



# STEEPLE NEWS

Centennial United Methodist Church at Ivy

October 2020



## *A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DANI:*

Some have said the greatest miracle of Jesus was his ability to have 12 friends in adulthood. I love this goofy joke (although, yeah, it is difficult to make friends in adulthood!), but seriously, it's hard to truly pick which miracle Jesus performed is the "best." How does one choose? From the healing of the blind man in John 9, to the raising of Lazarus from the dead in John 11. Or what about the moment in Mark 5 when Jesus heals a woman who has bled for more than 12 years and brought back the young girl from the dead in the same story? How do we choose which miracle of Jesus is "best"?

Of course, I love reading, studying, and contemplating every miracle of Jesus. But at times they're difficult to relate to. We do not have the capacity to bring people back from the dead or heal one from a lifelong illness. However, when it comes to the miracle of feeding the 5,000, we can better relate to Christ's miracles. Sure, we may not be able to adequately feed 5,000+ people with just five loaves and two fish, but in the food we donate, the dinners we serve, the love we share, and the donations we send, we can (and have) helped feed so many bodies and souls, perhaps 5,000 or even more.

As we approach October, we also approach Stewardship Month at Ivy. Throughout October, we'll spend time each Sunday morning discussing why and how we give our time, energy, and resources to the church as we prepare our church budget for another fiscal year. As we give thanks for all that we have done in the last year and creatively imagine together the possibilities for the upcoming year, we will reflect and imagine alongside Christ's miracle in Luke 9:10-19, where Jesus and his skeptical disciples fed the 5,000. With the story and images from Jesus' miracle, we'll reflect on and imagine the miracles we witnessed this last year. From receiving almost \$3,000 in donations for the Caring Hands Food Pantry since April, to the meals we packaged with Meals from the Heartland in August, and let us not forget the drive-thru food drive we hosted in our church parking lot that received 907lbs of food for individuals and families in Altoona... I think all of this proves that the miracle of feeding people has certainly continued at Ivy. We were able to be the church in 2020 because of **your** faithful giving, let alone in the midst of a pandemic. The miracle of being Christ's hands and feet in the world continues because of **you**.

In 2020, we've had to miss out on a lot. But as a church community, we haven't stopped loving, supporting, caring, encouraging, praying, giving, and working for God's mission to come to fruition on earth. In this year's Stewardship Month, I hope you'll join us in reflecting on how the miracle of feeding one another certainly continues in our church, for the transformation of the world. And may we also look forward to the many possibilities ahead of us and reflect on how to pledge our time, resources, gifts, and energy to continuing this miracle of feeding each and every one of God's children, physically, emotionally, spiritually, and more.

Thanks be to God, for you. May God's miracle continue among us!

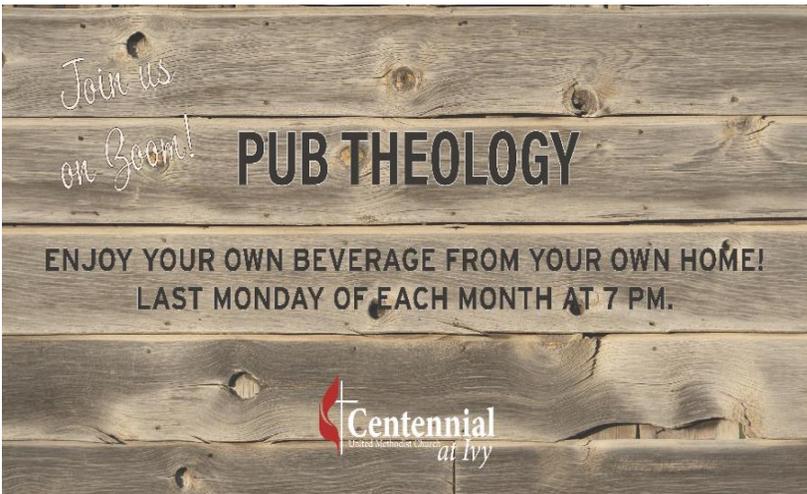
*Love, Pastor Dani*

# Ivy WOW

WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAY

Worship on Wednesday is back! Join us from 6:30-7:30 pm each Wednesday night!

At 6:30pm, we'll gather for adult bible study and youth group. At 7pm, we'll join outdoors (when the weather permits) for a brief worship service. We won't share in a meal on Wednesday nights; just spending time together in study and worship as we stay physically distant and have masks on. We hope you'll join us! If you'd like to participate in the youth group or adult bible study while staying home, you can join us on Zoom! Pastor Dani will send weekly links you will be able to join in. In the future, be sure to stay up to date with Zoom links and updates for Worship on Wednesday evenings on the [WOW page on our church website](#).



On the last Monday of each month at 7pm, we're gathering on Zoom for real & raw conversations about God & current events. Do you have questions about where you see God in the world right now? Do you ever wonder what it means to live Christ-like in modern day situations? Do you want to participate in authentic reflections & open dialogue? Then join us on the last Monday of the month at 7pm on Zoom!

