A Farewell Reception honoring Pastor Angie and her husband, SJ, will be held on Sunday, June 25, 2:00 - 4:00 PM in the Lounge. The entire church family is invited to come and express your love and appreciation to Angie and SJ for their investment of time, love, and faith in our lives! There will be a basket for cards where you can share your favorite memory of Angie and SJ. Refreshments will be served.
One of my best friends from college was visiting me from Korea last month. I took her to Niagara Falls, Toronto, New York City, and Washington DC. Among these places, my favorite place was the National Mall and Memorial Parks in Washington, D.C. I love to stand at the Lincoln Memorial, looking out at the Washington Monument, and think of how these tributes commemorate presidential legacies, honor our nation’s dreams, and celebrate our nation’s commitment to freedom and equality. The reflection pool seems to echo the voices that have been heard throughout history.

I think of our founding fathers’ dreams of freedom and liberty when they came to this country. In 1776, Thomas Jefferson, one of the founding fathers and the third president of the U.S., proposed a philosophy of human rights inherent to all people in the Declaration of Independence. He asserted that “all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” At that time, however, he did not include many people in the “all men” category. Many people did not see African American men as having the same rights as other men. Several decades later, President Abraham Lincoln worked for liberation. However, after the war, there was still segregation. Then, about a hundred years later, Martin Luther King Jr. gave his “I Have a Dream” speech at the Lincoln Memorial. We also cannot forget women, Native Americans, and all other people who were excluded from freedom and equality.

When I stood at the national mall, I felt so blessed, because I sensed many people have worked for freedom and equality. Although each generation has its own limitations, their dreams for freedom and equality have been evolving and inspiring people. I believe each generation makes links to extend the kingdom of God, where all people are not only recognized as being created equally, but actually have equal rights and are able to exercise them.

Jesus’ ministry is not only about believing in God. But it is about setting people free from bondage. It is about changing and changed lives: liberation and transformation.

John 8:31-32 inspires us and gives us hope: “To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

~Pastor Angie

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**$ Financial Update $**

| General fund receipts as of 4/30/17 | $476,959 |
| General fund expenses as of 4/30/17 | $406,276 |
| 2017 Surplus | $70,683 |

The results of the Rummage Sale 2017 are in! We made $29,630 after expenses, setting a new record! Year after year, I am amazed at the amount of items donated for sale, and even more amazed at the number of people who are involved and put in so many hours to make this wonderful event happen. Thank you to all who helped in any way.

Proceeds from the Rummage Sale are split among three Wesley ministries. United Methodist Women (UMW) use their share to help missions all over the world as well as local agencies such as Midwest Food Bank, Salvation Army, Chestnut Health Systems, Children’s Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, and the Baby Fold. Funds also benefit Cunningham Home, Chaddock Home, Henderson Settlement and Lessie Bates Davis Home. National and International assistance is distributed through the national body of UMW, based on current need and designated for ministries with women, children, and youth.

The youth of Wesley rely on this annual fundraiser to cover a major portion of the youth mission work trips and the mission choir tours. These funds help keep the cost per trip participant to a minimum. Thanks again to the many hands needed to pull off this record-setting sale!

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**EVERYONE IS INVITED!**

**GIVE CHOIR A TRY!**

Summer Choir will sing on Sunday, June 18. Meet in the choir room (upstairs) at 8:00 AM to learn a song and then sing at the 9:00 Service.
CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Preschool Classes
Our preschoolers will learn that KIDS ROCK with stories of important young people in the Bible like Jesus, Samuel, and David.

2’s meet in Room #117 with Miss LouAnn and others.

3’s AND 4’s meet in Room #207 with Bunny King, Pamela Kersten, Tammy Alsene, and Carol Lou Eisenhardt.

W.I.S.E. -- Kindergarten - Fifth Grade
In June our elementary kids will learn about Creation.

W.I.S.E. is where families learn together, strengthen the bonds of family and faith, and have conversations of faith. Children and families begin in Wesley Hall at 10:15 as a large group and conclude in small groups.

SUMMER YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

SIXTH AND SEVENTH GRADE students will meet in Room #37 with Stacy Ash and others.

EIGHTH GRADE AND HIGH SCHOOL students meet in the Senior High Lounge with Frank Newburn and others.

SUMMER ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Summer Adult Sunday School Class will meet in the Wesley Lounge at 10:15 each Sunday morning. We will be studying “Moses” by Adam Hamilton. Join us and award-winning author, Adam Hamilton, as he travels from Egypt to Mt. Sinai, the Nile, the Red Sea, and the wilderness exploring the sites of Moses’ life. This new study will begin on June 4.

