

The FIRST-CENTENARIAN

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

VOLUME 17, NO. 20
JUNE 12, 2026

THIS WEEK AT FIRST-CENTENARY

SUN.
Jun 14th

8:30AM: Sanctuary Worship Service
9:30AM: Sunday School
10:45AM: Sanctuary and The Vine Worship Services
12:30PM: United Women in Faith Parking Cars
4:30PM: Sunday Night Youth Group
5:00PM: Sunday Night Worship & Dinner
5:00PM: Positive Christian Singles Walk at the Greenway

MON.
Jun 15th

8:00AM: The Centenary Summer Program
10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
10:00AM: Youth Triple P

TUES.
Jun 16th

8:00AM: The Centenary Summer Program
10:00AM: Church Staff Meeting
10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
10:00AM: Crafty Capers
10:00AM: Positive Christian Singles Coffee Talk at Jacks
2:00PM: Vacation Bible School Volunteer Training

WED.
Jun 17th

8:00AM: The Centenary Summer Program
10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
11:30AM: Positive Christian Singles Cookie Jar
4:45PM: Youth Wednesday Night Program

THURS.
Jun 18th

8:00AM: The Centenary Summer Program
10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry

FRI.
Jun 19th

Church offices closed

SAT.
Jun 20th

No events scheduled



VBS

Mark your calendars! Vacation Bible School will be **June 22nd - 26th from 9:00a.m. to 12:15p.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 AND DONATE visit:
vbspro.events/p/b80f93



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:
@FIRSTCENTENARY

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
FIRSTCENTENARY.COM





CLERGY CORNER

Rev. Mary Thompson

I am in a season of feeling immense gratitude, but I frequently struggle with how to show my appreciation. Stumbling blocks happen when I want to write someone a thank you card but think, "if I write them a thank you card, shouldn't I write everyone who has done that same thing a thank you card?" This, of course, is a silly reason to prevent a person from expressing thankfulness, but nonetheless, impairs me at times and I am guessing others too.

Paul tells the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus," I often hear this paraphrased as "give thanks in all times." I think this may feel unfeasible for some because they interpret it to mean to give thanks for all things, rather than to give thanks in all times. There is a distinction between the two that is important to note. We are not asked to be thankful for a natural disaster that destroyed our home, but instead to give thanks to God for any number of things, like our health and safety despite the storm.

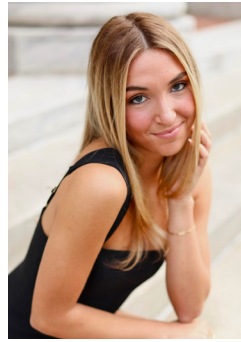
One thing my husband and I insist on for our family is saying a blessing before eating a meal. Both of us worked at United Methodist summer camps as young adults so we know a plethora of blessings that are sung and have hand motions. Despite teaching our kids tons of "fun" blessings, they both quickly volunteer to say the blessing before meals and always do the same one, "Thank you God for this food and the hands that prepared it." My suspicion is they prefer this one because it is the shortest and allows them to eat quicker. We allow this one to be said though because it is giving gratitude for both God and the people God used to provide the nourishment we need.

I hope the way my children say the blessing at dinner can remind us all that gratitude doesn't have to be elaborate. We can and should be thankful in all times and give thanks in the ways we are able to at that time.

~ Mary

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2026

High School Graduates:



SOFIA BELL
GRADUATED FROM:
The Baylor School

NEXT STEPS:
Plans to study International Business at San Diego State University



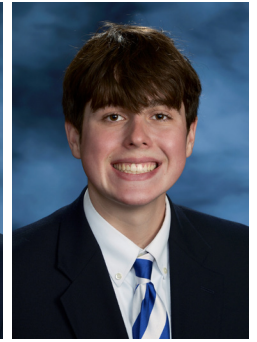
THOMAS CULBERTSON
GRADUATED FROM:
Ivy Academy

NEXT STEPS:
Plans to study Wildlife, Fisheries, and Aquaculture at Mississippi State University



CALDER GANT
GRADUATED FROM:
McCallie School

NEXT STEPS:
Plans to study Environmental Science at Davidson College



JD GANT
GRADUATED FROM:
McCallie School

NEXT STEPS:
Plans to study Landscape Architecture at Mississippi State University



WILL GOODYEAR
GRADUATED FROM:
Red Bank High School

NEXT STEPS:
Plans to study Business at Chattanooga State Community College and get a real estate license



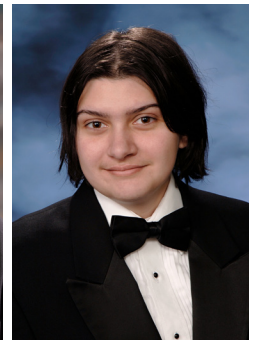
ANSLEY LOYD
GRADUATED FROM:
Notre Dame High School

