

The Chimes

Centenary United Methodist Church



see page 2



see page 3

August 2023

**Accountable Leadership
Board Meeting**

Highlights

see page 7



see page 8-9

50

ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE



Back to School / 50 Attendance Challenge Day

August 27

Join us on Sunday August 27 for our Back to School Sunday. The Re-Awaken band will be leading us in worship. Lets make this a 50 attendance challenge day and fill the church.

See page 5 for more information

Inside this issue...

Pastor's Message	2	Trustee News	5	Coffee Fellowship	10
Worship Recording Information	2	Stewardship Training	6	Intercessory Prayer Group	10
Community Worship	3	50 Attendance /Back 2 School	6	Foundation News	11
ALB mtg.	3	July ALB Highlights	7	Parish Nurse News	12-13
Confirmation Class	3	College/Military News	7	August Birthdays & Anniversaries	16
Re-Awaken Band	3	VBS Recap	8-9	August Lectionary	16
Church Remodel Update	4	August Food Pantry Item	10	August Calendar	17
Retired & Refired Group	5	August Mission	10	50 Attendance Challenge Day	Back

Everywhere is green! A gorgeous summer time. We, also, know seeds of life are growing in those green plants. They remind me of Jesus' word: "My food is to do the will of God (John 4:34)."



Pastor's Message

How does this metaphor of Jesus sound like to you? In a sense, it doesn't make sense. Eating food is taking some vital energy into our bodies, whereas, doing the will of God points to wasting our energy, time and efforts, whatever mission it could be.

Even so, with this metaphor, Jesus teaches us that doing the will of God involves a work of life. Christians, especially Methodist Christians believe we are called to be disciples of Jesus. Here is a definition of a disciple Methodist Christians everywhere affirm. A disciple is a follower of Jesus Christ who is committed to 1) being part of the body of Christ, 2) becoming more like Jesus and 3) joining Jesus in ministry. This is not my definition. In the latest ICD (Institute of Congregational Development) program I attended, this is what Methodist pastors shared and reaffirmed. I love this, for it is not a hard statement or rules. It came from the heart of hungry Jesus who said, "Doing the will of God is my food."

Dear friends, is your soul feeling hungry and thirsty for eternal bread of life at this moment? If you are, that is good. That shows you are healthy. You will be healthy. Are you feeling hungry and thirsty for your friends and neighbors and have a desire to share the eternal bread with them? That indicates you are disciples of Jesus. This will lead us into actions as individuals and as church. May God bless our discipleship!

Peace,

Pastor Maria



TO LOVE YOU MORE...

It is the job of the pastor, leaders, and whole congregation to care for the body of the church. We are called to love as Jesus loved. The church doesn't always know when you are hurt, having surgery, going through a tough time, or in the hospital. **If you would like Pastor Maria to visit you or a family member**, please call the church office or her cell directly at (253) 886-6015 to set up a time!

Worship service is recorded every Sunday and posted on the church **Facebook page**. The Tech Team is in charge of recording & posting, if you would like to be part of the team, please let Team Leader Jeremiah Diedrich know. In addition to posting on Facebook we will now be posting the weekly worship on our **Website** as well. It will be posted by Monday afternoon.



Upcoming Events



Pastor Maria leads worship for community residents. You are welcome to join and spend time sharing God's love.

August 1 - Lafayette Co Manor - 10:00 a.m.

August 8 - Shullsburg Home - 10:00 a.m.

August 24 - St. Dominic Villa - 2:00 p.m.

Monthly Accountable
Leadership Board
Meeting

Tuesday, August 15
6:00 p.m.

Confirmation
Class



ATTENTION: PARENTS OF
CHILDREN 12-17 years old:

Pastor Maria will be resuming Confirmation Class in the Fall.

She will be having a **parent meeting on Sunday August 6** following worship (around 11:30). If you child is interested in attending confirmation class this year please have at least 1 parent attend.

There will also be **confirmation orientation on Sunday August 27** following worship. Please try to have your child attend worship that day. This will be a shorter meeting.

