



The Messenger

Lifting Up Jesus In The Heart Of Jacksonville



Pictured at left is Debbie and I visiting the General Sherman Sequoia Tree in Sequoia National Park. The National Park Service estimates this tree to be around 2,200 years old. This makes General Sherman among the oldest living things on the planet.

My mind was still trying to understand how that is when Jesus popped into my head; I thought, this tree and Jesus are about the same age. I understand that Jesus is eternal and beyond earthly 'birthdays', but in earthly years, they are about the same.

My mind began to think about all that has happened in our world since this tree and Jesus were born. Too much to recall. As we read more about General Sherman, we realized that this tree has survived insects, germs, fires, wind and other attempts on its life. (Remnants of a recent fire are shown behind Debbie.) It still stands.

Christians know that their savior is eternal, but that hasn't stopped others, since the first Christmas, from trying to disprove the Christ's divinity. Jesus is still living.

Jesus will be alive long after this amazing old and beautiful tree has finally succumbed. As Christians, we too, will outlive this tree. God has promised eternal life to those who follow and believe. As I walked away from General Sherman, my mind was thinking about how I must weather the storms of this life, the insects, germs, fires, wind and other attempts on my life are not worth worrying about because God has promised so much more in the life that will be.

This tree is a reminder to me that we can survive whatever is thrown against us. If God can give a simple plant nearly impenetrable bark, how much more protection had the Lord blessed us with? We may not make it through this world without a scar or two, but we do survive, there is a tomorrow – Praise God!

Take a moment today to reflect on the beauty of life in this world, even with the dark moments, we are blessed people living an eternal life that begins here and ends in the place that God calls good. Any place that God calls good is good with me.

God Bless,
Pastor Mel

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Weekly Worship Services ..July 3 and 24 10:30 a.m.
July 10, 17 & 31 9:00 a.m.
All services will be in the Pavilion in July
Sunday School for all ages.....Summer Break
Fellowship HourNone in July

Reminder . . .

Centenary moves to ONE worship service
at 9:00 a.m. beginning in August.
Sunday School will be at 10:00 a.m.

SPECIAL SUNDAY EVENTS

Holy Communion.....Sunday, July 3
Financial Stewardship Kick Off
Pennies For Hunger.....Sunday, July 24
Potluck for the Hinkle'sSunday, July 24

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Donate Blood.....1st and 2nd Mondays, 11 - 6

COMMUNICATIONS

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

BIBLE STUDIES

Tuesday Morning
Bible StudyJuly 5 & 19 9:30 am
In the Parlor

SMALL GROUPS

AlAnon MeetingWednesdays, 7:30 pm
Ladies Book Club.....Tues., July 18, 6:30 pm
Prayer MeetingMondays 8:15 am
In the Parlor

Quote of the Month

“What you are is God’s gift to you,
what you become is your gift to God.”
—Hans urs von Balthasar.

Centenary Staff

Pastor

Mel Nielsen

Office Managers

Rachel Hinkle & Christi Kennedy

Music Director

Terri Benz

Contemporary Worship Leader

Rachel Hinkle

Parish Visitor

Rhoda Walker

Custodian

Patty Adcock

Nursery Attendants

Kayleigh Dirden

How to contact us

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Website: www.jaxcentenary.org

Centenary's Missionaries

Mark and Rebecca Smallwood

Teachers at Redbird Mission
in Kentucky

Children's Ministry News

JULY ACOLYTES

July 3 - Mason Hinkle
July 10 - Crue Stiltz
July 17 - Noah Borgman
July 24 - Matthew Hinkle
July 31 - Delaney and Molly Ruyle

TEACHING SCHEDULE

Toddler/Pre-K classroom

Upcoming Events

August 14 - Promotion Sunday, Presentation of Bibles and Blessing of the Backpacks. Acolyte training after worship service. There will be a brunch for Sunday School families after acolyte training.

