

State Street Ministry Connection

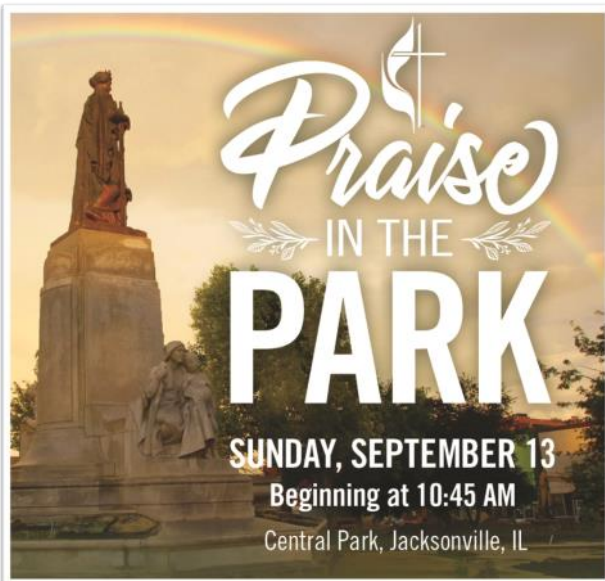
Centenary, Grace, & Waverly First United Methodist Churches

September 2026

Waverly Picnic Weekend Was A Blast!

Our Waverly First UMC family was blessed to be part of the Waverly Picnic Weekend, connecting with our neighbors through food, fun, and faith! Their Dessert Tent raised approximately \$1,500 for ministry projects and the Painted Rocks activity brought plenty of smiles as local children searched for hidden rocks and returned them to look up the corresponding scripture passage and win a prize!

The weekend culminated in Worship in the Park with Harvest Ministry, where approximately 170 people from the Waverly community gathered together for worship. It was a wonderful reminder that ministry happens beyond our church walls when we come together to serve, connect, and share God's love with our community!



Praise in the Park on 9/13—Join us!

Six area United Methodist churches and other area UMC congregations are joining together for a special morning of worship, fellowship, and fun on Sunday, September 13, at 10:45 a.m. at Central Park in Jacksonville.

Worship will be followed by a picnic lunch with burgers, hot dogs, and all the fixings, along with fun activities for all ages—including corn hole, 9 Square, a bounce house, snow cones, and popcorn. Bring a chair, invite your friends and family, and come celebrate our shared life and ministry as United Methodists!

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Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work within us; glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus for all generations, forever and always. Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21

State Street Ministry Staff

| Pastor Kevin Hinkle

PastorKevin@statestreetministry.org
217-414-2787

| Pastor Erik Slingerland

PastorErik@statestreetministry.org
309-830-2908

Communications / Children & Family Ministries

| Rachel Hinkle
RachelH@statestreetministry.org
217-370-3329

How to Contact Us

OFFICE HOURS By appointment only

With 3 active congregations, our staff can be found in their offices, or in one of our churches at any given time. Please contact them directly to schedule an appointment to meet. They are always available by phone or email.

**Please note: Friday is our pastors' Sabbath Day, so they are only available on Fridays for emergencies.*

Website:

www.statestreetministry.org

Follow us on Facebook:
State Street Ministry

Pastor Erik Begins Leave of Absence

Dear State Street Ministry Family,

As the interim chair of the State Street Ministry Staff/Pastor Relations Committee (SSM SPRC), I have been asked to inform you that Pastor Erik Slingerland will be taking a leave of absence, starting immediately (August 31, 2026).

At this time, we anticipate the leave lasting approximately six weeks. Please respect Pastor Erik's privacy during this time. We ask for God's love and guidance for Pastor Erik, Pastor Kevin, the leadership team and congregations at this time and always.

Prayerfully,

Kathy Hankins, Interim Chair, SSM SPRC; Lay Leader, Waverly Ist

State Street Ministry Bible Study

Greetings fellow studiers! The votes have been tallied for the Jacksonville study. It's Monday mornings for the win! With that in mind, and the fact that when setting up start dates I failed to realize the first Monday was a holiday, I have shifted all start dates by one week. Bible studies will resume or begin on the following schedule:

Jacksonville: Mondays, 10 a.m. beginning Sept. 14th at 339 E. State

Waverly: Thursdays, 10 a.m. beginning Sept. 17th at Waverly UMC, 190 E. State

I am excited to dive into Galatians with you all! See you then!

Kim Elliott

New Book Study For Ladies Begins 10/7

Grace UWF will host the book study on Adam Hamilton's The Holy Spirit during October and November and open the invitation to all ladies in State Street Ministry. Classes will meet in the Parlor at Centenary on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. for six sessions. You may attend any or all on these dates: October 7, 21, 28 and November 4, 11, 18. Class leader is Pat Pennell (217-243-6895).

