

The FIRST-CENTENARIAN

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

VOLUME 17, NO. 04
JANUARY 30TH 2026

THIS WEEK AT FIRST-CENTENARY

SUN.
Feb 1st

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.
Feb 2nd

10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry

TUES.
Feb 3rd

10:00AM: Church Staff Meeting
10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
10:00AM: Crafty Capers
10:00AM: Positive Christian Singles Coffee Talk at Jacks

WED.
Feb 4th

10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
10:30AM: The Cupboard Meeting
4:45PM: Youth Program
5:00PM: College Program
5:15PM: Prime Time Wednesday Meal
6:00PM: Children's Program
6:30PM: Prime Time Classes
7:00PM: Chancel Choir

THURS.
Feb 5th

10:00AM: ABIDE Respite Ministry
10:00AM: ABIDE Caregiver Support Group
1:30PM: Aldersgate Vibrations

FRI.
Feb 6th

5:30PM: Kids Night Out
6:00PM: UMC Movie Night: 1946

SAT.
Feb 7th

10:30AM: Forward Board Meeting
11:30AM: Positive Christian Singles Lunch at McAlister's



KIDS NIGHT OUT 2026!

Kids deserve a fun night out too! Drop kids off on **February 6th at 5:30 p.m. in the Student Center**, enjoy your evening, and know they're having a blast! This special event isn't just a great time for the kids—it's also a fundraiser for youth missions.

Suggested donation of \$25 per child with \$50 cap per family. Register now by filling out a form on our website's announcements page!



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

@FIRSTCENTENARY

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

FIRSTCENTENARY.COM





CLERGY CORNER

Brother Andrew is a Christian leader that has influenced my life in many ways. He smuggled Bibles across "The Iron Curtain" for many years. When communism fell, he began smuggling Bibles into Muslim countries that are hostile to the Gospel of Christ. Something he said stuck with me for a long time. He said he has a quote pasted in the cover of his Bible. It reads, "Either a man must be challenged or he must be entertained." He explains why by saying, "God's Word is not meant to entertain us. It is not even intended to make us happy. Rather, it is intended to make other people happy through us—when we accept the challenge God has given us to fulfill the Great Commission in whatever circumstances we find ourselves. I thought about this while attending one of those UMC meetings on a Saturday a couple of weeks ago and the speaker reminded us of our vision to make disciples. I often wonder in this world, how much of Christian worship is entertainment to get people to come back next week, and how much of it is a challenge to go make disciples. Every morning when we wake up, we should be conscious that we have the opportunity to bring Christ's presence into the relationships of our daily lives. So often I hear people say "we want our cup filled." Does that equal entertain me? I don't know. All I know is that in my 47th year of ministry, I want to stay thirsty. I don't want to ever be satisfied that I have enough of God or that I have done enough. I pray that I want to be challenged and not entertained. I haven't pasted that quote in my Bible yet, but maybe I will. What will you paste in your Bible?

Geaux Tigers,
Barry

PRIME TIME WEDNESDAY

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

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

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

The Vision of Ephesians

January 14th - February 11th

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

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

Bible Study

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:

February 4th

Alfredo Chicken Parmesan, Kale Salad, Pasta Salad, Rolls, Cobb Salad, Vegetarian Protein: Vegan Plant-Based Chik'n Strips, and Tiramisu Trifle



Interested in what our youth are learning during confirmation? Missed out on confirmation growing up? Need a refresh? Join Pastor Will in the Chapel at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays until March 29th and explore some of our foundational beliefs as Christians and as United Methodists.

February 8th: The Story of the Church

February 15th: I Believe (The Creeds)

February 22nd: The Story of Methodism, p1

March 1st: The Story of Methodism, p2

March 8th: The Way of Discipleship

March 15th: The Way of Salvation

March 22nd: Wesleyan Quadrilateral

March 29th: Worship and Sacraments



This month in Preschool our theme is Sweet Treats: Jesus Loves Me! Love is a word used for many things. We love chocolate. We love puppies. We love naps. But the love Jesus gives us is in a category all by itself. It's a love that is greater than any other love. It's a love that Jesus has for everyone, and it will never end. Our memory verse is "Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me.'" (Matthew 19:14 NLT)

This month, Elementary's theme is "Like and Subscribe! Share the Love of Jesus". God's Big Story shows how Jesus showed His love to everyone. When we follow Jesus, we can love others just like Jesus. Our memory verse is "I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you." (John 13:34, 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.

RESURRECTION 2026!



CENTENARY REPORT

See the great things that went on at The Centenary in 2025 by scanning the QR code or visiting firstcentenary.com/the-centenary.



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



Join other UMC churches from around the area for a special Movie Night on **February 6th at 6:00 p.m. in The Vine** featuring the "1946" documentary. The film explores the history of when the term "homosexual" was added to the Bible. This evening is an opportunity for learning and thoughtful conversation. Food will be available in Room 101/102, with the film screening in The Vine. A Q&A discussion will follow the screening to process and discuss the film together. **Free to attend, please visit our website to RSVP.** There will also be an optional donation opportunity to help cover the cost of the screening license.

Sponsored by: Holston LGBTQIA+ Ministries

In partnership with: Wesley Center Chattanooga, St Mark's UMC, St Luke's UMC, St Elmo UMC, and First-Centenary UMC

Childcare will be available, please register for Kids Night Out.

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



PRIME TIME WEDNESDAY



SUNDAY WORSHIP

February 1st, 2026

Sanctuary Services:

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

"Disciples' Blessings"

Matthew 5:1-12

Rev. Jason Gattis

The Vine Service:

10:45 a.m.

"The Vision of Ephesians, pt 2"

Ephesians 3:14-20, 4:1-6, and 4:20-32

Rev. Dr. Will Lauderback

Mustard Tree Service:

5:00 p.m.

The Vine

Rev. Barry Kidwell

Lectionary Readings:

Micah 6:1-8

Psalms 15

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 5:1-12

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

"Disciples' Blessings"

Rev. Jason Gattis