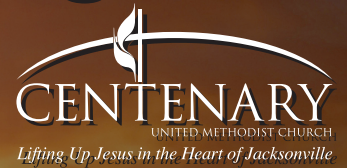


The Messenger

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

August 2020



Pastor's Corner

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

12 For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. 13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Hebrews 4:12-13 (N.I.V.)

I enjoy watching the TV show, American Pickers. It's amazing to discover how much 'junk' is worth to the right person. Many times I have heard the hosts, Mike and Frank, say, "I love the imperfections," while talking about an item they want to purchase.

They use terms like, 'weathering' and 'patina.' which are both examples of imperfections that may take away some of the potential value, but don't take away from the desirability of the item. As I listened to them talk about an antique's imperfections, I thought about God talking about us.

This passage came to mind as I watched the 'pickers' haul out an old sign from inside a barn. They wanted to get a better look at the whole sign, front and back. They needed to see it in the sunlight in order to judge the value of the piece. This sign hadn't been outside for 30-40 years, it was decaying around the edges and had a great deal of filth built up on both sides.

Yet, despite the obvious flaws, these two men couldn't stop talking about how much the thing might be worth. They certainly don't mind finding a like new sign, but nothing makes them happier than to find what we would call, 'junk.'

Like God, they don't see junk, they see potential. It's obvious Mike and Frank love what they do, they

love old junk. God also loves the what God does, we were shown that on the cross. Jesus died for us while we were yet sinners, that prove God's love for us.

It's not that God wants us lost in the barn for 40 years getting rusty and dirty, but life happens. Despite what we look like, what we have been through or how rough this world has treated us, God's love is perfect, clean and whole.

We have the same promise, if we would love God and follow Jesus, we will all be made clean and whole again. The author in Hebrews reminds us that nothing us hidden from God, so maybe the damage that has been done to you is on the inside.

Nobody seems to notice that you have weathering or patina on your heart or mind. Not even that is hidden from God's sight. God judges more on potential, and in Heaven your potential is limitless. Wherever this world has laid you, God know where you are and will bring you home, imperfections and all.

– Pastor Mel

Centenary UMC

Church Staff

Pastor.....Mel Nielsen
Coordinator of Outreach
and Growth.....Kevin Hinkle
Church Secretary.....Christi Kennedy
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

Please Note: Due to the pandemic, all dates in August are subject to postponement, change or cancelation.

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., Aug. 2

Special Offerings

Pennies for Hunger.....Sun., Aug. 23

Fellowship Opportunities

Fellowship Hour.....Every Sunday between services

Mission Opportunities

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

Leadership Opportunities

FinanceMon., Aug. 10, 5:30 p.m.
 Missions.....Wed., Aug. 12, 4:00 p.m.

All meetings held in the Pavilion or Online until further notice

Children's Ministries

Sunday School.....Every Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Music Practices

Chancel Choir.....Mondays 7 p.m., Sanctuary

Bible/Book Studies

Lectionary Bible Study.....Every Tue., 9:30 a.m.
 @ Church Pavilion
 Monday Night Bible Study..... Every Monday 6:00 p.m.

Communications

Mini-Messenger Deadline.....Wednesdays at Noon
 Messenger Deadline.....Thurs., Aug. 20, 9 a.m.

Sunday Morning Helpers

**Please Note:
 Due to the pandemic, there will be no need for liturgists, greeters, communion stewards or fellowship host/hostesses in August.**

Address for Jane Rorex

The following is the current address for Jane Rorex. She is the widow of the late Rev. Doug Rorex who recently passed due to a diving accident. Rev. Rorex is the former District Superintendent to the LaMoine River District.

Jane Rorex
 3022 Hunter Fish Camp Rd
 Marianna, FL 32446-6316

Modern man has lost any sense of God's nearness, but Christianity teaches that God reveals himself through every single thing he has ever brought into being, whether a created object or historical event.

— R. C. Sproul

Budget Overview

Below is the most up to date budget information. You are able to see how Centenary's giving is matching up with the projected 2020 budget.

Your generosity is needed to help make the churches budget during these days of separation.

Needed

2020 Annual Budget..... \$360,174.00
 Needed Monthly..... \$30,014.50

Year to Date through June 30

Received \$133,349.96
 Current Annual Track..... -\$226,824.04

Avg. Monthly donations so far through 2020.....\$18,902.00

Thank You

Thank you for all the birthday cards sent for my 80th birthday. It sure brightened my day and helped me celebrate.

