



# STEEPLE NEWS

Centennial United Methodist Church at Ivy

April 2023



## *A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JOYCE:*

In Luke's gospel, Jesus' last words are, *Father, into your hands I commit my spirit* (Luke 23:46). This was Jesus' dying prayer. With his last breath, it was a prayer of absolute trust in God. *Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.*

As we begin the last leg of the journey toward the cross and Easter Sunday morning, what if we all - each one of us- could offer up this prayer – not just at Easter, but every day. *Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.*

As if to say, I accept this day as a gift from you with all of its trials and challenges...and with all of its blessings and joys. On this day, I will put my faith and trust in you. No matter what the day brings, Father, I put my life in your hands.

Friends, Jesus did the hard work for us. He completed the work God called him to do. He shed his blood so that we might receive salvation and live. And with these last words, he calls us into a relationship of faith and trust in that work and in the God who sent him.

In this season of Easter, it's up to us to claim that victory and to live into the fullness of God's plans and purposes for our own lives. *Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.*

Be well and be blessed!

*Pastor Joyce*



## EASTER EGG HUNT SAVE THE DATE SATURDAY, APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup>

### Easter Egg Hunt Candy Donations Needed

Who doesn't like an Easter Egg Hunt? The Education Committee will be sponsoring a community – wide Easter Egg hunt on the Saturday before Easter. We hope you will bring your children and grandchildren (and neighbor children) for some fun and refreshments. If you don't have kids at home, come anyway, join the fun, and take some time to greet the kids and their parents. If you have any questions, please contact Brandi Jackson at 515-238-0201.



## EASTER AT IVY

**7 a.m. | Youth Sunrise Service**

***Breakfast to follow***

**10:30 a.m. | Easter Service**



## SUMMER CHURCH CAMP

The church will be offering scholarships to children and youth who want to attend church camp this summer. The church will pay half of the cost, using funds from the Pie and Cake auction and some designated memorial funds. If needed, additional funds are available from the Iowa Methodist Conference Camping program. If you know a child who might enjoy going to camp, please pick up a brochure and scholarship application. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Ferguson (515) 975-0586 or Pastor Joyce (515) 480-8457.



## THANK YOU!

The Education Committee would like to thank Allison Lehn and Simon Meister for all their work on youth Sunday. We would also like to thank the congregation for helping the youth raise \$302.00 with the walking taco fellowship lunch.



Evening of Music  
With  
The Chicago Staff Band  
April 15th at 7:00 pm  
At  
Immanuel United Methodist Church  
2900 49th St. Des Moines, Iowa



### Hosted by Immanuel UMC

The Chicago Staff Band is a world-renowned brass band affiliated with The Salvation Army. This group of talented musicians will be performing a variety of musical pieces ranging from classical to contemporary, showcasing their incredible skill and passion for music. This event is perfect for anyone who appreciates live music, brass instruments or simply wants to experience the joy of a live performance. The Chicago Staff Band has been captivating audiences for over 120 years and this performance promises to be one you won't forget.

Admission is free, but we encourage you to make a voluntary free-will offering at the door



### **Schedule of Events**

Sunday, April 2 - Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 6 - Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm

\*Friday, April 7 - Good Friday Service 5:30 pm

Sunday, April 9, Easter Sunrise Service 7:00 am

Easter Celebration Service 10:30 am

\*On Good Friday, the church will be open from 4:00 to 7:00 for prayer. From 5:30 to 6:00, there will be a short Good Friday Service in the Sanctuary.



**HEIFER**  
FOUNDATION

Missions is excited to announce that the annual Centennial Church wide donation drive to support the Heifer Project will run May - June to align with the VBS kids project.

More information on how you can support this great project in the coming weeks.

### **Disaffiliation Q & A – Listening Session, Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> 11:45 am**

This is a second opportunity for church members to hear about church disaffiliation over the LGBTQ issue. This will be similar to the March listening session for those who might have missed it. This is a time for folks to ask questions. We won't be taking a vote or debating the issue at this meeting, just giving people an opportunity to get information. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Pastor Joyce – 515-480-8457 or [revjlwebb76@gmail.com](mailto:revjlwebb76@gmail.com)

### **SUMMER WORSHIP SURVEY**

The worship team is discussing ways to help families stay connected in worship this summer. After Easter, we will be getting input from the congregation about some possible options for a second summer service and Sunday morning worship time. We're interested in your thoughts and hope that when the survey comes out, everyone will take a few minutes to answer the survey questions.

