



The Chimes

Centenary United Methodist Church

December 2019

Accountable Leadership Board

page 2 & back page



Advent
by
Candlelight
Women's Ministry

page 4



pages 5 & 14

7:00 p.m.
Traditional
Christmas Eve
service



Inside this issue...

<i>Pastor's Corner</i>	2
<i>Accountable Leadership Board Approval</i>	2
<i>October Statistics</i>	3
<i>December Worship Schedule</i>	3
<i>Finance Committee News</i>	3
<i>Advent by Candlelight</i>	4
<i>Christmas Potluck Dinner</i>	4
<i>Shortest Day/Longest Night Service</i>	4
<i>Ways to Help Food Pantry</i>	5
<i>Christmas Blessings Tree</i>	5
<i>December Administrative Mtgs.</i>	6
<i>Fellowship Group News</i>	6
<i>Coffee & Conversation</i>	6
<i>Sunday School News</i>	7
<i>Youth Group News</i>	7
<i>Confirmation Schedule</i>	7
<i>Retired & Re-Fired Group</i>	8
<i>Wednesday Night Dinners</i>	8
<i>Adult Bible Study</i>	9
<i>Mobile Giving Option</i>	9
<i>Parish Nurse News</i>	10-11
<i>October Church Council Minutes</i>	12-13
<i>November Church Council Highlights</i>	13
<i>Food Pantry Item</i>	14
<i>Fill the Sills for Food Pantry</i>	14
<i>December Mission Collection</i>	14
<i>College/Military Ministry</i>	15
<i>December Birthdays & Anniversaries</i>	16
<i>December Calendar</i>	17
<i>Leadership Positions Open</i>	Back





Greetings,

Well, it's that time of year; the time of the year when I increasingly feel like Ebenezer Scrooge. The reason for this mood? I allow myself to get aggravated by the rampant consumerism that fills our culture (especially the stores) revolving around Christmas. In what should be one of the most sacred times of the year we're inundated with the holy message of "but, buy, buy!"

The heroes of the season are not wise men or shepherds; an expectant mother or her understanding husband; the shepherds or the angels. No, it seems as though the heroes of this season are a reindeer with rosacea on his nose, a snowman, a furry green meanie, and a jolly old fat man in a red suit (the irony of which never escapes me – we tell children to be safe from strangers and then wait in line so that they can go sit in the lap of a stranger!).

The challenge for me and any of you who may think some similar thoughts is that we cannot allow the "culture" to destroy the season for us. We must keep the real reason for the season at the forefront of our minds. In the midst of all the voices saying, "buy, buy, buy" and "ho, ho, ho" we need to keep our minds, hearts, and ears open for the quiet voice of God; a voice that comes to us in the whispers of family, friends, and the remembrance of a little baby born so long ago.

Maybe, if we can keep the preceding in mind, we can keep Scrooge from working his way into our lives this season.

In Christ,

Pastor Stanton



Accountable Leadership Board Approved!

At the annual Charge Conference held on November 2, our circuit approved our change to the Accountable Leadership Board of administration.

What this means is that after a transition period of 3-6 months, there will no longer be committees in charge of decision-making in the church. Instead, decision will be made by a board consisting of 9-12 people who will meet monthly. In addition to the board members, there will be teams created to do the legwork required to make recommendations to the board (essentially what committees used to do).

In order to build our new ALB and teams, we will of course need people. If you are interested in being on either the board or a team, please fill out an application (available soon at church and enclosed in the January newsletter) for consideration by the current Lay Leadership Committee.

Centenary UMC at a Glance

October Statistics

Total Offering:

(regular offering, not earmarks)

Oct 5, 6 & 9	\$ 2,088
Oct 12, 13 & 16	2,119
Oct 19, 20 & 23	2,252
Oct 26, 27 & 30	1,641

Attendance:

Weekly

(Sat 7, Sun 9:00, 10:30, Wed 6:15)

Totals

Oct 5, 6 & 9	18, 6, 23, 4	51
Oct 12, 13 & 16	13, 14, 42, 12	81
Oct 19, 20 & 23	14, 11, 22, 3	50
Oct 26, 27 & 30	8, 8, 42, 5	63



Finance News

A bright orange pledge card is included in this newsletter.

Please take some time to think and pray about how CUMC fits into your monthly budget. A pledge card is not a set in stone commitment, it just gives the finance committee some information so we can plan next year's budget.

