

The Chimes

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | WESLEY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

JULY 2021



From Our Pastor...

Church Events

Let me ask you! What was your dream, when you were young? What did you want to be? The President? Scientist? Doctor? Explorer? Teacher? Farmer? or Pastor? When it comes to “Dream,” people, especially young folks, think of what they want to do in their occupation or what they want to be in their socio-economic status.

When I was little, I dreamed of being a doctor. I wanted to go somewhere in the 3rd world like Dr. Albert Schweitzer and help and cure all the people there. But it changed when I became a teen. I wanted to be an architect. My favorite drama was about a person’s life from his early 20's as a college student to his 30's as a successful architect. I thought that was cool, and I wanted to be like him, until I found my calling as a pastor.

And I became a pastor. I learned from a book that more than 80% of people work in a different place or occupation from what they dreamed of when they were little. Interestingly, it’s partly my story, too, because what I’m doing in my life and ministry is way different from what I thought it would be.

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Tuesdays and Thursdays
@4:00pm Exercise Group in
Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays @9:30am:
Bible study in Fellowship Hall

Thursdays @6:45pm:
Bible fellowship with Nancy Pitsch
(Fellowship Hall)

Saturdays @8:00am:
Wesley Men's Group
(church library)

Join us Sundays in-person:
8:00am and 10:00am

July 1st @ 9:00am:
Greeting Card Ministry (Fellowship
Hall)

(cont. from p1)

Then, what does the Bible tell us about having a dream? What does God want you to dream of? What does the Holy Spirit guide you to in your faith journey? At home, at work, at any other locations? Day after day, we sometimes find ourselves not knowing where we are heading and for what we are running.

Then, I believe that's the moment we need to take a pause and think about it. Each one of us has a different location, different position, different responsibilities, and different goals. We Christians believe that God knows us by our names and that God has a special plan for each one of us. Then, God's plan should be bigger than what we can imagine. God's plan could be something we found long ago, but now we forget. Or we know God's plan for us, but need to be reminded.

We've been through the COVID era for the past 16 months. Since late May, we began to resume our in-person worship and gatherings more and more. And we are trying to find a new normal and get back to the life we may call "ordinary" like before the Pandemic. We had Art Class for kids, Joy Camp for youth, and Hot Dog Sunday. These were to remind us of the importance of the community and try to build our community back up.

Then, I'm wondering if that is our goal? Is it true that we are seeking our "ordinary" normal life without any concern of virus? Is that all? No! there should be more. There should be something more, because we know we believe that God has plans for our personal lives and our community and because we believe that God will do something remarkable and bigger than we can possibly imagine.

So, I want to invite all of our Wesley family to think about God's dream for us: God's dream for individual life and our beautiful church, Wesley United Methodist Church with a new sermon series. Let's think of God's dream and listen to the nudging of the Holy Spirit with one question, "What is a God-sized mission?" Would you be willing to join me? Let's dream together and make it real with our prayers. Amen.

Peace in Christ,
Rev. Paul Lee



2021 Upcoming Pantry Collections

July: laundry detergent

August: toothpaste

The Missions Committee would like to thank Coralee, Lowell and Roger Jacobs, Judy Dennis, Marianne Rosser, and Cindy Melton for their help with the **Let's Feed Our Children Program** in June. An *extra special thank you* to Jean Moe who picked up and returned all lunches, materials and information for every Wednesday in June.



May's Loose Coins went to Let's Feed our Children (total collected: \$687.93!). Donations continue to come in for this ministry and are recorded separately (no longer as Loose Coins)

JUNE'S Loose Coins went to

Reynoldswood Christian Camp (Dixon, IL).

The total received (not including 6/27 yet)= \$214.79

July coins will go to

Rockford Urban Ministries

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

A big thank you for all the birthday cards I got from the members of the church on my **97th birthday!** They were a good present!

June Teachout

An Exercise Group meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4:00 in Fellowship Hall. For further information, please contact Mary Nelmes: 815-535-5038.

The Greeting Card Ministry will be meeting Thursday, July 1, at 9:30 AM in Fellowship Hall to prepare July cards for mailing. In June, 107 cards were prepared. Everyone is welcome to come help. It's fun!

The office has received cards from:

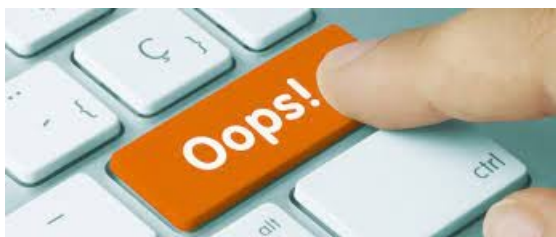
Olivia Schwingle thanking the Lyons family scholarship for helping her with books and other expenses at Carl Sandburg and her church family for supporting her while she is away.

Mona and Pete Barajas for cards and support received during cancer treatment.



JOY CAMP 2021





If you have updates or corrections, please let the office know--- thank you!

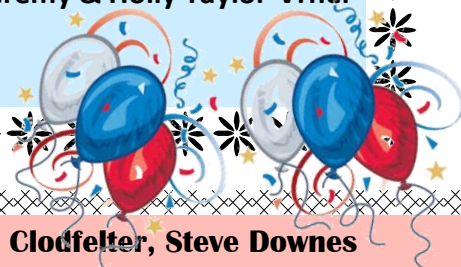
**(Marla 815-625-1968 or
office@sterlingwesley.org**

Anniversaries

July 6	Denver & Sharon Wasson
July 7	Ken and Mary Newlon
July 12	James & Wendy Fitzanko
July 14	Ed & Jan Andersen
July 22	Fred & Renee Duncan
July 28	Frank & Janne Rausa
July 29	Jeremy & Holly Taylor-Vrhel



Birthdays



July 3 Haley Ceruzzi, Jeff Davey, Jaime Foss,
Sharon Siex
July 5 Sue Hondley, Stacey Wendelken
July 6 Vinny 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 Kavran
July 31 Dayton Hayes



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

Habitat helpers



Art at the Gazebo



JULY Worship Schedule

July 4 Steve Downes preaching

July 11 "Fisherman for People"

July 18 "Hope"

July 25 "For This"

Wesley Sunday Worship

8 AM

(Starting on May 23th)

10 AM

Wesley
UNITED METHODIST

Altar Flowers (\$20)

The following dates are available for honoring a person or occasion with altar flowers:

July 11, 18, 25

August 8, 15, 22, 29

(please contact the office to reserve a date or sign up on the poster in Fellowship Hall) Thank you for sharing God's beautiful handiwork!



JULY Liturgists

	8:00am	10:00am
4th	Dylan Hinrichs	Elisa Gatz
11th	Jean Moe	Roberta Fredericks
18th	Katie/Grace Wetzell	Ellie/Stacey Wendelken
25th	Nancy Pitsch	Josh Greenfield

(Online recording of) Children's Message

July 4th **Elijah's Servant Is Afraid**

July 18th **Armor of God**

July 11th **Love Is ...**

July 25th **Making Peace with Others**

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

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.
- Laundry soap is being collected for Bear Necessities, Trinity, and the FISH Food Pantry (July).
- Travel-sized toiletries for Bear Necessities and FISH pantries.
- JULY Loose coins to benefit: Rockford Urban Ministries