

The Chimes

November 2021

From Our Pastor



Church Events

We had Ad Council last night. (I'm writing this letter on Oct. 19.) We shared the team and committee reports and discussed our future ministries. It is a time that we celebrate the vitality of our Wesley family and appreciate each team/committee's ministry. We also discuss how we may develop our precious ministries and practice the love of God in our Wesley family and the local community. I will make a video clip to celebrate our ministry of the past year during the week and share it at our Church Conference (Oct. 25). I sincerely appreciate our leadership, team/committee members, and all our Wesley family members. We pray for one another, support one another, and help one another as we walk in our faith journey.



As we praise God for leading our Wesley family, the Ad Council scheduled our leadership training 2022. Leaders and team/committee members are invited

to participate in this training starting at 9:30 am on **Jan. 22, 2022** (Sat) in the Fellowship Hall. Not only leaders but also all Wesley families are welcome to join. It will be a time of excitement and joy, looking forward to dreaming what God would do and planning how we respond to God's calling in the year 2022 and more. Please save it on your calendar.

Continued on page 2...

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

Ongoing:

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

Saturdays @8:00am:
Men's Bible Study (Fireside Room)

Save the date:

Thur., 11/4 @ 9:30am
Greeting Card Ministry group

**Sun., 11/7 Veterans honored
during worship**

**Sun., 11/21 Bell Choir and
Hanging of the Greens**

Sun. 11/28 Advent begins!

The theme of the event will be Radical Hospitality and Divine Friendship. I wrote about this theme in my letter for the Church Conference with hope for our future ministry. You can find it in our Church Conference handbook. In brief, it is about God's unconditional love for all. God created all of us and all living creatures and breathed life into us. God has come to us in human flesh to speak to us and manifest God's love in our human language so that we may come close to God. It is God's radical hospitality. And Jesus Christ became our Lord, shepherd, and best friend. He inspires us, empowers us, and invites us to join his ministry of love so that we can be disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. That is Jesus' divine friendship. Isn't it beautiful and amazing what God has done for us? And we are called to extend this radical hospitality and divine friendship with our neighbors.

The study and discussion on the roles and ministries of the team/committee will follow. New team/committee members may learn more about their roles and plan their ministries. So, I invite all team/committee members to the training. It will be time for acknowledging our teams/committees and cheering one another in our Wesley family. Please mark this workshop (Jan. 22) on your calendar. I'm so excited and looking forward to the gathering.

Peace in Christ,
Rev. Paul Lee

Worship Schedule for November

7th

Scripture and message:

Bruce Kramer

21st

SCRIPTURE READING

Gospel of Mark 5:24b-30, 34
"Holy Interruption"

14th

Scripture and message:

Heather and Toby Johnson

28th

(1st Sunday of Advent)

SCRIPTURE READING

Gospel of Matthew 2:1-8, 13-16
"King and the Wise Men"

Children's Worship Schedule

Nov. 7

"Moses Crossing the Red Sea"

Nov. 14

"The Tabernacle"

Nov. 21

"Joshua and the Walls of Jericho"

Nov. 28

"The Judges"

With introductions by:

Carol Cravatta, Renee Duncan, Rene Morris

Thank you so much for your cards, prayers and well wishes. It made my surgery and time leading up to it much more calm. I felt the love of all of you.

Thank you.
Judy Bushman



To my Wesley Church Family,

I want to extend to all of you a sincere THANK YOU, for the prayers, cards, and words of support following my injury, and period of recovery. A special thanks to Pastor Paul for his visit and prayers. You have all placed new meaning of and importance of family. My life has again been blessed.

Thank you,
Love you all,
Toby Hodges



thank you

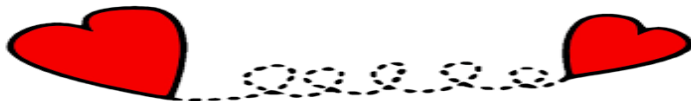
Thank you so much for your very generous donation to the loaves and fishes breakfast program! We greatly appreciate you remembering us. We started serving take out meals three days a week in July and served over 200 meals last week. The need is still present.

Thank you again-

Sue Abate
Corresponding Secretary
Loaves and Fishes

The Wesley Greeting Card ministry will meet Thursday, November 4, at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall to prepare November cards.

We welcome new people to join us.



October 2021

To Friends of Fish at Wesley United Methodist Church,

Thank you for your contribution to the Fish and Pantry.

Most of our food comes from the Sauk Valley Food Bank.

We are open 5 days a week to serve the community.

It takes a community to support a pantry and you are a part of that community.

Gratefully,

Beck Mathew



Good Neighbor Emergency Center
P O Box 1338
Sterling IL 61081

October 19, 2021

Wesley United Methodist Church
2200 16th Avenue
Sterling IL 61081

Good Neighbor Emergency Center gratefully acknowledges your contribution of \$923.00.

We sincerely appreciate your support of Good Neighbor. Your generosity allows us to continue to help those in our community who are in need of a helping hand. May God Bless you.

Sincerely,

Harold P Dale

Harold P Dale, Treasurer



THANK YOU to the Wesley Bell Choir! Their music was enjoyed by all, and we look forward to hearing more from them!!



