

The First-Centurian

Volume 13, No. 23

January 28, 2022

Vision Statement of First-Centenary United Methodist Church: *Build a healthy and diverse community of disciples of Jesus Christ.*



Wednesdays In Lent 2022 Faith and The Environment

Thorne Sparkman
SCHOOL OF RELIGION
Hosted at
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
305 West Seventh St.
Downtown Chattanooga

MARCH 9

The Rev. Fletcher Harper

MARCH 16

Sr. Madeline Mary

MARCH 23

Dr. Andy Thompson

MARCH 30

The Rev. Dr. Leah Schade

APRIL 6

Dr. Sandy Kurtz

5:15 P.M. HOLY EUCHARIST
5:45 P.M. DINNER
6:30 P.M. KEYNOTE SPEAKER

To register go to:
thornesparkman.org

I wish I could personally thank everyone who donated toys and gift cards for us to give out this Christmas through Mustard Tree Ministries. It is always humbling to me, and those that go out with me, to hear some of the responses for the things that we are able to help supply them with.

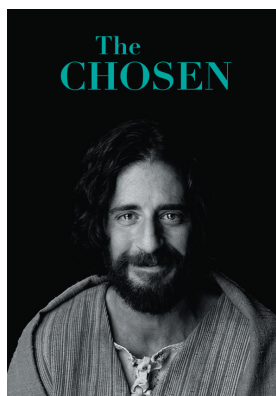
To hear a grandmother, go on about how a few Hot Wheels cars are "really going to make these boy's Christmas". To have a mom say, "that's the perfect doll for my baby girl." To have another mother ask if she can have a giant pink stuffed bear for her special needs' daughter saying, "Oh, she will sleep with this, I never dreamed I could get her one of these." To know that families could buy a turkey or ham for the holiday meal. For one Hispanic pastor to say, "Now every kid in our church will get a toy for Christmas."

Thanks just seems like too small of a word. But, thanks. We were able to supply toys into East Lake Courts, College Hill Courts and to the Hispanic community, as well as to other families scattered around the Chattanooga area.

Thanks again, Barry



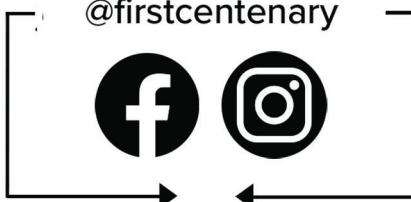
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



A small group based on the widely acclaimed series, *The Chosen*, will be offered at the church on Sunday afternoons at 3:30 p.m., beginning February 6 and lasting 8 weeks. It will be led by Diana Kidwell and Lynn Stutts, and will meet in Room 101-102 in Oak Street Center. It may also be live-streamed or on Zoom if there is an interest. Please register by calling the church office.

The Chosen is a multi-season television drama about Jesus Christ. Series creator Dallas Jenkins wanted to create a series about Jesus that could dig deeper into the people who encountered Jesus and to see Jesus through the eyes of those who met him, but also to show him in a way that is more "personal, intimate, immediate."

STAY CONNECTED
@firstcentenary



Confirmation

Confirmation 2022

After a two-year hold, due to COVID19, Confirmation will resume on February, 6, 2022. Our church has traditionally held Confirmation for 6th grade students. However, we are starting a new tradition of Confirmation. From now on, Confirmation classes will be held for 8th grade students. Although, these classes are intended for 8th grade students all youth interested are welcome to attend.

Contact Troy Hamilton for more information - troy@fcumc.org.

CLERGY CORNER

Bob Pierce was the founder of World Vision and after leaving there became the founder of Samaritan's Purse also. He once said, "Don't fail to do something just because you can't do everything." I know a couple from Virginia that live in Slovakia. They started a ministry in one of the cities there where they took over an old gym and turned it into a school for the Romany children. The education system of Slovakia still classifies Romany children as "special needs" and will not allow them to mainstream into regular education. They wish that they could fix the whole education system of Slovakia, but they can't. Did they come home because they can't fix the whole system? No, they decided they could at least do something for the children in that one area. So, they learned Slovak and the local Roma dialect and started a school for those that lived in the slum there. They can't educate every Romany child, but they can educate some.

When we look at magnitude of human suffering in our world today, we can get overwhelmed. But, we are not asked to help everybody at once. No one can possibly do this on their own. We are only asked to help one at a time. Jesus said in Matthew 25, "Whenever you have done it to the least of any of these...." You may have the means to help more than one at a time,



Rev. Barry Kidwell

Prime Time Wednesday

Dinner at 5:15 and Classes at 6 p.m.
Youth & Children's programs start at 6 p.m.



Prime Time Wednesday – February 2

Grief Recovery Group with Diana Kidwell

The Grief Recovery Method is an evidence-based program that helps griever process the emotional pain caused by any loss or relationship. Taught by a Grief Recovery Method Specialist, this class (6-7:30) will teach you the actions and tools needed to recover from a loss that you wish had ended differently or better and will give you a chance to address your hopes and dreams for the future.

For more information please contact Diana at 1dianakidwell@gmail.com

Scripture Study with Pastor Mark
Join Sr. Pastor, Dr. C. Mark Gooden, for an in-depth discussion of the upcoming Sunday's scripture passage.

