



THE CHIMES

A Newsletter of
Centennial United Methodist Church
est. 1963



March - April 2023

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. - 1 Peter 1:3

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We have entered into the season of Lent. During this time we are reflecting and preparing for the joy and celebration of Easter. We have entered the Lenten wilderness on a spiritual journey of our own. We are in a time of reflection, renewal and restoration. This is also a time for us to not just focus on our own journey but to prepare to participate in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is a time to remember the love of God and the reality of God.

During this time we can reflect on how we will spend these forty days of lent? How will we open up to God through prayer and meditation and invite him to live through us like never before? With God's grace may we be transformed and be able to embrace God's unending love to do His will through us.

I invite you to join us in our Lent and Holy Week activities at Centennial United Methodist Church. You are welcome to come and we ask that you feel free to bring family and friends to join us. Our schedule is as follows:

Lent Soup Lunch, March 26, 2023 - Immediately after our service ends we will gather in the fellowship hall.

Palm Sunday Service, April 2, 2023 - English at 10:00am / Spanish 11:30am

Maundy Thursday/Holy Thursday Service, April 6, 2023 - 12:15pm-12:45pm (Joined service)

Good Friday Service, April 7, 2023 - 12:15pm-1:00pm (Joined service)

Easter Sunday Service, April 9, 2023 - 10:00am (Joined service)

* Joined service will be in English and Spanish

We also invite you to join us as we continue to support our church with our gifts, prayers and overflowing generosity.

As Easter approaches let us remember and celebrate the joy of what this means to us! We are resurrection people! Let us look forward to the new life that Jesus offers us. This is our faith and our joy!

In Christ, our Risen Savior and Hope,

Pastor Audrey Rochet



¡Alabado sea Dios, Padre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo! Por su gran misericordia, nos ha hecho nacer de nuevo mediante la resurrección de Jesucristo, para que tengamos una esperanza viva. - 1 Pedro 1:3

Mis queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

Hemos entrado en la temporada de Cuaresma. Durante este tiempo estamos reflexionando y preparándonos para la alegría y celebración de la Pascua. Hemos entrado en el desierto de Cuaresma en un viaje espiritual propio. Estamos en un tiempo de reflexión, renovación y restauración. Este también es un momento para que no solo nos concentremos en nuestro propio viaje, sino que nos preparemos para participar en la muerte y resurrección de nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Es un tiempo para recordar el amor de Dios y la realidad de Dios.

Durante este tiempo podemos reflexionar sobre ¿cómo pasaremos estos cuarenta días de cuaresma? ¿Cómo nos abriremos a Dios a través de la oración y la meditación y lo invitaremos a vivir a través de nosotros como nunca antes? Que con la gracia de Dios seamos transformados y podamos abrazar el amor infinito de Dios para hacer Su voluntad a través de nosotros.

Los invito a unirse a nosotros en nuestras actividades de Cuaresma y Semana Santa en la Iglesia Centennial United Methodist Church. Le invitamos a venir y le pedimos que se sienta libre de traer a familiares y amigos para que se unan a nosotros. Nuestro horario es el siguiente:

Almuerzo de sopa de Cuaresma, 26 de marzo de 2023 - Inmediatamente después de que termine nuestro servicio, nos reuniremos en el salón de compañerismo.

Servicio de Domingo de Ramos, 2 de abril de 2023 - Inglés a las 10:00a.m./Español a las 11:30a.m.

Servicio de Jueves Santo, 6 de abril de 2023 - 12:15p.m.-12:45p.m. *(Servicio Unido)*

Servicio de Viernes Santo, 7 de abril de 2023 - 12:15p.m.-1:00p.m. *(Servicio Unido)*

Servicio de Domingo de Pascua, 9 de abril de 2023 - 10:00a.m. *(Servicio Unido)*

* El servicio unido será en inglés y español.

También lo invitamos a unirse a nosotros mientras continuamos apoyando a nuestra iglesia con nuestras donaciones, oraciones y generosidad desbordante.

¡A medida que se acerca la Pascua, recordemos y celebremos la alegría de lo que esto significa para nosotros! ¡Somos gente de resurrección! Miremos hacia la vida nueva que Jesús nos ofrece. ¡Esta es nuestra fe y nuestra alegría!

