



# THE CHIMES

## MARCH 2023



Former President Jimmy Carter is in hospice care as I'm writing this letter (Feb. 21). He has inspired millions with his tireless ministries, such as Habitat for Humanity, after his presidency. I truly admire him and honor his example of discipleship. His examples of serving others in need give us a crystal-clear picture of true discipleship that Jesus has loudly spoken of two thousand years ago and today.

Mr. Carter once made a beautiful faith statement: "I have one life and one chance to make it count for something. My faith demands that I do whatever I am, whenever I can, for as long as I can with whatever I have to try to make a difference." Amen.

Amen. Amen. I believe that he has the same spirit as John Wesley: wherever we go, whoever we are, whatever we can, we serve the Lord our God and the people that God

has brought into our lives to make disciples of Jesus Christ our Risen Savior to transform the world. Mr. Carter is an amazing human being, an outstanding disciple of Jesus Christ, and an excellent example of our faith journey.

Many of you have heard about the Asbury Revival thousands of young people have gathered in worship and confession since Feb. 8. This movement is noted by many social media and broadcasts. Many pastors and theologians have expressed their theological perspectives, excitement, and concerns predicting how this movement would unfold and impact new dynamics of the church and Christian communities. Whether pro or con, notable that many people hunger and yearn for spiritual experiences.

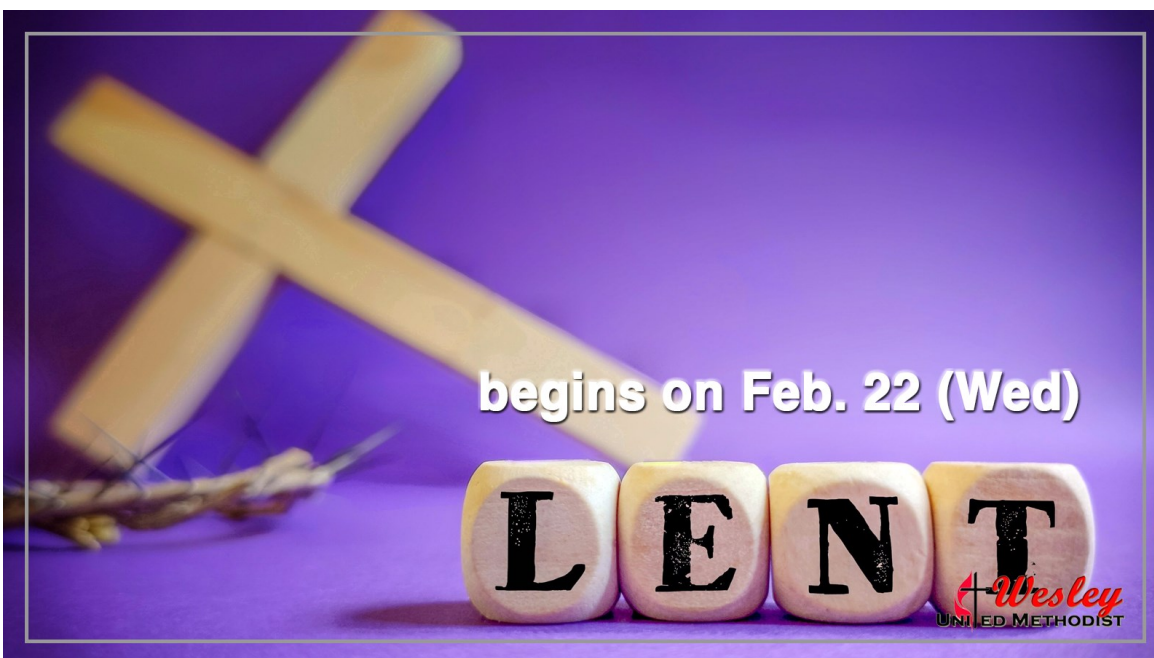
It might be strange and uncomfortable for those who have not experienced this Pentecostal gathering. However, it is one of the beautiful parts of our Christian history that people of God love to get together in worship and speak in tongues. And history shows that revival movements either remain one occasion for a period or develop into another level of movement to transform the world and bring the Kingdom of God.



