



# STEEPLE NEWS

Centennial United Methodist Church at Ivy

June 2021



## *A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DANI:*

If you've ever read or played music composed by the German musician Johann Sebastian Bach, then perhaps you've seen his initials at the end of his music pieces: JSB. But, whenever you find JSB signed at the bottom of his work, you'll also find the letters "SDG."

SDG stands for *solī Deo gloria*, which means "for God's glory alone." Oftentimes, readers will also find another set of letters at the beginning of Bach's compositions: *JJ*, meaning *jesu juva* which is Latin for *Jesus, help*. Each new project Bach started, he began with the prayer "*Jesus, help*" and when he completed a work of art, he wrote the initials SDG, signaling that he completed all of his work for the glory of God.

Do you ever offer a prayer to God before and after you start a project, a task, or a letter? I found myself humbled when I learned that even Johann Bach, one of the world's most famous composers, wrote not for his own glory, but for the glory of God and with a prayer of help from Christ. Even the most successful of composers recognized his need for God's presence at every moment.

While I'm writing a sermon and on Sunday mornings before I preach, I say this prayer:

*O God, this sermon may not be perfect, but I have worked honestly at it and  
it is the best I can do right now. If it is to do any good at all, it is You who will do that good and not I.  
Please use me in my sermon as best you can.  
I love you and I love these people. Amen.*

Bishop Deb Kiesey, who served as a United Methodist pastor throughout Iowa and eventually served as Bishop of the Dakotas Annual Conference from 2004-2012, is the author of this prayer. Ever since she shared this prayer with me and other ministers last year, it has become my version of Bach's "*Jesus, help*" and "*for God's glory alone.*"

What are the prayers you offer every day or at the start of every new project? Perhaps the more we offer these prayers, the more we will find God's glory in everything we do; from the work of completing taxes, to the writing of a grocery list, or even when we weed the garden. I wonder, what might happen if we started and ended all of these more mundane tasks with a simple prayer:

*Jesus, help...  
For God's glory alone...*

We might not become one of the greatest composers in Western musical history, but we might become more faithful disciples of Jesus Christ dedicated to transforming the world!

*With love, Pastor Dani*

The church has many tasks in the world today. It's meant to serve the community and provide respite for its worshippers. It's meant to comfort those who grieve and feed the hungry. While the church is meant to be a place of rest at times, it's also meant to offer a challenge through prophetic teachings that guide its people to critique and respond faithfully to everyday situations. For four Sundays this summer, we're going to

read and ponder alongside four of the prophets from the Old Testament as we consider how their ancient prophetic messages hold value still today. We may not read from Ezekiel, Amos, Jeremiah, & Elisha often, but the lessons they learn and teach their readers still hold true today. Explore & journey with us every Sunday morning at 10:30am this summer as we consider how we, like these four prophets, can respond to the call of God today.



## HYMN SING IS BACK! (SORT OF!)

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

## GIVE FROM THE HEART


CENTENNIAL'S MAY & JUNE MISSIONS FOCUS




**PLEASE DONATE HEART-HEALTHY FOOD ITEMS  
IN MAY & JUNE TO SUPPORT  
CARING HANDS FOOD PANTRY**

oatmeal  
cheerios  
whole grain pastas  
low-sodium soups  
no-salt added  
canned veggies  
canned fruits  
& more

*other current food pantry needs: liquid laundry detergent*



Red Phase	Yellow Phase 1	Yellow Phase 2	Updated Yellow Phase 3	Green Phase
Stay home	Outdoor gatherings only. No indoor in-person gatherings (life rituals not included)	Outdoor gatherings still encouraged. Smaller indoor gatherings	Less restrictions on distancing for indoor gatherings and meetings.*	Yay! All gatherings welcome
Online worship only	Worship outdoors allowed. Online worship continues	Begin in-person indoor worship with continued online worship. Capacity for in-person worship is 36*.	Indoor & online worship continues. Capacity for in-person worship is 63*.	All are encouraged to join us for indoor worship! Online worship continues!
No food/fellowship time offered	No food/fellowship time following services	No food/fellowship time following services	Fellowship time reinstated with limitations.*	Hospitality time with food and drink returns!
No in-person meetings or gatherings	No in-person indoor meetings	One indoor meeting/gathering per day. Online or outside gatherings encouraged	Indoor gatherings welcome with fewer restrictions.*	Return to regular indoor functions with no restrictions
Masks required at all gatherings/worship.	Masks required at all gatherings/worship.	Masks required at all gatherings/worship.	Masks optional.*	No masks necessary.




**Updates to Yellow Phase 3 (where we are on May 19, 2021):**

**After the CDC announced new regulations for fully vaccinated folks on May 13, 2021, Centennial UMC at Ivy will begin phasing quicker toward Green Phase status.**

**See below for our new updates & how we will continue to phase toward Green Phase in the coming weeks:**

**\*MASKS ARE NOW OPTIONAL.** In compliance with CDC guidelines and the Annual Conference recommendations, masks are optional within the building and in worship. In order to protect those with continuing vulnerabilities, we ask that adults who are not fully vaccinated wear masks and that all of us continue social distancing for now. *While masks are optional, anyone who prefers to continue to mask in the building is always welcome to do so as they feel led.*

\*Only five pews in the sanctuary are sectioned off now for distancing. Our capacity in the sanctuary is now approx. 63 people. Two pews are open with one pew separating to help with distancing and in a few weeks, we'll likely go back to full capacity.

