

The FIRST-CENTENARIAN

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

VOLUME 17, NO. 09
MARCH 6TH 2026

THIS WEEK AT FIRST-CENTENARY

SUN.
Mar 8th

8:30AM: Sanctuary Worship Service
9:30AM: Sunday School
9:30AM: Confirmation Classes
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.
Mar 9th

10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
2:00PM: Executive Team
3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program
6:00PM: Positive Christian Singles Game Night

TUES.
Mar 10th

10:00AM: Church Staff Meeting
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
5:15PM: Thorne Sparkman School of Religion at St. Paul's

WED.
Mar 11th

10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
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.
Mar 12th

10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
1:30PM: Aldersgate Vibrations
3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program

FRI.
Mar 13th

No events scheduled

SAT.
Mar 14th

10:00AM: Forward Support Group
1:00PM: Celebration of Life
6:00PM: United Women in Faith Parking Cars



IT'S CANDY TIME!

We're getting ready for our upcoming Eggstravaganza, and we need your help to make it extra sweet!

We're collecting:

- Individually wrapped candy
- Small toys, stickers, and trinkets that fit inside Easter eggs

Donations can be dropped off in the bins outside the worship spaces or in the Welcome Center. Thank you for helping us create a fun and joy-filled celebration for our kids and families!



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

@FIRSTCENTENARY

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

FIRSTCENTENARY.COM





CLERGY CORNER

Rev. Barry Kidwell

Football season is over and the 2026 Olympics are in the book, so there is nothing good to watch on TV, or so I thought. But

I flipped on the TV the other night and there was an old movie on: REMEMBER THE TITANS. I am not a big movie person, but this was a true story of how not everybody, but a lot of people overcame their differences through the integration of a school and football team in Alexandria, Virginia. The conclusion was, "When we have our differences, we remember the Titans!" I think our country and world have forgotten the Titans, and maybe we need to once again, not just for race relations, but in any differences we hold, REMEMBER THE TITANS!

The age old question we ask is, "Why can't we just get along?" I like the way Miles McPherson changes it to, "Are you willing to do whatever it takes to love and honor your neighbors equally?" He tells us that, "Culture always challenges those standing on the sidelines to choose a side. Who are you for? Who are you against?" In no uncertain terms, McPherson tells us who is challenging everyone to choose a side: the Accuser, the Liar. (If you are not sure who that is, read Zechariah chapter 3). The ironic thing, he adds, is that the Accuser "is speaking to both sides of the argument," widening the divisions, and turning each side more and more against the other.

What should I do? Honestly ask, "How is my heart toward people who don't agree with me?" Don't get me wrong, I believe we must speak out against injustices of the world. But I also know Jesus wept over those who would not come to Him. He did not hate and slander them. Finally, I believe that we have to engage each other in love. And when we fail to do that, recognize it and realize that is a new opportunity to start again.

"When we have our differences, we REMEMBER THE TITANS!"

And oh yeah, Geaux Tigers,
Barry



PRIME TIME WEDNESDAY

Meal: 5:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Children's Music: 6:00 p.m. & 6:15 p.m.

Classes: 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Children's, Youth, & College Programs: 6:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir: 7:00 p.m.

THIS SEASON'S CLASSES

January 14th - March 25th

Wesley Trip Course

February 25th - March 25th
led by Pastor Will in the Conference Room

The Other Side of Change: Who We Become When Life Makes Other Plans

January 14th - March 25th
led by Pastor Michelle in the Parlor

Bible Study on the Book of Zechariah

January 14th - March 25th
led by Pastor Barry in the Prigmore Room

A Different Kind of Fast

February 25th - March 25th
led by Pastor Jason in the Oak Street Center Room 101/102

DINNER INFORMATION

Please make dinner reservations by 4 p.m. Monday

Costs:

Adult Meal: \$10
Child's Meal: \$5
Family Meal: \$30

Menu: March 11th

Chicken Tetrastini, Brussels Sprouts Gratin, Garden Salad, Garlic Toast, Nut & Craisin Salad, Vegetarian Protein: Falafel, and Turtle Cheesecake Trifle



VBS REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Have you heard the news?! VBS registration is now officially open! We can't wait for another incredible week of fun. Make sure you sign up and invite a friend to join you! **Vacation Bible School will be June 22nd - 26th** this year, and it's going to be filled with faith, music, crafts, games, and so much more.

