



May Chimes

Another Thanksgiving Month, May

I absolutely love the month of May. It's such a beautiful time of the year. Sometimes it can be confusing whether it's still spring or early summer. I remember there was even snow a few years ago. Yet, in general, it's warm, and we get to enjoy all sorts of gorgeous flowers and anticipate summer just around the corner. This is also a busy time for farmers working hard to plant their crops like corn and soybeans and for many of us planting flowers and vegetables in our gardens during this season of hope.

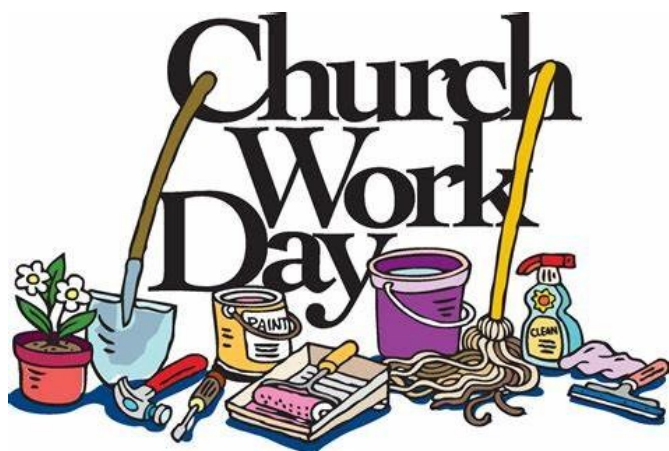
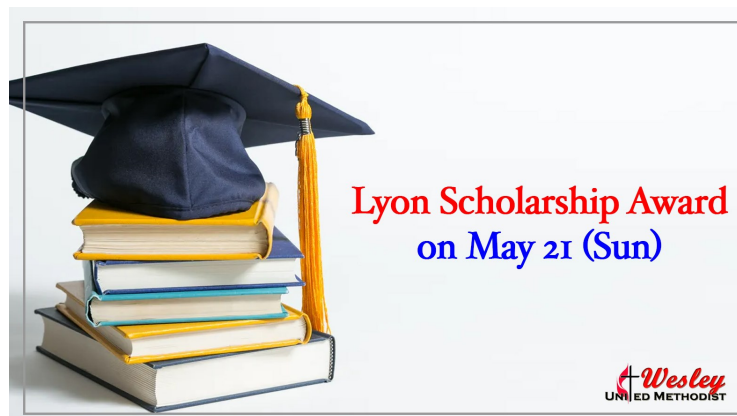
No wonder we have so many special days set apart for appreciation during this month of hope, such as Teacher's Appreciation Day, Mother's Day, Graduation, and Memorial Day. This season gives us more opportunities to say, "Thank you." I want to take a moment to acknowledge the many individuals who deserve our utmost appreciation for their hard work. Just like a diligent and hardworking farmer who plows the field, plants seeds, and takes care of their plantings, teachers are also hardworking individuals who impart knowledge and help their students grow, find their identity, and discover their calling in life. Day in and day out, teachers prepare their teaching materials and curriculums, support their students' needs, and pray for them. It's important that we properly express our gratitude for their hard work and dedication to the next generation. Thank you!

It is also a grateful month as we celebrate what students have accomplished and support those ready to step into a new chapter of their lives after graduation. Every one of the graduates deserves our congratulations and blessings. I hope we are a community where they may feel our prayers and support in their new adventure. We also acknowledge the many people around them who nurture and support them, especially parents, mentors, and supporters who have made huge sacrifices for years. Thank you!

We also appreciate all mothers and those who have provided a motherly figure. They have shown us their world, molded us, and greatly influenced us, whether we have had it for a long period or not. Even those with less positive memories of their physical mothers have a person with a motherly figure with love, kindness, grace, and mercy, which has been the biggest fan of their lives. I believe that it is true that mothers and motherly figures are the ones through whom God gives birth to each one of us. Thank you!

And we don't forget Memorial Day, when we set apart time to remember those who made the biggest sacrifice while serving in the military service. Hundreds of thousands of armed forces members sacrificed their lives to protect people and the country and bring peace. Thank you!"

