



APRIL 2023

CROSSTALK

Centenary United Methodist Church

2 Corinthians 5:17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! (NRSVUE)

We are generally a people of waiting. We wait for Christmas, we wait for Easter Sunday, we wait for the next potluck, we wait for the coming Kingdom of God and the restoration of all creation. With all this talk of waiting, it can be easy to think that the Christian life is simply about waiting for something to happen in the future, instead of an experience of new life right now.

I can remember a time when I thought of new creation as something that happens in the future. It was this idea that we are just supposed to avoid sinning as much as possible and wait until heaven – do the best we can and then hope we did well enough to punch our ticket to the other side. There was little talk of living a transformed life right now.

But that's not what Paul writes to the church at Corinth. Instead, he says, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. He doesn't say, "there will be new creation in some distant future", but that there is new creation right here and now. Jesus' resurrection was not only for himself, but for all of us. As a follower of Jesus, you are a new creation. Something new has happened and is happening with in you – the Spirit is working to bring wholeness, life, and new creation in your life. We are invited to do so much more than avoid sinning, we are called to live transformed lives right here and now.

This, of course, is a process. New creation takes time to grow. This is part of why we have so many opportunities to wait in the Christian year. These are times we patiently allow the Spirit to work within us, to deal with sin, and be ready for new life.

So, friends, as we see signs of Spring sprouting up around us, let us also be reminded of the new creation that is happening within us. It's not something we have to wait for, it's something we get to embrace and live right here and now. We get to live a bit of resurrection each day.

Grace + peace,
Pastor Trent

Sunday Morning Services

Adult and Children's 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.

Church office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am-2:00pm.

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

Trent Lloyd- tlloyd@shelbycumc.org

Associate Pastor

Katie Lloyd- klloyd@shelbycumc.org

Director of Worship and Program Ministries

Kay Burney- kburney@shelbycumc.org

Children's Ministry Director

Reesa Headley- rheadley@shelbycumc.org

Office Manager

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



Lay Leader: Meg Hughes
Chair of SPRC: Robin Chandler
Chair of Ops Team: Tracy Bertram
Chair of Trustees: Larry Crouch & Jim Sharp
Chair of Finance: Jeff Gaither
Children's Ministry Chair:
Amanda Ethington
Youth Ministry Chair: Nick Headley
**Notes from Ops Team & Church Council
available upon request from the church office.*



Deadline for the May 2023 Crosstalk will be
Wednesday, April 19, 2023





2nd Palm Sunday
 5th Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm
 6th Maundy Thursday Meal & Service
 6:30pm
 7th Good Friday Service 6:30pm
 9th Easter Sunday Service 10:30am
 Easter Egg Hunt to Follow Service
 10th Redwoods Tea 10:00am
 Ops Team Meeting 6:30pm
 12th Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm
 16th CYF 6:30pm
 19th Crosstalk Deadline
 Choir 6:00pm
 23rd CYF Outing
 26th Choir 6:00pm
 30th CYF 6:30pm

2 Pablo Chacon
 Joy Freeman
 8 Katherine Cleveland
 9 Danny Goodwin
 13 Barbara Erway
 18 Chuck Cicchella
 19 Stephanie Crouch
 Thomas Gaither
 William(Whitie)Gray
 21 Barbara Scott
 30 Ronald Worley

John and Jim Cleveland invite the
 congregation of Centenary to attend a
 100th birthday party for Katherine
 Cleveland on April 8, 2023 from 2 p.m.
 to 4 p.m.

The party will be held at Catering by
 Kate, 934 Main Street.



Thank You!

Dear Church family,

Thank you so much for the lovely shower to celebrate baby Lloyd! It was so thoughtful and generous of y'all! We felt so loved. James Ellis and Eliza clearly loved the balloons and helping open baby brother's gifts.

We shared with the folks there that we'd never had a normal baby shower as Eliza was already here when my church at the time had one for us. Thank you all for your generosity and love. We can't wait to introduce #3 to y'all (in due time of course)! Special thanks to those who set up the shower and decorated and brought food.