You may purchase the book after September 16 for \$10 by contacting Pat or the Grace office at 217-245-9521.

Please read the Introductory Chapter before the October 7th class.

Any member of the State Street Ministry is welcome. We can grow in faith together during this study.

Hitting Close to Home: Midwest Mission Sends Flood Relief Supplies to IN & IL

Last week, torrential rains caused devastating flooding across the Midwest, leaving families with flooded homes and communities facing the long, difficult work of cleanup and recovery.

Because of the generosity of you—our donors and volunteers who prepare supplies before disaster ever happens—help was ready to go.

In New Castle, Indiana, flooding created an urgent need for Cleaning Kits and hygiene supplies. Midwest Mission received a request from New Castle UMC, and the timing was remarkable—something only God could orchestrate. Operations Manager Ramon Ortiz was already planning to travel through Indiana with a trailer.

So, last Friday, supplies were added to the trailer and delivered along the way: 180 Cleaning Kits, 96 Hygiene Kits, 10 Menstrual Hygiene Kits

In Lansing, Illinois, Cleaning Kits were distributed to help families clean, disinfect, and begin restoring homes damaged by floodwaters. More than 100 Kits were distributed in less than an hour. The City of Lansing was deeply grateful for the quick response as they navigate a devastating time for their community.

In Bloomington, Illinois, the Illinois Great Rivers Conference Early Response Team identified another need: a generator to assist with recovery efforts. Midwest Mission had one available, and on Monday, Curt Franklin, Midwest Mission board member and the staff member who oversees the Conference's Early Response Team program, picked it up and delivered it to Bloomington.

On Tuesday, the response in Indiana continued. The town of Anderson was also hit by torrential rain and flooding, affecting much of the community. Ramon Ortiz delivered 1,020 Cleaning Kits and 1,526 Menstrual Hygiene Kits to their location.

More than 120 families were served in less than an hour, with additional supplies available to distribute over the next several days. Because of this response, they will also be able to share supplies with neighboring communities that were affected.

The past two weeks have been a reminder of how grateful we are for you. At least four communities received necessary relief within days of the flooding. In the midst of a crisis, when they don't know what to do, Midwest Mission was there. And that was possible because someone prepared each Kit and gathered each supply before the disaster happened.

When a flood hits, there isn't always time to start collecting supplies, assembling Kits, or searching for resources. Because donors give and volunteers serve throughout the year, Midwest Mission can have supplies ready to move when they're needed. That's what your generosity makes possible. That's what YOU make possible. Thank you for helping Midwest Mission be ready to respond. Whether the need is across the world or right here in our own backyard, we are grateful to partner with you to send hope in a crisis. You can help us be prepared for the next disaster by assembling Kits and donating supplies or monetary gifts now.

Donate Blood

There is an urgent need for blood donors. Donations will be accepted on Tuesday, September 8 (*due to Labor Day on Monday*) and Monday, September 14 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m at Jacksonville Memorial Hospital.

Appointments are recommended. Contact the Impact Blood Center by calling 800-747-5401 or sign up online at <https://www.bloodcenter.org/impactlife> In addition to blood drive at hospital, there are often pop-up donation sites in the area, too. When you log in to Impact Life and put in your Zip code it will show all the locations and dates of other local blood drives.



Centenary & Grace Fall Food Drive

The Missions Committees from Centenary and Grace plan to sponsor a joint food drive for the Jacksonville Area Community Food Center beginning on Sunday, October 4 and will continue until October 25. Watch for more details about the types of food that are most needed.



FIRST FRIDAY
Feast

OCTOBER 2
6 PM

GOOD FOOD. GOOD NEIGHBORS. GOOD TIMES.

— ON THE LAWN AT —
339
339 E. STATE STREET
JACKSONVILLE, ILLINOIS

WIENER ROAST
for Everyone!

BRING YOUR FAMILY. INVITE A NEIGHBOR. COME HUNGRY AND READY TO CONNECT!

This is a new opportunity for us to spread joy beyond our church walls and simply enjoy time together with our neighbors and community.

Want to help? Sign up in the **narthex** to help provide hot dogs, buns, drinks, and other supplies.



Fall 2026

7:30am Wednesdays

3:30pm Thursdays

Sept 9

Sept 10

Sept 16

Sept 17

Sept 23

Sept 24

Contact: Jan Adams—217-248-9571

Contact: Brenda Lane—217-370-8858

First Friday Feast : Oct 2

Centenary is hosting a First Friday Feast on the lawn at 339 on Friday, October 2 at 6pm in an effort to form better relationships with physical neighbors - both businesses and nearby residents will be invited for a free cookout with other activities. All SSM members are welcome!

