



The Chimes

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
 WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 SEPTEMBER 2024



From Our Pastor...

I am filled with joy and gratitude as I write to you today, reflecting on God's incredible work through our church. A couple of weeks ago, a dedicated group of members gathered to review and assess all the ministries, programs, and service projects our church is involved in. As we counted each one, we were surprised and delighted by the many initiatives we have undertaken. It was a moment of overwhelming joy and hope for the future, a reminder of the vibrant and active faith community we are blessed to be a part of.



During our meeting, we counted our current ministries and dreamed about new ways to serve and reach out to our community. I am excited to share that, as a result of this meeting, we will be introducing new programs, such as a Fishing Day in October and Andy's

Church Events

Ongoing:

Tuesdays and Thursdays @4:00pm
 Exercise Group in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday @ 9:30 AM
 Bible Study resumes Sept. 4th

Friday @ 6– 8:30 PM
 Fiber Group (knitting & Crocheting)

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

Remember these dates:

Mon. Sep 2nd– Labor Day

Thur. Sep 5th @9:30am:
 Greeting Card Ministry
 (Fellowship Hall)

Wed. Sep 11th@ 6PM
 Nomination Committee Meeting

Tues. Sep 17th @ 6:15 PM
 Missions Meeting

Thur. Sep 19th@ 11:30 AM
 Ladies Luncheon at
 Angelo's (Sterling)

Sat. Sep 28th
 Food Bank Volunteer Day

Sun. Sep 29th
 Church Pot Luck after 10 AM service

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Drum Class, aimed at building fellowship and inviting others into our circle and a renewed commitment to volunteering at the local Food Bank to serve those in need in our community. These new initiatives are a testament to our desire to extend our hospitality beyond the walls of our church, creating a safe space where strangers can enter and become friends.

Our discussion also highlighted four key aspects of our church life: the Word of God, Fellowship, Education, and Service to Others. These areas are crucial as we seek to enlarge our hospitality and impact our community.

The Word of God remains our foundation, guiding everything we do. As we immerse ourselves in Scripture, let it inspire us to share God's love with everyone who walks through our doors.

Fellowship is where we build relationships and grow closer as a church family. Let us continue inviting others into our fellowship, ensuring everyone feels welcomed and valued.

Education equips us to serve more effectively. By understanding the needs of our community, we can be better prepared to be Christ's hands and feet.

Service to Others is how we put our faith into action.

Looking ahead, we will share the church's annual calendar at next year's leadership workshop. This calendar will include all our ministries, programs, and service projects. This will help us stay organized and continue to grow meaningfully.

As we move forward, it is important that we take time to celebrate what we have accomplished. Whether on a monthly, quarterly, bi-annual, or annual basis, these celebrations will be opportunities to recognize the impact of our work and encourage one another to keep participating actively in the church's life.

Let us build one another up and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, create a community of hospitality that reflects Christ's love. Together, we can continue growing in Christ and transforming our church into a place where all are welcomed and embraced.

Worship Schedule for September

Sept. 1 Steve Downes

Sept. 8 Pastor Pius Yugi

Sept. 15 Job 33:4, Acts 2:17, John 14: 15-17

Indwelling Holy Spirit

Sept. 22 Isaiah 64:8, John 3:5, Romans 8:14, 26, Galatians 5:16-22-23

The Potter and the Clay

Sep. 29 Acts 1:8, 1 Corinthians 12:7, 28; 14:12

Empowering and Equipping Spirit



Missions/News/Events



2024 Upcoming Pantry

Collections

September: Toilet paper

October: Bar soap

AUGUST Loose Coins went to

RefugeeOne

The total given: \$ 129.25 Thank you!

Loose coins collected for SEPTEMBER
will go to *UMCOR (Refugee / Migration)*

September 8 am **Rebecca Tieman and Shannon Klausing** Head Ushers

Door Greeter(s)	Usher/Acolytes	Liturgist
9/1 Renee or Lynn	Rebecca & Shannon	Nancy Pitsch
9/8 Aaron Derek Fitzanko	James Fitzanko	Wendy Fitzanko
9/15 Frank & Janne Rausa	Rebecca & Shannon	Jean Moe
9/22 Jan Davey	Rebecca & Shannon	Jeff Davey
9/29 Frank & Janne Rausa	Rebecca & Shannon	Mary Downes

