

The FIRST-CENTENARIAN

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

VOLUME 17, NO. 28
SEPTEMBER 4TH, 2026

THIS WEEK AT FIRST-CENTENARY

SUN.
Sept 6th

8:30AM: Sanctuary Worship Service
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
6:00PM: Oak Street Playhouse Rehearsal

MON.
Sept 7th

Church Offices Closed
12:00PM: Positive Christian Singles Picnic

TUES.
Sept 8th

10:00AM: Church Staff Meeting
10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
10:00AM: Crafty Capers
10:00AM: Positive Christian Singles Charley's Coffee Talk
3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program
6:00PM: Oak Street Playhouse Rehearsal

WED.
Sept 9th

10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program
4:45PM: Wednesday Night Youth Program
5:15PM: Prime Time Wednesday Meal
5:45PM: JumpStart Children's Choir
6:00PM: Children's 4yr. - 1st Grade Choir
6:00PM: Chancel Ringers
6:30PM: Prime Time Wednesday Classes
6:30PM: Wednesday Night Children's Program
6:30PM: Children's Instrumental Music
6:30PM: Creation Care Meeting
7:00PM: Chancel Choir
9:00AM: Children's Enrichment Center Committee Meeting
9:00AM: Garden Mission
10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
1:30PM: Aldergates Vibrations
3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program
6:00PM: Oak Street Playhouse Rehearsal

THURS.
Sept 10th

3:00PM: The Centenary After-School Program
5:30PM: Positive Christian Singles Dinner Night at Park Place
6:30PM: United Women in Faith Parking Cars

FRI.
Sept 11th

SAT.
Sept 12th

10:00AM: Forward Grief Group



DONATE TO THE CENTENARY!

The Centenary After School Program needs your help to welcome 94 students for the 2026-27 school year! Donations of composition books, colored pencils, copy paper, index cards, highlighters, tape, glue sticks, dry erase markers, and kindergarten writing pads would be greatly appreciated. **Please drop off any donations in the Welcome Center.**



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:
@FIRSTCENTENARY

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
FIRSTCENTENARY.COM





CLERGY CORNER

Last week you received a message from me regarding the capital campaign we did in 2024 called Beyond, and an update on the

improvements that have taken place as a result of your support and generosity. I can't emphasize enough how grateful the trustees and I are for the above and beyond gifts you offered in 2025 that allowed this work to take place. In an effort for you to see the full impact of the improvements thus far, our Facilities Director, Troy Hamilton, will be leading tours of the church on Sunday September 13th and 20th following the 8:30 and 10:45 services. This will allow you to view behind the scenes areas of the church that house our boilers, chillers, air handlers, and HVAC units.

Our goal is full transparency of the funds you have entrusted to us to make these needed updates happen. I want to thank Troy and Jim for making themselves available to guide you throughout the church so that you can see firsthand some of the critical components that allow First-Centenary to be fully operational 365 days of the year.

We are truly blessed by God to have the facilities we have at First-Centenary that allow us to worship, fellowship, study, teach, and care for each other and the Chattanooga community. As we pointed out during the campaign, it is in our hands to make sure First-Centenary continues to be a vibrant light of Christ in downtown Chattanooga for the next 50 years.

In the Gospel of Matthew we find the parable of the talents where Jesus speaks to the importance of faithful stewardship. To the servants who showed promise with what they had been given we read, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness." May we go forth and do likewise!

See you Sunday.
Pastor Jason

PRIME TIME WEDNESDAY

Meal: 5:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. **Chancel Ringers:** 6:00 p.m.
Classes: 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. **Chancel Choir:** 7:00 p.m.
Children's, Youth, & College Programs: 6:30 p.m.



THIS SEASON'S CLASSES

**Salvation on Sand Mountain:
Snake Handling and Redemption in Southern Appalachia
by Dennis Covington**

led by Pastor Jason in the Prigmore Room

Saving Grace

led by Pastor Will in the Oak Street Center Room 101/102

**A Most Tolerant Little Town:
The Explosive Beginning of School Desegregation
by Rachel Martin**

led by Pastor Michelle in the Parlor

DINNER INFORMATION

Please make dinner reservations by 4 p.m. Monday

Costs:

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

Menu: September 9th

Fresh Mediterranean Pasta, Garden Salad,
Roasted Vegetables, Garlic Toast, Greek Salad,
and Boston Cream Pie Parfait



ABIDE RESPITE MINISTRY IS A FUN PLACE TO BE!

Are you looking to experience joy, compassion, and meaningful service? Join the ABIDE Respite Ministry volunteer team! We currently gather Monday through Thursday from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, and as we aspire to expand our program to Fridays. Continually growing our volunteer community is essential. Even if you are unable to volunteer your time, you can still make a difference—please consider supporting our participants by donating to either our general fund or the Al and Chris Bowles scholarship fund today!



