

The Chimes

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH/JULY 2019

From Our Pastor



Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

My name is Rev. Paul H. Lee. As of July 1, 2019, It is my honor and privilege to be the pastor of Sterling; Wesley United Methodist Church. I love to get to know SWUMC family. I like to offer myself to the life of the church, listen to your stories, and become a part of this wonderful body of Christ.

Let me share a story with you.

There was a UMC pastor who was appointed to a local church. He wanted to deliver his passion and dream of the church, and he spoke to his congregation on his first Sunday;

"You may know about 'Talent parable' in the Bible. I think that I have one talent, and I find that this congregation has one talent, too. I find vision and passion in this congregation, and I have vision and passion, too."

The church became dreaming bigger and serving more the local community. Forty years later, he is still serving the same congregation, though it is very unusual in our itinerancy system. The pastor's name is Rev. Mike Slaughter at Ginghamburg United Methodist Church.

A few years ago, I had a chance to speak with him. I asked, "What happened? How did you do that? I mean, how did you help vitalize the church and become a dreaming congregation?" He replied, "I don't know. It is not my work, but the work of God. What I have done is to focus on my congregation's faith journey. I just found passion and vision in my church long ago, and I was working on it with my congregation."

Church Events

Tuesdays: Exercise class, activity room, 5pm

Wednesdays: Weeding Wed. 8:30am -noon

Thursdays: Exercise class, activity room, 5pm

Saturdays: Men's Bible study, 8am

July 4: Office closed

July 7: Potluck after 10am service to welcome Pastor Paul Lee to WUMC

July 10: Women's breakfast, 8:30am at Benny's

Trustee meeting, 7pm

WUMC meeting 7-9pm

July 12: JoAnn Lyon visitation, 9-11am, service and lunch to follow

July 14: Bolivia fundraiser after 10am service

July 19: Ladies luncheon, 11:30am, A's Kitchen

July 20-27: WUMC S.D. Mission trip

July 31: Prayer shawl ministry, 1-2:30

God's Work, Passion, Vision, and Work Together.

I think that was cool! I have a strong love for Christ and passion for the body of Christ. I may have one talent God has given me. And I'm so excited to find many talents of our church and looking forward to journeying together dreaming what God is going to do with all of us. Would you be willing to dream with me?

FYI, I'm a hugging person. I call myself 'a hugging machine.' However, I DO NOT want to make any of you uncomfortable or embarrassed. So, I try not to do that. If you are pleased, I would like to have your hug. And if hugging is not yours, please feel free to tell me. And my office door is open for you and coffee will be ready for you. Please come by my office anytime when you are available. I want to walk with you, pray with you, work with you and become a Christ-follower and dreamer with you.

Peace In Christ,
Rev. Paul Lee

Thank you to all who made June 2nd a very special day.

Thank you for the award, cards, gifts, kind words, flowers, decorations, reception and just being there. A special thank you to Dave Fredericks who put so much work and thought into it as well as the others who helped behind the scenes. The day made me feel very appreciated and loved.

Judy Bushman

Fellow Children of God,

I pray for you all and for Pastor Paul as he begins ministry with you all, and for Pastor Rosa in her transition as well. I wanted to leave you all with three scripture passages that always speak deeply to my heart. May you feel God's love as you read them.

35Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ...37No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:35, 37-39)

11For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. 12Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. 13When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, (Jeremiah 29:11-13)

But immediately he spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.' (Mark 6:50b)

Blessings and Peace,
Jeremiah Thompson

Wesley Workers “Rock” It!

Gigantic “thank you” to all those who assisted with preparing the parsonage for Pastor Paul and Rosa’s arrival! Steve Downes and Rory Smith renovated the main bathroom by repairing the wall behind the tub and retiling the area beautifully. Mary Downes, Dave and Roberta Fredericks, Zack Glazier, Bill Parker, and Andy Pitsch were dedicated painters of all four bedrooms, the living room, the family room, two bathrooms, the foyer, and the office. General cleaning, outside painting, and lawn maintenance were done by Jeff Cedro, Mary Downes, Zack Glazier, and Bill Parker. May all of you be as abundantly blessed as you have blessed others!

Love, joy, peace, and grace,

Jan Glover

Thank you to everyone who helped with Let’s Feed Our children!

Some of you brought grape jelly, loose coins helped buy bologna and cheese and grapes, others helped deliver food from the food bank to Macedonia, and many of you helped make the lunches.

We served about 75 lunches each day! We had good fellowship working on this summer project and helped the food insecure in our community.

Dave and I would like to thank everyone who sent cards and especially those who covered for us during VBS while we attended my brother’s Celebration of Life in Florida.

Roberta Fredericks

The Blessings of our Greeting Card Ministry!

Thank you to everyone who so graciously comes and helps send out the monthly greeting cards to our Wesley UMC families. Below is a heartfelt testament of the good that comes from such a simple gesture! If you would like to be a part of the Greeting Card Ministry, we meet the first Thursday of each month in the Fellowship Hall, at 9:30 am for approximately an hour. **All are welcome!**

To my dear, Wesley Family,

Over the course of my college education these past 4 years, I have received countless cards and care packages from members of this church. While this is only a fraction of them shown below, I am humbled and truly blessed for all the love, support, and well wishes.