SAVE THE DATE
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2017
July 28-30

It is going to be so much fun with The Lads with us for the whole weekend.

Mark your calendars and invite your friends.
Register online at wesley-umc.com
GEMS (Growing Each Mom Spiritually) Are you a young mom looking for some new friends at Wesley? You’re invited to visit the GEMS circle of the UMW, meeting the second and fourth Mondays of every month from 7 – 9 PM. On June 12, we will have Girls’ Night Out (NO Childcare this week). On June 26, we will begin a new Mom to Mom study by Linda Anderson. For more information, please contact Liz Tomera at tomeras@comcast.net

HOPE AND FAITH circles will resume meetings in the fall.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
~ Matthew 5:4

Prayers for Pastor Stan Irvin and Laura Irvin on the May 10 death of Robert, father and husband.

Munchies for the Military is our Just One project for June. Please be generous with your financial contribution toward the postage and snacks we will purchase, pack and mail to the military. This is an opportunity to show our gratitude and care for those on active duty, and to assure them they are remembered in our prayers. Kindly note “JUST ONE” or “Munchies” on the memo line of your check. Donations by text can be sent by texting "$20 JUSTONE" (or any dollar amount) to 309-822-4442.

ALSO PLEASE SUBMIT NAMES OF ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL

If you know anyone currently serving on active duty in the military, either in the United States or elsewhere, please submit their name and address to the church office, along with your own name. Please email Molly Brown, mbrown@wesley-umc.com, by June 30th. The service person does not need to be a member of Wesley United Methodist Church or even from this area to be eligible. Submit more than one name if you wish. Names will be published in our weekly bulletin with request for prayers.

It’s Golf Season!

We are planning an outing on Thursday, June 22, to play at the Coyote Creek Golf Course in Bartonville. We will leave in one of the church buses from Wesley at 1:00 PM. The cost for walkers is $25 and for carts $38. For those of you who have not attended any of these events, give it a try. We will have dinner after we play. It doesn’t matter how well you play, if you would like to spend some time enjoying some fellowship and fun with the group. Playing golf with a small group is a great way to get to know others.

Please contact Rusty DePew, 309-287-5177, or Dave Koth, 309-310-8019, if you have questions or would like more information.
Upcoming Events

June 4
Bible Presentation Celebration

June 8 - 10
Illinois Great Rivers Annual Conference in Peoria

June 12
Choir Tour 2017 Home Concert

June 15 - 18
Choir Tour 2017

June 25
Reception in Honor of Pastor Angie & SJ Lee

Congratulations on a record setting Rummage Sale.

Our proceeds totaled nearly $30,000.

Thank you for all your hard work. It couldn’t happen without the work and dedication of the whole Wesley family.

The 2017 Season begins June 1!
Rides will be offered Tuesday - Sunday in the afternoon.
Call the church office, 827-8046, to schedule your ride!
For more information, go to healingrides.com.
Pastor Justin Iverson will join Wesley in July as our new Associate Pastor. Justin and his wife, Kimberly, are both graduates of Nebraska Wesleyan University. During college Justin served as Director of Youth Ministries for First United Methodist Church in Waverly, NE. In 2014, Justin graduated with a Master of Divinity degree from Asbury Theological Seminary and was commissioned a Provisional Elder in the Dakotas Annual Conference. Justin currently serves as the Pastor of Arthur United Methodist Church in Arthur, ND. He will be ordained as an Elder in the Dakotas Annual Conference this June. While serving Arthur UMC he’s enjoyed leading Journey Renewal, a congregational revitalization effort, developing a middle school youth group, and serving as the Young Adult and Campus Ministries representative for the Dakotas Conference. Justin enjoy exploring new opportunities for ministry and am always looking for creative ways for the church to worship and serve. He and Kimberly are looking forward to moving to Bloomington and serving Wesley.

Cindy Lorimor joins the Wesley Staff part-time as Communication Coordinator. Besides being a member of Wesley since 1988, she’s a seasoned advertising professional with thirty-six years of internal and external communications experience serving ad agencies, businesses, and non-profits. She has worked both on the small stage, with her own freelance business, to the big stage. Over the years she's been fortunate to have the opportunity to work in every aspect of the business, from marketing strategy, creative, web design, copy writing, media buys, and production. She currently works as a creative strategist for her home based business, no fear creative.

