confirmation, where some of our young people will explore what it means to be a Christian and be a church member, will commence. Choir will return from summer break. Sunday School will be in progress again. We will start a brand new ministry, inviting some of our high school youth to explore following Jesus in new ways. Amid these activities we will focus on spiritual gifts in worship and in our sermons.

The concept of spiritual gifts is straight forward: God through the Holy Spirit gives all people gifts by which they can serve Him and others inside and outside the church. This concept is life-changing. It's a reminder that we all have great potential and worth, the sort of potential that can help Jesus transform our world. It is not a question of whether we have a gift, it is rather what is our gift and how can we use it best? In worship and our sermons we will look at what the Bible says about spiritual gifts, and we will reflect on ways we can identify ours, help others identify theirs, and all of us can best use these gifts to honor God and bless others. We don't all have the same gifts; gifts change in different seasons of life, but all people have gifts to share in Jesus's name.

You have a gift. You may know what it is, or you may not, but you do have a gift! Join us throughout September as we prayerfully ask Jesus's help to know our gifts and more importantly how to use them!

*Yours in Christ,
Pastor Jeremiah*

Upcoming Worship

For most of the month of September our focus in worship will be on Spiritual Gifts. The Holy Spirit gifts all people so that they can bless others and share the love of Jesus in some way. We don't all have the same gifts, but we all have them. Throughout September you will be invited to prayerfully consider what your gifts are, how you can use your gifts to bless others, and how your own life will know blessing through serving from who God has gifted you to be. Join us for these messages of God's love and hope.

- September 10: Gifted by God: You Have Gifts!
 - Genesis 1:27-31
 - Sunday School Blessing (a blessing for all our kids and Sunday School volunteers)
- September 17: Gifted By God: We Are Not all the Same
 - I Corinthians 12:12-31
 - Presentation of bibles to our third graders
- September 24: Gifted by God: Using the Gifts
 - I Peter 4:8-11

Alter vases are needed:



If you have alter vases, please place on shelf above the coat rack in main entrance to be used again.
Thank you!

Wedding Blessings

Congratulations to

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rausa

on their Marriage!

July 30, 2017

*May God bless your marriage
and watch over you as you
begin your new life together.*



Servers for September - 8 a.m.

Greeters

September 3 Lynn Majewski,
Renee Duncan

September 10

September 17

September 24

Ushers

Jeff Cedro,
Jan Glover

Fitzanko Family

Liturgist

Renee Duncan

Wendy Fitzanko

Nancy Pitsch

Amy Poci

Coffee Hosts

Sept. 3 Rory & Rita Smith

Sept. 10 Wendelken family

Sept. 17 Joan Partridge,
Jean Partridge

Sept. 24 Beth Jacobs,
Allison Velenzuela

Servers for September - 10 a.m.

Greeters

September 3 Darlene Davis,
Janet Palmer

September 10

September 17 Bill & Sue Ababte

September 24 Rick & Karen Palmer

Ushers

Lowell & Coralee Jacobs,
Kent Peterson &
Diantha Wentling

Liturgist

Rory Smith

Nancy Pitsch

Rick Palmer



Acolytes

September:

Elliot Noble

Birthdays

September 5 - Haleigh Freas

September 8- Connor Carlson

September 9 - Karen Abele

September 10 - Wes White

September 11 - Nancy Wait

September 12 - Judy Randall

September 14 - Christie Freas,
Leigh Michel

September 16 - JP Papoccia,
Diantha Wentling

September 21 - Brooklyn Freas,
Elisa Gatz, Marilyn Lewis

September 22 - Barb Quick

September 24 - Ashlei Behrens

September 25 - Judy Bushman,
Nathaneal Rodriguez

September 26 - Jan Andersen,
Alan Beggerow

September 27 - Pat Jacobs

September 30 - Dylan Hinrichs,
Athena Knowles, Janet Palmer

Anniversaries

September 10 - Bill and Peg Burke

September 14 - Dave and Sharon Siex

September 16 - Louis and Barb Quick

September 17 - Al and Diane Rude

September 28-Steve & Lynn Majewski



Wesley United Methodist Church

Sesquicentennial Facts

October 11, 1867

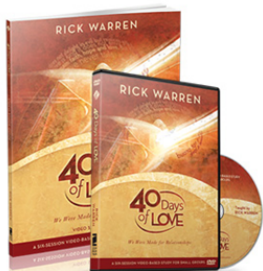
Did you know that in 1867 a group of people from First (Broadway) Methodist Episcopal Church left to start a new church because they wanted a church that was near the growing western part of Sterling instead of downtown. This eventually became the first 4th Street MEC (1871), the second 4th Street MEC (1908) and then Wesley UMC (1975).

