

The Chimes

Centenary United Methodist Church



The Chimes - Christmas Edition

December 2014

Q How can you and your family help Centenary UMC this Advent/Christmas season?

A Attend and Invite Others To Come With You To:



The Annual Holiday Auction which will be held on its own night this year: Wednesday, December 3rd at 6:00 p.m. in the downstairs fellowship hall. The Fellowship Group will also have a supper stand available during the auction (there will be a sign-up sheet for these items as well). Donations of auction items can be brought to the Fellowship Hall after November 23. Happy bidding!



The 2nd Annual Advent by Candlelight will be Sunday, December 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the downstairs Fellowship Hall. It will be a night of delightful music, treats and a unique worship experience designed to inspire the souls of women during the Advent/Christmas season. Contact JoAnn Meyer (the8jfamily@yahoo.com or 965-4576) if you are willing to host and decorate a table or if you would like to simply attend.



Christmas Eve Service: "The Gift You Receive In Order To Give: The Miracle of Christmas." Come at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 24 for traditional Christmas hymns and a worship experience with contemporary flair including candlelight as we receive the gift of Jesus Christ, and through the joy of the season become inspired to give it to others!

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Centenary UMC At A Glance

Finance Information

Dear members & friends of CUMC,

Luke 10:27 --Love the Lord with all your heart, soul strength and mind and your neighbor as yourself.

We are blessed to see this in action every day at Centenary United Methodist Church. We give of our time and our gifts, and since all we have is a gift from God, it is only right that we give some back.

The finance committee wants to thank everyone who made a contribution of their time, heart and money during this past month. We recently faced some hard truths about our budget and the future of CUMC and people showed how much they care about their church. We had made a conscious choice as a finance committee and a church council to not borrow internally to pay our apportionments, and because of that, our 2014 apportionments were not being paid to the Wisconsin conference. As you can see, we still have a ways to go towards paying our 2014 apportionments, but we have made great progress in a short time.



I would like to thank everyone who has completed their 2015 pledge card. The church office has received 30 pledge cards so far and we are on our way to being able to prepare the 2015 church budget. If you have not yet filled out your 2015 pledge card, please do so ASAP. They can be mailed to the church office or dropped in the offering plate.

We often shy away from talking about money at church. We don't want to be that church that always asks for your money. By not talking about money, giving and stewardship for the past few years, we may have given the wrong impression that the church functions just fine without the support of all its members. The finance committee is making year-round stewardship its focus for 2015.

Our church needs EVERYONE to play their part in supporting OUR church. If you are not currently making a financial contribution to YOUR church, I am asking you to take some time and reflect on your relationship with Centenary United Methodist Church. How important is your relationship I am challenging every member of CUMC to make a contribution to your church before the end of 2014. If you have any questions about the budget, please call me at 608 381-7473.

Sincerely,

Tina N. Cruse Finance Chairperson

Finances Continued:

This dollar bill is a narrative way of explaining how your contributions are put to use at CUMC. I was asked about this recently, specifically where are the salaries and benefits in this picture? Payroll is our largest expense at CUMC and this narrative budget shows how salaries are spread between worship (and worship preparation), member care and administration.



November Statistics

Total Offering:

Nov 1 & 2	\$2810
Nov 8 & 9	\$1950
Nov 15 & 16	\$2749
Nov 22 & 23	\$3326
Nov 29 & 30	Not Available

Attendance:

(Sat 7, Sun 8 & 10:15)

Nov 1 & 2	0, 13, 76
Nov 8 & 9	11, 21, 83
Nov 15 & 16	11, 18, 80
Nov 22 & 23	
Nov 29 & 30	Not Available



"What Pastor Jeff Wants for Christmas"

Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Just in case anyone would like to give their Pastor a gift this Christmas, here are the things I, Pastor Jeff, would really like for Christmas this year:

