

MAY 2022

CROSSTALK

Centenary United Methodist Church

The Celebration Continues

I have a friend who instead of having a single birthday celebration has a birthday week. She believes that it is appropriate to celebrate her birth not only for one day, but for an entire week. The week works out something like: One day there is cake, another day cupcakes, another day a nice meal out...you get the idea. One day cannot contain her celebration, so it extends for an entire week.

Maybe you have someone like this in your life, or maybe I've given you a new idea for your birthday celebration. Either way, I like this idea for celebrating the season after Easter Sunday.

In the church year we have this big build up to Easter. We have Lent and our 40 days of fasting. We have Holy Week with extra worship services to help us understand the incredible love of Jesus and sacrifice that He made for us. Then comes Easter Sunday and the celebration happens. We sing Christ the Lord is Risen Today, we have an Easter Egg Hunt, and we get together with our families for dinner and more candy for the kiddos.

Then the Monday of Easter week gets here and the sense of celebration wears off and we get back to our lives. But Easter isn't over. Easter is more like a birthday week than it is a single day.

In the church year there are 40 days of Lent, but there are actually 50 days of Eastertide. These 50 days span from Resurrection Sunday to Pentecost Sunday. It is meant to be a season of celebration and joy because Christ is risen and death is defeated. That is true for us every Sunday, but just like Lent is a time to focus on the ways that we need to change and grow, Eastertide is a time when we can intentionally focus on celebration and joy.

Lent gets a lot of the focus, but we are resurrection people not long-term Lent people after all. Paul writes to the church at Corinth "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" (2 Corinthians 5:17) The new creation starts right here, with us and that is reason to continue the celebration.

That is the invitation this Eastertide! Let's be people of celebration. People who live with joy in the face of death, who proclaim love in the face of hate, who bless over and over and over again, who see God's abundance all around. Let's be resurrection people.

Friends, new creation is here. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia and amen.

Grace + peace,
Pastor Trent

Sunday Morning Services

8:48am- Contemporary
10:00am- Sunday School
11:00am- Traditional

Virtual Information

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- revtrentlloyd@gmail.com

Associate Pastor

Katie Lloyd- revkatielloyd@gmail.com

Director of Worship and Program Ministries

Kay Burney- kburneyumc@gmail.com

Children's Ministry Director

Reesa Headley- reesa.mccarty@gmail.com

Office Manager

Amanda Shirley- 502-633-4510 or centenaryumc@twc.com



Lay Leader & Chair of SPRC -

Amy Waggener

Co-Chairs of Trustees -

Rena George and Doug Butler

Chair of Finance - Candice Isa

Children's Ministry Chair -

Amanda Ethington

Youth Ministry Chair - Nick Headley



Deadline for the June 2022 Crosstalk will be
Wednesday, May 18, 2022





1st	Promotion Sunday		1	Sue Covert Loux
	CYF	6:30pm	2	Kyress Cardwell
4th	Ephesians Zoom Bible study	12:00pm	5	John Whisman
	Children's Programming	6:30pm	6	Nola Ann Ethington
	Choir Rehearsal	6:30pm	8	Shelbi Poehlein
8th	Mother's Day		11	James Insko Sr.
9th	Redwoods	10:00am		Lois Newton
	Ops Team	6:30pm	14	Margo Whisman
11th	Ephesians Zoom Bible study	12:00pm	15	William (Shug) Hickman
	Children's Programming	6:30pm	17	Bonnie Burks Gray
	Choir Rehearsal	6:30pm		Terri Poehlein
12th	Missions Team	6:00pm	20	Aspen Ethington
15th	Senior Sunday			John Gerding
	CYF	6:30pm	21	Robert Beaton
18th	Deadline for June Crosstalk		25	Bill Decker
	Ephesians Zoom Bible study	12:00pm		Bryan Hughes
	Children's Programming	6:30pm	26	Amanda Nalley
	Choir Rehearsal	6:30pm	27	Andrew Aitken
20th	Church Council	6:30pm		Elisa Rice
22nd	CYF	6:30pm	28	Troy Hood
25th	Ephesians Zoom Bible study	12:00pm		Ashton Stovall
	Hello Summer Bash	6:00pm		Reesa Headley
	Choir Rehearsal	6:30pm	29	Janice Riggs
27th	CYF Outing	2:00pm	30	Dr. Jim Coots
30th	Memorial Day- Church Office closed			

Lunch Bunch

By Eleanor Warford

The Lunch Bunch will leave the church via the church bus at 11:15am May 12th to go to B&N restaurant/grocery over at Bagdad, KY. Reservations are not needed for the adventure.

