



STEEPLE NEWS

Centennial United Methodist Church at Ivy

February 2018



The Gospel message is one of hope, and yet how easy it is to get distracted and forget the Gospel promise. We are loved by God, not because we have done something to deserve it, but because God is love. God's grace reaches out for us, seeking us even when we are not aware we need of it. God's grace extends to us, no matter the mistakes we have made. When we participate in God's grace, God's grace works to transform us into the people God created us to be.

Lent is a time of increased intentionality, where we focus and commit ourselves to deepening our faith. This Lent, we will be exploring the *Threads of Grace* that hold us in relationship with God. Our worship series will refresh our understanding of who we are as Christians and as United Methodists. Maybe you have questions...

What is our understanding of God and the Trinity?
How does Grace work for the unbeliever, the sinner, the devout, or me?
What is our Christian role and responsibility in the world?
How do we embody Christ to the world through our Social Principles?
How does faith and the church make a difference in my family and community?

Beginning February 18, I will be leading a study as a companion to our worship series during Sunday School time (9:15 on Sunday mornings) or Wednesday evenings at 6pm with a sign up sheet in the narthex. We will dig a little deeper, engage in discussion, and ponder the questions that are on our hearts and minds. The Lenten study will use the book *40 Days with Wesley* by Reuben Job to ground our daily devotional time in our rich Wesleyan heritage.

I am looking forward to a fruitful Lent, as we embrace the threads of God's grace together.

Peace and Grace,
Pastor Wendy

True Believers / Lenten Study

Wednesday, February 7 will begin our programs for K-6th grade. Youth will continue to meet at the same time. Lenten Bible Study will begin Wednesday, February 21. All attendees on Wednesday night will be offered dinner from 5:30-6pm. Classes/children's programs will be from 6-7pm.

Annual Soup & Dessert Contest

Saturday, February 24
at 5:30pm.
Everyone Welcome to enjoy
the soups and desserts.
Sign up in the Narthex

- 1 - Communications Meeting at 6pm
- 3 - Men's Breakfast 9 am
- 5 - Administrative Council Meeting 7pm
- 11 - Youth Sunday and Taco Bar!
- 12 - Pub Theology at 7pm at Reclaimed Rails in Bondurant
- 14 - Ash Wednesday Service 7 pm
- 15 - Noon Potluck
- 17 - Random Acts of Kindness Day!
- 24 - Soup Contest

Building Committee Plus Update Full-Time Pastor Initiative

We have been making great progress in our efforts to transition Centennial from a part-time pastoral appointment to a full-time pastoral appointment. We have had several meetings, received many questions, shared our visions, and worked together. On January 21st we engaged in a peace circle exercise in which members of the congregation met in small groups to discuss their love for Centennial, what they see in Centennial's future, and the full-time pastor appointment initiative. The positivity and energy which has come from this exercise will propel us forward into our next steps. We will be sharing those next steps with all of you in the near future.

As we have learned

from Pastor Wendy's powerful sermon series for January titled "Building Blocks", God's version of success looks like building our lives on eternal things for eternal things. Building Centennial must begin with a focus on building our lives on the eternal Christian foundations of faith and mission for the eternal Christian cornerstones of discipleship and community. God looks at our hearts, and He is looking for fruit that lasts. When we stand before Him at the end of our lives, all that will matter is whether our hearts were aligned with His, whether our vision aligns with His,

and whether we have long-term fruit.

In this age of constantly evolving technology and communities, we must remember our core purpose. That purpose is to give all glory to God, and to help others grow as disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. God's vision for Centennial and our vision for Centennial are one and the same, to know Christ and make Christ known around the world. While our core purpose and vision will always remain, we must evolve in the ways we strive to fulfill that core purpose and vision.

"Churches that thrive from generation to generation, like Centennial has, are the ones who are willing to adapt." -Pastor Wendy Musgrave (September 17th, 2017)

Matthew 28:18-20

Then Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things I have commanded you. And, remember, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Ushers and Greeters

February 4 - Melvin & Carol Visser

February 11 - Youth

February 18 - Mike & Mary Ferguson

February 25 - Butch & Judy Weeks

March 4 - Bill & JoAnn Hansen

March 11 - Don Hiatt & Nancy Day

March 18 - Torie & Kensie Hermann

March 25 - Jary & Marcy Bowie

Dinner Day Hosts and Hostesses

February 4 - Dinner Day - Person squared

February 11 - Youth

February 18 -

February 25 -

March 4 -Day, Ferguson, Hermann

March 11 -

March 18 -

March 25 - Education/Pie & Cake Auction



- 2 Aidan Craven
Wendy Musgrave
- 5 Bev McGreff
- 6 Dave Warner
- 7 Bob Dice
Anne Owens
- 8 Marissa Haley
Larry McCrory
- 9 Rev Bob Cook
- 10 Ava Fischer
Nathan Griffel
- 11 Tim Fritz
- 12 Aleka Fischer
Raleigh Hiatt
Matthew Myers
Larissa Walker
- 14 Owen Fischer
- 15 Mary Lu Mauritz
- 16 Amy Ferguson
Ben Fischer
- 17 Jason Hermann
- 18 Sherry Lamb
- 24 Terry Britt
- 25 Helen Freeman
Grant Warner
- 28 Cody Tingley

United Methodist Women

Centennial United Methodist Women met January 4 in the fellowship hall. The scripture for January was Proverbs 16:19. Libby Hiatt presented the Pledge to Mission Service. Members prayerfully make financial pledges as a part of our mission giving. The hostess for the meeting was Leslee Lynch.

