

The Messenger

Lifting Up Jesus In The Heart Of Jacksonville



Kids clean up around church

On Sunday, August 29, the Sunday school kids went around with a few parents and teachers and filled 7 plastic bags with garbage found around the church and parsonage grounds.

*Pictures courtesy of
Chloe McDannald*

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The pandemic claims another event. Centenary's 200th Celebration has been moved to a future date that has to be determined. I am saddened, you are saddened, but sadness only has victory if we allow it. The celebration will take place, it will happen as surely as we have victory.

I learned long ago to trust God, and I believe God has the perfect date waiting for us, a date that will reveal something to us that the original date could not have provided. I once pastored a young family desperate to begin a family. They had two suffered 3 miscarriages which included two sets of twins. There were also two very expensive and failed in vitro fertilization attempts. They were then unsuccessful in adopting on 5 separate occasions. The last two attempts were especially difficult. The last child they held in their arms as the one they believed would be their child, until the birth mother changed her mind. The staff came in and told them the news and removed the child.

I wasn't with them in the room, nobody was, except God. I didn't meet them until after the miscarriages and before the failed IVF's and adoptions. I was amazed at their faith in God. Were they disappointed? Absolutely. Did they lose faith? No! They continued to come to church, pray with me and others and hold fast to their belief that God had a plan. My prayers with them over the months of discouraging news was that God had a plan for them and a perfect child was waiting in the near future.

That day finally came, after all they have suffered through, they finally adopted their child and became a family. They have since adopted two more children and have become a family of five. They still acknowledge the pain of all those children who slipped through their lives, but they choose to live in the moment of what God is doing now and what God will do in the future. They made a choice not to allow sadness to take over, they made a

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WEEKLY WORSHIP

Traditional Service8:15 am
 Sunday School for all ages.....9:30 am
 Confirmation9:30 am
 Fellowship HourCoffee and tea available
 Contemporary Service.....10:45 am

SPECIAL SUNDAY EVENTS

Holy CommunionSunday, Oct. 3
 Bicentennial SundaySunday, Oct. 17, 10:00 a.m.

*Only **One** Service on October 17*

Pennies For HungerSunday, Oct. 24

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

AlAnon MeetingWednesdays, 7 pm
 Donate Blood.....1st and 2nd Mondays, 11 - 6

COMMUNICATIONS

Messenger Deadline.....Thurs., Oct. 21, 9 am

LEADERSHIP

TrusteesWed., Oct. 13, 6:30 pm

BIBLE STUDIES

Tuesday Morning
 Bible StudyOct. 12 & 26, 9:30 am
In the Fellowship Hall
 Monday Night Bible Study.....Monday Nights, 5:30
In the Parlor

SMALL GROUPS

Ladies Book ClubTues., Oct. 19, 6:30 pm
In the Parlor
 Grief Support Group.....Thurs., Oct. 7, 11 am
In the Pavilion, bring a sack lunch and drink
 Prayer MeetingMondays 8:15 am
In the Small Chapel

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

FHS CircleWed, Oct. 13, 6:30 pm
At LuAnn Woodrum's home
 Hope CircleThur., Oct. 7, Noon
At Lake Jacksonville
 Spiritual Growth Retreat.....Tues., Oct. 12
9:00 am - 1:30 pm in the Pavilion

Centenary Staff

Pastor

Mel Nielsen

Director of Outreach
 and Growth

Kevin Hinkle

Secretary

Christi Kennedy

Music Director

Terri Benz

Contemporary Worship Leader

Rachel Hinkle

Parish Visitor

TBD

Custodian

Patty Adcock

Nursery Attendants

Kayleigh Dirden

How to contact us

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Centenary's Missionaries

Mark and Rebecca Smallwood

Teachers at Redbird Mission
 in Kentucky

Children's Ministry News

OCTOBER ACOLYTES

October 3 - Grant Kennedy

October 10 - Otto Zang

October 24 - Molly Ruyle

October 31 - Delaney Ruyle

TEACHING SCHEDULE

Toddler/Pre-K classroom

Teacher: Diana Phillips

Assistant: Kayleigh Dirden

Elementary Classroom

Teachers: Rusti Cummings and Nancy Hardy

Assistants:

1st Sunday - Jack Borgman

2nd Sunday - Peggy Jordan

3rd Sunday - Ashley Westenberger

4th Sunday - Amy Stidham

Middle School

Rachael Borgman, Mary Tomlin and Linda Tribble.

High School

Pastor Mel Nielsen

Sunday school classes planning to assemble

Birthday Party Kits

October 31 will be a fifth Sunday and our Sunday School classes will be again participating in a service project.

