

The Messenger

We are believers in Christ who gather to
PRAISE God, **GROW** and **SERVE**.

June 2019



Pastor's Corner

Pastor Mel Nielsen
pastormel1@hotmail.com
cell: 1-815-922-9161

18 But as surely as God is faithful, our message to you is not "Yes" and "No." 19 For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us—by me and Silas[c] and Timothy—was not "Yes" and "No," but in him it has always been "Yes." 20 For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. 21 Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, 22 set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

- 1 Corinthians 18-22 (N.I.V.)

This article finds me one month away from my first anniversary at Jacksonville Centenary. In some ways this appointment is very similar to my previous appointments and in other ways it is very different. With a little more faith, the differences won't seem so big going into my second year. I thank all of you for the grace in helping me to find my way through some of the things that are done differently at Jacksonville Centenary.

This column is more about what is the same. Faith is the ability to say "yes" to God in the face of whatever comes your way. When I first got the call about being re-appointed, like the time before, there was the same passion to say "yes" to God. Our heart says "yes," even though our mind is going back and forth over the issue.

"I'm moving," I thought. There are many ways to read these words. If they were written in a novel, there would be others words to help the reader know what the subject is experiencing. "With great happiness I

yelled, I'm moving!" Or "With great trepidation and fear, I swallowed hard, and thought to myself, I'm moving."

I challenge you, in your situation, to be able to accept either answer as good, as long as the answer is "yes" to God. Our creator has made the word YES the focal point of our eternal salvation. Despite whatever we have done, despite our shouts of 'crucify him,' despite our nature to misbehave, even to this day, God's "yes" is still "YES."

God can say "yes," because God is grace. That grace has been shared with us, not some modified version of grace that has less power, the same grace that enables God to say "yes" is the same grace that propels us to say "yes."

As we begin our second year together, I would like our answer to be "YES." Our answer should not be an excuse, our answer should be the same as our Lord, YES!

– Pastor Mel

Centenary UMC

Church Staff

Pastor.....Mel Nielsen
Coordinator of Outreach
and Growth.....Kevin Hinkle
Office Administrator.....Karen Dirksmeyer
Office Manager.....Destiny Slater
Music Director.....Terri Benz
Contemporary Worship Leader.....Rachel Hinkle
Parish Visitor.....Jane Lair
Custodian.....Patty Adcock
Nursery Attendant.....Kayleigh Dirden
Nursery Attendant.....Chloe McDannald

Centenary's Missionaries

Mark & Rebecca Smallwood - Teachers at Red Bird
Mission School in Kentucky

Church Information

331 E. State St., P.O. Box 124
Jacksonville, IL 62651
Phone: 217-245-8417

Email: office@jaxcentenary.org

Website: www.jaxcentenary.org

LaMoine District: www.lamoinedistrict.org

Illinois Great Rivers Conference Website: www.igrc.org

Sunday Morning Schedule

Traditional Worship Service.....8:15 a.m.
 Sunday School (all ages).....9:30 a.m.
 Fellowship Hour.....between services
 Contemporary Worship Service.....10:45 a.m.

Special Worship Services

Holy Communion.....Sun., June 2

Special Offerings

Peace With Justice Sunday.....Sun., June 16
 Pennies for Hunger.....Sun., June 23

Fellowship Opportunities

Fellowship Hour.....Every Sunday between services
 Tuesday Morning Fellowship.....Every Tue., 6-9 a.m.
 at SafeCo. Bakery
 Centenary Ferris Wheel Day.....Sun., June 9, 4-6 p.m.
 @ the Community Park

Mission Opportunities

Donate Blood.....Mon., June 3 & 10
 at Passavant Hospital, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
 MMDC Work Day.....Mon., June 17, 8 a.m.
 AlAnon Meeting.....every Wed., 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
 Mission Trip.....June 30 - July 6

Volunteer mowers needed

Spring is here and the grass is growing quickly. Volunteers are needed to mow the lawn around the church. The task usually takes about half an hour. A mower is available at the church (or you can bring your own), Volunteers usually mow towards the end of the week. Contact the office if you have questions. There is a signup sheet in the narthex.

