

The Chimes

February 2023



Luke's Perspectives on Jesus and His Followers

Once Jesus asked them, 'Who do the crowds say that I am?' They answered, 'John the Baptist; but others, Elijah; and still others, that one of the ancient prophets has arisen.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered, 'The Messiah of God.'

(Luke 9:18~20:NRSV)

We had a serious sermon a while ago with one question, "Who do you say that I am?" We talked about Jesus with a couple of questions in finding our answer to Jesus' question. Who is Jesus? What does his message mean? What does it mean to us in the 21st century?

We have four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Each one delivers vivid images of Jesus Christ, and each has different views and angles on Jesus. Once we come close to each Gospel, we will have a rich understanding of Jesus with so much inspiration, and it will bring a huge change in our lives, and we claim Jesus is Christ the Lord in our faith journey.

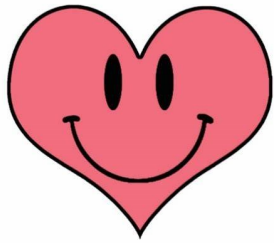
I like to take a journey to explore the stories of Jesus with the Gospel of Luke. Luke has unique perspectives on Jesus and the people around Jesus. Let me tell you a little bit about Luke's Gospel. Luke's Gospel is the first of a two-volume set, and the book of Acts is the second. Luke was Apostle Paul's mission trip companion. Paul describes Luke in Colossians 4:14 that he was the beloved physician. He was highly educated and fluent in Greek.

Both Luke's Gospel and the book of Acts were written to the same person, The most excellent Theophilus. The most excellent Theophilus was a formal greeting of someone in a very high position. So, the recipient could be the Emperor of the Roman Empire. At the same time, it could represent all who love God since the Greek word, Theophilus, means "Love of God." It was written to you and me.

Aren't you curious that Luke wants to speak to us about Jesus Christ? Luke has very different perspectives on Jesus and his followers, and we find people to whom other Gospels don't pay full attention. Luke tries to pay attention to their voices and enlighten us about their precious value and talent. It could be ordinary people's stories, just like you and me.

My hope and prayer are that we may find true meaning and inspiration from the Holy Spirit during this journey. Would you like to take this journey with me?

Pastor Paul

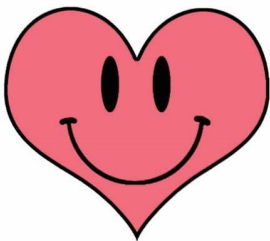


Worship Helpers

FEBRUARY 8:00 A.M.			
Date	Greeters	Ushers	Liturgists
2/5	Lynn Majewski	Steve Downes Jeff Cedro	Mary Downes
2/12	Lynn Majewski	Jeff Cedro	Melissa Hurley
2/19	Lynn Majewski	Steve Downes Jeff Cedro	Mary Downes
2/26	Lynn Majewski	Beth & Ronyn Jacobs Jeff Cedro	Bruce Kramer



FEBRUARY 10:00 A.M.			
Date	Greeters	Ushers	Liturgists
2/5	Bill Parker	Steve Lopez Jeff Cedro	Amy Lopez
2/12	Bill Parker	Steve Lopez Jeff Cedro	Amy Lopez
2/19	Matt & Ellie Wendelken	Myla & Sadie Wendelken Jeff Cedro	Stacey Wendelken
2/26	Aaron & Remy Flick	Devon & Jovie Flick Jeff Cedro	Aaron Flick



FEBRUARY MATTHEW MEETING LEADERS	
Date	Leaders
2/5	Nancy Pitsch & Rene Morris
2/12	Jessica, Nora, & Carlie Truedson
2/19	Jamie & Emily Schwingle & Rene Morris
2/26	Carrie & Elias Halverson

FEBRUARY COFFEE HOSTS/HOSTESSES	
Date	Host/Hostess
2/5	Sue Klock & Steve Lopez
2/12	Youth Group
2/19	Steve & Amy Lopez
2/26	Carolyn Heuck

Reminders

The “gratitude board” still has room to post a tribute to person(s) for which you are grateful.

There are still many open Sundays to sponsor the altar flowers. A poster is up in the fellowship room with available dates. The cost for flowers is \$20.

