



STEEPLE NEWS

Centennial United Methodist Church at Ivy

August 2021



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DANI:

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" -Micah 6:8

After spending the first two evenings with the 2021 Simpson Youth Academy scholars, I knew the ministry of the academy would transform my life. For seven evenings in June, I had the privilege of teaching, supporting, and working with the 25 high schoolers who gathered at Simpson College to ask the tough questions of their faith with one another. Some of the scholars want to be teachers and doctors when they get older; others want to be professional musicians and athletes. What they all have in common though, is that they are all courageous enough to ask tough questions about their faith and how their faith will impact what it is they feel called to do with their precious lives.

Each evening I helped plan and lead worship with these scholars and every night I left with more hope for the future of the church! Not because these scholars are the future of the church-- **but because they are the present. They are the church right here, right now.**

Many Christians today worry about the future of the church. Maybe it's because we're worried that our youth group gatherings are smaller than they used to be, or our Sunday school classrooms are empty. We might look for reasons to blame the youth for not finding an interest in church the way we did or maybe we blame young adults for not growing their families as early as we did.

But what if we worry so much about the future that we aren't noticing the gifts and the graces of today?
What if we are so concerned with how few people come to church that we neglect to celebrate the people who do come and care?

I cannot fully explain why my week at Simpson Youth Academy was so special. In fact, I asked the Director of the Academy, Rev. Eric Rucker, what he thought makes this ministry so transformative. He said to me, *"Because the Simpson Youth Academy saves lives."*

When communities of faith or families create unsafe environments for youth to ask questions about their faith, passions, or life in general, the Academy sometimes becomes that first safe and brave space for a young person. The Academy invites all the scholars to embrace honesty, even if their churches hadn't in the past. The Academy invited this authenticity and wasn't afraid to hear the honest truth because that's what happens when we are in compassionate relationship with each other, right? When we enter into healthy relationships, we need space for criticism and critique in order to grow; celebration and play in order to find joy; listening and reflection in order to experience love. All of this happened at the Academy and the church is called to create this kind of brave space as well.

When the prophet Micah presents this tough question concerning faith in chapter 6, verse 8, his community likely responded in many ways. Some might have wondered *what's the point in loving kindness and walking humbly if there is no future for our people?* Some might have considered this to be too tough of a question to answer because they couldn't agree what it really means to love kindness and act justly. But the scholars at Simpson Youth Academy considered this question with each other all week. They (and I) discovered that there isn't much better to do with our precious lives than to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God. One way we can live into justice, kindness, and humility right now is by supporting and inviting all youth to find a loving and supportive home among our church walls. May it be so.

With love, Pastor Dani

HIDDEN GEMS



The Bible is full of interesting, challenging, & fascinating stories that we rarely read or discuss. For seven weeks this summer, we'll read through hidden gems found in scripture & consider what messages & lessons we're called to consider from these stories that perhaps we've never heard or read before. Explore & journey with us every Sunday morning at 10:30am this summer as we consider how we can find new & hidden stories from the beautiful & mysterious book known as "The Word of God."

HYMN SING IS BACK!



Do you have favorite hymns you haven't sung in a year? Write down your favorite hymns and put them in the "HYMN SING" basket in the church narthex.

Each week, Pastor Dani will randomly pick two hymns from the HYMN SING basket and include them the following week in our worship bulletin.

If you are unable to write down your favorite hymns, send them via mail and we'll add them to the basket for you.
Centennial UMC at Ivy PO Box 624 Altoona, IA 50009



Empowering people to save starving children

Serve with us on Saturday, August 7 from 9am-11am!

If you'd like to carpool from the church parking lot, Please call or text Rita: 515-971-8712.

Or meet us at MFTH at 8:50am:
357 Lincoln St, West Des Moines, IA 50265

Technology Training

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

FOLLOWING WORSHIP (11:45AM)

Join us to learn how you can help run new technology we use in worship, including the camera we use to livestream worship, the iPad used to broadcast images, & more

FOR ALL INTERESTED IN WORSHIP TECHNOLOGY!

Picnic Sunday
AUGUST 15, 2021

Years ago, Centennial celebrated an annual Picnic Sunday where folks would gather for worship & fellowship outdoors. This year, we're bringing it back!

At 10:30am, we'll enjoy worship outdoors as we give thanks for the gifts of the warm summer air & the birds that will sing along with us. Following worship, we'll enjoy fellowship outdoors as all are invited to bring their own picnic lunch.

Bring your own picnic & lawn chair & join us for *Picnic Sunday!* (August 22 is a rain date)

Rally Day
Wed. September 8
5:30-7:30p

**JOIN US IN THE PARKING LOT
FOR A BACK- TO- SCHOOL CELEBRATION.
WORSHIP. FOOD. & MORE!**



If you are interested in volunteering at the Iowa State Fair to help out the West Des Moines United Methodist Church, please click on the link below to sign up! They are needed volunteers from August 10th – August 22nd

[Click here to sign up & volunteer at the West Des Moines UMC Iowa State Fair Stand.](#)

If you sign up to volunteer at the fair, please consider typing that you are from Centennial UMC at Ivy. WDSM UMC will donate \$50 to our church if you serve for 4 hours and \$100 if you serve for 8 hours.