It was all so lovely.

Thank you,

Katie, Trent, Eliza, James Ellis, & #3



Assistance Program

By Amanda Shirley

This program has helped so many people over the few years I have been with you all at Centenary. The program has grown and changed to meet the needs of our neighbors. And while Centenary has done its best to answer those calls for help, we cannot always be the answer. The assistance program is very low on funding. I have said this before, and it is still holding true today. Just recently we received notice that we would not be receiving anything from the Dare to Care grant that was applied for earlier this year. Dare to Care covers several counties in Kentucky and Southern Indiana. I can only guess at how many applications they had received. While we can understand not getting this grant it is disheartening, because we really need the funds to keep this program going. The rising food costs have not only impacted us as far as cost spent on food purchased; but caused more people to come to us for food. As explained last month that in 2022 our numbers doubled from 2021. In February this year Centenary handed out 141 bags of food feeding 288 people. Last year the January and February total number of bags was 145 for two months! Think about that for a moment, this year we are serving the same number of Households in one month that we did in two at the beginning of last year. March last year was when we saw a huge jump in people coming in. Those numbers continue to run high, and we are seeing new people all the time. To help cut costs last year some food items were removed from the list of items we bought to be included in the bags. Those items were things people normally get from every food pantry and start piling up after a time. We continue to receive donation from Dare to Care weekly, but the amount has dropped drastically. Last year in January and February we received on average 591lbs of food from Dare to Care. This year for January and February we averaged 374lbs that is about 63% of what we were getting at this time last year. We do have another grant application in for the Farmers Feeding Families grant through Metro United Way. Please pray that we are awarded funds from that program to help keep this program running at the level it currently is.

As for financial assistance we continue to help people the best that we can as well. Amounts have been adjusted as needed to allow Centenary to help as many people as possible with the funds available. In February we received 10 applications for assistance, and we were able to assist 6 of those applicants and their families affecting 18 people for a total cost of \$600.00. The others that were not assisted were either not eligible because we had already assisted them within the past 12 months, or they did not come back with the required paperwork. We strive to help everyone to the best of our ability even if it is a referral to another organization for assistance. Many other organizations are also having the same problem we are a lack of funding to meet the requests for help. I ask that you all please pray for the people that are seeking help, pray for the organizations and programs that try to help and please pray for the people that are on the front lines that handle these requests.



This is about one days worth of food bags on a Tuesday



This is about one months supply of food for the pantry bags.

Other pantry items from dare to Care are added as we get them, along with the frozen meats and refrigerated items as we get those.



NOTES FROM KAY



The disciples sharing a highly symbolic meal with Jesus. Prayers of agony in a garden while friends slept. The betrayal of a follower. The arrest of an innocent man. The angry mob. The torture. Fear so intense it caused the closest friends to run away. The women who stayed and witnessed the unthinkable. The one who placed the body in the tomb. The discovery and encounter with the resurrected Christ.

When we have heard the stories of Holy Week throughout our lifetime, they can become just that to our minds—stories. Sometimes we have to consciously remind ourselves that these were real people who had actual, unimaginable experiences.

Our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will give you an immersive opportunity to be reminded of the authenticity, power, and miracle of these life-changing events. Join us around the table for a meal and remembrance of Jesus' Last Supper on Thursday, April 6. Return on Friday, April 7 to hear the Passion story through a thought-provoking presentation, where we will hear the perspectives of those who experienced it first-hand. The celebration of resurrection on Easter morning holds vastly deeper meaning and joy when we have walked through the events leading up to it. Join us again on Easter Sunday to share in that joy!

