



# The Beacon

Centenary United Methodist Church—Bonne Terre,



**FEBRUARY 2024 EDITION**

## THE PASTORS PEN — FEBRUARY

As a kid, we gave up something for lent every year. I didn't really know why. It was just what we did. It wasn't until later in life that I understood this whole Lenten fast. So, I thought I might share some information to prepare us for lent this year.

Last week, I was discussing fasting with the Thursday afternoon bible study group at Country Meadows. We have many faith backgrounds in the group. One of the attendees told me that she had never heard of lent growing up and that fasting wasn't discussed. This made me wonder if there are others who are in the same position.

The United Methodist Church writes:

“Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, meaning “lengthen,” and refers to the lengthening days of spring. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting, and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Today, Christians focus on relationship with God, growing as disciples and extending ourselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of ourselves for others.”

Ash Wednesday falls on February 14th this year, and our Easter celebration will happen on the last Sunday in March! It is a very early year for Easter. Because Lent will be here soon, I wanted to add a few thoughts to the UMC information.

First, from the definition, we can see why Lent is forty days; read that it is a season of preparation and fasting, and the brief reminder of what our Lenten practices look like. Fasting is often thought of as regarding food, and it certainly can be this practice. Many people fast weekly, going from sundown to sundown and not eating in between. I was taught growing up that there are other ways to fast. Mom always fasted from chocolate; I tried unsuccessfully to do the same



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year after year. I didn't get what I was doing, so the fast wasn't accomplishing what it intended: drawing me closer to God.

That is the critical element regarding fasting. When you feel a temptation, urge, or desire, you turn to God for strength. It isn't a day of deprivation of something. It is a day of embracing what God has already given you—a day of celebrating our relationship with God because of Jesus Christ. I always thought fasting was just giving something up, but it is much more than this. It is more than the constant prayer that goes along with a fast. It recognizes God's provision for us at all times and in all things.

The second idea to share has to do with what we fast from. The notion that food is the only item we can fast from is missing the point. If the meaning of fasting is a dependency on God, then a fast from anything that takes away from time with God can be an open game. For example, can you remember a time when you didn't have a cell phone? Now consider what life would be like if you had to give yours up for a month! I don't think I know any phone numbers or addresses! Fasting from electronic devices can be a big one for many of us. But consider any activity or item you consider an indulgence and consider giving it up for lent. It may be a food, but you can certainly come up with some alternatives if you aren't comfortable.

The final element is to remember to fully rely on God for this activity! Let my experience be a lesson; missing the point of God's presence will diminish the effectiveness of the fast. God will certainly carry us through despite our weaknesses, but we need not lead ourselves into temptation.

One last thought is regarding Jesus' warnings about fasting for show. In Matthew 6, we read, "*16 'And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. 17 But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, 18 so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.'*"

We can read these words as a reminder of our special relationship with God. Our fasting isn't for others. It is an intimate covenant that we make promising faithfulness and hope.

So, as you enter the Lenten season, consider giving up something for Lent! This may be a reminder for some of you but a new opportunity for others. If you have questions or want some encouragement, please let me know.

I am always so thankful to get to be your pastor. God bless you all!

Pastor Dave

**LITURGISTS: 9:00 am**

- 2/4 - Loel Hickman
- 2/11 - Yon Wibskov
- 2/18 - Chris Ferguson
- 2/25 - Sue Curfman

**LITURGISTS: 11:00 am**

- 2/4 - Patti O'Connor
- 2/11 - Chuck Hubbard
- 2/18 - Jackie Berry
- 2/25 - Nathan Pack

**GREETERS: 9:00 am**

- 2/4 - Sheila Hacker
- 2/11 - The Jenkins
- 2/18 - Dalana Mauk
- 2/25 - The Beckers

**CHECK SIGNERS  
WEEK OF**

- 2/4 - Linda Skaggs & Bob Powell
- 2/11 - Bob Powell & Jill Clemons
- 2/18 - Jill Clemons & Donna Bouchard
- 2/25 - Donna Bouchard & Jim Sowers

**MONEY COUNTERS:**

Sherry Basler & Dee Krause

Are you on this list? If so, we look forward to serving with you—and if you cannot, please find a replacement and let the church office know! Thank you!