Tom Newby

Thank You

We wish to thank all of you who sent us those beautiful and refreshing 72nd anniversary cards. It is so nice to have enjoyed those many years together, then to see how many friends we truly have.

Sincerely Bob & Bonnie Minor

K.I.C.K.S. Updates

Acolyte schedule

August 2 - Jackson Six

August 9 - Delaney Ruyle

August 16 - Noah Borgman

August 23 - Annabelle Hardy

August 30 - Nicholas Warmowski

Please Note:

Due to the pandemic, there will be no need for teachers or volunteers for the month of August.

Sunday school update

Since there will be no in person Sunday school until further notice, please look on the private facebook group Centenary PreK. Diana Philips will continue to read/tell the story and share a little with the Sunday school kids.

Also, a reminder for parents, please download the Deep Blue Adventures app. There you can view the videos watched at the openings and there are games and activities.

Upcoming Worship Schedule

The following is a tentative schedule for August 2020 worship.

(Readings & message may change without notice.)

August 2

9th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - White

“Wrestling With God”

OT: Genesis 32:22-31

August 9

10th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - Green

“The Power of the World”

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

August 16

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - Green

“The Right Path”

Gospel: Matthew 15:12-20

August 23

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - Green

“Knowing Jesus”

NT: Matthew 16:13-23

August 30

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - Green

“Prepared”

NT: Matthew 16:24-28

September 6

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - White

“Forbidden or Permitted”

OT: Matthew 18:15-20



Rainbow reminders

I mentioned a bright rainbow in my message a few weeks ago. I thought I would share that image with you. It not only reminds me of God’s power to punish, it reminds me more of God’s ability to love and forgive. It reminds me of God’s presence in this world and that I am not alone.

Reminder’s of God are good for us to share. If you have a photograph that reminds you of God in any way, please share that with all of us. Send your pics and story to office@jaxcentenary.org. I will be happy to include them in a future Messenger.

Dear Centenary Family

Due to my health and age, I will not be able to do my work in the church anymore. I have done this for 22 years and I am 92 years young.

Thanks for everything.
Love you all
Harold D. Sorrill

August Birthdays

- 2.....Landyn Flynn
Adalyn Flynn
- 3.....Jerry McArtor
Susan Pennell
- 6.....Robert Minor
- 7.....Mark Stiltz
- 8.....Gregory Ginder
Clyde Zang
- 10.....Gerald Alderman
Matthew Hinkle
Sara Woodrum
- 11.....Nancy Robinson
Becky Woiwode
- 12.....Diane Stocker
- 13.....Michael Spradlin
- 16.....Bill Latham
- 17.....Jennifer Yamilkoski
John Steckel
- 18.....Thomas Jordan
- 22.....George Sparrow
- 23.....Julie Bryant
- 26.....Everett DeBolt
- 27.....Francis Riffey
- 28.....LeeAnn Stelling
- 29.....Jace Birdsell
Rhoda Walker
- 30.....Brenda Lane
Brian Pond

Francis Riffey will turn 100 on Aug. 27 if you want to send a card.

August Anniversaries

- 2.....Brian and Rachael Borgman
- 3.....Steve and LuAnn Woodrum
- 4.....Matthew and Nancy Hardy
- 6.....Doug and Jane Rorex
Mike and Kristal Stocker
- 7.....Rev. Robert and Janice Foulk
- 12.....Edward and Roberta Randorf
- 14.....Mark and Debbie Belzer
Charlie and Beverly Rhine
- 15.....Rev. Jean and Dick Hembrough
Mick and Victoria Selby
- 16.....Jim and Diane Stocker
- 19.....Bob and Amy Stidham
- 28.....Melanie and Michael Refuerzo
- 30.....Reg and Linda Tribble

Mission News

MMDC news

The Midwest Mission Distribution Center is now accepting volunteers. Preregistration is required. Contact Martha Vache if you are interested in volunteering (with a face mask and social distancing). The center needs donations of face masks and money. More information on the work that MMDC does can be found at <http://www.midwestmission.org/>

The center has received a grant from Ameren for solar panels. Having the panels will save MMDC over \$7,000 in electricity each year. Centenary’s Missions Committee recently donated of \$500 to help pay an electrician to do the wiring for the project.

Support for Smallwoods

Centenary has supported Mark and Rebecca Smallwood at Redbird Mission for many years. Becky teaches elementary students at Redbird Christian School and Mark has been teaching math and helping out in many ways at the school this year after “retiring” from teaching music. Their son, Nate, is now teaching music. Nate’s wife, Akela, is an elementary teacher, too, so a new generation of Smallwoods are also teaching at the school. Centenary recently sent \$1500 from the Lenten Offering and Missions donations to help support these missionaries.