BEWARE there is another Parent's night out coming soon. November we will have a movie-pajama night for children from our church so parents can enjoy some child free time. More details in the October Chimes with dates and important details. Oh yes, we are accepting volunteers for this exceptionally fun filled evening.

Looking for A FEW GOOD MEN

Are you man enough to get up Saturday morning and have a great time digging into God's word in such a way that it could transform your life?

If you like to laugh and hang out with a great group of guys while also learning about how the Bible and how all that God stuff fits into your everyday life, then the Wesley Saturday morning Bible Study is the place you need to be.



- Make loving God and others your highest priority
- Find true rest in forgiveness
- Build healthier relationships
- Love more authentically, even when it's difficult

FREE TRIAL OFFER – Come Join Us!

We are starting a new 6-week session on September 9th and we invite you to come join us in the church library at 8:00 am

- Come check us out
- No subscription necessary
- No long-term commitment

Money Back Guarantee: If you don't have a good time or don't feel this was a good use of your Saturday morning we will triple refund your money (and since it's free we know we can keep this promise.)

Do you want to preach? The position has been filled.
Do you want to play the organ? That one is filled too.
Do you want to operate the new **audio/visual system**? You're in luck! We are now accepting applications!
"Applicants" should contact Andy Pitsch at
(815) 499-4940.

Save the Date!!!

Wesley United Methodist Church 150th Anniversary Celebration *October 8, 2017*. Celebration dinner following the 10 a.m. service

This is a catered dinner and we need an exact count of who is attending so you will need a ticket to attend.

Tickets are free and you can pick them up between services or at the office before September 10!



IN ONLY A FEW MEMORABLE HOURS, UNDERSTAND, LIKE NEVER BEFORE, 4,000 YEARS OF LIFE CHANGING, GODLY WISDOM.

SAVE THE DATE

Church-wide event for ages 4th grade - Adult
Saturday November 4th

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Wesley United Methodist Church

Watch for details coming soon – You won't want to miss this event!



More Announcements!

CONGRATULATIONS to the Wesley United Methodist Church for placing 4th in the Coloma Township Park District Co-Rec Church Softball League for 2017!



From the Missions Committee -

This year there will be no CROP Walk in the area, Wesley was a great participant and raised a lot of money in the past that went to hunger. As a committee we decided it would be such a shame for the Food Bank to miss out on those funds so in conjunction with our 150th celebration we will be having a special offering for hunger. There will be a special envelope that Sunday for Wesley to continue their great tradition of supporting mission work in Sterling. We will also be having a fundraiser this winter, more details later.

Wesley Women's Walking is good for your sole/soul!

Here is an opportunity to spend time with other women from our church and get to know them on a more personal level than during coffee time on Sunday. We walk at varying speeds and our groups change during the course of the walk most mornings. 7:45 will see several getting ready for a 45 minute walk while others join in at 8 and some arrive at 8:15. At least once a week walking is followed up with coffee and more conversations. There is a spot for you any Monday, Wednesday or Friday to join the 8-10 ever changing walkers. The scenery at Sinnissippi Park changing from Spring to Fall reminds us of God's beautiful creations so join in and benefit from a healthy start to your day celebrating with other church members the wonderful gifts we've been given. Contact Judy Dennis if you have questions.

Dear Wesley family,
Thank you for all of your love and support after my fall and injury. All is progressing well, and I'm walking with a walker now.
I've appreciated your cards, warm thoughts, prayer shawl, and especially your prayers.
I hope to be back where I belong soon!
Gloria Grant

A heartfelt Thank You goes to the Wesley United Methodist Church family for all of the cards that were sent.
Irma Robinson

Parents of college students, please send mailing addresses, new and old to Janay Dalton at
datltonjanay@hotmail.com

Greeting card ministry

A group of Wesley women met sadly without Gloria Grant to guide us and managed to still send out almost 100 cards to our Wesley church family. With Deb Kramer's beautiful crafted cards, we kept in touch and hopefully brightened the day of friends at Wesley.

The next gathering will be September 7th and we will be happy for anyone to join in this activity. 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall we will gather to send out more greetings. Several of those helping in August will not be available in September, so you are needed to help us out. We are looking forward to Gloria being back in charge in October.

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

castiger1@gmail.com

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.
- **Toilet paper** for Bear Necessities, Everyday Essentials and the FISH Food Pantry.
- **Travel-sized toiletries** for the Trinity and FISH pantries.
- **Loose coins** to benefit Buddy Bags for the month of September.