All we have is a gift from GOD. He just asks for a small percentage to be given / returned to support the church and its missions.

Thank you for your generosity and enjoy the Christmas season.

Blessings and peace be with you,

Tina Cruse, Finance Chair

December Worship

December 1 & 4

Are We There Yet?

Choosing a Journey of Peace

Isaiah 2:1-5

December 8 & 11

Are We There Yet?

Finding Hope in The Dessert

Isaiah 11:1-10

December 15 & 18

Are We There Yet?

Seeking the Joy in the Journey

Isaiah 35:1-10

December 24

Are We There Yet?

Living in Love

Isaiah 9:2-7

December 29

Are We There Yet?

So Now What?

Isaiah 63:7-9

January 5

Are We There Yet?

Claiming the Promise

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13



Upcoming Events

Advent by Candlelight

Sunday, December 1 4:00 p.m.



**Advent
by
Candlelight**
Women's Ministry

Join us for our 7th Annual Women's Advent by Candlelight. Come for a fun evening of worship, singing, beautifully decorated tables, and delicious desserts served by the men of our church.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact me at 965-3455 or e-mail centenaryumcoffice@yahoo.com. Hope to see you there!

Becky Upmann

Christmas Potluck Dinner Wednesday, December 20

5:30 p.m. Potluck 6:30 p.m. Praise Service

This year's Christmas Dinner will be **Wednesday, December 20 at 5:30**. The dinner is open to the public, so invite your friends and neighbors to come and enjoy a time of food, fun and friends. We will have the main dishes, but please feel free to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Then stay for the wonderful Wednesday Night Service about the Shortest Day/Longest Night.



Shortest Day/Longest Night

The 6:30 worship service on December 20 we will have a special liturgy and emphasis that will acknowledge that Christmas is not merry for everyone.



This Shortest Day/Longest Night observance allows anyone who has felt any kind of loss (death, divorce, job, etc.) to come and recognize that each is not alone; each is also held in God's compassionate care. We encourage you to invite anyone who has experienced a loss (or is struggling) to come.



Show your support for our beloved Food Pantry ministry during the Christmas season! You and your family can be part of a Christmas miracle and blessing by doing any of the following:

- 1.) Making a secondary offering to the Food Pantry. Their financial resources are much lower than in years past, so every dollar you give will help put food in the hands and stomachs of many individuals and families that are in need this Christmas. Simply write out a check with "Food Pantry" in the memo, or place cash in a giving envelope and mark it "Food Pantry."
- 2.) Participate in our "Fill the Sills" drive where we make Christmas offerings to Christ throughout the weeks of Advent, filling—and our goal is to absolutely fill—the window sills in the sanctuary with nonperishable and canned goods and paper products to help increase the inventory of the Food Pantry.
- 3.) Bring cans of soup and boxes of crackers into the church prior to December 19 as part of the Christmas distribution here at Centenary.

Be a blessing and part of the miracle and hope of Christmas through your support of the Food Pantry!



Centenary is once again sponsoring several families who could use a little extra help this Christmas. If you are able, please consider buying gifts from the tags on the narthex tree. If you're not a shopper, you might consider a monetary gift and let the Christmas Blessings elves do the shopping!

Wrapped gifts should be returned to church before Friday, December 13. (Elves can also do the wrapping if needed.)

Thank you for helping spread Christmas cheer!

Meetings and News

December Administrative Meetings

Monday, December 9

6:00 – Finance Committee

7:00 – Church Council



Fellowship Group News

Thank you to all who helped set up, serve, clean up and brought food for the funeral luncheon for Dayna Mullikin on Thursday, November 21. The family was very grateful, and we served about 110 people. Thank you to Pam Teasdale, Mary Gensler, Julie Gill, Lee Gill, Delva Fecht, Penny Tregloan, Lynn Ranum, Connie Ubersox, and Karla Blackburn for serving the meal. Also thank you to Jamie Roberts, the CUMC Youth Group, and Becky Upmann for setting up after the Thanksgiving meal.

I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a blessed & Happy New Year.

Remember that Jesus is the reason for the season!

God Bless!!

Pam Harker



Coffee & Conversation

Coffee and Conversation has **moved to Wednesdays** from 8:15-9:00 a.m. at Second Chance. Stop by for a chat and a drink!