Ivy
WOW
WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAY

**Starting back up Wednesday,
September 15th!**



Sunday, October 31st

INGREDIENTS	DIRECTIONS	RECIPE FORK

ARE YOU IN NEED OF SOME NEW RECIPES?

There are several cookbooks in the church library to help you find that perfect new recipe:

- Time for Tea with Mary Engelbreit,
- Dinner Day
- In the Kitchen with Rosie (Oprah's Recipes)
- Centennial United Methodist Church 1876-1976
- A Library of Recipes - Mitchellville Public Library
- Ivy Bake Shoppe
- Easy as Pie
- Easter Treats
- Cookbook of Food from Bible Days
- Happiness is Homemade #2 (Altoona UMC)
- Here's What's Cookin' Around Ivy.

These cookbooks can be found on the shelf under the Dewey Decimal number 641. For more cookbook selections, there are also FREE cookbooks on the library table!

"A recipe that is not shared with others will soon be forgotten; but when it is shared it will be enjoyed by future generations."

HUNGER DOESN'T TAKE A vacation

In July & August, please consider donating canned summer fruits & veggies to support Caring Hands Food Pantry

peaches
pineapples
tomatoes
mixed fruit
corn
pears
peas & carrots
& more




Welcome to the World Precious Boy!
 Jason Elliot Tam – Jason & Amanda Tam
 Born – June 28, 2021, at 10:22 pm
 7lbs 11 oz 20 Inches long
 Proud Grandparents – Mike & Mary Ferguson



Don't forget to visit the free library! There are books for everyone to enjoy!

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1.	2. Marcy Bowie Jo Ann Hansen Gabe Remster Richard Wehde	3. Pastor Duane & Sheryll Skidmore	4.	5.	6.	7.
8.	9.	10. Kristi Olgren	11.	12. Gordon & Peg Atzen	13. Sandra Clark Brock Jackson Lois & Richard Wehde	14. Tim Campbell Aaron & Brandi Jackson
15. Jolynn Fetters Margaret & Pastor Gary Forster Bev & Chuck McGriff	16.	17. Dale Dewey Karen Heaberlin Lee Ann Martin	18. Gayle Jordan Don & Libby Hiatt	19. Sarah Hermann Valerie Hermann	20.	21.
22. James Maxwell	23.	24.	25. Nick Corbin	26. Brenda Person	27. Linda Carnahan Ted Cox Chris DeMoss Mason Morgan	28. Byron & Judy Hemingson
29. Angela Shanks	30. Jonathan Freel Phyllis Kujac	31. Aaron Jackson				



Monday, August 2nd – Admin Council @ 7:00 pm

Wednesday, August 11th – Stewardship Committee @ 7:00 pm

Sunday, August 15th – Picnic Sunday – Following 10:30 Service

Thursday, August 19th – UMW @ 1:00 pm for fellowship & discussion

Tuesday, August 24th – Communications @ 6:30 pm

Monday, August 30th – Pub Theology @ 7:00 pm

**FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
2021 ACTUAL GIVING VS 2020 ACTUAL GIVING**

	REQUIRED	SUNDAYS	TITHES	OTHER INC (Breeze Costs)	TOTAL	INCOME ONE YEAR AGO
JANUARY	\$12,369.00	5	\$ 12,636.87	\$ (8.15)	\$ 12,616.92	\$12,090.11
FEBRUARY	\$12,368.00	4	\$ 9,296.84	\$ (10.61)	\$ 9,284.98	\$11,750.17
MARCH	\$12,368.00	4	\$ 12,908.84	\$ (9.65)	\$ 12,899.19	\$11,596.86
APRIL	\$12,368.00	4	\$ 33,395.14	\$ (9.90)	\$ 33,385.29	\$ 7,389.67
MAY	\$12,369.00	5	\$ 9,433.88	\$ (10.49)	\$ 9,425.55	\$30,158.83
JUNE	\$12,368.00	4	\$ 8,835.72	\$ (10.84)	\$ 8,824.88	\$ 6,556.45
JULY	\$12,368.00	4				\$ 9,965.23
AUGUST	\$12,369.00	5				\$ 8,418.76
SEPTEMBER	\$12,368.00	4				\$ 8,658.93
OCTOBER	\$12,369.00	5				\$ 9,917.86
NOVEMBER	\$12,368.00	4				\$11,828.61
DECEMBER	\$12,368.00	4				\$10,999.76
2020 BUDGET	\$148,420.00		\$85,761.99	(59.64)	\$85,702.35	\$139,331.24
	52 Sundays in 2021				Actual:	57.74%
					Required to meet budget:	60.00%

On April 9, 2021, we received \$20,177 from the Small Business Administration for the Payroll Protection Program.

Gaylen Heaberlin, Retiring Financial Secretary



Pastor: Dani Musselman pastordanim@gmail.com
Trustees: Ardean Williams 515-967-4189
Email Prayers Requests: Missy Shaver Mishaver2@gmail.com 515-967-6288
Secretary (Newsletters & Bulletins): Amy Ferguson anbscorbin@gmail.com 515-402-6056
Financial Secretary (Estimates of Giving): Gaylene Heaberlin 515-967-2016