



JANUARY 2025

CROSSTALK

Centenary United Methodist Church

Dear Centenary family,

As previously announced in October, I have accepted the invitation of Pastor Becky and Shannon Boaz, our District Superintendent, to have the primary role of interim pastor beginning January 1. This will allow Pastor Becky to stay on as interim pastor, while also allowing her and Ken to take their annual January-March “retreat” in Florida. Pastor Becky will return as the primary interim pastor on April 1 and following that I will assist her in preparing our congregation for the receiving of a new full-time pastor July 1.

Officially I will be considered part-time. So, we are grateful that we will have a team of retired pastors already active in our congregation who will share in the responsibilities of preaching, leading worship, and pastoral care. But because we are all already active in the life of Centenary, we feel that we can have a sense of continuity and that our congregation will sense that as well. But we will continue to intentionally work on that and keep it as a priority.

While we will share preaching responsibilities, I will be the one working with our staff and lay leadership to assure we continue to live out our mission to “Love God, Love People, and Make Disciples,” and our vision to “Love and Serve in the Streets of Shelbyville and the World.” As I have attended the last several Operation Team and Church Council meetings, I can assure you that the lay leadership of these two teams already “get” this. And that excites me. My primary role will be to ask the right questions with our leadership and continue to encourage them.

The other thing that excites me is the positive momentum I sense within our congregation. Pastor Becky has done a marvelous job of restoring a positive self-image within us as a congregation. We are seeing new people in worship. And I have watched with joy as people in our congregation have welcomed them by more than a handshake and a “glad you are here.” I have seen you sit with them and hear their stories and seek to be Christ to them. For you see, it is not that we need them, but they need us and the Savior and Lord we serve.

And one more exciting thing. We have all (especially Pastor Becky and the choir) been praying for God to send us the right person to consistently lead us in music. We think that prayer has been answered, and you will be hearing more about that.

With gratefulness and excitement,
Mark

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>

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

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm
and Friday 8:00am-11:00am (remotely)

Assistance days and hours are Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am-1:00pm. Centenary offers financial assistance for rent or utilities and food assistance. Assistance is available to all Shelby County residents

STAFF

Pastor

Mark Gibbons- revmgibbons@gmail.com

Office Manager

Amanda Shirley- 502-633-4510

ashirley@shelbycumc.org or centenaryumc@twc.com

Children's Ministry Director

Reesa Headley- rheadley@shelbycumc.org

Youth Director

Tiffany Rainey- trainey@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



Deadline for the
February 2025 Crosstalk
is Wednesday, January 21, 2025

Happy Birthday

- 4 Dale Fitzgerald
- 5 Sandra Vanarsdale
- 6 Gretchen Gayle
Helena Kruer
- 9 Steve Henderson
- 14 Marcella Myatt
Bonnie Landers
- 18 Louise Pratt
- 19 Meredith Gaither
- 20 Jaelyn Stovall
- 22 Clara Henderson
- 25 Hailey Waggener
- 27 Eleanor Warford
- 28 Karen Crouch
Lynn Swigert
- 30 Connor Goodwin

JANUARY

- 1st New Years Day Office Closed
- 5th CYF at 5:30pm
- 8th Dinner Church 6:00pm
- 12th CYF at 5:30pm
- 13th Redwoods Meeting 10:00am
Ops Team Meeting 6:30pm
- 15th February Crosstalk Deadline
- 19th CYF at 5:30pm
- 20th Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday
Office Closed
- 25th CYF Winter Blitz
- 26th Chili Cook-Off following Worship



JANUARY 8TH
DINNER CHURCH

Free Community Meal + Worship
Join us at our dinner table
in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00pm

Everyone is welcome!

Centenary United Methodist Church
429 Main St.
Shelbyville, KY, 40065
WWW.CENTENARYSHELBYVILLE.COM



Join Us for our 3rd Annual
Childrens/Youth Fundraiser



Chili
COOK
OFF

SUNDAY
JANUARY 26

Make the
best chili to
win the
trophy

AFTER SERVICE IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
Chili Cook Off Competition will be held
in Fellowship Hall. The competition will
be judged by the members of the
congregation. If you would like to
participate, please let Reesa Headley or
Tiffany Rainey know. We are asking for
donations to help support our Children
and Youth Ministries.

FREE TO ENTER &
FREE TO TASTE

If you have any
questions, please
contact Tiffany or Reesa.

Upcoming Sermons

- January 5 "Looking Backward to Look Forward" Joshua 24:14-18
- January 12 "Our Baptism... Our Identity" Luke 3:15-17, 21-22; Matthew 28:18-20
- January 19 "Why Are We Here?" Luke 4:14-20

Assistance Program

In November, Centenary received 18 requests for financial assistance and helped six families with rent or utilities at a cost of \$700.00. Our food assistance program distributed 148 bags of groceries, providing meals to 335 people. Malones of Louisville generously provided Thanksgiving meals on Thanksgiving Day for individuals who normally rely on our food assistance. Although things didn't go as originally planned, 80 meals were served by the end of the day.