Sunday School News

Our Sunday school Christmas program will be December 8 at the 10:30 a.m. service. There will be an in-sanctuary practice from 9-10 a.m. on Saturday, December 7, so please make arrangements for your child to attend. Sunday School will take a Christmas break on December 22 and 29. On January 5 we will resume our winter curriculum. All children age 4K – 8th grade are invited to join us!

*****Please note — a message will be sent out if Sunday school has to be canceled due to bad weather.*****

We hope to see you Sunday mornings!

Sunday School Team



Youth Group News

Calling all youth grades 6-12! Youth group meets **WEEKLY at 6:00!** Bring your friends, and we'll see you there!

Sunday, Dec 1 - Helping at Advent by Candlelight @ 4 p.m.

Sunday, Dec 8 - At Church

Sunday, Dec 15 - At Church

Sunday, Dec 22 - At Church

Sunday, Dec 29— At Church

Youth Group Leaders & Volunteers



Confirmation Class Schedule for 2019-2020

January 12, March 8, May 17

all classes begin at noon and end at 2 p.m.

Any youth in grades 7 and up who hasn't already been confirmed is welcome to attend. We start with pizza at noon! Friends are welcome! If you have any questions call Pastor Stanton at 608-965-3455 or email him at centenary.umc.pastor@gmail.com.

Retired & Re-Fired Small Group

Our December 9 meeting will be a busy one as we celebrate birthdays and anniversaries, get our Christmas cards ready for mailing, and fill the bags for our friends in our Home Visitation Program.

In January, February, and March we will meet only once a month—on the second Monday.

On behalf of all of us in the Retired and Re-Fired Group, I wish you a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

This month's meetings:

Monday, December 9 — Celebration of our birthdays and anniversaries. Lunch will be provided.

Betty Gleason, Retired & Re-Fired Small Group Leader

We're all Part of His Flock



The Retired & Re-Fired Group
Centenary United Methodist Church

Wednesday Nights Ministry Dinner & Worship

Wednesday Night Dinners are **canceled until further notice**. Please watch the newsletters, bulletins, and Facebook for updated information. There will still be worship at 6:15 in the Sanctuary.



We are looking for someone to Coordinate the Wednesday Night Meals. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

Coming together in His name! Hope to see you on Wednesdays.

Thank you to all that helped with the annual Thanksgiving Dinner, I wouldn't have been able to pull it off without the help of Mary Gensler, Debbie Unbehau, Kathy Coulthard, Donna Foley, and Connie Binns. These ladies are exceptional women who I am grateful to have help me every year. Also thank you to all who helped serve and those that attended...with out you we wouldn't have this wonderful feast every year! I hope you enjoyed the meal and have a blessed holiday season.

Becky Upmann



Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m., Serenity Room

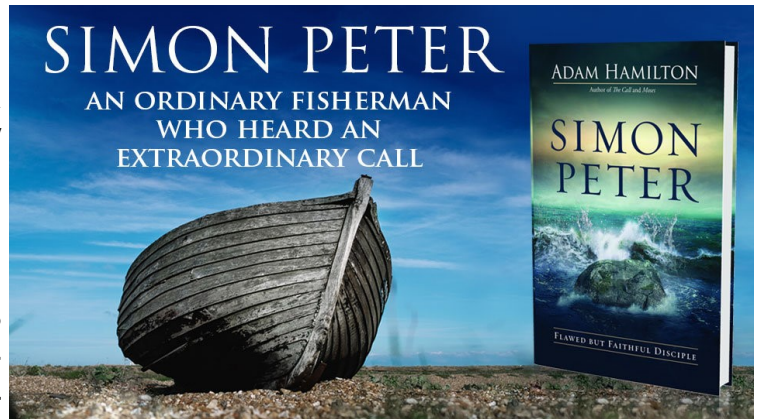
* * * Canceled for December, but will resume in January * * *

He left everything to follow his teacher and possessed a passion that would change the world. That's one way to describe Peter. Here's another: poor, uneducated, quick-tempered, and full of doubts and fears. Doesn't even sound like the same man.

And that's the point of *Simon Peter*, a new book and six-week adult Bible study by Adam Hamilton. Peter was just an ordinary guy who heard and followed God's extraordinary call.

Come join us on Wednesday nights while we learn about Jesus and his Disciples and have some great conversation. All adults are welcome at any time.

