



STEEPLE NEWS

Centennial United Methodist Church at Ivy

MAY 2026

FROM
THE
PASTOR



Dear Centennial Church Family

I came across something in a devotion written by pastor Magrey deVega that caught my attention. The devotion was based on Acts 2:42-47, a passage that describes what the early church was like. Luke, the writer of Acts tells us that the first church “devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking

of bread and the prayers... and **awe came upon everyone.**” Did you catch that - *awe came upon everyone*. Not just the spiritually elite. Not just the ones who had it all together. Everyone.

Why? Because they were paying attention. The early believers lived with their eyes open, expecting God to be present. They noticed God’s fingerprints in the ordinary rhythms of life—shared meals, generous hearts, answered prayers, surprising kindness, unexpected unity. They recognized God in the small, steady wonders happening right in front of them.

I wonder how many awes and wonders we miss simply because we’re moving too fast.

I wonder if maybe the Spirit is nudging us to slow down and **pay attention** to God’s presence around us. Inviting us:

To notice a child dancing for God during the worship service.

To feel awe in the quiet faithfulness of those who show up early to get things ready for Sunday morning worship and fellowship.

To recognize God’s presence in a meal delivered at just the right time.

To see God’s hand in the flowers and redbud trees in bloom.

Or when a prayer whispered in fear is answered with peace and hope.

What if we let go of our busyness, unplugged from our devices, and trained our hearts to look for God not only in the sanctuary, but at the grocery store, or when we’re having coffee with our friends, or sitting with family around the kitchen table, or in the quiet moments of our day?

I wonder what awes and wonders we would experience around us.

My prayer for us this month is simple: May we once again be filled with awe. May we have eyes to see the wonders God is already doing in our midst. And may our attention become an act of worship—opening our eyes, our hearts, and our lives to the God who is always, always at work around us.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Joyce

MISSION NEWS



Ronald McDonald House

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Ronald McDonald House Lenten Project. We were able to deliver four boxes of individually packaged food items for families staying at the local Ronald McDonald Houses. In addition, we received cash donations totaling \$470 to benefit the charity.



Spring Mission Project - Heifer International

The church will be collecting donations for Heifer International through May 31st.

Money raised for Heifer International helps families be economically self-sufficient.

Chickens provide eggs for food, goats provide milk and cheese, honey bees provide honey. Extra food items can be sold to generate income for the families.

There are Heifer boxes on the table in the narthex for those who would like to collect loose change during the campaign. There are also envelopes that can be used to designate farm animals or honey bees you would like to purchase. The envelopes can be placed in the offering plate.



MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST SUNDAY, MAY 10TH 9:00 – 10:00 am

This Mother's Day, treat the "Moms" in your life to breakfast. The Centennial UMC Men's Group will be serving a delicious Mother's Day breakfast before church.



150th ANNIVERSARY NEWS

Sunday, May 3rd Church Cookbook Recipe Dinner Day

Ivy Centennial's Dinner Day tradition extends back more than 90 years. As a way to celebrate that tradition, the Anniversary Committee thought it might be kind of fun to encourage people to choose a recipe out of one of the old Centennial UMC church cookbooks to share for our May Dinner Day. If you don't have a cookbook, or you need inspiration, there are three old cookbooks on the window ledge near the sign-up table.

Maybe you've attended Centennial UMC all your life and you remember that special dish or dessert that Grandma used to make. Check out the cookbooks and see if it's in there. When you find a recipe to make, *please note which cookbook, the name of the dish, the page number and the name of the person who contributed the recipe.* We want to remember and celebrate the outstanding Centennial cooks from the past.

Sunday, June 21st Ice Cream Social

Who doesn't like ice cream? Join us on Father's Day for a good old fashioned ice cream social. Grab your family and friends and come enjoy some Picket Fence Creamery Ice Cream during our fellowship time. We'll also be looking for help to provide cookies, bars and ice cream toppings. A sign-up sheet will be available soon.

Sunday, June 21st Time Capsule Reveal

The time capsule will be opened during worship on the 21st. It will be exciting to take a peek into Centennial UMC's past.

Sunday, July 12th 150th Anniversary Celebration Worship and Dinner

Make plans to come and celebrate the church's anniversary with special guests, special music and of course lots of great food. Be sure and reach out to family and friends and let them know they are invited to the party!

