

The Chimes

November 2022

From Our Pastor



Church Events

Jotting Down: Appreciation

Time goes fast. Indeed, time goes so fast. As we enter another winter, looking at various colors of leaves around us. I happen to be reminded of my childhood. I loved to run and walk on red and yellow leaves on the street and jump into many straw bales in the fields. There was so much fun, laughing, and giggling. I also loved snow a lot. When it snowed, I was running here and there and jumping into the pile of snow like a happy dog with snow.

And the best part of the winter was Thanksgiving and Christmas. I looked at a calendar every day, counting how many days were left until Thanksgiving and Christmas, and happily smiled. How was your childhood?

Interestingly, as I grew up, the end of the year doesn't bring the same level of joy and happiness I felt many years ago anymore. I know more than I knew before. I have more than I had years ago. A lot of commercials tell me that Thanksgiving and Christmas are coming, but somehow I feel less appreciative. What happens to me? What's going on with me? How about you?

I need to be more mindful of what God is doing around me. I need to sense more of God's sense of humor in this beautiful season. I think gratitude could be cultivated and help us find the beauty of God's good gifts surrounding us. Am I too busy to count the blessings that God has given in life and that people around me have brought into life? Then, I start jotting down the blessings and people around me. And I see I forgot to count so many things I could have found more joy and meaning in life. Yes, I count you who read this letter on my list. And I want to say, "Thank you. I appreciate your presence."

This November, I want to encourage us to count our blessings in our community. Let's take a moment. Imagine

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

Ongoing:

**Tuesdays & Thursdays @ 3:30pm
Exercise Group (Fellowship Hall)**

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

Save the date:

**Thur. 11/3 @ 9:30am
Greeting Card Ministry group**

**Sat. 11/5 9:30 to noon
Fall work day**

Sun. 11/6 All Saints' Sunday

**Sun. 11/13 Veterans honored
during worship & Potluck**

**Sun. 11/20 Bell Choir and
Hanging of the Greens**

Sun. 11/27 Advent begins!

whom we have in our Church. Remind them what they brought with their talents, gifts, time, and energy. Let's count all the blessings we have in our community. You may find the board of appreciation in the fellowship hall. And there are post-its near. Please write the person's name and why you appreciate the person. You don't have to write your name on it. So, don't be shy. Let us have a moment we appreciate one another for their presence, their service, their ministry, etc. Let us cultivate the attitude, find the beauty of our community, and give thanks to God as well. I believe it will bring joy and happiness to our community this season. Amen.

NOVEMBER 8:00 A.M.				
Date	Greeters	Ushers	Liturgists	Advent
11/6	Jan Glover	Steve Downes Jeff Cedro	Melissa Hurley	
11/13	Jan Glover	Darla Ewing Jeff Cedro	Bruce Kramer	
11/20	Jan Glover	Nancy Pitsch Jeff Cedro	Erin Graves	
11/27	Jan Glover	Steve Downes Jeff Cedro	Mary Downes	Rebecca Tieman, Shannon Klausing, Hannah & Kendell Gee

NOVEMBER 10:00 A.M.				
Date	Greeters	Ushers	Liturgists	Advent
11/6	Andy Pitsch	Kris Noble Jeff Cedro	Rick Palmer	
11/13	Mike & Lynette Ceruzzi	Kris Noble Jeff Cedro	Nick Papoccia	
11/20	Steve Lopez	Bill Parker Jeff Cedro	Amy Lopez	
11/27	Steve Lopez	Bill Parker Jeff Cedro	Amy Lopez	Steve & Amy Lopez, Bella

Worship Schedule for November

6th

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:14-16

"God's Strategy"

13th

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Matthew 26:27-28

"How can We be Grateful"

20th

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Philippians 4:6-7

"Let Us Cultivate Gratitude"

27th

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:26-38

"Here I Am"