Worship with Re-Awaken Band

Here is a great joy for the Centenary congregation. The Re-Awaken CUMC band will play for Sunday worship once a month, **for August they will play August 27**. They are looking for more people to join the band, so if you play an instrument or love to sing, they are looking for you! If you are interested or have questions, please contact

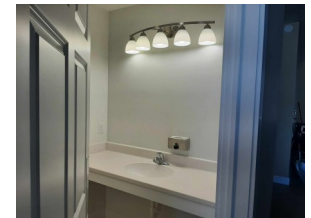
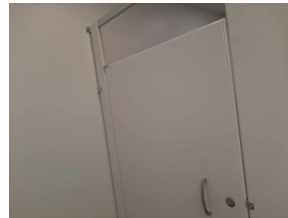
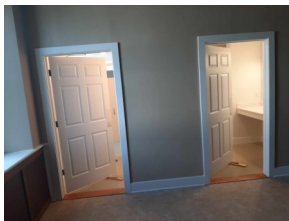
Jeremiah Diedrich at 482-4608.



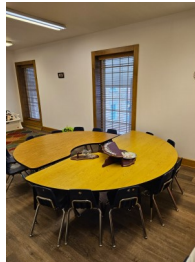
Remodel Updates

If you come to church you will see some exciting new updates.... We started by updating all the old windows. We had all the ones in the narthex, serenity room, classrooms, and entry way, along with the ones downstairs in the tiled room. Having the windows updated have made a huge difference on the air coming in them. We are hoping this will help with the heating and cooling of the church.

Next we started updating the bathrooms downstairs in the fellowship hall. It was a trying task as a lot of work needed to be done to make it up to code and accessible. After a lot of hard work they are both done and looking beautiful.



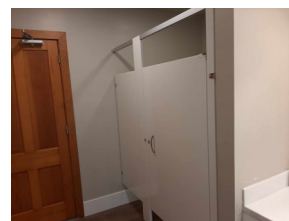
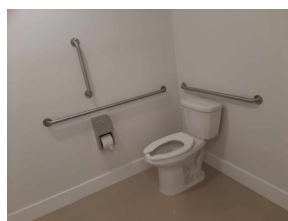
The next project was redoing the men's bathroom upstairs. It was long over due with the old one being very small and not accessible. After consideration it was decided that we would take part of one of the Sunday school classrooms and make that into the new men's bathroom. So they cut part of the one classroom out for the bathroom, making the other part of that classroom and the second classroom into one big room. Then they updated the old men's bathroom into a new janitors closet with shelving for all the supplies. We had great helpers in painting the new upstairs updated bathroom and classroom. Art & Lois Finnigan & Jeremiah & Danica Diedrich helped paint the bathroom and classroom, thank you for all your wonderful help.



After that was done it was decided that the women's bathroom upstairs wasn't properly accessible so we remodeled that to look like the other 3 bathrooms in the building.

With all of the bathrooms updated and accessible we now have 3 accessible, functioning, beautiful bathrooms.

We hope you all enjoy the updates that have been done to make our church more accessible and beautiful.



Meetings and News

Retired & Re-Fired Small Group

In this busy season where work, vacations, family get-togethers and sporting events all seem to compete for our time and attention, let us pause for a moment to give thanks for all our blessings. It was about a year ago that Pastor Maria joined our church family and we give thanks for the leadership, devotion, energy, kindness, and patience that she has shown to us. Her ministry is a blessing to us all! Please pray for her, her family, and her ministry here and at Hazel Green United Methodist Church.

We're all Part of His Flock



Even though our group is on break until September, we'll continue to celebrate and lift up those folks in our age bracket that have birthdays and anniversaries. On our birthday list for July are Steve Leitzinger (7/7), Janet Monahan (7/13), Duane Wedige (7/24), and Tom Teutschmann (7/26). Celebrating their birthday in August are Debbie Gierke (8/11), Brenda Johnson (8/13), Bob Edge (8/18), Fred Gustafson (8/21), Robert Unbehau (8/24), Lisa Diedrich (8/26), and Ed Gierke (8/28). May God bless them and keep them throughout the year ahead.

I look forward to resuming our group meetings with lunch at noon on September 11th. May God bless you and guide you until we meet again!