Centenary's Salad Luncheon

On Wednesday, September 30th the members of Centenary UWFaith will hold their traditional Salad Luncheon from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. We will serve a variety of salads including our famous German Potato Salad in the beautifully decorated Fellowship Hall. An elevator is available to the lower level.

Terri Benz will provide quiet music in the sanctuary as people arrive. There will be an expedited line for employees who have limited time. To make the day a success, we need donations of salads and lots of helpers. Signup sheets for both salads and volunteers will be available in the Narthex and from circle leaders.

Everyone in the Jacksonville area is invited to this fundraising event. The suggested donation for a ticket is \$12. Advance tickets are available from UWFaith members or the church office. Tickets will also be available on the day of the luncheon.



Produce Sharing



If you have garden produce to share, bring it to the Centenary's Narthex on Sunday mornings. Donations received for the food will be given to the Food Center which is located just west of our pavilion. The center accepts donations of garden produce on weekdays as early as 7:30 am before the center opens at 9am.

FUSION

Youth Ministry

FALL 2026

Sunday, 9/6: FUSION Kickoff
5:30-7:00pm Centenary Pavilion

Sunday, 9/20: FUSION
5:30-7:00pm Emrey Center-Franklin, IL

Sunday, 10/4: Tasha Layton Concert
FREE EVENT! 5-8pm? -@Twisted Tree

Sunday, 10/18: FUSION
5:30-7:00pm: Waverly First UMC

Sunday, 11/1: FUSION
5:30-7:00pm: Centenary UMC

Sunday, 11/15: FUSION
5:30-7:00pm: Location TBD

For students in
6th-12th grade.
Call/Text Rachel
Hinkle for details
@217-370-3329

HELP STOP HUNGER IN OUR COMMUNITY

SUNDAY SACK LUNCHES TO GO

Help the Conference of Churches collect food items for Go Church's sack lunch program, distributing lunches to the hungry. Needed items are listed below, and can be donated at your church's designated collection location until September 20, 2026.

ITEMS NEEDED INCLUDE:

Mixed Fruit Cups	Jif To Go, Creamy Peanut Butter Cups	Chicken Salad with Cracker Packs (Individual Servings)
NutriGrain Breakfast Bars	Peanut Butter Cracker Variety Packs	Vanilla Pudding Cups
Quaker Chewy Granola Bars	Tuna Salad with Crackers (Individual Servings)	Chocolate Pudding Cups
Nature Valley Trail Mix Bars		Slim Jims
Individual Packets of Cookies		

Monetary donations are appreciated - checks payable to 'Go Church'

A PROJECT OF THE JACKSONVILLE AREA CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES AND GO CHURCH

Join us on Sunday mornings!

9:00am Worship

9:45am Coffee & Donuts
in the Gathering Room

Three Ways to Give



Mail-In



Drop Off or
In-Person



Venmo

@WaverlyFirst Unit-
edMethodistCh

Contact Us:

190 E. State St.

Waverly, IL 62692

Office: 217-435-2581

office@waverlyfirst.org

*Pastor Kevin Hinkle

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*Josh Schulhofer

Coordinator of Outreach and Growth

Phone: (618) 801-5060

joshuas@waverlyfirst.org



Waverly Picnic and Worship in the Park

What a weekend! We had so much fun being part of the Waverly Picnic Weekend and connecting with our community.

Our Dessert Tent was a sweet success, raising around \$1,500 for ministry! We also had a great time with our Painted Rocks activity. Rocks were hidden throughout the park, and those who found one could bring it back to our table to read the corresponding scripture, and get a prize. They were then put into a drawing for a big prize – and the winner was our own Ashton Farmer!!

The highlight of the weekend was Worship in the Park with Harvest Ministry. Around 170 people from the Waverly community gathered together to worship, sing, and praise the Lord. What a beautiful picture of the Church being out in the community and sharing God's love!

Thank you to everyone who baked, served, painted, hid rocks, set up, tore down, helped with worship, and simply showed up.

We couldn't have done it without you!

♥ See more pictures on page 7.



Sept Birthdays

08 – Peggy McNeely
Brenda Mitchell
15 – Charlie Mutch
16 – Eva Richie
18 – Lou Anne Lowder
21 – Mike Keeton
24 – Allison (Mitchell) Todd
29 – Adelynn Edwards

Sept Anniversaries

03 – Greg & Mandy Simmons
08 – John & Tammy Chrisler

Mark Your
Calendars!

