



A Note From Our Pastor...

Greetings in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ!

How is it with your soul? I pray that you are filled with Christ's grace and peace.

I want to express my deep gratitude for your ongoing support of our vibrant and vital ministries here at the church. Your involvement and generosity, whether it's our inspiring worship services, the Bible studies that deepen our faith, the Confirmation class of 17 confirmands this year, or the many community service projects that touch lives, make these ministries thrive. Your contributions have been instrumental in our growth and service this year.

It has been an exciting year as we continue to grow in fellowship and service. Your dedication—whether in teaching, serving, offering a word of encouragement, or giving financially—reflects the love of Christ and strengthens our community. I am continually inspired by the way this church embodies the spirit of generosity and compassion.

Thank you!

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Church Events

Ongoing:

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

Tuesdays: Fiber Group-Knitting & Crocheting @ 2-3:30 PM

Wednesdays @9:30am Bible Study

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

Remember the date:

Thurs. Oct 3rd: Greeting Cards group in Fellowship Hall @9:30am

Sun. Oct. 6th: World Communion Sunday & Blessing of Pets

Oct. 5th & 6th: Church Directory Photos

Mon. Oct 8th: *Defibrillator training @ 5-7:30 PM*

Sat. Oct 12th: Wesley Fall work day @ 8:30– noon.

Mon. Oct. 14th: Columbus Day

Thurs. Oct 17th: Ladies Lunch @ 11:30 at The Pines

Sun.Oct 20th: CHILI COOKOFF and dessert auction after 10:00 service

Sun Oct 27th: Trunk -n-Treat @ 9:30AM

Reflecting on this year's blessings, we also recognize that we face some financial challenges. Currently, we are about 15% short of what we need to be to fully support our ministries and church administration. It's through the grace of God and the support of faithful people like you that we have come this far, and I am confident we can continue to make an even greater impact together.

I request your prayerful consideration of an extra measure of giving during this time. Your financial gifts will help sustain our worship, Bible studies, service projects, and all the other ways we serve our congregation and the wider community. Every contribution, no matter the amount, makes a significant difference.

We trust in God's provision and believe God will supply our needs. Your generosity is a testament to your faith and commitment to the work of God's kin(g)dom here at our church. As we face this moment together, let us remain united in purpose, steadfast in prayer, and joyful in our giving, knowing that God's grace is abundant.

Thank you again for your faithful support and for being an essential part of our church family. May God bless you abundantly for your kindness and devotion.

What's Coming?

Photo for Church Directory (Sept. 29th, Oct. 5th, 6th): Help us keep our church directory up-to-date! Make sure to schedule your family's photo session.

World Communion Sunday (Oct. 6th): Join us for a special service at 8 AM or 10 AM as we unite with Christians worldwide to celebrate the Lord's table.

Blessing of the Pets (Oct. 6th): Bring your pets to the church for a special blessing as we give thanks for all of God's creatures.

Defibrillator Training (Oct. 8th): Learn life-saving skills at 5:00 PM.

Church Workday (Oct. 12th): Roll up your sleeves and help us maintain our beautiful church grounds and building! We'll start at 8:00 AM.

Chili Cook-off & Dessert Auction (Oct. 20th): Bring your best chili and dessert, or just come to taste and enjoy! Stick around for the dessert auction, with proceeds supporting missions.

Fishing Day (Oct. TBD): A fun day of fellowship by the water—stay tuned for the date and location.

Trunk-n-Treat (Oct. 27th): Decorate your trunk and hand out candy between the worship services (starting at 9:30 AM). A safe and fun way to celebrate Halloween for kids of all ages!

All Saints Sunday (Nov. 3rd): Join us as we remember and honor the saints during our worship services.

Church Conference (Nov. 4th): Come and participate in our annual Church Conference at 7:00 PM as we reflect on the past year and look ahead to the future.

Veteran's Sunday (Nov. 11th): We will honor and thank those who have served in our military on this special Sunday. Please join us in showing our gratitude.



Missions/News/Events



2024 Upcoming Pantry Collections

October: Bar Soap

November: Dish Soap

September *Loose Coins* went to

UMCOR Refugee/Migration

The total given: \$ 127.71 Thank you!

Loose coins collected for October will go to YWCA Crisis Center for Domestic violence

October 8 am Rebecca Tieman and Shannon Klausing Head Ushers

Door Greeter(s)	Usher/Acolytes	Liturgist
10/6 Derek & Aaron Fitzanko	James Fitzanko	Wendy Fitzanko
10/13 Rita Smith	Rebecca & Shannon	Rory Smith
10/20 Renee Duncan & Lynn Majewski	Elias Halverson Rebecca & Shannon	Elias Halverson Nancy Pitsch
10/27 Tony McCoy	Lily Wetzell	Katie McCoy

October 10am Head Ushers Steve Lopez & Bill Parker

Door Greeter(s)	Usher/Acolytes	Liturgist	Matthew Meetings
10/6 Frank & Janne Rausa	Jovie & Remy Flick	Aaron Flick	Nancy Pitsch
10/13 Justin & Kala Allen	James Allen & Eric Allen	Jaxson Williams	Jamie Schwingle
10/20 Flick Family	Jionni Casteneda JP Papoccia	Nancy Pitsch Jaz Mya Casteneda	Aaron & Devon Flick
10/27 Curt Greenfield	Steve Lopez Bill Parker	Eric Allen	Jaime Greenfield

