

The *CHIMES*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | WESLEY UMC

APRIL 2022



From Our Pastor

Happy Easter!

On Easter Sunday, as we celebrate Jesus, risen from the dead, we sing two hymns: “In the Garden” and “He Lives.” Those are the songs that remind us of Easter. “In the Garden” was written by American songwriter C. Austin Miles (1868-1946), and it is the scene in that Mary Magdalene went to Jesus’ tomb in the early morning of the first Easter. Imagine that Mary, deeply grieved, walked alone to the garden where Jesus was laid. Then, she met the Risen Christ. Meanwhile, “He Lives” starts its lyrics with “I serve a risen Savior, He’s in the world today.” It is a victorious song that boldly proclaims the resurrection of Jesus.

What’s interesting is that both hymns have similar lines in their refrains. “In the Garden” has “And He (Jesus) walks with me and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own.” And “He Lives” has “He lives (x2). He walks with me and talks with me. ... He lives within my heart.” Both lyrics proclaim not only that Jesus is risen from death, but also that Jesus is present and accompanying us in our very lives. And He leads us and empowers us to live and proclaim the Good News of Christ. What powerful statements they are!

Easter is our defining story as Christians. Many people know that the Sabbath in the Old Testament and the Jewish tradition is not Sunday, but Saturday.

(message continues on p2)

Church Events

Saturdays: Men's Bible Study
8:00-9:30 a.m. (Fireside Rm)

Tue/Thur: Exercise Group
(Fireside Rm) 3:30pm

Wed. (April 6 and 13) Lenten Study
9:30am/6:00pm (Fireside Rm)

Thur., April 7: Greeting Card Ministry
9:30am (Fellowship Hall)

(*Sun. April 10: Earth Day photos due)

Sat., April 16 Easter Egg Hunt
@2:00pm at the church



Holy Week:

April 10th Palm Sunday
8:00/10:00am

14th Maundy Thursday 7:00pm

15th Good Friday 7:00pm

17th EASTER SUNDAY

8:00am service

Breakfast

10:00am service

(Pastor Paul's message, cont.)

However, we Christians celebrate Sabbath on Sunday because it is the day that the Lord walked out of the grave, which made triumph over death, violence, evil, and injustice. So, in our belief, every Sunday is an Easter to us that we gather together, praise God, and empower one another as Jesus' disciples with the hope of the risen Christ. And we walk with Jesus and talk with Jesus and live with Jesus.

This year, particularly, will be special as we are emerging out of the two-year Pandemic. We've been through a tough season with fear of the virus and uncertainty for the future. Finally, we are now able to get together in person both in our worship and small groups. We will have Easter breakfast between the services. Yay~! :D Isn't it something we've been looking for? I can't be more excited about it. And we will shout out loud, "Jesus is risen. Indeed, Jesus is risen! Hallelujah!" Amen.

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Paul Lee



Worship schedule

April 3

Luke 23:32-43

"Which One of Them?"

April 10 (Palm Sunday)

Mark 15:22-25, 33-34, 37-39 "Soldiers at the Cross"

April 14 (Maundy Thursday) 15 (Good Friday)

April 17 (Easter)

John 20:1, 11-16, 18

"Walk with Christ the Risen Savior"

April 24

Guest Speaker, Rev. K. Kyungah Woo (World Council of Churches, Switzerland)

Flower sign-ups are available for these dates:

April 3, 10
May 1, 15, 22, 29
June 26

Cost is \$20 and you may sign up on the poster in Fellowship Hall or contact the office:
815-625-1968 (Marla)
office@sterlingwesley.org



MISSIONS

April loose coins will go to the *Caretakers of God's Creation*.

Lent and **Easter** offerings (envelopes) will be split between
Buddy Bags and Copacabana Bolivia New Church Fund.

March loose coins = \$ 375 Thank you!! From the Midwest Mission Distribution Center! Also, over \$800 so far is raised for Ukraine (UMCOR)



Attention high school seniors!

Did you know that Wesley UMC has a scholarship available through the Endowment Fund? It provides a one-time gift through the Lyon Family Scholarship Program of \$500 to high school seniors who have been confirmed at Wesley and have continued to be involved in the church through high school.

If you were confirmed elsewhere but became a member and were involved at Wesley for at least one year, you are also eligible. Forms are available at the church office or can be sent by mail / email upon request.



**GOOD
FRIDAY**
JOHN 3:16

7 PM, Apr. 15 (Fri)

Sterling Wesley United Methodist church.





