



WESLEY

United Methodist Church

May 2025

The Chimes



From Our Pastor

Greetings,

May has arrived, and with it, the signs of spring's full awakening. Farmers are in the fields. Seeds are planted in faith. Flowers break through the soil. Trees dress themselves in fresh green. Nature is testifying once again: new life comes through patience, preparation, and purpose.

This planting season is the perfect backdrop for reflecting on one of the core Christian practices: Radical Hospitality. Not the kind of hospitality that ends at a handshake or polite smile, but the kind that prepares the soil of the soul, making room for strangers to become friends and friends to become family so that both may nurture one another and grow together.

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This mission doesn't begin in a pulpit or a program – it begins at the door, in the pew, at the coffee table. It begins with Radical Hospitality. If we do not first welcome people - really welcome them - then how can we expect transformation? How can we expect discipleship?

Radical Hospitality is the soil in which discipleship takes root. It is the Spirit saying, "You belong here. You are seen. You are loved."



Church Events

Saturdays @ 8:00 am

Men's Bible Study (Fireside Rm)

Tue/Thur. @ 4:00 PM

Exercise Group (Fellowship Hall)

Wed. @ 9:30 AM

Bible Study

Thurs. @ 6:30 PM-8:00 PM

Fiber Group

Save the Date

Thurs. May 1st @9:30 am

Greeting card ministry
(Fellowship Hall)

Sat. May 3rd @8:00am-noon

Spring Work Day

Sun. May 11th:

Happy Mother's Day!

Thur. May 15th @11:30 am

Ladies Luncheon @A's Kitchen
(Rock Falls)

Mon. May 26th: Memorial Day
Office Closed

Sat. May 31st @ 9 AM

Sauk Valley Food Bank

And when we live this out, we reflect not only our faith but also the best of our civic values: liberty, democracy, diversity, equality, and civic duty.

- We affirm **liberty** by making space for people to bring their full selves without fear.
- We live out **democracy** by ensuring every voice is honored around God's table.
- We celebrate **diversity** by honoring the wide range of backgrounds, gifts, and perspectives.
- We embody **equality** by removing barriers to belonging.
- We fulfill our **civic duty** by building communities of grace and compassion.

As we move through May, with Mother's Day, Memorial Day, and all the beauty of spring, may we remember: this is a season not only of blooming but of belonging. So, let's continue to make room. Greet someone new. Invite a neighbor. Ask a name you've forgotten. Listen to a story you haven't heard. Make your table longer and your heart wider. Let us be a church where Radical Hospitality isn't a policy – it's our way of life, because that's how Jesus welcomed, and that's how lives are changed.

With open hearts and planting hands,

Pastor Paul Lee

Worship Schedule

4th	Second Sunday after Easter Psalm 40:1-3 The End of Your Hope
11th	Third Sunday after Easter Isaiah 40:31, Jeremiah 29:11, Zachariah 9:12 Prisoner of Hope
18th	Fourth Sunday after Easter Matthew 4:17, 6:31-33, 22:37-39 Order, Disorder, and Reorder
25th	Memorial Sunday Romans 5:3-4, 8:28, 2 Corinthians 4:8-9, Philippians 1:12-14

The flower calendar has these dates available:

May 18th & 25th
June 1st, 8th, & 22nd
July 13th & 20th

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.

Payments can be mailed or dropped off to the office. You can also put in the offering plate with a memo for flowers.

Office hours– M-F– 8 AM to Noon

Office Phone Number– 815-625-1968



Are you looking for Volunteer Opportunities?

PADS

Is looking for people to donate time, a meal and clean up.

For more information contact Ann at 815-449-7533



ANNOUNCEMENT & THANK YOUs

Wesley Spring Workday

Saturday, May 3rd

8:30 AM to Noon.

Sign up sheet will be on the table in
Fellowship Hall.

Questions Contact Barb Quick

Greeting Card Ministry

Our next meeting is
Thursday, May 1st at 9:30 am
in Fellowship Hall.