Matthew Meeting Leaders for Nov/Dec 2022

MM Team Leaders	MM Team Leaders
11/6 Rene Morris Jaime & Emily Schwingle	12/4 Stacey Stutzke Rene Morris Carrie Halverson
11/13 Nancy Pitsch Stacey Stutzke Megan Stutzke	12/11 Stacey Wendelken Jamie S, Jaime G Stacey Stutzke Christmas Program Practice
11/20 Stacey Wendelken Rene Morris Carol Cravatta	12/18 Jaime G, Jamie S, Stacey Stutzke Youth/Kids Christmas Story-Mini program
11/27 NO Matthew Meeting Happy Thanksgiving!	Matthew Meeting will resume January 8 th , 2023

Celebrations



Private Isaac Halverson has graduated from Basic Training. His new address:

Private Halverson Isaac
Delta CO 16th OD
210 Edgewood Road
Fort Lee, VA 23801

Attention Ladies,

The Wesley Lunch Group will be meeting on Thursday, November 17th at 11:30 at the Factory. Please contact Beth Mathew by phone at (815)625-4381 or email (bethmathew41@gmail.com) by November 15th if you would like to attend.

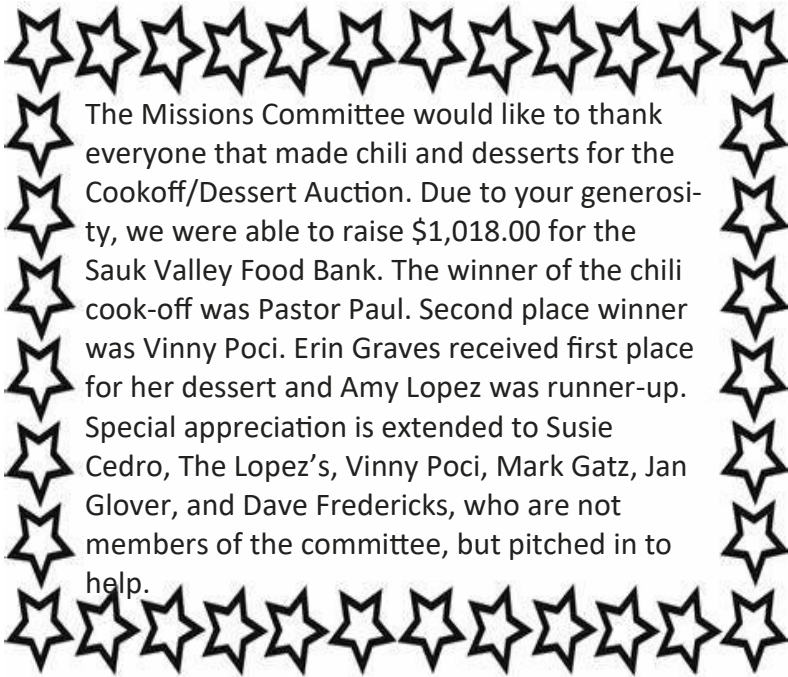
Wesley Friends,

You are invited to the 90th birthday party for J.J. Campbell. The event is being hosted by Pastor Alan's family on Saturday, December 3rd from 2 to 5. It will be held at Wesley UMC's Fellowship Hall.



Snowbirds,

As many of you start to head to your winter addresses, please make certain those addresses are updated through the office so we can stay in touch.



The Missions Committee would like to thank everyone that made chili and desserts for the Cookoff/Dessert Auction. Due to your generosity, we were able to raise \$1,018.00 for the Sauk Valley Food Bank. The winner of the chili cook-off was Pastor Paul. Second place winner was Vinny Poci. Erin Graves received first place for her dessert and Amy Lopez was runner-up. Special appreciation is extended to Susie Cedro, The Lopez's, Vinny Poci, Mark Gatz, Jan Glover, and Dave Fredericks, who are not members of the committee, but pitched in to help.



The Wesley Greeting Card ministry will meet Thursday, November 3, at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall to prepare November cards. Come join us and help spread some joy.

Thank

You

Shout out to Marla Boynton for all the dedication and service she provided as Administrative Assistant. Best of luck on your retirement and "snowbirding" in Alabama.