Summer sermon series

Starting on July 7, Pastor Mel will begin a sermon series based on the teachings of Jesus. The topics will be how Jesus viewed Evangelism, compassion, priorities, sharing, greed, preparedness, loyalty, intolerance, humility, discipleship, repentance, money and charity. The sermon series will run through September. This would be a great opportunity to invite someone to church who would like to know more about the basics of our faith. Each topic will help us understand how we can be better torch bearers for God.

Leadership Opportunities

Finance.....Wed., June 12, 5:30 p.m.
 Trustees.....Tue., June 18, 6:30 p.m.
 Missions.....Wed., June 19, 6:30 p.m.

Children's Ministries

Sunday School.....Every Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
 Vacation Bible School.....June 10 - June 13, 5:45 p.m.

Bible Study

Lectionary Bible Study.....Every Tues., 9:30 a.m.
 @ Barbara Wooldridge's Home

Communications

Mini-Messenger Deadline.....Wednesdays at Noon
 Messenger Deadline.....Fri., June 21
 Messenger Folding Party.....Fri., June 28

United Methodist Women

FHS Circle.....Wed., June 12, 6:30 p.m.
 Hope Circle.....Thurs., June 13, TBD
 Ruth Circle.....Wed., June 19, 1:30
 Spirit Circle.....TBD
 Doorbell Dinners.....June 24 - June 28

FUSION -Youth Ministries

Fusion.....Sun., June 9, 1-3 pm, Brooklyn
 @ Brooklyn Youth Center
 Fusion.....Sun., June 23, 1-3 pm, Brooklyn
 @ Brooklyn Youth Center



Could you help with Doorbell Dinners?

Centenary UMC is scheduled to deliver Doorbell Dinners the week of June 24-28. The Doorbell Dinner Program assists persons that are homebound and/or have special dietary needs. We need your help! We are in search of drivers and delivery persons. If you can help, please contact Pat Baptist or Barbara Wooldridge.

Sunday Morning Helpers

Liturgists

8:15

June 2 - Pat Manker
 June 9 - Barbara Wooldridge
 June 16 - Barb Ginder
 June 23 - Bev Rhine
 June 30 - Pastor Mel

Greeters

8:15

June 2 - Helen Baldwin
 June 9 - Dale and Jean Shafer
 June 16 - Shelby Pennell
 June 23 - Donna Tolbert
 June 30 - Tom and Pat Baptist

10:45

All dates - Diana Phillips

Communion Stewards

8:15 - June 2

Helen Baldwin/Cyndi Claussen - Sec. 1
 Gary Hayes/Cara Heller - Sec. 2
 Barney Stock/ - Sec. 3
 Pat Manker/Pat Baptist - Sec. 4

10:45 - June 2

Pastor Mel and Marilyn Kimmons
 Bonita Day/Marilyn Denney

Small Talk

8:15 & 10:45 - Pastor Mel

Fellowship Hour Host/Hostess

June 2 - Hinkles
 June 9 - Hamiltons
 June 16 - Hamiltons
 June 23 - Hamiltons
 June 30 - Hamiltons

Nursery Volunteers

10:45

June 2 - Mary Tomlin
 June 9 - Rachael Borgman
 June 16 - Cyndi Claussen
 June 23 - Peggy Jordan
 June 30 - TBD

Upcoming Worship Schedule

*The following is a tentative schedule for
 June 2019 worship.*

(Readings & message may change without notice.)

June 2

Seventh Sunday of Easter
 Altar Color - White
 "To What Empire Do We Belong"
 OT: None
 NT: Acts 16:16-34
 Gospel: John 17:20-26

June 9

Pentecost
 Altar Color - Red
 "TBD"
 OT: None
 NT: Acts 2:1-21
 Gospel: John 14:8-17

June 16

Trinity Sunday
 Altar Color - White
 "TBD"
 OT: Psalm 8
 NT: Romans 5:1-5
 Gospel: John 16:12-15

June 23

Second Sunday after Pentecost
 Altar Color - Green
 "Pastor Gone on Vacation"
 OT: TBD
 NT: TBD
 Gospel: TBD

June 30

Third Sunday after Pentecost
 Altar Color - Green
 "TBD"
 OT: 2 Kings 2:1-2 & 6-14
 NT: Galatians 5:1 & 13-25
 Gospel: Luke 9:51-62

Cardinal Singers put on spirit-filled show at Centenary

The Cardinal Singers from Redbird Christian School in Beverly, Kentucky delivered a wonderful show at Jacksonville Centenary on April, 25, 2019.