If you can't make it one Wednesday, come the next. There's always something new to learn each week. And we have a lot of fun!



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







- Download the FREE app on your Apple or Android phone
- Make one-time or recurring donations using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account
- Log in or donate as a guest
- Securely and conveniently manage donations using Touch ID/Fingerprint, PIN or password

To give through the app, search your phone's app store for "GivePlus Mobile" or contact the church office.

From Our Parish Nurse.....

'Tis the Season...

Fall and winter is a time where many communities experience an increase in illnesses. Colds, the flu, and the stomach bug start to increase as persons spend more time inside in close proximity to others. Often you hear people claim they have “just a little cough,” or a mild “stomach bug,” but how do you really know the difference between all of these illnesses? The following chart hopefully can explain the similarities and differences in symptoms to a few common illnesses and in the process help you stay a little healthier this season by avoiding persons who are ill as well as staying home when you are sick to keep from spreading illness to others. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) encourages everyone to protect himself or herself and prevent the spread of influenza and other illnesses this season.

SYMPTOMS	COLD	FLU	STOMACH FLU
 Fever/Chills	Rare	Common	Low grade fever & chills common
 Headache	Not Common	Common	Common
 Body Aches	Slight	Severe	Common: stomach-ache & cramps
 Runny, Stuffy Nose	Common	Runny Nose is Common	None
 Sneezing	Common	Common	None
 Sore Throat	Common	Common	None
 Cough	Cough with Mucus	Often. Dry & Hacking Cough	None
 Diarrhea/Vomiting	None	Not Common. Occurs more often in children than adults	Moderate to severe, as well as moderate to severe nausea
 Chest Discomfort	Mild to Moderate	Moderate to Severe	None
 Fatigue	Mild	Moderate to Severe	Common

Colds and the flu (influenza) are both caused by viruses, and both are spread through respiratory secretions through close contact with others who are ill. They both can also be spread by touching something that an ill person recently touched, like a doorknob or bathroom faucet. A cold may have a slower onset, over the period of a couple of days, whereas the flu may have a sudden onset and symptoms may seem to appear out of the blue. Colds usually last between one week and ten days, whereas the flu is usually shorter in duration between three to seven days depending on severity. Colds may have symptoms like sneezing, congestion, and sore throat. Some of the symptoms of a cold overlap with the symptoms of flu,

such as coughing, headache, and chest discomfort; however, the symptoms of the flu are usually more severe compared to that of a cold. **The flu can lead to pneumonia and respiratory failure, and become life-threatening.**

The stomach flu is often confused with the flu or influenza. However, like colds and flu, they are different even though many of the symptoms seem to overlap. The stomach flu is caused by norovirus or another virus or bacteria affecting the gastrointestinal system. These symptoms of stomach flu can be short-lived, or can last for a little over a week. One of the complications of the stomach flu is the increased risk for dehydration from the loss of fluids with nausea as well as frequent vomiting and/or diarrhea. It is important to rest and drink plenty of fluids if you experience symptoms similar to the stomach flu and to seek medical attention if symptoms become severe. There is not vaccine to prevent against "stomach flu," although frequent handwashing and proper storing of foods can help prevent against it.



There is, however, a vaccine to help prevent against the flu (influenza). The season flu vaccine helps to protect persons from becoming ill. According to the CDC, a yearly flu vaccine is recommended as the first and most important step in protecting against flu and it's potentially serious complications. While there are many different flu viruses, flu vaccines protect against the viruses that research suggests will be most common. Flu vaccination has been shown to reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, and missed work and school due to flu.

There are also two antiviral medications available to help treat flu, but they must be taken promptly after the onset of flu symptoms (recommended within two days of becoming ill); this makes rapid detection and diagnosis important. If you have signs or symptoms of season influenza, call your medical provider for treatment information. If you haven't already, it's not too late to call your doctor to schedule an appointment to get your flu shot. Moreover, remember to wash your hands often and avoid touching your face when out in public.