Invitation Cards

We have some printed invitation cards and envelopes available for you to send to family members and old friends of Ivy Centennial, to let them know about the upcoming 150th Anniversary Celebration. It should be a fun day and we would like them to be part of it.

Pictures and Other Memorabilia

Do you have some old pictures and memorabilia from Centennial's past? If so, we would love to borrow them for the Anniversary Celebration. If you have some things to loan, please contact Joy Warner (515) 360-0691



There were two tables of soups to taste!

Congratulations to the Soup Contest Winners:

1 st place	Judi Weeks	Taco Soup
2 nd place	Missy Shaver	Pizza Soup
3 rd place	Judy Hemingson	Brunswick Stew

SOUP CONTEST PICTURES AND RESULTS

On March 31st the Anniversary Committee held a soup contest. There were several crockpots filled with delicious soups for people to taste and vote on. The top three soup makers received a quilted soup cozy and a Fareway gift card.

Thanks to the organizers, everyone who brought soup for the contest, and the folks who helped with set-up and clean-up. We couldn't do it without you!



A room full of happy soup tasters!

EASTER 2026

Thank you to everyone who purchased an Easter Lily in memory of or in honor of their loved ones. The sanctuary was beautiful on Easter Sunday morning.



After the Easter service we enjoyed a wonderful Easter Breakfast with lots of egg casseroles, cinnamon rolls, muffins, fruit salads. No one left hungry!



A BAPTISM CELEBRATION

On April 12th, we celebrated the baptism of Leeland Earl Freel, son of Jonathan and Daykota Freel. What a joy to welcome this beautiful child of God into Christ's church.



SMALL GROUPS AT CENTENNIAL UMC



Next Meeting is Thursday, May 7th 11:30 am

The women's group will meet for lunch at Johnny's Italian Steak House in Altoona at 550 Bass Pro Dr.

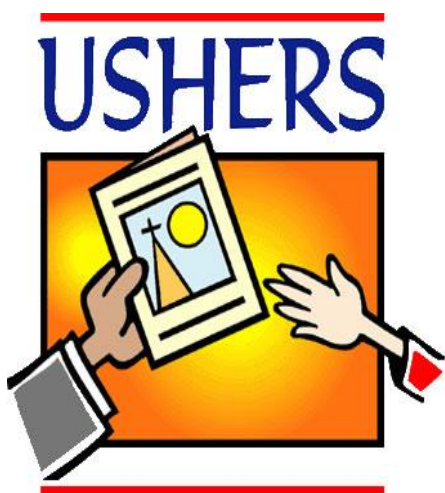
In June, the women are planning a tea at the church. All women are invited to come. If you want, invite a friend to come along with you. The more the merrier!



Next Meeting Saturday, May 9th 9:00 am

The men will meet on the 9th for breakfast and to prep for the Mother's Day Breakfast.

All men are invited to be part of the group. If you would like to know more or would like to be included in email and text communications about meetings and activities, please contact Jonathan Freel at 515-771-9687.



USHERS FOR MAY

May 3 rd	Gaylen Heaberlin and Missy Shaver
May 10 th	Centennial UMC Men's Group
May 17 th	Mike and Mary Ferguson
May 24 th	Evan Fischer and Gaylen Heaberlin
May 31 st	Tim and Marcy Campbell

If you aren't able to serve on your scheduled Sunday, please see if you can trade with someone, or let Evan Fischer know so he can find a substitute (515) 494-5432.

Thank you for volunteering to be part of the church's hospitality team.

If you would like to be part of our hospitality crew and included in the rotation, please let Evan know. Training is provided as needed.



CARING HANDS FOOD PANTRY

In a time of uncertainty, many of our neighbors are using the local food pantry. As you do your grocery shopping, remember to pick up a few things to share with our neighbors.

Let's see if we can fill up the shopping cart!