Spring start up dates will be listed in the January Beacon

## SMALL GROUPS

**Faithful Footsteps – Saturday @ 9:00 am** This group will be focusing on getting exercise in many different ways. We will begin in spending time on some of our wonderful local trails then decide as a group which activity to do next. Lead by: Diane and Rob Moore **Bible Study – Wednesday @ 1:00 pm** We will be starting up another bible study to encourage more reading and improve study habits. We will be engaging in a 6-week study of the Book of James and unpack what faith in action looks like for us. The course will include learning various ways to study scripture for future reference. Date TBA Lead by: Pastor Dave

**Together in Christ – Various Times** Come join us for fellowship and fun activities with other Christ-minded couples, while developing new friendships. Couples of all ages are welcome. Lead by: Belinda Straughn and Sarah Clay

**THESE GROUPS MEET YEAR-ROUND**

Sun	5:00 pm	N.A. Meeting	Tues	7:00 pm	Men's Al Anon Meeting
	6:00 pm	Youth Group	Wed	5:00 pm	Cornerstone Café
Mon	10:00 am	Table Talk	Thurs	3:30 pm	Bible Study @ Country Meadows
	6:00 pm	Prayer Shawl		7:00 pm	Disciple Study Online
	7:00 pm	A.A. Meeting			

**Monday & Wednesday**  
573-358-2238



**OFFICE HOURS**  
9:00am - 3:00pm

# February

## Happy Birthday

First Name	Last Name	Birthdate
Grace	Gillingham	February 03
Ralph	Stamm	February 04
Brenda	Cox	February 06
Leslie	Hickman	February 06
George	Caudle	February 07
Jill	Clemons	February 07
Bobby	Moore	February 08
Paula	Eschenbrenner	February 09
Elijah	Black	February 10
Vicki	Weible	February 14
Jeff	Inman	February 16
John	Cottle	February 18
Sherry	Basler	February 21
Megan	Reed	February 28

## Happy Anniversary

Name	Anniversary
Bruce and Janice Vaught	February 1st



### CORNERSTONE CAFÉ @ 5:00 p.m.

Feb 7th	Chicken Patty Sandwich
Feb 14th	Ham Soup
Feb 21st	One Dish Chicken Bake
Feb 29th	Meatloaf



# February 2024

Church Office, Children's Ministries, Community Events, Music, Office/campus events not public, Outreach, Youth

Feb 2024 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 9am - Contemporary 10am - Sunday School 5pm - NA Meeting 6pm - Youth Group	29 10am - Table Talk 6pm - Prayer Shawl 7pm - AA Meeting	30 7pm - Al-Anon 7pm - Bible Basics	31 5pm - Cornerstone Cafe 6:30pm - Praise Team Rehearsal	1 3:30pm - Bible study-Country 7pm - Disciple Bible Study - Zoom	2	3 8am - Emmaus team meeting
4 <b>COMMUNION Sunday</b> 9am - Contemporary 10am - Sunday School 12pm - PPR Meeting 5pm - NA Meeting 6pm - Youth Group	5 10am - Table Talk 6pm - Prayer Shawl 7pm - AA Meeting	6 7pm - Al-Anon 7pm - Bible Basics	7 5pm - Cornerstone Cafe 6:30pm - Praise Team Rehearsal	8 3:30pm - Bible study-Country 7pm - Disciple Bible Study - Zoom	9	10 8am - Emmaus team meeting
11 9am - Contemporary 10am - Sunday School 5pm - NA Meeting 6pm - Youth Group	12 10am - Table Talk 6pm - Prayer Shawl 7pm - AA Meeting	13 7pm - Al-Anon 7pm - Bible Basics	14 5pm - Cornerstone Cafe 6:30pm - Praise Team Rehearsal	15 1pm - Blood Drive 3:30pm - Bible study-Country 7pm - Disciple Bible Study - Zoom	16	17
18 9am - Contemporary 10am - Sunday School 5pm - NA Meeting 6pm - Youth Group	19 10am - Table Talk 6pm - Ad Board/Finance 6pm - Prayer Shawl 7pm - AA Meeting	20 7pm - Al-Anon 7pm - Bible Basics	21 5pm - Cornerstone Cafe 6:30pm - Praise Team Rehearsal	22 3:30pm - Bible study-Country 7pm - Disciple Bible Study - Zoom	23	24 8am - Emmaus team meeting
25 9am - Contemporary 10am - Sunday School 5pm - NA Meeting 6pm - Youth Group	26 10am - Table Talk 6pm - Prayer Shawl 7pm - AA Meeting	27 7pm - Al-Anon 7pm - Bible Basics	28 5pm - Cornerstone Cafe 6:30pm - Praise Team Rehearsal	29 3:30pm - Bible study-Country 7pm - Disciple Bible Study - Zoom	1	2

