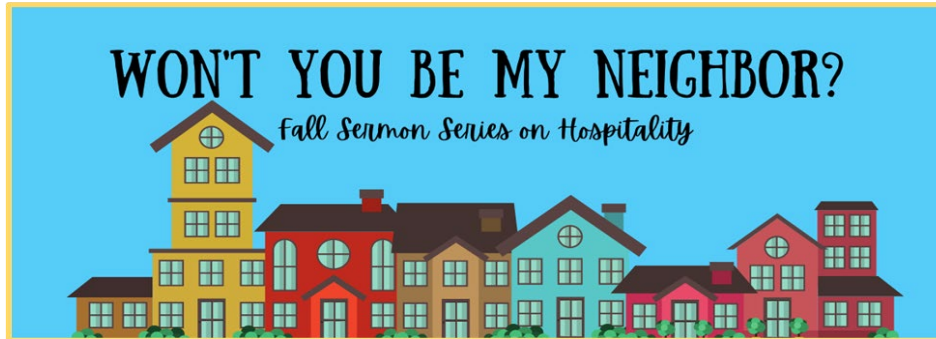




STEEPLE NEWS

Centennial United Methodist Church at Ivy

September 2021



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DANI:

I've always considered hospitality to be an expertise of hotel chains. Whenever I've enjoyed my stay in a hotel, it is because I was greeted kindly by the hotel staff, I was never a bother to the staff when I had questions, and I was treated with kindness and dignity. Hospitality found in 5-star hotels can teach the church a lot about how to be hospitable to new or unfamiliar faces who walk in our doors. But the Bible can teach us even more.

It doesn't take us long to find the presence and importance of hospitality in scripture. God welcomes and loves God's people regardless of their status, their sin, or their situations. And beginning in Exodus, God reminded the Israelites over and over again about the hospitality they found in God who graciously welcomed and loved the Israelites who were once strangers in a foreign land.

Memory is the heartbeat of hospitality in scripture. The Israelites are reminded over and over again that they were once not included, and it was God who welcomed them when no one else would. In order to faithfully give thanks, the Israelites were told to never forget their lonely past and to never treat anyone as they were once horribly treated. Thus, God commanded the Israelites to always *welcome the stranger*.

One difference between the hospitality found in a hotel and hospitality found in the church is that hotels provide hospitality as a commodity. One gives the hotel money and in exchange she receives kindness, compassion, and welcome from the staff.

Our work of hospitality in the church is not focused on or a result of receiving money. ***Our work of hospitality is always for God and with God.*** And our work of hospitality is one of the most faithful ways we express God's love in the world.

Nonetheless, our work of hospitality is exactly that: it is *work*. *Hard work*, in fact. Which is why I hope to spend the next five weeks in worship studying the art, science, and hard work of hospitality to which we are called. In the next five weeks, I hope we will learn more about who our neighbor is (or isn't), identifying what is and is not hospitality, and considering how we may not know the gifts we receive from living in community until we don't have community anymore.

I hope you'll join us each Sunday morning at 10:30am in person, online, or on the radio in our parking lot as we study, pray, and worship together. I also hope you'll consider being my neighbor, because it is my sincere privilege to be yours!

With love, Pastor Dani

Rally Day

Wed. September 8
5:30-7:30p

JOIN US IN THE PARKING LOT
FOR A BACK- TO- SCHOOL CELEBRATION.
WORSHIP. FOOD. & MORE!

RALLY DAY PLANS:

5:30-7:00pm: Come when you can to eat, fellowship & play games on the church lawn
Games include - cornhole, lawn golf, parachute fun, & more. Fun for all ages!

7:00-7:30pm: Gather with us around the campfire to sing, pray, & worship! (And eat s'mores!)



THINK BIG give small

In September & October,
please consider donating
single-serve items to support
Caring Hands Food Pantry

applesauce
small cans of meat & fish
mixed fruit cups
peanut butter & cheese crackers
granola bars
raisins
soups
pre-packaged lunches
& more



Ivy WOW

WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAY

Starting back up Wednesday,
September 15th!



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31ST

JOIN US FOR Dinner Day

RETURNING SEPTEMBER 5



We hope you'll join us for Dinner Day which will return on September 5!

See the procedures below that will help keep us safe while enjoying fellowship:

- Servers will dish your food for you. Servers will wear masks & gloves.
- We have purchased sneeze guards to protect the food you bring to share.
- We will use disposable plates & silverware.
- To help with airflow, we are also considering opening two windows or placing a box fan in one of the windows when weather permits.

Pastor's Bookclub

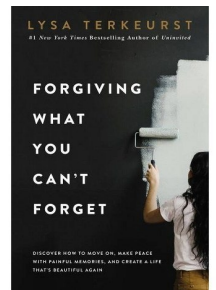


You're invited to join Pastor Dani for a book club reading & discussion! We'll be reading "Forgiving What You Can't Forget" by Lysa Terkeurst.

Do you have something or someone you're struggling to forgive? Let's find out more together about how & when God calls us to forgive...

Meetings will take place every other Thursday starting September 23 at 7pm.

Here are the dates for this book:
Sept. 23; Oct. 7; Oct. 21; Nov. 4; Nov. 18; Dec. 2



Sign up in the church narthex or email pastordanim@gmail.com



If you want to be smart. **Read**
If you want to do well at school. **Read**
If you want to be different. **Read**
If you want to know everything. **Read**
If you want to be the best. **Read**
If you want to be better than the best. **Read**

But if you want to walk around your whole life saying "huh?" **Then don't read**

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1.	2. Marilyn Eland	3. Joseph Fry	4. Jordan Carroll Chris & Diana DeMoss April & Dana King
5.	6. Susan Churchill Dan Geisenhoff Dee Johnston	7. Jerry Olgren Kristi & Mark Olgren	8. Jason & Torie Hermann	9.	10.	11.
12. Wendy Fritz Carol Graves Josh & Stephanie Lampkin Julie & Larry Palmer	13. Tom Bergstrom Angela Selby	14.	15. Jill & Steve Craven	16. Pat Adey Debbie Parker Ken Sharp	17.	18. Mitzi Wood
19. Todd Hiatt Jen & Neal Griffiths Ardean & Janice Williams	20. Tom Johnston	21. Steve Craven Rita Denhart Amy Ferguson	22.	23.	24. Jen Morgan	25. Marty Martin Jeff Tomlin
26. Gage Seaman	27. Lisa Schmidtk	28.	29.	30. Brittani Corbin Kensli Haley		



- Thursday, September 2nd – Nominations Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- Sunday, September 5th – Dinner Day after Service
- Monday, September 6th – Council on Ministries @ 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, September 8th – Rally Day @ 5:30 pm
- Thursday, September 9th – Missions & Hospitality Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, September 14th – Finance Committee @ 7:00 pm
- Thursday, September 16th – Communications Meeting @ 6:30 pm
- Sunday, September 19th – Pie & Cake Auction @ 11:30 am
- Tuesday, September 21st – Education Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- Thursday, September 23rd – Homecoming Parade @ 6:00 pm
- Monday, September 27th – Pub Theology @ 7:00 pm

**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				\$ 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
2020 BUDGET	\$148,420.00		\$92,057.74	(73.56)	\$91,984.18	\$139,331.24
	52 Sundays in 2021				Actual:	61.98%
					Required to meet budget:	58.33%

As of August 15th, Centennial has collected \$1,745.46 for the Caring Hands Food Pantry. Let's keep it up!! On April 9th, 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
Trustees: Ardean Williams 515-967-4189
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): Gaylene Heaberlin 515-967-2016