

The Chimes

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
AUGUST 2021



From Our Pastor...

I want you to imagine that this is the first day of school. Maybe you can imagine that for real. Perhaps you are starting kindergarten, or maybe you are beginning the first day of your middle school or high school, or even college. Or if you are not starting school somewhere, perhaps there is a place for you to start a new thing to grow. Maybe you are starting your new career or maybe even retirement. It is the new chapter of life. I want you to imagine how it feels. Some of you might feel your stomach almost has butterflies in it, and your blood pressure goes high.

It is the place you want to go up, and you want to meet your new teachers and friends. Maybe you are one of those who want to be in front or at the back end of the classroom. We all remember these kinds of moments on those days of school. It is the place we know that something is going to happen. It is the place we are starting to learn and do something. We need a lot of courage to step up and face many new things. It will happen again to many students and teachers, as the new school year will start this month.

It would be the perfect time for you to be in chaos, if you have children who go to school. It would also be the time for all of us to remember them in our prayer and encourage them to go into the next chapter of their lives as a community of faith. We know that the Pandemic is still an ongoing wild story for many of our students, particularly those under age 12. They need extra prayers and supports.

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Church Events

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

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

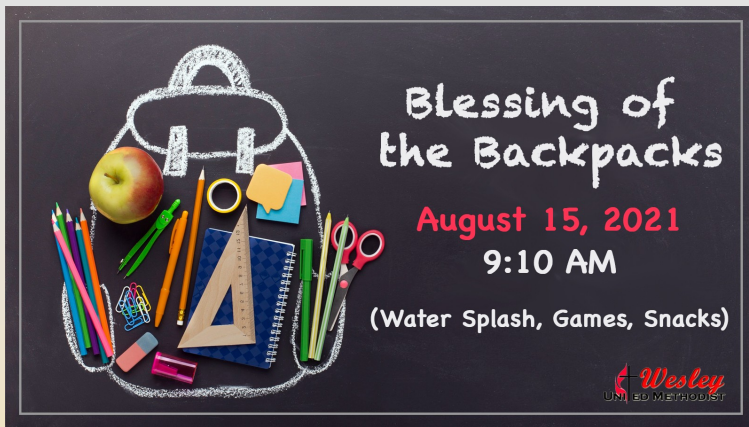
**Saturdays @8:00am:
Wesley Men's Group
(church library)**

Remember the date:

**Sun. August 1st
@8am: Dylan Hinrichs preaching
@10 am: Sing-along service and
celebration of music**

**Thurs., August 5th @ 9:30am:
Greeting Card Ministry
(Fellowship Hall)**

**Sun. August 15th @ 9:10am
Blessing of the Backpacks
(Gazebo) *More info. on p.6**



During 10am worship we will be blessing our teachers, administrators and support staff with prayer for their school year. Please join us in worship for this blessing!

STUDENTS OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!

You may encourage your children, grandchildren, and other students in your neighborhood to join on that particular Sunday with the blessing of the backpack. Please encourage them to join us with their backpacks. Let us stand firmly together in our support and prayers for them in God's love and hope for the bright future of their lives. Amen.

Peace In Christ,
Rev. Paul Lee

August Worship Schedule

1st	8 AM. Sermon by Dylan Hinrichs 10 AM. Music Sunday
8th	"The Race: Rhythm of Life"
15th	"Spiritual Life and Exercise"
22nd	"Team Play in the Race"
29th	"Faith and Endurance"

August Liturgists

	8:00am	10:00am
1st	Grace Wetzell	Elisa Gatz
8th	Darla Ewing	Josh Greenfield
15th	Bruce Kramer	Nancy Pitsch
22nd	Rory Smith	Mary Spitzer
29th	Nancy Pitsch	Josh Greenfield

We are looking for musicians to perform special music during the 10:00 service. If you play an instrument or sing and would like to perform, please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall

and contact Dylan Hinrichs at

dylanhinrichs3727@gmail.com



Missions / Thank you's!

2021 Upcoming Pantry Collections

August: Toothpaste

September: Toilet paper

MIDWEST DISTRIBUTION CENTER (NIC)

Fill the Truck items were received from:

Wesley UMC,
Harmon, Tampico,
Morrison, Albany
and Princeton UMC's

---Thank you,
everyone!



Northern Illinois Conference
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Visit our website

Connect With Us



Thank You for Helping Overfill the Truck!

Thank you Northern Illinois Conference churches for helping to overfill the truck for this year's Annual Conference mission challenge. We collected more than 14,000 pounds and \$400 for the Midwest Mission Distribution Center's hygiene kits...nearly tripling 2020's numbers! A special thank you to the churches, staff, and volunteers in each district who served as one of the 16 collection sites. **Click on the video** to watch a special message from Midwest Mission.



***5th Sunday giving for August will go to:**

Good Neighbor Emergency Center

to provide financial assistance to low income clients. GNEC helps pay utilities, prescriptions or gas money for a trip to an out-of-town doctor. Their funds are running low and the need is great. Thank you for your help!

JUNE Loose Coins went to
Reynoldswood Christian Camp (Dixon, IL).