ANNOUNCEMENTS / THANK YOU'S

****If your contact information has recently changed, remember to notify the office. Please call or email us: 815-625-1968
office@sterlingwesley.org.**

YOUTH GAMESTORMING EVENT!



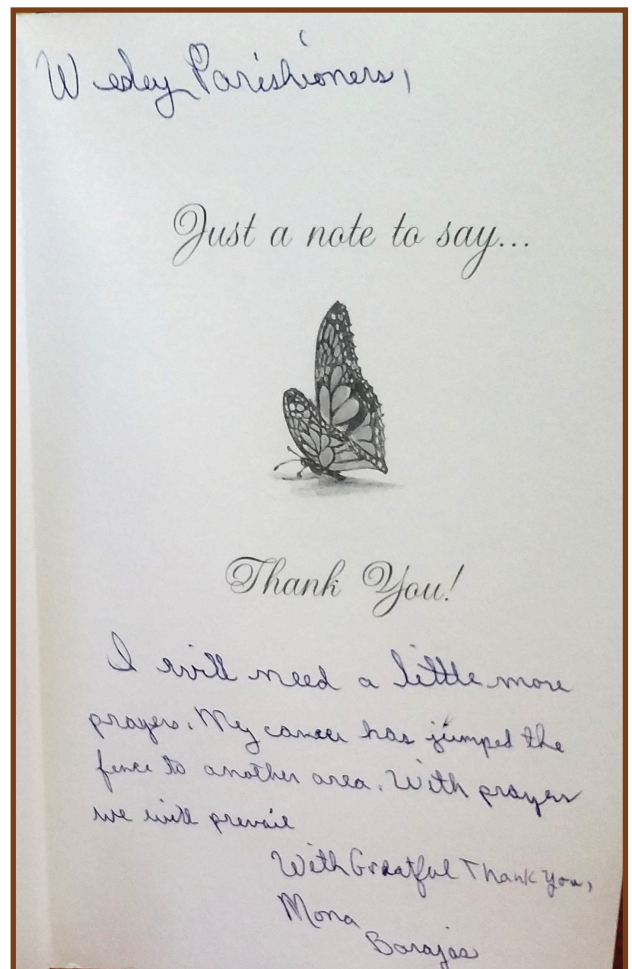
Youth grades 2nd-High School are invited to stay after the **10am worship on April 3rd** for games, food, and fellowship! This is an opportunity for us to get to know a little more about each other, while deciding what we want our youth program to look like. Our time will include breakout sessions designed specifically for different age groups, games, and a round table discussion we can all get involved in (you will have to be there to see what it is). We will meet until 12:30 and lunch will be provided. If you are interested, please RSVP to the church office at, office@sterlingwesley.org, sign up at church, or give us a call at (815) 625-1968. You can also email me at melissahurley08@gmail.com.
I cannot wait to get together and see how God is continuing to work in this place!

We will be assembling the **college care packages** on **Tuesday, April 12th at 1:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone who wants to make a donation or help pack the boxes is welcome.

For more information
please call Sue Abate at 625-0539.

Thank you.

Sue Abate



Greeting Card Ministry

Our next meeting is Thursday, April 7th at 9:30am in Fellowship Hall! Many helpers make the task more fun— come join us if you can!



Birthdays

April 1	Elizabeth Mathew	April 16	Peg Burke
April 2	Ken Newlon	April 17	Karen Palmer
April 3	Janet Lindsley and Olivia Schwingle	April 18	Allison Ramirez
April 4	Gloria Grant	April 19	Austin Cedro
April 5	Jeffrey Spitzer	April 23	Nick Papoccia
April 8	Mark Gatz and Frank Rausa	April 25	Craig Truedson
April 12	Violet Windham	April 28	Sarah Gabrielse
April 13	Pastor Paul	April 30	Amber Farnham and Amber Castaneda
April 14	Randy Smith, Don Warkins and Amy Lopez		



Anniversaries



April 1	Pastors Paul and Rosa Lee	April 18	Marc and Cindy Melton
April 2	Ron and Judy Bushman	April 19	Toby and Debbie Hodges
April 5	Arnie & Jeanne Burch	April 24	Jeff and Jan Davey
April 17	Walter and Janet Lindsley	April 30	Joe and Elisa Gatz Dennis and Alice Vetter