Mary Gensler, Retired & Re-Fired Small Group Leader

Trustees News

The remodeled bathrooms are finished and looking great.

The next project the trustee's have will be to redo the deck at the parsonage.

The Trustees still have a few more projects that we would like to do and some necessary up-keep that needs done.

In order to do all of these latest projects, we have had to take money from our investments. We are looking for contributions to help grow our accounts back up. If you feel called to contribute directly to these projects so we don't have to pull from the investments, we would greatly appreciate it. We'd like to make the church as accessible as possible without depleting all of our investment funds.



Jamie Roberts, Co-Trustees Chair



Back to School / 50 Attendance Challenge Day

Join us on August 27

As you know, 2023 Vision of Centenary UMC is “Be a welcoming community for all, worshipping together at God’s house” with a specific goal of having more than 50 at each service. For this, our leadership board decided to hold ‘50 Attendance Challenge Sunday’ a few times a year.

We also formed a 50 Attendance Challenge team (leader: Mary Gensler) and this team is meeting once a month constantly praying and looking for new ways to invite and welcome our long-time friends and neighbors.

The purpose of 50 Attendance Challenge is to make our church more relevant, inviting and welcoming to all people including younger generation families for their reconnecting to Jesus.

Our next 50 Attendance Challenge day will be on August 27. The band will be playing that day. Since school is right around the corner we will have our Backpack blessings that day as well. May God lead us to the rock that is higher than us.



Stewardship from the Ground Up

Stewardship Conference at Pine Lake hosted by the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation



Calling all Stewardship Teams, Finance Committees, Church Councils, Accountable Leadership Boards, and Pastors! You are invited to the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation’s Annual Stewardship Conference at Pine Lake Camp on **August 11 & 12**. This year’s theme is *Stewardship from the Ground Up* and will feature workshops on vital stewardship techniques and essential stewardship practices that have been and continue to be important for local congregations and other ministries.

Questions? Contact Rev. Jason Mahnke, Director of Programming and Campaigns, at jason@wumf.org.

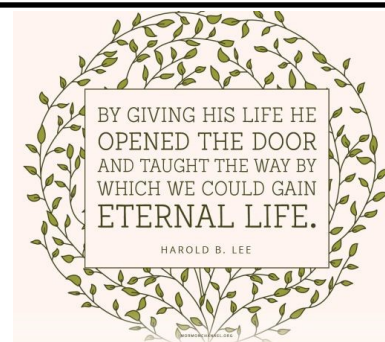
*The main presentations will be available virtually via Zoom, but some of the breakout sessions during the Conference will not due to technical limitations.

Register at <https://wiumcamps.campbrainregistration.com/>



Accountable Leadership Board Meeting

Highlights



July 18 meeting:

Business/Ministry Reports

- Update on how we are doing Financially- Review and discuss Financial Reports
Motion made by Mary Gensler seconded by Jamie Roberts to approve the financial reports as is. All in favor. Motion approved.
- Apportionments: 15% tithe to apportionments for Conference, plus designated apportionment giving.
 - ♦ Motion made by Jamie Roberts seconded by Jeremiah Diedrich to approve sending \$1122 for June. All in favor. Motion approved.
- Meeting Minutes- Review and Approve-Motion made by Mary Gensler seconded by Therese Gratz to approve the minutes as presented. All in favor. Minutes approved.
- Trustees-
 - ♦ Bathroom Locks-it was discussed if we wanted to put locks on the bathrooms since they are all 1 stall now. They will get locks to put on all the bathrooms.
 - ♦ Parsonage Deck—The next project on the trustee's list is the Parsonage Deck. Jeremiah is working on getting prices for the deck. We are looking for people to help take down and put up the new deck.
 - ♦ Office Computer— Becky discussed that the computer in the office is old and starting to have problems. The board said for her to get some prices and let them know which ones and not to exceed \$800.
- Church website is update & remodeling process: -we will be upgrading the website in order to put the weekly worship video on it.

College/Military Ministry Addresses Needed

As a church, we try to stay in contact with our college students and active military by periodically sending them letters and small gifts. 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.

