

JULY 2024

CROSSTALK

Centenary United Methodist Church

“Be joyful always ; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” I Thessalonians 5:16-18



Dear Centenary,

I want to tell you how excited I am about beginning my ministry with you on July 11 and then to meet you in person on Sunday, July 14. When I left Annual Conference this year, I felt like I had received my “marching orders” from God as we shared, worked and worshipped together around the theme “Lead With the Love of God.” In fact, I think that is what ALL of us are called to do. As Christians, we are called to lead others to Christ. As members of God’s church, we are called to lead the church into the future. And we can do neither without the Love of God in our hearts and in our congregation.

I have already seen evidence of this Love of God in the two meetings I have attended, in watching the Assistance Program in action, and how the trustees responded when the air conditioner went out on one of the hottest days of the year. I can’t wait to see how others will Lead with the Love of God and how lives will be changed because we believe in the power of the Love that God has bestowed on each of us.

So I ask you to pray for our church, our leadership, our members and our future as we lead with the Love of God.

Blessings,
Becki

Rev Curry was raised in the Louisville area and attended DePauw University and Vanderbilt Divinity School. She served Guthrie UMC, Henderson First as Associate, and Smith Mills UMC. She was the Executive Director of St Anthony’s Hospice, serving Henderson, Union and Webster counties. She has been the District Superintendent of the Owensboro, Louisville and Heartland Districts and served as Assistant to the Bishop for 12 years. After retirement, she was asked to served as interim at Christ Church United Methodist in Louisville.

Rev. Curry is married to Ken and they have two boys, Michael and David. They have 4 grandchildren. She enjoys swimming, water aerobics, playing bridge and Top Golf.



[Sunday Morning Services](#)

Coffee and doughnuts in the Fellowship Hall 9:00am
Sunday School at 9:30am
Worship at 10:30am

Join us online:

Facebook Live at

<https://www.facebook.com/centenaryshelbyville>

&

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFQ7gRUEwCTavSK9UvqiMaQ>



We keep everyone updated about our programs and events by email and Facebook. Please contact the church office with any questions or if you would like to be added to the email list.

**Beginning July 1st Church office hours are
Monday-Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm
and Friday 8:00am-11:00am**

Assistance days and hours are Tuesday & Thursday
9:00am-1:00pm. Centenary offers financial
assistance for rent or utilities and food assistance.

STAFF

Lead Pastor

Becki Curry-revbecki@yahoo.com

Office Manager

Amanda Shirley- 502-633-4510 or ashirley@shelbycumc.org

Children's Ministry Director

Reesa Headley- rheadley@shelbycumc.org



Lay Leader: Renee Clark
Council Chair: Heather Hood
Chair of SPRC: Bill Tuttle
Chair of Ops Team: Tracy Bertram
Chair of Trustees: Jim Sharp
Chair of Finance: Jeff Gaither
Treasurer: Michael Watts
Children's Ministry Chair:
Amanda Ethington
Youth Ministry Chair:

****Notes from Ops Team & Church
Council available upon request
from the church office. You can call
and request a copy emailed or
mailed to you or come by during
business hours.***



Deadline for the August 2024 Crosstalk
is Wednesday, July 17, 2024



- 2nd Mountain Mission Pick-up
- 3rd Lunch Bunch at 11:30am
- 4th Office Closed for the Holiday
- 8th Redwoods meeting 10:00am
- 14th-18th VBS 6:00pm-8:00pm
- 22nd Ops Team meeting 6:30pm



- 2 Lenora Headley
- 3 Kate Raisor
- 5 Sydney Lawson
- 8 Arlene Yount
- 9 Emily Henderson
- 10 Sabrina Pratt
- Margaret Tuttle
- 14 Lynda Tharp
- 18 Brenda Creamer
- 19 Keith Nethery
- 20 Savannah Stovall
- Cathy Hobart
- 23 Jim Cleveland
- Brianna Isa
- 24 Candice Isa
- 25 Emily Stovall
- 26 Wyatt Shafer
- 30 Jillian Gayle
- Suzanne Gayle

Lunch Bunch
AHOY MATES

The boat will be docking on Wednesday, July 3rd at 11:30am at the Warford's for a Pot-Luck Lunch. A meat will be furnished. Each person will also need to bring their own drink and a lawn chair. Look forward to seeing you.

Here is a schedule for the next 3 months:

- August 14th - Shelby's Place located in Frankfort
- September 11th - Gallreins - Shelbyville
- October 9th - Farm Kitchen - Shelbyville

More information on upcoming events will be provided later...

Ms. Eleanor

Do you have a prayer request you would like shared with the church?

Prayer List

Send an email to prayer@shelbycumc.org



Looking Forward...

Looking Forward...

Dear Centenary church family,

I wrote a “Looking Forward...” article for each of the past two months, and here is the third installment of articles for this season of change at Centenary U.M.C. My intent in writing these articles is to provide encouragement and hope. I hope you have been and continue to read my articles as a message of hope. I promised another article this month, so here it is...