Take
A
Phone
Pic!

Cut
&
Put on
Fridge

1st & 3rd Tuesdays, Sept 1 & 15

Support Our Troops—
Franklin UMC lower level, 6-8pm
Honor Flight—Sept 1 also

Monday, Sept 7

Labor Day Holiday

Sunday, Sept 13

Holy Spokes Combined Worship Service
Jacksonville Square—10:45am
Bring a lawn chair. Lunch will be served

Monday, Sept 14

Light Crew Meeting—lower level, 10-11am

Thursdays, Sept 17 & 24

Bible Study—Waverly, 10-11am, Community Room
Kim Elliott, facilitator
All are welcome!

Monday, Sept 21

Looming starts back up! 10-12pm, lower level
Prayer Group in person—11:45-12pm
All welcome to either or both!

Week of Sept 21-25

Serving Senior Meals, 1030am @ Senior Center
See Mary Jackson for details, questions, volunteer

Thursday, Sept 24

Trustees—5:30pm
WCC—6:30pm

For FUSION, see “SSM section”

Looking Ahead...

Sunday, Oct 4

Charge Conference—1:30pm
Wesley Chapel

Tuesday, Oct 6

Overcomers @ “339” - 6-8p

Waverly UMC

State Street Ministry

WORSHIP

with us

Sunday, Sept 6

9:00am

15th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion
Pastor Kevin Hinkle

Sunday, Sept 13

10:45am

16th Sunday after Pentecost
Combined Worship
Jacksonville Square

Sunday, Sept 20

9:00am

17th Sunday after Pentecost
Guest Speaker: Barbara Wooldridge

Sunday, Sept 27

9:00am

18th Sunday after Pentecost
Pastor Kevin Hinkle

Sunday Worship Monthly Pastor Schedule



1st & 3rd Sundays
Pastor Kevin

2nd & 4th Sundays
Pastor Erik



5th Sunday
((if applicable))
Youth Sunday
Lead Pastor may differ



Follow us on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/WaverlyFirstUMCIllinois

and www.facebook.com/StateStreetMinistry

Welcome, Josh!

We're excited to welcome Josh Schulhofer to the Waverly First family as our new Outreach and Growth Coordinator. A recent graduate of Illinois College, Josh is continuing his education by taking seminary courses through Southern Methodist University (SMU). We're excited to see how God will use Josh's gifts, energy, and passion for ministry as he helps Waverly First UMC connect with and serve the community. Welcome to the family, Josh! We're glad you're here!

Josh's Contact Info:

joshuas@waverlyfirst.org

Personal: (618) 801-5060

Office: (217) 435-2581



Mary Jo Suter
Nov 19, 1943—August 21, 2026

Peace to her memory &
Comfort to her family and friends



The playroom has been refreshed!
It now has several "centers" for different kinds of activities— writing and coloring, creating/ building, kitchen, etc. Are these two people in the "Fixit Shop"?
Maybe, but Lou Anne and

Brenda are also teachers and know all about "centers" AND fixing tables!!



The stained glass window updates have begun! Measurements for the metal storm windows, loading the already-removed stained glass and ordering of needed supplies has been done.

Jacksonville Stained Glass will be able to restore matching windows at the shop, so no boarded-up window spaces necessary! Will let you know when more is known.



Mon. Sept. 14
Light Crew—10am

Thurs. Sept 24
Trustees—5:30pm
WCC—6:30pm



Grace UMC Staff

Office Manager

Christina Antemate
office@jaxgrace.org

Youth Director

Kim Elliott
KimE@jaxgrace.org

Sexton

Todd Linear
ToddL@jaxgrace.org

***See State Street Ministry Staff
info on page 2**

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday School.....9:00am
Worship.....10:30am

**Listen on WLDS 1180AM
Sundays at 9:30am**

OFFICE HOURS *NOW AT 339

Monday: 9am-1pm
Tuesday: 9am-1pm
Wednesday: 9am-1pm
Thursday: Staff works from home

339 E. State St. (Enter Front Door)

Jacksonville, IL 62650
Phone: 217-245-9521

Website:

www.statestreetministry.org
www.jaxgrace.org

Follow us on Facebook:

State Street Ministry



Due to Pastor Erik's leave of absence, during the month of September, Grace Church will worship with Centenary at 9:00am. Please see bolded dates/times on the next page for September worship info.

Grace Flows Through Grace Groups

What would you give for a group with whom you can grow in your faith? Folks with whom you can build mutual support on your journeys to becoming more faithful followers of Christ, transforming into who God wants you to be?

