



## Lenten Study Groups

For 5 weeks during Lent, as we prepare our hearts for Easter, we invite you to be part of study groups on *Passionate Worship*.

Study books are \$5, and enable us to prepare for sessions by praying and by reading the sessions and answering the questions. Sessions begin Wednesday, February 24, and run through March 24. Many groups will meet on Wednesday evenings, but classes are also available Sundays at 6 p.m. (led by Steve Barringer) and on weekdays. Get your book in the office (near Nave side entrance door) or at Lobby desk of Oak Street Center. Leave your \$5 or a check and take your book on Sundays.

## WHOLLY SINGLE

Greater Chattanooga Area  
Christian Singles Conference

On Saturday, January 23, our 2nd annual Wholly Single Conference was held at First-Centenary. It was a wonderful day of singles from around the Chattanooga area enjoying fellowship and singing, with encouraging and uplifting messages from our speakers and facilitators. The theme this year was "Being Whole in Mind, Body, and Spirit." Joe Brown, one of our facilitators, reminded us that "You are not a single man ... you are a man who is single. You are not a single woman ... you are a woman who is single." Our break-out sessions helped guide us in ways to grow in our Christian faith, find lasting happiness, be spiritually transformed, and have better relationships. We are already looking forward to next year's conference!



**Wednesday, February 17**

**12:05 p.m. in the Sanctuary**  
Box Lunch \$6 by reservation.

**6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary**  
Dinner by reservation at 5:15 p.m.

For reservations,  
call 756-2021, ext. 3123 or  
foodsvp@fcumc.org.

Confirmation is a special time to begin a journey of faith that nurtures and challenges pre-teens to think about the nature of God, the life of Christ and learn about United Methodist beliefs.

The classes are offered annually to youth, 6th grade and above. This year's Confirmation schedule includes 18 sessions and a special weekend retreat to Lake Junaluska, North Carolina. The confirmation classes offer each child an opportunity to



confirm their baptism and join the church as full members.

If you or your child is interested, please pick up a brochure outside of "The Nave" or "The Vine" or contact our Director of Student Ministries, Troy Hamilton at 423-756-2021 or troy@fcumc.org.

## From Our Pastor



Dwight Kilbourne

### Committed to Christ

I have the privilege of being a member of the Chattanooga District Board of Ordained Ministry. One of the roles we have on this board is to conduct annual interviews with local pastors in the district. Each year that I have been part of these interviews, I have come away inspired by the devotion and ministry of fellow clergy.

One of the pastors interviewed by my group is an African-American pastor who entered full time ministry later in life. Not long after being appointed to serve a promising situation and rich mission field, the church began to thrive under his leadership. Then in the midst of the success, disease struck his body. At this point in his life, he must receive dialysis three times each week and is limited to being in a wheelchair.

Many people in his situation would have given up on the ministry and stepped aside. But this brother in Christ has continued to serve that congregation faithfully. He has been their pastor for nearly 14 years, preaching and leading the people.

During our interview, I saw that he still has vision for ministry. He shared a new ministry that his church was starting that involved mentoring young men to hopefully lead them away from lives of violence. As he spoke, his passion for this ministry was obvious. I saw in him a commitment to make a difference for Christ's sake in the lives of people even though he faced tough obstacles himself.

This pastor's passion and commitment to ministry is an inspiration to me.

## Prime Time Wednesday

Dinner served 5:15 - 6 p.m.

### Leadership NOW – February 10, 6:15 p.m.

Leadership NOW will be held on Wednesday, February 10 at 6:15 in the Vine. This gathering is designed for all church leaders and anyone who would like to know more about what is going on in the life of the church.

During our February session, Dwight will share some of the trends in our attendance patterns over the past decade and their implications. He will encourage us to think about some things that will help lead us to a brighter future as a church.

#### *In Depth Bible Study Continues*

Jesus in the Gospels  
Rev. Brian Davis

Prime Time Dinner reservations are needed by Noon on Tuesday –  
foodsvp@fcumc.org or  
call 756-2021, ext. 3123.

