

# The Chimes

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | WESLEY UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
JUNE 2021



## From Our Pastor...

Do you remember your baptism? Some of you were baptized at an early age, and you don't remember yours. Some of you who have another denominational background or became a Christian later remember the moment of your baptism. I remember my baptism. I didn't hear any voice from heaven like Jesus' one, but I was overwhelmed with joy and delighted to be a member of the church. But there was one thing I couldn't comprehend.

I liked the church and loved my Sunday school. I talked to my pastor that I wanted to be baptized, but he said I had to wait for three months to be baptized, because he believed the person at the age of 15 and older could profess his/her faith and is eligible for the baptism. I didn't know much about the doctrine and denominational practices of faith, so I said, "Okay. I will wait." And I was baptized a few months later. I was so happy.

But I was still curious. How do I know if I'm qualified to be baptized or not? They said that I was not qualified the day before, but I became prepared on my 15<sup>th</sup> birthday. Did I somehow change on my birthday, and suddenly God recognizes my faith is genuine? How do we know if God sets specific qualifications for Baptism? Those were the questions I had at that time.

CDC announced new guidelines on May 13<sup>th</sup> for the fully vaccinated with much fewer restrictions. I was so delighted to hear that the experts expressed their confidence in the vaccination and that we may live with less concern and fewer restrictions. But I had similar questions I had with my baptism.

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## Church Events

**Wednesdays: Bible study (TBD)**

**Thursdays: Bible study with  
Nancy Pitsch 6:45-7:45pm  
(Fellowship Hall)**

**Saturdays: Men's Bible study  
8:00-9:30 a.m. (church library)**

**Two Sunday services!!  
8:00 am and 10:00 am**

**June 1st at 5:00 pm: Trustees  
(Fellowship Hall)**

**June 3rd at 9:30 am: Greeting  
Card ministry (Fellowship Hall)**

**June 7th at 7:00 pm: Admin.  
Council (Zoom)**

**June 20th - 26th for 5th grade  
thru Sr. High: JOY Camp at  
Reynoldswood**

(message cont.)

“I heard the news that we were highly recommended to wear masks yesterday. Now, all of a sudden, we are safe without a mask if we are fully vaccinated?” “Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) announced that we would move to Bridge Phase tomorrow (5/14) with masks. But CDC says it’s all okay?”

It was very delightful, but a lot confusing. I’ve heard that a few of our Wesley family felt the same. During this Pandemic, wearing a mask and maintaining a social distance has been a part of life. Even if we know the new COVID safety guidelines, some of us are mentally and emotionally defensive yet. Some are quick to adopt a new lifestyle, while some aren’t. So, I hope we, as a community of faith, respect one another with love.

Our Wesley Health team has gathered twice during the week and changed our church safety guidelines in response to CDC and IDPH’s new guidelines. (I sincerely appreciate our Health team for their faithful leadership and tireless effort with more than ten times of meetings.) And I’m so pleased to move forth and see many of your faces without masks. Now we have many in-person small groups/Bible study and resume our 8 am service. I hope we are trying to re-vitalize our gatherings and ministries as a community of faith. Please read the bulletin and Chimes, and you may choose either 8 am, or 10 am service and worship God together so that we may have our vitality back.

**Please find the detailed guidelines below.**

**1) Two Worship Services**, starting on May 23rd (Pentecost)

**2) Mask:** With a vast amount of research, the CDC announced that fully vaccinated people could resume activities without wearing masks.

- a) Those fully vaccinated (two weeks after the 2nd dose) may choose whether to mask or unmask indoors and outdoors.
- b) Those who are NOT fully vaccinated are recommended to continue wearing masks and maintaining social distance.
- c) If small group participants are all fully vaccinated, people may sit close in a room.

**3) Worship, Singing, Coffee Hour, and Others**

- a) The Head Usher and ushers will continue to give us the instruction for seating: one household per pew with social distance.
- b) The congregation may cautiously join in singing hymns in a low voice
- c) Coffee and Donuts will not resume yet, but be announced later.
- d) Both doors will be open for the entrance and exit
- e) No need for an attendance log or temperature check

Peace in Christ,

*Rev. Paul Lee*



## 2021 Upcoming Pantry Collections

**June:** shampoo

**July:** laundry detergent

**August:** toothpaste

**Thank you!**



**NIC Fill the Truck Mission Challenge: May 15<sup>th</sup> – July 4<sup>th</sup>**

Help Us Reach and Beat the Conference Goals

6,000 Pounds and \$1,000!