Grace has had one such group for roughly ten years – Beth Fender helped get us started, and although we have had some losses during that time (most recently the deaths of Gene and Velma Glendenning a year ago), five of us continue to meet weekly, not to study, but to share how we have experienced God in our lives, to be a bit vulnerable about how well or poorly we are keeping up with our individual intentions to maintain our prayer lives, our reading of Scripture, our devotion to growing our faiths.

We meet for an hour, we spend some time in prayer, we listen to and support each other, and we leave knowing there are others walking with us and focusing on this journey to deeper discipleship. We respect the confidentiality of the group, and we have developed trust among us.

The five of us would like others to be able to share in the kinds of growth we have had over the past ten years, because we all feel that we are drawing closer to our Christ and to our God, and we know we have fellow travelers on the journey. We have danced around this idea for many, many months and are committed to expanding Grace groups to others. You know our biggest hesitancy to expanding? Fear of diluting the value of our current group, of spreading ourselves too thin. But we have prayed and we hear God's call to step out in faith. So we invite you to start wondering if this is something you are interested in – a weekly group of 5-8 or so people, with whom you can grow in your faith. Don't just wonder; take it to God in prayer.

We'll be leaking more information in the coming weeks, but feel free to ask Cindy or Jamie Potter, Lois Herbst, or Rick or Becky McGinnis to give you more information.

Grace Calendar

09/02 – Miles of Smiles, 7:30am; UWF Board at Pat's home, 1pm; Journey, 5:20pm
 09/03 – Prayer on the Square, 11am; Miles of Smiles, 3:30pm
 09/06 – **Worship, 9am; Sunday School, 10am**; FUSION at Centenary Pavilion, 5:30pm
 09/07 – Church Office Closed for Labor Day
 09/09 – Miles of Smiles, 7:30am; Conference of Churches at Trinity Episcopal, 5pm; Journey, 5:20pm
 09/10 – Prayer on the Square, 11am; Miles of Smiles, 3:30pm
 09/13 – **Community Worship on the Square, 10:45 am**
 09/14 – SSM Bible Study at 339, 10am
 09/15 – Discipleship Mtg, 9:30am; LIFT, 6pm
 09/16 – Miles of Smiles, 7:30am; PLARN Party, 10am; Journey Youth, 5:20pm
 09/17 – Grace volunteers to Midwest Dist. Center, 10:20am; Prayer on the Square, 11am; Miles of Smiles, 3:30pm; Missions Mtg, 5pm
 09/19 – West District UWF Annual Fall Meeting at Roseville UMC, 10am
 09/20 – **Worship, 9am; Sunday School, 10am**; FUSION, 5:30pm (*Last collection day for GO Lunches*)
 09/21 – SSM Bible Study at 339, 10am
 09/22 – Ad Board Mtg, 6pm
 09/23 – Miles of Smiles, 7:30am; Journey Youth, 5:20pm
 09/24 – Trustees Mtg, 9am; Prayer on the Square, 11am; Miles of Smiles, 3:30pm
 09/27 – UWF Sunday - **Worship, 9am; Sunday School, 10am**
 09/28 – SSM Bible Study at 339, 10am
 09/30 – Miles of Smiles, 7:30am; Journey Youth, 5:20pm

September Birthdays

09/05 – Dan Schofield
 09/09 – Mike Fiedler
 09/18 – Carole Batty
 09/23 – Dick Cody
 09/26 – Lois Freeman



September Anniversaries

None

Do you have pictures of Grace happenings in 2026? We want to include them in the End of the Year video montage! Yes, we know... it's far off yet. BUT, it's very helpful to collect pictures as we go. So, please email any pictures with the month that they are from to KimE@jaxgrace.org.

Missions

The Grace Missions Team is hosting an item collection for Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center during September. Living Alternatives is a faith-based organization committed to honoring God by providing excellent care, compassionate support, and honest information to those facing pregnancy decisions through authentic relationships that display grace, honor life, and foster community.



The Jacksonville location has shared the following list of needed items:

Diapers (size 4, 5, 6) and pull-ups—they are well stocked with smaller sizes right now!

Baby wipes

Nursing covers

Baby wraps/carriers (Moby, Ring Sling, etc.)

Toddler clothes (2T and up)—baby clothes are also welcome, but there is a greater need for toddler clothes for clients who are expecting/parenting an infant and also have a toddler

Toiletries for clients (shampoo, body wash, etc.)