# *APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1. Andrea Hackett Amanda Tam
2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8. April King
9. Whitney Long	10.	11. Leslee Lynch Sue Tomlin	12.	13. Katelyn & Zach Deutmeyer	14.	15.
16. Gail Gish	17.	18. Jerry Mellor Butch Weeks	19.	20.	21. Adeline Lehn	22.
23.	24.	25. Justin Shaver	26.	27.	28.	29. Janice Williams
30. Macy Craven Mary Ferguson Dale & Irene Dewey						



### Wednesdays

Wednesday	4/5	7:40 pm
Thursday	4/6	1:00 pm
Thursday	4/6	7:00 pm
Friday	4/7	5:30 pm
Saturday	4/8	9:00 am
Saturday	4/8	11:00 am
Sunday	4/9	7:00 am
Sunday	4/9	10:30 am
Sunday	4/23	11:45 am
Sunday	5/14	9:00 am

### 5:30-7:30 pm

### Worship on Wednesday (WOW)

Ad Council Meeting
Ivy Women's Fellowship
Maundy Thursday Service
Good Friday Service
Men's Group
Easter Egg Hunt
Sunrise Service followed by breakfast
Easter Service
Disaffiliation Q & A
Mother's Day Breakfast

**FINANCE COMMITTEE  
COMPARISON OF OPERATING INCOME**

	Offerings 2023	Offerings 2022	Offerings 2021	Offerings 2020
January	\$17,243.17	\$11,240.28	\$11,270.04	\$11,273.44
February	\$7,101.46	\$9,698.09	\$8,480.01	\$10,933.50
March		\$9,669.39	\$12,192.01	\$10,780.19
April		\$14,356.63	\$12,506.01	\$6,573.00
May		\$9,004.49	\$8,717.05	\$9,110.16
June		\$7,083.14	\$8,118.89	\$5,739.78
July		\$8,636.81	\$6,295.75	\$9,248.40
August		\$7,081.26	\$7,919.24	\$7,701.93
September		\$5,610.25	\$9,763.24	\$7,942.10
October		\$12,111.46	\$12,038.34	\$9,201.03
November		\$8,679.97	\$10,568.68	\$11,111.78
December		\$7,552.26	\$10,477.42	\$10,282.93
<b>Total Offerings</b>	<b>\$24,344.63</b>	<b>\$110,724.03</b>	<b>\$118,346.68</b>	<b>\$109,898.24</b>
Government Paycheck Protection Program			\$20,177.00	\$20,232.00
Iowa Conference Assistance Program			\$4,300.98	\$9,201.00
<b>Total Offerings &amp; Programs</b>	<b>\$24,344.63</b>	<b>\$110,724.03</b>	<b>\$142,824.66</b>	<b>\$139,331.24</b>

2023 Average Monthly Offerings	\$12,172.32
2023 Average Required Monthly for Budget	\$8,750.00
2023 Average Offerings vs. Average Required for Budget	\$3,422.32

As of February 28th, we have collected \$633.00 for the Caring Hands Food Pantry. This comparison does not include memorial, building fund, food pantry or mission project donations.

Joy Warner, Financial Secretary



**Pastor: Joyce Webb** [revjlwebb76@gmail.com](mailto:revjlwebb76@gmail.com) (515) 480-8457  
**Email Prayers Requests:** Missy Shaver [Mishaver2@gmail.com](mailto:Mishaver2@gmail.com) 515-967-6288  
**Secretary (Newsletters & Bulletins):** Amy Ferguson [anbscorbin@gmail.com](mailto:anbscorbin@gmail.com) 515-402-6056  
**Financial Secretary (Estimates of Giving):** Joy Warner [voj8893@gmail.com](mailto:voj8893@gmail.com)



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## CHURCH LIBRARY

"Love the Lord your God with all your mind."



*Visit our website at [ivycentennial.org](http://ivycentennial.org) to see Pastor Joyce's Sermons, Committee and Event information and Church updates.*