



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
WESLEY UMC  
May 2022

# The Chimes



## From Our Pastor

## May Church Events

A while ago, I had a meeting with some clergies, and we discussed the church's goal. Our basic premise started with "Making disciples of Jesus Christ and changing the world" according to the Book of Discipline. Then, our conversation was extended to a further question, "What does it mean to be disciples of Jesus Christ?" The discussion was all about being Christians and the three senses of Grace: Prevenient Grace, Justifying Grace and Sanctifying Grace.

A pastor presented her belief in being a Christian in an approach to making a relationship in a community. She shared her experience in a new membership class. She asked people, "What if a person reads the Bible every day and praises hymns alone in a room? Can we say this person is a Christian?" Many people replied, "Yes!" But the answer was, "Might be yes, but mostly No!" because a person cannot be a church alone, unless the person is located alone in the middle of a desert or jungle since Christ declares that a church is a gathering of people in their practices of faith by making a relationship with each other and making actions as Jesus' disciples into the world. We can be a God-fearer by doing practices of faith alone, not Christians without a community.

Then, another pastor added her belief of being a church in a progressive approach to being Apostles. She made her classification on differences between Jesus' followers, disciples, and apostles. When we profess that we love God and Jesus, we become Jesus-followers. It is the starting point of our faith. Then, by living by God's will, making a relationship with God and our neighbors, and reaching out to the world, we become disciples of Jesus Christ. But there is the next step after being disciples; being apostles. We need to keep on our faith journey until we become apostles of Jesus Christ. It is like a process of being justified, sanctified, and whole in Christ.

We had a sermon series on Methodist Heritage through John Wesley a while ago. It is all about what Jesus has taught us to live on our faith journey. We are Easter people. We are people of faith in the resurrection, in which Jesus proves that Christ completed all his missions on earth for us and that we, children of God, are all invited to God's love and grace. Easter is a truly defining story.

(Message cont. on p 2)

### Saturdays 8-9:30am

*Men's Bible Study (Fireside Rm)*

### Tue/Thur 3:30pm

*Exercise Group (Fireside Rm)*

### Mon. the 2nd @7:00pm:

Ad Council meeting (Fellowship Hall)

### Tue. the 3rd @7:00pm:

Trustees (Fellowship Hall)

### May 4th or 5th @7:00PM:

SPRC (Fellowship Hall)

### Thur. the 5th @9:30am:

Greeting Card Ministry (Fellowship Hall)

### Sun. the 8th: Happy Mothers' Day!

**Mon-Fri 9th-13th**, Marla on vacation

### Tue. the 17th @7:00pm:

Worship Team meeting (Fellowship Hall)

### Thur. the 19th @11:30am:

Women's luncheon at A's Kitchen (Rock Falls)

\*Please reserve ahead with Beth Mathew

### Sat. the 21st 8am-12pm:

Work Day at Camp Reynoldswood (Dixon)

### Sun. the 29th: \* 5th Sunday giving \*

### Mon. the 30th: Memorial Day

(remembering all who have served)



(Pastor's message, cont)

Let's question ourselves: "What does it mean to be children of God?" and "How can we live on the Gospel Jesus gives to each of us?" We will have a sermon series with a book, "Purpose Driven Life, " to find our answers." With this series, I like to invite you to meditate with me on these questions and keep trying to live by Gospel. May God bless you and help you find your answers. Amen.

Peace in Christ,  
*Rev. Paul Lee*



## May Worship Schedule

### 1 Jeremiah 29:10-14, Revelations 3:20

Testimony by Anne Blackwell

### 8 Romans 8:28, Ephesians 1:18-19

God's Calling for Y/O/U/!

### 15 1 Tim 3:15, John 15:1-9

Called to Be Belonged

### 22 Romans 8:28-29

Called to Become Like Jesus

### 29 1 Peter 4:10-11, Mark 8:34-37

Called to Bless

## \* The flower calendar has these dates available:

**May** 29

**June** 26

**July** 3, 10, 17, 31

If you wish to honor someone please contact the church office or sign up on the poster in Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$20.00 for flowers which are delivered to the church. You can take them with you after the 10:00 service or pick them up later. Checks should be made out to Wesley / memo: flowers. This can be dropped off or mailed to the office. Thank you!