Receiving a card would remind me, I always have a home at Wesley. How lucky I am to be a part of such a loving congregation, whose love for the Lord shines through all the selfless acts they do.

Thank you to each and every one of you! I can’t thank everyone enough.

With love,
Alyssa Cedro



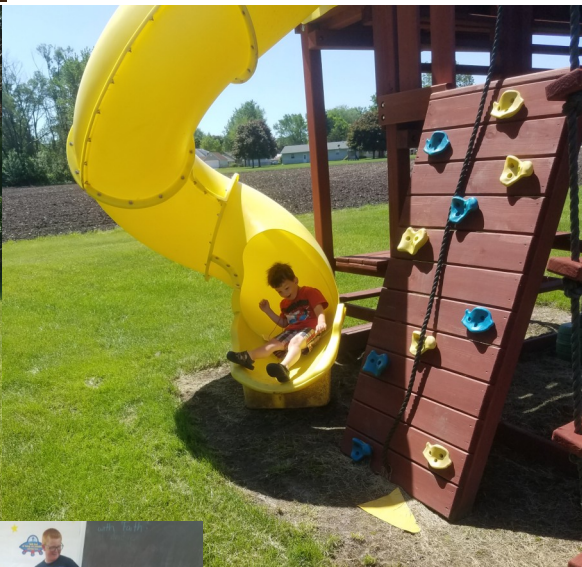
To Mars and Beyond, VBS 2019



Wesley UMC Vacation Bible School was a huge success!

82 Pre-k - 6th Grade Voyagers went "To Mars and Beyond" exploring the love of Christ through games, music, snacks, crafts, and story time activities. Voyagers learned to go beyond with faith, boldness, kindness, thankfulness, and hope, while learning about God and strengthening their faith. Each day, we collected an offering for our mission "Sterling Buddy Bags". This is a program that provides weekend meals for kids who are food insecure. **We met our goal of \$400!** To all of our volunteers and organizers: a HUGE thank you for helping run the stations, leading the children around, decorating, as well as a special thank you to Tammy in the office and to Darrin for helping with the extra clean up!

It is especially noteworthy that this year, we had a larger number of youth volunteers, some of who were in our VBS programs just a few years ago! Additionally, thank you to everyone who donated snacks and any other materials. We had an amazing time and can't wait for next year! Lexi Hinrichs



MORE VBS 2019 FUN!



Camp Reynoldswood Work Day



Birthdays

July 3 Haley Ceruzzi, Jeff Davey, Jaime Hodges,
Sharon Siex, Nathan Williams

July 5 Sue Hondley, Stacey Wendelken

July 6 Vinnie Poci

July 9 Sydney Graves

July 10 Rose Jacobs, Lindsey Reynolds

July 11 Sandi Cox

July 13 Matthew Hansen, Andrea Mallhi

July 14 Nathan Blackburn

July 15 Roger Jacobs, Jack Osborn

July 16 Sharon Prichard

July 19 Pam Clodfelter, Steve Downes

July 23 Tim Schwingle

July 24 Sadie Wendelken

July 25 Meghan Clodfelter

July 26 Beth Jacobs, Darla Stigall

July 27 Allison Valenzuela

July 28 Linda Kavan

July 31 Dayton Hayes

Anniversaries

July 7 Denver & Sharon Wasson

July 12 James & Wendy Fitzanko

July 14 Ed & Jan Andersen

July 22 Fred & Renee Duncan

July 23 Dr. Darroll & Jeanette Erickson

July 28 Frank & Janne Rausa

July 29 Jeremy & Holly Taylor-Vrhel

Bread Hosts

July host is Darla Stigall.

Attention friendship bread bakers...if you are able to bake a few mini loaves, please contact Sharon Siex at 815-590-1614.

Servers for July- 8 a.m.

Greeters/Ushers/Acolytes

July 7th Cindy Melton, Randy Smith

July 14 ↓

July 21 Brian & Chris Babel

July 28 ↓

Liturgist

Mark Melton

↓

Dylan Hinrichs

↓

Coffee Hosts

July 7 Andy & Nancy Pitsch, Darla Ewing

July 14 Ed & Jan Andersen

July 21 Warren & Carolyn Heuck

July 28 Andy & Nancy Pitsch

Servers for July- 10 a.m.

Greeters/Ushers/Acolytes

July 7 Beth Jacobs, Kyllian & Ronan
Bill Parker, Jeff Cedro, Mark Taylor

July 14 Wendelken Family

July 21 Jamie & Emily Schwingle

July 23 Bob & Cheryl Allen, Reid & Ryan Blackburn

Liturgist

Rory Smith

Bryn Gatz

Olivia Schwingle

Rory Smith

Wesley United Methodist Church

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Sterling, IL 61081

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Wesley United Methodist Church

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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 the Martin Keagy Fund in July.