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

AT CENTENARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Maundy Thursday, 6 April 2023

6:30pm Dinner and Service

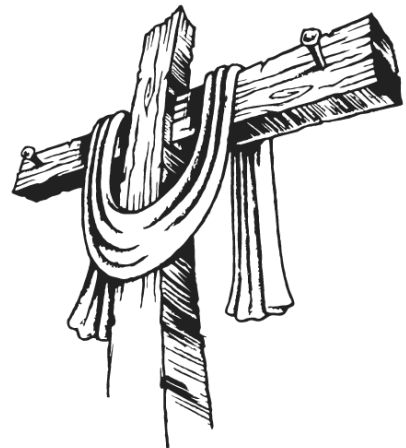
Good Friday, 7 April 2023

6:30pm Worship Service

Easter Sunday, 9 April 2023

10:30am Worship Service

Easter Egg Hunt after service



He Still Bleeds

“Whatsoever ye do to the least of these, ye do it unto me.”

We don't whip Him with leather thongs and drape a purple robe over His shoulders and press a crown of thorns onto His head. We don't laugh when He winces with pain. We are too civilized for that.

No—we “do unto the least of these,” unto each other. We hear a story—it might not be true, but then again, it might—and we pass it on. And the next person passes it on. And soon a new nail is crunching into the hand of Jesus. And His blood trickles into the twenty-first-century grass.

And someone cries. And is spat upon. And writhes with pain. Someone else watches and has no pity. Someone else turns away. And another nail pierces the flesh of Jesus.

Friendships are broken. There are many reasons. A chance remark is taken the wrong way. Someone lies. Betrayal occurs. Whether a forever thing or a temporary misunderstanding, the devil rejoices. And the hammer drives the nail farther in.

Sometimes we drive the nail; sometimes we suffer from the nail. But every time a friendship is restored, every time division resolves into unity, Christ is relieved of pain. Let our prayer be, every day, to remove the nails in life—the divisions, the suffering, the heartaches. We have the power to drive the nail or rub in healing ointment. We have the power to hate or to love. We have the power to lift Christ off the cross.

Mary Lou (Smith) Madigan



Ramp Ministry

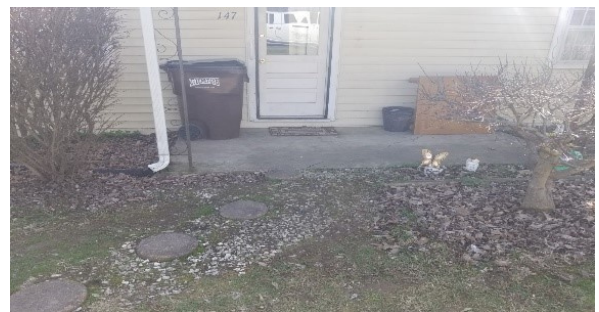
David Pratt, Ramp Ministry Coordinator

The Ramp Ministry is already at work this year as we serve others in our community. This year we have received five requests for ramp information. Two of these are from other churches asking for assistance with what they might need to make their building more accessible. While we do not build ramps for organizations, we did meet them to share information. One request was from a grandmother who provides after school care for her 11-year-old granddaughter. They were carrying her granddaughter up the steps, but this was getting to be difficult to accomplish. The ramp was needed in her garage, with the limited workspace, a small group of our ramp building team provided this much needed ramp.



We have two ramp requests that have been assessed and we will be completing them during the month of April.

One of these is for a gentleman in Eminence with a power chair. As you will notice in the picture the step up is only about 6 inches, but this creates a barrier where he is unable to get his chair out of his home. This is a short rise, but we will be providing 27 feet of ramp to get him across his yard to his driveway



The other ramp is for a lady in Bullitt County. She currently has a wooden ramp that is no longer useable for her. She has a power chair, and this ramp is rotten to the point of no longer supporting her power chair. We will be replacing this ramp with new materials.



If you are not a member of the Ramp Ministry and would like to be please contact me through the church office. You do not need any special skills, just a willing heart to serve. We have opportunities for workers both during the week and on weekends. So, there is a place for you in this ministry.