The total received: **\$542.14**

July coins went to
Rockford Urban Ministries

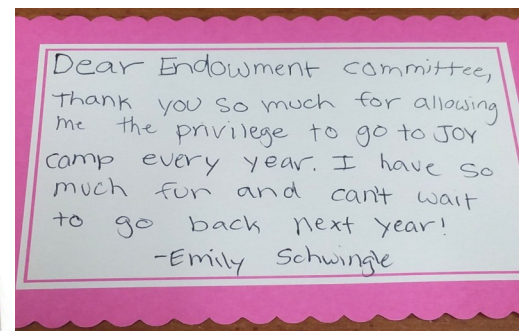
Total received: **\$416.00**

AUGUST Loose Coins go to
Northern Illinois Justice for our Neighbors

Thank you's received in the office:

Thank you to the prayer shawl ministry from Wendy Fitzanko on behalf of her mother. The shawl and the prayers bring her warmth and comfort during this difficult time.

Thank you from **Victoria Stutzke** for the Lyon Scholarship assistance. She will put the money to good use as she attends the U. of South Dakota in the fall working toward a dental hygiene career.



Come join us as we prepare **August greeting cards** for our congregation. We meet at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall, Thursday, August 5. It's fun to work, visit, and catch up. No experience necessary. If you haven't participated, give it a try. Hope to see you there!



Dear SWUMC Men's Bible Study and Bruce & Debbie Kramer,
"Thank you SO MUCH for providing such a FANTASTIC day for us! Thanks for the 5-star trip - we had a blast! It was one of the BEST things all summer! Lazy River was FABULOUS! I've never done anything like this before - it was SO GREAT!"

Such a perfect example for youth (and adults!) to experience firsthand how the church "works" outside of the sanctuary! People gifting their time, resources, and hearts by extending Christ's love through their efforts for the joy & blessings of others. We appreciate you all so greatly!





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

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

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Aug. 2 James & Tammy Jones

Aug. 9 Tim & Sandi Cox, Dave & Karen
Abele, Mike & Tootie Ceruzzi

Aug. 14 Roger & Rose Jacobs, Bill & Sue
Inks

Aug. 17 Cal & Pat Jacobs

Aug. 20 James & Linh Melton

Aug. 21 Steve & Mary Michel

Aug. 25 Randy & Pam Clodfelter

Aug. 27 Mark & Sharon Taylor

Aug. 2 Jean Moe

Aug. 3 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

Aug. 17 Debbie Kramer

Aug. 18 Shay Papoccia

Aug. 19 Lowell Jacobs, Jan Stutzke, Katie Herath

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

LET'S SPREAD SOME CHEER!

**These members may still have limited visits. They love to get mail! If you wish
to send a note or card, here are their addresses:**

Carole Finnicum
Rock River Hospice
and Home
2706 Ave. E
Sterling, IL 61081
(*birthday this month!)

Marion Quick
Regency Care #401
612 St Mary's Road
Sterling, IL 61081
(*birthday this month!)

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

What's new?



TIME - between services at 9:10am in the Gazebo!

**Kids- bring your back pack!
Dress casually; bring a towel
in case you get wet!**



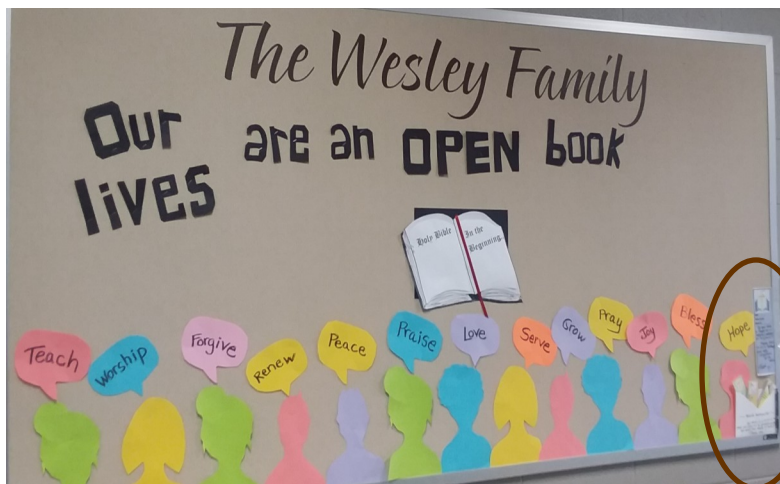
Altar Flowers (\$20)

The following dates are still available for altar flowers:

August 29

September 19, 26

(please contact the office to reserve a date or just sign up on the poster in Fellowship Hall) Thank you!



If you have a cherished verse/scripture passage would you share it with others on our latest bulletin board? Call or email it to the office and Marla will fill out a bookmark for you. There are dyi book-marks attached to the bulletin board by the office and near the flower sign-up in fellowship hall. Thank you for sharing your personal journey as the Bible guides and transforms each of us!

(Online recording of) Children's Messages for August:

August

Aug 1 **Making Peace with Others**
Opening Message by Carol Cravatta

Aug 8 **In the Beginning: Creation**
Opening Message by

Aug 15 **The Fall: Adam and Eve**
Opening Message by

Aug 22 **From Bad to Worse: Cain and Abel**
Opening Message by Rene Morris

Aug.29 **God Starts Over: Noah's Ark**
Opening Message by Rene Morris



Thank you to Jan Glover and Dave and Roberta Fredericks for their dedicated work on landscaping and flower tending--- Even through the heat/humidity!



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.
- Toothpaste is being collected for Bear Necessities, Trinity, and the FISH Food Pantry (August).
- Travel-sized toiletries for Bear Necessities and FISH pantries.
- AUGUST Loose coins to benefit: Northern Illinois Justice for our Neighbors