- Out of God's love for us, please love members of our community by inviting them to go to church with you during the weekends of Advent and on Christmas Eve.
- Love new members, frequent visitors and inactive members of our church by inviting them to your home sometime during Advent or Christmas for a meal and holiday cheer.
- Empty the Christmas Blessing Tree so there are no ornaments left and all the children and their families receive gifts to show them God's love this Christmas and that there are people in the community who care and have compassion for them through the grace of Jesus Christ.
- Fill the window sills in the sanctuary with non-perishable food items to give to the food pantry and to hungry people this Christmas season.
- If at all possible, invest in souls by giving a monetary gift to Centenary UMC that increases your yearly giving to the point that it becomes a tithe (equates to 10% of your household income). For the church to continue to grow in ministry, attendance and membership we will need to increase the budget by a minimum of 5% next year. Your faithful Christmas giving and tithing will be the foundation for the future of Centenary UMC going into 2015.

These gifts would provide such joy to me and would truly make it a wonderful Christmas for me and my family here in Shullsburg and at Centenary UMC... I am also pretty sure that it would bring great joy to Jesus Christ on His birthday as well.

Merry Christmas! *PJ*



Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors
We are the people of the United Methodist Church!

Meetings and News

December Administrative Meetings

Monday, December 8th

6:00 – Finance

7:00 – Church Conference with Council to follow

All committee chairs should plan to attend or send someone from their committee to report. Please make sure that by the Thursday prior to the day that you email the office with your report update.

Confirmation Class



Confirmation Class is at 6:00 p.m. every Sunday night.



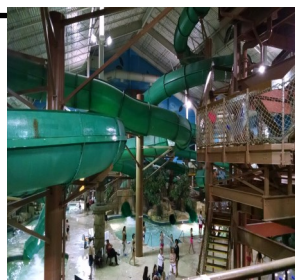
Play Group News

Play Group dates for the month of December are Wednesdays, the 3rd and 17th. They will meet at 10:00 a.m. at the church.

Advent by Candlelight

The 2nd annual Women's Advent by Candlelight will be on Sunday December 7th at 6pm. Join us for a fun evening of worship, singing, beautifully decorated tables, and delicious desserts served by the men of our church. Anyone woman is welcome to join. Please contact JoAnn Meyer at 965-4576 if you have any questions or would like more details. Hope to see you there!

JoAnn Meyer



Youth Group News

Centenary UMC's Youth Group has had a busy holiday season.

In November, the Youth Group took a retreat to the Blue Green Odyssey Resort in Wisconsin Dells.

The Resort is located next to the Mount Olympus Entertainment Complex. Youth Group attendees shared Bibles lessons, enjoyed family style meals cooked and served by youth leaders, and collaborated on a Sunday Morning service. Oh, and there was lots of fun at the indoor water park and amusement park!

The annual Youth Group wreath and greenery fundraiser was a success. Thank you to all the greenery customers, and the generous church family who spent a Friday driving to the Belle Plaine Nursery, to bring all the orders back to Shullsburg. Orders were available for pickup on Saturday, Nov. 22.

The Youth Group will meet next on Sunday, Dec. 7 and 21, from 11:45 am to 1:00 pm. Youth in 6th grade to 12th grade are invited to attend. A hot lunch is provided.

Merry Christmas!

Eugene Vehling, Youth Group Coordinator



Worship Leaders Training

Starting in the New Year, anyone that would like to assist with music at CUMC can sign up to help lead worship on any given Sunday that is open to assist. Whether you play an instrument or would like to sing, there is plenty of opportunity for those interested in pursuing this calling. I can help you with signing up for a future date to assist after any 10:30 a.m. service; just seek me out.

Also, if you would like to help with running sound, please let me know as there is opportunity for you to do that as well. You can always e-mail me should you have any questions or if you would like to explore picking dates to assist. My e-mail is edsantiago29@gmail.com.

I look forward to worshipping with all of you as we go forward as one body.