En Cristo, nuestro Salvador Resucitado y Esperanza,

Pastor Audrey Rochet

MARZO 2023

FECHA	ESPECIAL	ESCRITURAS	TÍTULO DEL SERMÓN
Marzo 5	SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE CUARESMA - AÑO A SANTA CENA	Genesis 4:1-9	"Comprometidos con el camino del discipulado" Pastor Audrey
Marzo 12	TERCER DOMINGO DE CUARESMA - AÑO A	John 4:5-26	"No tengas más sed" Pastor Audrey
Marzo 19	CUARTO DOMINGO DE CUARESMA - AÑO A	Efesios 5:8-14	"Levántate y Florece" Milka Rivera
Marzo 26	QUINTO DOMINGO DE CUARESMA - AÑO A	Romanos 8:1-11	"Caminata de libertad" Pastor Audrey

ABRIL 2023

FECHA	ESPECIAL	Escritura	TÍTULO DEL SERMÓN
Abril 2	DOMINGO DE RAMOS - AÑO A Santa Cena	Lucas 19:28-40	"La entrada triunfal" Pastor Audrey
Abril 6	JUEVES SANTO - AÑO A	Juan 13:1-17	"Jueves Santo - No hay amor más grande que este" Pastor Audrey
Abril 7	VIERNES SANTO - AÑO A SERVICIO DE SIETE PALABRAS	Psalm 22 Lucas 23:34^a Lucas 23:43 Juan 19:26-27 Mateo 27:46 Juan 19:28 Juan 19:30 Lucas 26:46	"Siete palabras" Pastor Audrey
Abril 9	DOMINGO DE PASCUA - AÑO A	Juan 20:1-18	"En asombro por su gracia" Pastor Audrey
Abril 16	SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE PASCUA - AÑO A		Predicador Invitado
Abril 23	TERCER DOMINGO DE PASCUA - AÑO A	Luke 24:13-35	"Cuando no puedes ver a Jesús" Milka Rivera
Abril 30	CUARTO DOMINGO DE PASCUA - AÑO A	Hechos 2:42-47	"Comunidad de los creyentes" Pastor Audrey

MARCH 2023

DATE	LITURGICAL DATE	SCRIPTURE	SERMON TITLE
March 5	SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR A: HOLY COMMUNION	Genesis 12:1-9	<i>"Committed to the Discipleship Path"</i> Pastor Audrey
March 12	THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR A	John 4:5-26	<i>"Thirst No More"</i> Pastor Audrey
March 19	FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR A	1 Samuel 16:1-13	<i>"Finding Your Call"</i> Pastor Audrey
March 26	FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR A	Romans 8:1-11	<i>"Freedom Walk"</i> Pastor Audrey

APRIL 2023

DATE	LITURGICAL DATE	SCRIPTURE	SERMON TITLE
April 2	PALM SUNDAY/PASSION SUNDAY YEAR A	Luke 19:28-40	<i>"The Triumphal Entry"</i> Pastor Audrey
April 6	HOLY THURSDAY YEAR A: HOLY COMMUNION BILINGUAL	John 13:1-17	<i>"Holy Thursday - No Greater Love Than This"</i> Pastor Audrey
April 7	GOOD FRIDAY YEAR A 7 WORDS SERVICE BILINGUAL	Psalm 22 Luke 23:34^a Luke 23:43 John 19:26-27 Matthew 27:46 John 19:28 John 19:30 Luke 26:46	<i>"7 WORDS"</i> Pastor Audrey
April 9	EASTER SUNDAY - YEAR A BILINGUAL	John 20:1-18	<i>"In Awe of Grace"</i> Pastor Audrey
April 16	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A		Dave Holland
April 23	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A	John 20:19-31	<i>"Easter People"</i> Pastor Audrey
April 30	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A	Acts 2:42-47	<i>"Fellowship of the Believers"</i> Pastor Audrey



Palm Sunday, April 2nd 10:00 am
Domingo de Ramos, 2 de abril 11:30 am

Maundy Thursday, April 6th
Jueves Santo, 6 de abril
12:15 - 12:45 pm Bilingual

Good Friday, April 7th
Viernes Santo, 7 de abril
12:15 - 1:00 pm Bilingual

Easter Sunday, April 9th
Domingo de Pascua, 9 de abril
10:00 am Bilingual

Bishop Daniel Schwerin Assigned to the Northern Illinois Conference



On the final day of the North Central Jurisdictional Conference (NCJ), the Committee on Episcopacy assigned Bishop Dan Schwerin to the Northern Illinois Conference, effective Jan. 1, 2023.

Schwerin was elected to the episcopacy at the 2022 NCJ held Nov. 2-5 in Fort Wayne, Ind. Before his election, he served as the Assistant to the Bishop in the Wisconsin Conference. After the General Conference of 2019, Wisconsin Bishop Hee-Soo Jung asked him to collaborate with conference partners to increase racial justice and radical inclusion. He has also served as a District Superintendent and pastored in many contexts, including urban and rural churches.



