



THE CHIMES

A Newsletter of
Centennial United Methodist Church
est. 1963



July-August 2020

Words from the Pastor...

Dear friends and members,

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. ~ Isaiah 41:10

What a blessing it is to greet you again on this new appointment year. Can you believe that it has been a year since we began serving and journeying together!? I still cannot believe it, given that the circumstances from the past couple of months have made time feel slow and fast at times. I know that we have experienced together ups and downs, and moments of uncertainty during our first year, but God has been faithful to us. God will continue to journey with us in this new year, even amid social crises and the pandemic. God has not abandoned us and will give us the courage and faith to continue waiting for better times to come.

As you probably are aware, many places of worship have begun to open their buildings as we move into phase 4 of Restore Illinois. I want to remind you that we are still under the pandemic of Covid-19 and no cure or vaccine has been found yet. Not to mention, many more cases in the U.S.A have soared in a couple of states that opened prematurely. One of our General Rules for United Methodists is "do not harm" to anyone, and as you are probably aware, a significant number of our congregation are in high risk among other health concerns. Therefore, our building will continue to remain closed for the time being until further notice. I ask of your patience and prayers as we navigate through these uncharted waters and as we continue to come up with ways of doing ministry in a safe way for everyone. Thus, I encourage everyone to still practice safe distancing guidelines and follow safe protocols. We will continue to do our worship online and do any additional gatherings via zoom. As soon as we get any news that can give us the confidence to consider opening, I will share them with you.

Today more than ever, it is important for us to continue doing ministry in creative ways. God is giving us opportunities to minister to people in different ways, for us to be the hands and feet in the world. I invite you to take time to brainstorm, reflect and create ideas of what we can do together and individually as we wait on the Lord for healing and restoration of our land. The text from Isaiah above were words of encouragement to the people of Israel as they were making the journey towards exile. God remind us to be not dismayed. God will be with us, will strength us, will help us and uphold us. In time of crises, it is easy to lose heart but let not be dismayed. God is with us and will not leave us alone.

During the months of July and August, we will be taking the time to consider two important church concepts that very often are not talk about. We will be reflecting on the importance of a fresh vision and mission for our church. Vision is that great image that we desire to be for our church and mission is the way we go about to get that vision done. Having these guiding concepts will help us serve as the church in Rockford. It is the beginning of a new appointment year, of a quite different summer and a time for us to consider what it means to be Christians under the pandemics of the Covid-19 and racism. It is important for us to know where we are and where we are going as a church. Our reality will be different even when we go back into our building. How are we going to respond to the needs, challenges, and opportunities this new reality will present to us? So, let us take some time to listen, remember, reflect to what God is calling us to do as Christians at Centennial Multicultural UMC.

You are in my prayers; please, keep me in yours!
May God bless you!

Sincerely,

Rev. Uziel Hernandez Martinez

Palabras del Pastor...

Queridos amigos/as y miembros/as,

No temas, porque yo estoy contigo; no desmayes, porque yo soy tu Dios que te esfuerzo; siempre te ayudaré, siempre te sustentaré con la diestra de mi justicia. ~ Isaías 41:10

Qué bendición es saludarlo nuevamente en este año nuevo ministerial que comenzamos. ¿Puedes creer que ha pasado un año desde que comenzamos a servir y ministrar juntos? Todavía no puedo creerlo, dado que las circunstancias de los últimos meses han hecho que el tiempo se sienta lento y rápido a veces. Sé que hemos experimentado juntos altibajos y momentos de incertidumbre durante nuestro primer año, pero Dios ha sido fiel. Dios continuará viajando con nosotros, incluso en medio de crisis sociales y la pandemia. Dios no nos ha abandonado y nos dará la valentía y la fe para esperar mejores tiempos.

