



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

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:28 (N.I.V.)

We elcome Back to in-person worship services. Let's pray the virus stays away and we have no further cancellations, changes or further rescheduling due to COVID-19. We have been long separated and we may not be able to make physical contact with each other at church for a while yet, at least we are back. Praise God!

I do not think God sent this virus as some sort of punishment. I do think The Lord is watching how we respond to the effects of this pandemic. We have an opportunity here to learn, grown and be better at how we engage in ministry.

This is important to remember, because just when I thought the virus might draw humans closer as we joined together to fight against a common enemy, an old enemy, hatred, reared it's ugly head.

This is a great time to rethink, retool and refocus how we go about the ministry of Jesus. As the issue of racism is brought more and more to the forefront of our consciousness, we have a choice to make. Those choices are business as usual or something different.

I am not saying this is a problem at Centenary, I am saying it is a problem within the church Jesus created. Yes, there are wonderful examples of Paul's words being brought to fruition, but we must also admit there is still work to do.

Don't forget, the United Methodist Church postponed a vote about language in our Book of Discipline concerning the LGBTQ community. Are we really 'one in Christ.'

Most of just want to come back to church and worship. Worship of God is not just singing, praying and listening to a sermon. Worship of God is based on a changed heart, a heart that truly seeks to be one with Christ and each other. Worship of God is not switched on and off like an electric appliance. It is either on or off. Everything in between is salt without flavor.

It is time to be the church. Being the church has proven difficult from Antioch to this very day. Sinful human hearts need help to change. God's wisdom has made help available through the Word, the prophets, the law, Angels, the Body and Jesus. It's not that that we are helpless, we just need to stop acting helpless.

We are facing many great challenges and finding answers may seem harder with every passing day. When Jesus faced challenges our Savior leaned on God, not for answers but for the strength to act on the answers already provided.

- Pastor Mel

Centenary UMC

Church Staff

PastorMel NielsenCoordinator of OutreachKevin Hinkleand GrowthKevin HinkleChurch SecretaryChristi KennedyMusic DirectorTerri BenzContemporary Worship LeaderRachel HinkleParish VisitorJane LairCustodianPatty AdcockNursery AttendantKayleigh DirdenNursery AttendantChloe 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 July 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., July 5

Special Offerings

Pennies for Hunger.....Sun., July 26

Fellowship Opportunities

Fellowship Hour......Every Sunday between services Tuesday Morning Fellowship......Every Tue., 6-9 a.m. at SafeCo. Bakery

Mission Opportunities

AlAnon Meeting......every Wed., 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall Donate Blood.......Mon., July 5 & 12 at Passavant Hospital, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. MMDC Work Day......Mon., July 20, 8 a.m.

Leadership Opportunities

 COVID-19 Task Force.......Wed., July 1, 5:30 p.m.

 Finance.......Mon., July 13, 6 p.m.

 Missions.......Wed., July 15, 4:00 p.m.

All meetings held in the Pavilion until further notice

Children's Ministries

Sunday School......Every Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Drive Through VBS......Sun., July 19, 2-4

Music Practices

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

Bible/Book Studies

Lectionary Bible Study......Every Tue., 9:30 a.m.

@ Barbara Wooldridge's Home
Monday Night Bible Study..... Every Monday 6:00 p.m.

Communications

Mini-Messenger Deadline	Wednesdays at Noon
Messenger Deadline	Thurs., July 23, 9 a.m,
Messenger Folding Party	Thurs., July 30, 9 a.m.



THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT MESSENGER IS THURSDAY, JULY 23, 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 July.

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 Needed Monthly	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Year to Date through May 31 Received Current Annual Track	
Avg. Monthly donations so far through 2020	\$18,235.94

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K.I.C.K.S. Updates

Acolyte schedule

July 05 - Nicholas Warmowski

July 12 - Otto Zang

July 19 - Jack Borgman

July 26 - Matthew Hinkle

Please Note:

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

Sunday school update

Since there will be no in person Sunday school in July, 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.

VBS update

Centenary's 2020 Vacation Bible School will look a bit different this year with a fun Drive-thru style VBS! Participants will remain in the safety of their cars while they stop at various stations.

This exciting event will feature the Bible story, "David Defeats Goliath," (1 Samuel 17:1-50a), fun music, a take home craft and snack!