In Christ,
Ed Santiago

Sunday School News

Our UNICEF fundraiser brought in \$161.71! This money goes to help children around the world by providing clean water, food, vaccinations and other necessities. Thanks for your support.

Please be sure to mark on your calendar the Sunday school winter break. There will be no classes December 21, 28, or January 4. Sunday school classes will resume January 11.



Isaiah 7:14 "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel." Christmas is quickly approaching. Sunday school is in preparation for our program that will be held on December 14 at the 10:30 AM service. If your child is planning on participating in our program please be sure to have them join us for practices in the Fellowship Hall during Sunday school December 7 and 14th. **There will also be one in-church practice on Saturday, December 6 at 10 AM** (alternate snow date is Saturday, December 13 at 10 a.m.). Children will be given their lines to practice at home as well.

Over the next month Sunday school will be focusing on Jesus's birth. Be sure to remind your child the reason for the season and have a very Merry Christmas!

Tara Teasdale, Sunday School Coordinator, and Staff

Retired & Re-Fired Small Group

Our group has grown during the last couple of months, and we are blessed by having these friends join us. I'm thankful for every person in our group and for the way we love and support one another.

We'll again be sending Christmas greetings to the folks on our Retired & Re-fired mailing list, and we'll be busy getting our cards ready to mail at our December 8th meeting. We will not meet on the fourth Monday in December.

After the first of the year we will resume our regular meeting dates, which are on the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month at 12:00 Noon in the Serenity Room (weather permitting). Just bring your lunch. We'll have the coffee pot on and hot water for tea. We have some interesting projects and ideas to explore in the coming year. Join us and get re-fired for the next chapter of your life!

Betty Gleason, Retired & Re-fired Small Group Leader

Fellowship News

Don't forget the Holiday Auction set for Wednesday, December 3 at 6:00 p.m. Bring craft item, baked goods, gift baskets, Christmas items or any other items to sell for the Auction to the Fellowship Hall downstairs by November 30. Then come and bid, have a turkey & dressing sandwich supper, and have some fun and fellowship!!!! Make sure to sign up to bring bars to sell also and to work the supper stand. There will be a sign-up sheet on the table in the sanctuary starting November 23.

Thanks to all who donated food, money, time and talents to make the Thanksgiving supper a success. It takes many hands doing different tasks to make it all work and we all had an enjoyable evening. Prayers to Jim King as he recovers from his fall!! Special thanks to Deb Unbehauen, Mary Gensler, and Kathy Coulthard for cooking the turkey, dressing, potatoes, and gravy!

*Please be aware that the Fellowship Hall will be unavailable to use during the Christmas break December 26-January 2 due to the carpet being cleaned.

We all wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New year!!! Remember that Jesus is the reason for the season!!!!!!

God Bless

Pam Harker, Fellowship Group

Audio & Video Ministry Expansion

Volunteers are invited to sign up to assist with CUMC's Video Ministry at its 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. A sign-up sheet with calendar pages through the end of the year is located on the table outside the church office. A brief demonstration on how to set up the video camera is available to all volunteers!

Thank you to the Memorial Committee for the approval of an independent sound system for the downstairs Fellowship Hall! The installation of this new system (paired with the existing, and nearly new speakers in the Fellowship Hall) was completed in August. This new sound system is used regularly for the Sunday School music program, the Family Fun Movie Nights, and other ministries. A heavy-duty storage cart is part of the gift from the Memorial Committee.

Eugene Vehling

CUMC Going Above and Beyond

December Missional Giving

Mission money collected this month will go to pay our APPORTIONMENTS.

If you would like to give to a different ministry, just write it on your envelope, but if you don't, it will go to this month's cause.

Food Pantry Giving

We collected around 47 items for our October collection. Thank you to everyone who brought something in!



For the month of December we are collecting Canned Fruits & Vegetables. We will be collecting these until December 18.



Fill the Sills for Jesus!