\*Marla B will be on vacation the week of May 9-13.\*

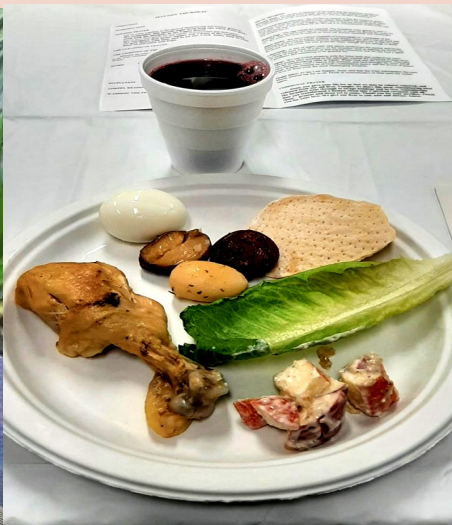




# HOLY WEEK



(*Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, **Easter***)





# ANNOUNCEMENTS and THANK YOU'S

## Let's Feed to Children



## FRUIT CUP & APPLESAUCE DRIVE

### ALL OF MAY

Help the United Way serving FREE meals for children in Whiteside County. Please donate individual fruit and applesauce (15,000+ fruit cups will be needed this summer). The most popular choices are applesauce, pineapple, peaches, and pears.



Please bring all donations and leave on designated table in the fellowship hall

Questions contact Roberta Fredericks: 815-441-0825 or  
roberta.fredericks@gmail.com



SPONSORED BY



United Way  
of Whiteside County

## Greeting Card group meets

### Thurs. May 5th @9:30am.

### ¡VIVA! Join us if you can!

Her children arise and  
call her blessed.



## Mother's Day Sunday

### May 8th, 2022



Proverbs 31:28

Wesley  
UNITED METHODIST

Thank-you from  
Bear Necessities Personal  
Care Pantry

Thank-you for caring,  
your donations bless our  
neighbors who need a  
helping hand.

God Bless



Dear Church Family; 4/18/22  
Thank you so much for  
remembering me at Palm Sun-  
day and Easter with your  
bag of goodies!  
your thoughtfulness is  
very much appreciated.  
God bless you all with  
His grace and love.

Sincerely,  
Kay Clark

### LET'S SPREAD SOME CHEER!

Marion Quick

Regency Care #401

612 St Mary's Road

Sterling, IL 61081

Gyneth Partridge

Windsor Manor

403 Scenic St Apt 516

Morrison, IL 61270

June Teachout

Regency Care #412

612 St Mary's Road

Sterling, IL 61081





**We will have a Reynoldswood Camp work day May 21<sup>st</sup> from 8 till noon. All are welcome to help. Contact Andy Pitsch for more info**



As we celebrate recovery from the Pandemic we would like to resume our **Ladies Lunch Group**. We meet once a month at a different restaurant each month. I think we were meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 11:30. Let's begin in May on the 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 at A's Kitchen in Rock Falls. I chose A's Kitchen because they have a semi-private or private area where we can safely eat.

I will send an e-mail reminder and I need a response so I can make reservations. If you are not on my e-mail list please contact me so I can add you.

Beth Mathew: [bethmathew41@gmail.com](mailto:bethmathew41@gmail.com) 815-625-4381

I am looking forward to this fun time together,  
Beth Mathew



## Youth events corner

Youth Director, Mel Hurley



**\*\*Please let the office know if you have a college, high school, or 8th grade graduate this year!**

**GRADUATION  
SUNDAY**

10 am Service, May 22nd, 2022

 Wesley  
UNITED METHODIST



Lyon Scholarship  
Award  
May 22nd, 2022  
10 am Service

Application Due:  
May 8th

 Wesley  
UNITED METHODIST



# MISSIONS corner



**LOOSE COINS** for April (*Caretakers of God's Creation*) is approx. \$ 80.00 and the **Lent/Easter Envelopes**, which are split between *Buddy Bags* and the *Copacabana, Bolivia, New Church Fund* brought \$ 955 total.

**Easter breakfast donations** totaled \$ 373 for Ukraine (and additional funds have been collected through UMCOR giving for Ukraine—approx. \$400).