Come one, come all who would like to attend this time of food, fun and fellowship



Believing

By Mary Lou Smith Madigan

When I worked at the Kentucky Historical Society, one of my responsibilities was researching and writing the historical highway markers. Each used 11 lines with 33 spaces per line. Fitting information into those restrictions was a challenge.

Recently, I have been thinking about the composers and lyricists of hymns and praise choruses. They work within the parameters of rhyme and rhythm, a different challenge. This has brought me to a new awareness and appreciation for words and melodies I have known all my life, plus more recent ones.

Before Bill and I took our first cruise, I was excited; but as time drew near, I began to think about the ocean, its deep, deep water. As a kid, I barely had enough nerve to jump into the ten-foot pool and splash my way to the ladder. This was infinitely scarier. Driving down Shelbyville's streets a couple of weeks before the cruise, I wanted to hug every tree I saw, deep rooted, stable, safe.

At choir practice I learned a new hymn, "I Know Whom I Have Believed." The chorus continues, "and am persuaded/ that He is able/ to keep all I have committed/ unto Him against that day." Those words turned me around. We took the cruise (plus eight more). I learned to focus on God's power, on Christ walking on the water. Without fear, I enjoyed myself.

So many people at Centenary have been a blessing to me, and each other. The various ministries are impacting our community. Tracy illustrated this several weeks ago when he sang "Your Walk-talk's Louder than your Talk-talk." So true. A perfect illustration of this song is that one of our members, a dry stone-fence builder, has rebuilt the wall around the church's parking lot.

We are still walking through the challenges of Covid 19 and its aftermath. In the car after a doctor's appointment, I take my glasses off, then remove the mask, taking care to leave the hearing aids in place. Once one fell out; I barely caught it and reinserted it. All kinds of fun.

Many in our church family, and others, are facing challenges of cancer, broken bones, anxiety, finances, food, housing, pain, aging, loneliness. Let's remember "I Know Whom I Have Believed" and "Your Walk-talk's Louder than Your Talk-talk." We can participate in the prayer chain, join zoom groups, send cards of encouragement, support the assistance fund, ramp fund, the Redwoods; children, youth and college-age projects; and seasonal projects. Joining these efforts will bring us closer and help us to remember we are not alone. When we go through deep water, we can beat back the fear, because we know whom we have believed.

**The church has never closed. The
church cannot be closed. The
church is not a building. The church
is a people.**



NOTES FROM KAY



Have you ever wondered why we sing together in worship? The answers could extend far beyond the scope of this article. One aspect to consider is the biblical precedent and mandate. The Bible contains over 400 references to singing and fifty direct commands to sing. Consider a few examples.

OLD Testament:

The Psalms were the song book of the Hebrew people.

The Levites were assigned to the Temple, where they sang in choirs and played instruments. They were musically trained and highly organized into 24 choral groups, consisting of 288 musicians, which took part in 21 weekly services.

Exodus 15—the song of Moses and Miriam after crossing the Red Sea

Numbers 21—the people sang when God gave them water

Deut. 31:30—Moses sang to the Israelites, teaching them a song as God instructed to help them remember

Joshua 10:12 – Joshua sang

Judges 5:1 – Deborah and Barak sang

2 Samuel 22-- David sang

2 Chronicles 20—Jehosaphat sang

Psalms 30 – Solomon sang.. Also, we have The Song of Solomon, a love song.

ZEPHANIAH 3:17—GOD SINGS “The Lord your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you; he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with SINGING.”

Note: Considering the context of this scripture, Zephaniah is not a romantic book. Instead, it reveals the betrayal of God’s people and the consequences of their turning away from God. Yet, it states that God’s love is relentless, that God delights, quiets, and rejoices with singing.

“We often think of obedience as compliance to a command. But this would make God some sort of exalted drill sergeant. In my experience, most of the time, God doesn’t command. Rather, God sings, and I sing back.”

--Bro. David Steindl-Rast, O.S.B.

NEW Testament:

Luke 1:46-55 Mary’s song (The Magnificat) when told she would be the Mother of the Christ.

Luke 2:29-32—Simeon sang

Acts 16:25 - Paul and Silas sang in jail

Matthew 26 and Mark 14—JESUS SANG! At the end of the Last Supper, He sang a hymn with his disciples as part of the Passover tradition. ALSO, Jesus was committed to the local synagogues, where he worshipped with others. Singing was an integral part of their worship.