Worship Schedule

6th Ezekiel 34:2-4, John 4:7-8
Let us testify to Love

13th Acts 17:22-28
Let us find the common ground

20th Luke 10: 25-29
Love Your Neighbors

27th Matthew 25:31-36, 40-45
Sheep or Goat

Poinsettia



We will provide information as it becomes available

Missions / Announcements / Opportunities:

MISSIONS Corner:

September Loose Coins total=\$127.71

(supporting UMCOR Refugee and Migration)

October Loose Coins collecting for: **YWCA Crisis Center for Domestic Violence**

October 6th we will be collecting for **World Communion Sunday (September's 5th Sunday)**

Special offering- Kenya = \$ 19,320.00 + \$163.00 (Basket)

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 donations 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

Come join us as we prepare

October greeting cards

We meet at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall, Thursday, Oct. 3rd
It's fun to work, visit, and catch up.

No experience necessary.
Hope to see you there!

Altar Flowers (\$20)

The following dates are available

for altar flowers:

October 6th

November Full

December 15th & 22nd

Please contact the office to reserve a date or sign up on the poster in Fellowship Hall. Payments can be mailed to/dropped off at the office.

Thank you!



Hello Lunch Ladies.

Thursday Oct. 17th at 11:30 AM @ The Pines. We will meet at the church and carpool to The Pines. If you are carpooling meet at the church at 11:00.

I will be asking for reservations closer to the date.

Beth 815-625-4381

News from the Fish Food Pantry

The Fish Food Pantry brings in lots of food to give to our many clients. We get produce on Tuesday and Thursday at 8:15 that can be very heavy. We need 1 individual who can lift more than 50 pounds to help. This takes about an hour on these 2 mornings. If you can help on 1 or both mornings and want more information please contact Beth Mathew @ 815-625-4381. This will make a difference in our community.



New CHURCH DIRECTORY

Take Your Picture



SEPT 29TH AFTER THE 10 AM SERVICE
OCT. 5TH (SAT)
OCT. 6TH AFTER THE 10 AM SERVICE
PLEASE SIGN UP!



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
 OCTOBER 6TH, 2024

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

**OCT. 6 (SUN)
 2 PM**

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

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)
 5:00 - 7:30 PM**

CHURCH WORKDAY

OCT. 12TH (SAT), 2024

OCT. 27, 2024 (SUN)

TRUNK-OF-TREAT

STARTING AT 9:30 AM

All Saints Sunday

Remembering those who have passed

NOVEMBER 3, 2024

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



STERLING WESLEY



Fishing FOR FUN DAY

LOCATION: CENTENNIAL PARK
IN OCTOBER (DATE: TBD)

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. If you can't attend but want to make a donation, you can place a check to Wesley UMC or money in the chili dish on the Mission's Table and take a chili packet as our thanks.

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.





Birthdays

October 2 Rick Palmer
October 6 Lynette Ceruzzi
October 7 Roger VanAusdal
October 9 Kay Bierman,
 Whitney Schwindenhammer
October 10 Roger Wait
October 12 Mary Terrie Snavely
October 13 Seiler Noble, Cameron Taylor
October 14 Steve Majewski, Mary Newlon
October 17 Nate Lobdell

October 18 Tim Cox, Nicole Peterson
October 19 Chris Gallentine
October 21 Eric Imel
October 22 Janay Dalton
October 26 Elias Halverson
October 27 David Siex
October 28 Ellie Wendelken, Heather Johnson
October 29 Denver Wasson
October 30 Cory Duncan



THANK YOU

Dear Friends at Wesley UMC,

Thank you for your generous gift! May God bless you as together we work to show His love as this hands, feet, and heart of Christ.

In His Service, Midwest Mission Family

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your donations to Bear Necessities!!! We Appreciate your support and thoughtfulness.

“God loves a cheerful giver”

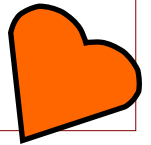
Blessings to all RFUMC-BN-VB

We will be doing **college Care Packages in October**. If you have a child in college, Military, or Trade School who would like to receive a package, please call the church office with his/her Current address .

Thank you

Anniversaries

October 4 Russ & Mary Spitzer
October 8 Kevin & Sarah Gabrielse,
October 9 Andy & Nancy Pitsch
October 28 Bob & Cheryl Allen



Thanksgiving Baskets Donations

Wesley is collecting for the Township’s Thanksgiving Baskets. Each basket costs approximately \$35. We will be collecting monetary donations starting mid-October and the first three Sundays in November. Please place donations in the turkey located on the Mission’s Table.

Our goal is to raise enough for 25 baskets.

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>

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:

- **Bar soap** is being collected for local pantries in October.
- Travel-sized toiletries for Bear Necessities and FISH pantries.
- OCTOBER Loose coins to benefit: YWCA Crisis Center for Domestic Violence