September 10am **Head Ushers Steve Lopez & Bill Parker**

Door Greeter(s)	Usher/Acolytes	Liturgist	Matthew Meetings
9/1 Greg & Amy Bontz	Steve Lopez/Bill Parker	Nancy Pitsch	No Class
9/8 Flick Family	Jaxson William & Eric Allen	James Allen	Aaron & Devon Flick
9/15 James Allen Jaxson Williams	Eric Allen	Justin Allen	Jamie Schwingle
9/22 Matt & Myla Wendelken	Ellie & Sadie Wen- delken	Matt Wendelken	Nancy Pitsch
9/29 Craig & Carlie Truedson	Nora Truedson	Jessica Truedson	Jamie Greenfield Carlie Truedson

THANK YOU

To Friends of Fish at Wesley,

Dear Wesley Methodist Friends,

I appreciate all your prayers, "Get Well" cards, and phone calls. I've learned it's hard to make a come-back from Covid, but you've made it easier.

Thank You!!! Love and Blessings,

Beth Wicks

Thank you for your generous contribution to the Fish Food Pantry. Your contribution of \$536.00 will purchase almost 3000 pounds of food at the food bank.

We have more families coming to the food pantry. It's a constant challenge to keep our shelves and freezer filled. Thank You!!! Beth Mathew



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS & HOT-DOG SUNDAY (AUG. 11TH)





CLEM MINISTRY

Clem is a therapy friend well-trained to be a friend to many students at schools. He loves to be a friend to Wesley family.

If you like to have him around during/after Sunday service, please sign up for

"CLEM'S MINISTRY." 

STERLING WESLEY

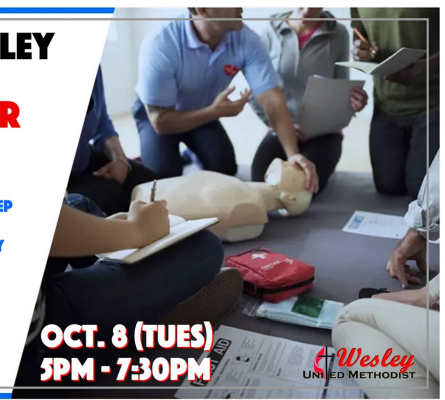
DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE IN RESPONSE TO AN EMERGENCY

PLEASE CONSIDER TO TAKE THIS TRAINING.

**ANY QUESTIONS?
JEFF DAVEY, TRUSTEES CHAIR**

**OCT. 8 (TUES)
5PM - 7:30PM**



CHURCH PIANIST / ORGANIST NEEDED

- 1) EVERY SUNDAY
- 2) TWICE A MONTH
- 3) ONCE A WHILE

PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR PAUL
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED OR
KNOW A PIANIST OR ORGANIST



WE ARE LOOKING FOR INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE WITH SPECIAL MUSIC DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE.

SOLOS, DUETS, AND INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCES ARE ALL WELCOME.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE LET PASTOR PAUL OR THE OFFICE KNOW.



THE 5TH ANNUAL MISSION CHILI COOK OFF AND DESSERT AUCTION



Fundraiser will be held immediately following the second service
on **October 20th.**

Please sign up to provide chili or a dessert

Sign-up sheets are on the Mission's Table along with an information sheet for participants. Trophies will be awarded for 1st and 2nd around 12:30 pm.

Encourage friends and family to come join us for a fun time.