DISASTER RELIEF MISSION TRIP

David Pratt, Centenary Disaster Response Coordinator

On May 7 we will join with other volunteers from throughout the Kentucky Conference to serve those in need that were affected by the flooding last summer. You do not need any special skills, just a willing heart to serve others. See below for more information on this trip provided by Pastor Gary Baker who will be the team leader for this trip. Space is limited and the deadline to register is April 28, 2023. To register do a google search of KYUMC 2023 Disaster Relief Trip. This will give you the site where you can register. I am the local contact person for this trip so please contact me through the church office for more information or if you plan on going on this mission trip.



Sponsored by Kentucky United Methodists Volunteers in Missions

On July 30th of 2022 Eastern Kentucky was hit by unprecedented rainfall and historic flooding, leaving a vast line of destruction. Long-term recovery and rebuilding efforts are now needed. You're invited to join Bishop Leonard Fairley and Kentucky United Methodist Volunteers in Mission to travel to Eastern Kentucky for a Disaster Relief & Recovery mission trip. We will be working across the area in designated sections to help rebuild homes that have been damaged and/or destroyed. No special skills are needed. We will be based out of Hampton UMC in Jackson, Kentucky. Registration includes meals, lodgings, and showers. There are a limited number of spaces available for this trip so register early to secure yours.

Dates: May 7 – May 12, 2023

Cost: \$110.00 per person, includes lodging, meals, supplies and insurance

Deposit: \$75 due at time of registration

Registration Deadline: April 28, 2023

Balance Due: May 1, 2023

Ages: Open to adults 18+, plus students aged 14-17 with adult chaperone accompanying

Team Leader: Rev. Gary Baker – pastorgarybaker@live.com



The Redwoods Group



Our Centenary Redwoods Group was planted as a result of the “40 Days of Community” small groups study held while Reverend Lowell Ogden was here (1999 – 2004). Members broke into small groups to make a difference through prayer and service. Duanne Puckett led a group of women who met in her home each month to adopt projects that would embrace opportunities to serve Christ. She introduced the name “Redwoods” which reflected the belief that members were like the giant redwood trees that thrive in thick groves where their roots intertwine for support. We have adopted the name and our logo shows the redwood trees as we feel this symbolizes our intertwined mission to work together to serve Christ. The scripture passage that serves as our motto is:

. . .and I pray that Christ will make his home in your hearts through faith. I pray that you may have your roots and foundation in love, so that you, together with all God's people, may have the power to understand how broad and long, how high and deep is Christ's love.

Ephesians 3:17-18 (GNT)

Redwoods projects over the years have been numerous and varied. We’ve tackled church landscaping.

We have hosted tea receptions in the fellowship hall when we’ve held dedications of the stained glass windows. We have polished the communion service set, filled food bags for the Dare to Care assistance program, and had several kitchen clean-up events over the years. The biggest undertaking for our group was in 2015 when a \$ 10,000 gift challenged us to remodel the fellowship hall and kitchen.

Our Redwoods group does not only do service projects within the church though. We also hold outreach projects. Some of these outreach projects have included visits to local assisted living facilities with cookie trays and goodie bags, collecting needed clothing items and touring Colonial Hall Manor, and collecting books and monetary donations to take to the public library for Bug’s Books. We have also collected clothes for the Northside Early Childhood Center where we have taken tours and assisted them in packing backpacks for summer development programs. A highlight last year was our visit to Redbird Mission in Beverly, Kentucky. We toured their school and other facilities, and took donations of both food and monetary gifts.

Our regular monthly Redwoods meetings are held the second Monday of each month, with the exception of January due to uncertain weather. We meet at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. During our meetings, we will have a devotional presented by one of our members, listen to other personal reflections, and sign cards for persons on our hearts (shut-in members of our church, people having surgery or recovering from illness...whomever God has put on our hearts as needing a bit of cheer and extra prayer). We will also have a brief time for business to plan our future activities before we hold our service project or leave for our tour/visit. Many of us will gather together following the meeting for more time of fellowship over lunch. We have also recently begun to assist in delivering the “hug quilts” that our quilters are still making.

We have nine focal areas for projects...some within Centenary and many outside in our community and further into the state. Planning is happening now for where we want to tour and help this year.