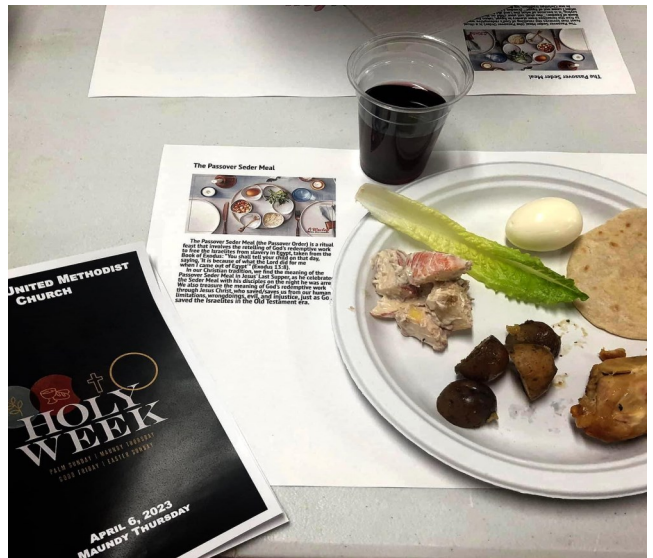
We have so many special days in May to celebrate and be thankful for. Whether we recognize it or not, we are truly blessed, surrounded by those who support, pray for, and sacrifice for us. Let's recognize more people around us to celebrate and appreciate. Let's continue to extend our gratitude and make every day a day of thanksgiving. And let's not forget God in this ongoing thanksgiving, who created us and the world and loves us so much. Amen



Roll up your sleeves and dust off your work tools and join us for the semi-annual work day on Saturday, May 6th. Projects will be worked on beginning at 8:30am and will be wrapping up at noon. There are projects both inside the building and outside as well. There is something for all skill and age levels, so come and join us.



Easter Decorations



Maundy Thursday - Seder Meal



Maundy Thursday



Good Friday Service



Good Friday Service



Easter egg hunting



Easter egg hunting & Easter brunch



Easter Brunch



Childrens' Moment on Easter Sunday



Baptism of Minnie Grace Gulledge

May Worship Helpers

MAY 8:00 A.M.			
Date	Greeters	Ushers	Liturgists
5/7	Jan Glover	Lynn Majewski	Nancy Pitsch
5/14	Jan Glover	Grace & Lily Wetzell Tony McCombs	Katie Wetzell
5/21	Jan Glover	Darla Ewing	Nancy Pitsch
5/28	Jan Glover	Grace & Lily Wetzell Tony McCombs	Katie Wetzell

MAY 10:00 A.M.			
Date	Greeters	Ushers	Liturgists
5/7	Bob & Cheryl Allen	Jean Moe, Olivia & Dylan	Bob Allen
5/14	Aaron & Jovie Flick	Devon & Remy Flick	Aaron Flick
5/21	Andy & Nancy Pitsch	Jan Davey Jeff Cedro	Jeff Davey
5/28	Frank & Janne Rausa	Jan Davey Jeff Cedro	Jeff Davey

MAY MATTHEW MEETING LEADERS	
Date	Leaders
5/7	Nancy Pitsch & Rene Morris
5/14	Mel Hurley & Youth
5/21	Nancy Pitsch & Rene Morris
5/28	Andy & Nancy Pitsch



May Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 - Mel Hurley | 16 - Erin Graves |
| 2 - Addison Gabrielse | 17 - Bryn Gatz |
| 3 - Bob Allen | 18 - Mike Ceruzzi, Max Parker |
| 5 - Sue Abate | 22 - Carlie Truedson |
| 7 - Nora Truedson | 23 - Jackson Melton |
| 8 - Kris Noble | 24 - Dennis Vetter |
| 13 - Renee Duncan, Sue Hayes | 29 - Jamie Greenfield |
| 14 - Manorama Hermon | 30 - Ed Andersen, Ethan Crauatta |
| 15 - Chandler Allen | 31 - Tammy Jones |



May Anniversaries

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 - Joe & Carol Crauatta | 26 - Brad & Erin Graves |
| 10 - Steve & Mary Downes | 28 - Mike & Michelle Drew |

*Her children arise and
call her blessed.*



Mother's Day Sunday
May 14th, 2023

Proverbs 31:28

Wesley
UNITED METHODIST

Mon. May 1st: Ad Council at 7:00pm

Thurs. May 4th: Greeting Cards at 9:30am

Sat. May 6th: Spring Work Day 8:30-noon

Tues. May 30th - Worship Team 7:00pm

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

Missions' Corner

In April \$122.24 was collected for loose coins mission, Care-takers of God's Creation.

Additionally, members donated \$15.00 for UMCOR to be used for earthquake relief in Syria and Turkey.

Easter envelopes yielded \$960 Which will be split between Buddy Bags and Copacabana Bolivia New Church Fund.

5th Sunday envelopes are designated for Peace with Justice. \$75 has been collected to date.

(Amounts are through 4/23).

May's loose coin offerings are designated for Let's Feed Our Children.

The pantries supply product for May is dish soap.