The Fish Pantry continues to need empty egg cartons. They can be left on the missions table

F E B R U A R Y 4 , 2 0 2 3



ALBERT TATE **VINCE MILLER** **STEVE SONDERMAN** **CHRIS BROWN** **MARK BATTERSON** **STEVE CARTER** **CORY DEMMEL** **ROD HAIRSTON**

[NO REGRETS] MEN'S CONFERENCE
30th ANNIVERSARY

Wesley UMC is a site host of the event

Wesley UMC Sanctuary
8:00 am to 1:15 pm
Feb. 4, 2023 (Sat)
\$5, snacks included



Wesley Men's Club Ham Dinner

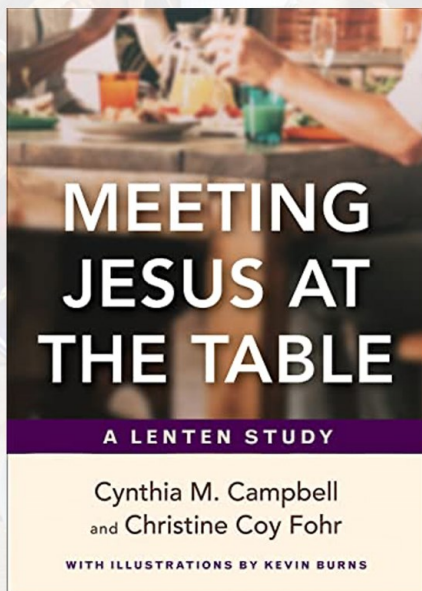


5 - 7 p.m.
Saturday, March 11

Carry-outs available

**Goodwill donation
accepted at the door**





Lenten Bible Study Wednesday Morning 9:30 am -11:00 am

If you are interested,
Please contact the office or
Pastor Paul

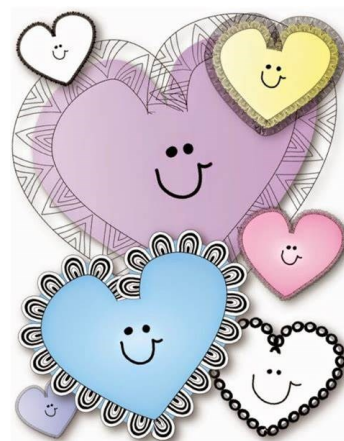


Interview with Glenda Seradilla on 1/8/23

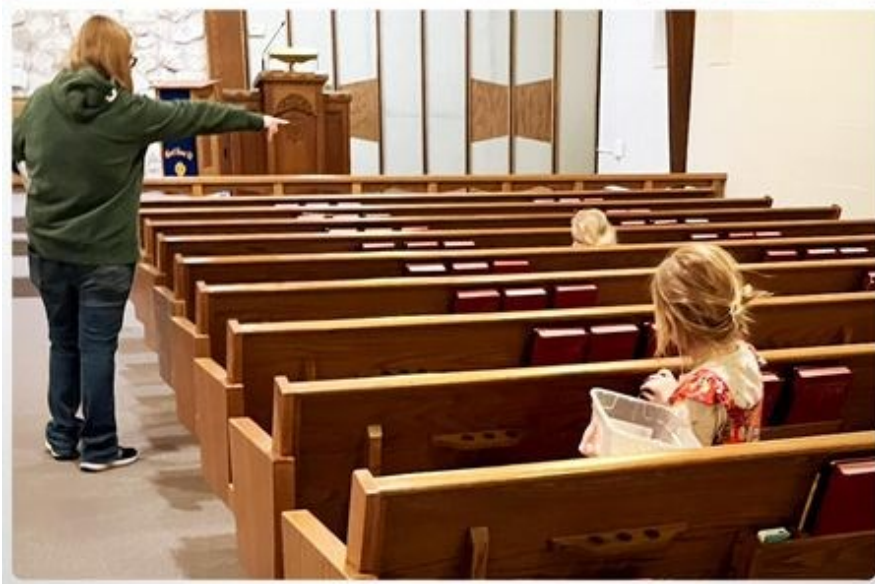
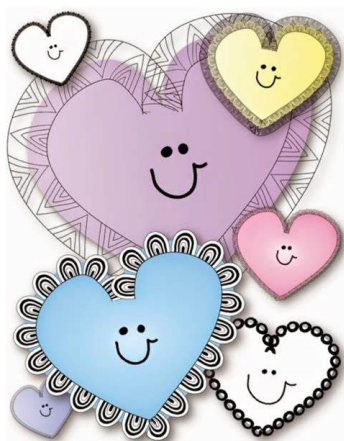




Carpet
Replacement
Week of Jan.
8-14
(notice the
very willing
little helpers)



Little helpers re-stocking the pews with pencils, Kleenex, Bibles, and hymnals after the carpet has been installed.