# PRAYER LIST

PRAYER LIST		
Pray for	Reason	Prayer request from
Josh Wiant	Family	Pastor Dave
Kyle Lotz	Health Concerns	Pastor Dave
Lois Pratte	Hospitalized with Pnuemonia	Pastor Dave
Leslie Jones	Vision condition	Anissa Jones
Paul Butler	Health condition	Pastor Dave
Ronnie Skiles	Recovering from Surgery	Pastor Dave
Steve Mabery	Health concerns	Vicki Weible
Jim Eschenbrenner Jr.	Health concerns	Paula Eschenbrenner
JOYS		
THANK YOU'S		
ONGOING		
Savannah Buscher	Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma	Pastor Dave
Alan Meyer	Cancer	Grace Gillingham
Andy Skiles	Cancer	Ronnie & Sally Skiles
Mary Watson	Cancer	Donna Hickman
Laura Midgett	Cancer	Patti O'Connor
Mari Davidson	Cancer	Donna Hickman
Patti Branham	Cancer	Donna Bouchard
Doris Tomes	Cancer returned (daughter in law's mother)	Dee Krause
Glenda Straughn	Cancer	Pastor Dave
Dale Ryckman	Hospice	Nathan Pack
Stacy Maxwell	Cancer	Wade & Kathy Jones
GREIVING		
ASSISTED LIVING/HOMEBOUND		
Sally Lowe	Living in St. Louis with family (contact Jackie Berry for info)	
NURSING HOME/REHAB		
Pray for	Location	Reason
Loretta Kosar	Cambridge House of Swansea (Swansea IL)	
Sarah Nichols	St. Joe Manor	
Donna Schmidt	Presbyterian Manor	
SERVING IN THE MILITARY		
Sean Mathews	Army	Diane Moore - Grandson
Nick Hawkins	Navy	Belinda Straughn - Friend
Jacob Sutton	Air force	Jill Clemons - Grandson
Anthony Verde	Air Force	Dee Krause - nephew
Matthew LaBrot	Army	Jeff and Karen - Son
Andy Vaughan	Air Force	Gillingham - Grandson
Todd Mabery	Navy	Vicki Weible
Rebecca Jones	Virginia-Army instructor	Dean (café diner)
SERVING AS MISSIONARIES		
Pray for	Location	Reason
Rev. Geraldo Nathaniel Matsinhe	<i>Micas Madonele UMC in Mozambique</i>	Our Partner Church
Brian Tucker & Family (cousins)	<i>In Haiti</i>	

**\*\*Please update the Church Office regularly with status\*\***

( Names are on the list for 30 days unless church office is notified)

Church Office (573) 358-2238 Email: admin@centenarybonnetterre.org

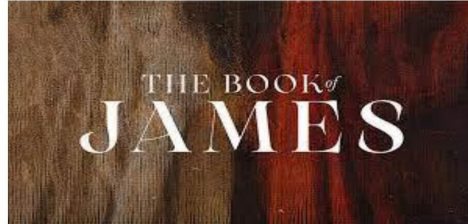


# Centenary United Methodist

## Small Groups



Coming Soon



Coming Soon

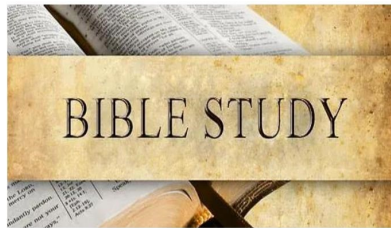


Monday @ 10am Year-round



KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.

Monday @ 6 pm Year-round



Retirement Home  
Country Meadows

Thursday @ 3:30 pm Year-round

Together in Christ Fellowship

Fun Activities with Other  
Christ-minded Couples

Coming Soon



Christian Christmas  
Crafts



Paper-crafting Christmas

Coming Soon

### DISCIPLE

BECOMING DISCIPLES  
THROUGH BIBLE STUDY

Thursday @ 7 pm Online  
Year-round



Sunday @ 5 pm Year-round



Tuesday @ 7 pm Year-round



Monday @ 7 pm Year-round



Annual Men and Women Walks  
Reunion Groups – Periodically throughout  
the year

If you would like to join any of these small groups,  
please tell us which ones by indicating on the prayer  
request form and drop it in the offering plate.

