



STEEPLE NEWS

Centennial United Methodist Church at Ivy

May 2020

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DANI:

What a whirlwind! The last time I wrote a newsletter, I naively expected we would return to normal in a matter of weeks. And the time before that, I had absolutely no idea physical distancing would become our new normal. Days have felt like weeks and weeks have felt like months as my regular pace slowed down and I had less places to go or be. Most days I feel as if I'm riding an emotional rollercoaster. I often wake up with a sense of hope as I breathe in deep the fresh scent of spring from my blooming geraniums or the beautiful sight of the mini leaves blooming from the branches of my tree that looked so barren just a few weeks ago. Yet, as afternoon rolls around, I might have a new set of emotions, as I feel weighed down by the conflicting messages between governmental officials and doctors as the former lifts social distancing orders while the latter presumes the death toll peaks have yet to arrive. And once the evening arrives, I'm often exhausted from the information overload from news stations, social media posts, blogs, and every update about the COVID-19 situation. Once I fall asleep and morning arrives, I start the emotional rollercoaster (or at least some version of it) all over again!

I know I'm not alone in this emotional rollercoaster, and if you have experienced something similar, I hope you know you, too, are not alone. The good news-- in all of this change--is that I'm finding new places of hope. Wherever I find hope, I find God as I remember Christ's words in Matthew's gospel, when he instructs to the crowds, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest" (11:28). So, these are the places where I'm finding hope, and I pray that you might find hope in these parts of your life, too:

- In prayer for you, our church, our community, our world.
- In giving myself permission to rest.
- In the tiny leaves popping up in the tree in my backyard.
- In the playfulness of my dog, Dolly, whose life has not been dramatically affected by COVID-19.
- In the rain that nourishes the bright green grass in my front yard.
- In the reminder that our church is not just a place-- but it is truly a people.
- In you.

Especially over the past few weeks, **you** have given me hope. At times we might become comfortable in the four walls of the church, but the pandemic has thrown us out and demanded us to rediscover and invent new ways of being the church. And you-- the church-- have shown up! In your prayer for each other, in your calls to one another, in the errands you run to help your neighbors, in the love you've shown-- in all of this-- you have proved how the church is not just a place; the church is a **people**. I'm inspired by the ways you've adapted to change, learned new skills, shared your love in new ways, and so much more. And I pray that as we move forward, we will continue to learn new ways to share God's love with one another as we continue to keep ourselves and our neighbors healthy and safe.

Earlier this year, we discussed how to share the love of God with the world as Methodists who live out John Wesley's General Rules to "Do No Harm, Do Good, & Stay in Love with God." In our current situation, we need to implement these General Rules into our lives, more than ever.

As we dedicate our lives to doing no harm, doing good, and staying in love with God, we are choosing to act in ways that are healthy for the whole of our community. So, we will continue to cancel or postpone all in person events and services through the month of May. Per Bishop Laurie Haller's request, church leadership will reexamine at the end of the month if we are ready to return for in-person worship. Until then, check out how you can stay involved with the Ivy community:

- Join us for online worship on YouTube or Facebook every Wednesday evening at 7pm and Sunday 10:30am. You can find links to both pages on our website, ivycentennial.org
- Check out what your friends at Ivy are up to by visiting our Facebook page or the new page on our website called "Tell A Friend Tuesday" where we update one another on our daily activities. Find a new recipe, check out what others are reading, and stay up to date by visiting the Tell A Friend Tuesday page under the "Ministries" tab on our website. You can send us your updates for your friends at Ivy by emailing pastordanim@gmail.com.
- Read a new bedtime story with us each Thursday at 7pm! The videos are on our YouTube and Facebook pages.
- Play BINGO with us on May 15 on Zoom. Find instructions on how to connect to Zoom below and we will include more updates for the BINGO game through email and our website soon.
- Send your prayers to one another and/or to Pastor Dani by phone (515-447-0497) or email (pastordanim@gmail.com) so we can stay up to date with
- Stay up to date through weekly emails, website updates (under our COVID updates tab), and frequent phone calls and text messages. We have more ideas for how to stay connected and we will try to be as transparent as possible!