Our group of ladies is always ready to welcome new members, so please consider joining us at our April meeting. We are hosting a membership tea that morning. We will meet on Monday, April 10, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. As we were planning our April tea, one member shared the following thoughts, "We are most excited about our tea for perspective members and encourage you to become a part of this group. Helping others adds a sense of satisfaction to life that few other experiences can provide. When we reach out to others, we feel an inter-connectedness with all of life - a kinship, and a sense of community. Please join us. We need you!!!" Please join us and become a part of this women's ministry.

Let's have Spring Tea



The Redwoods
Cordially Invite
You to Spring Tea

Monday,
April 10, 2023
at 10:00 a.m.
in Fellowship Hall



Volleyball Season has finished...

by Trisha Hobbs

Once again this year we have sponsored a team in the parks league this winter. Games began in January and concluded with the tournament on Tuesday, March 14th. Once again...outreach, fellowship, fun, sportsmanship, and NO INJURIES were our goals. We don't count bruises from the ball, so I believe we succeeded fairly well on the "No Injuries" rule...though Nick Headley and a couple of our teammates may need to stop diving for the ball to maintain our "No Injuries" status.

After fielding two teams in the fall league, we dropped to only one team for the winter league due to scheduling conflicts. With only one team, we brought back the TEAM EAGLE name from years ago. For those of you who don't remember the acronym, this stood for "Together with Energy and Attitude on a Mission to Engage, Accept, and Glorify the Lord Everywhere".

Our team was a blend of church members and friends/family. Nick Headley and I were again on the team. Returning from previous seasons was Asher Myatt. Back from last season were my sister, brother-in-law, niece, and nephew. Joining our team this season was Stone Smith, who had been a member of Amy Waggener's team last season and was the only returning player from that team.



We played well enough during the regular season so that we were seeded second in the post-season tournament. We lost a very close match and were eliminated in the first round. We had a lot of fun and encourage those interested in playing with us during future seasons to be sure to let Nick or me know.



College-Age Ministry

If you are of college age and are not receiving any of the periodic text invites from me (Trisha)...send me a text with your name and I will get you added to my contact distributions. This ministry is a COLLEGE-AGE ministry...you do not need to be enrolled in classes to participate with us. My number is (502) 802-4146.

We want all of our college-age young adults to know they are still loved, they still have our support, and that they are still wanted to be present when they are in town (and every week if they happen to be one of several that are still local).

I was very happy to hear that Dairy Kastle has reopened for the spring. Therefore...I am excited to announce that our next college-age ministry meet-up will be held on Friday, April 14th. I will send out text invites to our Louisville group, but my work schedule will probably move the timing back to 6:30 p.m.

I'm back to plotting events again now that the weather is warming up...if you have suggestions (I'm looking at a day-hike for Saturday, April 28th), please be sure to let me know. You can always have a say in what we do together, just send me your ideas. I'm still putting together dates, so...high school graduates from the class of 2018 forward, make sure you are on the look-out for text message invites from 502-802-4146 and join in on the fun! Save my number in your phone! If you are the parent of one of our college-age young adults and you haven't heard them mention any text invites...feel free to send me their information. I want to keep them all engaged as much as possible.

Church family, I ask you to please be in prayer for us as we work to grow a greater outreach to our college-age young adults. I'm excited about this opportunity and believe that the response from the kiddos will continue to be positive.

