

Centennial Multicultural United Methodist Church

1503 Broadway, Rockford, Illinois 61104

Rev. Auderine Rochet, Pastor

815-397-2771

centennialumc.rockford@gmail.com

www.centennialumcrockford.com



August 31, 2025

CENTENNIAL MULTICULTURAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

August 31, 2025 – 10:45 am

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - YEAR C

*Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING MUSIC:

Erica Kessler

Oceans Away
by Elton John and Bernie Taupin, 2013

INTROIT

Shout to the Lord

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING WORDS

God calls us into fullness of life. Will we listen? Will we hear? Will we honor the One who seeks our welfare?

OPENING PRAYER (in Unison):

Help us show hospitality to strangers, Merciful One, for many have entertained angels unaware while doing so. Move us to treat one another as we would have others treat us, lest we find ourselves tortured or imprisoned with no one to come to our aid. May we always seek to do good and share from our abundance, for these things are pleasing in your sight. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Sing in exaltation, people of God.

The Lord fills us with good things.

Shout for joy, children of the Holy One.

God feeds us with finest wheat.

God satisfies us with the sweetest honey.

The Lord sustains us with living water.

*OPENING HYMN:

He Leadeth Me

UMH 128 vss 1,3,4

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INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Beloved, We serve a generous God—One who frees us from the grip of self-interest and leads us into a land overflowing with abundance. He nourishes us with the choicest wheat, the sweetest honey, and the richness of His love. Now, in gratitude, we return a portion of what we have received. As we give, may these offerings become an extension of God's banquet—reaching the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and all who suffer. May our gifts today bring healing to broken places, light to darkened hearts, and hope to a weary world.

OFFERTORY:

Erica Kessler

Carla Etude
by Elton John, 1981

*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OFFERTORY PRAYER (in Unison):

You free us, O God, from self-interest and folly. You bring us into a land of choicest wheat and sweetest honey. As we return a portion of these gifts to you, may we extend the banquet of your love to all— especially the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and all who suffer. May our offering bring healing and light to a world filled with anguish and despair. Amen.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in Unison):

Long-suffering One, we long to return to you with love and gratitude in our hearts. We yearn for food that satisfies, the bread of life you offer without cost. Refresh us from your living waters, as we stare into the cracked cisterns and the dry riverbeds of our petty complaints. Stand by us, Holy One, lest we forsake your glory in vain pursuits that neither profit us nor bring us joy. Amen.

Moment of Silence

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God offers us these words and this hope: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide and I will fill it." God offers us these words of assurance: "I will never leave you or forsake you." God is faithful, even when we are not.

HYMN OF WORSHIP

O Jesus, I Have Promised

UMH 396 vss 1,2,4

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Dave Holland

(As the children come to the altar, please sing stanza 1 of Hymn 191, "Jesus Loves Me")

SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Philippians 4:11–13

A reading from Philippians...

¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Leader: The Word of God

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON:

"Contentment: A Gift of Grace"

Pastor Audrey Rochet

*CLOSING HYMN:

Lord, Speak to Me

UMH 463 vss 1,4,5

*BENEDICTION:

Let mutual love continue, that peace may abound. Let mutual love flourish, that God may be found. Let mutual love grow, that no one may feel forsaken. Let mutual love abide, that the hand of friendship may bless our world.

GOING FORTH:

Erica Kessler

The Bridge

by Elton John and Bernie Taupin, 2006

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Pastor: Rev. Auderine Rochet

Liturgists: CMUMC ministers

Worship Assistant: Jose Gustavo Lopez Rodriguez

Pianist: Erica Kessler

Bulletin: Lora Doll

Social Media: Dulce Maciel

Power Point: Janie Kellermann

Announcements

August 31, 2025

ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

Wednesdays Bible Study:

- with Pastor Judith in English, 12pm. On ZOOM.

Tuesdays Bible Study

with Pastor Audrey at noon (12:00pm) through ZOOM

For information about the **Spanish Bible Study** day and time call Pastor Audrey at (630) 670-3580

Saturday Kids Club. Every Saturday from 10:30am to 12:45 pm.

SKC is looking for a director. Anyone interested please contact Carol Risenhoover. They are also seeking volunteers to help with cooking and shopping.

NEW UMC Vision Statement Release: The United Methodist Bishops, in collaboration with other church leaders, have made public a new vision statement for The United Methodist Church that has been years in the making.

The vision states:

“The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.”

We will also have an Ad Board meeting. The date will be announced.

Sunday Morning Schedule

You're warmly invited to join us this Sunday!

Fellowship Time begins at 10:00 AM — come enjoy coffee, conversation, and community.

Worship Service follows at 10:45 AM — a time to lift our hearts in praise, prayer, and the Word.

NIC Conference: Help Needed on New Committees. Legislation at Annual Conference created two new Committees: the Committee on Creation Care and the Committee on Inclusion. The Nominations Committee is now seeking individuals interested in joining. We'd like to invite you to fill out the form or share it with anyone you think will be a helpful addition. Please complete a volunteer form.

As we continue exploring the possibility of merging with another church, we will be visiting other congregations. To support us in this discernment process, we plan to attend Sunday services at various churches over the coming weeks.

Upcoming Special Services:

September 28 - Sing-A-Long

October 26 - Sing-A-Long

November 21 - Sing-a-long Service

November 2 - All Saints Sunday

November 16 - Stewardship Sunday

November 21 - Sing-a-long Service

November 23 - Thanksgiving Service

November 30 - Hanging of the Greens/1st Sunday of Advent Service

Church Conference Sunday - TBD in December

December 7 - 2nd Sunday of Advent Service

December 14 - 3rd Sunday of Advent Service

December 21 - 4th Sunday of Advent/Christmas Cantata Service

****PRAYER LIST****

At W. Willows:

At Cherryvale Place: *Carol Waxler*

At Home: *Aida DeJesus, Marlene Wibom*

Undergoing Treatment/Rehab: *Ken Dahlgren, John Paul, Chuck & Kim Whitmore, Jennifer Martin, Pastor Judith, Milka Rivera, Carol Risenhoover.*

BIRTHDAYS

8/31 Teresa Fandre

8/31 Idan Hernandez

9/1 Kelly Nelson

9/3 Megan Jaworowski

Joys and Concerns

8/24/2025

Please pray for **Pastor Keith Kelsey-Powell** as he had outpatient surgery this past week and is still feeling uncomfortable.

Please keep **Dave Holland's sister Bev** in your prayers. Bev not only lost her husband Ken a short while ago but she is suffering from Parkinson's and it is affecting her cognitive thoughts.

David Rungren (Jan Rungren's son) will be having the first of his three surgeries this week. Please keep Jan, David and his family in your prayers.

Prayers for **Kim Whitmore** as she recovers from knee stitches and prepares for another procedure soon.

Prayers for **Pam Sanders' friend and granddaughter**, who recently attempted suicide. May God's healing, comfort, and peace surround them both.

Prayers for **Tara Arencibia**, who is in the hospital with complications as doctors run tests to determine the cause.

Bruce and Mimi Jacobson's granddaughter Samantha is going to have a tonsillectomy this week. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Dory, granddaughter of Hope Brinker requests prayers as she has been diagnosed with diabetes.

We hope you will worship with us again.

You can call Pastor Audrey if you need any assistance, please contact her at 630.670.3580.

Pastor.audrey@ymail.com



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