I thank you for the love and compassion you have offered to one another in this time. We are graciously learning and adapting alongside one another and I am grateful we can learn together instead of on our own. This month, as you set aside time to pray for one another, I invite you to pray this prayer for our church and our world:

Giver of Life, we may not gather physically as this time, but we give thanks for the new and different ways we gather from computer screens, to telephones, to waving from a safe distance. From our living rooms, to our front porch, we gather as we are able, ready to be of service to one another and to this world. We ask, O God, for courage as we learn and re-discover how to build the community of hope and of love. We are apart, but we are together in spirit-- offering our love, our commitment, our hope, and our prayers. It is a new way, but an old way, that we come together in worship this day. For Your love that extends beyond the walls of our church into our many homes and lives, we give thanks. Amen.

With gratitude & love,

Pastor Dani
pastordanim@gmail.com
515-447-0497



“Annual Pie & Cake Auction”

NEW DATE!!! Sunday, June 28th

11:45 am

Our Annual Pie and Cake Auction will be held Sunday, June 28th following fellowship time. Help us raise funds for church camp registrations, Sunday School, Youth and Vacation Bible School materials, etc. We would appreciate it if you would share your talents by donating pies or cakes to be auctioned. Please note that this fundraiser is also important to the committee as the donations also help them provide other events and items to the congregation throughout the year. Some of these events are the Easter Egg

Hunt that has been a staple in this church for years, Easter Breakfast, gifts to the graduating seniors along with the reception after the senior service in May, Christmas goodie bags and reception after the Christmas Program.



FRIDAY, MAY 15TH AT 6:30 PM

Ivy Centennial wants YOU to join us for BINGO via zoom or phone! Use candy, coins, or beads for your BINGO markers!

A link has been provided a little further down in the Newsletter with details on how to download Zoom to your smartphone, iPad, Desktop.

Basic instructions to join Zoom meeting: To join the game night with the Zoom app, type the following link on your iPad, laptop, desktop or phone:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86262818416>

Without the Zoom app, you can connect through phone. Call: 929-205-6099. Dial the meeting ID: 862 6281 8416 and click the # button.

The Family Ministries Committee hopes everyone can join in for the fun.

SPREADING THE LOVE



IVY'S EASTER BUNNIES



CHURCH LIBRARY

MAY READING CELEBRATIONS:

GET CAUGHT READING MONTH: This nationwide campaign aims to remind people of all ages how much fun it is to read!

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK: (May 4-10) It will be a re-imagined spring celebration for readers across the country to celebrate at home and connect online with a ton of fun downloadable resources.

READING IS FUN: (May 11-17) This week seeks to show that reading is not meant to be a chore or tedious task. People of all ages are encouraged to find something that grabs their attention and they can't put down. It does not matter if it is a biography, mystery thriller, or that young adult novel your teen has been begging you to read. Find what interests you and embrace it. You won't be sorry!

(If the public libraries continue to be closed in May, the church's Little Free Library is always open and stocked with a variety of books for all ages!)

FOOD PANTRY/CARING HANDS

During this time of uncertainty, we as Methodists even from afar, have the need to help and serve our community. Dean and Judy Fiene so graciously reached out to Caring Hands Food Pantry to see what was needed during this time. After speaking with them, Caring hands said that money would be the best option as they can buy in bulk and get discounts when they are able to buy that way. If anyone would like to donate, we have two ways to do this.

1. You can mail a check to church- PO box 103, Altoona, IA 50009
2. If you are wanting to go for a drive, there will be a basket in the Narthex of the church.
3. Final option would be to drop it off at the Heaberlin's

Please consider helping Caring Hands as they expressed with the layoffs and loss of jobs, they are looking at a long-term problem. Remember, any little bit can help! I got this from Caring Hands website which sums it up perfectly.