February 10 MENU: French Country Chicken, Wild Rice, Buttered Carrots, Cranberry Bacon Salad, Strawberry Shortcake Kids: Hot Dogs / Mac & Cheese

### United Methodist Women



Mark Your Calendar for Saturday, February 13. Beginning at 11 a.m., we will meet in the church cloister for snack food and fellowship. Following this time of fellowship, an informative presentation of United Methodist Women beginnings, structure, publications and "How and Where the money goes" will take place in the Kate Lyle West Chapel. Information booklets will be given to Circle leaders and the Executive Team. We will end with an opportunity to make our 2010 pledges. Questions are welcome. Call Laura O'Neal at 706-657-7735.



### Camp Lookout Work Day

Saturday, February 27, 2010

All First-Centenary children love our Camp Lookout! Contact Don Washburn, 706-820-1163 or email – don@camplookout.com to learn how you can help. Light breakfast 7:30 a.m. & lunch served. Workday ends at 3 p.m., and takes place rain or shine, warm or cold. Build steps to cabin, metal roof on small cabin, benches at Vespers Point, landscaping, clean-up pool, cut/split firewood, shelves & hooks in showers, spring cleaning, and more!! If you can't attend, you might help with funding. Call Don!

### Grief Support Group for Widows and Widowers



Begins Saturday, February 27 for eight weeks  
10 – 11:30 a.m. at First-Centenary.

Call Cindy Ruff at the church office  
(756-2021) for more information.

## Meet Our New Members

who joined January 31



Susan Byrd transferred from Brainerd UMC.



Robbie Hall transferred from Christ UMC.

## If you have 8 hours a month to enrich a child's life, Inner City needs you!

Inner City has been offered an exciting opportunity to partner with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Chattanooga. Through this partnership the Inner City children will be paired with adult mentors within the church family. The program guidelines suggest that mentors visit with their "little" bi-weekly totaling no more than 8 hours a month.



Singles, couples or entire families are invited to share their time with an Inner City child. For these visits BBBS of Chattanooga offers free or discounted tickets to local events and attractions in town. Other suggestions would be to explore the public library, attend a movie or simply go on a nature hike. The possibilities of what you can do together are endless, but the friendships you make are priceless. The few hours a month you mentor can have positive life changing effects.

Call Victoria at 266-3345 to hear more about this exciting opportunity.

Have you included the church's Permanent Endowment Fund in your will?

## Health Kits for Haiti

In response to the crisis in Haiti, churches are being asked to put together kits to be sent to Haiti. Below are instructions and a list of items to be placed in the bag. **Bring kits to the church Welcome Center by Sunday, February 7.**

*Health Kit Items Value: \$12 per kit*

Place items inside a sealed one-gallon plastic bag.

- 1 hand towel (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27", No kitchen towels)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large/sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- 1 nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, NO child-size brushes) (UMCOR is purchasing toothpaste.)
- 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages
- \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste

## Within the Church Family

*The flowers in the Narthex on February 7 are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Wayne and Mary Lou Fleck's 50th Wedding Anniversary on February 6, by their children and grandchildren*

# FIRST-CENTENARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Senior Pastor  
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## Church-wide Mardi Gras Party

Tuesday, February 16

The Vine – 5:30 to 7 p.m.  
\$6 for adults – \$4 for children

- Pancakes from Aretha Frankensteins
- Mask making and other crafts for children
- Pancake races
- Children's parade
- Games

Come enjoy a great party and rich food and then join together with your church family as we close in prayerful silence and begin our Lenten journey.

For reservations - call 756-2021, ext. 3123 or  
foodsvp@fcumc.org



## Sunday Worship

February 7, 2010

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

**Sanctuary**  
**at 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.**  
*Bearing Fruit is More  
Than Wearing Fruit  
of the Loom*  
John 15:1-11  
Rev. Brian Davis

**The Vine**  
**at 10:45 a.m. in the  
Oak Street Center**  
*God's Vision for  
First-Centenary*  
Habakkuk 2:1-3  
Dr. Dwight Kilbourne

Televised sermon *The Pursuit  
of Meaning* by Dr. Dwight Kilbourne  
Channel 12, WDEF-TV  
at 11:30 a.m. each Sunday.

### Reading from the Lectionary

- Isaiah 6:1-13
- 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
- Psalm 138 (UMH 853)
- Luke 5:1-11