



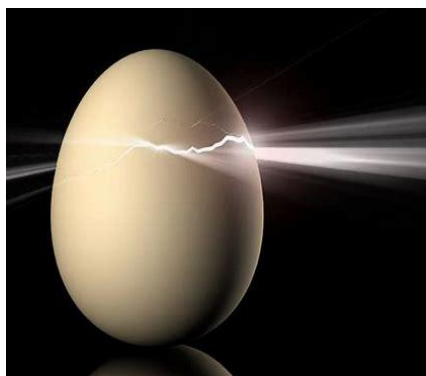
STEEPLE NEWS

Centennial United Methodist Church at Ivy

JULY 2025

A NOTE FROM PASTOR JOYCE

Next year in 2026, Ivy Centennial will celebrate its sesquicentennial. That's 150 years of being the church in this community. It will be a time to celebrate church ministries and people as we look back over the years. Did you know that there are two-time capsules installed on the back of the altar table in the front of the sanctuary? I didn't know until a few weeks ago, when Dean Fiene pointed them out to me. Maybe some of you remember when they were placed almost 50 years ago. The time capsules contain artifacts that provide a historical record – a snapshot – of what the church (and the world) were like decades ago. They represent our past and it will be fun to open the time capsules, as part of our sesquicentennial celebration.



*The 150th Anniversary is a time to celebrate the past, **AND** it is a time to look forward to God's future for this church. In Isaiah 43:18-19, God tells the exiled people of Israel*

"Forget what happened before, and do not think about the past. Look at the new thing I am going to do. It is already happening. Don't you see it?" I love these verses because they remind us that God is always up to something new. As wonderful as the past is, we can't "live" there. We have to be attentive to what is emerging.

A pastor friend and mentor of mine was a farmer before he was a pastor. He used the example of planting corn. He said when you drive the tractor, you glance back at what is behind you, but you put most of your attention on what is in front of you. I like that...look back from time to time but focus on what is ahead.

Friends, this is an exciting time for the church as we explore what it means to be God's church for today and next year and the years beyond that. Get excited! Get on board! The future looks bright!

Blessings,
Pastor Joyce



SATURDAY, JULY 12TH 9:00 AM

The Centennial Men's Group will be meeting July 12th. This group is open to all men in the church. If you have any questions, please call or text Jonathan Freel at 515-771-9687.



The group will meet for lunch on Thursday, July 10th at 11:30. They plan to meet at Olive Garden, 6157 SE 14th St in Des Moines. If you have questions, please contact Leslee Lynch at 515-967-6008

IVY CENTENNIAL – CHURCH ON A MISSION



Food Pantry Thank You

Thank you to everyone who brought in food for the Food Pantry. Last month, we collected 55 pounds of breakfast items (cereal, pancake mix, syrup, breakfast bars, Pop Tarts) for our neighbors in need. In June the target was to fill the cart with canned fruits and vegetables and easy microwaveable meals for kids who are out of school for the summer.

This is an uncertain time for food pantries and other “helping” agencies and it’s the work of the church to step into the gap to meet needs.

July Mission Project – School Supplies

In July, we would like to collect school supplies so every child in the South East Polk School District can begin the school year with the supplies they need. Please look for a list of basic supplies on the table in back of the sanctuary. If you're an Amazon user, Prime days are coming up July 8th – July 11th. Word has it that they will have Prime discounts on school supplies. Target and Walmart also have good sales beginning in July. Together we can make a difference!



La Casa de Esperanza Mission in Peru

Our Lenten Offering in April went to help this mission in Peru that provides a Christian residential experience for girls who are attending secondary school. The mission also provides Bibles and other resources for pastors. Even though Lent is over for this year, the need remains. If you would like to make a personal donation to La Casa de Esperanza here is how you can help: Go to the mission website at www.launchinternational.net/donna-gustafson and make a donation online. Or you can also make a gift through the church, and we can forward your gift. If you have any questions, please contact David Burrier, he is our liaison for this mission. You can call or text 515-414-0957 or catch him at church.



SUMMER SERMON SERIES

In July, we will begin a new sermon series called *Favorite Bible Stories*. Thank you to those of you who submitted your ideas for stories you would like to see included. It isn't too late to send Pastor Joyce your favorite story from the Bible. You can call or text her at 515-480-8457 or email her at revjlwebb76@gmail.com.



OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE AND PICNIC

Sunday, July 20th 10:30 am Worship, 11:30 am Picnic

Ivy Centennial has a wonderful outdoor chapel space, and we thought it would be wonderful to use the space for our outdoor worship (weather permitting of course).

You are invited to bring a lawn chair if you have one and invite family and friends to join you.

After worship, we'll have a good old fashioned church potluck. Bring your favorite dish to share. The church will provide the paper products and drinks. We'll even have some outdoor games for young and old.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS - 150TH ANNIVERSARY

JULY 12, 2026

The church's Anniversary Planning Committee had their first planning meeting in June and decided to set the date for the church's sesquicentennial celebration for next July.

More details about needs and planned events will be coming in the weeks to come. If you would like to help, please know you are welcome. We will be getting some save-the-date postcards printed soon and invite you to take a few to hand out to people you know. This will be a wonderful celebration of ministry over the last 150 years.

If you have old pictures or other memorabilia that you could loan us, or if you have stories to share we want to hear from you.

Current Committee Members:

Jennifer Fischer	Jill Craven
Gail Gish	Whitney Long
Maggie Stout	Sherry Burrier
Linda Carnahan	Pastor Joyce

NEW DISHWASHER FOR KITCHEN

A small committee has been exploring the cost of installing a commercial dishwasher in the kitchen. Several years ago, the church made an eco-friendly decision to avoid using disposable plates, cups and plastic ware. Even though we have some expert dishwashers at Ivy Centennial, a suggestion was made at a recent Council on Ministries meeting to see about getting a dishwasher to help with the clean-up after fellowship and dinner day. It turns out that there is a little more involved than just purchasing the dishwasher. There is also the installation cost, updates to plumbing and electrical, as well as replacing some countertop. The bids are being reviewed to determine the final cost of the project. Funds for the project will come from the church's building fund. However, we would welcome donations from the congregation. If you would like to make a gift to defray the cost, you can put "dishwasher" in the comments section of your check and put it in the offering plate. Thank you to Ken Sharp for his leadership and to the committee for your work on this project.



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 Please continue to hold the following people in prayer:

Maggie Stout	Leslie Hiatt
Jeff Olgren	Nancy Day
Karla Heaberlin	



JULY 2025 CALENDAR

Wednesday	July 2 nd	6:30	Council on Ministries Meeting
Sunday	July 6 th	11:30	Dinner Day
Thursday	July 10 th	11:30	Ivy Women's Fellowship Olive Garden 6157 SE 14 th St
Saturday	July 12 th	9:00	Men's Group Meets
Sunday	July 20 th	10:30	Outdoor Worship
Sunday	July 20 th	11:30	Outdoor Picnic

JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

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

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
COMPARISON OF OPERATING INCOME**

	Offerings 2025	Offerings 2024	Offerings 2023	Offerings 2022
January	\$7,813.01	\$9,670.48	\$17,243.17	\$11,240.28
February	\$6,021.92	\$9,829.06	\$7,101.46	\$9,698.09
March	\$6,740.00	\$10,748.26	\$5,903.26	\$9,669.39
April	\$6,484.00	\$6,768.06	\$10,174.26	\$14,356.63
May	\$4,400.10	\$5,321.26	\$6,837.26	\$9,004.49
June		\$9,196.26	\$7,021.56	\$7,083.14
July		\$7,083.86	\$9,413.26	\$8,636.81
August		\$6,342.26	\$5,192.26	\$7,081.26
September		\$7,991.31	\$7,791.06	\$5,610.25
October		\$4,765.26	\$9,101.26	\$12,111.46
November		\$10,238.00	\$8,401.26	\$8,679.97
December		\$7,479.63	\$11,510.84	\$7,552.26
Total Offerings	\$31,459.03	\$95,433.70	\$105,690.91	\$110,724.03

2025 Average Monthly Offerings	\$6,291.81
2025 Average Required Monthly for Budget	\$8,766.33
2025 Average Offerings vs. Average Required for Budget	(\$2,474.52)

This comparison does not include memorial, building fund, or special project donations. As of May 31st, we collected \$755.00 for the Caring Hands Food Pantry.

Joy Warner, Financial Secretary



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 voj8893@gmail.com