August 21 - Sunday School Resumes.
Sunday School Teacher Recognition and Appreciation Sunday

Sunday school Paints Rocks for Jacksonville Community

On May 29, the Sunday School classes enjoyed another 5th Sunday Service Project. They worked together to paint rocks with inspirational words on them. The children will be distributing them around the community.

Sunday school on summer break

Centenary kids' Sunday School is taking a summer break from June 5 through August 21. Keep your eyes open for summer activity opportunities!

4th of July Parade

We will again have an entry in Jacksonville's 4th of July parade which will be Saturday, July 2nd! We'd love to have many participate...walkers and riders on the trailer are needed!

If you are coming to join us from the parade, don't forget to bring some candy to share. We will meet at 9:45 at the Fairgrounds Grandstand.

Sunday School Swim Party

On Sunday, July 31, 2-4 p.m. a swim party will be held at the Hrynewych Home, 1136 W. State St. Jacksonville.

All families are invited to an afternoon of fun in the pool! Thanks to the Hrynewych family for hosting us in their beautiful backyard pool!

Bookmobile is Available

The Jacksonville Public Library's Bookmobile is available every Friday in the Centenary Pavilion from 11:30 - 12:15. Pictured below are children and their families enjoying picking our new books to read.



July Birthdays

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

July Anniversaries

1	Kurt and Cara Heller
2	Bill and Johanna Betters
4	Gale and Bonnie Waltrip
9	Jess and Daphne Spradlin Kevin and Rachel Hinkle
13	Jon and Casey Zang
25	Steve and Kathy McCarty
30	Jason & Monica Schriber

Upcoming Worship Schedule

The following is a tentative worship schedule for July 2022.

Readings & Message are subject to change.

July 3

4th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - Green

Holy Communion

Sermon Series: *Our Summer with Luke*

Sermon: *Luke Part 3, Sending out 2x2*

Gospel Reading: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 10

5th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - Green

Sermon Series: *Our Summer with Luke*

Sermon: *Luke Part 4, Good Samaritan*

Gospel Reading: Luke 10:25-37

July 17

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - Green

Sermon Series: *Our Summer with Luke*

Sermon: *Luke Part 5,*

Mary and Martha Fighting

Reading: Luke 10:38-42

July 24

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - Green

Sermon Series: *Our Summer with Luke*

Sermon: *Luke Part 6, 3 a.m. Bread*

Gospel Reading: Luke 11:1-13

July 31

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - Green

Sermon Series: *Our Summer with Luke*

Sermon: *Luke Part 7, Surplus Grain*

Gospel Reading: Luke 12:13-21

Pledge Kick-Off and Service Time Change Announcement

The Worship Committee, in conjunction with the Finance Committee, is preparing for a pledge Sunday kick-off on July 3 in the pavilion at 10:30am. Worship will be followed by a potluck with grilled hamburgers and hot dogs provided by the church. Attendees are asked to bring a dish to share. Also, by popular request, we will continue meeting in the pavilion for worship services for the month of July only.

Centenary's Ad Council has approved that we move to one service each week, a 9am service beginning July 10. In the fall, this will be followed by 10am Sunday School for all ages. The one service will be a blended service with both traditional and contemporary music.

Much prayerful consideration has been given to this decision, as well as many conversations held with church members. It has been disheartening for many to see our numbers fall so low coming out of the pandemic. There is some renewed excitement about being able to worship altogether again.

We know we cannot please everyone, but hope all will understand that we are striving for the best common good. The hope is that all will undergird this big change with prayer and positive spirits in moving forward.

-Terri Benz
Worship Committee Chair

Thank You

We are so grateful for all the meals prepared for us these past weeks.

Your prayers have been such a blessing to us. We are blessed to have such support from our church family.

Sincerely,
Jerry and Rhoda Walker

What to Expect From the New 9:00 a.m. Service

This is just a note from your Music Director, Terri Benz, with a word about what to expect in the way of music when Centenary transitions to one service each week.