Along with great singing, there were testimonies from some of the 24 youth which inspired those in attendance. The group also provided a meaningful drama about being trapped in sin and finding the only way out is to accept Jesus.

The singing ranged from powerful ensemble pieces to inspired solo performances. The choir began with their 24-piece dulcimer performance. The dulcimers were homemade from cardboard, but sounded great. The group stopped in Jacksonville as part of a 3 state 9

church tour.

Red Bird Mission is a National Mission Institution in covenant with the United Methodist Women located in the mountains of southeastern Kentucky. Red Bird Mission serves the needs of families through a diversity of programs, including a pre K-12 school with approximately 230 students.

A link has been provided to the school on the church's website and Facebook pages so you can make a donation directly if you were not able to attend in person. Volunteers helped provide a meal for the 30 people who traveled and many more opened their homes to provide lodging. Thanks to all of you who made this event so special.

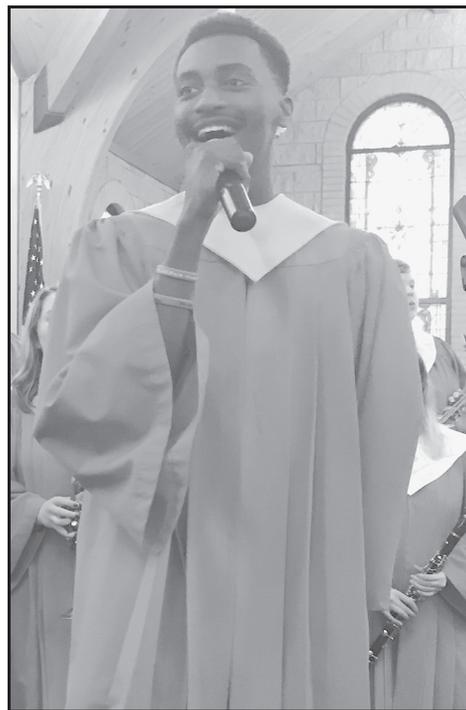


Photo by Pastor Mel



Photo by Pastor Mel

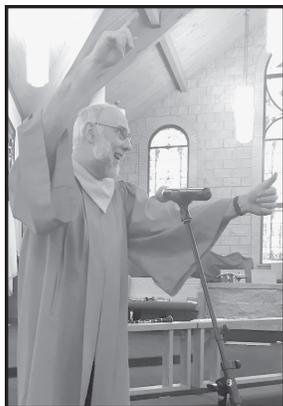


Photo by Pastor Mel



Photo by Karen Dirksmeyer



Photo by Pastor Mel

New staff members join team at Jacksonville Centenary

We want to officially welcome our new nursery attendants, Kayleigh Dirden and Chloe McDannald, to the Centenary family. Kayleigh has been our nursery attendant for several months and a member of Centenary her whole life. Chloe has just joined the team last month.

They are both graduating seniors at Jacksonville High School and will be attending college this Fall. Kayleigh will be continuing her education at MacMurray College and Chloe will be attending Lincoln Land Community College. Many of our children at Centenary have already met Kayleigh and Chloe and enjoy their time in the nursery.

Currently, plans are being made to expand the nursery to include the room to the west. This need has come to light as our church continues to grow with families with young children! Praise be to God!

Nursery is available for both services. If you get a chance, please welcome Kayleigh and Chloe to the family!



Photo by Kevin Hinkle

Pictured above are the new Nursery Attendants. Kayleigh Dirden, left and Chloe McDannald, right.

Thank You

I want to thank you for the beautiful cards, good wishes and prayers you've sent to me.

I appreciate it so much.

In Christian Love,
Janet Kroush

A lighthearted look at finances from your Stewardship Committee



Thoughts from Stewardship

BOLD GENEROSITY

“God will provide” but stepping out in faith and giving boldly may be scary. Especially if generous giving is a “new” practice. God assures us that our needs will be provided for if we trust and give in faith. We may “hold back” and not give fully of our time, talent and/or treasure.