HELP NEEDED

We still need some more volunteers including "traffic control", "security", set up, clean up and more!

If you are interested in helping on July 19th please contact Rachael Borgman at rachael.borgman@gmail.com or 217-473-3794

Please see the full page advertisement with more information on page 4 of this issue!

Upcoming Worship Schedule

The following is a tentative schedule for July 2020 worship.

(Readings & message may change without notice.)

July 5

5th Sunday after Pentecost
Altar Color - White
"Don't Take My Awe"

Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 12

6th Sunday after Pentecost
Altar Color - Green
"Think About Your Work"
Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 19

7th Sunday after Pentecost Altar Color - Green "Hope" NT: Romans 8:12-25

July 26

8th Sunday after Pentecost Altar Color - Green "Hope Part 2" NT: Romans 8:26-39

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: Matthew14:22-33

Centenary United Methodist Church DRIVE-THRU VBS



Sunday, July 19, 2020, 2-4 p.m.

Come anytime between 2:00 -3:30

Centenary UMC, 331 E. State Street, please enter off of South Clay and volunteers will direct you.

This event is designed to keep everyone safe while enjoying a DRIVE-THRU VBS. Your kids can enjoy a Bible story and fun entertainment from the safety of your own vehicle! 6 stations will offer a fun filled half hour to your Sunday afternoon as each station will last around 4 minutes.

Please enter off of South Clay, onto Morgan Street and a volunteer will direct you. It has been a joy to work with the willing Doorbell Dinner volunteers this past week. Your efforts were an important community contribution. Thank you so much!

Barbara Wooldridge & Pat Baptist



FHS Auction Scheduled

Do I hear a bid? Here is the news on For Heaven's Sake Circle's online auction to benefit the Pavilion payoff!

On July 15 and July 16 from 9:00-11:00 and 4:00-6:00 at the Merchant Building on the north side of the Morgan County fairgrounds, The ladies will gratefully accept the items you are donating for this auction.

There will be signs to direct you. We will pick up your donations if you cannot bring them. Please call the church office with your request.

With thanks to Jess Spradlin, the auction will run on his internet site at the end of July, exact dates to be determined.

Thank you sincerely in advance for your support!

Attention gardeners

If you have extra produce in your garden, please share with your neighbors and friends. The Jacksonville Area Community Food Center is open every weekday morning. They welcome garden vegetables to share with their clients. The Jacksonville Salvation Army provides a carry out lunch every weekday and gives away commodities. Extra produce helps their budget stretch.

Dear Centenary

My sincerest thank you's for your support these past years with the Shoecrew (Shoeman) Water Projects shoe collections. This week the final pickup was made which brought the Jacksonville area donation to 39,457 pairs of shoes since January, 2010.

When I called to schedule my final pickup, I was told the shoe project itself was coming to an end. While that was sad news, I also felt an inner peace knowing that we had supported the project to its very conclusion. We had done what we could to help increase the quality of lives for so many people.

Some have said over the years that this was a silly project, but I've always felt this was an opportunity for people, no matter their economic level, to know that they too could help change the lives of others while yet providing for their own families. What an awesome gift people could give with such a meager investment.

Everyone that put shoes in those collection boxes had the same mind set—to help others, strangers even, and that I most definitely say is not silly but a reflection of God's love for others. God has blessed our combined efforts and to Him we give all the glory.

May God continue to bless your church's ministries as you seek to follow Matthew 25:40: "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these my brothers, you did for me."

So, again, thank you all for being a part of this shoes to water journey. I really appreciated your support.

Together in Christ, Diann Brechbuhl

Be not terrified by your adversaries; the king of the church has them all in a chain: be kind to them, pray for them; but fear them not.

— George Whitefield



Donate school supplies

Mid-summer is the best time to purchase school supplies on sale. Supplies donated will be given to Washington Elementary School. Watch to see how and where these can be collected.