Each week we'll discuss the relationship between our Christian faith and current events. While we cannot safely gather at a restaurant or bar, we'll gather on Zoom and it's Bring Your Own Beverage! Check your email or visit our website [ivycentennial.org](http://ivycentennial.org) for Zoom links.



October 1<sup>st</sup> – UMW Church Lawn – 1:00 pm

October 5<sup>th</sup> – Administrative Council – 7:00 pm

October 10<sup>th</sup> – Men's Group – 9:00 am

October 19<sup>th</sup> – Stewardship – 7:00 pm

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### CHILI AND OYSTER STEW SUPPER

The United Methodist Women have decided not to host and serve their annual Chili and Oyster Stew Supper in November because of COVID-19 pandemic. This would have been the 71st annual soup supper.

# BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

## *Blessing of the Animals*

**OUTDOOR SERVICE**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020**

**6:30-7:00PM**



**BRING YOUR PET WITH YOU TO WORSHIP TO RECEIVE  
A BLESSING & CELEBRATE ALL OF GOD'S CREATURES**

 **CENTENNIAL UMC AT IVY**  
**9150 NE UNIVERSITY AVE ALTOONA, IA 50009**

*Join us on Sunday, October 11th from 6:30 -7:00 pm to celebrate all of God's creatures and for your pet to receive a blessing at our Blessing of the Animals Service! We will be receiving donations of food or toys for the Animal Rescue League at our worship service, so please bring a donation or two with you. For everyone's safety, and if applicable, please bring your animal(s) on a leash or prepare to hold your animal to hopefully keep all who gather safe!*



In mid-September, we reopened our building for indoor meetings to begin gathering again, with restrictions, including physical distanced seating and a requirement for masks.

## **SEE ALL THE RESTRICTIONS BELOW.**

***But now we are preparing to re-enter the building for worship! That's right-- we plan to host our first indoor worship service on Sunday, October 18 at 10:30am.***

In order to safely re-enter the building for worship, we have multiple regulations that we must all take seriously in an effort to keep us safe and healthy. See below for a list of regulations and restrictions as we begin indoor worship soon. We hope you'll join us with a mask & a willingness to experiment together.

### **Indoor Worship & Sanctuary Seating Guidelines:**

- Do not attend any in-person meeting or gathering if you do not feel well or have any symptoms of COVID-19.
- Capacity for the sanctuary is set currently at 36 participants for safety reasons. This number is difficult to define and is somewhat flexible as families are welcome to sit together, but Folks who are not related to each other must sit 6-feet apart.
- Like the rest of the building, masks are required in the sanctuary until further notice. Hand sanitizer will be made available for you before and after the service.
- Ushers will greet you at the door before you enter the church building. Ushers will hand you a bulletin and assist you in finding the best place to sit that is distanced from those you are not related to.

- If we reach capacity in the sanctuary, we will then seat folks distanced in the narthex. If the narthex reaches capacity, then we will use seating in the fellowship hall where folks can watch the service on the TV and hear it through the radio that we will provide. Folks are welcome to continue worshipping in their cars (tune your radio to 88.5 to worship along with us), or online.
- Every other pew is marked as not occupiable, beginning with the first row of each aisle. Please abide by these restrictions when you enter the sanctuary by sitting only in rows that are not marked off by tape or ribbon.
- Non-family members in the same pew need to sit physically distanced from the other. The CDC recommends 6 ft. Two or three individuals could sit distanced in the same pew. Again, an usher will assist you.
- Ushers will also dismiss families and individuals at the end of the service. Please do not get up to leave without an usher dismissing you. This helps us keep everyone moving safely and reminds us all that we cannot gather indoors for fellowship after service. Please feel free to chat with one another at a safe distance outdoors after the service.
- Online worship will continue to be made available every week. Our website, [ivycentennial.org](http://ivycentennial.org) has all worship links in the “Sermon Videos” tab.
- We will also continue to worship through the radio. So if you’d like to join us, while staying in the safety of your car, you can join us on Sunday mornings by parking in our parking lot by 10:30am and tuning your radio to 88.5 FM.

### **Indoor Meeting Guidelines at Ivy:**

- Do not attend any in-person meeting or gathering if you do not feel well or have any symptoms of COVID-19.
- Masks are required at all gatherings at Ivy until further notice. Masks are located in the church narthex if you need one anytime you’re at the church.
- Check the church calendar before scheduling a meeting to ensure availability. Our church calendar can be found on our website: [ivycentennial.org](http://ivycentennial.org).
- To post your meeting on our church calendar, please email Jeff Freel or Pastor Dani.
- [jrajfreel@prairieinet.net](mailto:jrajfreel@prairieinet.net)
- [pastordanim@gmail.com](mailto:pastordanim@gmail.com)
- Please provide an opportunity for meeting attendees to access your scheduled meeting via Zoom or another online meeting format even when meeting in-person at the church. Ask Pastor Dani if you need help setting up a Zoom meeting ahead of time.
- Write down names and contact information of each person who attends your in-person meeting or gathering in case someone from the meeting is later diagnosed with COVID 19 and all who attended need to be notified.