DINNER & MOVIE NIGHT

Come out on **Wednesday, September 23rd**, for an evening of fellowship and an inspiring documentary. **Dinner will be served at 5:15 p.m., followed by the film at 6:30 p.m. in The Vine.** The movie is a compelling documentary about a nearby courageous community that took a stand against racism and oppression. **To reserve your meal, visit firstcentenary.com/announcements!**



The grocery store, doctor's office, playground, school, church... preschoolers go to a lot of places! This month's memory verse is perfect for our busy preschoolers: "God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9 ESV). Preschoolers cannot see God, but they need to know He is always with them which is why our bottom line this month is: God is always with me.



This month, we're starting a series called 'Frequency-Learning to Hear from God.' Have you ever tried to hear someone, but there was just too much noise? Or you were trying to focus, but everything just felt loud? It's not that the voice wasn't there-it was just hard to hear it. This month, we're going to discover something really important: God is speaking, and you can actually hear from Him! Our verse this month is: "My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me." John 10:27 NIV

Sunday School and Worship Opportunities

All Sunday School classes are located in the Children's Wing on the second floor.

- 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.



3RD GRADE BIBLES

Join us on September 13th at 10:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary as we celebrate our 3rd graders! During the worship service, each 3rd grader will receive their very own Bible as they continue learning more about God's Word. A reception will follow the service. We look forward to celebrating this special day with our 3rd graders and their families! For more information, contact Ellen at firstkids@firstcentenary.com.



FORWARD GRIEF GROUP

Forward is an group which offers support for those who have lost a spouse. There will seven sessions beginning **September 12th from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor.**

These groups on Saturdays, offer space for the bereaved to share experiences and begin to

find ways to step Forward into the future. **If you or someone you know is interested in joining this group, please contact the Church office at 423-756-2021.** There is no charge to participate.

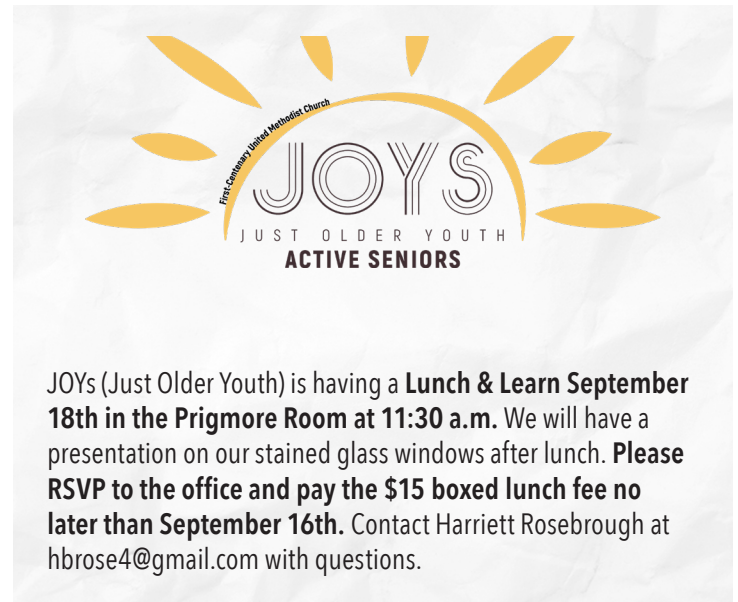


AMPLIFY MEDIA

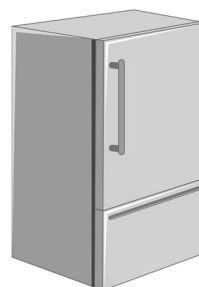
First-Centenary UMC has an account with Amplify Media where anyone who is a church member or active participant can set up a personal account to have access to this service. Think of this as like "Netflix" for bible studies, book studies, and even worship reflections. This is a great resource for

sunday schools, bible studies, small groups, or individuals. Please use the following code to set up your free account:

Congregation Access Code: WMNPZV



JOYs (Just Older Youth) is having a **Lunch & Learn September 18th in the Prigmore Room at 11:30 a.m.** We will have a presentation on our stained glass windows after lunch. **Please RSVP to the office and pay the \$15 boxed lunch fee no later than September 16th.** Contact Harriett Rosebrough at hbrose4@gmail.com with questions.



COMMUNITY FRIDGE

The College Ministry/Wesley Center is opening a Community Free Fridge and Pantry to combat student food insecurity on UTC campus. They are looking for a donation of a standard sized fridge in good condition to help with this project. If you are interested in helping, please contact Kirsten: kshipp@firstcentenary.com.

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Rev. Jason Gattis
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FCCOLLEGE ICE CREAM SOCIAL 2026



SUNDAY WORSHIP

September 6th, 2026

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

"What God Expects"
Matthew 18:15-20
Rev. Jason Gattis

The Vine Service:
10:45 a.m.

"Real Power"
Romans 12:9-21
Rev. Michelle Hunter

Mustard Tree Service:
5:00 p.m.

The Vine
Rev. Jason Gattis

Lectionary Readings:

Exodus 14:19-31
Psalm 149
Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 18:15-20

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

"I Will Be With You"
Rev. Mary Thompson