List of graduates

Dr. Bradley Manker EdD, University of Florida Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Technology

Relay for Life will now be Festival of Hope

The Tri-County Festival of Hope (formerly Relay for Life) will be on September 12 from 5 to 9 pm at Lincoln Ave. Baptist Church. They are not sure what will be allowed by then; perhaps a drive through with luminarias. The money will still go to the American Cancer Society. If you are interested in being on Centenary's team, contact Martha Vaché. Find more information at https://www.facebook.com/triilrelay/

Mission News

MMDC news

The Midwest Mission Distribution Center is still restricting volunteers and donation deliveries. They do need donations of face masks and money. More information is available at on the work that MMDC is still doing can be found at http://www.midwestmission.org/

July Birthdays

1	Steven Woodrum
3	Janet Heyen
	Scott Calhoon
4	Dale Wooldridge
	Everett Birdsell
5	Brian Borgman
7	Jarice Crenshaw
	Trevor Birdsell
8	Rachael Borgman
9	Steve Quigg
10	Bonita Day
11	Lura Lene Smith
	Elizabeth Chamberlain
12	Kalyssa Brickey
	Jean Shafer
	Galen O'Neil
	Reneé Brewer
13	Tom Newby
	Emily Calhoon
15	Helen Hammond
16	Irene Evans
17	Paul Hamilton
18	Michael Meyer
20	Christopher Day
22	Benjamin Craddock
23	Steve Warmowski
25	Robert Dalton
26	
28	Christopher Prosser
29	Darcy Adams

July Anniversaries

1	Kurt and Cara Heller
2	Bill and Johanna Betters
4	Gale and Bonnie Waltrip
6	Roger and Karen Houston
8	Steve and Jeannette Hills
9	Jess and Daphne Spradlin
	Kevin and Rachel Hinkle
13	Jon and Casey Zang
25	Steve and Kathy McCarty
30	Jason and Monica Schriber
31	Tom and Pat Baptist

McClarey's welcome new baby

Please join the congregation in welcoming Linden Rain McClarey, born Saturday, May 23rd. The proud parents are Maggie and Eric McClarey. Super sweet siblings are James and Eliza. They are all home together and learning how to be a family of 5. Please keep them all in your prayers. Congratulations, McClareys!



Summer lunches for children



The "Take it to the Streets" free sack lunches for children sponsored by Grace UMC has been restructured this summer. Instead of volunteers meeting at Grace to put the lunches together several local restaurants are donating the meals. The meals are distributed the Jacksonville Police Substation at Walnut Court on weekdays.

The missions committee donated \$126.56 from the Pennies Against Hunger collections to help provide these meals. If you would like to help, make your check to "Centenary UMC". Put "Lunches for Kids" in the memo line. Centenary will forward the money to Grace UMC.

IGRC Statement on Racism

The Illinois Great Rivers Extended Cabinet and Conference Staff of the United Methodist Church believe that the Church is the living body of Christ. We are committed to leading the Conference in its call to eradicate racism in any form. We stand on the Biblical foundation that all persons are created by God and all persons are to live without the bondage of fear and alienation as they seek to fully develop their God given gifts. We acknowledge that all United Methodists are called to work toward enhancing attitudinal and systemic changes in whatever forms they are reflecting evil. We affirm our responsibility to embrace the diversity of God's creativity in breathing life into all, and to work diligently in assisting all communities to move toward being inclusive of all of God's children. We are called to stand and deliver in every congregation and community the immensity of God's love for all persons in such a time as this.

We are sorry for our part and seek to repent from the long history of racism and racial discrimination against people of color that is part of our churches and communities. The United Methodist Church has held a strong stance denouncing racism, and we seek to more fully embody this commitment to inclusion and anti-racism. We recognize the implicit bias within ourselves, our congregations, and our Illinois Great Rivers Annual Conference. We believe in the power of the Holy Spirit to work within us the grace of sanctification so that we might become more holy. We affirm that holiness is more than just personal but also includes societal transformation. In confronting racism, we commit ourselves to do the work of personal study, institutional reform, congregational renewal, and social advocacy. We believe that the lives of black people matter and deserve our intentional focus and commitment to resist the societal and ecclesial threats and barriers to black lives thriving.

As people called by God to build and nurture institutions representative of God's shalom, we call upon our members, friends, institutions, and partners to engage in acts that build God's peaceable kingdom on Earth. Towards this end we encourage local congregations to explore root causes of racism; develop local partnerships to address and redress current racism both locally and nationally; prayerfully seek God's will for reconciliation based on acts of repentance for American racism, and embrace faith-based education for all ages on anti-racism.