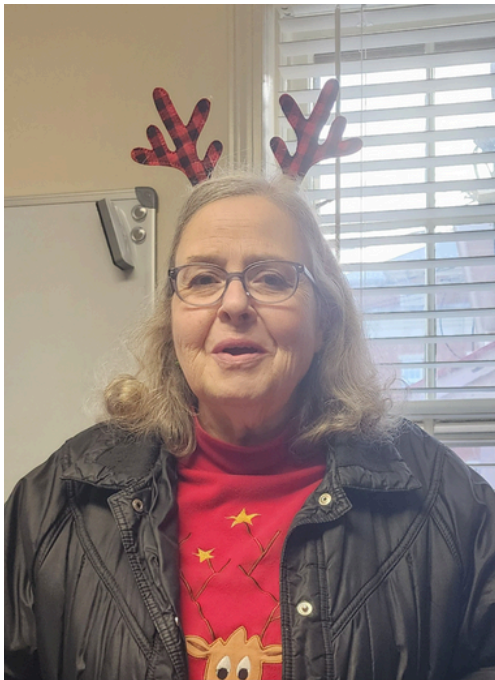
Due to the way the holidays fell on the calendar this year, Thursday, December 19th, was the last day for food and financial assistance. This allows me to provide a report on the assistance program for December as well. I will do an end of year review for the February Crosstalk. In December, we received 15 applications for financial assistance and were able to assist nine of them at a total cost of \$1,226.03. For food assistance, we distributed 217 bags of groceries, including the Christmas dinner bags, which helped feed 498 people. On December 15th, Centenary assembled 54 Christmas dinner bags, all of which were distributed on December 17th.

The Christmas Shop was a great success again this year. Thanks to incredibly generous donations, we were able to assist 83 families with gifts for 206 children over three weeks. One 33-gallon bag of stuffed animals was left over and donated to the Shelbyville Police Department for officers to keep in their cars for children when needed. A bucket of clothes, hats, gloves, and some books was given to Southside's Family Resource Center. Amy Waggener also assembled several gift sets from remaining items, which she plans to deliver to the United Methodist Children's home.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to those who helped during assistance hours with the Christmas Shop and food distribution: Amy Waggener, Patsy Hughes, Diana Beaton, Dar Watts, and Nancy Angell.

This ministry would not be possible without the generous donations of funds, items, and time from our church family, community partners, and the prayers of so many. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of those who need it most. Our efforts are rooted in our mission to serve as Christ's hands and feet, sharing His love and hope with all who come through our doors. When we give, we demonstrate that God's love is alive and at work through us.





CENTENARY YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Dear CYF,

What a beautiful Christmas season we shared. This time of year led to many great opportunities to fellowship and worship together, from the Hanging of the Green service to our Youth Mega Cavern Lights Outing. I want to express my gratitude to all the youth who participated in sharing the Candy Cane Story. You all did an outstanding job! And a special thank you to our Youth Volunteers who joined us on the Mega Cavern adventure, especially our fearless driver- Brandon!

As we reflect on the past year, we have so much to be thankful for. We actively served our community by raking yards, distributing coats and packing food bags. Our Bible Studies were insightful, exploring themes of truth, loyalty, God's plans for our lives, and the power of faith. We worshiped together during Sunday Night Re/Connect. Thank you to our Praise Band members for leading us in worship every week! And of course, we cherished the fun times we shared, from Dinner Church games and making Christmas ornaments to enjoying lunch together before the Lights Underground. It is an absolute privilege to be a part of this group, and I've truly enjoyed getting to know each of you.

We have an exciting year ahead in 2025, filled with engaging events, exciting outings, and meaningful service opportunities. I can't wait to see how God continues to move within our CYF community! More details about upcoming events will be shared soon. For timely updates and weekly information about upcoming events, please join our youth text message thread. If you'd like to be added to the list, please let me know.

Much Love,
Tiffany

Ongoing Programs

Bible Study & Parent Fellowship-
Sunday Mornings 9:30am

Youth Group Re/connect-
Sunday Nights 5:30pm



**Centenary Youth will go on
January 25th.**

Treehouse NEWSLETTER

January

Each Sunday, during Continued Worship, our children are learning the Bible through 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. If your child enjoys these videos, Superbook is also available as an app that can download to your device, so they can take, learn and play anywhere.

Lesson Plan

1/5-In the Beginning

Learn obedience, there are consequences to your actions.

1/12-The Test

Put God first, above all else.

1/19-Jacob and Esau

Seek forgiveness

1/26-Let My People Go

Follow God's Instructions



We are looking for volunteers to help out during continued worship. If you would like to help float during a Sunday, please reach out to Reesa Headley.

Upcoming Events

Chili Cook-Off
January 26th
After Worship



Memory Verse

For I know the plans I have for you,
declares the Lord, plans
to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11



Old Testament
New
Beginnings

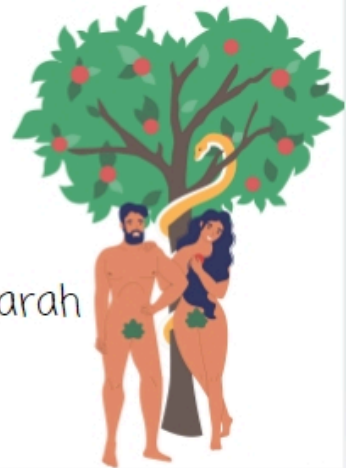
January 2025



As we begin the new year we will be studying bible stories that occurred in Genesis



- January 5 - Creation
- January 12 - Creation
- January 19 - Noah's Ark
- January 26 - Abraham & Sarah



FIFTH & MAIN STREET

P.O. BOX 38

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