

The FIRST-CENTENARIAN

Vision Statement: Build a healthy and diverse community of disciples of Jesus Christ.

VOLUME 16, NO. 35
NOVEMBER 14TH, 2025

THIS WEEK AT FIRST-CENTENARY

SUN.
Nov 16th

Commitment Sunday
9:30AM: Sunday School
9:45AM: Coffee with the Pastor
10:45AM: Sanctuary and Vine Worship Services
4:30PM: Sunday Night Youth Group
5:00PM: Sunday Night Worship & Dinner
5:00PM: Positive Christian Singles Walk at The Greenway
6:00PM: Oak Street Playhouse Rehearsal
7:00PM: College Small Group at The Wesley

MON.
Nov 17th

6:00PM: Oak Street Playhouse Rehearsal
7:00PM: College Small Group at The Wesley

TUES.
Nov 18th

10:00AM: Church Staff Meeting
10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
10:00AM: Crafty Capers
10:00AM: Positive Christian Singles Coffee Talk at Jacks
6:00PM: Oak Street Playhouse Rehearsal
7:00PM: College Small Group at The Wesley
10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
10:30AM: Positive Christian Singles Medal of Honor Tour
12:00PM: Called Church Council Meeting
4:45PM: Youth Program
5:00PM: College Program
5:15PM: Prime Time Wednesday Meal
6:00PM: Children's Program
6:00PM: Oak Street Playhouse Rehearsal
6:30PM: Prime Time Classes
6:30PM: Parent Only Advent Party
7:00PM: Chancel Choir
8:00PM: College Wednesday Night Worship
10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
1:30PM: Aldersgate Vibrations
6:00PM: Oak Street Playhouse Rehearsal
7:00PM: College Small Group at The Wesley

WED.
Nov 19th

THURS.
Nov 20th

FRI.
Nov 21st

SAT.
Nov 22nd

5:30PM: Postive Christian Singles Dinner at Olive Garden

8:30AM: Oak Street Playhouse Rehearsal/Set Setup
9:00AM: Shouting Stones Youth Fall Retreat

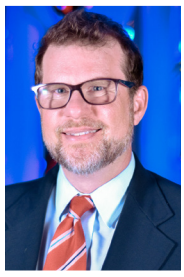


COMMITMENT SUNDAY

Commitment Sunday is **November 16th!**
This is a special day for our church family to come together in faith and generosity as we submit our commitment cards for the coming year. You can turn in your card during worship or submit it online through our website. Every commitment makes a difference as we move forward together in ministry! **Visit our website at firstcentenary.com/align for more information.**

CENTENARY SUNDAY





CLERGY CORNER

This year's stewardship campaign, Align, has been great! I want to offer thanks and gratitude to

Eddie and Kathy O'Brien for serving as our Stewardship Chairs. I have a good feeling we will have just as much success as we did last year so be sure to be here Sunday morning as we commit our pledges before God.

As we approach the end of the year I wanted to offer an update on where we stand financially for 2025. If you remember, the goal of last year's Unified Budget Campaign was \$4.25 million dollars. Of that number \$1.5 was for capital improvement needs, specifically HVAC replacements. So far we have received 75% of budgetary pledges and \$1.3 million for the trustees capital needs. These are great numbers and show we are on target to meet our 2025 goals!

I also want to share capital improvements that have taken place in 2025. Already completed are four HVAC units at a cost of \$266,235. In addition, we have three units on order for a cost of \$243,666. By the end of the year we will have spent \$509,901 of the \$1.3 million set aside for capital improvements. There are always surprises and we had one earlier in the year after a visit from the State Fire Marshall. As a result we have a new fire alert system that came at a cost of \$103,605.

Because of your faithfulness and generosity, we are positioned to have a great 2025. Let's work to position First-Centenary to have an even better 2026!

Grace & Peace,
Jason



Share Your Christmas with *The Centenary*

- Centenary Angel Tree
- Sponsor a Family in Need
- Donate to the Program

Angel Tree Ornaments

Want to share your Christmas? Mini canvas ornaments are in the Lobby of the Vine and the side and back door of the Narthex. Please keep the decorated canvas as your Christmas keepsake. Once you take an ornament, please add your name and contact information on the clip board. Attached, you will find a return gift tag, a wish list tag which gives the name of child, wishes and instructions for sharing.

