

AN ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

12th Sunday after Pentecost    August 31, 2025    8:30 & 10:45 a.m.    Paraments – Red

\*Please stand as you are able.    Please remember to turn off cell phones.

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

Gathering Music (10:45)    Mrs. Trish Foy

Invocation

Voluntary    Air    Gordon Young

\*Call to Worship    (8:30) Ms. Shannon Smith (10:45) Mr. Bill Lockett  
Leader: Incline your hearts to the wisdom of God;  
seek integrity and understanding.  
All: The testimonies of God are wonderful;  
God's law gives light to all who hear it.  
Leader: If you accept God's words  
and store up God's commands within you,  
if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding,  
If you look for it as for silver  
and search for it as for hidden treasure,  
All: then you will find the knowledge of God,  
for the Lord gives wisdom  
and from God's mouth  
comes truth and understanding.

\*Hymn 88    Maker, in Whom We Live

Prayer  
Eternal God,  
whose signature we see, if we dare to look,  
in the creation of the universe,  
help us in this hour to look and to listen  
for Your handwriting and Your voice in this place,  
among these people.  
Guide us now to focus upon You and Your word,  
to grow to love and follow Your teaching.  
Breathe life into our singing, our praying,  
our speaking, and our listening.  
We reach out to You now, O God,  
knowing that You have already  
enfolded us in Your arms.  
In Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Anthem (10:45)    Day by Day    K. Lee Scott  
The Chancel Choir

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:  
to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly,  
follow thee more nearly, day by day.  
Thanks be to thee, Lord Jesus,  
for all the benefits which thou hast done for us;  
for all the pains and insults which thou hast borne for us,  
O merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother.

(text by Richard of Chichester, 1197-1253)

Ritual of Friendship    Rev. Michelle Hunter

\*Gratitude for Tithes and Offerings  
Almighty God, there are treasures all around us-  
family, friends, Your abiding presence,  
and the love of Christ Jesus.  
Bless the tithes and offerings we return to You.  
Bless them, that others might come to know  
the true treasures of Your love and grace. Amen.

\*Doxology (#95)

Time for Children

Concerns and Celebrations of the Congregation  
The Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Meditation    Be Thou My Vision    arr. M. Kim  
David Patton, organ; Jan McNair, piano

\*Gospel Lesson    Matthew 13:44-46

Sermon    Focus on What Really Matters    Dr. Will Lauderback

\*Hymn 395    Take Time to Be Holy

\*Benediction

Voluntary    Crown Imperial    William Walton

The Call to Worship is posted on Rev. Richard Fairchild's Kir-shalom website. <http://www.rockies.net/ThePrayer>  
The Prayer is adapted from a posting on My Redeemer Lives website. <http://www.myredeemerlives.com/prayers.html>. Gratitude for Tithes and Offerings is from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020 Edition. © 2019 Abingdon Press.

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICES:  
Acolytes: Norah Shears, Norris Jackson, Cornelius Kandakai and Sellick Wallin  
Pew Volunteers:  
8:30: David Hudson  
10:45: Jerry & Debbie Donohue  
Welcome Desk Volunteers:  
8:30: Susan Byrd  
10:45: Jerry & Debbie Donohue

WITHIN THE CHURCH FAMILY  
AS OF NOON, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27TH

HOME: Margaret Nelson  
IN MEMORIAM: Nancy Soteres, August 15th

WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

Please register your attendance on the Ritual of Friendship pad.  
ASSISTIVE LISTENING AVAILABLE – ASK USHERS FOR ASSISTANCE.

NURSERY & FIRST KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Check-in is in the Children's hallway.

WORSHIP INFORMATION:

THE VINE WORSHIP SERVICE (10:45 A.M.): REV. JASON GATTIS  
SUNDAY NIGHT SERVICE (5:00 P.M.): REV. BARRY KIDWELL  
• 10:45 a.m. service telecast on Channel 12, WDEF-TV: 11:30 a.m.  
Sundays & 12:35 a.m. Mondays  
• Visitors please stop by the Visitor Information Desk in the Narthex.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST-CENTENARY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31ST	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH
8:30 a.m. - Sanctuary Worship 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School 9:30 a.m. - First Kids Parent Meeting 10:45 a.m. - Sanctuary Worship 10:45 a.m. - The Vine Worship 12:00 p.m. - Free College Lunch 4:30 p.m. - Sunday Night Youth 5:00 p.m. - Sunday Night Worship 5:00 p.m. - PCS Walk at Northgate Mall 6:00 p.m. - Sunday Night Meal 6:00 p.m. - OSP Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. - Wesley Small Group	10:00 a.m. - ABIDE Respite Ministry 10:00 a.m. - ABIDE Caregiver Support 1:30 p.m. - Aldersgate Vibrations 6:00 p.m. - OSP Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. - Wesley Small Group
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH
Church Offices Closed 12:00 p.m. - PCS Labor Day Picnic 7:00 p.m. - Wesley Small Group	College Retreat at Camp Lookout
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH
10:00 a.m. - ABIDE Respite Ministry 10:00 a.m. - Crafty Capers 10:00 a.m. - PCS Charley's Coffee Talk 6:00 p.m. - OSP Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. - Wesley Small Group	8:00 a.m. - OSP Practice/Set Reset 11:30 a.m. - PCS Birthday Celebration 3:00 p.m. - Funeral
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD	
10:00 a.m. - ABIDE Respite Ministry 4:45 p.m. - Youth Group 5:15 p.m. - Prime Time Meal 6:00 p.m. - Children's Program 6:00 p.m. - College Program 6:00 p.m. - Chancel Ringers 6:30 p.m. - Prime Time Classes 7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. - College Worship	