Frank Beard, Bishop of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference

Janice Griffith, Executive Assistant to the Bishop

Carol Lakota Eastin, Co-Dean of Cabinet and Kaskaskia River District Superintendent

Mary Kathryn Pearce, Co-Dean of Cabinet and Illinois River District Superintendent

James Barnett, Vermillion River District Superintendent

Stan Irvin, Cache River District Superintendent

Stephen Granadosin, Spoon River District Superintendent

Angie Lee, Iroquois River District Superintendent

Charliam Renner, Embarras River District Superintendent

NIcholas Showalter, LaMoine River District Superintendent

Allynn Walker, Mississippi River District Superintendent

Bradley Watkins, Sangamon River District Superintendent

Paul Black, Director of Communications

Curtis Brown, Director of Connectional Ministries

Mike Potts, Director of Finance and Administration

Mike Crawford, Coordinator of Congregational Development

Beth Fender, Coordinator of Discipleship and New Streams

Curt Franklin, Associate Coordinator of Camping and Youth Ministry

Patric Newton, Coordinator of Camping, Retreat, and Youth Ministries

Amy Shreve, Coordinator for Higher Education, Campus, and Young Adult Ministry and Associate Coordinator for Congregational Development

UMW Reading Program book reviews

A 2020 reading selection in the area of Social Action is "What Comes With the Dust" by Gharbi M. Mustafa. This slim, but profound, novel highlights the plight of those living under the Islamic State as well as the spirit of the Yazidi people. It tells the story of Yazidi women Nazo and Soz as they fight to survive.

"40 Days With Wesley" by Reuben Job is a 2020 Spiritual Growth selection. It was written as a 40 day Lenten devotional experience, but is appropriate at any season as it weaves inspirational readings on faith and prayer with quotes and excerpts from John Wesley. Each selection offers a simple daily pattern of: Reflection with a prayer, scripture, a short reading, quotes from John Wesley and a blessing to take with you through the day. This little gem is an easy read for reassurance and inspiration.

Local UMW News

Several of the UMW circles have held informal meetings in the church pavilion this summer. It has been nice to have a safe place to meet and visit. Planners of local UMW events such as our Love Visits are waiting to see what the restrictions will be in the future. Stay tuned.

UMW Pledges

Since Centenary's UMW's 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.

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".

LaMoine District UMW News

The LaMoine River District UMW Annual meeting on September 19 will be held be held virtually. Watch for details about how to register.

Cunningham Children's Home raised over \$55,000 through their Virtual Quilt Show! They are very grateful to all of those who participated. Hopefully, next year they can hold the usual in-person event.

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

July Communing with God

Activity – Pick flowers from your garden to take to a friend.

Scripture – Ecclesiastes 4: 9-10 – Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor. If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

Song – You've Got a Friend by Carole King and James Taylor

Terri Benz, Education and Interpretation

Blooming plants

Even though activities inside the church have been dormant this spring, the flowers and plants outside have been busy blooming and showing their colors. Photos courtesy of Martha Vaché.





COVID-19 Response Team issues guidelines for Worship services

The Centenary Administrative Council appointed a special COVID-19 Response Team to oversee the safety guidelines moving forward. That committee includes: Ad Council Chair, Barbara Wooldridge; Director of Outreach and Growth, Kevin Hinkle; Lay Leader, Catherine Pritchett; Trustee Chair, Mark Stiltz; SPPRC Chair, Karmen Birdsell; Finance Chair, Bob Stidham; Worship Chair, Terri Benz and Pastor Mel.

They held the first meeting on Wed., June 17 at the Pavilion to discuss plans for Centenary moving back to in-person worship services. The goal of this committee is to provide a safe and enriching worship experience. The committee would like everyone to know they are working with the knowledge provided to them by the Illinois Great Rivers Conference Bishop, Frank Beard, as well as safety guidelines provided by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

They also understand that not all decisions will be popular but encourage members and friends to work together as we navigate through uncertain times where information changes quickly. All updates will be provided via all church e-mails. If you are not receiving these all church e-mails, please contact the church office.

Centenary began holding in-person worship services on Sun., June 21. Outdoors services will continue until it is determined that moving into the sanctuary can be done safely. The following is information for you to consider as we wait for Phase 5 as directed by Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker.