Maybe we are convinced that we do not have enough to share boldly or that God will not provide. Do we live with a fear of “lack of or scarcity?” God challenges each of us to give with generosity and reap the blessing of joy from God. Gifts we share were first given to us by God’s grace. If we give in abundance we will realize that we have been provided with enough - maybe even more than enough!

June Birthdays

- 1.....Dina McBride
- 2.....Gary Butler
Minson Jennings
- 4.....Cole Harper
- 6.....Phyllis Allen
- 7.....Alyssa Clayton
- 9.....Kathy Atchison
- 11.....Annabelle Hardy
- 12.....Johanna Betters
Jared Cook
- 13.....Kevin Hinkle
Ryatt Mobus
- 14.....Steve McCarty
- 15.....Kelly Latham
- 18.....Zachary Chamberlain
- 19.....John Love
June Fairfield
- 20.....Karin Chumley
Amanda Stelling
- 22.....Abbie Spangenberg
Mason Hinkle
- 23.....Everett O'Neal
Leland McAllister
- 25.....Gary Ginder
- 26.....Jess Spradlin
- 27.....Jerry Murphy
- 28.....Debbie Nielsen
- 29.....Kaleb Birdsell

June Anniversaries

- 7.....Dale & Jean Shafer
- 14.....Todd & Kim Spangenberg
Mark & Lindsay Stiltz
- 15.....Brian & Debbie Pond
- 17.....Barney & Sally Stock
- 19.....Glenn & Norma Neff
Tom & Diana Phillips
- 20.....Robert & Bonnie Minor
- 21.....Pastor Mel & Debbie Nielsen
- 28.....Joseph & Alison Prosser

I am not what I might be, I am not what I ought to be, I am not what I wish to be, I am not what I hope to be; but I thank God I am not what I once was, and I can say with the great apostle, "By the grace of God I am what I am."

— John Newton

Tornado Tubs

The Midwest has recently been affected by both tornadoes and floods. The Midwest Mission Distribution Center is collecting items for Tornado Tubs and Cleaning Kits.

The Mission Committee decided to collect cotton or leather work gloves because they are needed for both types of kits and are so important to have in the event of a disaster. Bring donations to the Narthex during May. Cash donations are also welcome. Make checks to "Centenary UMC" with "work gloves" in the memo line.

MMDC workday planned

Our next workday at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center near Chatham will be on Monday, June 17. Contact Martha Vaché or Kevin Hinkle for more details.

K.I.C.K.S. Updates

Acolyte schedule

- June 2 - Andrew Cooley
- June 9 - Jack Borgman
- June 16 - Matthew Hinkle
- June 23 - Noah Borgman
- June 30 - Jack Borgman

Teaching schedule

Preschool/Toddler Classroom

- | Date | Teacher/Assistant |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| June 2 | Diana Phillips/Help Needed |
| June 9 | Diana Phillips/Pat Manker |
| June 16 | Diana Phillips/Cindy Claussen |
| June 23 | Diana Phillips/Kristin Clancy |
| June 30 | Diana Phillips/Debbie Belzer |

Elementary Classroom

- | Date | Teacher/Assistant |
|---------|---|
| June 2 | Rachael Borgman/LuAnne Woodrum |
| June 9 | Rusti Cummings/Karmen Birdsell |
| June 16 | Catherine Pritchett/Ashley Westenberger |
| June 23 | Angi Freitag/Amy Stidham |
| June 30 | Angi Freitag/Linda Tribble |

Recognition of Our

Class of 2019 Graduates

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Camri Anderson

Jacksonville High School
Daughter of Gene and Charlene Anderson-Hinckley
She plans to attend Stephens College in Columbia, MO
and will be pursuing a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Musical
Theatre

Jesse Claussen

Jacksonville High School
Daughter of Jeff & Cynthia Claussen
She plans to attend Illinois State University and will
major in Business

Maza Eilers

Jacksonville High School
Daughter of Jason & Monica Schriber and Colby Eilers
Granddaughter of Reg & Linda Tribble and Dean &
Georgia Eilers
She plans to attend Eckerd College in St Petersburg,
Florida and will be studying Marine Sciences

