

# The FIRST-CENTENARIAN

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

VOLUME 17, NO. 21  
JUNE 26, 2026

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST-CENTENARY

**SUN.**  
Jun 28th

High School Mission Trip  
**8:30AM:** Sanctuary Worship Service  
**9:30AM:** Sunday School  
**10:45AM:** Sanctuary and The Vine Worship Services  
**12:00PM:** Pastor Barry Kidwell's Retirement Reception  
**12:00PM:** Free College Lunch  
**4:30PM:** Sunday Night Youth Group  
**5:00PM:** Sunday Night Worship & Dinner  
**5:00PM:** Positive Christian Singles Walk at the Greenway

**MON.**  
Jun 29th

High School Mission Trip  
**8:00AM:** The Centenary Summer Program  
**10:00AM:** ABIDE Respite Ministry

**TUES.**  
Jun 30th

High School Mission Trip  
**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

**WED.**  
Jul 1st

High School Mission Trip  
**8:00AM:** The Centenary Summer Program  
**10:00AM:** ABIDE Respite Ministry

**THURS.**  
Jul 2nd

High School Mission Trip  
**8:00AM:** The Centenary Summer Program  
**10:00AM:** ABIDE Respite Ministry  
**10:00AM:** ABIDE Caregiver's Support Group

**FRI.**  
Jul 3rd

High School Mission Trip  
Church offices closed

**SAT.**  
Jul 4th

High School Mission Trip  
**10:00AM:** Creation Care Devotional Hike  
**11:30AM:** Positive Christian Singles Lunch at McAlisters

## MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION WEEK 2026!



**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:**  
**@FIRSTCENTENARY**

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**FIRSTCENTENARY.COM**





## CLERGY CORNER

A few of you have asked, "What is an Executive Pastor and what does an Executive Pastor do?" I would like to take this opportunity to

answer that question and explain why we now have one at First-Centenary.

An Executive Pastor can serve in a number of different capacities, but is essentially the same as any executive in a business or company; a clergy with high level administrative and/or managerial authority. In our case, Rev. Mary Thompson is serving as Executive Pastor with authority over finances and administration of the church. This is a role she will grow into over the next twelve to sixteen months that will eventually include supervisory responsibilities as well.

Your next question may be, "How is this different from the responsibilities of our previous Business Administrator?" The simple answer is that Pastor Mary serves a more strategic role working with Pastor Will and me in the vision and operation of the church. She serves with us on the Executive Team along with the chairs of trustees, finance, SPR, Church Council; and the lay leader. Her experience with generosity management will help us grow our annual giving and general endowment. Her work with processes will help us be better stewards of the gifts we have been entrusted with. Her experience in personnel management will help us develop staff related policies. In other words, in addition to making sure the financial books are up to date and bills are paid, she will take over some of what Pastor Will and I have been responsible for in the past freeing us up for consistent vision casting and community relations.

It is indeed an exciting move for us because Pastor Mary brings a wealth of knowledge and experience that will only make First-Centenary a better place to share the love and grace of Jesus Christ, not only to the community of Chattanooga, but around the world.

I encourage you to stop by and say hello to Pastor Mary. I promise, you will not be disappointed!

See you Sunday!

Pastor Jason



## 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.



## 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!



## YOUTH LOCAL MISSION WEEK

Make plans to join us for our Youth Local Mission Week, happening **July 20th - 24th**! This week is all about serving right here in our community. Each day, we'll partner with a different local organization, giving students the opportunity to volunteer, learn, and discover ways to stay involved. We'll meet daily at the **Student Center from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** and transportation to all service sites will be provided. This week is completely free, just be sure to bring a lunch each day. Don't miss this chance to make a difference close to home! **To sign up visit [firstcentenary.com/youth-ministry](http://firstcentenary.com/youth-ministry). For more information, contact Tori Crook at [tcrook@firstcentenary.com](mailto:tcrook@firstcentenary.com).**



## FCCOLLEGE MARKET & MOVIE

fcCollege is vacationing in our own backyard! We're heading to the Chattanooga Market for a fun afternoon of shopping, followed by a movie on **July 26th at 12:00 p.m. (meet at the church beforehand)**! The cost is just \$10 for the trip plus any extra spending money you'd like to bring and lunch is included. **Be sure to RSVP and pay by contacting Kirsten Shipp at [kshipp@firstcentenary.com](mailto: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.



**YOUTH TRIPLE P DAYS**

Youth Triple P Days are back! Join us on **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](mailto:tcrook@firstcentenary.com).**



**BRIDGE WHEELCHAIR LIFT UPDATE**

After a long hiatus, the bridge wheelchair lift is once again operational. Although repairs were delayed because the manufacturer went out of business, the necessary parts have been sourced and installed. We are pleased to once again provide this service for our members with mobility issues.



**POPSICLES IN THE PARK**

Cool off with us at Popsicles in the Park on **July 12th at 2:00 p.m. at Riverview Park!** Come enjoy a sweet treat, spend time in the sun, and connect with friends. There will also be activities for the kids!

**INTEREST GROUP FOR SENIOR ADULTS**

Are you interested in more opportunities for senior adults to connect and have fun together? We'd love for you to join us for an informational meeting on Sunday, **July 12th, at 9:45 a.m. in the Chapel.** Whether you have suggestions to share, would like to help plan future events, or simply want to learn more about the new program, we invite you to come be a part of the conversation. **For more information, please contact Harriett Rosebrough at 704-942-8218.** We hope to see you there!

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 Rev. Jason Gattis  
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## SUNDAY WORSHIP

June 28th, 2026

July 5th, 2026

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

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

"Who Pulls Your Chains?"  
 Romans 6:12-23  
 Rev. Jason Gattis

"The Most Important Thing"  
 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30  
 Rev. Jason Gattis

**The Vine Service:**  
 10:45 a.m.

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 10:45 a.m.

"Success!"  
 Acts 20:13-24  
 Rev. Barry Kidwell

"Faith Stories: Abraham"  
 Genesis 15  
 Rev. Dr. Will Lauderback

**Mustard Tree Service:**  
 5:00 p.m.

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 5:00 p.m.

**The Vine**  
 Rev. Barry Kidwell

**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

"Overcoming Our Giants"  
 Rev. Jason Gattis

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 11:30 a.m. Sundays & 12:35 a.m. Mondays

" "  
 Rev. Jason Gattis