References:

www.cdc.gov

www.ashlandmmc.com

www.nejm.org

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

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

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



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

Church Council Meeting

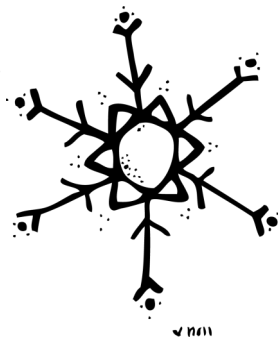
October 14, 2019

Minutes

Present: Tina Cruse, Art Finnigan, Lois Finnigan, Becky Mootz, Lisa Cockroft, Lisa Die-drich, Jamie Roberts, Becky Upmann,

Agenda:

1. Opening Prayer/devotion- Art led us in Prayer.
2. Church Council Chair Report-
 - **Art would like to Convene a task force to right up recommendations of what to do about the health survey. Becky Mootz, Tina Cruse, Art Finnigan, Becky Upmann and Mary Gensler will make up the Team.**
 - **Would like to start to discuss the book Not your Mothers Offering Plate at the next meeting.**
3. Pastor report: No report
4. Secretary's Report:
 - **Motion made by Jamie second by Art to approve the minutes as is. All in favor. Minutes approved.**
 - **Discussed starting with October minutes to do a summary of minutes with 3 bullet points in the newsletter instead of all the minutes. Motion made by Jamie second by Art. All in favor. We will start this at the November meeting with the October minutes.**
5. Committee Reports
 - Nurture:** (Now includes the following committees: TLC, Christian Education, Youth Group, Retired & Re-fired Group, Fellowship Group)
 - Fellowship Group- Auction is on its way.
 - Retired & Re-Fired- They met today and celebrated Birthday's and Anniversaries. There were a few new faces that came that haven't been there for a while. They worked on cards. Their next meeting, they will be going to a movie. They handed out the Upper Rooms to be delivered.
 - Christian Education- they went to the nursing home and sang. They decided as a group that they do not need a coordinator. They will be doing their Christmas program on December 8th with a snow date of the 22nd. They are looking for a coordinator for VBS for next year.
 - Youth Group- They are averaging 6 kids a week.



Outreach: (Now includes the following committees: Food Pantry, College and Military Support Group, Wednesday Night)

College/Military Support Group- They are on hold until Christmas.

Wednesday Night Meals- This is Canceled until further notice as there is no Coordinator.

Food Pantry- They need to organize the space that they have.

Trustees-

- They need to get a permit for the retaining wall.

SPRC-

- Went over raises
- Went over increasing Saturday Night stipend
- Went over getting Janitorial help
- Motion by Mary second by Lois to approve all of items SPRC brought to council. All in favor. Motion Approved.

Memorial- no one to report

Finance Report:

- Will send \$930 as our 10% tithe
- Budget was approved with Lisa seconding it.



Next Meeting Nov 11 @ 7pm

After this month, Church Council meeting minutes will no longer be printed in the newsletter. Instead, we will print the highlights. The full minutes will be available outside the office and on shullsburgumc.com.



November 11 meeting:

- Trustees actions: approved installation of new gutters and attic insulation; Church Council pre-approved purchasing a new cooler for kitchen upon Trustee approval.
- Conference approved conversion to ALB; a task force will work on the details.
- We discussed the need to gather history and memories from older and past members of the church.

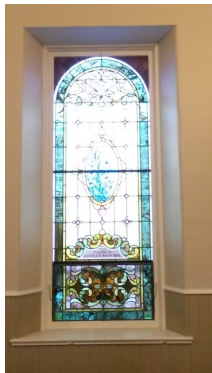
Going Above and Beyond as Stewards of CUMC



Food Pantry Giving

We collected 36 items for November! For the month of December we are collecting **soup and crackers**. Distribution will be on Thursday, December 19.

Fill the Sills for Jesus!



Again this year Centenary UMC is attempting to fill all the sanctuary window sills during the Advent and Christmas season with non-perishable food gifts to offer to Jesus on His birthday! The beloved ministry of CUMC Food Pantry will distribute them to those in need in our community. Please start bringing food products into church or to worship services, and let's fill the sills again this year to provide food for our brothers and sisters and God's beloved children! LET'S FILL THE SILLS!

December Missional Giving

Mission money collected this month will go to Warm Hearts Fund here at CUMC. This fund is used to help out people who are in need and come to Pastor Stanton for help. He meets with the individual, learns about their situation, and offers them counseling and support.

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.



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

College/Military Ministry News



The College/Military Ministry team is planning on sending Christmas greetings to CUMC's active military personnel and college students in December, and we would love to be able to include a gift card. If you would like the opportunity to assist in ministry we could use gift cards, monetary donations, and/or help writing cards. Please contact Becky Upmann or Lois Finnigan with gifts. This ministry is part of the Outreach Committee.