Cole Nugent

Episcopal High School of Dallas
Son of Lori Meyer Nugent
Grandson of Dr. Walter Meyer
and the late Margery Meyer
He plans to attend Iowa State and will major in Physics
and Statistics

William Richard Shafer

Jacksonville High School
Son of Richard & Beth Shafer
Grandson of Dale & Jean Shafer
He plans to attend Lincoln Land Community College

Abbie Lynne Spangenberg

Routt Catholic High School
Daughter of Todd & Kim Spangenberg
She plans to attend the University of Missouri at
Columbia, majoring in chemistry

Lauren Stidham

Jacksonville High School
Daughter of Bob & Amy Stidham
She plans to go to Belmont University in Nashville, TN
and major in Business and Management Information
Systems

COLLEGE GRADUATES

Morgan Fernandes Howell

Daughter of Rodney Fernandes,
Granddaughter of Barbara Fernandes
Doctorate of Audiology from Washington University,
St. Louis, Missouri

Mother Daughter Banquet held on May 13



Photos by Pastor Mel

Nearly a hundred moms, daughters, grandmothers and friends gathered at Centenary UMC for a delicious meal and wonderful entertainment. Hamilton's catered the meal and Jamie Headen and David Hayes, above left, provided the program.

UMW Reading Program book reviews

Behind the Kitchen Door by Saru Jayaraman is an eye-opening read in the Social Action category for 2015. "Our food comes at great expense to the workers who provide it. The biggest workforce in America can't put food on the table except when they go to work," says Saru Jayaraman, cofounder of the Restaurant Opportunities Centers United. How do restaurant workers live on some of the lowest wages in America? And how do poor working conditions - discriminatory labor practices, exploitation, and unsanitary kitchens - affect the meals that arrive at our restaurant tables? This book may leave the reader angry at the injustices detailed within, queasy about eating our, and much better tipplers.

Threading My Prayer Rug: One Woman's Journey from Pakistani Muslim to American Muslim by Sabeeha Rehman is in the Education for Mission category for 2019. The book is a rich reflection on what is to be a Muslim in America today. Beginning with a sweet, funny, account of her arranged marriage, the author cuts away at stereotypes. She recounts an immigrant's daily struggles balancing assimilation with preserving heritage, overcoming religious barrier, and confronting issues of raising her children as Muslims - while they lobby for a Christmas tree. The story will touch the reader as they see how much the heart and soul of a Muslim mother is like that of any other.



Photos by Pastor Mel

Twenty friends and family members of Matthew Hinkle gathered at Tiemeyer Park in St. Anne, Mo. on May 18 to participate in the Angelman Syndrome Foundation Benefit Walk. The local event planned to raise \$15,000 to help find a cure for Angelman Syndrome. Those dollars will be added to the dozens of walks held around the country. Top photo shows "Matthew's Minions", many of whom are from Jacksonville Centenary, made the trip to show their support. The bottom photo shows Matthew with his Mother and Father Rachel and Kevin Hinkle.

UMW June Challenge

With air conditioning season starting, try to use your A/C as sparingly as possible. If you like open windows, let that breeze in. If you must have A/C, perhaps raise the set temperature slightly so it doesn't kick on so frequently.

from Terri Benz



*New Members
always welcome*

June UMW meetings

For Heaven Sake Circle: Wed. June 12, 6:30 pm
Hostess: TBD

Ruth Circle: Wed. June 19 at 1:30 pm, church parlor
Hostess: TBD

Hope Circle: Thurs., June 13, 6:30 pm,
Fellowship Hall

Spirit Circle: TBA

Fox Trust

Centenary's Fox Trust Committee meets twice a year to designate how the interest money received from the Florence Fox Trust will be distributed. There is an application form available from the church office to request a donation. The applications are due back to the office by Monday, June 3.

Money from the trust cannot be used by Centenary for our budget or buildings, given to political causes, or spent outside the U.S. Centenary members aware of special needs in our community are encouraged tell local agencies to apply for a grant.

Take It To The Streets

Did you know that there are children in Jacksonville who are hungry? Grace UMC along with help from the Jacksonville community sponsors a program called "Take it to the Streets" that provides Free Sack Lunches for Kids during the summer.