Lois Finnigan, Coordinator

Vacation Bible School Recap

Vacation Bible School 2023 was a hero experience this year!! The weather was amazing, and the kids were very energetic! The Vector Verse was from Romans 14:19 "So let's strive for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up." The theme was "Hero Hotline" where we learned that we are called together to serve God! The heroes learned that they are called to "Follow Jesus", "help others", "work together", "listen to God", and "show grace".

We learned many stories from the Bible: Jesus builds the team, Shiphrah, Puah and Miriam are God's Wonder Women, Jethro Mentors Moses, the Magnificent Magi, Unexpected Heroes give Paul a Basket Ride. The children also had Pretzel Power Lifts, Campfire Trail mix, Cones of Power for snacks and created crafts to go along with the stories they learned that day. Recreation was held outside where the hero's were able to run around and play games relating to being a hero. Lastly, the children went to the science station where they made their own about magnetic attraction, liquid light, and sinking soda! Sadie I are so grateful that VBS was a success again this year and hope it continues to succeed in the years coming!

With Love, Dan-





Going Above and Beyond as Stewards of CUMC



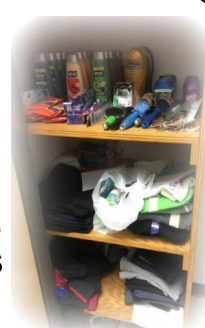
Food Pantry Giving

We collected 11 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 17.

August Missional Giving



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



Join us on Sunday mornings before Worship for Coffee and Fellowship. Coffee, tea, and milk along with a light snack will be served from 10:00-10:30 a.m. every Sunday.

If you feel called to sign up for a Sunday, please see the sign-up sheet on the back table or contact the Team Leader, Mary Gensler. **We are in need of hosts for August & September.**

Our intercessory prayer group is going well! Intercessory prayer is powerful!!! It's simple to join, just send your email address to Pam Teasdale at pamteas@yousq.net!

When we pray, God listens and works for us! The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth (Psalms 145:18).

As children of God, we are connected through our prayers for each other in Christ. Feel free to submit as many prayer requests as you like!

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



Quick Fix or Lifestyle Change?

I have tried just about every diet known to humanity through my adult life. Low carb. Counting calories. Intermittent fasting. Weight Watchers. I've lost weight on them all.

I've gained weight on them all. One commonality I have found between losing weight and not, no matter the weight loss system, is my approach to the diet. Do I see it as an overall diet and activity lifestyle change? Or is it simply something I need to suffer through to achieve a goal weight? The former is more about health and less about numbers on a scale but requires a plan and discipline. The latter frequently allows me to get to the number but is often unsustainable in the long-term, resulting in rebound weight gain.

I would argue that we, in the church, too often approach stewardship as a crash diet. We take four weeks in the fall to talk about the importance of giving generously, we look at the church budget, and then ask people to make a pledge to support the ministries. In my mind, this approach tends to resemble (ineffective) fundraising rather than Christian Stewardship. It has little chance of either impacting people's lives or truly funding lifegiving ministries.

True Christian stewardship is about discipleship. It is about lifestyle. Its goal is helping people learn how to relate to their finances and possessions in terms of their faith and their relationship with God. Success is determined on the metrics of financial healthiness, not on the number on the scale (i.e., the income line on the church budget).

This type of stewardship cannot be contained to just three or four weeks in the fall. It is about helping equip people to earn enough to meet their needs, to learn how to get and stay out of debt, to use tools like a spending plan (i.e., a budget) to wisely save and spend thoughtfully, and to experience the full benefits to giving extravagantly. I believe churches need to be as committed to helping people learn how to be faithful financial stewards as we are helping people learn how to pray.

I have learned – whether it comes to dieting or learning how to be a faithful steward – I will never fully arrive. But I am slowly learning that the true treasure of each is in the experience and the growth each journey offers.

Are you interested in helping people in your congregation take this journey? Consider helping your pastor or stewardship team put together a yearlong stewardship plan which may include offering a financial wellness class like Financial Peace University or Saving Grace, holding an appreciation celebration thanking people for all they give to make a difference in the church and community, and simply making time to regularly talk about the challenges and joys of faithful financial stewardship.

Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation



From Our Parish Nurse.....

August is National Immunization Awareness Month!