FIBER GROUP - KNITTING & CHROCHETING



WEDNESDAY 6:30 PM - 8:00PM
FIRESIDE ROOM

Let's have fun and fellowship

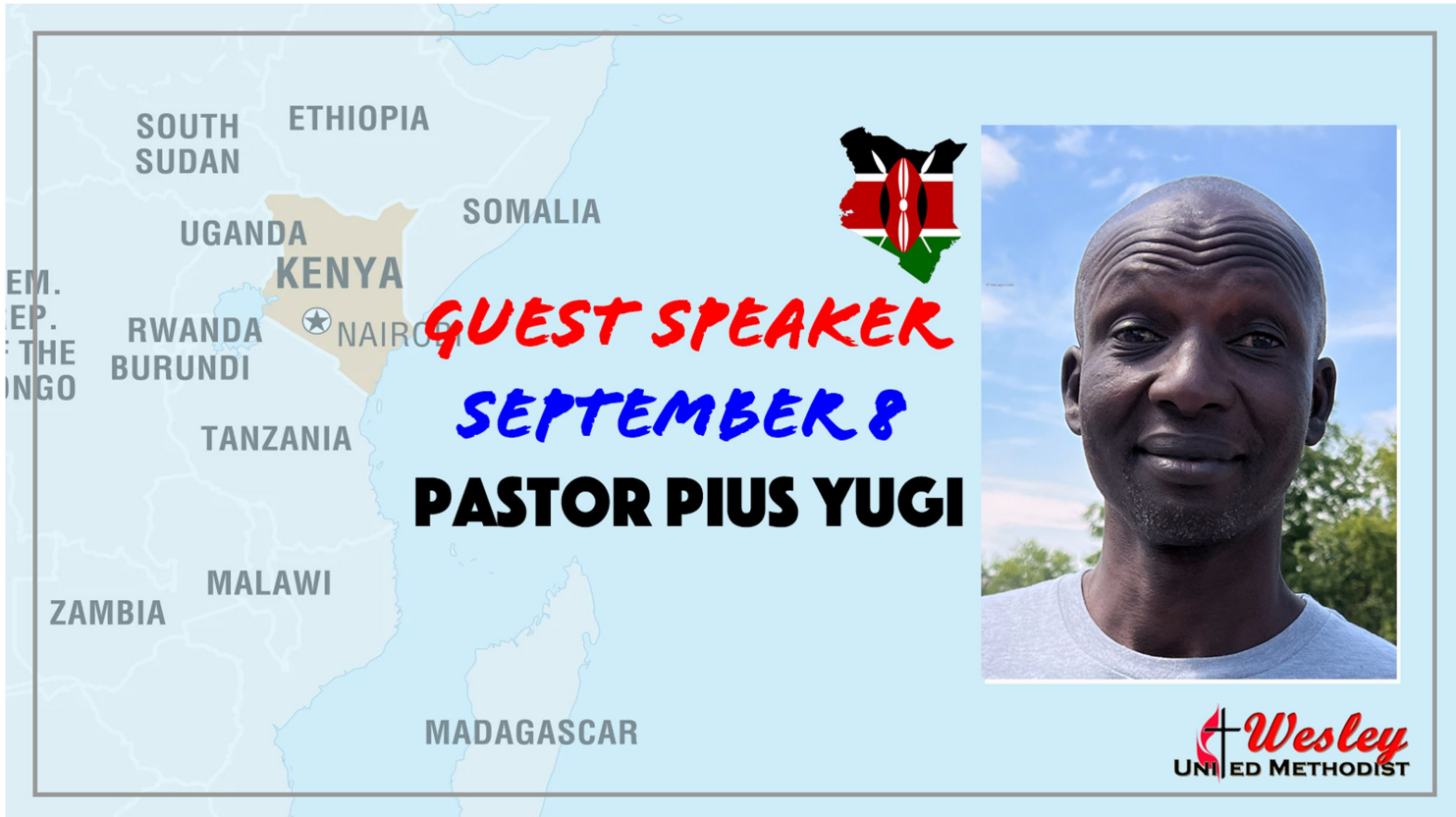
**STERLING
WESLEY**



Fishing
FOR FUN DAY

LOCATION: CENTENNIAL PARK
IN OCTOBER (DATE: TBD)

Wesley
UNIONED METHODIST



A map of East Africa is shown with Kenya highlighted in yellow. A star is placed over Nairobi. To the right of the map is a portrait of Pastor Pius Yugi, a Black man with a shaved head, wearing a grey t-shirt, looking slightly to the right. The text 'GUEST SPEAKER' is in red, 'SEPTEMBER 8' is in blue, and 'PASTOR PIUS YUGI' is in black. The Wesley United Methodist logo is in the bottom right corner.

GUEST SPEAKER
SEPTEMBER 8
PASTOR PIUS YUGI

Wesley
UNITED METHODIST

Our guest speaker, Pastor Pius Yugi will share his testimony and powerful ministry that has brought changes in his hometown, a small town near Kisumu, Kenya. Come and join us on Sept. 8 (Sun)



A group of people, including children and adults, are gathered in a warehouse filled with food boxes. They appear to be engaged in a conversation or activity. The text 'SAUK VALLEY FOOD BANK VOLUNTEER ON SEPT. 28' is in blue and red, 'YOU ARE INVITED TO SERVE OUR NEIGHBORS' is in black, and 'ANY QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT ANDY PITSCHE' is in pink.