Church Mice

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



IN THE WORDS OF LINUS VAN PELT,
"...THAT'S WHAT CHRISTMAS IS
ALL ABOUT, CHARLIE BROWN!"

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM PASTOR CHEESE,
DEACON COFFEY, AND
THE ZOROWSKI FAMILY**

December Birthdays

1 Karen Grace	13 Justin Crotty	21 Paula McDermott
2 Betty Gleason	14 Dan Knautz	22 Dirk Bode
3 Laura Droessler	14 Sara McGovern	23 Rick Gill
3 Sam Walter	14 Debbie Unbehaun	23 Loretta Ingram
3 Jeff Wymore	15 Allie Gierke	24 Louise McGrannahan
4 Arthur Kryzaniak	15 Will Moyle	24 Nate Strang
5 Ruth Cherrey	15 Doug Olson	25 Jesus Christ
6 Madisyn Bennett	15 Ella Woodworth	25 Gayle Stoycheff
8 Rich Brown	15 Pam Wymore	26 Harvey Heinberg
8 Michelle Schmidt	17 Marcia Moyle	27 Josh Russell
8 Chad Teasdale	17 Alex Neff	28 Robin Cockrell
9 Brett Bode	18 Mike Jackson	28 Lee Gill
9 Pete Poppy	19 Wayne Gehrt	29 Eddie Santiago
9 Karlana Woodward	19 Dillon Humphrey	29 Danelle Schmid
10 Lyla Olson	20 Brooklyn Bennett	30 Ellen Doyle-Chandler
10 Beth Teutschmann	21 Kasha Cook	30 Bev Monahan
	21 Duane Hastings	


HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

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



December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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1 9:00 Hymn Worship Service 9:15 Kids' Sunday School 10:30 Praise Worship Service 11:45 Hanging of the Greens 4:00 Advent by Candlelight	2	3 Pastor Stanton's Day Off	4 8:15 Coffee & Conversation 9:00 Bible Study w/Pastor Stanton 6:15 Wednesday Night Worship 6:15 NO Adult Sunday School	5	6	7 9:00 Sunday School Xmas Program Practice 7:00 Lay-Led Worship
8 9:00 Hymn Worship Service 9:15 Kids' Sunday School 10:30 Praise Worship Service & Sunday School Xmas Program 4:30 Girl Scouts 6:00 Youth Group	9 Noon Retired & Re-Fired 6:00 Finance Committee mtg. 7:00 Church Council mtg.	10 Pastor Stanton's Day Off	11 8:15 Coffee & Conversation 9:00 Bible Study w/Pastor Stanton 6:15 Wednesday Night Worship 6:15 NO Adult Sunday School	12	13 6:00 Gingerbread Preschool Christmas Program	14 7:00 Lay-Led Worship
15 9:00 Hymn Worship Service 9:15 Kids' Sunday School 10:30 Praise Worship Service 4:30 Girl Scouts 6:00 Youth Group	16	17 Pastor Stanton's Day Off	18 8:15 Coffee & Conversation 9:00 Bible Study w/Pastor Stanton 6:15 Wednesday Night Worship 6:15 NO Adult Sunday School	19 4:00 Food Pantry	20	21 7:00 Lay-Led Worship
22 9:00 Hymn Worship Service 9:15 NO Kids' Sunday School 10:30 Praise Worship Service 6:00 Youth Group	23	24 7:00 Christmas Eve Service	25 No Events 	26	27	28 7:00 Lay-Led Worship
29 9:00 Hymn Worship Service 9:15 NO Kids' Sunday School 10:30 Praise Worship Service 6:00 Youth Group	30	31 Pastor Stanton's Day Off	<div> Special thanks to all the wonderful volunteers that help prepare the mailing of the newsletters each month. </div>			



The Chimes

Worship Schedule

Saturday Evening Lay-Led
Worship Service at 7:00

Sunday Morning Hymn
Worship Service at 9:00

Sunday Morning Praise
Worship Service at 10:30

Wednesday Night Praise
Worship Service at 6:15

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Leadership Positions Open

The newly-formed Accountable Leadership Board will need 9-12 board members as well as numerous team members. If you'd like to serve, please look for a yellow application outside the office and inside next month's newsletter.

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."