Each year in August, National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) provides an opportunity to highlight the value of immunization across the lifespan. People of all ages are encouraged to protect their health by being vaccinated against infectious diseases. Most young parents in the U.S. have never seen the devastating effects that diseases like measles or whooping cough (pertussis) can have on a family or community. It's easy to think of these as diseases of the past. But the truth is they still exist. Many vaccine preventable diseases are only a plane ride away. For example, measles is still common in many parts of the world. The disease is brought into the United States by unvaccinated travelers who are infected while in other countries. When measles gets into communities of unvaccinated people in the U.S. (such as people who refuse vaccines for religious, philosophical or personal reasons), outbreaks are more likely to occur.

For Children:

Vaccines give parents the safe, proven power to protect their children from serious diseases. Parents can provide the best protection by following the recommended immunization schedule giving their child the vaccines they need, when they need them.

* Babies receive vaccinations that help protect them from 14 diseases by age 2. It is very important that babies receive all doses of each vaccine, as well as receive each vaccination on time.

* After age 2, children are still recommended to receive a yearly flu vaccine and will be due for additional vaccine doses between 4 and 6 years of age.

Getting all of the recommended vaccines is one of the most important things parents can do to protect their children's health. If a child falls behind the recommended immunizations schedule, vaccines can still be given to "catch-up" the child before adolescence.

When children are not vaccinated, they are at increased risk for disease and can spread disease to others in their play groups, child care centers, classrooms and communities – including babies who are too young to be fully vaccinated, and people with weakened immune systems due to cancer and other health conditions.

Preteens and teens are at risk for diseases like meningitis and HPV cancers and need the protection of vaccines to keep them healthy.

Vaccines are recommended for preteens and teens because:

*Some of the childhood vaccines wear off over time, so adolescents need shots to stay protected from serious diseases like tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough).

*As children get older, they are at greater risk of getting certain diseases like meningitis, septicemia (blood infection), and infections that can lead to HPV cancers.

*Specific vaccines, like HPV vaccine, should be given during the preteen (11 to 12) years because they provide more protection when given at that age.

*HPV is short for human papilloma virus. There are more than 40 HPV types that infect human mucosal surfaces, mostly the genitals and mouth/throat. Although most infections will go away naturally, some infections that don't go away can cause cancers in men and women.

Preteens need the HPV vaccine now to prevent HPV cancers later in life. About 79 million people in the U.S., most in their teens and early 20s, are infected with HPV. About 14 million people become infected every year.

*CDC, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Academy of Family Physicians strongly recommend HPV vaccination at ages 11 to 12 for the best protection against HPV cancers.

*For teens who have not started the series at 11 or 12 years, it's not too late. It is still beneficial to get the vaccine as soon as possible during the teen years

Adults:

Every year, thousands of adults in the U.S. needlessly suffer, are hospitalized, and even die from diseases that could be prevented by vaccines.

All adults should get vaccines to protect their health. Even healthy adults can become seriously ill, and can pass certain illnesses on to others.

Immunization is especially important for older adults and for adults with chronic conditions such as asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), diabetes or heart disease.

Immunization is also important for anyone who is in close contact with the very young, the very old, people with weakened immune systems, and those who cannot be vaccinated.

All adults should get the influenza (flu) vaccine each year to protect against seasonal flu.

Every adult should also get the Td or Tdap vaccine once if they did not receive it as an adolescent to protect against pertussis (whooping cough), and then a Td (tetanus, diphtheria) booster shot every 10 years.

In addition, women are also recommended to get the Tdap vaccine each time they are pregnant, preferably at 27 through 36 weeks.

Adults may need other vaccines – such as shingles, pneumococcal, hepatitis, HPV – depending on one's age, occupation, travel, health status, vaccination history, and other risk factors.

Vaccines are thoroughly tested before licensing and carefully monitored after they are licensed to ensure that they are very safe. Vaccines are among the safest and most cost-effective ways to prevent disease. They not only protect vaccinated individuals but also help protect entire communities by preventing and reducing the spread of infectious diseases.

Currently the United States has the safest, most effective vaccine supply in its history. The country's long-standing vaccine safety system ensures that vaccines are as safe as possible.

