

## FELLOWSHIP AND DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

- ◆ Adult Bible Study: Sundays @ 9:00 AM Kidzone.
- ◆ Men's Fellowship: Mondays @8:00 AM (see Gene Rouse or Skip Young)
- ◆ Small Group Ministry: Wednesday @ 1:00-2:30 PM (see Pastor Jen)
- ◆ Giving Angels Women's Fellowship 1st Tuesday of each month @ 10 AM to NOON

## CENTENARY COMMUNITY PRAYER LIST:

Lord, our faith community prays for the following people and situations:

Kim Violette's daughter and grandkids, Kelsey, Brook & Ava, Wendell Bowman; Judy Rouse and family; Pastor Jen; Val Withee; Lori Talbot; Robin Kelley; Peggy York; Ralph & Marge Black; Phyllis Chamberlin; Scott Bosworth; Patsy Miller; Darcy Lyons; Lori Trevains; Taylor; Dr. Shay; Wendell Prosser; Kim Poirier; Larry James & family; Barbara Harvey; Judy Steen; Paul Bregila Toni Jo & John Blaisdell; Linda & Wendy Eaton; Samantha Brown; Billie Sherman; Al & Wanda Quimby; Ken Fitzherbert; Jim & Diane Arsenaault; Diane's brother Lenny Doucette; Diane's son Edie Hiltonen; Babbett; Cindy Travers; Rodney & his mother Clarissa; Carol Taylor; Blaine & Shawna Elliott; Dave Libby. Foster children; Health Care workers; victims and survivors of domestic violence; people struggling with housing and food insecurity; Skowhegan Police, Fire, and EMT departments. Teachers and educator and their support staff. Our D.S. Reverend Arlene Tully. The Bishop, and Reverend Peggy Johnson.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY:** begins this Tuesday in the Kids Zone. from 10:00 to 11:00 AM. It will meet every Tuesday through March 26th.

**Clothes Closet, Cup Café and the Thrift Shop** will be open Wednesday. Unless weather closes MSAD54.

Have donations for the Thrift Shop? Call Jim Barto 858-0257.

# Centenary UMC

103 Dr. Mann Road  
Skowhegan, Maine



February 18, 2024

# Centenary UMC

## First Sunday of Lent

### CALL TO WORSHIP

**L:** Lenten travelers, when you feel the security of God's love, affirmation of God's call, and covered in God's grace...

**P: God comes near.**

**L:** When you feel deserted and alone, starving and parched for a caring hand or an encouraging word, troubled and uncertain as the ground under you shifts like sand...

**P: God comes near.**

**L:** When you feel emboldened to act, inspired to speak, energized to live as bearers of the good news that the Kingdom of God is here...

**P: God comes near.**

**L:** In all seasons of our lives, God comes near to us and does not forsake us.

**P: We gather to come near to God whose ever-present love remains near no matter where our journey takes us. Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN UMH 121 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy**

### OPENING PRAYER

Lord and Shepherd of our journeys in the desert, we come to you during this Lenten season as servants of Jesus Christ. We remember how you liberated Moses and the Israelites; we remember also how you liberated the prophet Elijah in his journey to escape from a corrupt king. Now, in our Lenten journey, we implore your direction, your patience, and your spiritual support. As you sent your angels to care for the Israelites, to the prophet Elijah in his journey, and to Jesus during his forty days in the desert, send them also to us in our earthly journeys. We ask in the name of Jesus Christ. AMEN

### WE HEAR THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10

Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

**Children's Moment:**

**John Malek**

**HYMN OF PREPARATION – UMH 558 We Are the Church**

**MESSAGE : In the Wilderness**

**Gene Rouse**

**HYMN OF RESPONSE: TFWS 2107 Wade In the Water**

**RESPOND IN PRAYER AND WITH THANKSGIVING**

**SONG BEFORE AND AFTER PRAYER: TFWS 2200 O Lord, Hear Our Prayer**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

### OFFERING

**Offering Chorus : TFWS 2176 Make Me a Servant**

**Song of Thanksgiving UMH 95 Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow**

**CLOSING HYMN: UMH 374 Standing on the Promises**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### BENEDICTION:

The first step on the journey, that of readiness,  
is one of the hardest.

We keep thinking that we have forgotten something.

God has called you by name, to this journey.

You will have all that you need.

Go in peace, and know that God is going with you. AMEN.

**REGATIONAL REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT**

UMH 50

AN ORDER FOR THE INSTALLATION OF LEADERS IN THE CHURCH

( Centenary 2024 Leadership please rise)

Dear friends, you have been called by God and chosen by the people of God for leadership in the church.

This ministry is a blessing and a serious responsibility.

It recognizes your special gifts and calls you to work among us and for us.

In love we thank you for accepting your obligation and challenge you to offer your best to the Lord, to this people, and to our ministry in the world.

Live a life in Christ and make him known in your witness and your work.

Today we install the Centenary Leadership for the 2024 year.

Do you this day acknowledge yourself as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ?

**I do.**

Will you devote yourself to the service of God in the world?

**I will.**

Will you so live that you enable this church to be a people of love and peace?

**I will.**

Will you do all in your power to be responsible to the task for which you have been chosen?

**I will.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, pour out your blessings upon these your servants who have been given particular ministries in your church.

Grant them grace to give themselves wholeheartedly in your service.

Keep before them the example of our Lord,

who did not think first of himself, but gave himself for us all.

Let them share his ministry and consecration,

that they may enter into his joy.

Guide them in their work.

Reward their faithfulness with the knowledge

that through them your purposes are accomplished;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The pastor addresses the congregation:

Dear friends, rejoice that God provides laborers for the vineyards.  
Will you do all you can to assist and encourage them  
in the responsibilities to which they have been called,  
giving them your cooperation, your counsel, and your prayers?

The congregation responds:

We will.

The pastor addresses the congregation:

Dear friends, rejoice that God provides laborers for the vineyards.  
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