



STEEPLE NEWS

Centennial United Methodist Church at Ivy

NOVEMBER 2024

In a few days, this country will elect a new president. By now, most of us are weary of the campaign ads – the divisive language, accusations, half-truths, untruths and finger pointing. We just want it to be over. The big question is what happens on November 6th, the day after the election? Depending on the outcome, some will be happy and relieved. Others will feel disappointed and maybe even fearful of what the future holds. My prayer is that on November 6th, we'll look for ways to come together. There are some very real problems in our country, and it will take all of us working together to solve them.

In Ephesians 4:3-6, Paul zeros in on the idea of unity. He writes: *Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all, in all, and living through all.*

Paul reminds us that there is something bigger at stake than the outcome of one election. We can live in unity and peace because we have faith in Jesus Christ. Even though we don't always agree on our politics, we can agree to be united in Christ. So friends, as followers of Jesus, let's set aside all that divides us and hold on tight to our *oneness* in Christ.

Blessings,

Pastor Joyce



ALL IN-STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

We'll be finishing up our fall stewardship campaign on Sunday, November 3rd. This campaign focuses on what it means to be *All In* – as in fully committed to God's plans and purposes for this church.

Members of the congregation should have received campaign materials in the mail, including an Estimate of Giving Card. We are hopeful that members of the Ivy Centennial family will pray about the way they can be *All In* in their 2025 giving. During worship, we will bring our Estimate of Giving Cards forward as an offering to God. If you aren't able to attend church on November 3rd, you can mail your Estimate of Giving Card to: Centennial United Methodist Church, PO Box 624, Altoona, IA 50009. Thank you in advance for all the ways you support Ivy Centennial.



ALL SAINTS REMEMBRANCE SERVICE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD 10:30 AM

Every year the church celebrates All Saints Sunday. It's a day to remember loved ones who have died, as we lift up their names and celebrate their lives in a service of remembrance. If you have a loved one you would like to remember on the 3rd, please let Pastor Joyce know. You can call or text her at 515-480-8457 or email her at revjlwebb76@gmail.com



Mark your calendars for Ivy Centennial's Chili, Oyster Soup Supper and Bazaar. The Men's Group is proud to sponsor this church-wide activity, with help from the congregation.

There is a sign-up sheet on the table in back of the sanctuary for food items and helpers.

If you have any questions, please contact Jonathan Freel at jonfreel7@gmail.com or 515-771-9687.

A free will offering will be taken and will benefit Dorothy's House, an organization that provides residential care, support and counseling to women who have been impacted by human trafficking, exploitation and prostitution.



To find out more, please go to dorothyshouse.org.



Daylight Savings Time Ends Sunday, November 3rd
Please remember to set your clocks **BACK ONE** hour before you go to bed on Saturday.

UPCOMING BIBLE STUDIES

DON'T GIVE THE ENEMY A SEAT AT YOUR TABLE

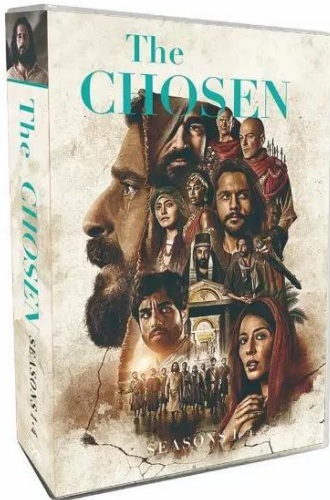
Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table: It's Time to Win the Battle of Your Mind by Louie Giglio

Begins Wednesday, November 6th 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Leader: Teri Weeks

Scripture is clear: the Enemy is a liar who will stop at nothing to tempt you into poor decisions and self-defeating mindsets, making you feel afraid, angry, anxious, or defeated. It is all too easy for Satan to weasel his way into a seat at the table intended for only you and your King. But you can fight back.

This video-based study looks at some ways to overcome the lies and find peace.



The Chosen

Begins Sunday, November 10th 9:15-10:15 am in the Church Library

Leader: Pastor Joyce

This 8-week study will be offered during the Sunday school time. *The Chosen* is a popular television series that depicts the life and teaching of Jesus. The group will gather to watch all or part of an episode from season 1 (depending on length) and then take time to reflect on some discussion questions. If you have any questions, please reach out to Pastor Joyce. Call or text 515-480-8457 or email her at revjlwebb76@gmail.com



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH 1:00 pm

Oakwood United Methodist Church

400 NE 56th St in Pleasant Hill

Centennial's annual charge conference is coming up. It is a time of worship, celebration and looking forward to 2025. The charge conference is open to all members of the congregation.

If you have questions, please reach out to Pastor Joyce.

Call or text 515-480-8457 or email her at revjlwebb76@gmail.com



DINNER DAY POTLUCK SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD AT 11:30 AM

Please join us for dinner on the 3rd as we enjoy a time of great food and fellowship. If you wish, bring your favorite dish to share. This is a perfect time to invite a friend or family member to come to church.



Next Meeting Thursday, November 7th 1:00 pm

The Ivy Women's Fellowship Group met on Thursday, October 3rd for a soup lunch provided by Leslee Lynch and Mary Ferguson.

The next meeting is November 7th. There will be coffee, tea and treats. They will be discussing the December meeting, activities and luncheon.

The women's group will be helping with the bazaar for the Chili, Oyster Soup Supper. If you would like to donate baked goods or handmade items for the bazaar, please contact Leslee Lynch (515) 967-6008 or Mary Ferguson (515) 975-0586.



IVY HAWL-O-WEEN THANK YOU!