SAUK VALLEY FOOD BANK VOLUNTEER ON SEPT. 28
YOU ARE INVITED TO SERVE OUR NEIGHBORS
ANY QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT ANDY PITSCHE

Our Pets are a blessing to us.
Join us in blessing them!

Oct. 6 (Sun)
Sterling Wesley UMC
Fellowship Hall

Time will be determined soon



Bring you pet or a photo of your pet.
(Please leash your pet for safety.)



2025 Church Team & Committee

We love our church and work together as a team.
There will be a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall
for joining a team/committee.

Let's build a healthy community together. :D

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------------|------------|
| Trustees | Staff-Parish Relations | Finance |
| Endowment | Membership Care | Nomination |
| Worship | Christian Education | Mission |



Wesley Nomination

I volunteer or nominate _____ to serve
a committee/team (please mark below) to grow in discipleship,
and nurture and enhance the ministry of our Wesley family.

Name: _____

Contact No.: () - _____

E-mail: _____ @ _____



Updates/corrections:
please let the office know—
- thank you!

(Diane: 815-625-1968 or
office@sterlingwesley.org)



Anniversaries

Offering Envelopes

will be ordered in **September**

If you would like to make a change or add to the list, Please let me know. There is a list on the table entering the sanctuary. Thank you for your support.

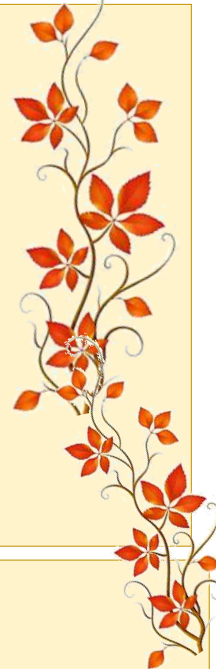
Sept. 10 Bill & Peg Burke

Sept. 14 Dave & Sharon Siex

Sept. 16 Louis & Barb Quick

Sept. 17 Al & Diane Rude

Sept. 28 Steve and Lynn Majewski



Birthdays

Sept 2 Steve Lopez

Sept. 4 Deana Hermes

Sept. 5 Haleigh Freas, Brady Papoccia

Sept 7 Jovie Flick

Sept. 9 Karen Abele

Sept. 11 Nancy Wait

Sept. 12 Judy Randall

Sept. 14 Shannon Klausing

Sept. 16 JP Papoccia, Diantha Wentling

Sept. 21 Brooklynn Freas, Elisa Gatz

Sept. 22 Barb Quick

Sept. 23 Eric Canas

Sept. 24 Ashlei Behrens

Sept. 25 Judy Bushman, Jaz'Mya Castaneda,
Nathaneal Rodriguez

Sept. 26 Jan Andersen, Alan Beggerow

Sept. 27 Pat Jacobs

Sept. 29 Susan Reese

Sept. 30 Dylan Hinrichs



Altar Flowers (\$20)

The following dates are available:

September: 15 & 29

October: 6 & 20

November: Full

December: 15, & 22

Please contact the office to reserve or just sign up
on the poster in Fellowship Hall.

You are welcome to take the flowers with you after
services on the Sunday you provide them. Just
return the vase to the church at your convenience.

Thank you!

Rock River Valley Self Help

230 West LeFevre Rd., Sterling, IL

Self Help is asking for donations for their
“Santa’s Secret Work Shop”. They ask for dona-
tions from the community whether monetary or
items such as crafts, Knick-Knacks or slightly
used items. **Deadline is Nov. 1st.** Send
monetary donation or Bring items to address
above.

**Full List of Items will be posted on the
Bulletin Board**

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 Sunday services

8:00 am and 10:00 am

We will continue to share the message

on Facebook at 10 a.m.

Find us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/SterlingWesleyUMC>

Mission 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:

- Toilet paper is being collected for local pantries (Sept.).
- Travel-sized toiletries are needed for Bear Necessities and FISH pantries.
- **SEPTEMBER** Loose coins to benefit: UMCOR (Refugee/Migration)
- Save the date: Chili Cook-Off fundraiser October 20th after 10am service (funds raised and donations to benefit the Sauk Valley Food Bank)