



POSITIVE CHRISTIAN SINGLES

First-Centenary United Methodist Church
419 McCallie Avenue | Chattanooga, TN | 37402

March 2021

Is Time Really Moving Faster These Days?



Many years ago, when Loveman's department store was on the corner of Market and Eighth streets, I was standing on that corner waiting for the traffic signal to change. A stylishly dressed young man with a British accent approached me and said, "Excuse me, mum, but what time have you?"

Although I knew he was asking what time it was, the phrasing of the question caused me to stop and consider the meaning of time. Of course, none of us know how much time we have left on planet Earth. We can, however, be sure of two things: We don't know what our futures hold, but we do know who holds the future. As Robert Browning wrote in his poem "Rabbi Ben Ezra," "Our times are in his (God's) hand." We have just one chance at life, and this is it.

It may be my imagination, but I'm convinced time is moving faster these days. When I was age 10 and yearned for Christmas and a new bike to arrive, time moved at a snail's pace. Even when I was 16 and chomping at the bit to get my driver's license, time dragged by.

After I was married and our children were born, time seemed to pick up speed. At our son's wedding in 1974 I thought, "It seems like the snap of a finger from diapers to tuxedos."

With grandchildren, the pace heightened - church and school programs, athletic events, family vacations; birthday and holiday celebrations. In 2000 at a family dinner, I suddenly realized our older grandchild, Ellen Mohny would be leaving shortly for college, and her brother Wes, would follow in three years. Some of the words of the Broadway musical "Fiddler on the Roof" filled my mind:

"Is this the little girl I carried? Is this the little boy at play? I don't remember growing older, When did they? "When did she get to be a beauty? When did he grow to be so tall? Wasn't it yesterday when they were small? "Sunrise, sunset; sunrise, sunset, swiftly flow the days Seedlings turn overnight to sunflowers, blossoming even as we gaze. "Sunrise, sunset; sunrise, sunset, Swiftly fly the years. One season following another laden with happiness and tears."

Now, after both grandchildren have graduated from college and Ellen was married four years ago to Ryan Gray, we have another event that has catapulted our family into the future. On July 15, 2010, at 8:11 a.m. at Park West Hospital in Knoxville, Jackson David Gray, son of Ellen and Ryan, made his appearance into the world. If you were to observe the actions of our extended family, you'd think this is the only baby ever born. We are obnoxious in our joy!

All of this caused me to look at my life through a rearview mirror. Although I have done this from time to time for individual events, this is the first time I've done it from my earliest remembered childhood to the present day. It was a very emotional experience in which I recalled the good times and the bad, the challenges and the humdrum days, the tragedies and the triumphs.

Through it all, I saw anew that life is a gift from God and what we do with it is our gift to God. He offers, through Christ, his power and presence in this life and promise of eternal life. My response is in the words of the late Dag Hammarskjold: "For all that has been, 'thanks'; for all that will be, 'yes!'"

This article, written by the late Dr. Nell Mohny, first appeared in the Chattanooga Times Free Press.

Prayer Requests

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Larry Haik | Nancy Alton |
| Lorrie Lewis | Linda Kelly |
| Martha Wise | Lynne Kyle |
| Toni Edwards | William Coulter |
| Leo Brown | Ann Strickland |
| Marilee Mitchell | Barbara Pearson |
| Steve Kennedy | Julie Coll |

March Birthdays

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Glenda Cantrell | 3 |
| Lynne Kyle | 6 |
| Steve Kennedy | 9 |
| Randy Hales | 11 |
| Barb Wise | 16 |
| Karen Dobbs | 18 |



Re-Opening Guidelines for First-Centenary UMC

If you are interested in reading the guidelines for re-opening of the church please go to:
www.firstcentenary.com/re-opening

We have gone to Phase 2 and will be having in-person & virtual services

Positive Christian Singles March 2021

First-Centenary United Methodist Church • 419 McCallie Avenue • Chattanooga, TN 37402 • 423-756-2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Fri | Sat |
|---|--------|---------|-----------|----------|-----|-----|
| <p>We have gone to Phase 2. In-Person & Virtual Services Look at the First-Centenarian Newsletter for information</p> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| <p>7 Worship In-Person & Virtually The Vine/Sanctuary 10:45 a.m. Walk/Northgate Mall 4 p.m. meet @ Applebee's (Mask is required up to 10)</p> | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| <p>14 Worship In-Person & Virtually The Vine/Sanctuary 10:45 a.m. Walk/Northgate Mall meet @ Applebee's (Mask is required up to 10)</p> | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| <p>21 Worship In-Person & Virtually The Vine/Sanctuary 10:45 a.m. Walk/Northgate Mall 4 p.m. meet @ Applebee's (Mask is required up to 10)</p> | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| <p>28 Palm Sunday Worship In-Person & Virtually The Vine/Sanctuary 10:45 a.m. Walk/Northgate Mall 4 p.m. meet @ Applebee's (Mask is required up to 10)</p>  | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |



“LIKE” us on Facebook @
Positive Christian Singles

No alcohol is served/consumed at
Positive Christian Singles activities.

New Perspectives Sunday School Class

Meets each Sunday at 10:45 a.m. via Zoom with Barbara Kay as the teacher. Email Barbara at bkay2011@att.net to join the group. She will send you the zoom link.

Nell Mohney Sunday School Class

Receive a lesson each Sunday from Jim and Rhonda Catanzaro. Contact Rhonda at nmsinglessundayschool@gmail.com

Mission Statement

Positive Christian Singles is a Christian outreach ministry of the First Centenary United Methodist Church. Our mission is to provide a safe nondenominational Christian environment for adults who find themselves single, due to death of a spouse or divorce, begin a new life and make new friends. We serve those who have never married and singles relocating to the Chattanooga area.

Sunday Worship Services online at www.firstcentenary.com

10:45 a.m. – Sanctuary

10:45 a.m. – The Vine, also on Facebook

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Contact us at (423) 756-2021

Newsletter Online:

www.firstcentenary.com/singles

www.positivechristiansingles.com