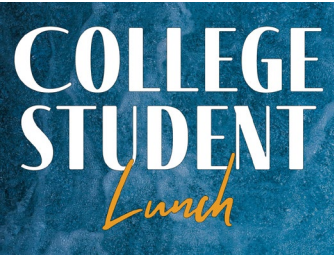


FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:  
@FIRSTCENTENARY

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(419 McCallie Avenue)  
PHONE: (423) 756-2021    FAX: (423) 756-8589  
[www.firstcentenary.com](http://www.firstcentenary.com)



ANNOUNCEMENTS



**FREE COLLEGE LUNCH TODAY**  
Join us in the Vine lobby **after the 10:45 service** to walk over to one of our favorite restaurants. Enjoy some great conversation, get to know other young adults, and hear about some upcoming events. Lunch is on us!



**VOLUNTEER FOR CUB SCOUTS**  
The Scouting America Cub Scout troop will have its first meeting on **September 12th, from 4:00-5:00 p.m. at The Centenary**. We are looking for adult volunteers to work with the troop's leader and help with meetings on Fridays. For more information, contact Mary Grey Moses at [mgmoses@firstcentenary.com](mailto:mgmoses@firstcentenary.com).



**COMEDY FOR PEACE**  
Come out for Comedy for Peace on **September 14th at 4:00 p.m. at Christ United Methodist Church**. This event features three comedians of different faiths. Come ready to enjoy a hilarious show! **Purchase tickets online!**



**SUPPORT A COLLEGE STUDENT**  
We're sending treat bundles to our college students studying away as a reminder they're in our prayers. Know a college student? Fill out a form online so we can send them a gift! Donations of \$5-\$10 gift cards can be dropped off in the Welcome Center.

PRIME TIME WEDNESDAY

MEAL: 5:15 | CLASSES: 6:30



**The Parables of Jesus**

led by Pastor Jason in the Prigmore Room

**Methodism Deep Dive**

led by Pastor Will in The Vine

**The Tears of Things by Richard Rhor**

led by Pastor Michelle in the Parlor

**Eat - Pray - Move**

led by Brittany Eastridge in Oak Street Center Room 101/102

**First Things First Parenting Class**

led by Gena Ellis in the Conference Room, September 17th-October 8th

**Special Event**

The Vine on October 1st

**Life Must Go On**

led by Bea Lurie and Dr. Steven Jacobs in The Vine on October 15th

CHURCH STAFF

**JASON GATTIS**  
**WILL LAUDERBACK**  
**BARRY KIDWELL**  
**MICHELLE HUNTER**  
**CAROLINE ARCHER**  
**RICHARD LOONEY**  
**CHARLES NEAL**  
**DAVID HARR**

Senior Minister  
Senior Associate Minister  
Minister of Mustard Tree Ministries & Outreach  
Minister of Congregational Care  
Minister of Environmental Justice  
Bishop in Residence  
Minister Emeritus  
Minister Emeritus

**BRANDI ANDERSON**  
**JIM ANDERSON**  
**TORI CROOK**  
**DEANNA BECKWITH**  
**ASHLEY DURHAM**  
**BRITTANY EASTRIDGE**  
**MICHAEL EDWARDS**  
**KAREN GATES**  
**TROY HAMILTON**  
**CLAIR HARRISON**  
**BINDY LEWIS**  
**JANICE MCNAIR**  
**JONATHAN MCNAIR**  
**GRANT MORGAN**  
**MARY GREY MOSES**  
**DAVID PATTON**  
**KIRSTEN SHIPP**  
**RANDALL SHUPTRINE**  
**TONIA TAYLOR**  
**LEESHA VANDER WILT**  
**ELLEN WARD**

ABIDE Respite Ministry Director  
Facilities Assistant  
Shouting Stones Youth Ministry Director  
Welcome Center Administrator  
Facilities  
Administrative Assistant, Ministry Support  
Facilities  
Business Manager  
Facilities Director  
Communications Director  
Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor  
Worship & Music Ministry Director  
Music Ministry Assistant  
Contemporary Worship Director  
The Centenary Director  
Organist  
fcCollege Ministry & Wesley Center Director  
Multimedia Specialist  
Children's Enrichment Center Director  
First Kids Children's Ministry Assistant Director  
First Kids Children's Ministry Director

READING FROM THE LECTIONARY:

JEREMIAH 1:4-10 PSALMS 71:1-6 HEBREWS 12:18-29 LUKE 13:10-17

MISSION PARTNERS:

**Costa Rica:** Methodist Children's Home, Ray and Lidia Zirkel  
**Guatemala:** ACD Guatemala, Ministry to children and women  
**Lebanon:** Words of Issa, Ministry to Syrian Refugees  
**Romania:** UMC Romania (Pastors Rares, Christian and Samuel), ALFA Group Ministry to Orphans

The Engage program is an ongoing opportunity to match your interests with ministry opportunities at the church.  
**Scan this code to get started.**

For medical emergencies during worship services, contact the ushers. They will call 911. Defibrillator & Oxygen in see-through hallway cabinet near back of Sanctuary, where we hang our coats.



WAYS TO GIVE:

GIVING KIOSK  
MAIL

SUNDAY OFFERING  
BANK DRAFT

ONLINE



AUGUST 31, 2025

8:30 A.M. & 10:45 A.M.



TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER  
*Pentecost*