We understand that some of you prefer more traditional music while others prefer more contemporary music. We think we've come up with a simple plan to incorporate both styles in worship, a blended worship.

I (Terri) will be leading worship on the 1st, 3rd, and occasional 5th Sundays. You can expect mostly hymns with a contemporary song somewhere in the mix each week. Preludes and offertories will tend to be more traditional (piano and organ) but arrangements of contemporary songs may also be used.

Rachel will lead worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. The praise band will assist her in doing mostly contemporary music but with the addition of a hymn or two here and there each week.

This new plan will start officially in August when we move back indoors after our month outside in the pavilion. Because of some special events happening in July, services will be a little more informal in that more informal setting.

As a reminder, here are the worship times for July in the pavilion:

July 3 - 10:30am worship celebrating pledge campaign, lunch following (pavilion)

July 10 - 9:00am worship (pavilion)

July 17 - 9:00am worship (pavilion)

July 24 - (**notice time change**) 10:30am worship, luncheon celebrating Kevin's full-time appointment following (pavilion)

July 31 - 9:00am worship (pavilion)

August 7th and forward - 9:00am worship (back indoor to sanctuary)

Please contact me if you have any questions.

-Terri Benz
Worship Committee Chair

A Small Peek at Something Monumental

Vacation Bible School 2022





Fox Trust Funds released for June 2022

Fox Trust Request Funds June 2022		Requested By	Available Funds:	\$ Amount Requested	\$ Amount Approved
<u>Organization</u>	<u>Requesting Funds</u>				
Baby Fold		Rev Lori Bultemeier		\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00
Bright Start Daycare		Tunezia Badger			
Camp Courage		John Hunter		\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Chaddock's Children's Foundation		Emily Pridemore			
Congregational United Church of Christ		Lynn Bohlmann			
Crisis Center Foundation		Dona Leanard		\$500.00	\$500.00
Cunningham Children's Home		Ginger Mills		\$1,096.95	\$1,100.00
Delta Kappa Gamma- Alpha Phi Chapter		Martha Hauck		\$500.00	\$500.00
Doorbell Dinners- Centenary UMC		Pat Baptist/Barbara Wooldridge		\$375.00	\$375.00
Educational Day Care Center		Jessica Niederer		\$4,920.00	\$2,500.00
Fellowship of Christian Athletes		Todd Sweatman		\$0.00	
Fusion Youth Ministry		Rachel Hinkle		\$0.00	
Green Pastures Christian Retreat Center		Keith Bradbury		\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Grounds of Grace		Dana Pfeiffer		\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00
Hobby Horse House of Jacksonville		Brittany Westlake/Lilly White		\$850.00	\$850.00
JACIL (Independent living)		Missions (Peggy Davidsmeyer)			
Jacksonville Area Community Food Center		Melissa Hall		\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Jacksonville Salvation Army		Chris Clark		\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Jenson Woods Camp Foundation		Brittany Lane		\$14,748.50	\$5,000.00
Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood house-IGRC UM agency		Missions (Lisa Graves)			
Midwest Mission Distribution Center-IGRC UM agency		Chantel Corrie		\$5,725.00	\$5,725.00
Midwest Youth Services		Ann Hungerford		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
New Directions Warmig & Cooling Center		Sarah Robinson			
Our Conference, Our Kids Campaign-IGRC		Mission		\$500.00	\$0.00
Pastor Helping Hand Account		Missions		\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Pathway Services Unlimited		Maryjane Million			
Prairie Council on Aging - Doorbell Dinners		Clare Collins			
PrairieLand United Way		Karen Walker			
Red Bird Missions-IGRC UM agency		Karla Roberts			
Spero right Start Child Care		Ranee Kujawa			
Spirit of Faith Soup Kitchen (Polly Pulley)		Polly Pulley		\$4,600.00	\$2,500.00
UMCOR - Disaster Response USA-IGRC UM agency		Missions		\$250.00	\$250.00
Total Requested or Approved				\$59,565.45	\$40,300.00

United Methodist Women

Reading Program Selections

“The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World” by Melinda Gates is an offering in the category of Leadership Development. Check our Public Library to see if they have it or can get it for you.