Cindy and her husband Randy live in an 1861 farmhouse outside Carlock, IL. They have two married sons, Barton and Mattheis, and a three year-old granddaughter. Please contact Cindy with your Wesley communication needs. clorimor@wesley-umc.com

We are planning to offer Financial Peace University by Dave Ramsey this summer on Wednesday evenings. Before we can proceed, we need to know the number of interested parties. Please send an e-mail to Kathi Pritts, kpritts@wesley-umc.com, or James Ingold, jpi@skco.net, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE if you are interested in participating in Financial Peace University this summer on Wednesday evenings.

Men’s Study Group that meets at Noon on Wednesdays will be studying “The Call: The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul” by Adam Hamilton this summer. In this study you’ll see exactly where some of the most dramatic events in the spread of Christianity took place, and through Hamilton’s insightful and colorful teaching style, you’ll quite likely gain a better understanding of Paul’s missionary travels than if you had covered the many miles in person. This group meets in the Garden Room at Noon on Wednesdays each week.

Tuesday Morning Women’s Group meets each week at 7:00 AM in the Lounge. They are studying the The Upper Room Disciplines 2017: A Book of Daily Devotions. Please join us as we seek to nourish our spirits, find daily inspiration, and discover the joy of friendship with God.
Congratulations to our 2017 Seniors

Stephen Nicholas Brown  
Lena Ann Chalian  
Abraham Lewis  
John D. (JD) Martin Jr.  
Gena Kayleigh Mendez  
Mallory Grace Ai Sion Quah  
GeorgiAnn Sands Roll  
Jacob Wynn Susina  
Taylor Louise Thomas  
Nicholas Robert Todd  
Jana Michelle Tuttle

Welcome to our 2017 Confirmation Class

D. J. Cope (from Park UMC)  
Courtney Clauss  
Joshua Dahmm  
Jackson Hardwick  
Jamison Martin  
Jorge Mendez, Jr.  
Noah Moss  
Austin Neal  
Ashlin Reardon

Surge Summer BBQ’s

Surge will begin their Summer BBQ/Bible Study nights beginning Wednesday, May 31. Each week from 6:00 - 8:00 PM, we will meet at a church family’s home and enjoy food, fellowship, and study God’s Word together. Below is a list of our BBQ dates and host homes:

June 7 - Watch the Youth News Email for Details  
June 14 - Oganovich Home  
June 21 - TBA  
June 28 - Lizakowski Home  
July 5 - Dahmm Home  
July 12 - Sherrill Home  
July 19 - TBA  
July 26 - August 2 - Machek/Curry Farm

We are still looking for a host homes for our June 7 and 21, and July 19 and 26 Summer BBQ’s. If you would be willing to host Surge that evening, please contact Frank, fnewburn@wesley-umc.com, or Stacy, sash@wesley-umc.com, as soon as possible.

This summer our youth mission teams will travel to Costa Rica and Wisconsin. Senior High students will serve in Costa Rica for two weeks in early July. Junior High students will serve at The Christian Discipleship Farm in Wisconsin August 6 - 12. On June 25 the Costa Rica team will be commissioned, and we will also be holding our final fundraiser that morning: a loose change collection, after both services. We are encouraging the congregation to bring any loose change they have and donate it to youth missions as we finish up our 2016-2017 fundraising year to help cover the costs of our summer trip. Students will be available after each service on June 25 to collect change outside the doors of the sanctuary. Please continue to pray as our teams conclude their training and fundraising events and prepare for their journeys.

Change for Change

This summer our youth mission teams will travel to Costa Rica and Wisconsin. Senior High students will serve in Costa Rica for two weeks in early July. Junior High students will serve at The Christian Discipleship Farm in Wisconsin August 6 - 12. On June 25 the Costa Rica team will be commissioned, and we will also be holding our final fundraiser that morning: a loose change collection, after both services. We are encouraging the congregation to bring any loose change they have and donate it to youth missions as we finish up our 2016-2017 fundraising year to help cover the costs of our summer trip. Students will be available after each service on June 25 to collect change outside the doors of the sanctuary. Please continue to pray as our teams conclude their training and fundraising events and prepare for their journeys.

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We’re pleased to announce that the church has purchased the former Chase Bank property just to the west of us. This 3/4 acre property includes the two-story “jewel box” building with additional parking spaces and two storage garages. Our trustees, through careful management of funds, were able to complete the purchase without asking for a special offering from the congregation. The building has the potential for multiple creative uses to serve the Wesley family and the community at large. Some basic renovations to the building and plans for how Wesley will specifically use the building will take place over the next few months. A dedication service to be held later this year.

- follow the news on wesley-umc.com and Facebook

It is the mission of Wesley United Methodist Church "To make and nurture disciples for Jesus Christ."