

The FIRST-CENTENARIAN

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

VOLUME 17, NO. 15
APRIL 17, 2026

THIS WEEK AT FIRST-CENTENARY

SUN.
Apr 19th

8:30AM: Sanctuary Worship Service
9:30AM: Sunday School
9:30AM: Words of Isa
9:45AM: Coffee with the Pastor
10:45AM: Sanctuary and The Vine Worship Services
12:00PM: Church Lunch with Chris Todd
3:30PM: Costa Rica Mission Trip Meeting
4:30PM: Sunday Night Youth Group
5:00PM: Sunday Night Worship & Dinner
5:00PM: Positive Christian Singles Walk at the Greenway

MON.
Apr 20th

10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program
7:00PM: College Worship at the Wesley Center
10:00AM: Church Staff Meeting
10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
10:00AM: Crafty Capers
10:00AM: Positive Christian Singles Coffee Talk at Jacks
10:30AM: United Women in Faith Chris Bowles Circle
12:00PM: Staff-Parish Relations Committee Meeting
3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program
7:00PM: College Small Group at the Wesley Center

TUES.
Apr 21st

Wesley Heritage Tour
10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
11:00AM: Postitive Christian Singles Bowling
3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program
4:45PM: Youth Program
5:00PM: College Program
5:15PM: Prime Time Wednesday Meal
6:00PM: Children's Program
6:30PM: Prime Time Classes
7:00PM: Chancel Choir

WED.
Apr 22nd

10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
11:00AM: Wesley's Table: Free College Lunch at the Wesley
1:30PM: Aldersgate Vibrations
3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program
7:00PM: College Small Group at the Wesley Center

THURS.
Apr 23rd

10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program
4:30PM: Confirmation Retreat

FRI.
Apr 24th

SAT.
Apr 25th

Confirmation Retreat
12:00PM: National Faith + Climate Forum

THE CENTENARY IS HIRING FOR SUMMER!



Interested in working with kids this summer? The Centenary is hiring group leaders for their program which will be **June 1st to July 24th from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at \$14-\$16 an hour.** Lead a group of 10 to 13 amazing students as they explore the outdoors, great books, sports, dance, art, swim time and much more!

To apply, submit a form at firstcentenary.com/the-centenary-employment or contact Mary Grey Moses at mgmoses@firstcentenary.com or Monique Strickland at mstrickland@firstcentenary.com.



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FIRSTCENTENARY.COM





CLERGY CORNER

Rev. Caroline Archer

My favorite thing about Springtime is that there are so many small moments that

are an invitation to celebrate resurrection.

In listening to David George Haskell's book, *The Forest Unseen*, the chapter on mosses shared of their remarkable transformation between dry and wet conditions. Haskell says, "They smell of earth and life, and their beauty rises exponentially with nearness." What else has beauty that rises exponentially with nearness?

On the days I'm lucky enough to work from home, I enjoy taking breaks to walk aimlessly around our yard and visit everything in bloom or on its way there. Can I sit with a flower long enough to share a picnic with a bee? Or lay down in the sunshine for 15 minutes listening? Step away from the last moments of work into swinging with my kids in the backyard? Stay still enough during a bluebird's visit to our front window that I don't scare her away?

Each blessing that comes with Spring encourages me to lean in - to see up close what I cannot from far away. What would I see if I can bring the same intentional approach to my prayers?

"Draw near to God and God will draw near to you" - James 4:8

~ Caroline



NATIONAL FAITH + CLIMATE FORUM

Join faith leaders and community members at First-Centenary for a live watch party of the National Faith + Climate Forum 2026 on **April 25th at 12:00 p.m. in the Oak Street Center Room 101/102**. Experience a day of powerful discussions, engaging workshops, and community building as we explore the intersection of faith and environmental action.