Again this year we will be attempting to fill all the window sills in the sanctuary during the Advent and Christmas season with non-perishable food gifts to offer to Jesus on His birthday this Christmas! Please feel free to start bringing food products into church or to our worship services and let's fill the sills again this year as we provide food for our beloved brothers and sisters and His beloved children! What a wonderful Christmas/Birthday present to give Jesus this year! LET'S FILL THE SILLS! Amen!



*The people you love need the transforming grace that only Jesus Christ can bring.
Invite the people you love to Jesus!*

The Chimes - Christmas Edition (Continued):

A Give:



A monetary gift to Centenary UMC that increases your yearly giving to the point that it becomes a tithe (equates to 10% of your household income). It is the perfect gift of faith to God and to CUMC!



Non-perishable food items to the Food Pantry by bringing them into the sanctuary throughout the week or before worship to "Fill The Sills" in the sanctuary. We will fill the sills all Advent long until the Christmas Eve Service and make a huge donation to the Food Pantry as a Christmas Gift to Jesus Christ.

A Take:



An ornament from the Christmas Blessings Tree now up in the back of the sanctuary. If you feel called, choose one or more tags from the tree, record the ones you've taken on the sign-up sheet, then return the gifts to church by Sunday, December 14. This is a way that you and your family can be Jesus' hands and feet to give someone a brighter Christmas!!



One of the cards on the Trustees bulletin board and complete the task. Whether it is shampooing the carpets, finally getting the tiles on the floor in the men's bathroom fixed or even just dusting the windows and woodwork throughout the church, this would be a wonderful Christmas gift to CUMC!

Each week on our colored Here I Am To Worship Cards that you receive in your bulletin, there are three boxes that you can check off:

Were you one of the:

30% who took a break from serving

50% who served the church at least 1 hour

20% who talked or prayed with someone about their relationship with Jesus Christ.

30

50

20

So please remember to check your boxes!

Trustee News

The exterior renovation project has moved along nicely since my last update. The south entrance doors are near completion except for some paint and trim on the inside the woodworking around the windows and soffit has been repainted on the original church, and church edition. They are continuing to work on the north entrance. The two doors were removed and taken back to Renaissance's and shop where they will be repaired, stripped, and repainted to match the original look. Until these doors are back and installed-- the north entrance will be covered to protect it from the elements as they work on it. Geise electric still needs to install the gutters and possibly some small roof sections. Also, a new electrical panel has replaced the old fuse box in the Sunday school storage closet. This new panel will help supply power for lighting the new north entrance when we repair the concrete and retaining wall next spring.

The church also suffered from a lightning strike recently. This damaged much of the equipment in the sanctuary including the projector and mixer board and hearing loop. Rich Brown has spent many hours working with the insurance company to address these issues and as of today the equipment in the sanctuary has been repaired and the church will be compensated from the insurance company. There is still the possibility that some equipment in the basement Sunday school room is damaged and we are looking into this the trustees are going to address a way of installing a prevention system so that we do not have to go through another lightning strike.

Please be careful as we get into the winter months if you notice some ice outside feel free to spread the salt that will be supplied on the inside of the main entrances.

Jeremiah Diedrich, Trustees Chair

The Everlasting Father
The Prince of Peace
The Mighty God
Lord of Lords
King of Kings
Wonderful
Counselor

CENTENARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CUMC CHURCH COUNCIL
October 13, 2014

Present: Pastor Jeff, Mary Gensler, Dawn Gobrecht, Art Finnigan, Lois Finnigan, Pam Teasdale, Jeremiah Diedrich, Lisa Diedrich, Lee Gill, Dawn Gobrecht, Becky Upmann

Agenda:

- 1: Opening Prayer- Pastor Jeff opened with a prayer.
- 2: Pastor's Report- Pastor Jeff started by saying that Church Conference is coming up. We went over the paperwork that was ready and needed passed. All were APPROVED. Then he went over the council sheet and discussed this. Everyone liked this sheet.
- 3: Secretaries Report- Went over last month's report. It was APPROVED.
- 4: Finance Report- We discussed having a Thanksgiving day of Prayer on November 8th. There will be a sign up sheet for everyone to sign up. They will be in 30 minute increments. Discussed doing a donation basket for that day. We will be doing pledge cards for 2015.
- 5: Old Business- Went over the letter that will be mailed to the members.
- 6: Committee Reports
 - A) Trustees- Jeremiah had nothing to report except that Rich Brown has submitted the insurance claim and is working on that.
 - B) SPRC- They met on Sept 21. We discussed what an SPRC members' duties are, Pastor Jeff's job description (which is not finalized), some stewardship ideas and our 5 year plan. Next meeting was scheduled for October 19, but we had a quick meeting Oct 5 to discuss Pastor Jeff's benefits and pension so it can be presented at next Council meeting October 13. Next meeting is scheduled for November 23 at 11:45. Went over the SPRC reports that they filled out for conference. It was all APPROVED.
 - C) Memorial- Mary stated that they still haven't had a meeting. Becky told her that she transferred the money to pay Uncle Ikes for the system downstairs. They have not filled the positions on the Memorial Committee.
 - D) Nurture & Care- Lisa stated that they have finished their book. They will be writing up a draft and bringing it to council.
 - E) Fellowship Group- There will be a meeting on Saturday morning to go over fellowship dates.
 - F) Outreach- Jeff stated that Katrina has resigned as chair but will remain on the outreach committee. LLC is working on filling her position.
 - G) Youth- Eugene stated that they will be having a retreat on November 1 & 2nd. They will be doing the greenery fundraiser again this year.

H) Sunday School- Tara would like ideas how to make the children behave better during church. She would like ideas for how to make them effective. Please email her with ideas.

Additional Committee –

Planning Committee- Give a report on the “Other Building”- Brad gave a report on ways to make the downtown building a “on its own, non profit”. Everyone liked the idea. And Brad will proceed with it.

Additional Comments-Finance will be on November 3 @6pm

Next Meeting November 3@ 7pm this will be church conference

Submitted By Becky Upmann

Christmas Poinsettias

Christmas Poinsettias are now available for purchase to place in the Sanctuary for the Christmas Season. There will only be 6 available. To order your poinsettias, please fill out the form and return it to the office or place it in the offering plate by December 14th.

The cost is \$10.00 per plant.

Please Make Checks Payable To: CUMC

You may pick your poinsettia up following the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve services. The Poinsettias that are not picked up will be used for flowers for the sanctuary while they last.

I wish to order _____ Christmas Poinsettia(s)

I will purchase _____ Christmas Poinsettia(s) Myself

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

As a Gift: _____

Name: _____

Newsletter content deadline: 20th of the month



December Birthdays

1 Karen Grace	18 Mike Jackson
2 Nancy Gehrt	19 Wayne Gehrt
3 Betty Gleason	19 Dillon Humphrey
3 Laura Droessler	20 Rich Harker
4 Jeff Wymore	21 Duane Hastings
5 Ruth Cherrey	21 Kasha Leitzinger
6 Brooklyn Bennett	22 Dirk Bode
8 Rich Brown	23 Rick Gill
9 Chad Teasdale	23 Loretta Ingram
9 Brett Bode	24 Nate Strang
9 Pete Poppy	25 Jesus Christ
9 Karlana Woodward	25 Gayle Stoycheff
10 Beth Teutschmann	26 Harvey Heinberg
13 Justin Crotty	27 Josh Russell
13 Larry Johnson	28 Lee Gill
14 Debbie Unbehaun	29 Eddie Santiago
15 Allie Gierke	29 Danelle Schmid
15 Will Moyle	30 Ellen Doyle
15 Doug Olson	30 Bev Monahan
17 Marcia Moyle	31 Louise Lyne
17 Alex Neff	31 Charles Symons
18 Ellie Hefel	