For the past twenty years, Melinda Gates has been on a mission to find solutions for people with the most urgent needs, wherever they live. One thing that’s become increasingly clear to her: if you want to lift a society up, you need to stop keeping women down.

Her unforgettable narrative about the inspiring people she’s met during her travels around the world is backed by startling data on issues that need our attention - from child marriages to lack of access to contraceptives to gender equity in the workplace.

Another book to check with the Public Library about is “The House on Lowell Street” by Linda A. Keane. This book is in the category of Nurturing for Community.

Rose Morrison’s comfortable life as a banker’s wife is upended when her husband dies and leaves her with formidable debt. To help support herself and her son, she takes in two seamstresses from the border factory.

But trouble is brewing at the factory, where a union contract is about to expire, and Rose finds herself confronted with confusing moral choices. This book is fiction that is based on a true event: the strike of the Kalamazoo corset workers in 1921.

UMW Pavilion Sale

The UMW garage sale in the pavilion on May 13 was a success with lots of items to sell and beautiful weather. The Circles made a profit of nearly \$1,000. Thank you to everyone who donated items or helped in any way with the sale.

UMW Love Visits

Centenary’s United Methodist Women’s Love Visits will be on Wednesday, August 3. Bring cookies and come share your love as we visit members of our Centenary family! This has always been a wonderful day of fellowship for both those visited and those doing the visiting.

We will meet in the parlor to preparing plates of cookies and fruit at 9:00 am. Donations of homemade cookies are needed. Having more volunteers is always helpful. Please join us. If you can’t help that day, you may leave your cookies in the parlor during office hours.

The tradition of Love Visits is back after skipping a couple of years. We promise to follow recommended safety procedures and respect anyone health concerns. If you have any questions or know of someone to add to the list of those we visit or send cards to, please contact Jarice Crenshaw.

Future UMW Dates

Love Visits:

Wed., Aug. 3, 9:00 a.m. Parlor

UMW Mission U:

July 17 - 20, Springfield

UMW Business Meeting:

Thurs., Aug. 9, 6:30 pm, parlor

UMW Circles don’t schedule meetings during the summer.

Thank You

Mary Dalton wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and visits to both her and Bob after her fall. She is now at home.

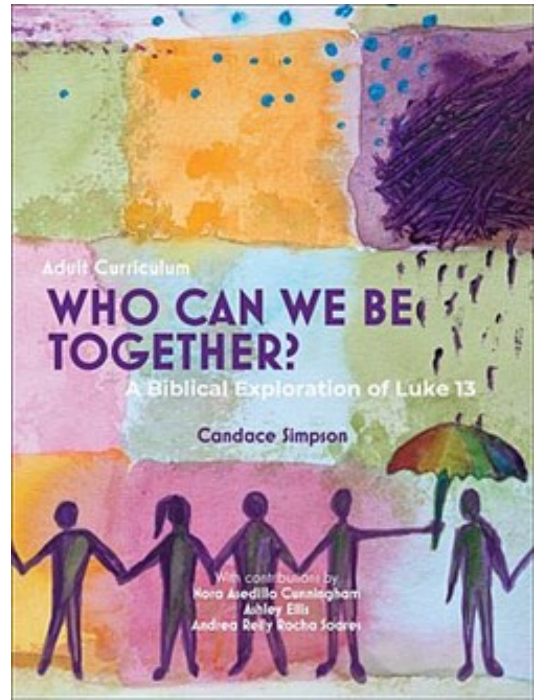
Sincerely,
The Dalton Family

United Methodist Women

New Name for UMW

At the United Methodist Women’s Assembly held in Orlando, Florida in May, it was announced that the organization will now be called “United Women in Faith”. The mission of United Women in Faith is to connect and nurture women so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

However, UMW is officially incorporated in Illinois under the name, United Methodist Women, so for now local units should continue to use United Methodist Women for all checks and other financial matters. More information is available on the United Women in Faith website at <https://uwfaith.org/>



United
Women
in Faith

2022 Mission U

Mission u will have one study this year. “Luke 13 - A Transformative Biblical Curriculum for Adults, Youth and Children.” The in-person event will be from July 17 to 20 at the Northfield Inn in Springfield.

