

Love through Living the Word
Colossians 3:12-17

Prayer Link

Prayers for the Community

American Troops and their families; all families, tribes and nations to know and experience God's peace.

Additional Requests: _____

SUGAR RIVER'S PRAYER MINISTRY IS SEEKING REQUESTS

Did you know that Sugar River UMC has an active E-Prayer Chain? A group of people have covenanted to pray for special requests they receive periodically via email. If you have a request you would like the E-Prayer Chain to pray for, please send it to: amberw@wisconsinumc.org. Amber will send out the request as soon as possible to activate our circle of prayer.

If you would like to become a "Link" on our E-Prayer Chain, please send your email address to Amber at the address listed above. New "links" are always welcome!

Inspirational Link

Thoughts and Insights from Worship

Jesus asks us to live every minute of every day for Him. Through our actions and words, we can express our love for others and our Lord, by living the Word. Do we hide this joy and peace when we come into contact with others or do we let it flow out and radiate? We are directed in whatever we do, whether word or deed, to do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus. God Bless you as we prepare for today's worship.

Wade Whitmus
Lay Speaker, Asbury UMC

" My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power." I Corinthians 2:4

" For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power." I Corinthians 4:20

Monday, June 23 – The Promise of the Holy Spirit: Read Joel 2:28-30

The Old Testament has many prophetic promises of a future time when God would do an amazing new thing on the earth. Before the time of Jesus the Holy Spirit came upon specific individuals for a particular task and time. Anticipation, hope and bewilderment must have been present within this Jewish nation. What does the prophecy of Joel promise specifically? What kind of emotion would such a prophecy create within the people? How long did they have to wait for their promise to be fulfilled? How does Joel's prophecy have relevance for us today?

Tuesday, June 24 – The Teachings of Jesus about the Holy Spirit: Read John 14:15-27

Jesus taught his disciples at length about the coming of the Holy Spirit. He encouraged and comforted them with the promise of the coming of the Spirit. In fact, Jesus instructed them that it is to their advantage that he be crucified, raised and ascend to the Father saying, "It is better for you if I go away." **Read John 14: 1-16:33.** Make a list of all of the specific things the Spirit is going to accomplish within his followers. How do these various ministries of the Holy Spirit become ours today?

Wednesday, June 25 – The Day of Pentecost: Read Acts 2:1-41

The Jewish festival of Pentecost happened 50 days following the Passover. From the time of Jesus' death to the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost was therefore 50 days. On the Day of Pentecost in the city of Jerusalem God poured out His Holy Spirit in a way never before done in history. As you read Luke's account in Acts 2 imagine yourself there. What did they experience? What did they see, hear, say, feel? How does the Apostle Peter interpret these events? How does he reference the prophecy of Joel in Acts 2:16? What was the crowd's response? What is the significance of the Day of Pentecost for us today?

Thursday, June 26 – The Spirit's Gifts: Read I Corinthians 12:1-31

One of the central means of the Holy Spirit's work in the lives of God's children is to give each one spiritual gifts. There are many New Testament texts which describe this, the most prominent being I Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4:7-13 and Romans 12:1-8. There have been many attempts to organize and categorize these gifts. The experience of discovering, developing and deploying our spiritual gifts is vital to a fruitful and joy-filled life of faith. Read the spiritual gifts texts in a thoughtful and prayerful way. Pray asking God what spiritual gifts He has given you. Can you identify a person who has each of the gifts listed? Consider enrolling in the churches next Spiritual Gift Discovery class.

Friday, June 27 – The Spirit's Fullness: Ephesians 5:15-20

The Apostle Paul commands us to "be filled with the Spirit" (Eph. 5:18) The Greek verbal tense here is present continuous, meaning we should continually be in a state of being filled with God's Holy Spirit. In Ephesians 4:30 we are instructed to "not grieve the Holy Spirit". In what ways might we have grieved God's Holy Spirit? (See 4:25-32)

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I feel led by God to...