We will prepare and send cards.

It's Fun!!

All are welcome to join!!

Dear Friends,

Thank you for all the cards, prayers,
and visits while I was in rehab. Being
remembered meant a lot. I am home now
and beginning to return to a "normal"
routine.

Thank you again,

Beth Mathew

Sterling Buddy Bags

&

The Factory Pub-n-Grub

Please join us in supporting the **Sterling Buddy Bags**
program by dining in or getting carry out from
The Factory (103 W. 3rd St.) on **Tuesday, May 6th from**
11 AM-9 PM. The Factory will donate a percentage from
the day. It's easy, just go and enjoy a meal. Make sure to
tell your friends about the event! The more people that
dine in and take out on that day, the more we will raise to
this program going for children in need of weekend
meals.

Thank you for your support

Sauk Valley Food Bank Volunteers

You are invited to help our neighbors

Saturday, May 31st @ 9:00 AM

Sign up sheet will be on the table in
Fellowship Hall.

Any Questions? Contact Andy Pitsch

Vacation Bible School

This year it will be

June 16th-20th

Pre-School-5/6th grade

There will be a Lunch and program

On Friday to celebrate the week.

Need More information Please Contact

Rebecca Tieman

Lunch Ladies,

Ladies will be meeting on
Thursday, May 15th at 11:30 AM

@ A's Kitchen

(Rock Falls)

Come and join us!!!



Church WORK DAY

SATURDAY MAY 3 8AM

Indoor + Outdoor Projects available. Young and old, all abilities & experience are welcome!

GRADUATION SUNDAY

on June 22nd

Wesley
UNITED METHODIST

*Her children arise and
call her blessed.*



Mother's Day Sunday

May 11th (Sun), 2025

Proverbs 31:28

Wesley
UNITED METHODIST



**Lyon Scholarship
Award**

on June 22nd

Wesley
UNITED METHODIST

*Honoring and
Remembering*
**MEMORIAL
DAY**

Wesley
UNITED METHODIST

186th Northern Illinois Annual Conference

Fill the Truck

Mission Challenge Collection Drive

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



Monday, June 9

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 10

8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**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:

Home Care Kits

- Liquid Household Cleaner, 54 - 80 oz. (no spray bottles)
- Liquid Dish Soap, 42 - 64 oz.
- Liquid Laundry Detergent, 100-150 oz.
- Scrub Brushes
- 5 Gallon Round Buckets With Resealable Lid

Adult Bicycles

Personal Dignity Kits

- Hand towels (no kitchen towels)
- Washcloths (no dishcloths)
- Toothbrushes (no multipack)
- Bars of Soap, 3-4 oz.
- Shampoo Bottles, 12-19 oz.
- Deodorant, 2-3 oz. (stick, roll on, or pump)
- Lotion Bottles, 8-10 oz.
- Gallon Resealable Plastic Bags

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

- Send a check or bring it to AC written to the Northern Illinois Conference with the Advance #50000150 in the memo section
- Give to Midwest Mission #50000150 through the online apportionment process.
- 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 (including jaws of life), treadle sewing machines, gently used hand tools. New or slightly used medical supplies, medical equipment, blankets and bicycles will also be accepted. For questions email message with NIC Mission Challenge in the Subject Line to dnlprbg@gmail.com.

Find out more at umcnic.org/2025MissionChallenge



2025 Bishop's Appeal

At Illinois Northern Conference

This year the appeal will provide grants to churches that have devised innovative ways of doing outreach

To encourage this kind of innovation and experimentation, this year's appeal will encourage churches to leave their buildings and find new ways to engage with their communities

We will be collecting for the Bishop's Appeal all through the month of May please mark your donation or check (made out to Wesley) for Bishop's Appeal

MISSIONS corner



LOOSE COINS for April-Caretakers of God's Creation is = \$109.97

Lent and Easter offerings will be split between– Buddy Bags and Reynoldswood Christian Camp Total = \$1,678.20

April Missions collected– 42 Bars of Soap, 4 Egg Cartons, & numerous travel size toiletries

May LOOSE COINS will go to **Bishop's Appeal (General Conference)**

May we will be collecting - Dish Soap

5th Sunday Appeals– June – Peace with Justice

Thank You Everyone!!