In person fee for a 2-person room - \$290

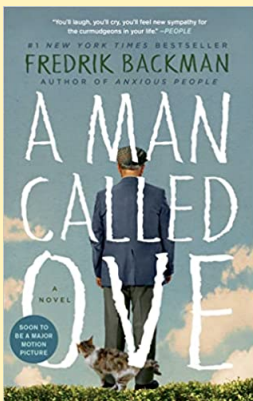
The commuter fee is \$185

There is also an option to participate virtually. A link will be sent to those registered after the event, so they can watch at their leisure. The virtual fee is \$50

The study book is *Who Can We Be Together*, by Candace Simpson. It can be ordered at Mission u resources at <https://www.umwmissionresources.org/> The cost is \$10 plus shipping. The Kindle edition available on Amazon for \$5.95.

To register and/or find out more information go to this website: <https://www.igrc.org/umw> Scroll down the opening page to find the Mission u information and registration form.

Ladies Book Club



The July Ladies Book Club will meet on Mon., July 18, 6:30 pm in the Parlor.

The featured book will be *A Man Called One* by Fredrik Backman.

Missions

OCOK Campaign Meets Goal

At the recent IGRC Annual Conference in Peoria, it was announced that the “Our Conference Our Kids” campaign exceeded its goal of \$2.5 million. The total raised was \$3,000,130.76. That included \$386,681 from a bequest from Richard White and \$200,000 the Fellheimer Trust in Macomb. The money will be used to endow a fund to support chaplains at our five IGRC agencies (Baby Fold, Chaddock, Cunningham’s Children’s Home, Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House, and SPERO) that deal with children.

Lenten Offering Designated

The Missions Committee recently approved distribution of the donations received for our Lenten Offering. That offering was supplemented with other mission’s donations. \$1,000 will be sent to “New Directions Warming and Cooling Center” located at Grace UMC in Jacksonville and \$1500 to Red Bird Mission for salary support for Mark and Becky Smallwood.

New Directions provides their guests a place to stay for evenings, shower, get food, do laundry, and sleep while they are working to gain independence. It costs about \$220 per day to operate the center. Volunteers that are fully vaccinated are needed from 6 to 9 p.m. If interested in volunteering call: 217-271-1014 or email: newdirections62650@gmail.com.

Becky Smallwood teaches elementary students at Red Bird Christian School in the mountains of Kentucky. Mark is a talented musician who substitutes at the school and drives a school bus. Centenary has support Mark and Becky for more than thirty years.

UMCOR to Help Ukraine

Volunteers from area United Methodist Churches are invited to help package rice meals for Midwest Mission Distribution Center on Saturday, August 6, at Grace UMC. Registration and breakfast treats will be from 9:00 to 9:30 am.

At 9:30 we will proceed to the basement where assembly lines will be set up to package the meals. The meals that we pack will be distributed to those in need around the world and in the United States.

Everyone in the community including older children who are welcome to help. Invite friends from other churches to come help with you. There are some sit-down jobs.

Pictured below are volunteers packaging meals in June 2021. With a good crew of volunteers, we finished packing 1200 meals in less than two hours. If possible, sign the volunteer sheet in the Narthex so Grace will have an idea of how many volunteers plan to help. However, walk-ins will be welcome.

If you can’t help, please consider making a donation. \$2.00 pays for one rice packet. Make checks out to Centenary UMC with rice meals in the memo line.