We will be assembling Birthday Party Kits that will be distributed to the Jacksonville Food Bank and the Murrayville-Woodson Food Pantry.

The adult Sunday School class will be providing cake mixes, tubs of frosting, sprinkles and candles. We are asking our Sunday School families to provide plates, cup[s], napkins, plastic tablecloth, etc. (Dollar Tree and Dollar General have good selections and prices). Any design is fine - Barbie, Spiderman, Dinosaurs, Peppa Pig - whatever your children like. A few sets with a simple "happy Birthday" for older kids would be appreciated too. Gift bags for put the kits in will be provided. and on Sunday, Oct. 31, we will assemble the kits during our Sunday School time. If it's possible to have your child shop for the items with you, it would add to their mission experience.

Items may be brought to the church the week of October 24 and taken to the Fellowship Hall.

We are looking forward to providing these Birthday Party Treats and helping parents and kids celebrate!



UNICEF Sunday

It's that time of year again...time to Trick or Treat for UNICEF! On Sunday, October 31, you will have the opportunity to join in work for children in 109 countries around the world.

A jack-o-lantern bucket will be provided in the narthex during 1st service. At the 2nd service, "our" kids will pass containers up and down the rows to collect donations.

Parents: Children are encouraged to wear their costumes.

October Birthdays

1	Laura Benz
3	Becky Butler
4	David Ginder Gary Heyen
7	Gary Byers
8	Tamara Newby Mark Belzer Jim Stocker
9	Ashley Westenberger
11	Margaret Little
13	Barbara Wooldridge
14	Gerry Robinson Monica Grounds
15	Rita Northrop Brenda Quigg
18	Marc Ginder Maria Rehberg
19	Camri Anderson Ken DeFrates
21	Dean Gish
22	Joyce McAllister
23	Karmen Birdsell Rosalie Kurfman
24	Rev. Robert Foulk Bill Betters Otto Zang Mike Stocker Felix Hamilton
26	Russell Kimmons
27	William Meyer
30	Casey Zang Ed Randorf J.W. "Bill" Smith

October Anniversaries

1	Chub & Patsy Patterson
15	Paul and Leah Hamilton
19	Steve & Kelly Quigg
23	Phil & Terri Benz

Upcoming Worship Schedule

The following is a tentative schedule for October 2021 Worship.

Readings & Message are subject to change.

October 3

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - White

Sermon Series: *Jesus in Hebrews*

"Two by Two"

Gospel: Mark 10:1-12

NT: Hebrews 1:1-4, 5-12

October 10

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - Green

Pastor Preaching in Roanoke UMC

Guest Speaker from Midwest Mission

Scripture: TBD

October 17

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Laity Sunday - 200th Recognition

Altar Color - Green

Sermon Series: *Jesus in Hebrews*

"Jesus the High Priest"

Gospel: Mark 10:17-31

NT: Hebrews 4:12-16

October 24

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - Green

Sermon Series: *Jesus in Hebrews*

"Jesus and Perfection"

Scripture: Mark 10:46-52

NT: Hebrews 7:23-28

October 31

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - Green

Sermon Series: *Jesus in Hebrews*

"Jesus and Sacrifice"

Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

NT: Hebrews 9:11-14

Missions

From refugee settlement to earthquake disaster response, you can help

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) currently needs funding to help those affected by three types of disasters. Gifts can be given to Centenary for UMCOR disaster response in general or you may designate one of these specific projects as described below. You will find more details about how UMCOR is helping and a chance to donate online on the IGRC UMC website. <https://www.igrc.org/> Click on the words “You can help!” in the box that says “100% with UMCOR”.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT: UMCOR is working with Church World Service to assist with temporary housing for Afghan refugees. Designate UMCOR/refugees on your check. More information is available at <https://cwsglobal.org/learn/refugees-and-immigrants/>.

HURRICANE IDA: Hurricane Ida, a Category 4 storm, made landfall on the U.S. gulf coast on August 29. Early response teams will be invited to help with needs such as debris removal and the tarping of roofs. Donations can be made through Centenary to Advance #901670, U.S. Disaster Response and by designating UMCOR/Ida Relief.

HAITI EARTHQUAKE: The United Methodist Committee on Relief’s response to the 7.2 magnitude earthquake that rocked Haiti on Aug.14 is underway. The quake, which particularly damaged the southern and western regions of the island, has left more than 2,200 dead and 12,000 injured. Several hospitals have been damaged or destroyed. Those still open are completely overwhelmed, lacking sufficient personnel and medical supplies. UMCOR has already awarded grants to provide urgently needed medical supplies. Donations can be made through Centenary to Advance #982450, International Disaster Response by designating UMCOR/Haiti Earthquake.