Pastor Becki will be with us and in the pulpit on Sunday, July 14th. She is looking forward to the beginning of our Vacation Bible School that evening. Even after my article in the June issue of CrossTalk, I am still hearing some lingering questions as to what it means for Centenary to have an interim pastor. This is not a punishment for Centenary. This is not a punishment for Pastor Becki. Those are key things to remember.

Until Pastor Becki arrives in July, we have a great group caring for all pastoral needs. You have seen the announcements, but I’m going to reiterate them. The prayer line is being monitored...please continue to send your prayer requests to prayer@shelbycumc.org. For pastoral needs, please contact the church office (502-633-4510) so that Pastor Mark Gibbons can coordinate support. He, along with Rev. Ken Hughes, Rev. Gary Baker, and Rev. Sandra Murphree are all helping through this transition...with pastoral care and with sermons. Please lift them in prayer during this time too.

While change can be scary, I am both hopeful and excited for this season of change. We know that our purpose (our mission) as Centenary U.M.C. is not changed..."We exist to: Love God, Love People, Make Disciples." And, we also know that the vision of Centenary U.M.C. is not changed...we are here "To be changed by Christ to love and serve in the streets of Shelbyville and the world". As I talked during my sermon on Laity Sunday on June 16th...we have the opportunity to decide HOW we will move forward to live into our mission and vision.

- We need to be in prayer during this time of transition so that we seek to discern God's plans for each of us individually and for us as the body of Christ here at Centenary.
- We have the opportunity during this season of change to do some dreaming. We can NOT out-dream God. I believe that the bigger our dreams, the more we will see God use us to do even bigger things in the hearts and lives of those whom we reach and serve.
- As we pray...we need to remember to also be quiet so we will be able to hear when God speaks to us. We need to pray and listen for where God is calling us individually...and where He is calling Centenary to go in His name
- Share your ideas with the leadership. Ideas for new ministries. We can't implement new ministries without knowing someone has a passion for that ministry.

I believe that our time with Rev. Becki will be a season for Centenary U.M.C. to focus on healing and restoration within our church family. I firmly believe that God has plans to use Centenary U.M.C. to accomplish great things for His kingdom. We need to continue to LOVE each other through these changes, BE PATIENT with ourselves and each other, and EXTEND GRACE to ourselves and to each other as we may have some growing pains through the changes ahead. I also believe that we are stronger together and will be able to stay on mission through this season of change...to carry out our primary mission of making disciples.

Submitted by Trisha Hobbs

Laity Sunday

Thank you for your prayers and your support as we held our Laity Sunday on June 16th. I was excited to help Renee Clark organize the worship service and appreciate each person who agreed to participate. If you missed being with us that morning, you can still check out the service on the church Facebook page. Thank you to the many participants who helped us to celebrate the many ministries here at Centenary. Our children's ministry is active...and gearing up for Vacation Bible School in July. Save the dates and help us with VBS the week of July 14-18...Reesa Headley will have the perfect spot for you to help. Our youth and our post-college young adults participated. We heard about the activities of our Redwoods small group, our Missions Team, and our Ramp Ministry. There are a lot of good things happening here at Centenary.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

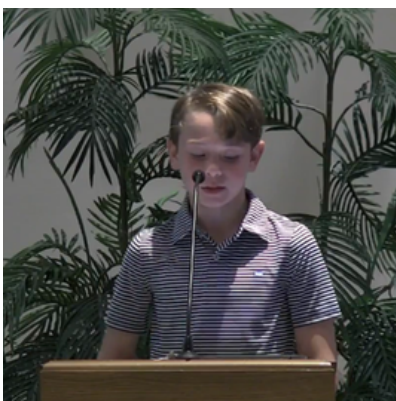
Here are a few pictures from the morning...



Amanda and Nola Ethington gave a responsive Call to Worship of Psalm 96



Heidi VanderZouwen and the choir led us in worship



Aspen Ethington talked about what he likes about Continued Worship



Elisa Rice shared about the fun she has volunteering for VBS



Rena George led us during the Apostles Creed



Renee Clark shared the Children's Moment and talked of our Heavenly Father



Heather Hood read our scripture from the Psalms



Gretchen Gayle shared what the Youth Group means to her



Geri Roberts presented a Ministry Moment on the women's ministry group the Redwoods



Bonnie Burks Gray led our Prayers of the People



Bill Tuttle shared about our Ramp Ministry



Thomas Gaither and Meredith Gaither Eades served as Ushers as they worshipped with their parents for Father's Day and dad Jeff Gaither gave the Offertory Prayer



Heidi VanderZouwen accompanied Jillian Gayle on "In Christ Alone"



Jillian Gayle sang "In Christ Alone" for our Special Music



Terry Coots read our sermon scripture texts from Jeremiah and Matthew



Terry Coots gave a Prayer of Illumination before the sermon



Trisha Hobbs presented the sermon titled, "Plans, Dreams, and Callings"



The Redwoods Group



For our June meeting, the Redwoods held our meeting in the church Fellowship Hall. Our service project for the morning was to pack Dare to Care food bags...and Louise brought her granddaughter to help.