Greeting Card Ministry

The Greeting Card Team continues to meet on the first Thursday of the month. They will be gathering on May 4th at 9:30am to continue this precious ministry. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Calling all crocheters and knitters! If you enjoy crocheting or knitting, we could use additions to our prayer shawl supply. The shawls can be any pattern and should be about 57 to 58 inches long and 54 to 57 stitches wide. When you finish a shawl, just bring it to the office. Pastor Paul shares the shawls with people who are ill, have lost a loved one, as well as those who are celebrating – for example a new baby. If you know someone who would benefit from this ministry, just come to the office and they will take you to our supply and you can choose a shawl to share along with a card from the ministry group. If you have any questions, call Carolyn Heuck or any member of the Member Care Committee. Thank you for your help.

Youth Group

We will be having two youth groups through the remainder of the school year. Middle School students will meet 1-2pm weekly on Sunday afternoons and High School students will meet directly after, 2-3pm. I will keep parents updated for combined events!

Thanks,
Mel



Thank you so much for the use of your facility for our Spring 2023 Professional Women's Network luncheon! Everyone was so kind, so helpful, and we enjoyed the coffee.

Thank you again - on behalf of the SVACC PWN Committee.

Nicole Bollman, Co-chair

A special thank-you to our friends at Wesley. Your thoughtfulness brings smiles to our many "friends in need."

A good deed remains forever in the heart.

Blessings,

Rock Falls UMC

Bear Necessities

Wesley United Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for loving and supporting mom. She kept everyone of the beautiful cards you sent her. Also thank you for my prayer shawl. It has been a tough few weeks.

The Barajas & Rivera Families



Vacation Bible School

Ahoy Friends!

Get ready for a grand adventure this summer as we sail the seas and discover more about God's love for us!

Dates: June 26 - 29

Time: 9am - 11:30am

Ages: PreK - 5th grade (based on the grade the student is going into)

Registration paperwork will be available the coming weeks for both participants and volunteers! If you are interested or have questions, feel free to reach Mel at melissahurley08@gmail.com.

More information to come. We cannot wait to see you this summer on the open sea!

184th Northern Illinois Annual Conference

Fill the Truck

Mission Challenge Collection Drive

Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center 1551 Thoreau Dr. N. Schaumburg, IL

Tuesday, June 6

7:00 am - 4:00 pm

Wednesday, June 7

7:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Times subject to change*



The NIC Board of Global Ministries is coordinating with Midwest Mission to organize its annual conference collection drive for Midwest Mission's Most Needed Items.

MIDWEST MISSION CURRENTLY HAS A URGENT NEEDS FOR:

- Liquid Laundry Detergent – 100 - 105 oz.
- Liquid Household Cleaner – 54 - 80 oz. (no spray bottles)
- Liquid Dish Soap - 42 - 64 oz.
- Shampoo – 12 - 19 oz.
- Hand towels or other Personal Dignity Kit items (no kitchen towels)
- Rulers (12" long with metric) or other School Kit items
- 24 Heavy-duty trash bags (33-45 gal.) or other Tornado Kit items
- Receiving blankets – 28" x 28" to 32" x 32" or other Birthing Kit items

If you prefer to make a financial contribution or a bulk purchase, you can:

- Send a check written to the Northern Illinois Conference with the Advance #50000150 in the memo section
- Give to Midwest Mission online midwestmission.org/donate
- Send a check written to Midwest Mission Distribution Center, 1001 Mission Drive, Pawnee, IL 62558
- For competitive prices on Midwest Mission's bulk supply wish-list items, check the website below for a links

Midwest Mission will be on site to accept the above Most Needed Items and any Midwest Mission kits, bleacher lumber, retired firefighting gear, treadle sewing machines, gently used hand tools, new or slightly used medical supplies and equipment.

Find out more at umcnic.org/2023MissionChallenge



Let's Feed Children



INDIVIDUAL PASTA DRIVE

From now through

MOTHER'S DAY
SUNDAY, MAY 14TH

Help the United Way serving FREE meals for children in Whiteside County. Please donate individual servings of pasta (15,000+ servings will be needed this summer). The most popular choices are Easy Mac, Chef Boyardee style of pasta, ramen noodles, and Chicken noodle soup.

Donations may be accepted at your church on or at St Paul Lutheran Church, (1701 16th Ave, Sterling, IL 61081). Donation can be dropped off Monday, May 15th - Friday, May 19th from 9-4pm.

Questions? Contact United Way at 815.625.7973 or kolson@uwwhiteside.org



SPONSORED BY



United Way
of Whiteside County

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.

<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 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.
- May's collection for local pantries is dish soap.
- Travel-sized toiletries for the FISH pantries continue to be collected.
- Loose coins for May is designated for Let's Feed Our Children. This is a local program that provides lunches to children throughout Whiteside County during the summer months.