

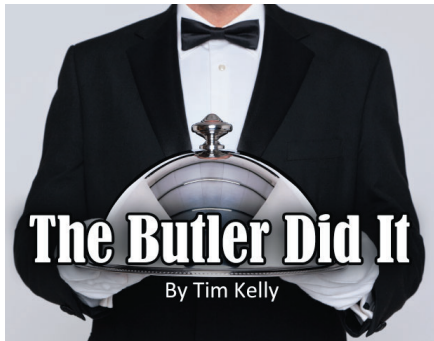
The First-Centurian

Volume 16, No. 19

April 19, 2024

Vision Statement of First-Centenary United Methodist Church: *Build a healthy and diverse community of disciples of Jesus Christ.*

OAK STREET PLAYHOUSE presents ...



April 26, 27, May 2, 3, 4
at 7:30 p.m.

April 28, May 5 at 2 p.m.

This comedy parodies English mystery plays with an American flair. Miss Maple, a dowager with a reputation for “clever” parties, invites a group of detective writers to Ravenswood Manor where they are to impersonate their fictional characters. The hostess has arranged a mysterious voice on the radio, a menacing face at the window, a mad killer on the loose. Why do figurines keep toppling from the mantle? Then a real murder occurs, outraging Miss Maple, who offers a reward to the “detective” who can find the killer. When the would-be sleuths are not tripping over clues, they trip over each other! Laughs collide with thrills, and the climax is a real seat-grabber.

To purchase tickets, scan the QR code or go to <https://www.onthestage.tickets/show/oak-street-playhouse>.



Visit us on the web at www.firstcentenary.com/the-oak-street-playhouse.

LIFTING UP VOICES FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

United Women in Faith

2024 Call to Prayer and Self-Denial

May 5, in the Kate Lyle West Chapel,
immediately following 10:45 worship



This service is a faith-filled time to assemble with lifted hearts and hands: to give selflessly to a common cause and to be in communion with God. All are invited! The offering this year goes to UWF climate justice projects.

If you will need childcare (and pizza) please notify Brittany Eastridge in the church office (423-756-2021) by May 2.

If you want to give, but are not able to attend the service, you can give through all the usual channels. Offerings should go to Sally Richardson, UWF, for Call to Prayer and Self-Denial.

Camp Lookout Senior Adult Day

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Great fellowship, food, hymn singing, awesome presentations, devotion, wonderful music, and much more. This year's Senior Adult Day event will feature several special guests: Charles Neal, Jeanne Eller, Charles Maynard, Lon Eldridge, Mark Gooden, and Mike Feely!

Cost for the day is \$10, and includes refreshments and lunch, lots of music, time for fellowship, exploring Camp Lookout, and a history display! Check-in (with refreshments) begins at 9:30 a.m.

Call and let us know you'll be coming. For more information, email info@camplookout.com or call 706-820-1163.



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

I would like to thank the Morgan Class and Dave and Page Houseman for the generous gift to ACD Guatemala to support their ongoing ministry.

Their gifts will send a water filter system that will provide clean water to a family for two years, an eco stove that will cut down on the expense of firewood and remove soot from the home, and a scholarship for a student for a year will dramatically impact lives.

If you have any questions about how you can impact families through one of those areas please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Barry or me.

-- Pastor Will

**Are you a first time visitor or have been visiting for a while?
Want to know more about First-Centenary? Interested in**

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR
EVERY THIRD SUNDAY
9:45 A.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM



becoming a member of First-Centenary? Or, do you simply want to get to know the Senior Pastor? Join Pastor Jason every third Sunday at 9:45 in the Conference Room (Room 105) for Coffee With the Pastor – **April 21.**

Clergy Corner



Dr. Will Lauderback

On April 23, delegates from around the world will gather for the 2020 (held in 2024) General Conference of the United Methodist

Church. This quadrennial meeting helps guide our denomination and will set our budget, tackle church polity issues, discuss theology, and help re-order how we function as a global church. The 862 delegates from around the world serve as a "representative democracy" with the Holston Conference having twelve voting delegates (six clergy and six laity). The conference has sent out a call to prayer and I invite you to join the prayer vigil by registering here: <https://holston-reg.brtaapp.com/GCPrayerVigil2024>

Please pray especially for our delegation - Amanda Onks, Rev. Amy Sumrall, Anne Travis, Becky Hall, Rev. Caleb Frazier, Rev. David Graybeal, Dawson Kitts, Del Holley, Donna Mosby, Rev. Dr. Josh Kilbourne, Rev. Kim Goddard, Rev. Kristen Burkhart, Rev. Lauri Jo Cranford, Rev. Dr. Mark Flynn, Rev. Mary Thompson, Nate Roark, Rev. Paul Seay, Rev. Dr. Randy Frye, Reagan Kelly, Rev. Sarah Varnell, Rev. Sharon Bowers, and Rev. Wil Cantrell.

Jason and I will be leading post General Conference discussions on the first two Wednesday nights in May. We would love for you to join us in bathing this time of Holy Conferencing in prayer.

In Christ,
Will

Prime Time Wednesday



April 24 (Room 101/102)

Enneagram/Marriage Study – The Marriage Enrichment Ministry is offering an Enneagram Class. An enneagram is a system of typology that classifies human personality into nine basic types. Big Self School will cover the nine types, plus extras. They encourage participants to take an enneagram test prior to starting the class. Scan the QR code for two options and if you search the web you will find many others as well. We recommend writing down your results! While this is hosted by the Marriage Enrichment Ministry in preparation for a Date Night event at the end of the month, the Wednesday night classes are open to everyone.