Last summer 350 volunteers provided 16,000 lunches at several locations every weekday. You can help by donating food, money, and/or time.

Beginning on June 9 volunteers are needed to prepare the lunches in the basement of Grace UMC at 5:30 p.m. MTWT and at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday evenings. Volunteers are also needed to deliver the meals. Centenary's contact person: Pat Manker

Take It to the Streets is having a fundraiser on Saturday, June 1 beginning at 11:00 am at the Ferris Wheel in Community park.

Donations are welcome. Make checks to "Centenary UMC" with "Lunches for Kid's" in the memo.

www.jaxcentenary.org

Most updated calendar

Sermon Archives

Past Newsletters

Photos

News of Events

Contact Info

Links

CHECK US OUT!

Coffee & Chaos for Moms and littles

Bring your little ones (10 and under) to play in the Nursery with Kayleigh and Chloe while we Moms have coffee and chit-chat! We are planning to hold this event in the parlor, but keep watching if that location changes. We plan to do this a couple times each month this summer! No RSVP required...just show up! (All ladies are welcome to join in the Parlor, even if you don't have children to bring to the nursery!) Questions? Contact Rachel Hinkle 217-370-3329. The following are the scheduled dates: Thursday, June 6th 9-11am and Monday, June 24th 9-11am

Food Center report

We served 127 families for food orders, a total of 313 people at a cost of \$12,680.64. We served 493 families for extra bakery, a total of 1,236 people at a cost of \$8,201.54. The churches contributed \$3,246.33 in money and \$967.13 in food donations.

Cheryl TerHark
Food Center Representative



Push to Payoff the Pavilion

Thank you for your generous donations!

- We already have more than 1/2 the funding needed.
- The project is underway, and will be completed SOON!
 - We need your continued support to help fund this project.
 - Wouldn't it be great if we didn't have any debt when finished!

Once the pavilion project is completed . . .

we will begin holding outdoor Summer school days where neighborhood children are invited to come and share a snack, Bible story and fun games.

we will begin inviting the community to evening movies with free popcorn and snacks.

we will begin using the pavilion for community outreach for Trunk or Treat, Easter Egg Hunts, September Song and many other outreach opportunities.

we will begin planning outdoor worship services.

LET EVERY PENNY COUNT!
LET EVERY MOMENT BE SPECIAL!
LET EVERY CHILD KNOW JESUS!

United Methodist Court OKs part of Traditional Plan, exit plan

By Linda Bloom □ **April 26, 2019**
EVANSTON, III. (UMNS)

The United Methodist Church's top court has found that while some provisions of the newly adopted Traditional Plan remain unconstitutional, the rest of the plan is valid as church law.

That was the Judicial Council's ruling on a requested review of the Traditional Plan, which was approved during a special denomination-wide legislative session in February to strengthen enforcement of bans on "self-avowed practicing" gay clergy and same-sex weddings.

In a separate ruling, legislation to provide an exit strategy for local churches wishing to leave the denomination meets three minimum requirements and thus is constitutional "when taken together with the consent of the annual conference" as specifically outlined in the Book of Discipline, the court said.

Both decisions came at the conclusion of the Judicial Council's April 23-26 meeting.

In Decision 1378, the top court said it applied "a severability test" to determine if the unconstitutional provisions of the Traditional Plan could be severed from what remained.

"Unless it is evident that the General Conference would not have enacted those provisions that are within its legislative powers without those that are not, the invalid parts can be separated if what is left is not inextricably linked and can function independently," the decision said.

The Judicial Council has now ruled three times on the Traditional Plan petitions it has found unconstitutional. Affirming previous rulings from October and February — Decision 1366 and Decision 1377 — the April decision following the adoption of the Traditional Plan still finds seven of its petitions to be unconstitutional, including four that were amended during General Conference 2019.

Decision 1378 also declares all seven petitions to be null and void.

Three amended petitions that were ruled unconstitutional — 90033, 90034 and 90035 — still would allow the Council of Bishops to place any bishop on involuntary leave "in the retired relationship with or without their consent" without a specific right to appeal. That "constitutional infirmity" cannot be solved by arguing that other parts of the denomination's lawbook would give "an accused bishop the right to appeal the findings of the Council of Bishops," the court said in

Decision 1378.

