From Our Pastor...

What's on your shoulders?



With a sermon series on Moses, I'm reading the Exodus. In chapter 28, God anointed Moses' brother Aaron and his sons

as priests. We find the vestments for the priesthood: a breast-

piece, ephod, robe, tunic, turban, and sash. These are so colorful with gold, blue, purple, crimson yarns, and fine linen.

What caught my eyes is "two onyx stones" on the shoulders. I love these onyx stones. God commends to engrave on them the names of the twelve tribes, six tribes on each. These two onyx stones will be set on the high priest Aaron's shoulders for remembrance of the sons of Israel. It is a beautiful picture of the priest's spiritual responsibility to listen, lead, and take care of the whole Israelites. Isn't it beautiful?

With the onyx stones, I think of our communal responsibility in the Wesley community. As followers of Jesus Christ, you and I are called to be royal priesthoods, God's people. (1 Peter 2:9) We have our spiritual "onyx stones" on our shoulders, engraved the names of other fellow Wesley family, our neighbors, and the people on earth. I have your names on my shoulders. And you also have many people's names, including my names, on your shoulders. It is a mutual responsibility we have for all God's people.

This beautiful picture of the onyx stone can be even more meaningful in this season.



Chimes

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH/AUGUST 2020

Church Events

Below are the weekly and monthly events held at Wesley UMC. Please watch for future updates on when these events will resume along with any new events or activities!

Tuesdays: Exercise class, activity room, 5pm

Thursdays: Exercise class, activity room,5pm

Saturdays: Men's Bible study, 8am

Second Thursday of each month is the Women's breakfast, 8:30am at Benny's.

Third Friday of each month is the Ladies Luncheon, 11:30am, new location each month.

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This global health crisis is not God's punishment or one like plagues we find in the Exodus. It's an epidemic disease that can rapidly spread on a large scale.

If one is less careful, one might have a higher chance of having this illness, and bring it to the family members and community. So, these days, wearing a mask is an act of love, and protecting yourself is one of many ways to protect your beloved ones. We have a mutual responsibility for one another.

As we resume our in-person worship, this onyx stones have caught my eyes. We have community responsibility for one another, not only protecting our beloved ones, but also our spirituality. It is like, "I have your back in my prayers and supports. And you have my back in reverse." I believe that's the picture God wants us to have for our Wesley community and beyond. Amen.

Peace In Christ, *Rev. Paul Lee*

Thank you Trustees for all your hard work at the parsonage!







August Worship Schedule August 2, 2020 SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 5:1-2

<Ramses Vs. Moses; gods Vs. God> SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 19:1-5a, 20:1-2

August 9, 2020

<Ten Commandments_Part 1>

August 16, 2020

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 20:1-2, 29:32-33

<Ten Commandments_Part 2>

August 23, 2020

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 3:10, 4:10-13

<Moses' Prayer>

August 30, 2020

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 10:8b-17

<Lighten the Darkness>



Wesley In-Person Worship Reservation Instruction

7) Fill Your Name	8) Fill the People's Names Coming with You
9) Last Check-Up before Completing	10) Please Scroll Down
Image: Sector	Image: Contrast of product of the state of the
11) Click "RSVP Now"	12) You Made It! See You on Sunday! :D
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Missions: Loose Coins

The total loose coins in the month of July that was collected for Rockford Urban Ministries was **\$345.12**



Birthdays

- Aug. 2 Jean Moe
- Aug. 3 Nell Adams, Nancy Pitsch, Marion Quick
- Aug. 6 Fred Duncan, Rita Smith, Carole Finnicum
- Aug. 7 Johanna Cravatta
- Aug. 9 Bill Inks
- Aug. 13 Arianna Cravatta, Jakob Vetter
- Aug. 14 Matt Greenfield
- Aug. 15 Betty Andreas
- Aug. 16 Kris Quick

A	August Liturgists	Anniversaries
	Liturgist	Aug. 2 James & Tammy Jones
August 2	Bruce Kramer	Aug. 9 Tim & Sandi Cox, Dave & Karen Abele, Mike & Tootie Ceruzzi
August 9	Dave Fredericks	Aug. 14 Roger & Rose Jacobs, Bill & Sue Inks
August 16	Rene Morris	Aug. 17 Cal & Pat Jacobs
August 23	Toby Johnson	Aug. 20 James & Linh Melton Aug. 21 Steve & Mary Michel
August 30	Stacey Wendeklen	Aug. 25 Randy & Pam Clodfelter Aug. 27 Mark & Sharon Taylor

Now That's a Pothole!!!

If you have visited the church parking lot in the last few weeks, you may have noticed that five large holes are present where the old ash trees used to be. The stumps from the ash trees have been ground out by Timber Industries. Wolf Contracting will be filling these areas with concrete in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, be especially conscious of where you are walking and very careful when you back your vehicle. The areas are marked to assist you in keeping safe

- Aug. 17 Debbie Kramer
- Aug. 18 Shay Papoccia
- Aug. 19 Lowell Jacobs, Jan Stutzke
- Aug. 20 Darla Ewing, Matt Wendelken
- Aug. 21 Curt Greenfield, Rory Smith
- Aug. 22 Bill Burke
- Aug. 25 Russ Spitzer, Tori Stutzke
- Aug. 31 Louis Quick

Wesley United Methodist Church

2200 16th Ave. Sterling, IL 61081

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Wesley United Methodist Church Phone: (815) 625-1968 Website: <u>www.sterlingwesley.org</u> Email: <u>office@sterlingwesley.org</u>

> Open Heart, Open Minds, Open Doors You are invited to join us for Livestream worship on Facebook at 10 a.m. Find us on Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/SterlingWesleyUMC

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.
- Toothpaste for Bear Necessities, Trinity, and the FISH Food Pantry.
- Travel-sized toiletries for Bear Necessities and FISH pantries.
- Loose coins to benefit Northern Illinois Justice For Our Neighbors in August