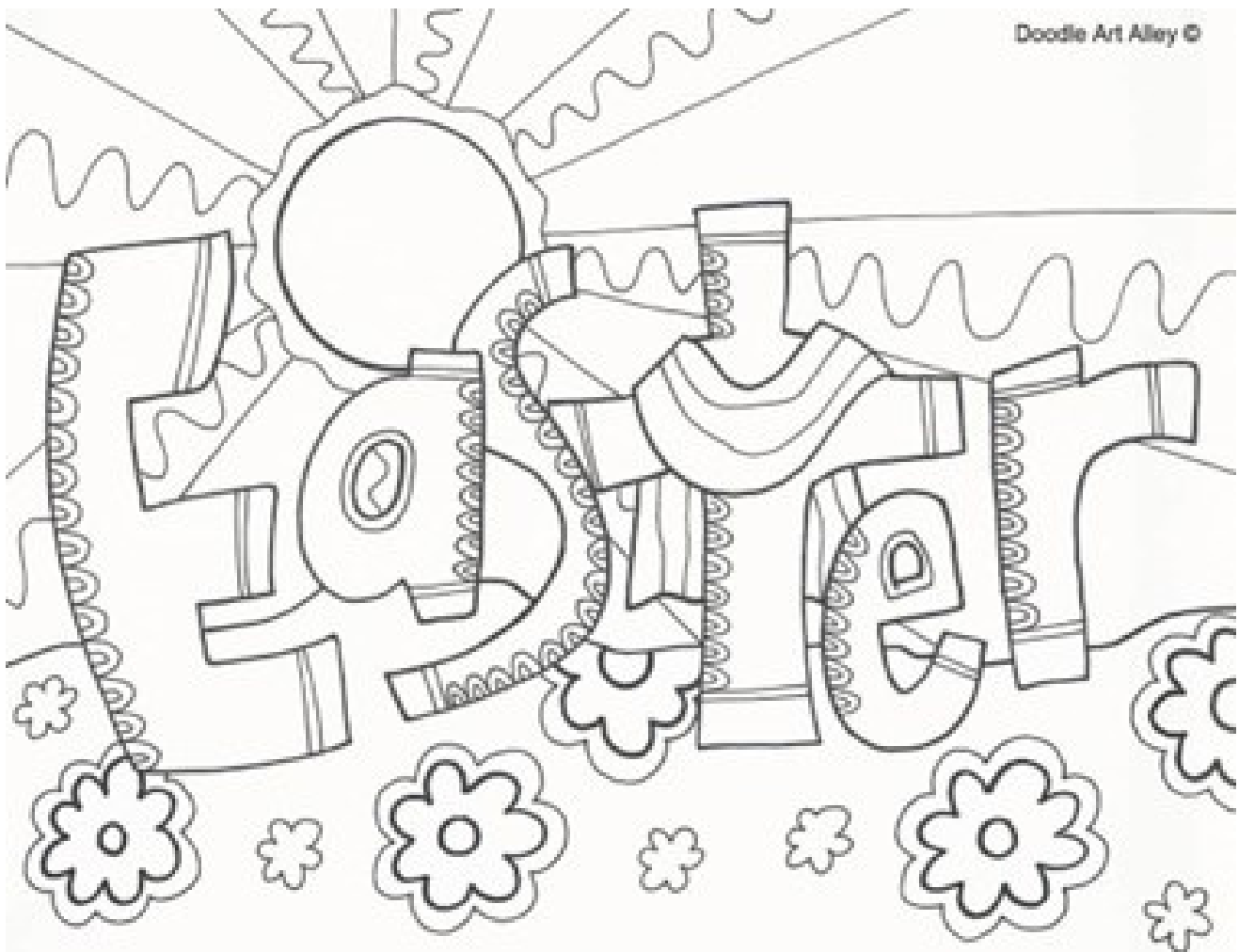
In Christ,
Trisha Hobbs



Children's Ministry



We are so glad to have children back in church. However, with the growing numbers on Sunday morning during Continued Worship, we are in need of volunteers to come help during our lessons. If you would like to help out in our area, please reach out. Also, we are looking for some new faces to be on our Children's Moment videos. If you or any child that can read and expresses interest in being in front of a camera, we would love to have you. If you have any questions, please reach out to Reesa Headley at rheadley@shelbycumc.org



CENTENARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
429 MAIN STREET

EASTER

• EGG HUNT •



SUNDAY APRIL 9TH
FOLLOWING 10:30 SERVICE
ON OUR FRONT LAWN

Join us for some Easter fun!



FIFTH & MAIN STREET
P.O. BOX 38
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Centenary United Methodist Church