Note that we have no commentary on the QUALITY of singing of any of these people. They didn’t sing because they auditioned and won the honor. They sang to worship, to express joy, to celebrate and proclaim God’s goodness, to pray, to teach, to encourage one another, to remember, and more!

Worship is not a spectator sport! We are all called to participate; no one sits the bench. So let’s lift our voices and our hearts together in song! You will be blessed and add to the blessing!



Come meet our neighbors

Youth and college students are invited to come meet our neighbors as we visit other houses of worship.

May 1st at 6:30 pm - Zoom call with Rabbi Simone Schicker

May 27th at 2 pm - Visit Louisville Islamic Center of Compassion

June 3rd at 7 pm - Attend Shabbat service at The Temple

More visits will be announced closer to time



Helping Our Neighbors

By David Pratt

On Saturday March 26th a team of six members from our church traveled to Campbellsville in Taylor County to assist in the Farm Field Cleanup Day. Their task was to work on the Craig family farm where a large tree had fell blocking the road allowing access to the back of the farm. The team worked removing this tree and by midafternoon all was completed. The small limbs were piled out of the way and the larger limbs were moved for later use as firewood by one of the Craig brothers. The tornado was not the only tragedy for this family last winter. The Craig brother owning this farm passed away last September. The other two brothers were working to clean his farm and requested assistance.



Assistance Program

By Amanda Shirley

The first quarter of 2022 has seen a huge increase in numbers of people for assistance. March turned out to be a record month for the assistance program. Centenary handed out 143 bags of food feeding 305 members of our community in one month. The average number of bags handed out last year was 51 per month. So far this year the average is 96 bags a month almost double from last year! March closed out the first quarter of this year. The first quarter numbers for food assistance were 287 bags of food handed out and 649 people fed. The first quarter numbers were about equal to the number at the end of July last year. Yes, you read that right the numbers we have seen in 3 months this year are equal to the numbers assisted in 7 months last year. Most of those people served were in the month of March. April is still holding steady with two more weeks left in the month. Thankfully between food donations from Dare to Care and Farmers Feeding Families; and the grants from Farmers Feeding Families, United Methodist Offering and Shelby County ROTARY all costs have been covered for this part of the program.

You might be wondering, if the food cost is covered where are our donations to the assistance program going? Well, they are all currently going to the financial assistance offered. As most of you know Centenary offers rental or utility assistance. And there have been a lot of requests this year. In March Centenary received 20 applications for assistance. Of those 20 requests we were able to assist 18 of them impacting 46 people. Total amount spent on financial assistance in March was \$3,265.18. For the first quarter Centenary had received 72 applications for assistance. Of those we were able to fulfill 50 of those requests, impacting 155 individuals in the community at a total cost of \$8,713.67. Last year's number of applications received were 144 applications and \$22,647.57 spent on assistance. If we continue to receive requests at the same rate, we will be completely out of funds in about a month and a half. We have taken some precautions and have rolled back on the maximum amount we could potentially assist with per applicant. This will allow us to help more people in the long run. Shelby County is a small county and does not have a lot of providers for financial assistance and even those that get government money are out of funds and are referring people to us for help. Please prayerfully consider donating to help us to continue to help our community. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. With that said I want to say a huge thank you to those that give of their time and their gifts to make this program possible.

Assistance days are Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am-1pm.

For financial assistance applicants need to bring:

- Photo ID
- Proof of Income
- Lease or current disconnect notice for electric, water or gas
- Financial Assistance is available once in a 12-month time frame. Meaning if you get assistance in January 2022, you would not be eligible again until February 2023.
- Referrals to other agencies and programs are available

For Food assistance applicants just need an ID

Assistance is available to all Shelby County residents!

Children's Ministry



We are so blessed that the weather was perfect for our Easter Egg Hunt. Over 1,000 eggs were stuffed and placed on our front lawn. It was a race to see who could get the most. The kids were lined up and ready to go! With so much laughter, they ran and gathered as many as they could. The kids that were able to join us went away with overstuffed bags of candy. We are so thankful for those that donated candy and who were able to join us.



hello
summer
BASH
May 25, 2022
6PM++CENTENARY UMC
429 MAIN STREET
FOOD AND GAMES!

The Children's Area is collecting empty wipe canisters they can be any type of empty cylindrical wipe canister. They will be used for a project for VBS. We are needing 80 canisters. Please see Reesa Headley for more information.