Toiletries for baby (baby wash, lotion, diaper cream, etc.)—no baby powder, please

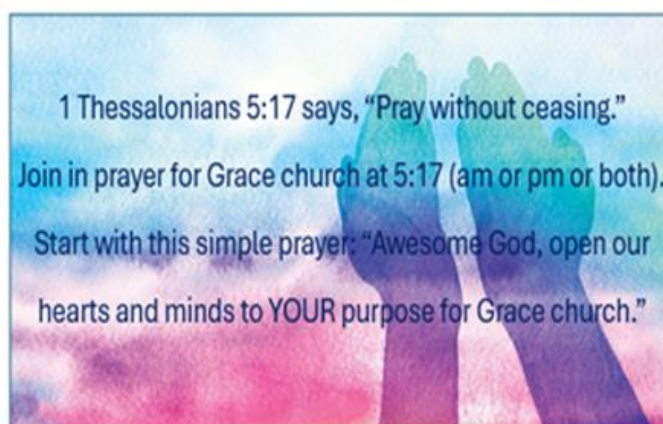
Health and grooming kits/items (nail clippers, thermometer, etc.)

Baby proofing kits/items (outlet covers, cabinet locks, etc.)

Any other essential baby products (sink-sized baby bath seats/flowers, muslin receiving blankets, etc.)

Gift cards (Amazon, Visa, Walmart, HyVee)

In addition to items for clients, the center is also in need of some basic supplies like paper towels, toilet paper, white copy paper, and first class stamps. Items can be brought to the narthex throughout September. The last day of the collection will be September 27. Thank you for joining us in supporting this local ministry.



Midwest Mission

Five Grace volunteers worked the afternoon shift at Midwest Mission on Tuesday, August 18. Sarah E, Chriss, John, and Lois worked on flyers to be mailed, while Sarah C. inspected children's clothing that volunteers had sewn and prepared them for shipment.

The next opportunity to volunteer at Midwest Mission with Grace will be on **Thursday, September 17**. We will leave from Centenary parking lot at 10:20 AM and enjoy lunch together at a restaurant in Springfield or Chatham before our 12:30-4:00 shift. As of the writing of this article, 7 slots remain open for volunteers, so if you would like to join us, let Lois Herbst know ASAP before these slots fill. No matter your abilities or limitations, there is a job for you at Midwest Mission!



THANK YOU!

Your supplies have shipped

Your supplies were shipped. This container went to Anderson, IN on August 18, 2026 to support flood relief efforts and provide much-needed supplies to those affected.

Midwest Mission disbursed UMCOR Cleaning Kits and UMCOR Menstrual Hygiene Kits.

The containers weighed 21,085 lbs. and their value was \$113,124.00.

Thank you to all our donors and mission volunteers who purchased and assembled these essential kits that show God's love in a practical way. Every kit assembled at Midwest Mission is made by a volunteer. Without your dedication, we would not be able to continue to help others.

UMCOR Cleaning Kits Assembled By:

- Monticello UMC- IL
- Grace UMC- Jacksonville, IL

Thanks so much for sending hope and empowerment around the world and around the corner.



Centenary UMC Staff

Office Assistant

Lisa McClarey
office@jaxcentenary.org

Finance Manager

Teri Hall
financeoffice@jaxcentenary.org

Music Director

Terri Benz
terrib@jaxcentenary.org

Custodian

Patti Adcock

***See State Street Ministry Staff
info on page 2**

OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 9am-12pm
Tuesday: 9am-12pm
Wednesday: 9am-12pm
Thursday: 9am-12pm

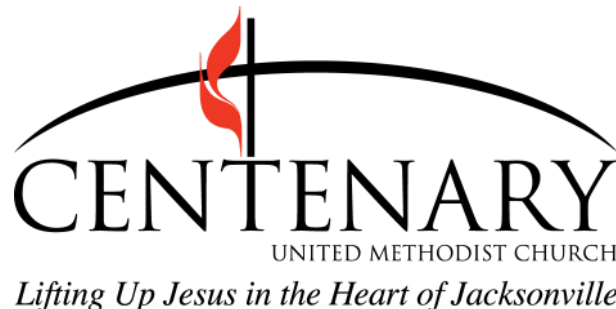
331 E. State St.
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Phone: 217-245-8417

Website:

www.statestreetministry.org
www.jaxcentenary.org

Follow us on Facebook:

Centenary United Methodist Church
State Street Ministry



First Friday Feast coming October 2!

Centenary is hosting a First Friday Feast on the lawn at 339 on Friday, October 2 at 6pm in an effort to form better relationships with physical neighbors - both businesses and nearby residents will be invited for a free cookout with other activities. You may have thought that we were going to host the first Feast in September, but summer is hanging on tight and no one will want to enjoy cookout when it feels like 100 degrees outside... so we're holding off until October. Donated food items and more are needed, please see Terri Benz or contact the church office for more info. (Full flyer on page 4 of the newsletter!)