Come be part of a movement towards sustainable congregational practices and robust community resilience. Let's inspire and support each other in acts of faith that care for creation and advocate for climate justice. **To register, visit Creation Care Ministry's website at firstcentenary.com/creation-care-ministry.**



CHURCH CAMP

Church Camp is happening **May 22nd-24th at Camp Lookout!** Come spend a weekend of rest and community with us in the great outdoors. We'll enjoy classic camp activities for all ages including archery, crafts, zip-line, hiking, and swimming, along with times of worship and spiritual renewal. Whether you're looking to slow down or spend quality time with family, this weekend is for you. **Cost is \$50 per person or \$150 for families of three or more (meals are included).** Visit our website's announcements page at firstcentenary.com/announcements to register. **Space is limited, so be sure to sign up soon!**

NUNSENSE

Oak Street Playhouse is excited to present **Nunsense in the Flo Summit Theater on April 24th-26th, April 30th - May 3rd at 7:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Sundays!** This hilarious musical comedy follows the Little Sisters of Hoboken as they scramble to raise money for burials after their cook, Sister Julia, Child of God, accidentally poisons 52 of the sisters. Their solution? Put on a wildly entertaining variety show in the school auditorium—currently set for the eighth grade production of *Grease*. Join us for an evening of laughter and fun as these spirited sisters take the stage!



To purchase tickets visit: firstcentenary.com/the-oak-street-playhouse



This month our Preschool kiddos will be learning that we have so much to celebrate! Jesus is alive! And Jesus wants to be our friend forever! News that is this good is too good to keep to ourselves! Our monthly verse is "I have called you friends." (John 15:15 NIV)

The Elementary kiddos will be celebrating this month that Jesus is alive! We can have joy because of what Jesus did for us. Our monthly verse is: Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful! (Philippians 4:4, 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.



VBS

Mark your calendars! Vacation Bible School will be **June 22nd - 26th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.** and it's going to be an exciting week filled with faith, fun, music, and so much more. Step through the mist into Rainforest Falls, overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees and colorful creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids plunge into a life-long adventure, discovering the nature of God, and exploring what it means to be rooted in relationship with their creator, a safe place in life's storms. **To register visit: vbspro.events/p/b80f93**



WORDS OF ISA

Chris Todd will be joining us on **April 19th and 20th** to give an update from our mission partner in Lebanon, Words of Isa. He will be in all of our morning worship services, offer a Q&A during Sunday School, and have a lunch gathering after 10:45 worship.



COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR

Do you want to know more about First-Centenary? Are you interested in becoming a member of First-Centenary? Or, do you simply want to get to know the Senior Pastor? Then join Pastor Jason on **April 19th at 9:45 a.m. in the executive conference room located outside the pastor's office** for Coffee with the Pastor!



CAMP LOOKOUT DAY

Join us on **May 3rd at 10:45 a.m. in The Vine during the worship service** for Camp Lookout Day! Come discover the different camp sessions available this summer, ask questions, and get excited about an unforgettable experience at Camp Lookout! **To learn more, visit camplookout.com.**

2026 ANNUAL REPORT

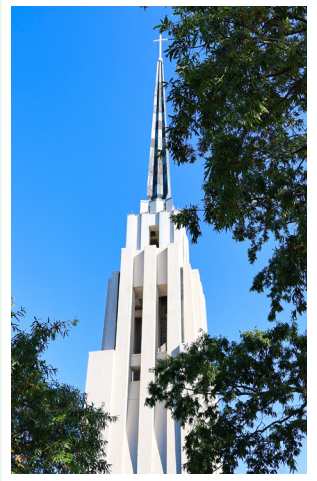
TO THE CHARGE CONFERENCE OFFICERS & LEADERS

To read the full annual report of our 2026 officers and leaders visit our website at firstcentenary.com/2026-leadership or scan the QR code.



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EASTER SUNDAY 2026!



SUNDAY WORSHIP

April 19th, 2026

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

"Let's Be Real"
 Luke 24:36-48
 Rev. Jason Gattis

The Vine Service:
 10:45 a.m.

"A Strangely Warmed Faith: Prevenient Grace"
 Luke 24:13-35
 Rev. Dr. Will Lauderback

Mustard Tree Service:
 5:00 p.m.

The Vine
 Rev. Barry Kidwell

Lectionary Readings:

Exodus 15:1-11
 Psalms 111
 1 Peter 1:3-9
 John 20:19-31

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

"Our Images of Christ"
 Rev. Jason Gattis