



# STEEPLE NEWS

Centennial United Methodist Church at Ivy

November 2021



***"God is so good,  
God is so good,  
God is so good, God's so good to me."***

This is the opening verse of the hymn "God is So Good," #2056 in our additional song book "The Faith We Sing." While I love this simple hymn, I don't sing it enough. In 2021, I've found myself at times stuck in the continued despair that began in 2020. I've grieved the continuing pandemic, I've wondered when I'll no longer see a mask again, and I've worried about the continued polarization of these times.

But then I sing these words from "God is so good" and I remember God's ***faithfulness***.

When I think about God's goodness, I remember the 17 kids who came to our church for 5 days this summer to laugh, play, and learn about God.

I remember the 90+ painted rocks we created & delivered for Easter Sunday.

I remember how renewed I am as we return to worship in person, both on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings.

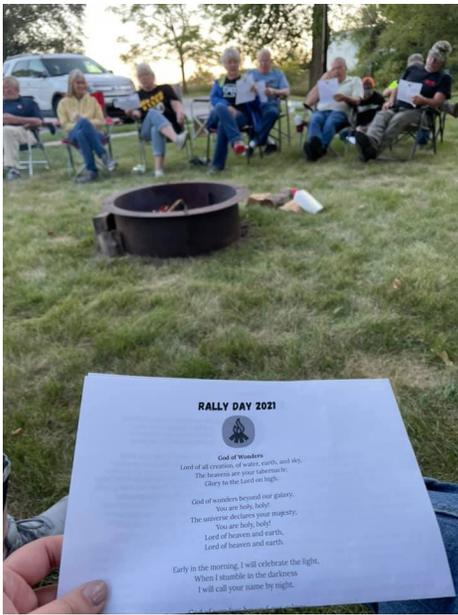
I remember the new people in our community who have learned about the love of God because our church invited them to worship with us; or because we attended the SEP homecoming parade & the Altoona Chamber Trick or treat night; or because new people have worshipped with us online since we started streaming worship, and so much more.

Thanks be to God that our ministries have continued to blossom even when despair tries to take precedence. And also, thanks be to you! It is because of your generosity and your faith in God that we are becoming better disciples of Jesus Christ through worship, fellowship, service, book studies, and more.

***God is so good. God is so good. God is so good, God's so good to me!***

Friends, God is so good to us at Centennial UMC at Ivy. God has given us more than enough to survive and now it is up to us to share this goodness with everyone we meet. How I spend my money, my energy, my time, and my gifts all reveal to others what I find most valuable. My hope is that I -- and we -- take the opportunity in front of us to give with joy in the upcoming year as we offer our gratitude for God's continued goodness.

With love,  
**Pastor Dani Musselman**



***This is how we love God & neighbor at Centennial UMC at Ivy thanks to your generosity***

Read below to find out how we strived to live as faithful stewards & share in the goodness of your generosity in 2021:

## **Marcy Campbell**

### *On Education*



The Education Committee is a very busy committee throughout the year. We started this year off with an Easter Egg Hunt for the children in the area. We provide candy and prizes for all of the eggs that are found.

In May we celebrated Mother's Day with Carnations handed out to all the Mothers of the Church. Also, we honored our Graduates with a very special service and gifts along with serving Cake/cupcakes and punch after the service.

In June we celebrated Father's Day for all of our Fathers with the rental of an Ice Cream truck for all the congregation to enjoy. And in July we mailed out 60 postcards to children in the area inviting them to our Vacation Bible School. We had 17 kids in attendance! Our Circus Theme was a big hit with everyone.

In September we hosted Rally Day to kick-off the new Sunday School year. This year we had games and a Bonfire, Smores, Hot Dogs and Walking Tacos were also served. We had a fun & delicious time.

And this year we brought back our annual Pie & Cake Auction. This event is to raise money for Bible School & to help send our youth to church camps. Your generosity makes our ministries possible.

