

The FIRST-CENTENARIAN

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

VOLUME 17, NO. 13
APRIL 3RD, 2026

THIS WEEK AT FIRST-CENTENARY

SUN.
Apr 5th

Easter Sunday
8:30AM: Sanctuary and The Vine Worship Services
9:30AM: Sunday School
10:45AM: Sanctuary and The Vine Worship Services
4:30PM: Sunday Night Youth Group
5:00PM: Sunday Night Worship & Dinner
5:00PM: Positive Christian Singles Walk at Northgate Mall

MON.
Apr 6th

Church Offices Closed
3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program
5:30PM: United Women in Faith Meeting

TUES.
Apr 7th

10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
10:00AM: Crafty Capers
10:00AM: Positive Christian Singles Coffee Talk at Jacks
3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program

WED.
Apr 8th

10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
11:00AM: Positive Christian Singles Bowling
1:30PM: Staff-Parish Relations Committee Meeting
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
6:30PM: Creation Care Meeting
7:00PM: Chancel Choir

THURS.
Apr 9th

10:00AM: Garden Mission
10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
1:30PM: Aldersgate Vibrations
3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program
5:30PM: The Centenary Parent's Night

FRI.
Apr 10th

10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program

SAT.
Apr 11th

No events scheduled

SCRIPTURE SPOTLIGHT

"Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her."

~ John 20:17-18



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CLERGY CORNER

On Sunday evenings I have been leading us through the Sermon on the Mount through the Lenten season. I look at it from the perspective of a heart that God sees or the Heart that will see God. I believe that Jesus gave us these teachings because this is what the nature of the Kingdom of God will be like. Christians and non-Christians alike have recognized the importance of these teachings. I believe that those of us who take these three chapters of Matthew seriously will find that our lives will be changed. In fact, our wonderful founder John Wesley took these passages very seriously. Thirty percent of his doctrinal sermons (13 of 44) are on the Sermon on the Mount. What Wesley wanted to do was give the truths of Jesus to the common people. That is pretty much what Jesus intended as well. I believe though, that the church often loses sight of these important truths. Peacemakers, merciful, humble people seem to be the exception and not the norm in today's world, even in the Church. I don't know what you reflected on through the season of Lent, but I encourage you to reflect on the Sermon on the Mount between Easter and Pentecost. Take these words seriously and ask how God wants to change you with these truths that have changed so many people. Jesus, I believe, wanted to lead us into the heart of God with these words. Open these words and see the heart of God. He already sees what's in yours and mine.

Geaux Tigers,
Barry



Celebrate the joy of the Resurrection with us on Easter Sunday, **April 5th!** Services will be held in **The Vine at 8:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m., and 5:00 p.m.**, and in **the Sanctuary at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.** Come experience the hope, renewal, and celebration of new life that Easter brings, and share this special day with our church family.

EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATING THE RISEN CHRIST SANCTUARY WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

Sanctuary Worship at 8:30 and 10:45 on Easter Sunday morning will be a glorious celebration of the risen Christ. The Altar Guild will decorate the Sanctuary with Easter lilies, and the sounds of joyous liturgy and music will inspire us as we rejoice in the miracle of Easter. The services will begin with music by brass and organ. Then the Chancel Ringers will accompany the Christ candle in the opening procession. The candle symbolizes the presence of the risen Christ among us. The choir has prepared two anthems, the first is an exhilarating piece titled *The Tomb Stands Open Wide!* (Craig Courtney) and the second, a setting of *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds* (John Behnke). Rev. Jason Gattis will bring the morning message. Join us for worship on this festival day!

"Be Still"

Week 7: In the Stillness of the Morning... Resurrection Happens
Scripture: John 20:1-18

Early in the morning on the first day of the week... As we read the Easter story, may we be inspired by the women who were the first to see the resurrected Christ. Set aside some time each morning this week to meet with God and to listen to God's resurrection hope for your life.



EASTER PHOTOS

Easter photos will be published to our website and on our Facebook page a few weeks after April 5th.

Website Access:

Visit firstcentenary.com/easter-2026 and select any album to save your photo.

Facebook Access:

Visit facebook.com/FirstCentenary/, select the photos tab, and then select the album "Easter 2026" to save your photo.



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, NIRV)

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.

PALM SUNDAY 2026!



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.



Join us on **April 14th at 9:30 a.m.** at **Camp Lookout** for Senior Adult Day! There will be presentations, devotions, food, fellowship, and more. Our special guests include Rev. Jason Stubblefield, Rev. Jason Gattis, Rev. Charles Maynard, Grant Morgan, LeRae Collins, and Mike Feely, Check-In starts at 9:30 a.m. and the event ends at 1:30 p.m. **Cost is \$15 and the deadline to sign up is April 9th by noon.** Call the camp office at 706-820-1163 or email admin@camplookout.com to let us know you're coming!



Fresh Greens, Fresh Ideas will take place on **April 12th at 12:15 p.m. in the Youth Dining Room!** We'll provide fresh salads—just bring your ideas as we gather to dream about what "United Women in Faith" can look like together. This will be a relaxed, open conversation shaped by your thoughts for the future of UWF. Whether you're already involved or simply curious about getting connected, you're invited to join us!

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EGGSTRAVAGANZA 2026!



SUNDAY WORSHIP

April 5th, 2026

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

"In the Stillness of the Morning...
 Resurrection Happens"
 John 20:1-18
 Rev. Jason Gattis

The Vine Service:
10:45 a.m.

"In the Stillness of the Morning...
 Resurrection Happens"
 John 20:1-18
 Rev. Dr. Will Lauderback

Mustard Tree Service:
5:00 p.m.
The Vine
 Rev. Barry Kidwell

Lectionary Readings:
 Jeremiah 31:1-6
 Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24
 Acts 10:34-43
 John 20:1-18

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

"The Tension of the In-Between"
 Rev. Jason Gattis