



# STEEPLE NEWS

Centennial United Methodist Church at Ivy

July 2018



## *A MESSAGE FROM WENDY:*

Have you ever thought of yourself as a masterpiece? Have you ever considered your life to be a poem? We know God as the creator of heaven and earth, but I think we sometimes lose sight of God's continual creative work in our lives. In Jesus Christ through the work of the Holy Spirit, God is continually making us new. How exciting!

As we go about living our lives, through the decisions we make and the relationships we form, we are co-creators with God. This July, I hope you will join us as we look at what it means to be created in the image of God. We will look to scripture that helps us to know that we are God's masterpiece!

Peace and grace,  
-Pastor Wendy

P.S. June has been such an exciting, hope-filled month for me and for Centennial UMC at Ivy. We baptized two babies! I graduated with my Masters of Divinity and was commissioned as a Provisional Elder by the Bishop at Annual Conference. Here is a look at a few highlights!



Oakley's Baptism • June 17



Kinslee's Baptism • June 3

Pastor Wendy's Graduation • June 7



Pastor Wendy's Commissioning • June 10



## LIBRARY

If you're looking for a good "read" for the summer months, look no farther than the church library and/or the little free library!

There is a very special book in our church library that will help you learn more about Altoona just in time for its 150th anniversary July 26-29. A History of Southeast Polk County, Iowa was donated to our church library by the Southeast Polk Historical Society. There is an extensive section dedicated to "Altoona - Town of the Prairie". There is also a nice section about Ivy. Our church can be found in the section devoted to churches. It is a most interesting book!

### USHERS/GREETERS

JULY 1 – Allison Freel & Jeff Freel  
 JULY 8 – LaDonna Morse & Maggie Stout  
 JULY 15 – Amy Corbin & Jason Ferguson  
 JULY 22 – Larry & Gayle Jordan  
 JULY 29 – Jennifer Fischer & Jill Craven

### DINNER DAY

July 1 – Hiatt & Stout

*Splash Canyon Vacation Bible School will be Sunday, July 8th through Thursday, July 12th from 5:30-7:30 pm. Invite or bring children in your life who are age 4 through those entering 6th grade in the fall. We are asking for help with items needed for crafts and snack time. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. We will only be serving a light snack this year. Kids are asked to dress in the following colors (if possible): Sunday - red; Monday - yellow; Tuesday - green; Wednesday - purple; and Thursday - blue.*

## Women Before Work

When: Every Tuesday during the month of June.

Time: 6:30 – 7:15 am

Where: **NEW LOCATION – NOW AT THE CHURCH**

\*There is no need to purchase a book, the topic changes each week to fit with summer vacations. Join us any time.

## Food Pantry

Centennial's Food Pantry donation for June was 110 items. Please support the basket in the narthex with travel size personal items. These will be donated to the Food Pantry throughout the year.

Another way to support the Food Pantry if you shop on Amazon is to shop AmazonSmile. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice (Caring Hands Outreach). For more information, check [smile.amazon.com/about](https://smile.amazon.com/about)

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Centennial United Methodist Women will not be meeting in July and August. They are planning a luncheon gathering on Aug. 3 to celebrate our chili supper/bazaar faithful workers.

On Aug. 19, the group will host fellowship time, "Cookies and Cookbooks". Are you in need of a new cookbook? There will be over 100 United Methodist cookbooks to choose from. And they will be FREE! And you can take as many as you want! You might find new recipes for Dinner Day! You don't want to miss it!!

Regular meetings will resume on Sept. 6 at 1:00 p.m. Leslee Lynch will present the program and Janice Williams will serve as hostess.

We invite ALL women of the church to attend our meetings and discover what UMW is all about!



### July Birthdays

2	Bob Johnston
4	Jeff Heaberlin
5	Grace Stout
6	Nancy Day Stan Mauritz Brad Morse
9	Moe Gilkison Tonya McDuffy
11	Holly Adey Mindy Britt Tyke Remster
15	Isabelle McDuffy Larry Palmer
18	Marci Martin
19	Rev Bill Cotton Bill Hansen Kari Wilkins
21	David Martin
23	Bonnie Altes Kensington Hermann Paul Stout
24	Josh Lampkin
25	Don Day
26	Charlie Pingel
27	Carol Visser
29	Elisabeth Mauritz Pam Sanders

### July Anniversaries

7	Gerry & Jo Ordway
16	Jeff & Rosemary Freel
29	Todd & Laura Hiatt

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Council on Ministries – Monday, July 2 – 7:00 pm

Pub Theology – Monday, July 9 – 7:00 pm

Finance Committee – Wednesday, July 18 – 7:00 pm

Community Potluck – Thursday, July 19 – Noon

Men's Group Breakfast – Saturday, July 21 – 9:00 am

Parade for Altoona 150 – Saturday, July 28 – 9:00 am

**Women's Bible Study Group @ Centennial  
Every Tuesday morning at 6:30 am**

**Bible School – July 8 – 12<sup>th</sup> 5:30 pm**

***PLEASE NOTE: SUNDAY SCHOOL AND TRUE BELIEVERS HAS BEEN SUSPENDED FOR THE SUMMER AND WILL START UP AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER***

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**FRIDAY:** Under the banner, "Creating Difference Makers in New Faith Communities", clergy and laity gathered for the 175th Iowa Annual Conference June 8-11 at the Iowa Events Center/Hy-Vee Hall. The clergy and laity sessions opened the Conference at 7:00 p.m. Included during the evening was the recognition of 3 new certified Lay Speakers and 25 School for Lay Ministry graduates. There were four 30 minute laity mini workshops to attend offering practical tips for local congregations. I was unable to attend a workshop as I was a member of the Daily Proceedings Staff helping to gather conference information.