\*On Sunday, May 23, 2021 we will reinstate fellowship time! Servers have been identified through May and most of June, but you can sign up to serve at fellowship on the whiteboard in the narthex. Fellowship time until further notice has these restrictions:

-No full meals or potluck dishes. We will serve prepackaged or individually wrapped food items for now. (ex: cookies, mini bags of chips, crackers, brownies, small bags of popcorn, granola bars, crackers & cheese, carrots, etc. Homemade is ok if brought individually wrapped).

-Folks are welcome to bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets to enjoy fellowship outdoors, otherwise please sit 4 seats to a table in the fellowship hall (we will increase this number in the coming weeks).

# SYA

## SIMPSON YOUTH ACADEMY

*Exploring Transformative Questions*

From June 19-26, Pastor Dani and Landan Fetters will be attending the Simpson Youth Academy (SYA), a unique program on Simpson's campus that allows rising high school juniors and seniors to explore their faith and prepare for college. The Education Committee & Youth budget has financially helped support Landan's campership, some of the funds coming specifically from memorial funds from Midge Haws who graciously donated funds in her memory to support students attending camp. Landan will attend SYA as a camper and Pastor Dani will serve on the SYA faculty as she teaches and guides students through worship planning and leadership. Please pray for both Landan and Dani as this is their first-time attending camp at Simpson!

## UMW

Centennial United Methodist Women met May 20th with five members present. There was a review of the Simple Supper the group served on April 26 at Adventure Life Church. 47 meals were served to very appreciative people.

The group is debating about holding their annual chili and oyster stew in November. An alternative plan may be to have a socially distant casserole sale.

Their next meeting will be June 17th to preplan for fall. Members are asked to bring their own lunch.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm.



## CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

"Okay, Lord, you can have him, but if he must die, I want it to be for something big. I want someone's life to be changed forever." This is what Laura Sobeich prayed when she found out her seventeen-year-old-son, Zach, had one year to live.

The book, "Clouds" was featured in one of Pastor Dani's sermons recently. It is the touching story of Zach who is dying of cancer and how he touched the hearts of millions through his music.

**FUNDING FOR ELECTRICAL PROJECT-** At the April 29th meeting of the Finance Committee it was decided to use some of our memorial money to pay for the replacement of two electrical poles in front of the church along with the steeple lighting and controls. The project bid came in at \$12,400 which was a major expense. Some of the money will come from the Trustees budget for 2021 but the majority will be from memorial funds. We extend our deepest gratitude to the families of Dick Dolash, Jack and Betty Freel, J. Hoffman, Jim and Marilyn Murphy and Nellie Rosborough, all of whom either donated their own funds to support ministries and projects at Ivy or had friends and family donate on their behalf. It is always a privilege to receive memorial funds to support all that we do at Centennial from faithful families and individuals. Thank you to the above-mentioned families who made this project a reality which supports the safety and care of all who park on our parking lot, especially at night. - Don Hiatt, Finance Committee Chairman

# FREE ICE CREAM

*The Education Committee is sponsoring the  
"Outside Scoop" Ice Cream Truck on  
Sunday, June 20<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM.  
Feel free to invite your friends & family and don't forget a  
lawn chair so everyone can catch up!*



# *JUNE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Sara Barnes Benjamin Mauritz Jon Musgrave Lindsey Poutre  Dani Musselman & Erik Hall	2 Jana Lewis  Beth & Travis Shipley	3 Alexa Goforth Anderson King	4	5 Judy Fiene
6	7	8	9 Rex Adair	10	11	12  Brenda & Ted Cox  Dave & Joy Warner
13 Taylor Bowie	14 Byron Hemingson  Gayle & Larry Jordan	15	16 Sydney Corbin Lila Morgan Judy Weeks	17 Colton Hiatt	18  Amy & John Ferguson	19 Douglas Olgren
20 Scott Hackett Brandi Jackson	21 Gail Long Shawna Peterson	22 Larry Jordan	23	24 James & Shay Maxwell	25 Michelle Goforth	26 Helen Six  Lloyd & Peggy Hennigar
27 Brooke Person	28 Jason Ferguson  Dean & Judy Fiene	29	30 Dennis Bishop Jonah Goforth Doris Heaberlin Oakley Maxwell			



Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Dani @ Simpson Youth Academy

Sunday, June 20<sup>th</sup> – 11:30 am – 12:30 pm – Ice Cream Truck

Monday, June 28<sup>th</sup> – Pub Theology @ 7:00 pm

Tuesday, June 29<sup>th</sup> – Communications Meeting @ 6:30 pm

**Pastor Dani will be on vacation May 27<sup>th</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**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				\$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
<b>2020 BUDGET</b>	<b>\$148,420.00</b>		<b>\$68,237.69</b>	<b>(\$51.31)</b>	<b>\$68,186.38</b>	<b>\$139,331.24</b>
	<b>52 Sundays in 2021</b>				<b>Actual:</b>	<b>45.94%</b>
					<b>Required to meet budget:</b>	<b>33.33%</b>

As of May 23rd, Centennial has collected \$1,135 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**



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