### MMDC Top Needs

#### Personal Dignity Kit (Needed Items)

- Toothpaste— 2.5 oz. or larger
- Wash Cloths (Bath)
- Hand Towels (Bath)



#### Layette Kit (Needed Items)

- Onesies
- Donation of \$2 for Diaper Cream
- Cloth Diaper (Sewing instructions are on [website](#))
- Receiving Blanket— 28" by 28" or 32" by 32" (store bought or handmade)



#### Homecare Kit (Needed Items)

- Liquid Laundry Detergent—32-64 oz.
- Dish Soap—16-34 oz.
- Liquid Household Cleaner—16-40 oz. (NO Sprays)



#### Student Kit (Needed Items)

- Box 12 Colored Pencils
- Rulers



#### Cloth Face Mask

- Cotton or tightly woven wool, or viscose/rayon. Also rope elastic or ribbon.

#### Flannel Fabric

- Donate by the yard
- No camouflage, hand prints, foot prints, or paw prints on fabric

If you want to assemble full kits, info is located on our website under "Kits, Projects, and Patterns."

Items listed here are our greatest needs.



[www.midwestmission.org](http://www.midwestmission.org)



**May Loose Coins went to**

**Let's Feed Our Children.**

**The total received (prior to 5/30)= \$413.38**

**June coins will go to**

**Reynoldswood Christian Camp**

**Thank you, everyone, for continuing to support these important ministries.**

## Let's Feed Our Children

United Way is again looking for help with their summer lunch program, Let's Feed Our Children. Any 18 years old or younger may pick up a FREE sack lunch, no questions asked. In addition to the fruit cups, lunches will be full of kid-friendly food such as PB&J sandwiches, crackers, granola bars, fruit snacks. 15,000+ fruit cups will be needed this summer.

You can help in several ways; bring applesauce, peach, pear or pineapple fruit cups to church during the month of May, there is a basket in the Fellowship Hall for them. You can also sign up to pack or pick up and handout lunches.

**Wesley is signed up for the month of June so here's the schedule**

**June 1<sup>st</sup>** packing Tuesday 8 to 11 am Also June 8, 15, 22 and 29

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>** finish packing Wednesday 9-11 am Also June 9, 16, 23 and 30

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>** pick up and handout lunches 11:30-12:45 Also 9, 16, 23 and 30 \*\*\* (Scheid Park this year)\*\*\*

**Please** contact Roberta Fredericks to volunteer for any of the dates, you can sign up for as many as you want or even just one.

You can reach her at 815-441-0825 by calling or text. Also [roberta.fredericks@gmail.com](mailto:roberta.fredericks@gmail.com)

**We absolutely need to cover the delivery and handout which is highlighted so please volunteer.**

You can also volunteer for any other dates during the summer by going to [www.tinyurl.com/letsfeedourchildren](http://www.tinyurl.com/letsfeedourchildren)





The family of Arnie Burch would like to thank everyone for the cards and prayers during his five days at Hospice. He died on his 90 ½ birthday—10-22-30 ---4-22-21 Jeanne, Jeff, and Jenny Burch

Wesley Family,

Thank you for your prayers, cards and thoughts while I continue my healing process. It really means a lot to me to have such a caring church. God Bless You,  
Ken Newlon

Thank you's have been received in the office for the Greeting Card ministry, the May baskets, and the Mother's Day dinners. The notes are full of appreciation for the many generous ministries of Wesley UMC!

Wesley's Greeting Card Ministry will continue gathering together in the fellowship hall on the **first Thursday** of each month at 9:30 AM. It was fun to be together last month, wearing masks, social distancing, and visiting as we prepared cards for mailing. **Thursday, June 3** is the date. If you have an hour or two, please join us this month. It's fun!

If you or a loved one would like a prayer shawl, please call the office at 815-625-1968 to pick up a prayer shawl during office hours.

## Announcements / reminders

Anyone interested in helping to keep the church grounds looking nice by picking up tree branches, trimming bushes and roses or weeding flower beds this summer please contact either Roberta or Dave Fredericks to be added to our contact list. Thanks!




**Wesley**  
UNITED METHODIST

# Art Class

June 17th (Thurs)  
(6:30pm ~ 8:00pm)

Who: Children (5 yr old and older)  
Where: Wesley UMC Gazebo  
Registration by June 7th  
Any Question? Please contact Jamie Schwingle  
([tschwingle1603@comcast.net](mailto:tschwingle1603@comcast.net))

“Painting with an Artist” will be our first Summer Gazebo Gathering for KIDS!!

COME join the FUN on June 17th from 6:30-8:00 pm! We will gather in the gazebo to begin with a welcome, prayer, and short “children’s message moment” before spreading out across the yard lot for this WONDERFUL first event for our Sterling Wesley UMC Children ages 5 (going into Kindergarten) and older!

REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY so we can have enough supplies! Please email Jamie Schwingle at [tschwingle1603@comcast.net](mailto:tschwingle1603@comcast.net) or phone or text to 815-499-1030 by June 7th to sign up.

## ***Congratulations 2021 Graduates!***

### **Middle School / Jr. High:**

Logan Ayala, Derek Fitzanko, Bowen Mallhi,  
Nora Truedson

### **High School:**

Haley Ceruzzi, Haleigh Freas, Amber Greenfield,  
Max Parker, Olivia Schwingle, Tori Stutzke

### **College:**

Ryan and Reid Blackburn

## **Anniversaries**

**June 4** Matt & Stacey Wendelken

**June 7** Craig & Jessica Truedson

**June 11** Don & Tracy DuRall

**June 14** Rory & Rita Smith

**June 17** Warren & Carolyn Heuck

**June 21** Dave & Linda Kavran

**June 28** Bruce & Debbie Kramer

## **Birthdays**

**June 1** Evan Melton, Rachel Kramer

**June 2** Matthew Gabrielse

**June 3** Emily Morgan

**June 4** Sharon Wasson

**June 5** Austin Allen, Judy Dennis

**June 6** Dave Abele, Brad Graves

**June 7** Doug Brandau

**June 8** Michele Drew

**June 10** Rene Morris

**June 11** Pastor Rosa Lee

**June 12** Dave Fredericks

**June 13** Phyllis Stutzman

**June 14** Carolyn Heuck, Jeremy Taylor-Vrhel

**June 19** Sharon Taylor

**June 21** Amy Viering-Bontz

**June 22** Myla Wendelken

**June 23** Andy Pitsch, Mark Taylor

**June 26** Mike Drew

**June 28** Cheryl Allen, Cory Canas

**June 29** Chris Bushman, Darlene Davis, Eric Fredericks  
Linda Perry

**June 30** Jackson Lyon, Marianne Rosser



## **LET'S SPREAD SOME CHEER!**

While many facilities are easing their restrictions, these members may still have limited visits. If you wish to send a note or card, here are their addresses:

**Carole Finnicum**  
**Regency Care #312**  
**612 St Mary's Road**  
**Sterling, IL 61081**

**Marion Quick**  
**Regency Care #401**  
**612 St Mary's Road**  
**Sterling, IL 61081**

**June Teachout**  
**Regency Care #412**  
**612 St Mary's Road**  
**Sterling, IL 61081**



# Helping hands at Camp Reynoldswood



(Jeff Cedro  
not pictured)





## June Worship Schedule

June 6	"Birthright and Red Stew" (2nd Sunday after Pentecost Sunday)
June 13	"Jacob Met God" (3rd Sunday after Pentecost Sunday)
June 20	"Jacob's Two Wives" (4th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday)
June 27	"Jacob Wrestling with God" (5th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday)

## June Liturgists

	8:00am	10:00am
6th	Wendy Fitzanko	Mary Spitzer
13th	Wendy Fitzanko	Carolyn Heuck
20th	Steve Downes	Amy Lopez
27th	Rory Smith	Toby Johnson

## Altar Flowers (\$20)

The following dates are available:

June 6 and 27

July 4, 11, 18, 25

August 8, 15, 22, 29

(please contact the office to reserve a date for altar flowers)

## Wesley Sunday Worship

8 AM  
(Starting on May 23th)  
10 AM

Wesley  
UNITED METHODIST

## Together Wesley Family



after 10am service  
(Prepared by Wesley Men's Group)

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## Wednesday Bible Study

starting in June

If you are interested,

Please contact Steve Downes (downes815@gmail.com)  
or Pastor Paul (lovegn247@gmail.com)

## MAKING SENSE

## OF THE BIBLE

Wesley  
UNITED METHODIST

## (Online recording of) Children's Message

### June 6 Spiritual Gifts

Opening Message by Renee Duncan

### June 13 Love Is ...

Opening Message by Nancy Pitsch

### June 20 Armor of God

Opening Message by Carol Cravatta

### June 27 Run the Race

Opening Message by Rene Morris

## Wesley United Methodist Church

2200 16<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Sterling, IL 61081

### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Wesley United Methodist Church

Phone: (815) 625-1968

Website: [www.sterlingwesley.org](http://www.sterlingwesley.org)

Email: [office@sterlingwesley.org](mailto:office@sterlingwesley.org)

### Open Heart, Open Minds, Open Doors

Join us for in-person Sunday services

8:00 am and 10:00 am

We will continue to 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.
- Shampoo is being collected for Bear Necessities, Trinity, and the FISH Food Pantry.
- Travel-sized toiletries for Bear Necessities and FISH pantries.
- Loose coins to benefit: Reynoldswood Christian Camp (Dixon, IL).