

The Chimes

HAPPY NEW YEAR

2022

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
JANUARY 2022

From Our Pastor...

GOD'S DREAM

Happy New Year!

I'm writing this note on Dec. 21, double-checking the Christmas eve service and planning worship schedules in Jan. 2022. I've been praying for what we would have for the coming year as a community of faith. I was

so grateful and excited thinking about it. Then, I heard the news from CNN that a new variant, Omicron, was the dominant variant in the States. I was going to talk about our Wesley family's dream, thinking of emerging from the Pandemic. I was going to encourage more gatherings and empower our ministries. Then, the news made me numb.

While discerning what to do with the current context, what came to my mind was that it is time we think more of God's dream in our lives and community. This Pandemic has been long enough that many people have been stressed, frustrated, and drained. Many frontline workers quit their jobs because of the high level of stress and burden. It's happening in many places. And I believe it is the time we need to think of dreaming God's dream and find God's calling in our context.

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 in your own journey? At home, at work, at any other locations?

Continued on page 2...



Church Events

Tue./Thur. Exercise class
3:30pm Fireside Room

Sat. Men's Bible Study
8:00am Fireside Room

Jan. 5th—Come help box up the decorations we enjoyed during Advent. 1:00pm at the church.

Jan. 6th— Greeting Card Ministry 9:30am Fellowship Hall

Jan. 10th — Worship Team 7:00pm Fireside Room

Jan. 15th — Leadership Training 9:30am Fellowship Hall

Jan. 22nd —Prairie South Leadership Training in DeKalb 9am—12noon

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.

At the beginning of this year, I'd like to encourage you to think of your dream, goal, and purpose, which God puts in your life, and of how your dream may extend and influence your family, your communities, your church, and this world. In January, let's think of our dream and listen to the nudging of the Holy Spirit with a question, "What is a God-sized mission in my life?" I have already started praying for this sermon series and your journey. Would you be willing to join me?

Happy New Year! May God bless you and lead you in your journey. Amen.

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Paul Lee

January Worship Schedule:

2 "Dream: Listen 1"

Genesis 28:10-16

9 "Dream: Listen 2"

Book of Genesis 28:16-22 & Gospel of Matthew 28:18-20

16 "Dream: Burning Bush "

Exodus 3:1-12

23 "Dream: Claim Yours"

Exodus 3:13-15, 4:10-12

30 "Dream: What's in Your Hands?"

Exodus 4:1-5

Worship helpers for January:

January 8AM Worship

Door Greeters	Usher/Acolyte	Liturgist
1/2 Lynn Majewski & Jan Glover	Mary Downes & Jeff Cedro	Steve Downes
1/9 Lynn Majewski & Jan Glover	Mary Downes & Jeff Cedro	Steve Downes
1/16 Lynn Majewski & Jan Glover	Debbie Kramer & Jeff Cedro	Bruce Kramer
1/23 Derek & Aaron & Jan Glover	James Fitzanko & Jeff Cedro	Wendy Fitzanko
1/30 Nancy Pitsch & Jan Glover	Darla Ewing & Jeff Cedro	Nancy Pitsch

January 10AM Worship

Greeters	Ushers/Acolytes	Liturgist
1/2 Warren & Carolyn Heuck	Rich & Eli Halverson	Carolyn Heuck
1/9 Greg & Amy Bontz	Steve Lopez & Jeff Cedro	Amy Lopez
1/16 Greg & Amy Bontz	Rita Smith	Rory Smith
1/23 Janne & Frank Rausa	Nick, Molly, JP, & Brady Papoccia	Shay Papoccia
1/30 Janne & Frank Rausa	Rita Smith	Rory Smith

Missions:

The total **loose coins** collected in the month of December for Loaves and Fishes is **\$94.25**

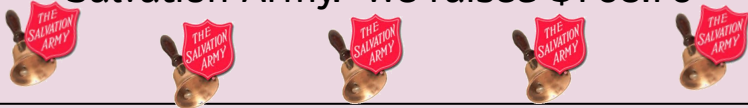
For the **UMCOR** separate appeal: **\$2000.**

Total amount for **Christmas Envelopes** to be split between Loaves and Fishes and Disaster Relief Fund (UMCOR) is \$1591.

January 2022 loose coins goes to David Makobo, whose work in Senegal assists farmers to be more productive. The UM mission in Senegal has grown steadily in the predominantly Muslim country.

There is also a **5th Sunday** (extra giving) in January, which will target *Human Relations Day*.

Missions would like to thank the 15 plus people who rang the bell for the Salvation Army. We raised \$768.76



2022*Giving Envelopes*2022

New envelopes are available in Fellowship Hall for those who had envelopes assigned last year. We also have plenty of loose ones and a few boxes that can be recycled if you are new to the church, or just need a few envelopes at a time. If you have questions, please contact the office.

"After Advent Class" for Children during 10am Worship begins January 9th for kids aged preschool – 6th grade!

Children start in sanctuary worship; following Children's message with Pastor they'll go directly out with Children's leaders Carol Cravatta & Nancy Pitsch to classroom wing area for their own worship, lessons, activities, and crafts surrounding January/February theme of "How do we keep our hearts prepared, awake, listening, & following Jesus?" Each week a third adult or youth rotates as a leader. THANK YOU'S to Carrie Halverson, Stacey Wendelken, Stacey Stutzke, and Nora Truedson for jumping into this amazing ministry for our children (and their parents!) Rene Morris will join us in future classes as a storyteller!

