The Chimes



Centenary United Methodist Church



see pages 3-5



see page 7

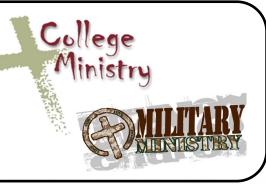
Online Stewardship Retreat

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August 2020

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Greetings,

If I were to give the newsletter article you are reading a title, it would be *Hard Lessons to Learn*. One of the great blessings and curses of the Christian faith is that we are able to be there for one another in time of loss and pain. Now, I'll be the first to admit that my role in the church admits me into many of these times of loss and pain (I can't recall the num-

ber of times that I've been invited to someone's death-bed), however the truth is that we, each and every one of us, are called together to be there in those times.

While it is hard to endure these events, in retrospect, it is often in the midst of pain and loss that we can learn significant lessons of life. I was once asked the seemingly eternal question of, "why is it that God allows bad things to happen to good people?" I have to admit that I have a standard answer (one that I believe whole-heartedly, but standard nonetheless) that the bad things happen not because God allows it, but because of the fallen nature of humanity (I could go on about this, but for now I will let this suffice). Recently, however, I have realized that some of the most significant lessons I have learned have been ones that have come on the heels of "bad things," of loss and pain. Let me share a few of those with you now.

Lesson # 1: Life, at least our mortal life, is not eternal. It was a bright, sunny, July day in the Black Hills. I was eight or nine years of age, and I had just gotten to the Mountain Lawn cemetery, located in the mountains west of Lead, SD. My family had been the caretakers of the cemeteries out there for as long as I could remember. As was the custom, my father had gone out early in the morning to begin the days work. My mother and I followed a little later. When we arrived, my father prepared to turn over the riding mower to my mom and according to custom, was getting ready to clean the deck of the mower. Cleaning the deck consisted of taking a screwdriver and using it to pry the grass that was clinging to the deck away, so that it would not build up and clog the mower. One problem, on this particular day my father had put the transmission into neutral and had left the blades running. As my mother and I walked up toward him, he got down beside the mower and reached his hand up under the deck. Immediately I sensed that something was wrong, my father jumped back and held his hand and swore (I reckon I'd probably do the same) and began screaming for my mom to go get the car, that he needed to get to the hospital (a 10 mile drive through the twisting roads of the Black Hills). As my mom drove my dad sat in the passenger seat, hand covered with numerous hankies. I sat in the backseat, a jacket covering my head because I was afraid to see what had happened, and truth be told, probably cried more than my dad did (if he did at all). I heard him say that he had cut his fingers off (in actually it turned out that he had cut off the tips of 4 fingers, but there was no permanent damage other than maybe some scarring.

It was the first time myself or some I cared about had been seriously injured (there was a car accident when I was little, but I do not remember that). It was then that I learned that life is finite.

I maybe did not know the words for it, terms like finite did not enter my vocabulary until later in life, but that was the lesson I had learned, nonetheless. It was then that I realized that life could end in a moment's notice or less. That in a split-second life could be changed forever.

It seems to me that many of us, myself included, have yet to learn this lesson as it relates to our faith. We know that there is something that we should do; something that God really wants for our lives and we think to ourselves, "I'll do it tomorrow, there's always time to do that latter." The problem is that sometimes there is not time to do it later. Sometimes the only time that we have is now.

Lesson #1: Life, at least our mortal life, is not eternal.

Lessons 2 & 3 will have to wait as I have run out of space.

Until Next Time,

Pastor Stanton



Centenary UMC Guidelines for Reopening Our Building

Theological Foundations:

United Methodist Christians affirm that we follow Jesus and express our love for God by loving others, including neighbors, strangers as well as the members who have faithfully served in our churches. As a connectional body we recognize that our actions affect others. United Methodists have a long history of caring for the whole person, including the health of the body, mind, and spirit. In the interest of expressing our theology in our actions we strive to do no harm while opening our building in the midst of a global pandemic. In opening our building on the faith that unites us rather that political and social views that might divide us.

Planning:

Communicate to CUMC members and regular attendees of our services that adjustments will be required before reopening our building. (Last in-first out seating, physical distancing, no singing, no passing of the Peace, offering plates, etc.). Prepare for the possibility of seasons of opening and closing over the next year or more depending on the trajectory of the illness in our area and the availability of a vaccine.

Look for and claim the blessings of our changed circumstances as well as making spaces to grieve what is lost.

Assign responsibility to monitoring and incorporating Conference Guidance and establish a means for communicating this information to people with a need to know.



