



STEEPLE NEWS

Centennial United Methodist Church at Ivy

July 2021



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DANI:

The majority of the first American Methodist preachers were known as *circuit riders*. Circuit riders were pastors assigned to serve multiple churches who would travel on horseback from church to church to preach & offer pastoral care. These circuit riders, or Methodist pastors, would often spend the night with families from their communities while spreading the good news of Christ with new families who arrived in America throughout the nineteenth century. One circuit rider, Pastor Isaac Boring, wrote in 1829 about his experience:

"While riding through the rain and dark, with no human being with me, my soul was comforted on the reflection of the omnipresence of my Savior: I felt he was near to bless and preserve me."

Circuit riders are essential to our Methodist history. Perhaps that is why the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church has begun a new initiative modeled after these historical circuits, called: *circuit ministry covenant groups*.

Circuit ministry covenant groups in the 21st century do not necessarily mean that churches will share pastors as Methodists used to, but instead, these groups will hopefully encourage clergy and congregations to partner together more often and build stronger relationships nearby. This new circuit ministry in Iowa will hopefully help create new or support current ministry opportunities among United Methodists across Iowa. Clergy and lay people from local churches will begin meeting monthly to create stronger relationships and partnerships, while learning how to more effectively share resources that help us proclaim the good news of the gospel. From the early days of Methodism, circuits have been used to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. And with a return to some of the goals of circuit ministry, we hope to find more connection across congregational lines.

As I dream about what an effective circuit group of churches might look like, I imagine how instead of sending 10 folks from Centennial UMC at Ivy to serve for Meals from the Heartland each August, what if our "Circuit" of 10 churches sent 100 people? Or 200 people? Imagine the difference we can make together rather than trying to survive apart.

This might be the future of the United Methodist Church in Iowa-- to embrace circuits-- not necessarily because we've been asked to by the Annual Conference, but because we strive to be thought-full neighbors who work together as disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

It is a privilege that I have been asked as Pastor of Centennial UMC at Ivy to lead a circuit of clergy around Polk County in the coming year. The churches we'll begin partnering with in ministry include *Booneville-Maple Grove UMC, Walnut Hills UMC, Des Moines Grace UMC, West Des Moines UMC, Des Moines First UMC, Valley UMC, Des Moines Marquisville, and Carlisle UMC*. As we begin this new intentional ministry, particularly in Polk County, and generally throughout the state of Iowa, I ask that you pray for your neighbors at these churches in hopes that our passions for Jesus Christ and care for our neighbors will grow, support, and change one another.

With love, Pastor Dani

JOIN CENTENNIAL UMC AT IVY FOR A CIRCUS- THEMED Vacation Bible School

SUN. JULY 25
- THURS. JULY 29
5:30P- 7:30P

"THE GREATEST SHOW
OF GOD'S ACTS"



Anyone ages 3 through 6th grade is invited to join us for Vacation Bible School! Each evening from 5:30-7:30p, we'll have fun while learning about the Bible together! From circus-themed crafts, plays, & fun, we will learn more about God's power, protection, providing, position, & plan.

Dates: Sunday, July 25 - Thursday, July 29

Time: 5:30p-7:30p

Register: E mail ivycentennial@gmail.com to register by July 19, 2021

Invite your friends & family:
All are welcome!

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."



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

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)

UMW

Centennial United Women met June 17th at 12:00 for lunch and a 1:00 meeting.

Dani led the group in prayer for Bomen Jackson with nine members in attendance.

Three members from the group will serve light refreshments for a wedding at the church on August 5th at 3:00 p.m.

There was much discussion about the future of United Methodist Women at Centennial. Plans are to continue the group and the chili supper with the help and support from the congregation. The group will meet again on August 19th.

ALL women of the church are invited and encouraged to join us.



New book donations for the church library are always most appreciated! The latest gift is *The New Dad's Playbook – "Gearing Up for the Biggest Game of Your Life"* by Benjamin Watson, tight end for the Baltimore Ravens. Drew Brees says of the book, "Exactly what we need - honest, understanding and inviting words for fatherhood."

This tell-it-like-it-is book will take new dads from just winging it to winning it. Many thanks to Evan Fischer for this encouraging new book!

Administrative Council Highlights June 7th Meeting

- The Council approved the purchase of a new replacement copier which will primarily be used to print the Steeple newsletter and weekly worship bulletins. The old copier was not able to produce the June issue of the Steeple. The copier will be at the home of church secretary Amy Ferguson.
- After significant discussion, it was decided that monthly Sunday Dinner Day will restart on the first Sunday of September. Mary Ferguson will line-up the hosts for the four remaining months of 2021. The Hospitality and Missions committee will coordinate the hosts beginning with the January 2022 potluck.
- Ken Pickering has served Centennial as our Treasurer for two years and has submitted his resignation to the board. He will continue as Treasurer until a replacement can be found.
- Pastor Dani and Lay Member Allison Lehn reported on the Iowa Annual Conference which concluded the day before the meeting.

The complete minutes of the June 2021 Administrative Council meeting will be available after they are approved at the June meeting. Minutes of previous meetings are available on the church's website at <https://www.ivycentennial.org/?subpages/Minutes-of-Admin-Council.shtml>



HONORING OUR SENIORS ON GRADUATION SUNDAY



JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Bob Johnston	3
4 Jeff Heaberlin <i>Happy Independence Day!</i>	5 Sheryll Skidmore Grace Stout	6 Nancy Day Stan Mauritz Brad Morse	7 <i>Gerry & Jo Ordway</i>	8	9 Moe Gilkison	10
11 Holly Adey Mindy Britt Tyke Remster	12	13	14	15 Larry Palmer	16 <i>Jeff & Rosemary Freel</i>	17
18 Marci Martin	19 Bill Hansen Kari Wilkins	20	21	22	23 Bonnie Altes Kensington Hermann	24 Josh Lampkin
25	26	27	28	29 Pam Sanders <i>Laura & Todd Hiatt</i>	30	31



Monday, July 5th – Council on Ministries @ 7:00 pm

Tuesday, July 20th – Finance @ 7:00 pm

Sunday, July 25th – Thursday, July 29th – VBS @ 5:30 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	\$ (19.95)	\$ 12,616.92	\$12,090.11
FEBRUARY	\$12,368.00	4	\$ 9,296.84	\$ (11.86)	\$ 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	\$ (9.85)	\$ 33,385.29	\$ 7,389.67
MAY	\$12,369.00	5	\$ 9,433.88	\$ (8.33)	\$ 9,425.55	\$30,158.83
JUNE	\$12,368.00	4				\$ 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		\$77,671.57	(59.64)	\$77,611.93	\$139,331.24
	52 Sundays in 2021				Actual:	52.29%
					Required to meet budget:	41.67%

As of June 20th, Centennial has collected \$1,380 for the Caring Hands Food Pantry. Let's keep it up!!!!
On April 9, 2021, we received \$20,177 from the Small Business Administration for the Payroll Protection Program.

Gaylen Heaberlin, Financial Secretary



Pastor: Dani Musselman pastordanim@gmail.com
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