Bishop Announces New Prairie North District Superintendent



Bishop Dan Schwerin is pleased to announce the appointment of Rev. Hwa Young Chong as Prairie North District Superintendent, effective July 1, 2023. Rev. Chong currently serves at Naperville: Community and will follow Rev. Fabiola Grandon-Mayer who has been appointed as Director of Connectional Ministries, effective July 1, 2023.

Reverend Bettye S. Nixon

July 13, 1939 – January 13, 2023

“Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due,
when it is in your power to act.”
PROVERBS 3:27



The Reverend Bettye S. Nixon, a retired United Methodist pastor, died at her home on Friday, January 13, 2023, with her daughters beside her. Diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2021, Bettye's courageous battle was a testament to her strength and determination. A passionate advocate for the disenfranchised, poor, and marginalized, Bettye fearlessly named injustices around us and never stopped working on tangible solutions to address them. Her greatest joys were her daughters, her grandson, gardening, and music.

Bettye was born in Martin, Tennessee to Roberta and Virgil High in 1939. In search of work and opportunity, her family moved to Chicago in 1952. Always a very serious student, Bettye attended the University of Chicago on a full scholarship, majoring in Philosophy and English Literature. In 1959, Bettye left school and married Robert (Bob) Nixon. In the 1960s, Bettye worked for Illinois Bell and played a critical role in the sale and installation of wall and “princess” telephones for Chicago's Marina City residents. In the 1970s and early 1980s, Bettye worked as the Administrative Laboratory Manager for Martha Washington Hospital in Chicago.

Always deeply faithful, Bettye was called to the ministry later in life. In the late 1980s, Bettye returned to school, finished her bachelor's degree, and enrolled at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary where she earned a Master of Divinity degree in 1990. While earning her master's degree, Bettye served as a student pastor in Carbon Cliff, Illinois.

Upon graduation, Bettye was appointed as the Pastor of Epworth United Methodist Church in Chicago's Edgewater neighborhood, where she served until 2000. In 1992, Bettye was ordained an Elder in the Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church. While at Epworth, she served on the Board of Northside Providers, a coalition of organizations providing shelter for the unhoused. Despite neighborhood opposition in the early 1990s, Bettye built bridges, negotiated with city officials, and opened the doors of Epworth's gymnasium to homeless men. Her legacy lived on through this shelter for over 30 years until the church closed in May of 2022. During her time at Epworth, Bettye also served on the Board of the Organization of the Northeast (ONE). ONE used collective power to eliminate injustice through community organizing. Over her decade of service to the Epworth congregation, she played a formative role in the lives of many young adults who have since pursued long and successful careers in the ministry of the United Methodist Church and beyond.

In 2000, Bettye was appointed as the Senior Pastor of Centennial United Methodist Church in Rockford, Illinois. While at Centennial, she served as the President of Rockford New Hope, an interfaith non-profit low-income housing provider and facilitated the purchase and rehab of multiple HUD certified low-income housing units in Rockford's urban core. She continued in this role through her retirement, only stepping down a few months prior to her death. When asked about her commitment to housing, she always responded that housing was a fundamental human right and everyone deserves a place to call home. Bettye also served on the Board of Saturday Kids' Club, an arts-based program for children and was a member of the United Methodist Board of Ordained Ministry (Rockford District) where she helped develop and support the Latino Ministry of Centennial. After her retirement in 2008, Bettye continued to serve multiple churches in northern Illinois on an interim basis.

Bettye was preceded in death by her parents, Roberta and Virgil High; an infant daughter, Susan Lynn; and her brother, Virgil David High. She is survived by her daughters, Dr. Constance Anne Nixon (Walter Braunschweig) of Chicago, Illinois and Dina Michelle Zolin (Kevin O'Brien) of Chandler, Arizona; and her grandson Ryan David Zolin of Gilbert, Arizona.

A brief visitation and service will be held on Monday, January 23rd at 1:00PM at Murphy Funeral Home in Martin, Tennessee, with the Reverend Carol Cavin-Dillon officiating. Interment will be at Cate Cemetery in Martin, Tennessee.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held on March 4, 2023 at 2:00PM at Edison Park United Methodist Church (6740 N. Oliphant Ave, Chicago, IL) with the Reverend Robert Burkhart officiating.

Memorials may be made to Rockford Urban Ministries (<https://rockfordurbanmin.org>) or One Million Degrees (<https://onemilliondegrees.org>).



