



STEEPLE NEWS

Centennial United Methodist Church at Ivy

January 2019



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR WENDY:

It is the new year, and for many of us, the time of year when we make resolutions to recommit to our health. Society has become increasingly heart health conscious. We know what foods are heart healthy and which ones are potentially harmful. We are aware that stress that can damage the heart. We understand the value of physical exercise and rest. Yet, with all of the awareness of heart disease, many people still choose to ignore the simple things they could do to improve their health.

Scripture also says a lot about the condition of our heart. Of course, scripture is addressing the spiritual condition of our hearts. Are our hearts aligned with God, or the world? Are our hearts at peace or full of anger? Are our hearts full of joy and love, or stress and bitterness?

What is the condition of your heart? Are there things you could do to improve your spiritual heart health? This January, join us as we dig into scripture to discern how we might cultivate a heart of peace, recognize a heart at war, embrace a heart of understanding, and pursue a heart of mercy. In January, we will begin our new year by intentionally aligning our hearts with God.

Hope, love, joy and peace are not just Advent words; they are blessings that are eternally ours through the grace of Jesus Christ. I pray for you a 2019 filled with blessings.

Grace upon Grace,
Pastor Wendy

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry count for December was 79 items. Not sure what to bring for the Food Pantry each month?

Check their website, <https://caringhandsiowa.org/> for the most needed items of food, personal items and items for the Clothes Hanger. The history of the Food Pantry is interesting and inspiring.

1995: Matthew 25 Ministries begins as an outreach of Adventure Life Church to provide food boxes to local families struggling to meet their basic needs. The first month, they serve 14 families and are astounded by the local need. Eventually, families begin to receive partial assistance with rent and utility bills.

2003: As the number of families served increases, other local churches begin to volunteer time and resources to support the ministry. Matthew 25 Ministries begins to outgrow space at Adventure Life. Due to increased need and tight quarters at Adventure Life, local churches see the increased need and come together to form Caring Hands Outreach Center and expand services for people in need within the Southeast Polk community. Having changed the name of the organization to resemble a community effort, rather than a ministry of just one church, Caring Hands is also charged with finding an independent location.

2004: Matthew 25 Ministries receives a new name – Christian Community Food Pantry, the first of several potential ministries to be developed under the umbrella of Caring Hands.

To be continued.....

UMW

They're here! As a thank you to the congregation, Centennial United Methodist Women have ordered 2019 press-on calendars. We appreciate the support and help of the congregation with our projects. We could not succeed without your help. The calendars are in a basket in the narthex.

Get ready for 2019!

In place of our regular January meeting, our group will honor Brenda Person on Jan. 11 at Now or Later. Each year we recognize an individual as a faithful worker in mission by giving them a Special Mission Recognition pin and certificate. Our first regular meeting of 2019 will be Feb. 7 at 1:00 p.m. Janice Williams will present the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial program and Dee Johnston will serve as hostess. Come join us!

Women Before Work

When: Every Tuesday during the month of June.

Time: 6:30 – 7:15 am

Where: Church

Please feel free to join us anytime!

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Mitch Purcell
- 3 Carol Briggs
- 5 Saundra Stuart
Bryan Tingley
- 7 Jerry Peck
- 8 David Tomlin
- 11 Jane Ferguson
- 12 Nancy Myers
- 17 MaKenslea McDuffy
Amos Purcell
- 18 Anna Behanish
Lois Wignall
- 19 Pastor Gary Forster
- 22 Steve Shaver
Jennifer Southcott
- 23 Kevin Day
- 24 Verna Bowie
Neal Griffiths
- 25 Gabe Feters
Joe Tomlin
- 27 Terry Howard
Iisha Martin
- 28 Libby Hiatt
David Johnston
- 30 Rose Talley
- 31 Cole Heitman

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Jennifer & Gary Fischer
- 6 Nancy & Ed Myers
- 10 Jan & Rex Adair
- 13 Tim & Jennifer Morgan
- 16 Terry & Linda Howard
- 23 Gail & Darrell Long
- 31 Bob & Phyllis Kujac

LIBRARY

Do you need a little break? Grab a book from the church library OR the Little Free Library outside.