A collection of cleaning supplies including gloves, brushes, and bottles of cleaning solution.

CHURCH WORKDAY

NOV. 5 (SAT), 2022 @ 9:30 AM

A close-up of a single white rose.

**Nov. 6
All Saints'
Sunday**

A close-up of the American flag.

**Veterans Sunday
(Nov. 13)**

A collage of food items and hands holding plates and utensils.

**POTLUCK
NOV. 13 (SUN)**

A festive border of pine branches, red and gold ornaments, and snow.

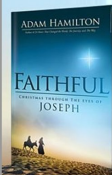
*Hanging
of the Greens*

Nov. 20 (Sun)
after the 10am worship



**Please let the office know
if you are interested.**

Advent
BIBLE STUDY



FAITHFUL
CHRISTMAS THROUGH THE EYES OF JOSEPH

A cartoon illustration of a turkey.

Thanksgiving Baskets Donation

Township's Thanksgiving Baskets

Each basket costs about \$30

**Please place donations in the turkey located
on the Mission's Table**

Our goal is 25 baskets

A large golden bell with a red bow and holly leaves.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing!

When: Saturday December 3

Where: At Farm and Fleet

Sign up sheet is on the Missions Table under TV

**You may also contact Roberta Fredericks or
office to sign up**



Letter from Finance Team

Dear Wesley United Methodist family,

We are writing on behalf of the church finance team. For the first time in recent years our income will fall short of our expenses, so we need our members to consider increasing their support of our church.

The goal of our church is to help more people enter a loving relationship with Christ and learn to love all other people as Christ taught us.

We need everyone's support to continue the programs we have at Wesley. With your support Wesley can continue to offer a great Sunday school program, meaningful worship opportunities, enjoyable fellowship opportunities, mission and community programs plus opportunities for everyone to deepen their walk with Jesus Christ.

One of the ways to live thankfully is to return a portion of the material gifts God has entrusted to our care. This letter is inviting you to give from your gratitude for the blessings in your life.

Tax tip: If you are over 70 ½ years old you can save on taxes by making your church contribution from an IRA.

We ask for your prayerful consideration to see what you can give.

Pastor Paul Lee

Ed Andersen, Finance Chair



Calling all bakers! Wesley UMC has been asked to donate 30 dozen cookies for the Rock River Hospice County Store. The Country Store is held in conjunction with the Festival of Trees at Northland Mall. Stacey Wendelken is coordinating the collection. Individuals are asked to bake 3 to 4 dozen cookies (any variety e.g. Christmas cookies, snickerdoodles, sugar, cut-outs, oatmeal, peanut butter, thumbprints, chocolate chip, peanut butter blossoms). Please store them in disposable containers and deliver them to the Church kitchen on **Tuesday, November 8th**. The building is open from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Stacey will also be available in the kitchen from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. In the event that neither of these times work, please contact Stacey at (480)220-6337 or stacey.wendelken@comcast.net to make other arrangements. Thank you for your support in this ministry.

**START ON
NOV. 27 (SUN)**

MEMBERSHIP
CLASS

Please contact Pastor Paul.



TRAINING

6 PM, Nov. 14 (Mon)
Fellowship Hall

Safe
Sanctuaries 



Thursday evening Bible study



Wednesday morning Bible study



Chili Cook-off and Dessert Auction





Member Care Ministries

Missions:

The total **loose coins** collected in **October** for PADS is **\$ 851.92** (not including Sun. Oct. 30th giving).

The **Chili Cookoff** raised **\$1,018.00.** for the Sauk Valley Food Bank.

World Communion Sunday will add **\$55** to various international scholarships.

5th Sunday giving has not yet been determined.

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



Birthdays

Nov. 1 Alyssa Cedro, James Fitzanko

Nov. 3 Walter Lindsley

Nov. 6 Mary Anne Batten

Nov. 7 Devon Flick

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, Ava Lyon

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 4

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

The 2023 poster is on the bulletin board---

But you can also let Linda 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.

The office is staffed Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. to noon.