We INVITE MORE **"THIRD PEOPLE"** to join this worthwhile and much-needed ministry! Please contact **Nancy Pitsch 815-499-3802** to rotate into the BLESSING & wonder of helping children know & experience Jesus in deeper ways! It's FUN, EASY, and very manageable with many hands & willing hearts giving an offering of themselves to love on our kids and families through this JOYFUL opportunity! **Please see February OPEN SPOTS for a THIRD PERSON!**

Thank you!

JANUARY "After Advent Class for Kids"		
1/2	No Class	
1/9	Nancy Pitsch/Carol Cravatta	Stacey Wendelken
1/16	Nancy Pitsch/Carol Cravatta	Stacey Stutzke
1/23	Nancy Pitsch/Carol Cravatta	Carrie Halverson
1/30	Nancy Pitsch/Carol Cravatta	Stacey Wendelken

FEBRUARY	
2/6	Nancy Pitsch, Carrie Halverson THIRD PERSON NEEDED
2/13 th	Nancy Pitsch, Stacey W. THIRD PERSON NEEDED
2/20 th	Carol Cravatta, (Stacey S. will let us know) THIRD PERSON NEEDED
2/27 th	Carol Cravatta, Stacey W. THIRD PERSON NEEDED

2022

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Childcare will be provided



SAVE
the
DATE

Jan. 15 (Sat)
@9:30am




UNITED METHODIST

PRAIRIE SOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING



January 22, 2022

9:00 am - Noon

Dekalb First UMC

317 N 4th Street, DeKalb, IL 60115

**Classes: Staff Parish, Intentional Discipleship
Vitality, Anti-Racism, Treasurer Training
Hospitality and Friendship**

For registration, please contact Pastor Paul

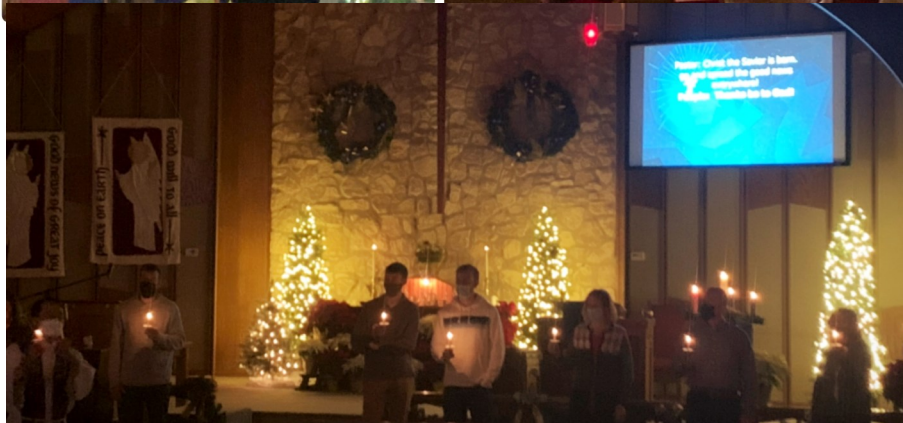
**Questions? Contact Marcia Peddicord
fumcsecretary@gmail.com**

December Blood Drive* Confirmation Sunday

Many volunteers worked to make these events successful: Thank you!



Salvation Army Bell Ringers* Christmas Eve



Change in address for:

Darlene Davis
1800 Kensington Dr Apt B 300
Waukesha, WI 53188

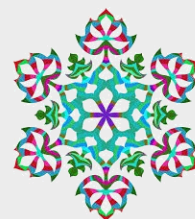
Thank you for keeping the office
updated with address
changes / corrections:

The 2022 Altar Flower Calendar

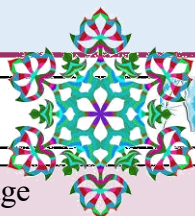
is up in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to reserve a date for a loved one, you may sign up there or email / call the office to do so. The cost remains at \$20. You may mail in your payment with it marked as "altar flowers", or drop it to the office Tue—Fri mornings.

office@sterlingwesley.org

815-625-1968



Birthdays



Jan. 1 Joan Partridge
Jan. 3 Norma Church, Steve Michel
Jan. 5 Joshua Greenfield
Jan. 8 Joe Gatz, Carol Shaw
Jan. 11 Susie Cedro, Melissa Freas
Jan. 12 Matthew Taylor
Jan. 13 Molly Papoccia
Jan. 14 Michael Quick, Christie Freas
Jan. 16 Toby Hodges
Jan. 18 Reid Blackburn, Ryan Blackburn, Bowen Mallhi

Jan. 20 Randy Clodfelter, Janne Rausa
Jan. 22 Mitchell Clodfelter
Jan. 24 Antonio Castaneda
Jan. 26 Darrin Driscoll, Cal Jacobs
Jan. 29 James Melton
Jan. 30 Lexi Hinrichs
Jan. 31 Wendy Fitzanko

Let's continue to send greetings to:

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

Anniversaries

Jan. 6 Jon & Christie Freas
Jan. 28 Edd & Marianne Rosser

Thank You from Jean Partridge:

**To the Card Ministry and my
Wesley Church Family,
thank you for all the cards
for my 95th birthday!**

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

In-person Sun. 8:00am and 10:00am

You are invited to join us for Livestream
worship on Facebook at 10 a.m.

Find us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/SterlingWesleyUMC>

Missions 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 Detergent and travel-sized toiletries for local pantries in January.**
- **JANUARY Loose coins to benefit: David Makobo (Senegal, Africa)**