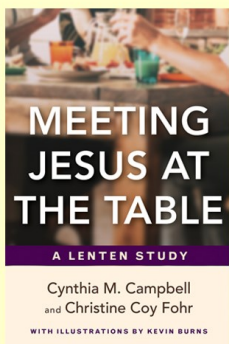
(continued page 2)

It is too early to stamp the word “revival” yet, but I hope and pray that this movement grows, and more people participate in their worship and confession. It grows more with more disciples of Jesus Christ to proclaim the Good News, manifest more love, and extend justice in our community, as the Second Great Awakening inspired abolitionists to rise up against slavery and led the world one step forward to the Kingdom of God. I believe that is what Jesus Christ dreams of from his disciples. And I believe that is the Kingdom of God that Mr. Carter wants to cultivate through his Habitat for Humanity ministry.

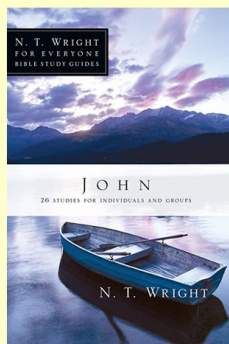
During this Lenten season, let us pray for a revival movement in our community and ask God to inspire us to know God’s will and lead us to fulfill God’s plans in our lives and the Wesley family.



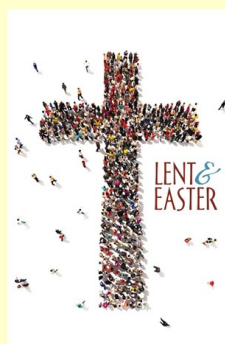
## Bible Study



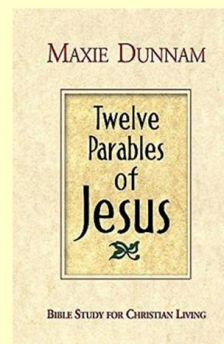
**Wed. Morning  
from Mar. 1**



**Wed. Evening  
from Mar. 1**



**Thurs. Evening**



**Sat. Morning**

**Wesley  
UNITED METHODIST**

# March Worship Helpers



| MARCH 8:00 A.M. |            |   |                            |
|-----------------|------------|---|----------------------------|
| Date            | Greeters   | Ushers                                  | Liturgists                 |
| 3/5             | Jan Glover | Darla Ewing<br>Jeff Cedro               | Randy or Pam<br>Clodfelter |
| 3/12            | Jan Glover | Darla Ewing & Rita<br>Smith, Jeff Cedro | Rory Smith                 |
| 3/19            | Jan Glover | Rita Smith<br>Jeff Cedro                | Rory Smith                 |
| 3/26            | Jan Glover | Craig & Carlie<br>Truedson              | Jessica & Nora<br>Truedson |



| MARCH 10:00 A.M. |                     |  |                              |
|------------------|---------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Date             | Greeters            | Ushers   | Liturgists                   |
| 3/5              | Castaneda Family    | Beth & Ronyn Jacobs, Jaz<br>Mya & Jionni Castaneda<br>Jeff Cedro | Amber & Jaz Mya<br>Castaneda |
| 3/12             | Dave Carrion        | Julie & Isaac Carrion<br>Jeff Cedro                              | Nancy Pitsch                 |
| 3/19             | Janne & Frank Rausa | Steve Lopez<br>Jeff Cedro  | Amy Lopez                    |
| 3/26             | Rich Halverson      | Elias Halverson<br>Jeff Cedro                                    | Elisa Gatz                   |



| MARCH MATTHEW MEETING LEADERS |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Date                          | Leaders                    |
| 3/5                           | Nancy Pitsch & Rene Morris |
| 3/12                          | Jamie & Emily Schwingle    |
| 3/19                          | Mel Hurley & Rene Morris   |
| 3/26                          | Stacey & Ellie Wendelken   |





## March Birthdays

|  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 2 - Cody Hansen, Sue Klock                     | 16 - Megan Stutzke               |
| 4 - Aaron Fitzanko                             | 18 - Amber Greenfield            |
| 7 - Bruce Kramer, Stephanie Jakobs             | 19 - Marla Boynton               |
| 8 - Alice Vetter, Jan Davey                    | 20 - Dakota Hayes, Mary Downes   |
| 9 - Jillian Parker                             | 22 - Roberta Fredericks          |
| 11 - Shay Papoccia                             | 23 - Colton Duncan, Toby Johnson |
| 13 - Remy Flick                                | 29 - Jeanne Burch                |
| 15 - Abriana Poci, Greg Gallentine, Levi Freas |                                  |



Jack  
Graves  
Superstar

Congratulations!