Petition 90037, also amended by General Conference, was still held unconstitutional by the court. It would have required any individuals up for nomination to an annual conference board of ordained ministry to certify to the bishop their willingness to comply with The Discipline in its entirety, "including but not limited to" all ordination requirements. Bishops themselves would have to certify the willingness of the individuals they nominated.

Such an "open-ended and unconstitutionally vague certification requirement" violates the principle of legality, the Judicial Council said in its ruling. That principle was defined earlier by the court to mean "that all individuals and entities are equally bound by Church law" and the law was to be applied fairly at all levels of the connection.

Petition 90038, which requires the board of ordained ministry to "conduct an examination to ascertain whether an individual is a practicing homosexual," also is unconstitutional, as well as Petitions 90039 and 90040, which require annual conferences to make certifications related to homosexuality or face financial penalties.

The second sentence of Petition 90045, which requires a just resolution to include a commitment from the respondent not to repeat an action or actions, also remains unconstitutional, the court said.

The court upheld sections of the law that include prohibitions dealing with consecrating LGBTQ bishops or ordaining gay clergy, as well as petitions setting timelines and requirements on just resolutions. The court also upheld mandatory minimum penalties.

The first part of Petition 90045 — "Just resolutions shall state all identified harms and how they shall be addressed by the church and other parties to the complaint" — is constitutional, the court said in Decision 1378, along with seven other Traditional Plan petitions that "can be upheld independently."

Petition 90032 adds a footnote to Paragraph 304.3 to more fully define the term, "self-avowed practicing homosexual."

Petition 90036 prohibits bishops from consecrating bishops who are self-avowed homosexuals, even those elected by a jurisdictional or central conference. It also prohibits bishops from commissioning or ordaining those determined to be self-avowed homosexuals, even if recommended and approved by the clergy session or board of ordained ministry.

Petition 90042 sets mandatory penalties for pastors

PLEASE SEE 'PLAN' ON PAGE 11

PLAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

convicted by a trial court of performing same-sex wedding ceremonies or conducting ceremonies to celebrate homosexual unions. Those penalties are a year's suspension without pay for the first offense and termination of conference membership and church credentials for a second offense.

Petition 90043 prohibits the recommendation or approval of any person who does not meet the ordination qualifications found in Paragraph 304.1-3. That section includes the language that "homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching" and that "self-avowed practicing homosexuals" cannot be certified as candidates for ministry, ordained or appointed.

Petition 90044 sets a timeline for the referral or dismissal of a complaint, and Petition 90046 adds a sentence to four disciplinary paragraphs on securing the agreement to a resolution from the complainant or complainants.

Petition 90047 allows the church to have a right of appeal from trial court findings "based on egregious errors of church law or administration," but not from findings of fact.

The Traditional Plan legislation the court held constitutional will take effect in the U.S. church Jan. 1, 2020. In Africa, Europe and the Philippines, the legislation will take effect 12 months after the next General Conference in May 2020. The disaffiliation petition, 90066, goes into effect immediately.

The Judicial Council rejected the argument from some of the briefs it received that Judicial Council Decision 1210 "is a precedent" for declaring the entire Traditional Plan unconstitutional. That decision — regarding a proposal called Plan UMC adopted by General Conference 2012 to overhaul the denomination's structure and organization — found the constitutional defect "affected every part of the plan."

In contrast, the court said, the Traditional Plan "consists of a series of petitions that were separately numbered, dealing with completely different paragraphs of The Discipline. One petition does not affect the other."

The Judicial Council also said it could reasonably conclude that General Conference 2019 would have enacted the constitutional parts of the plan anyway. "The legislative history contained in the record supports our finding that the delegates voted to adopt the TP fully cognizant and in spite of its constitutional flaws."

Judicial Council member Beth Capen, in a concurrence to Decision 1378, pointed out that inherent problems — related to constitutional authority or conflict with The Discipline — remain in some of the petitions. "Presumably these matters will end up before the Council again in one form or another," she wrote. "Hopefully, General Conference will be proactive in reconciling these problems."