Food Center update

The Jacksonville Area Food Center has received a lot of support recently including donations from: COVID grant from United Way, Lincoln Land and Prairie Council on Aging, Dot Foods, and FEMA. With all that support the center has not needed to use their funds to purchase as much food as usual this summer. Surprisingly, the demand for food has not increased this summer.

Cheryl TerHark,
Centenary’s Food Center Representative

Relay changes name

The Tri-County Festival of Hope (formerly Relay for Life) will be held on September 12 from 5 to 9 pm at Lincoln Avenue Baptist Church. They are planning to have a drive through with luminarias. Luminarias will cost \$5. The money will go to support the American Cancer Society. If you are interested in helping with this event, contact Martha Vaché.

Summer lunch program

The “Take it to the Streets” free sack lunches for children was restructured this summer. Instead of volunteers meeting at Grace to put the lunches together local restaurants including Hardee’s, McDonalds, Handle Bar, Charlie’s Ice Cream Shop, and Subway donate meals which are distributed at the Jacksonville Police Substation at Walnut Court on weekdays.

Melissa and Christy from the Jacksonville Area Community Food Center are coordinating the lunches this summer.

Fox Trust funds approved

Organization Requesting Funds	Approved
Alpha Phi Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma Int.....	\$150.00
Chaddock’s Children’s Foundation.....	\$500.00
Crisis Center Foundation.....	\$100.00
Cunningham Children’s Home	\$600.00
Grounds of Grace.....	\$750.00
JACIL (Independent living).....	\$200.00
Jacksonville Salvation Army	\$250.00
Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood house....	\$300.00
Midwest Mission Distribution Center.....	\$250.00
New Directions Warming Center.....	\$1,500.00
Pastor Helping Hand Account.....	\$416.00
Pathway Services Unlimited.....	\$100.00
Prairie Council on Aging - Doorbell Dinners.....	\$200.00
Prairieland United Way.....	\$100.00
Red Bird Missions.....	\$100.00
Spirit of Faith Soup Kitchen.....	\$100.00
UMCOR - Disaster Response USA.....	\$125.00
Centenary Youth Group - FUSION - Mission Trip..	\$1,000.00
Jacksonville Area Community Food Center	\$2,000.00
Midwest Youth Services.....	\$500.00
Congregational United Church of Christ.....	\$200.00
Baby Fold.....	\$250.00
SPERO Family Services.....	\$150.00
Jubilee Habitat for Humanity.....	\$50.00
Camp Courage.....	\$200.00
Total Approved.....	\$10,091.00

Drive Through Vacation Bible School held

A big thank you to everyone who volunteered for our drive-thru VBS this year! Bob Stidham and Cindy Claussen greeted our participants and directed them to our first station. Pastor Mel welcomed them at station 1.

Peggy Jordan and Linda Tribble, assisted by Jackson Six lead our snack station. Rachel Hinkle and Pat Baptist lead our music station. Pat Manker and Debbie Belzer lead our craft station. Debbie Nielsen, Kevin Hinkle, Jack Borgman and Lauren Stidham provided a fun bible story station. Diana Phillips and Catherine Pritchett wrapped it all up at the closing station.

Another big shout out to Katelin Six and her mom Kelly Long for providing the great decorations! It was wonderful seeing everyone have fun and participate... even the parents enjoyed and participated!

We served 42 people including 26 children during our unique VBS this year! Thank you to everyone who volunteered and prayed for our event.

– Rachael Borgman



PMel Welcoming each car and directing them.



Rachel Hinkle and Pat Baptist singing and dancing while leading the music station.



Linda Tribble and Peggy Jordan assisted by Knight, Jackson Six (not pictured), passing out Goldfish and Caprisuns at the Snack Station!



Pat Manker and Debbie Belzer sharing a fun shield craft at the craft station!

PLEASE SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 7



Debbie Nielsen (not pictured), Kevin Hinkle (Goliath), Jack Borgman (David), and Lauren Stidham (Sparky the dragon puppet) shared the important bible story "David Defeats Goliath".



Jack and Rachel Borgman.



Diana Phillips and Catherine Pritchett wrapping up the story, Bible verse and offering a backpack blessing at the Closing Station.



Kelly Long and Katelin Six were busy hanging decorations before the start of the Drive Through VBS.