8:00am

April Worship helpers

10:00am

Door Greeters	Ushers/ Acolytes	Liturgist	Door Greeters	Ushers/ Acolytes	Liturgist
3 rd Jan Glover	Rita Smith	Rory Smith	3 rd Toby, Harper, August Johnson	Beth & Ronyn Jacobs	Heather Johnson
10 th Jan Glover Palm Sunday	Lynn Majewski	Grace & Katie Wetzell	10 th Amy & Greg Bontz Palm Sunday	Kris Noble, Elliot Noble	Elisa Gatz
17 th Frank & Janne Rausa EASTER SUNDAY	Rita Smith	Rory Smith	17 th Amy & Greg Bontz EASTER SUNDAY	Roberta Fredericks	Dave Fredericks
24 th Aaron & Derek Fitzanko	James Fitzanko	Wendy Fitzanko	24 th Dave Fredericks	Andy Pitsch	Roberta Fredericks

Earth Day photo contest and display!!!

Photos Wanted!

The Beauty of Nature, taken by YOU

Collection: March through April. 10 (Sun)

Display: From April 18 through May 29

(Sunday before the Pentecost)

Any questions? Please find Pastor Paul

Please send your photos to lovegn247@gmail.com

For one of the Stewardship that God has entrusted to us, we have a responsibility to nurture God's creation, to promote the need of our collective works as God's co-workers, and to prevent the harm and damage on the earth.



LET'S SPREAD SOME CHEER!

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

Gyneth Partridge (new address)

Windsor Manor
403 Scenic St Apt 516
Morrison, IL 61270



Donut time!



We are once again having coffee and donuts in between services. If you are interested in hosting a fellowship time, contact Renee Duncan or Cindy Melton.

Come to church by 8:30-8:45

Donuts will be in the kitchen. (Thank you Jan Glover)

Coffee will be made and creamers will be out (Thank you Lynn Majewski)

Plate up the donuts and greet one another with a big smile.



Clean up after fellowship time: Wash/put away platters, put creamers in the frig., empty and wash coffee carafes, wipe down counters and tables in fellowship hall.

Easy Peasey!! Call soon to get the date that works best for you!! Thanks for your faithful service!

Renee Duncan and Cindy Melton
Fellowship Time Coordinators



Children's Easter Egg Hunt for all ages of kids and families will be **SATURDAY, APRIL 16th, at 2pm!** Hopefully outside, so dress according to weather! (If it's raining we will move it indoors)

Christian Ed Team is asking for donations of individually wrapped candies & chocolates to be stuffed into hundreds of eggs! PLEASE bring to the church office no later than Sunday, April 10th! *Monetary donations are also welcome if you'd like us to purchase candy on your behalf!*

We appreciate your support making this a WELCOMING & WONDERFUL event for our children!

Questions? - Call **Jamie Schwingle 815-499-1030** or **Jaime Greenfield 815-499-4370.**



JOY CAMP 2022 will be Sunday June 19th - Saturday AM June 25th!

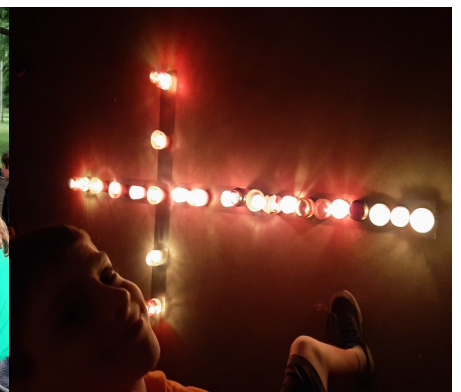
Youth that will be in 5th grade fall of 2022 through 12th grades are welcome!

Registration will be available on Camp Reynoldswood Outdoor & Retreat Ministries website in late April with fees, discounts for church group, sibling, early registration (pre mid May) discounts.

<http://www.niccamp.org>

Our Sterling Wesley kids are so faithfully and so very generously gifted financial support through our church Endowment Funds; it helps them to know how many will be participating in camp each year!

If you plan on sending your child, or have questions, please contact Nancy Pitsch 815-499-3802!



Wesley United Methodist Church

2200 16th Ave.

Sterling, IL 61081

Holy Week and Easter Services



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Come Worship With Us!

Wesley United Methodist Church

Phone: (815) 625-1968

Website: www.sterlingwesley.org

Email: office@sterlingwesley.org

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Sermons are available on Facebook / website

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

website: www.sterlingwesley.org

Mission Corner / April 2022

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.
- Bar soap for local pantries.
- Travel-sized toiletries for Bear Necessities and FISH pantries.
- *Loose coins* for APRIL to benefit: Caretakers of God's Creation.