

The First-Centurian

Volume 12, No. 44

May 7, 2021

SUNDAY WORSHIP

May 9, 2021

6th Sunday of Easter

Services also available

online at www.firstcentenary.com

Sanctuary at 10:45 a.m.

*We Bear Witness
in Unexpected People*
Acts 10:34-48

Dr. C. Mark Gooden

The Vine at 10:45 a.m.

*We Bear Witness
in Unexpected People*
Acts 10:34-48

Rev. Will Lauderback

Reading from the Lectionary

Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98

1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17

Televised sermon by Dr. Gooden –
We Bear Witness in Unexpected Places
Televised on Channel 12, WDEF-TV
at 6 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. each Sunday.

First-Centenary UMC
PO Box 208 37401
419 McCallie Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37402
Dr. C. Mark Gooden, Senior Pastor
(423) 756-2021 www.firstcentenary.com



Congregational Care Contact

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

Weekend 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.

A message from our Senior Pastor

The church is now open under restricted Phase 2A guidelines (see www.firstcentenary.com/re-opening).

Starting May 16, the church will open under restricted Phase 3 guidelines (see www.firstcentenary.com/covid-safety-measures).

This May, the Children's Ministry is focusing on Commitment! Deciding to make a plan... then putting it into practice.



Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come. 1 Timothy 4:8, NIRV

1. Keep PRACTICING what matters most.
2. PRACTICE hearing from God.
3. PRACTICE praying to God.
4. PRACTICE talking about God.
5. PRACTICE living for God.

**Join Mrs. Beth & Mrs. Brittany
for Sunday School!**

- IN-Person ELEMENTARY Sunday School @9:45-10:30 a.m.
- First Kids Virtual Sunday Lessons ALL AGES - Video links will be posted on Sunday morning for you to show your children when it fits best in your family's schedule. (Pick your own family God time!)

Attention Seniors

We want to do something extra special for you this year.

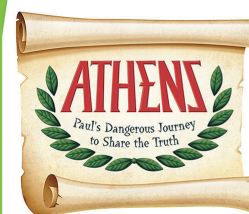
We have been cheated out of your company because of this wretched pandemic! This is a small group though and we want to treat you all with your very own Senior Retreat. We have been in contact with most of our seniors already. We are looking at doing a mid-week retreat so that everyone can go. The tentative dates are: June 6 - 8. That is Sunday (evening) through Tuesday (afternoon).



Our weekly Wednesday email will inform you of our CM activities; from Home Sunday School activities to Kid Zooms to special events. Please use the @home connections to form those important faith connections within each of your children's lives. We love you!



VBS July 19-23, 2021



Sign up or Volunteer Today!

2021 Holston Annual Conference Hands-On Mission Project for Zimbabwe

Scenic South District Goal – 400
Pack all items in a NEW 5-gallon bucket with lid. \$5 per bucket
Collection deadline: Sunday, May 30

- 1 bottle hand sanitizer (10 oz. or less)
- 1 bottle toilet cleaner (24 oz. or less)
- 1 laundry detergent (liquid OR powder, 40 loads or less)
- 1 bottle dish liquid (25 oz. or less)
- 1 bottle shampoo (15 oz. or less)
- 1 spray anti-perspirant (7 oz. or less)
- 1 bottle antibacterial hand soap (10 oz. or less)
- 1 roll paper towels

CLERGY CORNER

One of my favorite spiritual resources in the last few years has been a prayer book called *Every Moment Holy*, which provides a variety of prayers and liturgies for everyday scenarios and circumstances.



Rev. Will Lauderback

I recently prayed the "Liturgy for Those Flooded by Too Much Information" after I found myself being sucked into story after story on my phone. The prayer recounts how difficult the brokenness of this world is to hear in our 24/7 news cycle and power of Jesus to give us grace and hope in the midst of brokenness. The prayer closes with the following words and I hope that they are as much of an encouragement for you as they have been for me:

"Give us discernment in the face of troubling news reports. Give us discernment to know when to pray, when to speak out, when to act, and when to simply shut off our screens and our devices, and to simply sit quietly in your presence, casting the burdens of this world upon the strong shoulders of the one who alone is able to bear them up. Amen"

In Christ,
Will

Do you feel the calling to help end homelessness?

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, thru the FUSE program, is offering Permanent Supportive Housing to people who are homeless and disabled by mental illness. Support services are available, but finding housing is a challenge.

There is a desperate need for one-bedroom and efficiency rental units. The HCSO FUSE team is looking for landlords who would be willing to accept less than "market rate" for the rent.

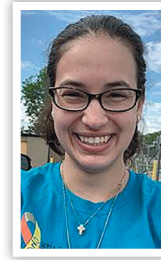
For those of you who own rental property, a member of the team would like the opportunity to talk further about this community need. Please contact Barb Bowen at BarbandBillBowen@gmail.com or call her at 423-667-1006 for more information.

On Line Giving Change

As a part of our recent website redesign, we have changed the platform that we use for electronic giving. Over the next six weeks we will be transitioning away from e-giving and begin Subsplash giving.

If that is how you are currently giving you should receive an email from our business office soon with details about how to switch over. It is easy to sign up and a great tool for generosity for our congregation.

Meet Our New Members



Emily Jackson joined April 28 by Profession of Faith

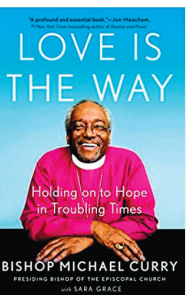


Rick and Mary Sieger, and their daughter Margaret Sieger, transferred their memberships May 2 from St. Luke's UMC in Memphis.



WAYS TO GIVE





Join us for Wednesday Night Bible Study

Wednesdays
May 12, 19, 26
@ 6:30 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/93270919216?pwd=OEhC0919216?pwd=OEhC0919216?pwd=OEhC0919216?pwd=OEhC0919216>

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