# EVERYONE IS WELCOME

## Centenary UMC

Pastor: Rev. David Wiant

Tel: 573 358-2238

20 Park Ave

E-mail:

Bonne Terre, MO 63628

admin@centenarybonnetterre.org

# 2024 Church Committee Members

### SPRC

Lay Member to AC Nathan Pack  
Lay Leader: Diane Moore  
Committee Chair: Marsha Becker

Class of 2024 Bruce Fiala, Marsha Becker, Belinda Straughn  
Class of 2025 Rick Snider, Sue Curfman, Steve Black  
Class of 2026 Kati Hacker, Patti Martin, Chris Ferguson

### Board of Trustees

Chair: Mike Inman

Class of 2024 Bob Becker, Ken Curfman, Bill Young  
Class of 2025 Dennis McGee, Wade Jones, Mike Inman  
Class of 2026 Bill Martin, Austin Wiant

### Nominations and Leadership Development

Chair: Dave Wiant

Vice-Chair:  
Lay Leader: Diane Moore

Class of 2024 Jackie Berry, Anissa Wiant, Sheila Hacker  
Class of 2025 Rita Drochelman, Brenda Patt, Karen LaBrot  
Class of 2026 Lisa Kite, Donna Bouchard

### AD Board

Chair: Nathan Pack  
Pastor: Dave Wiant  
Lay Leader: Diane Moore

Vice Chair  
Lay member to AC Nathan Pack  
Finance Chair: Jim Sowers  
Treasurer: Judy McGee

Blessing Basket  
Chair: Pat Stamm

Youth Director: Kim Gray

### Finance

Chair: Kasey Jenkins  
Pastor: Dave Wiant  
Lay member to AC: Nathan Pack

Ad Board Council Chair: Nathan Pack

SPRC Chair: Marsha Becker  
Trustee Chair: Mike Inman  
Lay Leader: Diane Moore

Financial Secretary: JoAnn Kite  
Church Treasurer: Judy McGee  
Church Business Admin: JoAnn Kite  
At Large members: Jim Clay

### Blessing Basket

Chair: Pat Stamm  
Members: Jackie Berry, Ralph Stamm,  
Bruce & Janice Vaughtn

### Education

Chair: Patti O'Connor, Karen LaBrot  
Children's Ministries:

Jenifer Ferguson, Beth Pack,  
Chris Jenkins, Audra Wiant  
Youth/Adult Education: Loel Hickman, Nathan Pack,  
Pastor Dave Wiant

### Kitchen

Chair: From the committee

### Worship

Chair: Not filled  
Pianist: Judy LaBruyere  
Choir: Linda Sowers  
Head Usher: Bob Powell  
At Large members: Belinda Straughn

## Weekly events

### @ Centenary

#### Monday:

6:00 Knitting Shawl Ministry  
7:00 AA Meeting

#### Tuesday:

7:00 Al Anon Meeting  
7:00 Bible Basics Study

#### Wednesday:

5:00 Cornerstone Café  
6:30 Praise Team Rehearsal

#### Thursday:

3:30 Country Meadows  
7:00 Disciple Study Online

#### Sunday:

9:00 am Worship Service in person and FB live.  
(Cornerstone)  
11:00 am Worship Service in person.  
(Sanctuary)  
6:00 Youth Group

## Adult Sunday School

Join us Sundays after the 9 am service to discuss the weekly sermon! There's no lesson to prepare—just listen during worship. The classroom is located in the sanctuary basement. Come Join Us!!!

### Sunday School Class

#### The Chosen

After the 9 am service


In the Cornerstone

## Office Hours

Monday &  
Wednesday  
9:00-3:00

### Please help keep us with updated information.

If you have a new address, phone number, email address or want to make sure we have birthdate(s) and your anniversary date, please send an email. Or you can update any information of the attendance sheet and place in the offering plate. **Thank you!**



Please remember to pray for our Covenant Church  
MICAS MADONELE UMC in MOZAMBIQUE  
and their Pastor Rev. Geraldo Nataniel Matsinhe