Centenary Love Visits

Many thanks to over 20 Centenary ladies who provided cookies to make over 30 plates of cookies and candy to deliver to Centenary friends and families on August 12 along with flower arrangements and tomatoes. This biannual Love Visit event is such a treat for those who receive as well as those who make the deliveries. Thank you to all who participated! A special thanks to Diana Phillips and the Sunday School children for making over 40 cards to share at the Love visits and to over a dozen others which were mailed.



Thrive Lessons in September

- 9/6 ~ God Shows He's the One True God (1 Kings 18: 16-45)
 9/13 No Thrive ~ Worship at the Park
 9/20 ~ God Speaks to Elijah (1 Kings 19; 1-18)
 9/27 ~ God Heals Naaman (2 Kings 5: 1-19)



MEMORY VERSE FOR SEPTEMBER

"Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power." *Ephesians 6:10*

Thrive News

- ⇒ Thank you to everyone who donated school supplies for Thrive to take to the Jacksonville Food Center. 100% of the donations were distributed!
- ⇒ Trunk or Treat will be on Sunday, October 25.
 Contact Rusti Cummings for more information and/or to have a trunk, supervise or game or help in any way. Mark your calendars!!



Thank you so very much for the cookies and beautiful flowers. Such a nice and thoughtful thing!! *In Christian Love,*
Marilyn Denney.



Thank you to the ladies who came and brought cookies for the Love Visits.
Harold Sorrill

Thanks for serving!

September Acolytes

- Sept. 6 ~ Annabelle & Zachary Hardy
 Sept 13~ Mason and Madison Hinkle
 Sept 20 ~ Otto & Clyde Zang
 Sept 27 ~ Crue, Lane, and Adam Stiltz

Children's Ministry Leaders

- 1st Sundays: Rusti Cummings,
 Diana Phillips
Assistants: Mary Tomlin & Delaney Ruyle
- 2nd Sundays: Maza Tomhave
 Linda Tribble
Assistant: LuAnne Woodrum
- 3rd Sundays: Nancy Hardy
 Rachael Borgman
Assistant: Annabelle Hardy
- 4th Sundays: Kayleigh McNeal
 Diana Phillips
Assistant: Delaney Ruyle

HELP NEEDED FOR THE NURSERY-

We need a volunteer to cover that 4th Sunday in the nursery with our littlest friends. Please contact Rachel Hinkle if you would be willing to help!



In Loving Memory

Gale Waltrip
 who passed away on
 August 16, 2026

September Birthdays



5.....	Jared Plunk Maley Kindred
6.....	Crue Stiltz
8.....	Ryan Benz Zachary Hardy
9.....	Rusti Cummings
11.....	Stephen Mosley
13.....	/Kristy Dirden
23.....	Daphne Spradlin Debbie Pond
24.....	Douglas Birdsell
27.....	Bill Hopper
29.....	Tyson Manker Kaitlin Pond
30.....	Max Hrynewych

September Anniversaries



18.....	Jerry & Mary Ruth McArtor
19.....	Jerry & Rhoda Walker
20	Heather & Justin Gifford
21.....	Everett & Patricia O'Neal
22.....	Timm & Susan Pennell
25.....	Dean & Shirley Gish

Centenary Worship Schedule

Sunday, September 6th

9:00am

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion
Pastor Shawna Bunnell

Sunday, September 13th

*******10:45am**

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Praise in the Park
Central Park Downtown

Sunday, September 20th

9:00am

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Pastor Kevin Hinkle

Sunday, September 27th

9:00am

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Pennies For Hunger Collection
Guest Speakers: Melissa Hall / Becky McGinnis

MISSIONS

Midwest Mission

Midwest Mission needs a variety of donations that go into the various kits that they put together. They also accept used medical equipment such as wheelchairs and walkers. Bicycles and sewing machines are also needed. They even accept fire equipment and farm tools. Check their website <https://www.midwestmission.org/> for more information about the amazing work that the mission does and a list of donations wanted.

Volunteers are always welcome at Midwest Mission, but advanced registration is required. If you would like to volunteer contact Martha Vaché or the church office.



Connie Wieck Update

Centenary has a covenant relationship with Connie Wieck. She works with the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries in southeast Asia. We have been sending \$1,000 to the GBGM each year to help support Connie. She currently coordinates the English-language program of the Southeast Asia Methodist Mission.

On Sunday, August 16, the congregations of both Centenary and Grace had a chance to get more acquainted with Connie. She gave the Children's Message via a Power Point presentation. She told us about her life and work as an English teacher in southeast Asia.