Sponsor a Family in Need

Contact Mary Grey Moses at mgmoses@firstcentenary.com or Monique Strickland at mstrickland@firstcentenary.com or call 423-266-3345 to select the size of family you or your group would like to shop for or sponsor.

Donate to The Centenary

- Centenary Discretionary Fund – Goes to the greatest need.
- Student Need Fund – Provides clothes, shoes, books, and other needed items directly to students.
- Student Launch Fund – Prepares students for college and life after graduation.
- Summer Camp Program Fund – provides Scholarships to Camp Lookout and a 7-week summer program which includes daily academic enrichment, physical education, field trips, and summer reading.



YOUTH FALL RETREAT

Sign up now for our Youth Fall Retreat on **November 22nd**! This year's retreat is **FREE** and packed with fun and faith-building experiences. We'll **meet at the Student Center at 9:00a.m.** and wrap up the day with pick-up at 8:00p.m. Meals will be provided, and we'll even take a special field trip out of town (permission form coming soon). Stay tuned for more details, this is one retreat you won't want to miss!

Sign up today by filling out the form on our website's announcements page!



This month in First Kids Pre-school our theme is Going on a Picnic - I Can Thank God for Everything! There is power in a thankful heart! Let's choose a life of joy and give thanks to the Lord with our whole heart! Our memory verse is "I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart." ~Psalm 111:1 ESV

This month in First Kids K-5th Grade, our theme is Bedrock - building confidence in God block by block! Trying to do something on your own is difficult. When we look at God's Big Story, we can see that no matter the situation, when we follow God, we can have confidence that He is with us. Our memory verse is: "Those who trust in the Lord will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak." ~ Isaiah 40:31 NIV

Join us in the Children's Wing for our Sunday School and Worship Opportunities!

- Early Service Childcare: 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
- Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
- First Kids Worship: 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
- First Kids Sunday Night: 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.



KIDS CHRISTMAS BASH

Get ready for a night full of Christmas fun at our Kids Christmas Bash on Friday, December 5th from 5:30-9:00 p.m. in the Student Center! This event is open to kids of all ages (with care provided for little ones). Enjoy a festive evening filled with games, crafts, and Christmas cheer – plus dinner is provided! There's a recommended donation of \$25 per child or \$50 per household, with all proceeds supporting Youth Summer Mission Trips. **RSVP using the form on our website's announcements page!**



PARENT ADVENT PARTY

Join us on **November 19th at 6:30 p.m.** in Oak Street Center Room 101/102 for a special evening just for parents! This fun gathering is a time to prepare your hearts and homes for the upcoming season. There's no cost to attend, but a donation is appreciated. **RSVP by visiting our website's announcements page!**



ADVENT WREATH CREATION

Join us on Wednesday, December 3rd, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Oak Street Center for our free Advent Wreath Creation! Come any time during the event to decorate your own wreath and prepare your home for the season. There will be a Prime Time Wednesday meal at 5:15 p.m. for those who would like to dine together; please remember to register for the meal separately. **To ensure we have enough supplies, please RSVP using the form on our website's announcements page!**



The Engage program is an opportunity to match your interests with ministry opportunities at the church. **Visit our website at firstcentenary.com/engage to take the survey!**



FIRST-CENTENARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

November 16th, 2025

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

"Aligned In Vision"
Psalm 133
Rev. Jason Gattis

The Vine Services:
10:45 a.m.

"Aligned In Vision"
Psalm 133
Rev. Dr. Will Lauderback

Mustard Tree Services:
5:00 p.m.

The Vine
Rev. Barry Kidwell

Lectionary Readings:

Isaiah 65:17-25
Isaiah 12 (UMH 839)
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19

WDEF-TV Televised Sermons:
11:30 a.m. Sundays & 12:35 a.m. Mondays

"Aligned In Heart"
Rev. Jason Gattis