On October 27th, the church hosted a Halloween Event for the kids. After some trick or treating at the homes of congregation members, the kids returned to the church to enjoy food and games. Thank you to everyone who helped with the event.

UPCOMING EVENTS



HANGING OF THE GREENS, SUNDAY DECEMBER 1ST 10:30 AM

We will be decorating the sanctuary for the Advent / Christmas season.

We are planning a Hanging of the Greens Service during our worship time on December 1st. During the service we will talk about the meaning of the decorations and invite members of the congregation to decorate the sanctuary with wreaths, greenery and the Christmas tree. We will need a few people to help on Saturday, November 30 at 10:00 to put up the larger decorations. It should take about an hour.



**LIVE NATIVITY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH
5:30-7:00 PM**

The season of Advent is a time of preparing ourselves for the coming of Christ. Ivy Centennial's Live Nativity is a wonderful way to prepare our hearts for Christmas.

In addition to the live nativity, there will be refreshments in the fellowship hall and special music in the sanctuary by local singer and songwriter Tammy Edwards. Be sure and invite friends and family.



**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH AT 10:30 (during worship)**

Plan to join us on the 15th for Centennial's Children's Christmas Program. The children will tell the story of Jesus' birth, and together, we will sing Christmas carols. We'll also enjoy special music from the children's bell choir. During the fellowship time, we'll have a birthday cake for Jesus and there will be a visit from Santa. All children are welcome to participate. If you have a child or know of a child who would like to be part of the Christmas program, please reach out to Pastor Joyce. You can call or text her at 515-480-8457 or send an email to revjlwebb76@gmail.com



As in past years, the church is planning to adopt a family for Christmas. Once the family has been selected, Mary Ferguson will get the stars on the tree along with the information of the family in need.

Just a reminder, purchased items should be wrapped and returned to the church by the date that is yet to be determined. If you take a star, please be sure and attach the star to the wrapped package.



If you would like to be added to our prayer list, please let Pastor Joyce know by calling or texting (515) 480-8457 or you can email her at revjlwebb76@gmail.com

Please hold these members and friends of the Ivy Centennial church family in prayer:

Doris Heaberlin	Maggie Stout
Barb Bolt	Judy Fiene
Karla Heaberlin	Barb Sharp
Rose Mary Freel	Bob Dice



CALENDAR – Please let Amy Ferguson know if you have something for the calendar

Sunday	11/3		End of Daylight Savings Time
Thursday	11/7	1:00 pm	Ivy Women's Fellowship
Saturday	11/9	9:00 am	Ivy Men's Group
Sunday	11/10	1:00 pm	2024 Charge Conference Oakwood UMC, Pleasant Hill
Tuesday	11/12	6:30 pm	Council on Ministries Meeting
Saturday	11/16	4:30-6:30 pm	Chili, Oyster Soup Supper & Bazaar
Wednesday	11/20		December Steeple Items Due
Saturday	11/30	10:00 am	Decorate Church for Advent
Sunday	12/1	10:30 am	Hanging of the Greens Service
Sunday	12/1	11:30 am	Dinner Day Potluck Wednesday
Wednesday	12/4	7:00 pm	Administrative Council Meeting

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1.	2.
3. Barb Bolt	4. Connie Bishop	5. Jennifer Simpson	6.	7.	8. Cameron Long	9.
10. Brenda Stout	11. Arianna Heitman Stephanie Lampkin	12.	13.	14.	15. Jan Adair Lloyd Hennigar Medea Saunders	16. Kayla Goforth Cynde Pool
17. Rev. Dani Musselman	18. Rob Campbell Connie & Dennis Bishop	19.	20.	21. John Bowie	22. Brayden Harmon Judy Hemingson	23. Jason Haley Dana King Mindy & Terry Britt Whitney & Nathan Long
23.	24.	25. Tim Morgan	26. Deanna Carroll Mindy Martin Darin Wood	27. John Ferguson	28.	29.
30. Pastor Duane Skidmore						

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
COMPARISON OF OPERATING INCOME**

	Offerings 2024	Offerings 2023	Offerings 2022	Offerings 2021
January	\$9,670.48	\$17,243.17	\$11,240.28	\$11,270.04
February	\$9,829.06	\$7,101.46	\$9,698.09	\$8,480.01
March	\$10,748.26	\$5,903.26	\$9,669.39	\$12,192.01
April	\$6,768.06	\$10,174.26	\$14,356.63	\$12,506.01
May	\$5,321.26	\$6,837.26	\$9,004.49	\$8,717.05
June	\$9,196.26	\$7,021.56	\$7,083.14	\$8,118.89
July	\$7,083.86	\$9,413.26	\$8,636.81	\$6,295.75
August	\$6,342.26	\$5,192.26	\$7,081.26	\$7,919.24
September	\$7,991.31	\$7,791.06	\$5,610.25	\$9,763.24
October		\$9,101.26	\$12,111.46	\$12,038.34
November		\$8,401.26	\$8,679.97	\$10,568.68
December		\$11,510.84	\$7,552.26	\$10,477.42
Total Offerings	\$72,950.81	\$105,690.91	\$110,724.03	\$118,346.68
Government Paycheck Protection Program				\$20,177.00
Iowa Conference Assistance Program				\$4,300.98
Total Offerings & Programs	\$72,950.81	\$105,690.91	\$110,724.03	\$142,824.66

2024 Average Monthly Offerings \$8,105.65
 2024 Average Required Monthly for Budget \$8,945.33
 2024 Average Offerings vs. Average Required for Budget (\$839.69)

This comparison does not include memorial, building fund, or special project donations. As of September 30th, we have collected \$1,770.00 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