**May's 5th Sunday** offering will go to *Peace with Justice*.



**May LOOSE COINS** will go to *Saturday Kids' Club of Centennial* and *Feed Our Children*. Thank you everyone!

If you would like to help out for **Let's Feed Our Children** you can do so in any of these ways; *bring in fruit cups, give to May's loose coins, sign up to pack lunches or to hand them out.* The program starts on May 31<sup>st</sup> and runs through August 10<sup>th</sup>. This year St. Paul's Lutheran Church will be the host and all packing and distributing will happen there. Packing is on Tuesdays from 8 to 11 and handing out lunches will happen on Wednesdays at various sites (a list of those will be available at a later date). Please contact Roberta Fredericks to sign up for what you would like to do. You can sign up for a day or as many as you want. Contact information:

[roberta.fredericks@gmail.com](mailto:roberta.fredericks@gmail.com) or 815-441-0825

Missions would like to remind you that besides coins in the offering plate you can put bills or a check in an envelope and mark it for loose coins. If you do monthly giving you can designate part of your check for Loose Coins.



On April 24th we welcomed Rev. Kay Kyeong-Ah Woo (World Council of Churches in Switzerland) as our guest speaker.

Coming soon! Joy Camp for students going into 5th grade next fall through seniors in high school are eligible for this fun & amazing week experience at beautiful Camp Reynoldswood in Dixon, IL. Camp starts the afternoon of June 19th and ends June 25th mid morning. For registration and more details go to

<http://www.reynoldswood.org/>

Contact Nancy Pitsch with questions and for info regarding camp tuition gifts for church members! **815-499-3802**



## MAY Birthdays



<b>May 2</b>	<b>Addison Gabrielse</b>	<b>May 17</b>	<b>Bryn Gatz</b>
<b>May 3</b>	<b>Bob Allen</b>	<b>May 18</b>	<b>Mike Ceruzzi, Max Parker</b>
<b>May 5</b>	<b>Sue Abate</b>	<b>May 22</b>	<b>Carlie Truedson</b>
<b>May 7</b>	<b>Nora Truedson</b>	<b>May 23</b>	<b>Jackson Melton</b>
<b>May 8</b>	<b>Kris Noble</b>	<b>May 24</b>	<b>Dennis Vetter</b>
<b>May 13</b>	<b>Renee Duncan, Sue Hayes</b>	<b>May 28</b>	<b>June Teachout</b>
<b>May 14</b>	<b>Manorama Hermon</b>	<b>May 29</b>	<b>Jaime Greenfield</b>
<b>May 15</b>	<b>Chandler Allen</b>	<b>May 30</b>	<b>Ed Andersen, Ethan Cravatta</b>
<b>May 16</b>	<b>Erin Graves</b>	<b>May 31</b>	<b>Tammy Jones</b>

## Anniversaries

<b>May 1</b>	<b>Joe &amp; Carol Cravatta</b>	<b>May 26</b>	<b>Brad &amp; Erin Graves</b>
<b>May 10</b>	<b>Steve &amp; Mary Downes</b>	<b>May 28</b>	<b>Mike &amp; Michele Drew</b>

## May Worship helpers

### 8am Worship

Door Greeter	Ushers/Acolytes	Liturgist
1 <sup>st</sup> Lynn Majewski	Rita Smith	Rory Smith
8 <sup>th</sup> Lynn Majewski	Mary Downes	Steve Downes
15 <sup>th</sup> Lynn Majewski	Mary Downes	Steve Downes
22 <sup>nd</sup> Lynn Majewski	Rita Smith	Rory Smith
29 <sup>th</sup> Lynn Majewski	Jan Davey	Jeff Davey

### 10am Worship

Door Greeters	Ushers/Acolytes	Liturgist
1 <sup>st</sup> Frank & Janne Rausa	Warren Heuck	Carolyn Heuck
8 <sup>th</sup> Frank & Janne Rausa	Andy Pitsch	Mary Spitzer
15 <sup>th</sup> Amy & Greg Bontz	Tim & Emily Schwingle (maybe Olivia, too!)	Jean Moe
22 <sup>nd</sup> Amy & Greg Bontz	Matt, Myla, Ellie, Sadie Wendleken	Stacey Wendelken
29 <sup>th</sup> Amy & Greg Bontz	Andy Pitsch	Nancy Pitsch

## Wesley United Methodist Church

2200 16<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Sterling, IL 61081

### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Wesley United Methodist Church

Phone: (815) 625-1968

Website: [www.sterlingwesley.org](http://www.sterlingwesley.org)

Email: [office@sterlingwesley.org](mailto:office@sterlingwesley.org)

### Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

You are invited to join us in-person at 8am and 10 a.m.

Sermons available on Facebook and website

**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.
- Dish Soap for Bear Necessities, Trinity, and the FISH Food Pantry.
- Travel-sized toiletries for Bear Necessities and FISH pantries.
- Loose coins to benefit: Let's Feed Our Children and Saturday Kids' Club of Centennial for May.