Resources:

*U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*



**National Immunization
Awareness Month**

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

Marlene Burgos-Stewart,
MSN, RN, WCC, PN 608-293-1193

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



1 Emma Rodriguez	21 Fred Gustafson
2 Pat Gleason	24 Lindsey Poppy
3 Ian Unbehaun	24 Robert Unbehaun
5 Ronda Pedley	25 Randy Gill
6 Brandon Hoey	25 McKinley Russell
9 Amber Capp	26 Lisa Diedrich
11 Debbie Gierke	27 Katrina Gleason
11 Sara Gierke	27 Dawn Gobrecht
12 Heidi Sigwarth	27 Sarah Santiago
15 Jason Hauser	28 Ed Gierke
15 Wanda Wood	29 Kaylee Kudronowicz
16 AnnMarie Stewart	29 Larry Teasdale
18 Bob Edge	29 Sally Blackburn
18 Patrick Harker	31 Paige Russell
19 Kess Starr	31 Tim Strang
21 Cassidy Gleason	

August Lectionary

August 6

10th Sunday After Pentecost

Genesis 32:22-31

Psalms 17:1-7, 15

Romans 9:1-5

Matthew 14:13-21

August 13

11th Sunday After Pentecost

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Psalms 105:1-6, 16-22

Romans 10:5-15

Matthew 14:22-33

August 20

12th Sunday After Pentecost

Genesis 45:1-15

Psalms 133

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

August

8th Sunday After Pentecost

Genesis 28:10-19a

Psalms 139:1-12, 23-24

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43



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

Scripture Readers

Opening Prayer Readers

**CHILDREN FOR OFFERING
HELPERS**

Your participation will make our worship more lively and active!

If you feel called to help with any of these, please contact the office.



AUGUST 2023



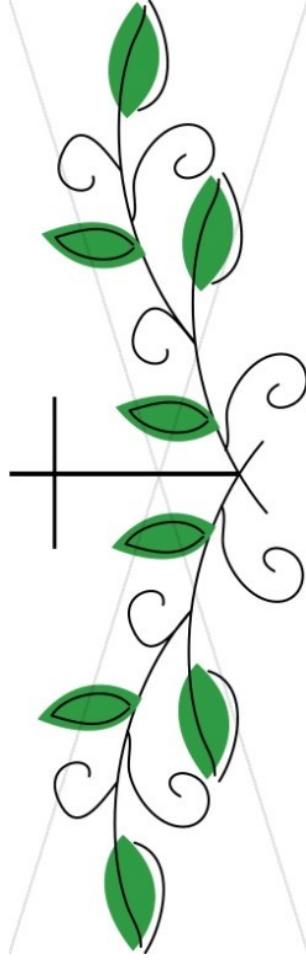
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10:00 Community Worship @ Lafayette Co Manor	2	3 6:00 50 Attendance Challenge mtg.	4	5

6 Communion 10:30 Blended Worship 11:30 Confirmation Parent mtg.	7	8 10:00 Community Worship @ Shullsburg Home	9	10	11	12
--	---	---	---	----	----	----

13 10:30 Blended Worship	14	15 6:00 ALB mtg.	16 9:30 Community Worship @ Willow Valley	17 3:30 Food Pantry	18	19
-----------------------------	----	---------------------	---	------------------------	----	----

20 10:30 Blended Worship	21	22	23	24 2:00 Community worship @ St. Dominic Villa	25	26
-----------------------------	----	----	----	---	----	----

27 Band Playing 10:30 Blended Worship w/ 50 attendance challenge day/Backpack blessings 11:30 Confirmation orientation	28	29	30	31		
--	----	----	----	----	--	--





The Chimes

Join us for Sunday
Morning Blended
worship

10:30 In-Person &
Recorded Service on
Facebook each
Sunday

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

Address Service Requested

*Confirmation
Class*



**Parent meeting on Sunday August
6** following worship (around 11:30).

**Confirmation orientation on Sunday
August 27** following worship.

See page 3 for more information

50

ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE

REAWAKEN



Back to School / 50 Attendance
Challenge Day
August 27

See page 5 for more information



Our Mission Statement

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