Como probablemente sepa, muchos lugares de culto han comenzado a abrir sus edificios a medida que avanzamos en la fase 4 de Restaurar Illinois. Quiero recordarles que todavía estamos bajo la pandemia de Covid-19 y que aún no se ha encontrado ninguna cura o vacuna. Sin mencionar que muchos casos más en los EE. UU. se han disparado en estados que se abrieron prematuramente. Una de nuestras reglas sencillas de una conducta Metodistas Unidos es "no hacer el mal" a nadie, y como probablemente sepa, un número significativo de nuestra congregación está en alto riesgo, entre otros problemas de salud. Por lo tanto, nuestro edificio continuará cerrado por el momento hasta nuevo aviso. Le pido su paciencia y oraciones mientras navegamos a través de estas aguas desconocidas y mientras continuamos ideando formas de hacer el ministerio de una manera segura para todos. Por lo tanto, animo a todos a seguir practicando pautas de distanciamiento y seguir protocolos seguros. Continuaremos haciendo nuestra adoración en línea y haremos reuniones adicionales a través del zoom. Tan pronto recibamos noticia que pueda darnos la confianza para considerar abrir, la compartiré con ustedes.

Hoy más que nunca, es importante para nosotros continuar haciendo ministerio de manera creativa. Dios nos está dando oportunidades para ministrar a las personas de diferentes maneras, para que seamos las manos y los pies de Cristo en el mundo. Los invito a tomarse el tiempo para crear ideas y reflexionar que podemos hacer juntos e individualmente mientras esperamos al Señor sanar y restaurar nuestra tierra. El texto de Isaías arriba fue palabras de aliento para el pueblo de Israel mientras viajaban hacia el exilio. Dios nos recuerda que no debemos desanimarnos y desmayar. Dios estará con nosotros, nos fortalecerá, nos ayudará y nos sostendrá. En tiempos de crisis, es fácil desanimarse, pero no se desanime. Dios está con nosotros y no nos dejará solos.

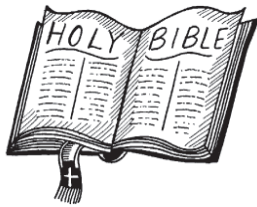
Durante los meses de julio y agosto, nos tomaremos el tiempo para considerar dos conceptos importantes de la iglesia de los que muy a menudo no se habla. Vamos a reflexionar sobre la importancia de una nueva visión y misión para nuestra iglesia. La visión es esa gran imagen que deseamos ser para nuestra iglesia y nuestra misión es la forma en que logramos llevar a cabo esa visión. Tener estos conceptos claro nos ayudará a servir como iglesia en Rockford. Es el comienzo de un nuevo año ministerial, de un verano bastante diferente y un momento para que consideremos lo que significa ser cristianos bajo las pandemias de Covid-19 y el racismo. Es importante para nosotros saber dónde estamos y hacia dónde vamos como iglesia. Nuestra realidad será diferente incluso cuando volvamos a nuestro edificio. ¿Cómo vamos a responder a las necesidades, desafíos y oportunidades que esta nueva realidad nos presentará? Entonces, tomemos un tiempo para escuchar, recordar, reflexionar sobre lo que Dios nos está llamando a hacer como cristianos en Centennial Multicultural UMC.

Están en mis oraciones; ¡por favor, manténgame en las suyas!
¡Que Dios te bendiga!

Sinceramente,



Rev. Uziel Hernández Martínez



SERVICIOS DOMINICALES EN ESPAÑOL JULIO - AGOSTO 2020

JULIO 2020

FECHA	LECTURAS BIBLICAS	SERMON & PREDICADOR/A
5 de julio	5^{TO} DOMINGO DESPUÉS DE PENTECOSTES: Año A Mateo 11:16-19, 25-30	"El Yugo" Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez
12 de julio	6^{TO} DOMINGO DESPUÉS DE PENTECOSTES: Año A Mateo 13:1-9, 18-23	"La Semilla" Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez
19 de julio	7^{MO} DOMINGO DESPUÉS DE PENTECOSTES: Año A Mateo 13:24-30, 36-43	"La Cosecha" Pastor Uziel Hernández
26 de julio	8^{VO} DOMINGO DESPUÉS DE PENTECOSTES: Año A Marcos 4:35-41	"Con Jesús en la Tormenta" Rvda. Fabiola Grandon-Mayer Superintendente de Distrito