Assign responsibility for coordinating with your local health and law enforcement authorities and establish a means for communicating this information to people with a need to know.

Check with our insurer, Church Mutual, regarding any needed risk-assessment. Church Mutual has a number online resources available to you without cost. Www.churchmutual.com

Require and, if needed, provide masks to be worn while in person contact.

Establish protocols for physical distancing before, during and after in building services. Assign and train the individuals who will be responsible (probably ushers and greeters) in guiding attendees in the practices. Post the protocols where they can be seen throughout your building.

Continue offering online options if possible, for those who are sick, at a higher risk, or under quarantine.

Develop isolation protocols should anyone become ill while in our building. If someone is physically able to leave the premises by their own power, they will be instructed to do so.

Review our building prior to re-opening.

Make sure that CUMC will have adequate masks and sanitizing supplies on hand before opening our building.



Worship Protocols

 MASKS: Masks covering nose and mouth will be required for anyone attending CUMC until such time as the danger of COVID-19 has past.

- SEATING: LIFO "last in, first out" ushered seating
 – seat people arriving first in the front row. Seat people not living together at least six feet apart. This will probably be every other row with alternating end of the pews/seating). Maintain at least six feet of physical distance between people as they are seated and dismissed.
- NO PASSING: Do not pass attendance pads, offering plates, the Peace, and determine alternate means for collecting offering and other information previously passed.
- 4. **REMOVE:** anything passed from or kept in the pews (bibles, hymnals, pens, etc.)
- 5. OFFERING should either be electronic or placed by the attendee in a stationary plate.
- ORDER OF WORSHIP: Discontinue use of bulletins for the time being. Allow PowerPoint presentation to guide the worship service.
- 7. **HAND SANITIZER** will be in all high touch areas.
- 8. **NO SHARING**: Do not share equipment that is touched. No item should be used by more than one person without sanitization occurring between users.
- 9. **BIBLES**: People are encouraged to bring their own Bibles to worship.
- 10. **BLOCK** off areas not in use.
- 11. **TIGHT SPACES**: Establish one in-one out for tight spaces and have sanitizer available.
- 12. **RESTROOMS**: Try to limit use of restrooms. Have a disinfecting material available for those who do use the restroom so they can disinfect prior to use.
- 13. **FLOW:** Try to ensure that people are traveling one-way through entrance and exit doors (in prior to worship out after worship).
- 14. **ADMISSION**: Stress that people who aren't feeling well and/or have demonstrated any of the symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home and participate in worship through online means. Be upfront with attendees that anyone who demonstrates COVID-19 symptoms will be asked to leave worship.
- 15. CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY: Canceled for now, consider what virtual options may exist.

Building

Have an initial and weekly walk through to ensure that the facilities are safe and clean. Address any maintenance issues that may have been delayed while the building was closed.

Post your safety measures and directions signs, especially if these are changes from previous habits and patterns.

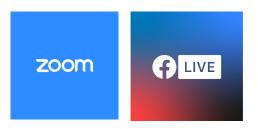
Upcoming Events

Alternative Worship

E Bible Study

During this period of social distancing, Pastor Stanton continues Sunday worship and Wednesday Morning Zoom Bible Study. You can watch or listen to worship anytime via Facebook Live. Wednesday Morning Bible Study is only on Zoom that morning.

Everyone who has an e-mail address with the church office is receiving a weekly e-mail with a letter from Pastor Stanton, last week's sermon, this week's order of service, and song lyrics. Please contact the church office if you'd like to receive this by mail instead or if you know someone who'd like to be added.



NEWSLETTER REMINDER

If you would prefer an electronic copy of the newsletter rather than paper, please e-mail the church (centenaryumcoffice@yahoo.com) from your preferred e-mail address and we will add you to the distribution list.

August Worship

August 2

Lessons From a Pandemic: Cross

Genesis 32:22-31 Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21

August 9

Lessons From a Pandemic: Comeback

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 Romans 10:5-15 Matthew 14:22-33

August 16

Lessons From a Pandemic: Heart

Genesis 45:1-15 Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15:21-28

August 23

Lessons From a Pandemic: Soul

Exodus 1:8-2:10 Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20

August 30

Simple Kindness

Exodus 3:1-15 Romans 12:9-21 Matthew 16:21-28



McCoy Public Library

We are excited to be back this summer!