Our Conference, Our Kids

During the month of September, Centenary highlighted Our Conference Our Kids Campaign and took a special offering for this campaign.

The vision of the campaign is to embrace the Spiritual Life Ministries at The Baby Fold, Chaddock, Cunningham Children’s Home, Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House, and Spero Family Services and ensure the continued inclusion of Christ-centered spiritual care in their healing work.



World Communion Sunday

World Communion Sunday will be celebrated on October 3. It was begun by several U.S. Protestant denominations in the 1940s as a way of celebrating Communion with Christians of many theologies and denominations all over the world. It is one of six special Sundays of the United Methodist Church. Your gift to this special offering equips United States racial and ethnic students and international students to transform the church and communities.

Redbird cancels Homecoming

Centenary is not the only one who has had to postpone their celebration due to COVID. Red Bird Mission has postponed their Centennial Homecoming until 2022. Instead of an in person gathering to celebrate their 100th year on October 8 to 10, they will have a virtual celebration. Join the event at www.rbmission.org/homecoming or on Facebook at Red Bird Mission Centennial-Celebration 100 years.

200th Celebration postponed until 2022

The Bicentennial Committee, along with the Centenary Administrative Council decided to postpone the 200th Celebration until 2022.

The new tentative dates are October 15-16, 2022. The committee intends to keep all the plans the same. T-shirt orders are closed now, but will reopen next year before the celebration. All meal reservations will be held until next year as well.

You are invited to be part of a special day of worship on Sunday, October 17 as the Worship Committee has added a few things to help commemorate the day. Among the additions to worship will be a video presentation from long standing members and a Children's Choir. There will also be a souvenir bulletin for everyone to take home.

Please note there is only one worship service on October 17. it is at 10 a.m.

Trunk or Treat planned

The Education Committee is going ahead with a smaller version of Trunk or Treat. Plans are underway to hold the event on October 24. Volunteers are sought to decorate vehicles and hand out candy. There will be no 'sit down' meal or bounce house this year. Please follow Centenary's Facebook Page for the latest information.

Centenary in IC Parade

Centenary will be taking part in the Illinois College Homecoming Parade on Sat., Oct. 9 at 10 a.m. The parade lines up at the corner of W. State St. and Church Street Kids are asked to wear their Halloween Costumes if they would like to help promote our Trunk or Treat. All other 'walkers' are asked to wear their Centenary T-Shirts. There will be a box in the Narthex for candy donations. No chocolate, please; with the exception of Tootsie Rolls.

A Cross will light the way

Jacksonville Stained Glass stopped by the church on Thursday, Sept. 9, to perform a 'cross fitting.' The workers brought several sizes of crosses to determine the one that fits the front of the church best. The cross pictured below is a sample 'board'. The actual cross will be an electric blue lighted cross with glass on three sides.

The completed cross will be mounted as shown on the peak of the church on the north side. It will be the last part of the Bell Project. The final plans for the lighted cross will be developed between the For Heaven's Sake Circle and the Centenary Trustees.



Grief Group planning sack lunch meeting

The Centenary Grief Group will meet, Thursday, October 7 at 11:00 a.m. Members are asked to bring a sack lunch and a drink. Games and fellowship will be enjoyed. All are welcome. They plan to meet in the Pavilion, weather permitting.

United Methodist Women

UMW Book Reviews

This month's selection is in the category of Leadership Development; Rise!: From Caged Bird to Poet of the People, Maya Angelou by Bethany Hegedus. We do not have this book in our Centenary UMW library, but it is available through the Jacksonville Public Library Interlibrary loan program. This is a bonus book (worth 2) and is also suitable for youth.

Writer, activist, trolley car conductor, dancer, mother and humanitarian - Maya Angelou's life was marked by transformation and perseverance. This comprehensive and beautifully illustrated picture-book biography traces Maya's life from her early days, through her work as a freedom fighter, and to her triumphant rise as a poet of the people.

LaMoine Annual Meeting

The LaMoine River District UMW Annual Meeting was held on Zoom on September 18. Three of our members were installed as officers: President, Martha Vaché; Secretary, Rusti Cummings; and Membership, Nurture, and Outreach, Diana Phillips.

Fall Salad Luncheon canceled

Centenary's UMW had hoped to be able to hold a salad luncheon this fall. However, with the increase of covid cases in the Jacksonville areas, the UMW officers decided that it isn't safe to do so. That means that our UMW hasn't been able to have any fundraiser this year.