AGOSTO 2020

FECHA	LECTURAS BIBLICAS	SERMON & PREDICADOR/A
2 de agosto	9^{NO} DOMINGO DESPUÉS DE PENTECOSTES: Año A Mateo 14:13-21	"El Milagro de Compartir" Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez
9 de agosto	10^{MO} DOMINGO DESPUÉS DE PENTECOSTÉS: Año A Mateo 14:22-33	"Fe Fuera de la Barca" Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez
16 de agosto	11^{MO} DOMINGO DESPUÉS DE PENTECOSTÉS: Año A Mateo 15:10-28	"Quebrando los Barreras" Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez
23 de agosto	12^{MO} DOMINGO DESPUÉS DE PENTECOSTÉS: Año A Mateo 16:13-20	"Quien Dice la Gente Que Somos?" Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez
30 de agosto	13^{RO} DOMINGO DESPUÉS DE PENTECOSTÉS: Año A Mateo 16:21-28	"Que Dice la Gente Que Hacemos?" Pastor Uziel Hernandez Martínez

"Así pues, la fe nace al oír el mensaje, y el mensaje viene de la palabra de Cristo." – Romanos 10:17



JULY 2020

DATE	SCRIPTURE	SERMON TITLE
July 05	5th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: Year A Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	"The Yoke" Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez
July 12	6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: Year A Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	"The Seed" Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez
July 19	7th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: Year A Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	"The Harvest" Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez
July 26	8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: Year A Mark 4:35-41	"With Jesus in the Storm" Rev. Fabiola Grandon-Mayer District Superintendent

AUGUST 2020

DATE	SCRIPTURE	SERMON TITLE
August 2	9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: Year A Matthew 14:13-21	"The Miracle of Sharing" Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez
August 9	10th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: Year A Matthew 14:22-33	"Faith Outside the Boat" Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez
August 16	11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: Year A Matthew 15:10-28	"Breaking the Boundaries" Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez
August 23	12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: Year A Matthew 16:13-20	"Who do People Say We Are?" Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez
August 30	13th Sunday After Pentecost: Year A Matthew 16:21-28	"What do People Say We Do?" Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez

"You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me"

John 5:39

Church Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic

We have two services each Sunday accessible via Zoom or Facebook Live

Service in English at 10:00 am

Service in Spanish at 11:30 am

An email is sent prior to the services with links to the two platforms and the bulletins for each service.

If you would like to be included in the communication for the services along with our Joys & Concerns

Send an email to:
Centennial Multicultural UMC:
centennialumc.rockford@gmail.com and request to be added to the weekly communications

This will continue until we can safely gather together again.

*When you need to reach **Pastor Uziel** in the case of emergency, to report a hospitalization, request a visitation or to share information, please contact him at 224-723-7003 or **centennialumc.pastor@gmail.com***

Mission and Outreach

Covid 19 has caused Mission and Outreach to slow or stop many of our outreach programs.

Dave Holland and several members have been faithful in providing Sunday school material to our Sunday school children and youth.

Saturday Kids' Club has not been able to meet but we have also been in contact with those children.

Christ UMC will once again provide our children and youth with backpacks and school supplies, but with some modifications.

Pastor Uziel has shared groceries in our pantry with members in need.

We are looking forward to the time we can be back to full speed with all of our missions.

If you would like to participate with the Sunday School Bags Service Ministry to help Dave Holland. Here are the attached guidelines. If you are interested you can contact Pastor Uziel (centennialumc.pastor@gmail.com) or Dave Holland (Daveholland6@yahoo.com) for more instructions

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING SUNDAY SCHOOL BAGS

Thank you for agreeing to put together Sunday School bags for all of the children in the family selected! The children will be so happy to receive their own bag each week, and it's an excellent way to stay in touch with them during the pandemic!

Each bag should be a lunch-size bag with the child's name on it and contain:

2 age-appropriate worksheets

(Dave will e-mail these the previous Sunday)

1 set of materials for an age-appropriate craft

(Dave will e-mail the instructions on the previous Sunday)

3 snack-size candies and/or granola bars

1 sharp pencil with eraser

(you can buy pre-sharpened or sharpen yourself)

1 small age-appropriate gift: balloon, toy, stickers, etc.