Join our Facebook Group- McCoy Public Library Summer 2020



Crafts, Stories,
Shows & More
only available in the summer
Facebook group



Downtown Shullsburg
Window Eye Spy

June 15-July 15



Check out books with curbside service



Chalk the Walk Activity info. on Beanstack



Sign up for Beanstack reading challenge June 15

Reading and activity log for prizes!



Pages in the Park
Read as you walk in Badger
Park July 21- Aug. 21



After a lot of consideration, it is with sadness that the Church Council has decided to cancel Vacation Bible School for this year. With everything that has been going on and is continuing to go on, we feel that it is the best thing to do for the children and volunteers at this time. We look forward to seeing everyone next year for a bigger and better VBS. Enjoy your summer and make sure you do something fun and remember God in your daily doings.

If you feel called to coordinate next year's VBS program, please contact the office.

During the summer you can do VBS at home by logging onto https://2020.cokesburyvbs.com/virtualvbs/ and following the steps in the orange box. There are Daily Videos, At-Home packets, and Music Videos, as well as a Director Guide that lists all the supplies you will need for the crafts. This is a great chance for your children to do fun, creative things during the



summer. We hope you take advantage of this. If you have any problems or issues with this, please contact the office, and we will help you work though them.

Online Stewardship Retreat

The Foundation's 2020 Stewardship Retreat will be online rather than in-person this year. It will focus on 3-5 year planning with emphasis on impacts of the Covid-19 crisis and making recovery plans. There will be no cost for participating.

Register at bit.ly/WUMFretreat20

In addition, the Retreat will not be in real time. The Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation board members and staff will provide recorded presentations online. Presentations will be about 20 minutes in length. They will be made available on August 15. Stewardship teams will have a month to view the presentations they choose and download related materials. They are encouraged to formulate a draft Stewardship plan and share it with the Foundation. After submitting their draft Stewardship plan, the Stewardship team may schedule a consultation of 60-90 minutes with a member of the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation's staff. The consultant will review the church's plan, providing feedback and ideas, as well as answering questions. Presentation topics will include the 3-5 year Stewardship process, year round stewardship, planning at River of Life Church, tools for stewardship, the Stewardship Challenge Grant, and electronic giving. We are asking churches to register their interest in participating so that we can send them notifications and materials as well as schedule consultations in the weeks ahead.

If you have questions or want to learn more, contact:

Jim Wells, Director of Stewardship & Capital Campaigns, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation at 608-837-9582 or **jwells@wumf.org**.



Will You Bear Fruit?

As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty." (Matthew 13:22-23) What is a church to do in these difficult times? It is to be hoped that each church would continue to perform its mission and ministry as it has always done and strive to do it even better. This summer, I am working with two churches, on opposite ends of the state, that have chosen at this time to undertake significant fundraising campaigns for debt reduction and building renovation. Each has a six figure goal that is 1½ to 2 times its annual giving. The Foundation interviewed 30-40 people from each church. What they shared with us is (1) an enthusiasm for the ministry and mission of the church, (2) a practical stewardship of the building and budget, and (3) a disregard for worldly worries and concerns. Not that they are ignoring the challenges of the Covid-19 epidemic, rather they will not let it deter their mission, their ministry, or their financial giving. People from both churches noted that the greatest strength of their congregation is engagement in community outreach. They want to continue this outreach during the pandemic and grow it in the future. This they can do most effectively if they act now to reduce indebtedness or address needed building renovations. So, at a time when some congregations are simply waiting and some Christians are holding back on giving, these congregations are starting major Capital Campaigns. Join me in praying for their success and in discerning what you can do to support the mission and ministry of your church.

Jim Wells,

Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

Visit the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation at

www.wumf.org or Facebook/wumf.org
Or call 1-888-903-9863

CHURCH OPERATING EXPENSES DON'T GET TO TAKE A SUMMER VACATION...PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUPPORT CUMC WHILE YOU ENJOY YOUR SUMMER.



Meetings and News



August Administrative Meetings Monday, August 10



KEEP

CALM

SERVE

6:00 - Accountable Leadership Board Meeting

Centenary United Methodist Church Role of Accountable Leadership Board/Members

The role of the Accountable Leadership Board is to provide spiritual oversight, direction and leadership to the congregation. Specifically, it:

- Sets the vision through a strategic planning process.
- Creates and monitors church policies and procedures.
- Provides accountability for the pastor.
- Has responsibility for the stewardship of the financial and property resources of the church.
- Serves as a liaison for staff and a sounding board for all who are involved in the ministries of the congregation, listening to concerns and considering suggestions.