In December our youth hosts a Christmas Program for the enjoyment of the entire Church Congregation. Sacks filled with Candy, Peanuts and Fruit are handed out to everyone and a Birthday Cake for Jesus is served afterwards.

## **Ken Sharp**

### *On Trustees*

I have been asked by Pastor Dani to tell a little bit about what the trustees have been doing. So, I'm going to start with a project we completed last September. With the help of Don Hiatt, Evan Fischer, and Ken Pickering, we power washed the exterior of the church where the paint was peeling. Then we applied a primer coat of paint and when that was dry, we put on the finish coat. We were all pleased with the results the color match was near perfect.

In early spring age caught up with our parking lot lights and power poles. The light pole in the southwest part of the parking lot had rotted so badly that it fell. Upon inspection it was determined that the main pole also needed to be replaced. By the time the project was completed we had replaced two power poles, three parking lot lights and two lights to illuminate the steeple. All new lights are LED and require only about 1/3 the electrical power as the old.

The latest project was to level and paint the propane tank. Our propane supplier leveled the tank and then we were able to power wash and paint.

## **Bobbi Meister**

### *On Missions & Hospitality*

At the very beginning of this year the committees of Missions and Family Ministries/Evangelism were combined to create a singular committee now called "Missions and Hospitality." This was done as a reflection of the unifying themes of creating welcome and support for community. The committee's goals remain the same: to bring forth opportunities for our greater church community to support and care for one another, to give gracious welcome and support to our local community, and to offer our hands and gifts in service to our local and global communities. These twin focuses of community building both inward and outward guided our thoughts as we moved forward this past year.

In reflection of our inward communities, we sought to support our church body with cards and small care packages as we all weathered this continuing pandemic situation.



This fall we look forward to participating in Pastor Dani's Hospitable Caregivers and the upcoming October Trunk or Treat. As we flow into the new year our committee will assist with Dinner Day and encourage those called to feed our souls and bellies to step forward as monthly hosts. Finally in an outward focus of the local to global communities, we coordinated a monthly gathering of items for the local food bank Caring Hands.

We offered welcome to new people of our local community through the Community Greeters program. We took our participation one step further to send personal letters from committee members to new residents. These offerings of simple welcome and invitation let new faces know we are here and working to create community. In support of a global focus, we gathered at Meals from the Heartland to package meals that will be sent to help feed those impacted by strife of all manners. As we head toward the new year, we will gather warm clothes for our local communities with a winter clothing drive and we will once again support the Heifer Project.

## **Allison Lehn** *On Apportionments*



One aspect of our church being a United Methodist Church is apportionments. Apportionments are the fundamental method the church uses to fund mission and ministry beyond the local community.

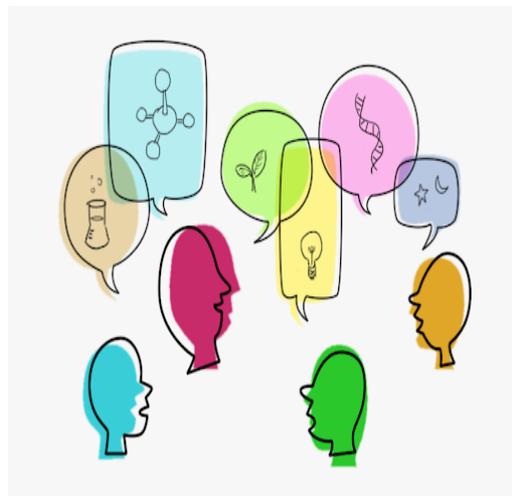
Apportionments from our church support the work of the district, the annual conference, the jurisdiction, and the General Church. Our 2022 Apportionments total \$11,812.

The total is divided between \$3,072 for General Church apportionments, \$6,975 for Conference Ministries, and \$1,765 for Conference Mission Giving. Our church paying our apportionments helps The United Methodist Church outside the walls of our little white church on the hill.

## **Whitney Long** *On Communications*

The Bible often reminds us to share the good news with one another. "Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ" (Colossians 1:28). That passage reminds us that we should use our capabilities to share the news of Christ and the church with our congregation and neighbors.