United Women in Faith March Meeting

Wednesday, March 15, 2023, 1:00 pm in-person at church and via Zoom

Officer Murphy, one of the District #2 Community Services Officers, will come to talk to us about crime and safety in Rockford highlighting the church's neighborhood. He will discuss trends in crime, actions being taken by the Rockford Police Department to reduce crime and what we can do to improve our personal safety and situational awareness.

The Community Services Unit consists of Rockford Police Officers who are responsible for developing crime reducing and problem-solving partnerships with the citizens, businesses, churches and organizations in their areas. They attend neighborhood meetings and encourage feedback from residents regarding crime and quality of life issues. CSOs then work on topics discussed, report findings, and develop ongoing plans of action with residents.*

Officer Murphy can address specific incidents in the community we would like to learn about as long as he knows the specific incidents in advance. Please let me know if you have any specific incident/crime you would like Office Murphy to discuss. I will need to get him this information by March 10, 2023. Please bring your questions and concerns. This is an excellent opportunity to hear directly from the Rockford Police Department.

Following Office Murphy's presentation, we will have a short business meeting with a Secretary's Report and a Treasurer's Report. Remember 2023 pledges can be given to or sent to Mimi Jacobson.

Everyone is invited to attend. I'm hoping several of us can come to the church to meet with Officer Murphy. For those who cannot come to the church, Milka will help us set up a Zoom meeting like we do on Sunday morning. The Zoom link will be sent out on Tuesday, March 14th.

Cindy Whitmer
President, UWF

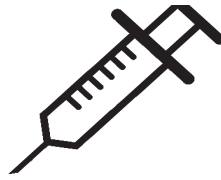
*taken from rockfordil.gov/city-department/police/community-services-services-unit

Mission and outreach

Saturday kids club was very lucky last month to have Coralee Hardwick (Jennifer Martin's mother), share time with us as a volunteer guest. Coralee brought her sewing machine and plans to have each child leave with a new hat. The kids picked out their favorite fabric, Coralee sewed the hats and the kids did the finishing touches. Saturday kids club is grateful to Coralee for sharing her talents with us. If any of you would like to share your talents and gifts, we would love to have you at Saturday kids club. We are always looking for helpers to cook on Saturday mornings.

Carol Risenhoover





Safely Gathering at Centennial Multicultural Church

The Illinois Mask Mandate for indoor public spaces expires February 28th
However we are keeping the masking protocol at the Church in place
for the time being. Information regarding changes will be communicated
at that time.

We will be requiring masks as much as possible. So, please bring your masks.

- We will seat with social distance – Our fellowship area east of the sanctuary will be open to seat more persons.
- We will be streaming our worship service on Facebook and ZOOM for those who are unable to attend.
- We have an additional ventilation systems in our building
- We will continue our efforts to recommend everyone to get vaccinated knowing that we still have a way to go before the pandemic fully ends. So, if you haven't been vaccinated, please consider doing so. We will continue to pray for our nation and our world for healing and restoration.

El mandato de máscara de Illinois para espacios públicos interiores venció el 28 de febrero
Sin embargo, mantendremos el protocolo de enmascaramiento en la Iglesia
por el momento. Si hay alguna información de cambio se les comunicará a su tiempo.
Muchas gracias!

Se nos exigirá usar mascarillas (cubre bocas) en nuestros servicios lo mas que se pueda. Así que, por favor, traiga sus mascarillas (cubre bocas).

- Nos sentaremos con distancia social – nuestra área de comunión al este del santuario estará abierta para sentar a más personas.
- Estaremos transmitiendo nuestro servicio de adoración en Facebook y ZOOM para aquellos que no puedan asistir.
- Tendremos un sistema de ventilación adicional en nuestro edificio abriremos nuestras ventanas y puertas con ventiladores.
- Continuaremos nuestros esfuerzos para recomendar a todos que se vacunen sabiendo que todavía tenemos caminos por recorrer antes de que la pandemia termine por completo. Por lo tanto, si no ha sido vacunado, por favor hágalo. Continuaremos orando por nuestra nación y nuestro mundo para la curación y la restauración.