Collectively, the Accountable Leadership Board, through its members, sets an example of Christian service, stewardship, and accountability. Individually, its members commit to:

- Praying regularly and studying scripture to discern God's direction for one's life.
- Preparing for and attending monthly Leadership Board meetings. Some months may involve more than one meeting. Time commitment should range from six to 10 hours monthly.
- Spending the time needed to learn about his/her assigned work areas and keep up with developments in those areas.
- Building relationships with staff in assigned work areas.
- Avoiding conflicts of interest by disclosing any potential areas of conflict.
- Supporting the decisions of the Leadership Board once they are made.
- Regularly attending worship, participating in mission outreach ministries, and sharing in spiritual growth opportunities.
- Maintaining strict confidentiality with personnel and pastoral concerns.
- Supporting the church with one's financial resources, building towards tithing.

The United Methodist Book of Discipline requires that members of the Accountable Leadership Board be members of Centenary United Methodist Church. Centenary UMC is committed to creating and maintaining a diverse blend of leaders, including a range of ages, genders, and ethnic identities.

If you would like to serve on the ALB or have questions about it, please feel free to contact Pastor Stanton at centenary.umc.pastor@gmail.com or 608-965-3455.



The Wisconsin Annual Conference has been changed to a Online Conference this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Our delegates will still participate in this event.

2020 Wisconsin Annual Conference October 23-24

Retired & Re-Fired Small Group

The Retired & Re-Fired Group celebrated their 7th birthday with a get together at Badger Park on July 27. We hadn't met since March, so there were lots of air hugs and smiles behind masks.

We also celebrated the July birthdays and anniversaries of those folks in our Card Connection Program. We didn't have candles on our birthday cupcakes, but we read their names and lifted them up in prayer.

- We will Meet at noon on Monday, August 24 at the Jackson pavilion (east side by Veteran's Memorial) .
- Bring your own food and beverage.
- Wear a face mask if you wish to.

Blessings and love,

Betty Gleason, Retired & Re-Fired Small Group Leader

Sunday School News



Sunday school is on summer break, but we wanted to let everyone know that there will be a meeting on **Monday, August 17 at 6:00 p.m.** for anyone interested in teaching, volunteering, or helping in any way this upcoming Sunday School year. Look for registration forms to come out in August.

If you have any questions please contact the church office for more information. We will be meeting in the fellowship hall for social distancing purposes!

Christian Education Staff

From Our Parish Nurse.....

Sun Safety Facts

Everyone enjoys a summer in the sun, but some people don't realize the potential dangers. The following are some great facts and suggestions from the American Academy of Dermatology and the American Medical Association about protecting yourself and your family against the potentially damaging rays of the sun.

- 1. After applying sunscreen, you should give it 20 to 30 minutes to dry before going outside. It takes this long after application for the chemicals to start working. Letting the sunscreen dry also helps ensure that it stays on your skin.
- 2. If you've been in the sun or water, you should reapply waterproof sunscreen every two hours. Dermatologists recommend using a sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of at least 30, which blocks 97 percent of the sun's rays. SPFs higher than 30 block slightly more of the sun's rays, but the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) cautions that no sunscreen can block 100 percent of the sun's rays. It is important to note that even if you are wearing a high-SPF sunscreen, it should be reapplied approximately every two hours when outdoors and after swimming or sweating.
- 3. Surfaces such as sand or water reflect up to 85 percent of the sun's damaging rays. It's especially important to protect your skin and eyes around these surfaces.
- 4. Tightly woven clothing in dark colors provides the best protection from the sun.
- 5. The sun is strongest -- and most dangerous -- between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) advises staying out of the sun during these hours.
- 6. A sunscreen's Sun Protection Factor (SPF) number refers to the factor by which it enhances a person's natural sun protection. If someone normally burns in 20 minutes, then a sunscreen with an SPF of 15 would protect them for 300 minutes (SPF 15 \times 20 minutes = 300 minutes).
- **7. The minimum SPF number recommended by the AAD is 30.** The AAD recommends applying a broad-spectrum sunscreen with this minimum SPF daily.
- 8. The American Medical Association (AMA) recommends that you begin applying sunscreen to your baby when he's 6 months old. Ideally, babies under 6 months should not spend time directly in the sun. Since babies' skin is much more sensitive than adults, sunscreens should be avoided if possible. Instead, the AAD says the best sun protection for babies is to keep them in the shade as much as possible and dress them in long sleeves, pants, a wide-brimmed hat, and sunglasses. Sunscreen can be applied to exposed skin not covered by clothing on toddlers and infants 6 months or older.
- **9. Clouds and pollution often give a false sense of protection.** Even on cloudy or hazy days, unseen ultraviolet sun rays can cause unexpected sunburn and skin damage.
- 10. Toy sunglasses worn in the sun may be worse for your baby's eyes than nothing at all. Toy sunglasses simply shade baby's eyes, making her pupils larger and actually allowing more damaging rays to reach the inside of the eye.