The Communications Committee works to make sure that congregation members and those interested in learning about Centennial can do so, by means of the bulletin, church newsletter, website, social media and more. Printing is our committee's biggest expenditure, but it is one of the most important ways that we reach people. We are aware of rising postage and printing costs and work to make our communications available online, as well as continuing to reach our neighbors who still want to read physical copies of our news.



We must work to reach our congregation and neighbors in ways that work for them - by means of printed mailings, newsletters, and electronic mediums, such as telephone calls, email, and the church website. Our budget items include website and calling service, telephone and internet service, newsletter postage, Advent and Lenten printing and mailing, welcome postcard, PO Box fee and annual bulk mailing fee. Within these budget items, we work to include advertisements for the church in area print publications as well as advertising our church Facebook page. We are always keeping in mind who we want to reach and how we can do so, whether we are publicizing church events in print publications or sharing them on social media!

Our goal for 2022 is to make sure that we reach all of our congregation and neighbors and to continue to share the Good News of Christ and of Centennial.



## **Why are you committed to Ivy Church?**

### **THE PEOPLE:**

While I have been in and out of hospitals and rehab centers, I have received so many cards, phone calls and food. Now that I am home and with no car Larry and Gale give a ride to church. Others have also been so kind as to bring over goodies offered to take where I might need to go. ~Moe Gilkison

### **THE LOVE:**

The congregation is loving, supportive and compassionate and our church leaders are exceptional. We also have a long history of outstanding pastors. We love the traditions of the church! The chili supper, the Live Nativity, vacation Bible school, Christmas Eve services, Dinner Day and the hymn sing, all help introduce visitors to our church. ~Don & Libby Hiatt

### **THE SUPPORT:**

Ned and I were married at Centennial United Methodist July 29, 1961. We attended Sunday School, Bible School, sponsored youth group, taught Sunday School, were on all of the committees as we raised Paul & Nancy in the church! We sang in the choir, Ned started first, then I did. And the years flew by... Our church has always been there to support us, and our God was always there to support and protect us and I know he still is. Couldn't have done it all in this life without our church and church family! ~Maggie Stout

### **DATES FOR STEWARDSHIP SEASON/CAMPAIGN:**

October 31: Stewardship Breakfast - Join us for a breakfast as we give thanks for your generosity!  
November 7: Blessing of Stewards & sending of pledge cards  
November 14: Pray over pledges received in worship

# DID YOU KNOW?

## Did You Know?

You can financially support Centennial in one of five ways:

1. You can write & send or deliver your gift to the church
2. You can donate online at our giving website here <https://ivycentennialumc.breezechms.com/give/online> or at the “Give Now” link on our church website: [ivycentennial.org](http://ivycentennial.org)
3. You can give one time by texting (515) 420-0349
4. You can set up automatic payments with your bank or through your own Breeze church account. Breeze automatic payments is how Pastor Dani doesn't miss a monthly gift! Contact Jeff Freel if you'd like to set up your own personal Breeze account.
5. And anyone 70 1/2 or older can give through an IRA. Congress has authorized standard IRA funds may be distributed to a qualified charity and be exempt from taxable income up to \$100,000 per year.



When Todd Bol constructed a miniature library to honor his book-“Loving Mother”, he had no great ambitions. It was just a decorated cabinet outside his home in Hudson, Wisconsin with a few books inside and one rule:

Take a book, Return a book.

From that humble beginning in 2009, there are now 100,000 Little Free Libraries on every continent. There is even one at the North Pole and the Smithsonian!

Some United Methodist Women groups are supporting Little Free Libraries.

Little Free Pantries to help fill the food gap, have also been started. One good thing leads to another!

Centennial has had its Little Free Library since 2016 thanks to Don Hiatt. Each Little Free Library has a registration number and Centennial's is 43308. The mission of Little Free Libraries is to promote literacy and the love of reading and to build a sense of community.