If you would like to be added to our prayer list, please let Pastor Joyce know by calling or texting (515) 480-8457 or emailing revjlwebb76@gmail.com

PRAYER LIST

Bryan Tingley	Jerry Olgren
Matthew Myers	Bob Bowers
John Bowie	Jerry Peck
Jeff Olgren	Nancy Day
Barb Bolt	Tim Miller
Bob Dice	
Donna Gustafson and La Casa de Esperanza	
Caring Hands Food Pantry	



Sundays 9:15-10:15 am

Wednesdays 5:30-6:30 pm

Sunday	5/3	11:30 am
Sunday	5/31	11:45 am
Sunday	6/21	11:30 am
Sunday	6/21	11:30 am
Sunday	7/12	

The Chosen Small Group

Nooma Video Series

Dinner Day
NOW Committee Meeting
Ice Cream Social
Time Capsule Reveal
150 th Anniversary Celebration

	May Birthday's		May Anniversaries
1	Logan Heaberlin	17	Pastor Joyce & Rich Webb
4	Jamie Graves	31	Andrew & Abby Glann
5	Don Hiatt & Lois Wehde	31	Jeff & Jane Heaberlin
6	Allison Lehn & Hailey Griffiths		
7	Gemma Shipley		
9	Bobbi Meister		
11	Jennifer Quick		
13	Bob Pool		
14	Ed Myers, Victoria Purcell & Zach Johnston		
16	Simon Meister		
17	Harry Clark, Jonathan Martin, Joy Warner, Zach Deutmeyer, Byron Johnston		
18	Travis Shipley		
19	Avery Britt & Rosemary Freel		
20	Emily Stout & Nile Lehn		
21	Courtney Fritz		
22	Jayme Fry & Jayden Graves		
23	Jerry Weeks		
24	Drew Hiatt		
26	Kelly Adey		
27	Tom Gish		
30	Jonah Goforth		

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
COMPARISON OF OPERATING INCOME**

	Offerings 2026	Offerings 2025	Offerings 2024	Offerings 2023
January	\$10,076.48	\$7,813.01	\$9,670.48	\$17,243.17
February	\$5,510.00	\$6,021.92	\$9,829.06	\$7,101.46
March	\$5,698.50	\$6,740.00	\$10,748.26	\$5,903.26
April		\$6,484.00	\$6,768.06	\$10,174.26
May		\$4,400.10	\$5,321.26	\$6,837.26
June		\$14,026.75	\$9,196.26	\$7,021.56
July		\$5,222.00	\$7,083.86	\$9,413.26
August		\$5,811.60	\$6,342.26	\$5,192.26
September		\$4,527.80	\$7,991.31	\$7,791.06
October		\$5,054.96	\$4,765.26	\$9,101.26
November		\$10,162.00	\$10,238.00	\$8,401.26
December		\$5,795.36	\$7,479.63	\$11,510.84
Total Offerings	\$21,284.98	\$82,059.50	\$95,433.70	\$105,690.91

This comparison does not include memorial, building fund, or special project donations. As of March 31st, we collected \$300.00 for the Caring Hands Food Pantry.

Joy Warner, Financial Secretary

CENTENNIAL UMC FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Income January - March 2026*

General Fund Giving (Offerings)	\$21,912.85
Monthly Average Giving	\$7,304.28

Expenses January - March 2026

Payroll / Payroll Taxes	\$12,725.68
Utilities (electric, propane)	\$2,406.41
Communications (phone, internet, webpage)	\$361.09
Church Maintenance (lawn, snow, repairs)	\$1,204.87
Insurance (worker's comp)	\$390.00
Administrative (accounting, postage, office, Breeze)	\$430.99
Ministry Expenses (educ, worship, outreach, fellowship)	\$966.66
Apportionments (Iowa UMC Conference Giving)	\$5,227.68

Total Operating Expenses	\$23,713.38
Monthly Average Expenses	\$7,904.46

Over / Short **-\$1,800.53**

Thank you for your generous support of the mission and ministry of Ivy Centennial.
Your gifts make a difference! As you will see, our monthly expenses are about
\$600 more than income. For now, the shortfall is coming out of reserves.

*Please Note: the numbers above only represent general offerings received and general operating expenses.
The snapshot does not include mission giving and mission pass-through expenses (e.g. food pantry)
nor does it include income raised through church events (e.g. spaghetti dinner and pancake supper)
Those funds are often designated for a specific purpose.



Pastor: Joyce Webb revjlwebb76@gmail.com
(515) 480-8457

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): Joy Warner yoi8893@gmail.com