- Please do not share food or drinks in the church building. If you'd like to have food at your meeting, please encourage everyone to bring their own.
- Physical distancing is required at all gatherings and meetings.
- Please wipe down all objects (chairs, tables, etc.) after the conclusion of your meeting. Each meeting space has its own container of cleaning wipes for your use.
- Capacity limits have been identified for each room and meeting space at the church. The capacity limits are posted on the door of each room. Please abide by these capacity limits.
- Fellowship Hall: 30 (no more than 3 chairs to a table)
- Sanctuary: 36
- Upstairs kitchen: 4
- Library: 4
- Downstairs kitchen: 4
- Nursery: 10
- Sunday School Room 1: 4
- Sunday School Room 2: 12
- Youth Room: 15
- Narthex: 0. The narthex cannot be used for gathering until further notice. Please only use the narthex as you are on your way to and from the sanctuary.

**Thank you for your help & understanding in following these guidelines!**

## **CHURCH LIBRARY**

### **OCTOBER READING CELEBRATIONS:**

**October 16 - Dictionary Day** - Dedicated to Noah Webster, "Father of the American Dictionary", this is a holiday encouraging you to expand your vocabulary. Take a day, learn some new words and expand your horizons.

**October 12 - 18 - Teen Read Week** - Developed by the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) and begun in 1998, communities are encouraged to use the "Turn Your Dreams into Reality" theme to shine a light on all the great resources and activities provided to inspire teens to exceed on school and beyond.

**National Book Month** - An entire month dedicated to the pleasure of reading and enjoyment of books. It is a nationally celebrated holiday encouraging book lovers and avid readers to celebrate how they see fit. So, find out what your local schools, libraries and literary organizations are doing to celebrate and get involved!

## **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

Centennial United Methodist Women will meet Oct. 1 in the church fellowship hall at 1:00 pm. Following social distancing and wearing face masks, the group will make plans for the Simple Supper they will serve Oct. 26 to the Caring Hands Food Pantry clients at Adventure Life Church.

# *OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Jennifer Fischer Lori Freel Ava Hackett	3 Penny Dorris Chris Lehn Trevor Simpson  <b>Pastor Duane &amp; Sheryll Skidmore</b>
4 Bob Kujac	5	6	7 Missy Shaver	8	9 Margaret Forster	10
11 Kaylee Olgren	12 Jane Heaberlin  <b>Gordon &amp; Peg Atzen</b>	13  <b>Lois &amp; Richard Wehde</b>	14  <b>Aaron &amp; Brandi Jackson</b>	15 Rachael Cox  <b>Margaret &amp; Pastor Gary Forster</b>  <b>Bev &amp; Chuck McGriff</b>	16	17 LaDonna Morse
18  <b>Don &amp; Libby Hiatt</b>	19 Mike Ferguson	20 Jeffrey Heaberlin Dianne Peck Holly Tingley	21 Jessica Carroll Mike Johnston Chuck McGriff	22 Barbara Bernis Diana DeMoss	23 Shay Maxwell	24 Gary Fischer
25	26 Carley Johnston  <b>Jason &amp; Amy Ferguson</b>	27 Jill Craven Olivia Fischer	28 Marcy Campbell  <b>Byron &amp; Judy Hemingson</b>	29	30	31 Sue Larson Amanda Van Winkle

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

	REQUIRED	SUNDAYS	TITHES	OTHER INC (Breeze Costs)	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	(8.58)	\$11,596.86	\$ 19,623.40
APRIL	\$12,477.50	4	\$ 7,401.17	(11.50)	\$ 7,389.67	\$ 12,891.06
MAY	\$12,477.50	5	\$30,172.17	(13.34)	\$30,158.83	\$ 11,292.53
JUNE	\$12,477.50	4	\$ 6,556.13	(9.68)	\$ 6,556.45	\$ 10,422.00
JULY	\$12,477.50	4	\$ 9,976.83	(11.60)	\$ 9,965.23	\$ 7,672.17
AUGUST	\$12,477.50	5	\$ 8,426.83	(8.07)	\$ 8,418.76	\$ 11,830.17
SEPTEMBER	\$12,477.50	4				
OCTOBER	\$12,477.50	4				
NOVEMBER	\$12,477.50	5				
DECEMBER	\$12,477.50	4				
<b>2020 BUDGET</b>	<b>\$149,730.00</b>		<b>\$97,538.85</b>	<b>\$387.23</b>	<b>\$97,926.08</b>	<b>65.40%</b>
					<b>Required:</b>	<b>66.67%</b>

As of September 20, our congregation has donated \$2,815.00 for the Caring Hands Food Pantry since the beginning of 2020. On the 5<sup>th</sup> of May, we received \$20,232 from the Small Business Administration as part of the Covid-19 Stimulus Package. These funds were for the “Paycheck Protection Program” which helps us keep paying our Pastor, Custodian and Secretary. In order to meet our 2020 budget, we need to average about \$12,480 per month.

**Gaylen Heaberlin, Financial Secretary**



**Pastor:** Dani Musselman [pastordanim@gmail.com](mailto:pastordanim@gmail.com)  
**Trustees:** Ardean Williams 515-967-4189  
**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):** Gaylen Heaberlin 515-967-2016