

1 Thessalonians 1

1 Paul, Silas[a] and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace and peace to you.

Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians' Faith

2 We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers.

3 We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

4 For we know, brothers and sisters[b] loved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake.

6 You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.

7 And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

8 The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about



it, 9 for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 10 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.



Hello Everyone!

I am so glad that Summer is here! It seems like the stormy Spring went on forever. Most of the fields have been planted, the corn and beans are growing, and so is the grass! It feels good to get out on my mower and mow the yard.

We pray a Blessing on the farmers, as they continue their work in the fields and bring in the harvest in the Fall. May they all have a safe and productive year! We will all benefit from their hard work.

In the life of the Church, we are now in the Season of Pentecost. We celebrate the Giving of the Holy Spirit that God Poured out on the early church. The disciples were scared and hid behind locked doors; after the Spirit came, they feared no man, but boldly proclaimed the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. How could they be so confident? Why weren't they scared as they had been before? Because they got to see the Lord Jesus Christ AFTER His Resurrection. They had seen Him Die on Friday afternoon, and they saw Him Rise on Easter morning. They had seen a Man leave the cemetery, Alive and Well and wanting a relationship with all of us. They had witnessed the Living Christ Speaking and Eating with them after His Death. He was buried in the tomb, but on the Third Day He left the tomb and never went back. Meeting the Lord on the seashore after His Resurrection had a profound impact on Peter. He went from just being a fisherman to a fisher of men and women. The Lord Provided a tremendous catch of fish that morning, and later Peter would discover that God Provided an amazing catch of disciples for the Kingdom of God. On Pentecost, 3,000 people heard Peter's message and were convicted by the Holy Spirit. They met Jesus in the waters of baptism and were transformed into new creations. Such is the Power of God!

I wrote last week about John Wesley's heartwarming conversion. The night at the Bible study he attended, Wesley truly felt God Coming into his heart. He had always been religious, he was raised in a Christian home by his parents, but he never experienced God Warming his heart until that night. From then on, he was a new creation. He preached and taught with a new found fervor. However he was rejected at church after church. At one point, he went to his father's grave and stood and preached on his tombstone, and nobody dared to knock him off. Like Peter, John Wesley discovered the Amazing Power of God. He was mocked and made fun of, just like Peter, but continued to do the work that God Called him to do.

May God Bless each of you and warm your heart!

Pastor Jeff Stahl
Countryside and Ogden
United Methodist Churches

Miebach named to Dean’s List at UW-Whitewater

WHITEWATER, WI -- Eric Miebach from Philo, IL, has made the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Dean's List for the 2026 spring semester.

These students have demonstrated their academic abilities by receiving a grade

point average of 3.4 or above in a single semester.

"We celebrate the remarkable dedication of the students who've earned their place on this semester's Dean's List," said Robin Fox, UW-Whitewater's interim provost and vice chancellor

for academic affairs. "This honor recognizes exceptional academic performance and a daily commitment to excellence that defines a Warhawk. Their achievements strengthen our institution, and we look forward to seeing all they will continue to accomplish."

The university's Registrar's Office reports 3,552 students were selected for the Dean's List for the fall semester. More than 12,000 students are currently enrolled at the university's Whitewater and Rock County campuses.

Lukas Shadwick of Tolono, was named to dean’s list at Olivet Nazarene University

BOURBONNAIS, IL – Lukas Shadwick of Tolono, IL, was named to the dean's list at Olivet Nazarene University during the recently completed spring 2026 semester. To qualify for inclusion on the dean's list, a student must have been enrolled as a full-time under-

graduate student and must have attained a semester grade point average of 3.50 or higher on a 4.00 grading scale.

Olivet Nazarene University is an accredited Christian, liberal arts university offering more than 200 areas of undergraduate and

graduate study, including the Doctor of Education in ethical leadership. Olivet's 275-acre park-like main campus is in Bourbonnais, Illinois, 45 miles south of Chicago. Additionally, Olivet offers Graduate and Continuing Studies via online education. From Oxford to

Tokyo, hundreds of Olivet students also experience the global classroom each year through study abroad opportunities, internships and worldwide mission trips.