To register visit our website's announcements page: firstcentenary.com/announcements.



This month's Preschool theme is "All Star: Jesus is Amazing!" When you see something that you have never seen before, and you cannot explain how it happened, that falls into the "amazing" category. That's what people experienced when Jesus began teaching and doing miracles. They had never seen or heard anyone like Him. Jesus was amazing then, and Jesus is amazing now! Our monthly verse is "We have seen amazing things today!" (Luke 5:26 NLT)



This month our Elementary theme is "Upside Down! Treat Others the Way You Want to Be Treated." Jesus showed compassion by becoming one of us. He gave up a lot to make that happen. Jesus showed us that sometimes you have to give things up to show others just how much you care. Our monthly verse is "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves." Phillipians 2:3

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.

**Creation Care Ministry
 CREATION JUSTICE TIPS
 March 2026**



March holds us in the clutches of winter while spring beckons us to what's new— including ways of living our covenant as stewards of creation. Move to a new level of appreciation of and care for the Earth. Share these tips with your family and friends.

1. Plan for April's Earth Day (22nd)/Month.
2. Dispose of worn-out, stained, torn clothes and fabric scraps with Earth in mind.
3. Connect the dots. Climate change is affecting food prices. Super storms, drought, floods, extreme heat—all mess with food production and our budgets.
4. Be a bee saver. One in three bee species is facing risk of extinction largely because of neonicotinoid pesticides in lawncare products such as Round Up.
5. Use your influence at work. At your place of employment—in your office, on your work team—invite others to join you in doing something for the environment.
6. Watch for connections to faith. As a Sunday school class, choose a speaker, film, or panel to discuss sustainability.



The Engage program is an ongoing opportunity to match your interests with ministry opportunities at the church. **Scan this code to get started.**



MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION WEEK

We're heading back to **Camp Lookout from June 1st-5th** for an amazing week of service! This great experience is for **middle school students only** and is packed with opportunities to serve, grow, and connect with friends. **The cost is \$375 per student. To register, visit our website's announcements page at firstcentenary.com/announcements. For more information, contact Tori Crook at tcrook@firstcentenary.com.**



HIGH SCHOOL MISSION WEEK

Calling all high school students! Join us for an incredible mission experience in **Romania from June 27th to July 5th**. This trip is open to high school students only and is limited to ten participants! **The cost of the trip is \$2,500**, and all students will be required to participate in mandatory fundraising to help support the mission. Come be part of a life-changing experience of service, faith, and cultural immersion! **Contact Tori Crook at tcrook@firstcentenary.com for more information.**

"Be Still"

Week 3: Silence the Outside Noise | Scripture: John 4:5-42

Sometimes the noise in our lives is outside of our control. The choices of our parents or children. Pressures from work. Expectations from others. Political or social tension. Intentionally name that noise and hand it over to God. Ask God to open your eyes to the next faithful step towards peace in that situation.

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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 sign up for the program, submit a form at firstcentenary.com/the-centenary-employment or contact either Mary Grey Moses at mgmoses@firstcentenary.com or Monique Strickland at mstrickland@firstcentenary.com**

SUNDAY WORSHIP

March 8th, 2026

Sanctuary Services:
8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
"Silence the Outside Noise"
John 4:5-42
Rev. Jason Gattis

The Vine Service:
10:45 a.m.
"Silence the Outside Noise"
John 4:5-42
Rev. Dr. Will Lauderback

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

Lectionary Readings:
Exodus 17:1-7
Psalms 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

WDEF-TV Televised Sermons:
11:30 a.m. Sundays & 12:35 a.m. Mondays
"Internal Stillness"
Rev. Dr. Will Lauderback