It would be very helpful if UMW members could donate a portion of the money that they would have spent on their salads to our UMW. Donations can be given to circle leaders, to the UMW treasurer, Martha Vaché, or to the church office. Please indicate on the envelope that it is for Centenary UMW. Make checks to "Centenary UMW". Thank you to all who have already made contributions!

Circle News

FHS Circle has been busy working on raising money for the bell tower steeple project. They will have a wiener roast hosted by LuAnne Woodrum on Wednesday, October 13 at 6:30 pm.

Hope Circle members had lunch in the pavilion in September. The October meeting will be a wiener roast hosted by Jarice Crenshaw at Lake Jacksonville on Thursday, October 7 at noon.

Spirit Circle Meeting – TBA

Thank You

I would like to thank all of you who prayed for me, phoned and sent cards while I was in the hospital and during my recuperation at home.

Your prayers and well wishes meant so much to me.

God Bless all of you.

Debbie Earp

Thank You

Thank all of you who prayed for me, phoned and sent cards during the two times I was in the hospital

after having two strokes.

All the prayers meant so much to me.

God Bless all of you.

Glenda Eldridge

United Methodist Women

All women are invited to the

LaMoine District UMW SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT

Where: Jacksonville Centenary UMC's Outdoor Pavilion

When: Tuesday, October 12, from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm.

Leader: Barbara Wooldridge

“Top Ten List: Priorities for Faithful Living”

Registration/Fellowship: Beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Bring: A friend, a lawn chair, your Bible, pen and paper,
& your own lunch.

Beverages will be provided.

Dress casually for the weather: Bring a jacket or sweater.

Bring donations for:

Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House: gift cards.

Cunningham Children's Home: quilts, men's socks, and gift cards in larger denominations especially to Wal-Mart, Amazon, and McDonald's.

Special notes: Reservation are not required.

Masks are recommended.

Work day held on church grounds

On Saturday, September 11, volunteers from Centenary spent the morning completing minor repairs, weeding, painting and removing the 'shed' that was on the northeast corner of the parsonage property. Repairs were made to the steps and rear deck at the parsonage and the steps leading up to south office door at the church. A new dumpster replaced the trash cans in the church parking lot and that area was cleaned and the old holding area for the trash cans was removed. The fence along Morgan street was painted to match the shed and garage at the parsonage. Some weeding and tree trimming also took place. Many thanks to those who gave their time, you are greatly appreciated.

Pictures courtesy of Rachel Hinkle





Tapestry entertains at September Song

On Sunday, September 18, more than 100 people came to the Centenary Pavilion to enjoy a beautiful night of food and music. Local favorites, Tapestry, were on hand to entertain. They announced to the crowd that in October 2021 they will be celebrating 50 years together. This was only their second performance since the pandemic began in March 2020.



Thanks to our volunteers who help make the church grounds a little nicer



New Sermon Series is “Jesus in Hebrews”

A new sermon begins October 3 and goes through November 14, except October 10 when Pastor will be gone, will focus at how people viewed the Lord’s identity after Jesus death and departure as contained in the writings of the Book of Hebrews.

This teaching sermon series will look specifically at . . . Jesus and the Angels; Jesus the High Priest; Jesus and Perfection; Jesus as Sacrifice; Jesus as Redeemer and Jesus and the Covenant

**PASTOR
CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE**

choice to trust in a day they could not see. They knew God had a vision they could not see and they lived in that faith.

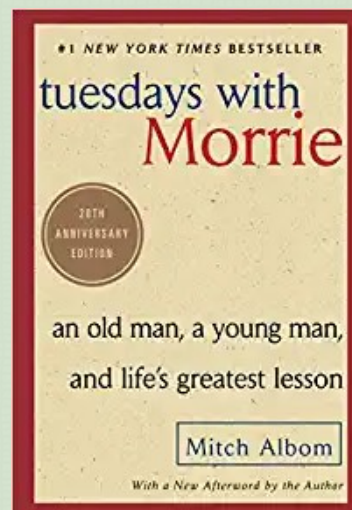
Join in their spirit of being faithful to God’s plan and believe that there is a day coming when we can make decisions without fear of a pandemic. That day cannot come soon enough, but we have no choice but to wait, so I pray God will sustain us until we that time.

God Bless
– Pastor Mel

Fusion report

Fusion will be starting again beginning October 2, 6 - 7:30 at the Pavilion. Fusion is open to anyone from 6th-12th grade. If you have any questions, please see Rachel of Kevin Hinkle.

Ladies Book Club



The September Ladies Book Club will meet on Tues., Oct. 19 at 6:30 in the church parlor.

The featured book will be “Tuesdays with Morrie” by Mitch Albom.

Please contact Debbie Nielsen if you would like to participate.