1 short personal note addressing the child by name and signed with your name

The bag(s) should be assembled and dropped off at the church during normal office hours (Tuesday to Thursday, 9a – noon); please call the office at 815-397-2771 beforehand or make prior arrangements with Milka or Pastor Uziel. If there is more than one bag, please place all of the bags in a larger plastic bag with handles, like a Walmart bag. Again, thank you for participating in this vital ministry



On June 21st we honored our graduates with a special prayer and presentation video. They are listed below, if there are any we missed, please email Cindy Whitmer at cwhitmer24@msn.com and we can include the information in the nex issue of the Chimes.

Graduates	Graduated From	Future Plans	Centennial Member
Kasey Benson Smith	Masters Degree Online	Teacher at Pecatonica Grade School	Granddaughter of Bev Dahlgren
Jared Benson	University of Wisconsin Oshkosh in December	Will teach history to seniors at a high school in Oshkosh	Grandson of Bev Dahlgren
Nick Clinkenbeard		Accepted to Rockford University Bachelor's Degree completion program	Grandson of Ellen Dean
Ryan Gustafson	Winnebago High School	Kansas University	Grandson of Bev Dahlgren
Brooke Kellerman	Richland in Decatur	St. John's in Springfield/ Bachelors in Nursing	Granddaughter of Janie and Ray Kellerman
Blake Kellerman	UW-Kenosha with Bachelor of Arts in Finance	Working at Culvers. Hoping to get a job in banking when job market opens up.	Grandson of Janie and Ray Kellerman
Emma Karras	Wauwatosa West High School, Wauwatosa, WI	University of Minnesota/ pre-med/biology	Granddaughter of Cindy and Dougal Whitmer
Ismael Matias Sebastian	North Central College	Live in the Chicago Area And find a job in the finance area	Friend and family of Pastor Uziel and Andrea

"Oh, the places you will go! Kid, You'll move mountains! You're off to great places, today is your day! Your mountain is waiting . . . so . . . get on your way!" Dr. Seuss

Members and Others at Home

During this time of not being together we need to pay some special attention to our homebound members and previously regular attendees to our services.

We are asking for volunteers to maybe participate in a calling or card sending effort to maintain contact with the people who are without regular contact or without access to our online services.

Please contact the following to help or if you would like to have someone reach out to you:

Cindy Whitmer, Nurture Chair	815-962-0520 or cwhitmer24@msn.com
Pastor Uziel	224-723-7003 or centennialumc.pastor@gmail.com
Milka Rivera, Administrative Asst.	815-397-2771 or centennialumc.rockford@gmail.com

Miembros y Otros en Casa

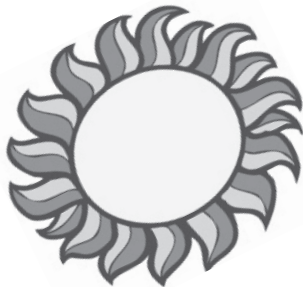
Durante este tiempo de no estar juntos necesitamos dar atención a nuestros miembros que están en casa y que eran miembros que atendían regularmente a nuestros servicios. Estamos pidiendo voluntarios que puedan participar en una llamada o mandar tarjetas especiales para mantenernos en contacto con esas personas que no hemos podido ver y que no tiene acceso a nuestros servicios en línea.

Por favor contacte a estas personas si desea ayudar o si desea que alguien se ponga en contacto con usted.

Cindy Whitmer, presidenta del Comité de Desarrollo Congregacional	815-962-0520 o cwhitmer24@msn.com
Pastor Uziel	224-723-7003 o centennialumc.pastor@gmail.com
Milka Rivera, Asistente Administrativo.	815-397-2771 o centennialumc.rockford@gmail.com

Oh, How I Love Summer

Though May did bring her deepest grey
And June did bring her gloom,
I woke this morn in a glorious way
To Sunshine in my room.



Quick, get up,
It's time to rise.
Greet the day.
I started to cry.

For today,
It has begun.
It's finally here,
The summer sun!