Five members of the group participated in the UMW reading program for 2017. The readers, Marilyn Murphy, Libby Hiatt, Judy Weeks, Judy Fiene and Janice Williams read a total of 23 books and each received a certificate of recognition. Every year a diverse range of books are selected and organized into five categories. There are books for adults (some in large print), youth and children. You do not have to be a member of UMW to participate in the reading program. For more information, contact Libby Hiatt.

The next meeting will be Feb. 1 at 1:00 p.m. Women of the church are most welcome to attend the meetings! Leslee Lynch will present the program, A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial, and Libby Hiatt will serve as hostess.

United Methodist Men

We're bringing the Men's Group back! Men, please consider joining us Saturday, February 3 for breakfast at 9am at the church. We will discuss the nature of the group and have great fellowship!

February Anniversaries

- 9 Bob & Kay Bullard
- 10 Verna & John Bowie
- 11 Missy & Steve Shaver
- 16 Amos & Jacquelyn Purcell
- 19 Harry & Sandra Clark
- 20 Butch & Diane Griffel
- 21 Dick & Sharon Dolash

Frequently Called Numbers -

Pastor: Wendy Musgrave
515-360-7139
wendymusgrave@mac.com

Email Prayer Requests: Missy Shaver
mishaver2@gmail.com
515-957-6268

Secretary (Newsletters and Bulletins):
Torie Hermann
515-664-2882
tkernm@yahoo.com

Trustees: Ardean Williams
515-967-4189

Treasurer (bills to be paid): Bonnie Altes
515-966-2127

Financial Secretary (Estimates of giving):
Gaylen Heaberlin
967-2016

Caring Hands Food Pantry statistics for November:

350 families served (609 adults & 373 children) totaling 982 clients.

7,637 pounds of food given.

Our Daily Bread Ministry served 177 clients.

Clothes Hanger gave 3548 items of clothing.



Centennial's Food pantry donation for January was 94 items.

Remember to bring items on dinner day Sunday or any time during the month.

UMW brings items to their meetings for the Food Pantry also.

In response to a call for help, in January the Food Pantry began providing bags of food and personal care items for needy SEP High School students. This S.E.P. Community Food Partnership Program will be administered through the high school nurse. The bags will be made up by the Food Pantry volunteers and picked up by high school volunteer students.

There is a need for volunteers at the Food Pantry. If interested, phone 515-967-4533 or check their website, www.caringhandsoutreachcenter.org

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2017 Actual Giving vs. 2017 Budget Goal

	Required		Tithes	Other Inc	Total	Cumulative Difference
January	\$ 8,264.00	5 Sundays	\$ 8,600.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 9,125.00	\$ 861.00
February	\$ 6,611.00	4 Sundays	\$ 7,805.42		\$ 7,805.42	\$ 2,055.42
March	\$ 6,611.00	4 Sundays	\$ 5,307.00		\$ 5,307.00	\$ 751.42
April	\$ 8,264.00	5 Sundays	\$ 8,561.00		\$ 8,561.00	\$ 1,048.42
May	\$ 6,611.00	4 Sundays	\$ 5,511.00		\$ 5,511.00	\$ (51.58)
June	\$ 6,611.00	4 Sundays	\$ 6,059.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 6,209.00	\$ (453.58)
July	\$ 8,265.00	5 Sundays	\$ 8,372.58	\$ 5.00	\$ 8,377.58	\$ (341.00)
August	\$ 6,611.00	4 Sundays	\$ 5,453.00		\$ 5,453.00	\$ (1,499.00)
September	\$ 6,611.00	4 Sundays	\$ 7,263.00		\$ 7,263.00	\$ (847.00)
October	\$ 8,265.00	5 Sundays	\$ 8,018.00		\$ 8,018.00	\$ (1,094.00)
November	\$ 6,611.00	4 Sundays	\$ 7,004.00		\$ 7,004.00	\$ (701.00)
December	\$ 8,265.00	5 Sundays	\$ 10,486.00		\$ 10,486.00	\$ 1,520.00
				\$ 3,100.00	2018 Pledges	
2017 Budget	\$ 87,600.00		\$ 88,440.00	\$ 3,780.00	\$ 92,220.00	105.27%

53 Sundays in 2017

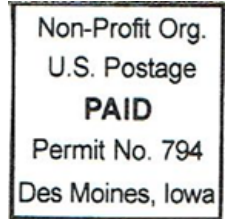
Required =100%
Of Annual Budget

As of December 31 we exceeded our 2017 Budget Goal by \$1,520 plus \$3,100 prepaid 2018 Pledges

Gaylen Heaberlin, Finance Chairman



Centennial United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 624
Altoona, IA 50009



Ronald McDonald House

Little things can make a big difference. YOU can help make a difference by collecting and donating aluminum pop tabs. The funds generated from recycling these aluminum gems help offset the House's expenses such as electricity and water bills. Many groups participate in this program and its a simple way to make a big difference. Collecting pop tabs is a great program that benefits the Ronald McDonald House families. (Ronald McDonald House Central Iowa flyer)

If YOU would like to help with this

simple but important project, please start or continue to save pull tabs. So many canned items have them now that it doesn't take long to fill a jar, bag or box! Just bring them to church and put them on the narthex cabinet and they will be delivered to RMH. Any questions, please contact Libby Hiatt.



Contact Us

Visit us on Facebook at Centennial at Ivy United Methodist Church.

Or on our website at IvyCentennial.org.

Check out our website at ivycentennial.org to see Pastor Wendy's Sermons as well as information and updates on church events.