Leadership Training Sat. Jan 28th



Enjoying food & fellowship at potluck on Jan. 29th.
Hey bakers.....just a reminder the guys need desserts
for the ham supper on March 11th. Another great op-
portunity for good food & fellowship.

Birthdays

1 - Debbie Hodges

2 - Al Rude

Carol Cravatta

Fabien Plummer

3 - Diane Rude

7 - Stacey Stutzke

8 - Brandon Fredericks

12 - Warren Heuck

16 - Racheal Turffs

17 - Tracy DuRall

19 - Mary Nelmes

20 - Jack Graves

21 - Jessica Truedson

24 - Lynn Majewski

25 - Mary Michel

28 - Holly Taylor-Vrhel

Anniversaries

13 - Nick & Shay Papoccia

14 - Dave & Roberta Fredericks

15 - Luther & Phyllis Stutzman



We extend special congratulations to
Luther & Phyllis Stutzman.
February 15, 2023 marks their
75th wedding anniversary. What an
amazing milestone!



Church Events

Thurs. Feb. 2 - Greeting Cards Ministry at 9:30 in Fellowship Hall. Please join us and learn about this monthly ministry.

Sat. Feb. 4 - No Regrets Men's Conference in Church sanctuary 8:00 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. \$5 registration

Mon. Feb. 13 - Ad Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Thurs. Feb 16 - Wesley Ladies luncheon at A's Kitchen in Rock Falls at 11:30

Wed. Feb. 22 - Ash Wednesday

Sat. March 11 - Men's Group ham supper donations of desserts from our bakers are needed.

Missions

In January we collected \$418.79 for our Loose Coins designation, Rev. Dr. Jin Y Kim (coordinator of Korean Peninsula Dialogue & Peace building of the World Council of Churches).

5th Sunday appeal for Human Relations Day Sunday contributed \$75.00.

February's Loose Coin sponsorship is for Grace Children's Hospital & Pediatric Clinic in Haiti.

Thank You!

Friends,

On behalf of Sterling Buddy Bags, I want to thank you for your generous donation to our program. With the cost of food going up so much and the need for so many of our school children increasing, your gift will be of great help in continuing our worthwhile program. We so appreciate the use of your wonderful building to continue storing & packing the Buddy Bags. Thank you so very much!

Peace-Health-Love

Mary Jo Edge, Wanda Martens

First Presbyterian Church

Dear Wesley Church,

Thank you so much for your recent very generous donation to the Loaves and Fishes breakfast program! We will spend it wisely.

The program is in its 11th year, and we couldn't survive without community support. Wesley is one of our very loyal supporters.

We are still open only 4 days a week and still only doing take-out meals, but we serve over 400 meals a week, so the need continues.

Your donation is very greatly appreciated!

Thank you again,

Sue Abate, Corresponding Secretary



Loaves and Fishes

To Friends of Fish at Wesley UMC,

Thank you very much for the Thanksgiving offering that went to the Fish Food Pantry. This gift will buy more than 2500 pounds of food at the Sauk Valley Food Bank. Your gift goes a long way towards feeding hungry families when we can make purchases at the Food Bank.

Thank you again for your continuing support.

Beth Mathew

I want to thank you for continuing to keep me in your thoughts after I moved out here to Denver.  Each card and newsletter has brought a smile to my face and joy to my heart. I am so thankful my family is part of such a loving church community.  Thank you for sharing your love with me, my mom, my sister, my mother-in-law, my nieces, and extended family. So very grateful for you all!!

God Bless Each & Every One of You!

Sincerely,

Lindsey Reynolds

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

Join us for in-person Sunday services

8:00 am and 10:00 am

We will continue to Livestream worship
on Facebook at 10 a.m. Find us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/SterlingWesleyUMC>

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.
- February's collection for local pantries is toothpaste.
- Travel-sized toiletries for the Trinity and FISH pantries continue to be collected.
- Loose coins for February will benefit Grace Children's Hospital and Pediatric Clinic in Haiti. The Center treats children suffering from TB, HIV/AIDS and respiratory infections. Long term goals are to increase their outreach as well as educating communities on healthcare and nutrition.