Both libraries offer good books to read!

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Come join us as we prepare for January Anthems. Be there as often as you can. If you are interested in solo or small groups, please let Linda Carnahan know.

THANK YOU'S!!

The Education Committee would like to thank everyone who helped on December 1st. Besides the fellowship with members, we also had 65 visitors from the outside our congregation who enjoyed the Live Nativity.

The committee would also like to thank everyone who came to the Christmas program on December 16th. We had a full house! Highlights: Zoey's solo; Greta & Edie's duet; all of the kids 3-year old's – high school; Wendy's "crying" scene; Officer Ferguson questioning Allison; hard-of-hearing Evan; and Brandi & Brooke trying to determine which is their mom's favorite!

The Missions Committee would like to thank everyone for the Soup Fellowship which raised \$250 to buy warm wear for the needy.

2018 has been a wonderful year for Centennial UMC at Ivy. Find photos of our 2018 happenings here: <http://ivycentennial.org/?subpages/Event-Photos.shtml>

WELCOME!

The congregation would like to welcome Centennial's newest members that joined the church on Sunday, November 11, 2018.

Ken & Barb Sharp
LaDonna Morse
Jon & Greta Musgrave

We are happy to have you worshiping with us at Centennial UMC at Ivy.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation class will begin on Wednesday January 9th at 6pm. Youth 6th through 12th grade are welcome to participate. Contact Pastor Wendy if interested.

NEWS FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE 2018 Actual Giving vs. 2018 Budget Goal

	Required		Tithes	Other Inc	Total	Cumulative Difference
January	\$ 6,910.00	4 Sundays	\$ 6,665.75	\$ 350.00	\$ 7,015.75	\$ 105.75
February	\$ 6,910.00	4 Sundays	\$ 6,012.00		\$ 6,012.00	\$ (792.25)
March	\$ 6,910.00	4 Sundays	\$ 5,893.50		\$ 5,893.50	\$ (1,808.75)
April	\$ 8,640.00	5 Sundays	\$ 8,833.50	\$ 100.00	\$ 8,933.50	\$ (1,515.25)
May	\$ 6,910.00	4 Sundays	\$ 7,448.25	\$ 80.00	\$ 7,528.25	\$ (897.00)
June	\$ 6,910.00	4 Sundays	\$ 10,287.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 10,437.00	\$ 2,630.00
July	\$ 13,888.00	5 Sundays	\$ 8,576.33		\$ 8,576.33	\$ (2,681.67)
August	\$ 11,110.00	4 Sundays	\$ 10,225.33	\$ 140.00	\$ 10,365.33	\$ (3,426.34)
September	\$ 13,888.00	5 Sundays	\$ 14,013.00		\$ 14,013.00	\$ (3,301.34)
October	\$ 11,110.00	4 Sundays	\$ 9,191.97	\$ 403.00	\$ 9,594.97	\$ (4,816.37)
November	\$ 11,110.00	4 Sundays	\$ 9,430.68		\$ 9,430.68	\$ (6,495.69)
December	\$ 13,888.00	5 Sundays			\$ -	
	Commitments paid in 2017		\$ 3,100.00			
2018 Budget	\$ 118,184.00		\$ 99,677.31	\$ 1,223.00	\$ 100,900.31	85.3.8%

52 Sundays in 2018

Required = 90.38%
Of Annual Budget

As of November, we are behind our 2018 Budget Goal by \$6,495.69. However, receipts from December indicate that we could meet our 2018 budget.

Gaylen Heaberlin, Financial Secretary

ATTENTION!!

*If you would like to provide or update your email for our database, please reach out to Jeff Freel or email the church at ivycentennialumc@gmail.com