April 24, May 1 (Conference Rm)

Context: Putting Scripture in its

Place – by Josh Scott

led by Tim Threadgill
Context looks at verses we know by heart but may not know the people, places, and times that give them meaning. Josh Scott delves into well-



PRIME TIME SCHEDULE

Meal 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Classes 6:30 - 7:15-30 p.m.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
First Kids Wednesday &
Children's Choirs at 6 p.m.

YOUTH MINISTRY
Wednesday Activities

Meal: 5:45 p.m.

Lesson: 6:30 p.m. **Gym:** 7:30-8 p.m.

CHOIRS: Chancel Ringers: 6 p.m.
Chancel Choir: 7 p.m.

known Scripture verses, exploring their true meanings by examining them in their original biblical context. Through this process, he unveils fresh and enlightening interpretations that are often missed when these Scriptures are taken out of context.

May 8, 15 (The Vine)

Post-General Conference Update

– The Pastors will share what was voted on at General Conference, what next steps are for that legislation, and what that means for our local church and denomination.

DINNER INFORMATION

Adults – \$10 each (meal) **Children** – \$5; 3 & under free **Family max** – \$30

Please make dinner reservations by 4 p.m. Monday.

Scan the QR code or go to firstcentenary.com/prime-time-wednesday for dinner reservations.



April 24 BBQ Pork, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Bun, Banana Pudding; Greek Salad

Date Night: Enneagram For Couples

April 26 at 6 p.m. in the Oak Street Center

Join the Marriage Enrichment Ministry for the next Date Night on April 26 at 6 p.m. in the Oak Street Center! This month our guest speaker is Big School Self. We will learn how to understand our spouse's enneagram type and how to complement each other's traits to foster personal growth.

The enneagram helps couples gain personal insight and practical tools for better communication and more intimacy in their relationship. We explore core motivations, core fears, unconscious patterns, innate gifts and limitations. Give your partner the gift of understanding you better!

Big School Self encourages participants to take an enneagram test prior to the event. There are two options at <https://firstcentenary.com/marriage> and if you search the web you will find many others as well. We recommend writing down your results!



Hello April!!

All month long we are working on patience. PATIENCE is waiting until later for what we want now.

- When you think you can't wait, think twice.
- When you have to wait, remember what's true.
- God is with you while you wait.



Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord. Psalm 27:14, NIV

Join us in the First Kids CM Wing Sunday for one or all of these times!

- Early Service Childcare: 8:30-9:30 A.M.
- Sunday School: 9:45-10:30 A.M.
- Elem FirstKids LIVE Worship: 11-11:45 A.M.
- Pre-K Wiggle & Worship: 11-11:45 A.M.
- FirstKids Sunday Night: 5-6 P.M.

VBS Registration Is Open!

JUNE 24-28TH

Get ready for ONE of THE BEST Summer Events! VBS!! This year we are stepping back in time to Jesus' Hometown, Nazareth! We will explore ancient Nazareth and even get to hear Mary tell us stories about what happened when Jesus was a kid! It will be EPIC! Reserve your spot today!

Scan the QR code above or go to our website to sign up today!

Church Office Hours

Beginning Monday, April 29, the office hours for First-Centenary will be Monday through Thursday – 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please call the church office if you have any questions at 423-756-2021.



Meet Our New Members



Tom and Debra Nite transferred April 7 from Concord Baptist Church.



Rusty and Susan Tuders transferred April 14 from Brainerd Baptist Church. Also pictured is Lucy Tuders.



Kurt Faires joined April 14. He is a former member.



Andy and Vicki Vincent joined April 14. Vicki transferred from Christ UMC and Kenneth joined by Profession of Faith.

Baptism

William Carter Threlkeld, son of John and Mandy Threlkeld, was baptized April 14, in The Vine. Also pictured are Godparents Cole Threlkeld (John's brother) and Jessica Carter (Mandy's sister).



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Senior Pastor
(423) 756-2021
www.firstcentenary.com



Are you looking for a way to support the youth traveling to Romania this summer?

Here's your chance to make a difference! By purchasing stock, you'll not only invest in their

mission but also become an integral part of their journey. Your support will directly contribute to aiding in covering essential expenses such as supplies, food, travel, and accommodations. Each stock purchase will serve as a vital donation towards their mission trip fund. But that's not all!

When you buy stock, you'll receive: • A receipt confirming your contribution. • An exclusive invitation to a special luncheon hosted by the youth group at the end of July. • The opportunity to engage with the students, hear their stories firsthand, and ask any questions about their experiences in Romania.

We recommend \$50 per stock, but any amount is immensely appreciated. Every dollar counts towards making this trip a success. Your support and prayers mean the world to us! Thank you for your generosity and let's make this mission to Romania an unforgettable experience for all!

For more information, email our Youth Director, Tori Crook, at tcrook@firstcentenary.com. Donations can also be given to Tori in-person. Scan the QR code to give through our website.



Sunday Worship

April 21, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sanctuary at 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

Methodism 201 -

What do we believe?

Hebrews 5

Rev. Michelle Hunter

The Vine at 10:45 a.m.

Methodism 201 -

What do we believe?

Hebrews 5

Rev. Jason Gattis

Reading from the Lectionary

Acts 4:5-12 Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-24 John 10:11-18

Televised sermon by Rev. Charles Neal:

They Thought Jesus Was A Ghost

Televised on Channel 12, WDEF-TV

at 11:30 a.m. each Sunday &

12:35 a.m. Monday morning.

Mustard Tree Worship at 5 p.m.
in The Vine – Rev. Barry Kidwell