birthdays

3/2	Jesus Cruz	4/1	Drew Brown
3/2	Steven Gomez	4/1	Douglas Herriott
3/2	Marlene Wibom	4/7	Benjamin Guerrero
3/5	Karina Salazar	4/7	Dougal Whitmer
3/5	Jennifer Teasdale	4/3	Tyler Vails
3/6	Maggie Orlando	4/9	Steven Enderle
3/9	Olivia Stone	4/13	Coulson Brown
3/14	Rachel Ruiz	4/13	Pat Nelson
3/16	Jennifer Johnson	4/16	Erica Kessler
3/17	Carleton Dean	4/16	Doris Mejia
3/18	Aylin Medina	4/17	Ana Maria Solis
3/24	Joyce Russ	4/21	Ashley Vails
3/25	Christian Berndt	4/22	Neil Rote
3/26	Emmaly Nelson	4/23	Roman Brown
3/27	Ellen M Dean	4/26	Forrest Nelson
3/27	Cynthia Garza		
3/30	Matthew Slade		
3/31	Tia Pody		



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

At Wesley Willows:
Art Huenkemeier

At Home:
Micaela Serrano
Aida Dejesus
Ellen Dean
Carol Waxler

Undergoing Treatment/Rehab:
Ken Dahlgren
John Paul (Margie's son)
Jonathan Garcia (Myriam Luna's son)
Tara Arencibia
Ismael Arencibia
Rosa Mendoza
Rueben Mendoza
Carol Waxler
David Russ
Wayne Russ
Forrest Nelson
Kim Whitmore

Next issue: May - June 2023
Articles and items due April 16, 2023

Contributors to this issue of the Chimes:

Pastor Audrey	Carol Risenhoover
Lori Doll	Cindy Whitmer
Jan Rungren	



FLOWER CHART

You can worship God through the flowers you bring to church. Please sign up at the Flower Chart. There are still openings.

March 2023

April 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
26	27	28	29	30	31	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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	1 EBS 12:00 noon VIA ZOOM SBS 4:00 PM at Church	2	3	4
5 Holy Communion 10:00 am Service in English 11:30 am Service in Spanish	6	7 Staff Meeting 11:00 am	8 EBS 12:00 noon VIA ZOOM SBS 4:00 PM at Church	9	10	11 SKC 10:30 - 12:30 WP 1:00 pm
12 10:00 am Service in English 11:30 am Service in Spanish	13	14 Staff Meeting 11:00 am	15 EBS 12:00 noon UWF 1:00 pm VIA ZOOM & at Church SBS 4:00 PM at Church	16	17	18 SKC 10:30 - 12:30 WP 1:00 pm
19 10:00 am Service in English 11:30 am Service in Spanish	20	21 Staff Meeting 11:00 am	22 EBS 12:00 noon VIA ZOOM SBS 4:00 PM at Church	23	24	25 SKC 10:30 - 12:30 WP 1:00 pm
26 10:00 am Service in English 12:00 pm Service in Spanish	27	28 Staff Meeting 11:00 am	29 EBS 12:00 noon VIA ZOOM SBS 4:00 PM at Church	30	31	1

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CALENDAR ABBREVIATIONS

SBS SPANISH BIBLE STUDY, EBS-ENGLISH BIBLE STUDY, SKC-SATURDAY KID'S CLUB, WP SPANISH WORSHIP PRACTICE

April 2023

May 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
30	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	1	2	3

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29 EBS 12:00 noon VIA ZOOM SBS 4:00 PM at Church	30	31	1 SKC 10:30 - 12:30 WP 1:00 pm
2 Palm Sunday Holy Communion 10:00 am Service in English 11:30 am Service in Spanish	3	4 Staff Meeting 11:00 am	5 EBS 12:00 noon VIA ZOOM SBS 4:00 PM at Church	6 Maundy Thursday Bilingual 12:15 - 12:45 pm	7 Good Friday Bilingual 12:15 - 1:00pm	8 SKC 10:30 - 12:30 WP 1:00 pm
9 Easter Sunday 10:00 am Service Bilingual	10	11 Staff Meeting 11:00 am	12 EBS 12:00 noon VIA ZOOM SBS 4:00 PM at Church	13	14	15 SKC 10:30 - 12:30 WP 1:00 pm
16	17	18 Staff Meeting 11:00 am	19 EBS 12:00 noon VIA ZOOM SBS 4:00 PM at Church	20	21	22 SKC 10:30 - 12:30 WP 1:00 pm
23 10:00 am Service in English 11:30 am Service in Spanish	24	25 Staff Meeting 11:00 am	26 EBS 12:00 noon VIA ZOOM SBS 4:00 PM at Church	27	28	29 SKC 10:30 - 12:30 WP 1:00 pm
30 10:00 am Service in English 11:30 am Service in Spanish	1	2	3	4	5	6

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Join us for Sunday Services

English 10:00 am

Spanish 11:30 am

**Also streaming on
Facebook and Zoom**



**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.**



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Centennial UMC - Rockford, IL

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