Please save the date of July 8th. Our July meeting will be a great opportunity for fellowship as we will be holding our picnic lunch at the city shelter in Simpsonville. Instead of our usual meeting time, we will start our picnic at 11:00 a.m. that day. We are always happy to welcome new members and hope you will join us that day.

Our regular monthly Redwoods meetings are held the second Monday of each month, with the possible exception of January due to uncertain weather. We meet at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall for a time of devotion, planning, service, and fellowship. We hope you will consider joining us and becoming a part of this women's ministry.

Below are a couple of pictures of our group packing the food bags for the assistance program...



In Christ,
Trisha Hobbs

Assistance Program

By Amanda Shirley

Hard to believe that we are almost halfway through the year. In May Centenary received 11 requests for financial assistance of those we were able assist 4 of them at a cost of \$625.58 affecting 5 individuals. Of those we couldn't assist 3 had previously received assistance in the past 12 months while others didn't return with needed paperwork. Financial assistance is available once in a 12-month time frame per household. Meaning that if the electric bill is in one person's name and the water is in another person's name but same household/ address. We can only assist with one bill in a 12-month time frame. We try to help everyone we can to the best of our ability and in the best way possible. First, we need to make sure we have all paperwork in order meaning photo ID, proof of income, bill or lease. We cannot meet all the various needs of the community; we do not have the funding or ability. Therefore, financial assistance is limited to rent or utility assistance. Our funds come from donations from our congregation and the community. Once funds run out, they are gone until we receive more donations. We have a maximum amount we can assist with. Meaning we will assist those that qualify up to a maximum amount depending on funds available; this amount does fluctuate. We want to help as many as we can.

For food assistance we handed out 135 bags of food feeding 309 individuals. Food can be picked up once every other week per household. Just need ID showing Shelby County residency. The assistance program is open to all Shelby County residents. None of this would have been possible without the support of our congregation. You all donate funds, food, and several groups donate their time assembling food bags. So, a huge thank you to you all.



The assistance program is open to ALL Shelby County residents.

Assistance days are Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00am-2:00pm.

For financial assistance people must bring: Photo ID, proof of income, current disconnect notice or lease agreement. Assistance is available once in a 12 month time frame.

Food assistance can be picked up every other week.
Just need and ID showing Shelby County residency.

Children's Ministry



Our children are continuously learning each and every Sunday during Continued Worship. Each Sunday, they are encouraged to come down to the Treehouse, where we learn the stories of the Bible through Chris, Joy and Gizmo in Superbook. This video series helps our children get a better understanding of God's word and how we use his teachings in our everyday life. While watching with show, the adventure begins for the trio when a mysterious device appears and takes them on journeys throughout the Bible. If your child enjoys these videos, Superbook is also available as an app that can be downloaded to your device, so they can take, learn and play anywhere.



LOOKING TO JOIN US! We would love to have you apart of our team. Our children's ministry is looking for more teachers to help our kids grow in their faith. We teach kids from pre-school up to fifth grade. We are also looking for volunteers to help monitor the Children's Sunday School class. If you think that either of these might be a great opportunity for you, please reach out to Reesa Headley for more information.



VBS is just around the corner, We are in need of volunteers to help with this annual event. VBS is a very important time for our kids to come together and learn about the teachings in the Bible. During this event, our kids dance, play and learn. Please reach out to Reesa Headley if you would be willing to participate. Also, if you need Safe Sanctuary Training, please reach out so that we can make sure that it is completed before then.

Nursery NEWSLETTER



Note from the Teachers:

Ashley has been volunteering her time in our room and has been an excellent help with our littles. I am so glad she has decided to join our team and look forward to continue learning and teaching together!

~ Mrs. Staci



Lesson Plans



7/7	BE GENTLE
7/14	GOD IS NEAR
7/21	LOOK TO THE HILLS
7/28	DEPEND ON GOD

THIS MONTH WE WILL BE EXPLORING A NEW RESOURCE TO THE CLASS, "THE ONE YEAR DEVOTIONS FOR PRESCHOOLERS"

We are hoping to grow our class!

We welcome you to visit the nursery with your little ones so they can explore the toys and puzzles and we can answer any questions you may have about lessons, care, or routines.

Contact Us:

- Reesa Headley: 270-302-1761
- Staci Bryan: 502-321-1424
- Ashley Chacon: 502-655-6373

MAY THE LORD DIRECT YOUR HEARTS INTO GOD'S LOVE AND CHRIST'S PERSEVERANCE.



2 THESSALONIANS 3:5