Greeters Cindy Claussen and Bob Stidham greeted visitors and gave directions.

United Methodist Women News

UMW Reading Program book reviews

A 2020 Spiritual Growth book is “We Pray With Her: Encouragement for All Women Who Lead.” by Emily Peck-McClainm, et al. As we know, leading while female can be incredibly life-giving and spiritually fulfilling ~ but also lonely and difficult. In a world of glass ceilings, harassment, and “boy’s clubs”, women ~ both established leaders and those just starting up the ladder ~ need support and encouragement. This inspiring devotional is a collection of 100 entries written by women faith leaders of a grassroots movement turned online collective. You’ll be emboldened to support one another as you strive to live God’s calling.

This 2020 Nurturing for Community selection was not purchased by the Centenary UMW, but may be found at the Jacksonville Public Library or received through inter library loan.

“The Aging of Aquarius: Igniting Passion and Purpose as an Elder” is written by Helen Wilkes. Your carer has wound down, the kids have moved out and your schedule is clear...for the next 30 years. Now, with the rest of your life ahead, you can make this next stage of your life the most powerful yet. But where to start? Helen Wilke, a retired professor and activist, takes readers on an inspiring journey to find renewed purpose in retirement, helping readers as they transition to a post-work identity.

Diana Philips has reviewed all the 2020 books that the UMW has purchased, so she will be highlighting those not owned. When the Media Resource Center is open, they can supply many of the titles also.

Love Visits

Instead of sharing cookies and in-person visits during our Love Visits in August, members of Centenary’s United Methodist Women plan to send cards. We will miss seeing our Centenary friends, but it is important to keep everyone safe so we are following the Health Department guidelines during this pandemic.

LaMoine District News

The LaMoine River District UMW Annual meeting on September 19 will be held virtually from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Paul Black from the Illinois Great River’s Office of the United Methodist Church will set up and coordinate the meeting on Life Size (similar to Zoom). Watch for details about how to register. You will be able to use a computer or phone.

The IGRC UMW Celebration on October 3 which was scheduled to be held at Morton UMC will also be a virtual event this year coordinated by Paul Black. Watch for more details.

UMW pledges

Since Centenary’s UMW’s major fundraiser, our spring salad luncheon, had to be canceled, it would be helpful if UMW members (who can afford to) would make a pledge/donation to the district UMW. Thank you to those who have already sent donations including the FHS Circle. \$605.55 has been donated so far.

The pledges can be paid anytime during the year. Send your pledges to our UMW treasurer, Martha Vaché. Checks should be made out to “Centenary UMW”.

August Communing with God

Activity – Take a picnic to a park or host a cookout.

Scripture – Psalm 19:1 – The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Song – What a Wonderful World by Louis Armstrong
Terri Benz, Education and Interpretation



THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT MESSENGER IS THURSDAY, AUG. 20, 9 A.M.

Thanks to VBS volunteers

An enormous thank you to Rachael Borgman for planning and implementing our Pandemic version of VBS on Sunday, July 19! Thank you also to the many volunteers that made the afternoon possible! Our SS students learned the story of David and Goliath, heard VBS music, received materials for a craft, received a snack and participated in a Blessing of the Backpacks.

Several children promoted during drive-thru VBS

Seven students were promoted during VBS. James and Eliza McClarey were promoted from the Toddler Class to the Pre-K class. Five students were promoted from the Pre-K class to the Elementary class and received a Deep Blue Bible Storybook: Rowan Hamilton, Mason Hinkle, Henry Six, Tinley Sorrill and Hudson Woodrum.

Sunday School Reminder

Check out the Sunday school lesson each week on the Sunday school Facebook page and be sure to download the Deep Blue Adventures app so that your student can watch the video for that week's story.



CONNECT ONLINE

Until we are ALL able to safely gather together on Sunday mornings, a video of the Sunday message/service will be posted on the Facebook page at on Sunday mornings as well as a printed transcript on the website.

A mid-week update and devotion will also be posted on Facebook every Wednesday afternoon.

Please check these pages often for updates and your inbox for email updates as we continue adapting to our new reality.

Centenary Website:

www.jaxcentenary.org

Centenary Facebook:

www.facebook.com/Jaxcentenary

Please note: You do NOT need to have a Facebook login to see our church Facebook page!
Check it out today!

**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 _____

Please send a gift card to the following honoree:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Put in newsletter ___ Do NOT put in newsletter ___

CENTENARY	GIFT GIVEN TO	AMOUNT
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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August 2020