Jack Graves was named Student  
of the month for January at Ster-  
ling High School.

Great Job!

*Thank You!*

*To All Involved,*

*Thank you so much for the beautiful forest green prayer shawl knitted for me to assist me in keeping warm as I fight my battle with cancer at home. It is not only beautiful but very warm and brings me much comfort. I even wrap it around the top of my head as I am balding and helps me reduce the body heat reduction from that area. Also thank you to all who are praying for me in the prayer chain. Please keep it up as it is working as I am now out of the hospital and building my strength to begin treatments in 2 weeks. Know I am praying for all of you and you will be in my thoughts thru this battle.*

*Sincerely,*

*Joseph D. Martin*



## Church Calendar

Mar 2 - Greeting Card Ministry 9:30

Mar 11 - Men's Group Ham Supper 5-7

Mar 16 - Ladies Lunch at A's Kitchen in  
Rock Falls at 11:30

Mar 21 - Worship Committee mtg. 7:00 pm

|            |                     |              |
|------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Tues/Thurs | Exercise Group      | 3:30 pm      |
| Wed        | Bible Studies       | 9:30 & 7:00  |
| Wed        | Bell Choir Practice | 5:15 pm      |
| Thurs      | Bible Study         | 6:30 pm      |
| Sat        | Men' Bible Study    | 8:00 am      |
| Sun        | Youth Group         | 1:00-2:30 pm |

## Membership Care

The Membership Care Committee will be meeting on Monday, April 3rd at 1:00 pm to assemble college care packages. In order to accomplish this, they are looking for 8-9 boxes. Ideally, they would like these boxes to be 7" x 10" with a depth of 5" (Amazon style boxes). Please bring them to the Church and put them on the back counter in the kitchen or contact Sue Abate at (815)625-0539. Donations to include in the care packages are also welcome. This is a great opportunity to show our college students that we are thinking of them and support them.

## Missions' Corner

In February we collected \$434.38 for Grace Children's Hospital & Pediatric Clinic in Haiti.

Additionally, members donated \$1,070 for UMCOR to be used for earthquake relief in Syria and Turkey.

March's loose coin offerings are designated for Midwest Mission Distribution Center.

The pantries supply product for March is toilet paper.

Men's Group is in need of desserts for the ham supper on March 11th. Donations of pies, cakes, brownies, cookies are all appreciated.

We need hosts and hostesses for coffee & donut time. A sign up sheet is in the kitchen. Renee & Lynn have the coffee and donuts ready, you only need to serve and clean up afterwards. This is a popular Sunday social event. Please consider helping.





No Regrets Men's Conference Feb. 4th



Ad Council meeting on Feb. 13th



Sanctuary decorated for Lent- compliments of Sue Abate, Karen Palmer, and Amy Lopez.





**Wesley Men's Club  
Ham Dinner**

**5 - 7 p.m.  
Saturday, March 11**



**Carry-outs available**

**Goodwill donation  
accepted at the door**



**April 22**



**2023**



Reminder.....orders for Easter flowers (lilies & tulips) must be submitted to the Church Office by Tues. March 7th. The cost is \$11/plant.



## **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*

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.

**<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.
- March's collection for local pantries is toilet paper.
- Travel-sized toiletries for the Trinity and FISH pantries continue to be collected.
- Loose coins for March will benefit Midwest Mission Distribution Center. The Center is located just east of Chatham, IL and opened in March of 2000. Since then, this resource has distributed disaster relief items to at least 21 states and 29 countries. It is a cooperating depot serving the UMCOR Relief Supply Network.