11. Some babies are sensitive to para aminobenzoic acid (PABA), the active ingredient in many sunscreens. The AAD notes that sunscreen containing zinc oxide or titanium dioxide are most appropriate for the thinner skin of toddlers and infants 6 months or older since they do not penetrate the skin and are less likely to cause irritation.

This page is provided by our Parish Nurse for Centenary UMC:

Marlene Stewart, RN, BSN, PN, WCC (608) 293-1193

Please feel free to call her with any health questions you might have.

Sources: American Academy of Dermatology; American Medical Association

Going Above and Beyond as Stewards of CUMC



Food Pantry Giving

We collected 28 items for our July collection. Thank you to everyone who brought something in! For the month of August we are collecting jelly. Distribution will be on Thursday, August 20.

August Missional Giving



Mission money collected this month will go to **Shulls-burg PTA Anonymous Closet**. This closet provides personal care items for students in need. The money given will help them purchase supplies and items.

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



College/Military Ministry News-Addresses Needed

As a subcommittee of the CUMC Outreach Committee, we try to stay in contact with our college students and active military. We periodically send them letters and small gifts from our church. Since school will be starting soon, we need to make sure we

have current addresses. Parents, we need addresses for your college students and active military service members, especially those leaving home for the first time. Please contact the church office with updated information.





HAPPY SE ANNIVERSARY

11 Erik & Lori Kudronowicz 15 Brett & Karen Bode 18 Scott & Ronda Pedley 25 Travis & Brittany Lyne 28 Matt & Angie Sandlin 31 Steve & Kathie Schwartz On this special day...

I wish you all the very best, all the joy you can ever have and may you be blessed abundantly today, tomorrow and the days to come!

August 2020

| Sat | 1 | ∞ | 15 | 22 | 50 | Special thanks to all the wonderful volunteers that help prepare the mailing of the newsletters each month. |
|-----|---|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| Frú | | K | 14 | 21 | 88 | the wonderful vo of the newsletter |
| Thu | | Q | 13 | <i>20</i> 3:30 Food Pantry | 27 | cial thanks to all the wonderful volunteers that brepare the mailing of the newsletters each month. |
| Wed | | 5 9:30 Online Bible Study WPastor Stanton | 12 9:30 Online Bible Study w/Pastor Stanton | <i>19</i> 9:30 Online Bible Study w/Pastor Stanton | 56 | Specie |
| Twe | | 4 Pastor Stanton's Day Off | // Pastor Stanton's Day Off | <i>18</i> Pastor Stanton's Day Off | 25 Pastor Stanton's Day Off | |
| Mon | | W | 10 6:00 Accountable Leader- ship Board Meeting (via Zoom) | 17 6:00 Sunday School mtg. | 24 | 31 |
| Sun | | 2 9:30 Drive-In / Online Worship | 9 9:30 Drive-In / Online Worship | 16 9:30 Drive-In / Online Worship | 23 9:30 Drive-In / Online Worship | 30 9:30 Drive-In / Online Worship |



Worship Schedule For August

Sunday Morning Blended Drive- In Worship Service at 9:30 @ The Veteran's Memorial will be until further notice... watch Facebook for further updates to see if we are back in church or still drivein.

The Chimes

Centenary United Methodist Church 226 West Church Street P.O. Box 127 Shullsburg, WI 53586-0127

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org U.S. Postage Paid Shullsburg, WI 53586 Permit No.12

Hopefully beginning inperson Sunday worship soon! Centenary UMC's Schedule

* * Memorial Day weekend — Labor Day weekend (May 24 – Sept. 6) * *

Saturday Night Worship — 7:00 p.m. — Canceled for Now

Single Sunday Worship — 9:30 a.m. — Drive-In/Online @ Veteran's Memorial

Wednesday Morning Bible Study — 9:00 a.m. — Online for Now

Wednesday Night Worship — 6:00 p.m. — Sanctuary — Canceled until Fall



Sharing God's love to change the world by making disciples of Jesus Christ.