The Gospel of Mark with Pastor Will

Join Pastor Will Lauderback for an in-depth study of the Gospel of Mark. See the schedule below and read ahead of time so you can be in conversation about the text with thoughts and questions.

February 2 – Mark 7-8

February 9 – Mark 9-10

February 16 – Mark 11-13

February 23 – Mark 14-16

DINNER INFORMATION

Adults – \$10 each (meal or salad) **Children** – \$5; 3 & under free **Family max** – \$30
Please make dinner reservations by 4 p.m. Monday.

Go to firstcentenary.com/prime-time-wednesday for dinner reservations.

February 2 – Alfredo Chicken Pasta, Garden Salad, Garlic Bread, Strawberry Chocolate Trifle, Cobb Salad

Romania Update...

Hey folks, I have been talking to Samuel in Romania and he is hoping to be finishing the outside of the church in May. If Covid doesn't interfere, we are hoping to get a group together to go there leaving May 2 and returning May 9.

If you are interested, let me know soon. I will set a cut off date soon, so be in prayer and let me know if you would like to go.

— Barry Kidwell

CLERGY CORNER (cont'd)

but I think we all have the means to help at least one at a time. Here are just three things to remember as we consider God's directive on our lives to be in mission in this world:

- 1) Everyone of the hurting people that we see is someone created in God's image and therefore someone He loves.
- 2) Every challenge that we face has a solution.
- 3) Everyone of us can make a difference.

Yeah, I stole that from Bob Pearce too.

— Geaux Tigers, Barry



Spiritual Formation in Today's World

A One-Year Online Offering from
The Academy for Spiritual Formation

Featuring Four, Three-day Sessions in 2022 with:



Chava Bahle



Hy Xuan Le



Valerie
Bridgeman



Cláudio
Carvalhaes

Apply by February 11, 2022

Spiritual Formation in Today's World: A One-Year Online Community – 2022

Spiritual Formation in Today's World: A One-Year Online Offering from The Academy for Spiritual Formation (Upper Room Ministries) will be offered completely online using the Zoom platform. This experience will consist of four, three-day sessions with one faculty person each session. Dr. Jan McNair is serving as the Worship and Music coordinator for this event.

Session 1: Meeting God in Our Longing

February 24-26, 2022 (Thurs – Sat)

Faculty: Rabbi Chava Bahle

Session 2: Meeting God in Our Healing

May 12-14, 2022 (Thurs – Sat)

Faculty: Hy Xuan Le

Session 3: Meeting God in Our Reconciling

August 11-13, 2022 (Thurs – Sat)

Faculty: Valerie Bridgeman

Session 4: Meeting God in Our Justice-Seeking

October 27-29, 2022 (Thurs – Sat)

Faculty: Cláudio Carvalhaes

For more information, please contact Jan McNair by phone (423-756-2021) or email (jmcnair@fcumc.org)

Baptisms

William Peter Rennick,
son of Chandler
and Jamie Ann
Rennick, received the
Sacrament of Baptism
on January 16.



Louise Marie Roos,
daughter of Matthew
and Haley Walker
Roos, received
the Sacrament of
Baptism on
January 23.

Congregational Care Contact

Weekdays: Call the church office at 423-756-2021
or (865) 805-8929 for pastoral care.

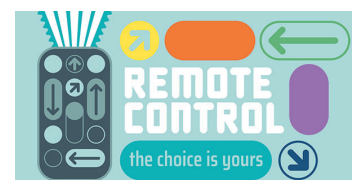
Weekend/Holiday Pastor on Call: If you have an
emergency during the weekends, call 423-756-2428.
This number will be in effect after 4:30 p.m. on Fridays
until 8 a.m. on Mondays, and will connect you
to the pastor on call.

In January the First Kids CM is focusing on SELF-CONTROL... Choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to. *God's power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life.* – 2 Peter 1:3A, NlrV

Be ready to do the right thing, for when we lose control, it can cause trouble. Don't be controlled by anger. We must think before we speak and know when to stop.

TO HEAR ALL ABOUT THIS IN PERSON JOIN US ON SUNDAYS!

- Sunday School @ 9:30-10:30 a.m.
- Children's Worship begins at 11 a.m., Elementary kiddos will be picked up from "Big Church" after the Children's Moment
- First Kids Virtual Sunday Lesson Video links will be posted on Sunday morning, beginning @ 9 a.m. for you to show your children when it fits best in your family's schedule. (Pick your own family God time!)



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Senior Pastor
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SAVE THE DATE!
VBS 2022
June 27 - July 1

SUNDAY WORSHIP

January 30, 2022

4th Sunday After the Epiphany

*Services also available online
at www.firstcentenary.com*

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

Jesus' Call on Life Can Be Troubling

Luke 4:21-30

Dr. C. Mark Gooden

The Vine at 10:45 a.m.

Thoughts About Home

Luke 4:21-30

Rev. Laura Shearer

Sunday Night Worship at 5 p.m.

Rev. Laura Shearer

Reading from the Lectionary

Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Luke 4:21-30

Televised sermon by Dr. Gooden:

Jesus Called on A Mission

Televised on Channel 12, WDEF-TV
at 6 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. each Sunday.