In Decision 1379, the Judicial Council reviewed an amended version of Petition 90066, one of the petitions designed to provide "a gracious exit" for local churches that want to leave the denomination.

The council previously found 90066 unconstitutional in Decision 1377, but it has now determined that any General Conference legislation permitting such an exit must meet three minimum requirements:

- Approval of the disaffiliation resolution by a two-thirds majority of the professing members of the local church present and voting at the church conference.
- Establishment of the terms and conditions, including the effective date, of the agreement between the annual conference and the exiting local church by the conference board of trustees in accordance with applicable church law and civil laws.
- Ratification of the disaffiliation agreement by a simple majority of the members of the annual conference present and voting.

The amended version of Petition 90066 substituted the "Minority Report on Disaffiliation" for the majority report, leading to the creation of a new paragraph, 2553, in The Discipline. That paragraph deals specifically with the "limited right" to disaffiliate for reasons related to church law on homosexuality.

That new paragraph "satisfies the first two conditions" for the disaffiliation legislation while a provision elsewhere in The Discipline "supplies the missing requirement" for annual conference action, the court ruled.

"When taken together with the consent of the annual conference pursuant to Paragraph 2529.1(b)(3), Petition 90066 as amended meets all three requirements and is constitutional and provides a means for the disaffiliation of a local church," said Decision 1379. The court also modified its ruling "with respect to the disaffiliation of a local church" in Decision 1377.

**Centenary United Methodist
Memorial/Honorarium Gift Form**

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

For the following special occasion:

- ___ *Birthday* ___ *Mother's Day*
- ___ *Anniversary* ___ *Father's Day*
- ___ *Wedding* ___ *Veteran's Day*
- ___ *Christmas* ___ *Other* _____

Please use this gift of \$ _____ for:

- ___ Centenary - General Fund
- ___ Centenary - Building and Grounds Upkeep
- ___ Centenary - Missions
- ___ Designated Projects (*See back side.*)

Make checks payable to: Centenary UMC

Date of donation: _____ Check # _____

Donated by: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip code _____

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CENTENARY	GIFT GIVEN TO	AMOUNT
JACKSONVILLE		
Bell Tower/Steeple Fund		
Children's Activities		
Elevator Upkeep Fund		
FUSION/Youth Fund		
Music Fund		
Pavilion Fund		
Organ Reservoirs Fund		
JACKSONVILLE		
A Cup of Cold Water (Local Emergency needs)		
H.E.L.P.S. Ministry Outreach		
JACIL		
Jacksonville Area Food Center		
Jacksonville Salvation Army		
Jubilee Habitat for Humanity		
New Directions Warming/Cooling Center		
MIDWEST		
Baby Fold, The (Normal)		
Chaddock (Quincy)		
Cunningham Children's Home (Urbana)		
Lessie Bates Neighborhood House (E.St. Louis)		
Midwest Mission Distribution Center (Chatham)		
Red Bird Mission (Kentucky)		
Volunteers in Mission		
INTERNATIONAL		
Church World Service/CROP		
Heifer Project		
UMCOR (United Methodist Com. on Relief)		
MISSIONARIES		
Mark & Rebecca Smallwood/Red Bird School		
OTHER		
Name:		

Centenary United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 124
331 East State Street
Jacksonville, IL 62651

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June 2019



Appreciate your prayers!

VBS organizers would appreciate your prayers. They are very excited about the curriculum, music, and plans that have been made so far! Please pray for all who will be a part of this event.

VBS will ROAR this Summer

ROAR! Centenary's 2019 VBS will be held Monday June 10th - Thursday June 13th from 5:45pm - 7:45pm for children ages 2 years old - 5th grade.

At ROAR, kids explore God's goodness and celebrate a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life. Kids are in for a week full of fun, superb music, and a wild setting that come together to celebrate God's goodness!

Get involved by volunteering as a Station Leader, Group Leader, assistant, decorating, and much more! Come share your gifts and abilities! Contact Rachael Borgman at <mailto:rborgman@frontier.com> or 217-473-3794

Hand out fliers!

Another way to help with Vacation Bible School is to find the special VBS table in the Narthex and look for the 8 1/2 x 5 1/2 color flier.

Take one or two of these and give them to families you see around town.