Illinois Wesleyan announces spring 2026 Dean’s List

BLOOMINGTON, IL (06/02/2026)-- Illinois Wesleyan University's Dean's List for the spring semester of the 2025-26 academic year consisted of 883 students from 29 states and 18 countries.

To qualify for the Dean's List, students must earn a GPA of 3.50 or better during the semester, based on 4.0

for straight As.

Kayla Nelson of Sidney (61877)

Loran Tate of Homer (61849)

Kyler Williams of Tolono (61880)

Founded in 1850, Illinois Wesleyan is a nationally recognized, highly selective liberal arts university. The University is exclusively un-

dergraduate and enrolls approximately 1,700 students from across the nation and around the globe. Illinois Wesleyan prides itself on producing graduates who are well-rounded, broadly educated individuals with a spirit of inquiry who can successfully adapt to the demands of a rapidly changing, complex world.

As Venus and Jupiter separate in the western sky after sunset, we can use them to find another planet. Draw a line from Venus down and to the right, through Jupiter and you'll find Mercury. Mercury only makes 3-4 appearances in the evening and morning sky each year and this will be your best chance to see it for the rest of 2026. If you need further assistance, a beautiful crescent Moon will appear between Jupiter and Mercury next Tuesday evening. After today, Mercury's altitude will decrease more each night so get out there and see it.

Then I have a challenge



for you that occurs next Wednesday (June 17) in the afternoon. Use a tree or wall to block the Sun's glare then look about four fists held at arm's length to the left (east) of the Sun. Binoculars will help you see a crescent Moon. Don't point your binoculars at the Sun! If you look about 2:20pm you might see Venus near the unlit part of the Moon. The Moon will pass over Venus from roughly 2:24pm to 3:51pm in an event called an "occultation." Ever seen a planet in the daytime? Here's your chance!

**Southern Champaign County
TODAY**

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OSF Peace Meal Menu

Here is the Sidney, Homer, Philo, Tolono, Sadorus, and Pesotum Peace Meal menu for Thursday, June 11 through Wednesday, June 17.

Thursday, 6/11/26 – Salami, pepperoni and rotini salad, celery sticks, yogurt, fruit cup, and a half pint of milk.

Friday, 6/12/26 – Hamburger, tator tots, green beans, fruit cup, wheat bun, and a half pint of milk.

Saturday, 6/13/26 – Tuna salad, macaroni salad, baby carrots, fruit cup, crackers, and a half pint of milk.

Sunday, 6/14/26 – OSF Peace Meal is closed.

Monday, 6/15/26 – Shrimp and broccoli alfredo tortellini, broccoli, fruit cup, bread stick, and a half pint of milk.

Tuesday, 6/16/26 – Biscuit and gravy, veggie scramble, hashbrowns, fruit cup, and a half pint of milk.

Wednesday, 6/17/26 – OSF Peace Meal is closed.

OSF Peace Meal provides seniors, age 60 and older, with a nutritious lunch Monday through Saturday and are closed on Sunday and Wednesday. There is a suggested donation of \$4.00 for each meal, however, no senior will be denied a meal because of an inability to financially contribute. The Illinois Link Card is an accepted form of payment. For more information, please go to <https://www.osfhealthcare.org/osf-peace-meal/> or call 1-309-665-5900.

The Homer Peace Meal congregate site is at the Homer Village Hall located at 500 East Second Street. It is currently carry-out only. For reservations, please call 1-309-665-5900. Home delivery in southern Champaign County is currently available in Sidney, Homer, Philo, Tolono, Sadorus, and Pesotum.

Menu substitutions may occur due to global supply chain shortages, but a nutritious meal is still guaranteed.

The OSF Peace Meal menu is submitted for the OSF Peace Meal Senior Nutrition Program by Ann Rhoton.