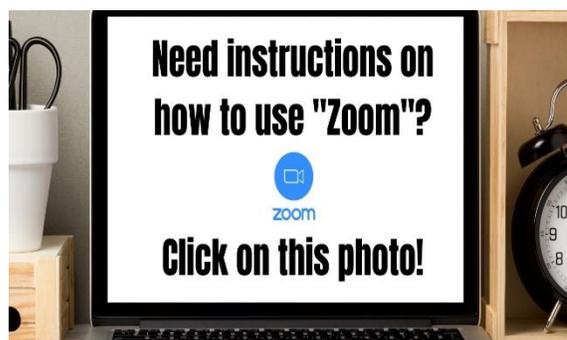
Everyone has a part to play. (1 Corinthians 12:27)

- God gives everyone gifts to use for serving others and we are better when we work together.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The group was to serve the Caring Hands Simple Supper on April 27th, but it has been rescheduled to October 26th.

ZOOM WITH IVY – Click on the photo below to open the link to take you to the website to find step by step directions on how to zoom for Sunday morning services, WoW on Wednesday's and game night on May 15th! There are also printed copies at the church if you would like to stop out and pick up a copy.



MAY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Logan Heaberlin	2
3	4 Jamie Graves Happy Anniversary Jeffrey & Karla Heaberlin	5 Don Hiatt Lois Wehde	6 Hailey Griffiths Boman Jackson Allison Lehn	7	8	9
10	11 Jennifer Quick Happy Anniversary Bill & JoAnn Hansen	12	13 Greta Musgrave Bob Pool	14 Zach Johnston Ed Myers Victoria Purcell	15	16
17 Harry Clark Jonathan Martin Joy Warner	18 Travis Shipley	19 Avery Britt Rosemary Freel	20 Emily Stout	21 Courtney Fritz	22 Jayme Fry Jayden Graves	23
24 Drew Hiatt	25	26 Kelly Adey	27 Tom Gish	28	29 Happy Anniversary Doris & Gaylen Heaberlin Karen & Larry Heaberlin	30 Jonah Goforth Doris Heaberlin Oakley Maxwell
31 Happy Anniversary Abby & Andrew Glann Jane & Jeff Heaberlin Cathy & Mike Johnston						

**FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
2020 ACTUAL GIVING VS 2020 BUDGET GOAL**

	REQUIRED	SUNDAYS	TITHES	OTHER INC	TOTAL	INCOME ONE YEAR AGO
JANUARY	\$12,477.50	4	\$11,640.11	\$450.00	\$12,090.11	\$ 7,058.33
FEBRUARY	\$12,477.50	4	\$11,750.17		\$11,750.17	\$ 12,370.73
MARCH	\$12,477.50	5	\$11,605.44		\$11,605.44	\$ 19,623.40
APRIL	\$12,477.50	4				
MAY	\$12,477.50	5				
JUNE	\$12,477.50	4				
JULY	\$12,477.50	4				
AUGUST	\$12,477.50	5				
SEPTEMBER	\$12,477.50	4				
OCTOBER	\$12,477.50	4				
NOVEMBER	\$12,477.50	5				
DECEMBER	\$12,477.50	4				
2020 BUDGET	\$149,730.00		\$34,995.72	\$450.00	\$35,445.72	23.67%
					Required:	25.00%

I just wanted to let everyone know about some of our parishioners' generosity. In the month of April as of the 19th, six households have given \$440 to the Caring Hands Food Pantry. During this time, what a great way to help many who are in need.

Gaylen Heaberlin, 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): Gaylen Heaberlin 515-967-2016



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

CHURCH LIBRARY

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



Contact us at:

**Visit our website at ivycentennial.org to see
Committee and Event information and Church updates.**

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

Instagram at [centennial_ivy](https://www.instagram.com/centennial_ivy)

Or on our website at IvyCentennial.org