Advent
The Season of Hope and Expectation

Wesley
UNITED METHODIST

Advent Bible Study
Wednesday during Advent

If you are interested,
please contact Pastor Paul or
the church office.
(office@sterlingwesley.org)

The Journey
Walking the Road to Bethlehem

Wesley
UNITED METHODIST

NOVEMBER – SAM			
Greeters	Ushers	Liturgists	Advent Wreath
11/7 Jan Glover Derek & Aaron Fitzanko	McCombs/Wetzell family	Grace Wetzell	
11/14 Jan Glover Derek & Aaron Fitzanko	Mary Downes Jeff Cedro	Steve Downes	
11/21 Jan Glover	Lynn Majewski Jeff Cedro	Renee Duncan	
11/28 Jan Glover	Lynn Majewski Jeff Cedro	Rory Smith	Mike Michele Drew Logan Ayala
NOVEMBER – 10AM			
Greeter	Ushers	Liturgist	Advent Wreath Lighters/Readers
11/7 Warren & Carolyn Heuck	Mike & Lynette Ceruzzi	Kris Noble	
11/14 Warren & Carolyn Heuck	Jeff Cedro, Kris Noble	Rick Palmer	
11/21 Steve & Amy Lopez	Stacey & Megan Stutzke	Mary Spitzer	
11/28 Susie Cedro Kay Clark	Greenfield family	Josh Greenfield	Malhi Family

Dear Wesley United Methodist family,

We are writing to you all on behalf of the church finance team. Let's start with a question for you: how is Christ changing your life through Wesley United Methodist Church?

The goal of any Christian congregation is to help people become and grow as followers of Jesus Christ. The goal of this church is to help more people enter loving relationship with God, feel the forgiveness of God, and learn to love all other people as Christ taught us. Through following Jesus Christ lives are changed for the better.

Lives are being changed in Bible studies and small groups as people learn more of God's love and find loving community with others. Lives are changed as our caring team give cards and gifts to so many people. Lives are being changed as our mission team helps support local, national, and international ministries.

How can you support these life changing ministries, with your time, your talents, and your treasure? Financially Wesley has been in a strong position, but we need to keep pace with increasing costs. We need to consistently encourage and foster new giving to support the life changing ministries done in Jesus' Name.

We ask everyone to please prayerfully look at their household financials and ask for God's guidance to see what they can give. We can help change lives and help build up Christ's Kingdom in the world! May God guide us all,

Pastor Paul Lee

Ed Andersen, Finance Chair

Help Wanted!

Save the date! Please plan to stay (or return) after the 10:00 service to decorate the church on Sunday, Nov. 21st. Please help!

Wesley is signed up for bell ringing for The Salvation Army at Farm and Fleet on December 11th. Sign up sheet will be on the Missions Table toward the end of November. Slots are from 10am to 8 pm.

The Hospice Country Store during The Festival of Trees is going to be open this year at Northland Mall. Our church has been asked to donate 30 dozen cookies as we have done in the past.

If you would like to help and bake cookies, please let me (Mary Spitzer) know. Most people in the past have baked one kind of cookie; 2 to 3 dozen. You can bake any kind including Christmas.

I will take care of delivering the cookies to the store. No need to use decorative tins or plates. Just put the cookies in a throw away box, plate or container. Please deliver to the church by the 10:00 service on Sunday, November 14 or call me to make other arrangements. Cookies can be dropped off at my house too!!

Thank you so much!! Please call if you have any questions!!

Mary Spitzer

815 441 2208

russell_spitzer_981@comcast.net

2105 E 40th Street

Sterling IL 61081

Autumn Caroling with the Confirmation Class



Missions:

The total *loose coins* collected in **October** for PADS is \$ **147.13**

(-10/31 to be added) .

The **Chili Cookoff** (pandemic-style) raised \$ **395.** for the Sauk Valley Food bank.

World Communion Sunday will add \$**30** to various international scholarships.

5th Sunday giving totaled: \$**60** and goes to Peace with Justice.



In **November**, we will be collecting for FISH Food Pantry.



Wesley is collecting for the Township's Thanksgiving Baskets. Each basket costs approximately \$30.

We will be collecting monetary donations during November. Please place donations in the ceramic turkey located on the Mission's Table. Our goal is to raise enough for 25 baskets.

Birthdays

Nov. 1 Alyssa Cedro, James Fitzanko

Nov. 3 Walter Lindsley

Nov. 6 Mary Anne Batten

Nov. 8 Marc Melton

Nov. 10 Gloria Rodriguez, Grace Wetzell

Nov. 11 Bill Parker

Nov. 13 Jan Glover, James Morris, Sena Warkins

Nov. 14 Logan Ayala

Nov. 15 Jamie Schwingle

Nov. 16 Blake Parker

Nov. 18 Edd Rosser

Nov. 19 Holliana Drew

Nov. 20 Jionni Castaneda

Nov. 22 Jean Partridge

Nov. 23 Bill Abate, Rosemary Davis

Nov. 25 Mary Spitzer

Nov. 28 Linh Melton

Anniversaries

Nov. 4 Tim & Jamie Schwingle

Nov. 11 Steve & Kay Bierman

Nov. 17 Antonio & Amber Castaneda

Nov. 20 Curt & Jaime Greenfield

Nov. 22 Bill & Sue Abate, Don & Sena Warkins

Nov. 30 John & Linda Larson

Altar Flowers (\$20)

The following date is available for altar flowers:

December 12

Please contact the office to reserve. Payments can be mailed to/dropped off at the office. Thank you!

The **2022 poster is on the bulletin board---**

But you can also let Marla know (church office) if you have a date in mind: 815-625-1968

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 Hearts, 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>

Upcoming Events

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.
- **Dish Soap for Bear Necessities, Trinity, and the FISH Food Pantry.**
- Travel-sized toiletries for Bear Necessities and FISH pantries.

Loose coins to benefit FISH Food Pantry in November.

This year the township will be handing out vouchers for **Thanksgiving Baskets**. The Mission Team is asking for donations to help purchase the vouchers. Please drop off or mail check/money and label it: *Thanksgiving Baskets*.

Donations accepted all of November