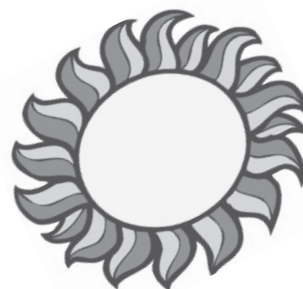
Feel her warmth,
See my garden grow,
Taste the sweetest fruits,
Watch the butterflies flow.

Hear the squirrels chatter
And my orioles swoon
Till the evening comes
With the summer moon.

It seems like I've waited
Such a very long time,
Longing for the light of
Your rays of sunshine.

So please stay a while.
Bring your long, lazy days.
I'll cherish each blue sky
And ride every wave.

Oh, how I love summer
And all of her songs,
Happy summer to all,
And may it be long!



© Susan M. Gilbert

Published: June 21, 2019

birthdays

7/3	Curtis Kellermann	8/1	Nancy O'Leary
7/5	Rosa Mendoza	8/2	Jacqueline Berndt
7/5	Oscar Torres	8/5	Keith Kelsey-Powell
7/5	Chelsea Vails	8/9	Sheila Grady
7/6	Cheri Johnson	8/11	David Brown
7/7	Misael Rodriguez	8/12	Autumn Lilly Brown
7/9	Silvia Duran	8/13	Fredy Mejia
7/13	Ray Kellermann	8/14	James Dean
7/13	Bettye Mixon	8/15	Jonathon Berndt
7/15	Yuna Stone	8/17	Carmen Garza
7/16	Alexander Mankarious	8/17	Pam Sanders
7/17	Reynaldo Barrera	8/20	Brian Jaworowski
7/17	Art Huenkemeier	8/21	Jennifer Risenhoover Berry
7/18	David Holland	8/22	David Russ
7/19	Joey Brown	8/23	Terrica Roberts
7/19	Mary Jane Kellermann	8/27	Vincenzo Brown
7/23	Andrea Martinez Cabrera	8/28	Linda Gentry
7/24	Mina Ruth Gray	8/31	Teresa Clinkenbeard
7/29	Janice Rungren	8/31	Idan John



Our prayers and thoughts for our home bound members. We love you and miss you very much.

At Wesley Willows:

Mae Foster
Henrietta Day
Art Huenkemeier

At Home:

Jo Marshall
Nancy O'Leary
Micaela Serrano
Aida Bejesus
Cleo English
Jo Harrington
Jerald Grady

Undergoing Treatment/Rehab:

Keith Sodergren
Ken Dahlgren
John Paul (Margie's son)
Jonathan Garcia (Myriam Luna's son)
Mickey Wibom
Rev. Bettye Mixon
Tara Arencibia
Ismael Arencibia
Rosa Mendoza
Silvia Duran
Pat Nelson
Ray Kellermann
Carol Waxler
Kim Whitmore

Next issue: September-October
Articles and items due August 23, 2020

Contributors to this issue of the Chimes:

Pastor Uziel Hernandez Martinez
Lori Doll
Milka Rivera
Cindy Whitmer
Carol Risenhoover



FLOWER CHART

You can worship God through the flowers you bring to church.
The cost of the flowers is \$26 with checks payable to Centennial. Please sign up at the Flower Chart. There are still openings.

August 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
JULY 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	SEPTEMBER 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Full Moon					
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
					Senior Citizens Day	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31		Women's Equality Day			

CALENDAR ABBREVIATIONS
EBS-ENGLISH BIBLE STUDY, SKC-SATURDAY KID'S CLUB, HBS-Hispanic Bible Study

September 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
			Full Moon			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Labor Day					
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
						Rosh Hashana
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		Autumnal Equinox First Day of Fall				
27	28	29	30	AUGUST 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23/30 24/31 25 26 27 28 29		
	Yom Kippur			OCTOBER 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		

**Join us for Sunday Services
On Facebook Live
or
Zoom
English 10:00 am
Spanish 11:30 am**



Centennial UMC is a multicultural congregation strongly committed to being open, accepting, welcoming and loving to all, making a difference in our community through our Christian outreach.



Find us as:
Centennial UMC - Rockford, IL

Centennial United Methodist Church
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Rockford, IL 61104