December Anniversaries

7 Floyd & Joyce Tyson
 10 Bruce & Sandy Russell
 21 Tim & Kari Strang
 22 Rick & Lee Gill

December Worship

December 6 & 7

Walk Across the Room

Part II: Living in 3D

Acts 9 The Story of Paul's
Conversation

December 13 & 14

Walk Across the Room

Part III: The Power of Story
Matthew 13:1-23

December 20 & 21

Walk Across the Room

**Part IV: Gander Vision
Learning**

Luke 5:1-11

Revelation 22:1-7

December 27 & 28

**The Parable of the Rich Man
& The Beggar**

Luke 16:19-31

Ecclesiastes 5:1-20



CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND

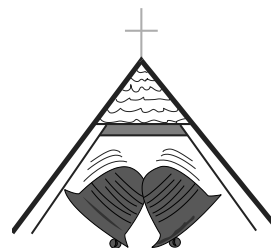
December 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>6:00 Advent by Candlelight</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:30 Vineyard Group</p> <p>6:30 Amore Group</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00 Play Group</p> <p>6:00 Holiday Auction</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:30 Courage Group</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Pastor Jeff's Day Off</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 Casual Worship</p>
<p>7 9:00 Sunday School</p> <p>9:00 Hymn Worship</p> <p>10:30 Praise Service</p> <p>11:45 Youth Group</p> <p>6:00 Confirmation</p>	<p>8</p> <p>noon Retired & Re-Fired</p> <p>2:00 TLC in Action mtg.</p> <p>6:00 Finance mtg.</p> <p>7:00 Church Council</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30 Vineyard Group</p> <p>6:30 Last Amore Group</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:30 Courage Group</p> <p>6:30 Last Daughters Group</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:30 Courage Group</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Pastor Jeff's Day Off</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 Casual Worship</p>
<p>14 9:00 Sunday School</p> <p>9:00 Hymn Worship</p> <p>10:30 Praise Service</p> <p>10:30 SS Xmas Program</p> <p>6:00 Confirmation</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:30 Growth Group mtg.</p> <p>7:00 Study Committee</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30 Vineyard Group</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00 Play Group</p>	<p>18</p> <p>5:00 Food Pantry</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Pastor Jeff's Day Off</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00 Growth Group Training</p> <p>7:00 Casual Worship</p>
<p>21 9:00 Hymn Worship</p> <p>10:30 Praise Service</p> <p>11:45 Youth Group</p> <p>6:00 Confirmation</p>	<p>22</p> <p>noon Retired & Re-Fired</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:30 Vineyard Group</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7:00 Christmas Eve Worship</p>	<p>25</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>Pastor Jeff's Day Off</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:00 Casual Worship</p>
<p>28 9:00 Adult Sunday School</p> <p>9:00 Hymn Worship</p> <p>10:30 Praise Service</p> <p>6:00 Confirmation</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Noon Retired & Re-Fired</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> 			

Special thanks to Tony & Diane Anderson for preparing the mailing of the November newsletters.



The Chimes



*Saturday evening
worship at 7:00 pm*

*Sunday Morning
Hymn Worship service at
9:00 music by Tina Cruse*

*Sunday Service
Praise Worship Service at
10:30 music by
Ed Santiago*

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Sharing Christmas Blessings

It is such a blessing to be able to BE a blessing to others! Centenary has identified 6 families who could use a little extra help with gifts this Christmas. The tree in the Sanctuary is decorated with ornaments listing their ages, gender, and items from their wish lists. If you would like to help, please choose one or more ornaments, write your name down on the list next to the items you've chosen, attach the ornaments to the wrapped gifts, and return them to the church BY Sunday, December 14. The Blessing Committee will then gather up and distribute all the gifts.



A Vision For Our Church

"Centenary UMC will continue to be THE place to be for weekend worship. People will often drive by this church and think, 'That place is packed: I wonder what I'm missing?' Through our church culture and worship atmosphere we will provide the spiritual spark for people to see God in their daily lives and grow in their understanding, ministry and faithful relationship with Him."