- If you have been sick or are currently experiencing a cough, fever or other symptoms, please stay home and watch the services online.
- The building is being cleaned and disinfected in preparation for your return.
- Only the South doors will be open. Two for entering and two for exiting. Signs and ushers will help guide you.
- Seating in the sanctuary will be limited and the 6' social distancing parameters will be observed.
- Masks will be required for worship inside the church building. Masks will be made available if you do not have one.
- Access to the church office, Sunday school rooms, fellowship hall and parlor will be restricted.
- No decisions have been made regarding when Sunday school will begin.

- After worship, ushers will dismiss attendees by row, please no congregating in the Narthex.
- Children are asked to remain seated with their parents for the duration of the service.
- Only the sanctuary restrooms will be available, so please only 2 people at a time in the restrooms.
- Signs will be posted, so please watch for them and adhere to the safety guidelines.
- Water fountain will be unavailable and no fellowship hour. Please bring your own drinks.
- No congregational singing, no printed bulletins, no sharing joys and concerns, no passing of the collection plates and no members sharing announcements.
- Holy Communion or baptisms will be considered on a month to month basis.
 - No liturgists.
 - Acolytes will be allowed.

Let us continue to pray that all these measures will only be in place for a short period of time. This committee did not make any of these decisions lightly and mourn with you on having to implement them at all. This is a time to work together while looking to the future.

As far as joys and concerns and sharing announcements from the congregation. Pastor Mel will be accepting this information weekly and sharing it as he receives it. If you want Pastor Mel to share a joy, concern, or announcement, please send an email to him Pastormel1@hotmail.com or the church office office@jaxcentenary.org. Emails must be received before 8 a.m. Friday.

Please note that the Sunday services will still be available online and will be for the foreseeable future.

Centenary COVID-19 Safety Response Team

Pavilion ready for meetings

The Pavilion is ready to be used for meetings and small group gatherings. The restrooms have been cleaned and will be disinfected twice weekly. In order to reserve the Pavilion, please call the church office. The office is open Wednesday mornings 9-Noon and Thursday afternoons 1-3 p.m. You can call and leave a message anytime. The restrooms are locked, so you will need to get a key from the office prior to using the facility.

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Centenary United Methodist	HOHOFAFIUM GILL FOFM Bell Tower/Steeple Fund	Children's Activities	Elevator Upkeep Fund	FUSION/Youth Fund	Music Fund	Casion: Pavilion Fund	_ Mother's Day Organ Reservoirs Fund	Father's Day	Veteran's Day	Other H.E.L.P.S. Ministry Outreach	JACIL	for: Jacksonville Area Food Center	al Fund Jacksonville Salvation Army	Centenary - Building and Grounds Upkeep	New Directions Warming/Cooling Center	S (See hack side.)	Baby Fold, The (Normal)	Chaddock (Quincy)	Wiake checks payable to: Centenary Civic Cunningham Children's Home (Urbana)	Check # Lessie Bates Neighborhood House (E.St. Louis)	Midwest Mission Distribution Center (Chatham)	Red Bird Mission (Kentucky)	Volunteers in Mission	State Zip code	Church World Service/CROP	Please send a gift card to the following honoree:	UMCOR (United Methodist Com. on Relief)	MISSIONARIES	State ZIP code OTHER	Do NOT put in newsletter	
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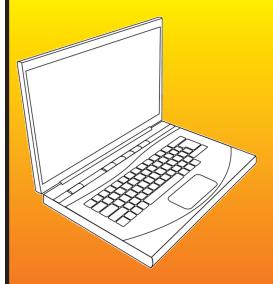
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	NOTICE:	Due to the governor's order all scheduled tings and events in July are subject to chase check our Facebook page or Website latest information. For those of you unables the online church, information will be she by phone or mail.	Mon., July 6	10 am - Staff Mtg.	Mon., July 13	10 am - Staff Mtg. 6 pm - Finance (0)	Mon., July 20	10 am - Staff Mtg	Mon., July 27	10 am - Staff Mtg.
		Due to the governor's order all schedumeetings and events in July are subject to Please check our Facebook page or Websthe latest information. For those of you ur access the online church, information will by phone or mail.	Sun., July 5	Holy Communion	Sun., July 12		Sun., July 19	2-4 p.m. Drive Through VBS	Sun., July 26	Pennies for Hunger

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

Return Service Requested

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July 2020



CONNECT ONLINE

As long as we are not able to 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!