# PROPOSED 2022 CHURCH BUDGET

DISBURSEMENTS	2021	2022	CHANGE	% OF	DISBURSEMENTS	2021	2022	CHANGE	% OF
	BUDGET	BUDGET	FR 2021	BUDGET		BUDGET	BUDGET	FR 2021	BUDGET
<b>PROGRAMS</b>									
Edu/Youth	\$1,000	\$1,000	0		<b>CONFERENCE</b>				
Family Ministries & Evangelism	\$2,000	\$2,000	0		Apportionments	\$13,113	\$11,812	-1301	
Missions	\$600	\$600	0		Dist Special Asking	\$767	\$868	101	
Worship	\$1,600	\$1,600	0		<b>CONFERENCE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$13,880</b>	<b>\$12,680</b>	<b>-8.6%</b>	<b>8.4%</b>
Library	\$100	\$75	-25						
<b>PROGRAMS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,300</b>	<b>\$5,275</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>MAINTENANCE</b>				
					Insurance	\$2,800	\$2,800	0	
<b>PASTORAL MINISTRY &amp; STAFF PAYROLL</b>					Fuel & Utilities	\$6,825	\$6,825	0	
Minister	\$44,057	\$45,069	1012		General Trustees	\$7,875	\$7,875	0	
Mileage	\$800	\$400	-400		<b>MAINTENANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,500</b>	<b>\$17,500</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>11.6%</b>
Health Insurance	\$17,412	\$17,676	264						
Pastors Pension	\$9,323	\$9,454	131		<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>				
Housing Compensation	\$18,098	\$17,961	-138		Web Site & Calling Service	\$346	\$346	0	
Continuing Education	\$700	\$500	-200		Telephone & Internet Service	\$1,260	\$1,260	0	
Annual Conference Attendance	\$150	\$150	0		Newsletter Postage	\$300	\$300	0	
Other Reimbursed Expenses	\$500	\$500	0		Advent & Lenten Printing & Mailing	\$2,000	\$5,000	3000	
<b>Total Pastor's Compensation</b>	<b>\$91,040</b>	<b>\$91,710</b>	<b>0.7%</b>		Welcoming Post Card	\$590	\$590	0	
Pulpit Supply=Guest Minister	\$500	\$500	0		Annual P.O. Box Fee	\$64	\$64	0	
Annual Conference (Lay Member)	\$100	\$100	0		Annual Bulk Mailing Fee	\$240	\$240	0	
Pastor Welcome Fellowship	\$500	\$200	-300		<b>COMMUNICATIONS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,800</b>	<b>\$7,800</b>	<b>62.5%</b>	<b>5.2%</b>
Organist/Pianist	\$3,500	\$3,500	0						
Custodian	\$3,500	\$3,500	0		<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>				
Secretary/Newsletter Editor	\$4,000	\$4,000	0		Supplies (Paper & Ink)	\$2,500	\$2,500	0	
FICA Contribution	\$800	\$900	100		Finance (Stewardship)	\$500	\$500	0	
<b>PASTORAL &amp; STAFF TOTAL</b>	<b>\$103,940</b>	<b>\$104,410</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>69.3%</b>	Contingency	\$0		0	
					<b>ADMINISTRATION TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>2.0%</b>
					<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$148,420</b>	<b>\$150,665</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
					<b>TOTAL INCREASE:</b>	<b>\$2,245</b>			

## UMW

Centennial United Methodist Women met September 23rd at 1:15 pm in the church Fellowship Hall with eight members present.

Two current officers, Judy Weeks and Leslee Lynch will continue in their current offices.

The group decided due to less funds this year, that the pledge to the Conference needed to be lowered. It was also decided not to host the Annual Soup Supper and Bazaar this year. It was discussed to possibly sell church note cards. There will not be an election of officers until the end of the current year.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm. Next meeting will be November 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm.

# NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1. Council on Ministries @ 7:00 PM	2. Communications Meeting @ 6:30 PM	3. Barb Bolt WOW @ 5:30 PM	4. Connie Bishop Pastor's Book Club @ 7:00 pm	5. Jennifer Simpson	6.
7. Dinner Day – Hansen's & Ferguson's Missions & Hospitality Meeting 11:45 AM	8.	9.	10. Brenda Stout WOW @ 5:30 PM	11. Arianna Heitman Stephanie Lampkin Pastor's Book Club @ 7:00 pm	12.	13.
14.	15. Jan Adair Lloyd Hennigar Medea Saunders	16. Kayla Goforth Cynde Pool	17. Dani Musselman WOW @ 5:30 PM	18. Rob Campbell Mindy & Terry Britt Pastor's Book Club @ 7:00 pm	19. Jo Provow BYOG Game Night @ 7:00 PM	20. Gordon Atzen
21. John Bowie Connie & Dennis Bishop Whitney & Nathan Long	22. Judy Hemingson	23. Jason Haley Dana King	24. WOW @ 5:30 PM	25. Happy Thanksgiving! Tim Morgan Julie Palmer	26. Deanna Carroll Melinda Martin Darin Wood	27. John Ferguson Hanging of the Greens @ 10:00 AM
28.	29. Pub Theology @ 7:00 PM	30. Pastor Duane Skidmore				

## Administrative Council Highlights October 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting

- Pastor Dani reminded those present about the “slow works of God”.
- The Council approved the 2022 church budget of \$150,665, which is 1.5% larger than the 2021 budget.
- Various committees are planning many traditional events and activities for the Advent season along with at least one new activity to thank those who serve the community during the holiday season.
- Pastor Dani and several members of the congregation attended Centennial's Charge Conference in early October satisfying the annual requirements of this meeting.

The complete minutes of the October 2021 Administrative Council meeting will be available after they are approved at the December meeting which will be conducted on Monday December 13. Minutes of previous meetings are available on the church's website at

<https://www.ivycentennial.org/?subpages/Minutes-of-Admin-Council.shtml>

## 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	\$ ( 8.15)	\$ 12,616.92	\$12,090.11
FEBRUARY	\$12,368.00	4	\$ 9,296.84	\$ (10.61)	\$ 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	\$ ( 9.90)	\$ 33,385.29	\$ 7,389.67
MAY	\$12,369.00	5	\$ 9,433.88	\$ (10.49)	\$ 9,425.55	\$30,158.83
JUNE	\$12,368.00	4	\$ 8,835.72	\$ (10.84)	\$ 8,824.88	\$ 6,556.45
JULY	\$12,368.00	4	\$ 6,295.75	\$ (13.92)	\$ 6,281.83	\$ 9,965.23
AUGUST	\$12,369.00	5	\$ 7,919.24	\$ (2.72)	\$ 7,916.52	\$ 8,418.76
SEPTEMBER	\$12,368.00	4	\$ 9,763.24	\$ (11.92)	\$ 9,751.32	\$ 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>\$109,740.22</b>	<b>(88.20)</b>	<b>\$109,652.02</b>	<b>\$139,331.24</b>
	<b>52 Sundays in 2021</b>				<b>Actual:</b>	<b>73.88%</b>
					<b>Required to meet budget:</b>	<b>75.00%</b>

As of October 17th, Centennial has collected \$2,260.76 for the Caring Hands Food Pantry.

Let's keep it up!!

On April 9<sup>th</sup>, we received \$20,177 from the Small Business Administration for the Payroll Protection Program.

### Gaylen Heaberlin, Retiring 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): Gaylene Heaberlin 515-967-2016



Centennial United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 624  
Altoona, IA 50009

## CHURCH LIBRARY

"Love the Lord your God with all your mind."



*Visit our website at [ivycentennial.org](http://ivycentennial.org) to see Pastor Dani's Sermons, Committee and Event information and Church updates.*

Contact us at:

Visit us on Facebook at Centennial at Ivy United Methodist Church

Visit us on Instagram at [centennial\\_ivy](https://www.instagram.com/centennial_ivy)

Or on our website at [IvyCentennial.org](http://IvyCentennial.org)