NEXT STEPS:
Plans to study Business Management at the University of Alabama



NATHAN STRICKLAND
GRADUATED FROM:
Chattanooga Preparatory School

NEXT STEPS:
Plans to study Cinematography at Savannah College of Art and Design



JONAH VANDER WILT
GRADUATED FROM:
Chattanooga Central High School

NEXT STEPS:
Plans to study Music at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

College Graduates:

ELLA DUNKELBERGER
JENNIFER VANDERGRIF
MARY HAISTEN GATTIS
CAMPBELL HOSS

AUDRA BELL
MARIA COOPER
COOPER BELL
MARY GRANT



FCCOLLEGE OCOEE RAFTING

fcCollege Summer events continue with Ocoee Rafting on **June 27th!** Join us for an exciting day on the river as we head to Ocoee for white water rafting. We'll **meet at the church at 12:00 p.m.** and carpool over. **The cost is \$10 and lunch is included for everyone.** Be sure to **RSVP and pay by contacting Kirsten at kshipp@firstcentenary.com.**



Our Preschool Summer theme is Kingdom Quest! The quest for God's kingdom begins with Jesus. Jesus told stories about God's kingdom because He wants people to know that God loves them and that God wants good things for them. Our monthly verse is "Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10 NIV).

Our Elementary Summer theme is: Kingdom Quest! The quest for God's kingdom begins with knowing the King, Jesus. When we choose to follow Jesus and learn to know Him more, we are given the amazing mission of helping grow God's kingdom through the power of the Holy Spirit. Our monthly verse is: "May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven" (Matthew 6:10 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.

2026 FIRST KIDS SUMMER KICKOFF!



YOUTH TRIPLE P DAYS

Youth Triple P Days are back! Join us on **June 15th, June 22nd, July 13th, and July 27th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** for a fun-filled day of adventure. Students will meet at the Student Center before heading out for each day's activities, so come ready for a great time and bring a friend along! **For more information, contact Tori at tcrook@firstcentenary.com.**



SUMMER CHOIR

It's almost time for summer choir! Join us on Sundays, **July 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th and August 2nd and 9th.** Meet in the **choir room at 10:15 a.m.** to prepare for the 10:45 a.m. worship service. Children (with an adult), youth and adults are welcome!

CELEBRATING PASTOR BARRY!

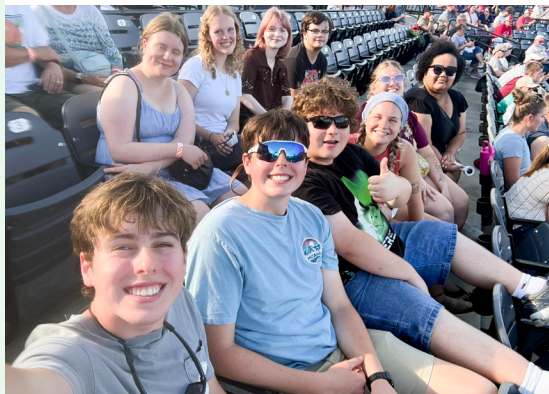
Join us on Sunday, June 28th, following the 10:45 a.m. worship service for a Retirement Reception honoring Pastor Barry. Stop by the Bridge as we celebrate and express our gratitude for his years of service to our church family.

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 Chattanooga, TN 37402
 Senior Pastor:
 Rev. Jason Gattis
 (423) 756-2021
 www.firstcentenary.com



2026 FCCOLLEGE SUMMER KICKOFF!



SUNDAY WORSHIP

June 14th, 2026

June 21st, 2026

Sanctuary Services:
8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
 "One Purpose"
 Philippians 2:1-15
 Rev. Barry Kidwell

Sanctuary Services:
8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
 "Overcoming Our Giants"
 I Samuel 17:4-11, 48-50
 Rev. Jason Gattis

The Vine Service:
10:45 a.m.
 "Now Hiring"
 Matthew 9:35-38
 Rev. Jason Gattis

The Vine Service:
10:45 a.m.
 "Priorities"
 Matthew 10:24-39
 Rev. Dr. Will Lauderback

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

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

Lectionary Readings:
 Genesis 18:1-15 (21:1-7)
 Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19
 Romans 5:1-8
 Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

Lectionary Readings:
 Genesis 21:8-21
 Psalms 86:1-10, 16-17
 Romans 6:1b-11
 Matthew 10:24-39

WDEF-TV Televised Sermons:
11:30 a.m. Sundays & 12:35 a.m. Mondays
 "The Compassion of Christ"
 Rev. Jason Gattis

WDEF-TV Televised Sermons:
11:30 a.m. Sundays & 12:35 a.m. Mondays
 "One Purpose"
 Rev. Barry Kidwell