**SATURDAY:** Bishop Laurie Haller officially called the Conference to order at 9:00 a.m. She explained the purpose of Annual Conference is worship, conferencing, fellowship, enacting legislation and making corporate decisions. The Bishop explained that each day of the Conference attendees would pause and pray for 4 minutes from 2:23 p.m. to 2:26 p.m. for the work of the Commission On a Way Forward. There will be a special session of the General Conference on Feb. 23-26, 2019. The Commission was formed to help discern a way forward in the United Methodist Church around human sexuality. There are three plans: Traditionalist Plan, One Church Plan and Connectional Conference Plan. The Council of Bishops' recommendation is the One Church Plan. In 2019, Annual Conference will be in session four days, June 8-11. It was approved to hold the 2020 Annual Conference June 6-8. Thirty-eight clergy persons retired and were honored during a retirement celebration. Before the dinner break, delegates chose one of six workshops to attend. I chose "Fresh Expressions".

**SUNDAY:** The Ordering of Ministry was celebrated Sunday morning. Five Elders were ordained, six were commissioned (including Pastor Wendy) and 6 were recognized as Course of Study graduates. The Bishop used the image of God as the divine Potter throughout her ordination message with an actual potter on the dais throwing a pot as the Bishop spoke. Communion was served to those present and Don and I were honored to be served by Wendy. Her mother and Greta assisted her. The Iowa Conference is in the process of developing a Mental Health Taskforce because of the huge need to raise awareness of the mental health crisis in Iowa. Mental health training will begin in each District in the fall. A round table discussion between several General Conference delegates took place over the current human sexuality struggle. It was a very frank and emotional encounter. The memorial celebration memorialized 50 people including Lois Miller, wife of Rev. Bill Miller who pastored at Centennial from 1992-1996. Rev. Miller was memorialized at the 2017 Iowa Annual Conference.

**MONDAY:** The proposed 2019 budget was approved by the Conference. With a \$505,925 decrease, the total budget approved was \$14,288,286. Several of Conference Treasurer Maggie Biggs' statistics were: average worship attendance-47,080, church school attendance-15,867, adults and young adults in small groups-3,360 and membership in the United Methodist Church in Iowa is 158,049. The diakonos were acknowledged and gave their annual report in skit form. The premise of the diakonos is based on the scripture, Mark 9:35. The Fixing of Appointments was held and Pastor Wendy will continue to serve at Centennial. The following seven churches closed or are closing in 2018 are: Elberon UMC, Beaver UMC (Beaver Yoke), Fort Dodge Riverside UMC, Cincinnati, West Grove UMC, Riverton UMC and Union Memorial Church, Milford.

Before the conclusion of the last day of Conference, an hour-long, open mic conversation on the Way Forward was added. Conference attendees were given 90 seconds to speak at microphones. Approximately 35 people spoke - 20 clergy and 15 lay members. The Bishop expressed that the dialogue was rich, powerful and spirit-filled.

Five offerings were collected during the Conference for a total of \$32,050.19.

Following the Bishop recapping the four days of the Conference, the 2018 Iowa Annual Conference adjourned at 3:07 p.m. (A big thank you to Don Hiatt, Brandi Jackson and Brooke Person for driving golf carts to take delegates to and from the parking lots, hotels and the conference center. Gaylen Heaberlin was scheduled to drive Monday afternoon but because the Conference adjourned early, his shift was cancelled.)

Libby Hiatt  
Lay Member to Annual Conference

**NEWS FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**2018 Actual Giving vs. 2018 Budget Goal**

	Required		Tithes	Other Inc	Total	Cumulative Difference
January	\$ 6,910.00	4 Sundays	\$ 6,615.75	\$ 350.00	\$ 6,965.75	\$ 55.75
February	\$ 6,910.00	4 Sundays	\$ 6,012.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 6,262.00	\$ (592.25)
March	\$ 6,910.00	4 Sundays	\$ 5,893.50		\$ 5,893.50	\$ (1,608.75)
April	\$ 8,640.00	5 Sundays	\$ 8,833.50		\$ 8,833.50	\$ (1,415.25)
May	\$ 6,910.00	4 Sundays	\$ 7,398.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 7,478.00	\$ (847.25)
June	\$ 6,910.00	4 Sundays			\$ -	
July	\$ 8,640.00	5 Sundays			\$ -	
August	\$ 6,910.00	4 Sundays			\$ -	
September	\$ 8,640.00	5 Sundays			\$ -	
October	\$ 6,910.00	4 Sundays			\$ -	
November	\$ 6,910.00	4 Sundays			\$ -	
December	\$ 8,640.00	5 Sundays			\$ -	
2018 Budget	\$ 89,840.00		\$ 34,752.75	\$ 680.00	\$ 35,432.75	39.44%

52 Sundays in 2018

Required=32.69%  
Of Annual Budget

**As of May, we are short of our 2018 Budget Goal by \$847.25. As of July 1 due to our commitment for a full time pastor, our 2018 Budget will increase to \$118,183.**

**Gaylen Heaberlin, Financial Secretary**



**T-Shirts are now available to order. Order form is in the Narthex. All orders and payments are due July 1<sup>st</sup>.**