May 2025 Worship

May 8am Rebecca Tieman / Shannon Klausing Head Ushers

Door Greeter(s)	Usher/Acolytes	Liturgist
5/4 Doug Brandau	Rebecca Tieman / Shannon Klausing	Nancy Pitsch
5/11 Doug Brandau	Rita Smith	Rory Smith
5/18 Tony McCoy	Rebecca Tieman / Shannon Klausing	Katie McCoy
5/25 Larry Schuchard	Rebecca Tieman / Shannon Klausing	Jan Glover

May 10am Steve Lopez / Bill Parker Head Ushers

Door Greeter(s)	Usher/Acolytes	Liturgist	Matthew Meetings
5/4 Jaxson Williams James Allen	Justin & Kala Allen	Eric Allen	Stacey, Ellie, & Myla Wendelken Communion w/Kids
5/11 Mary Nelmes Scott Heern	Eric Allen/Jaxson Williams/ James Allen	Justin Allen	Jamie Schwingle
5/18 Frank & Janne Rausa	Steve Lopez / Bill Parker	Amy Lopez	Rebecca Tieman
5/25 Frank & Janne Rausa	Steve Lopez / Bill Parker	Mary Spitzer	NO CLASS



MAY Birthdays



May 2 Addison Gabrielse
May 3 Bob Allen
May 5 Sue Abate, Joey Cordell,
and Tristen Flory
May 7 Nora Truedson
May 8 Kris Noble
May 13 Renee Duncan,
Sue Hayes
May 14 Manorama Hermon
May 15 Chandler Allen

May 16 Erin Graves
May 17 Bryn Gatz
May 18 Mike Ceruzzi, Max Parker
May 22 Carlie Truedson, Marilyn Campbell
May 24 Dennis Vetter
May 25 JuJu Casteneda
May 26 Kala Allen
May 29 Jaime Greenfield
May 30 Ed Andersen, Ethan Cravatta
May 31 Jerry Celletti

Anniversaries

May 1 Joe & Carol Cravatta
May 10 Steve & Mary Downes

May 26 Brad & Erin Graves
May 28 Mike & Michele Drew

Dear Reverend Paul & Church Members,

Thank you for your many Kindnesses
the past few weeks. Your prayers, cards,
visits, flowers, & the beautiful prayer
shawl gave me comfort & joy!

Thank you,
Beth Wicks



Vacation Bible School 2025 Snack List NEEDS & Donation SIGN-UP is available in Fellowship Hall!

PLEASE sign your name & phone number next to the item you
are bringing! When you bring your non-perishable donation, put
in box marked VBS and check your name off the list so we
know who's brought their item (s) in & who still needs to!
*FRESH FRUIT, muffins, veggies can be dropped off Sunday,
June 15th!*

(or whatever date the snack list might specify!)

**THANK YOU! All contributions help serve
HEALTHY snacks each day!**



Palm Sunday



Egg Hunt





Kids wrote their mistakes on the blue tape, things they should do but don't, things they shouldn't do - but do.. things that make them sad, frustrated, etc... After shapes were colored in with chalk on Easter, strips of tape was ripped up from the cross and taken away because **Christ is risen!!!**



Thank you Kevin
for making our Easter
more
beautiful & meaningful



First Bible Presentation
Levi Freas



Thank you Easter Choir!
We made a beautiful choir praising God!
Let's make beautiful song again!



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>

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:

- **Dish Soap** for Bear Necessities, Trinity, and the FISH Food Pantry.
- Travel-sized toiletries for Bear Necessities and FISH pantries.
- Loose coins to benefit: **Bishop's Appeal (General Conference)** for May.