As a thank you to Centenary for our support Connie presented an altar cloth Centenary that was blessed by her church in southeast Asia during their worship service. She gave the altar cloth to Martha Vaché at Misson u to bring back to Centenary. Molly and Madison are pictured with the altar cloth donated by Connie.

Centenary members can get better acquainted with Connie and the work that she is doing by logging into www.connieinchina.org. Connie writes interesting weekly stories and updates including pictures. Donations to help support Connie are welcome. Make checks to Centenary with "Connie" in the memo.



Unmet Needs Group

According to an article in August 20 issue of THE SOURCE, The Morgan County Partnership for Unmet Needs has been designated by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization. Local churches including Centenary have contributed to this organization. The IRS designation will allow the organization to apply for grants and individuals to make tax deductible donations to the organization.

The Unmet Needs Partnership exists to complement the social service system in order to meet the needs of individuals in the community. The Jacksonville Ministerial alliance worked with the Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches to form a partnership that pools resources to serve individuals and families that have unmet needs that have not been met through the United Way or other local organizations. Many local churches have contributed funds to this organization.

The Jacksonville Salvation Army verifies the unmet need and refers the case to the Board of Directors of the Unmet Needs Partnership for their consideration. In the past this group has assisted with financial help with utility bills, a health crisis, and temporary unemployment.

When Rev. Mel Nielson was the pastor at Centenary, he was one of the founders of this program. Over the years Centenary UMC has had many requests for help, but it was often difficult to know whether the requests for assistance were verifiable. Now individuals seeking help are referred to the Prairieland United Way Helpline at 217-479-1818. Often the United Way can refer them to another agency for assistance. Ultimately, the Unmet Needs Partnership may be able to help if other agencies can't.

Doorbell Dinners

Centenary UMC is scheduled to deliver Doorbell Dinners the week of September 21-25. The Doorbell Dinner Program assists people that are homebound and/or have special dietary needs. We need your help! We are in search of drivers and delivery people. If you can help, please contact Pat Baptist or Barbara Wooldridge.

Centenary Calendar—September 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 9:30a Bible Study	2 7:30am Miles of Smiles 10am Visit Team 5:20pm Journey 7pm Al-Anon	3 11am Prayer on the Square 3:30pm Miles of Smiles	4 5pm Wedding Rehearsal: Christian/Claussen	5 Wedding: Christian/Claussen
6 9am Centenary/Grace Worship 9:15am Thrive 10am Sunday School 5:30pm FUSION	7 Office Closed—Labor Day	8 11:30a Card Outreach	9 7:30am Miles of Smiles 5:20pm Journey 7pm Al-Anon	10 11am Prayer on the Square 12:30pm Hope Circle 3:30pm Miles of Smiles	11	12 10am Centenary Crafters
13 10:45am Praise in the Park! (No regular worship service)	14 10am NEW Bible Study @ 339! 3pm College Hill Choir 7pm Choir	15 9:30am Bible Study 3:30pm Book Club 6pm SSM SPRC (339)	16 7:30am Miles of Smiles 11am FHS Circle 3:30pm Missions 5:20pm Journey 7pm Al-Anon	17 10am SSM Bible Study @ Waverly 11am Prayer on the Square 3:30pm Miles of Smiles	18	19
20 9am Centenary/Grace Worship 9:15am Thrive 10am Sunday School 5:30pm FUSION	21 10am NEW Bible Study @ 339! 6pm Trustees 7pm Choir	22	23 7:30am Miles of Smiles 5:20pm Journey 6:15pm Al-Anon 7pm Al-Anon	24 10am SSM Bible Study @ Waverly 11am Prayer on the Square 3:30pm Miles of Smiles	25	26
Doorbell Dinners 9/21—9/25						
27 9am Centenary / Grace Worship 9:15am Thrive 10am Sunday School	28 10am NEW Bible Study @ 339! 7pm Choir	29 9:30am Bible Study	30 7:30am Miles of Smiles 11am Salad Luncheon 5:20pm Journey Youth 7pm Al-Anon			

STATE STREET MINISTRY
CENTENARY-GRACE-WAVERLY

Place
stamp
here

PO Box 124
Jacksonville, IL 62650

State Street Ministry - September 2026

STATE STREET MINISTRY
CENTENARY-GRACE-WAVERLY

Check us out online at
www.statestreetministry.org
or find us on Facebook!

Centenary UMC, Jacksonville
Grace UMC, Jacksonville
Waverly First UMC, Waverly



Pastor Kevin Hinkle

Pastor Erik Slingerland