Congratulations
CLASS OF 2017

High School Graduates:

Aaron Ervin
Baylor School
Plans to study Business Administration at Hampton University

Anna Beth Harris
Chattanooga Christian School
Plans to study Biology/Pre-Health at Huntington University

Gretchen Hanna
C.S.A.S.
Plans to study Music Education at Tennessee Technological University

Jane Wilson
Baylor School
Plans to study Business at the University of Georgia

John Pearson
Hillbros High School
Son of Dr. Scott & Dr. Robin Sorrows Pearson (Grandparents: Wes & Jen Sorrow)

Michael Hicks
C.S.A.S.
Plans to study Exercise Science & Physical Therapy at East Tennessee State University

Tyler Xavier
Soddy Daisy High School
Plans to study at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga

William Schatzman
Baylor School
Plans to study History, International Studies and Chinese at the University of Georgia, Athens

Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.
1 Timothy 4:12 (NIV)

College Graduates:

Andrew
Donald McNair
UT College of Medicine, Memphis Residency at Ohio State

Macall Alexis Nabors
University of Tennessee
Chattanooga
BS in Biology (Accepted University of Tennessee Memphis Dental School Class of 2021)

Lindsay Taylor Nation
University of Georgia
BS in Health Promotion with an emphasis in Health Services

Thank you to all of our graduates who submitted their information. We wish you the best of luck in your careers or next level of education. We rejoice in your accomplishments and we are thankful for you!
Clergy Corner

For the next few weeks, I am going to share with you what are considered, by many theologians, the Divine Attributes of God. These attributes include Omnipotence, Eternity, Omnipresence and Omniscience. So, what does each attribute tell us about our understanding of God? Also, I hope that a little different slant on these attributes will help us appreciate even more, what God has to offer us and the importance of what we choose to receive from God really is.

Omnipotence as defined by Webster means “having unlimited power or authority; all powerful.” And, often when this attribute has been ascribed to God, Webster’s definition is the one used by most believers. However, I would argue that a better understanding of God’s omnipotence comes from the following thought.

For instance, in The Creed we affirm that God is our Father almighty. How we understand almighty is very important in our appreciation of the word omnipotent. I believe a better way to look at this attribute of God is to understand that it means that God has sufficient resources for every life, for every need and the perfect fulfillment of God’s own desires. Getting our heads and hearts around this may take time, as we understand that God does not constrain any of God’s creatures, but moves so that they will act from their own wills (we have free will!). The above helps us appreciate the fact that God does not use God’s almightiness to coerce, but beckons to us in order to bring to pass God’s plans and purposes so as to achieve the moral ends of life. Thus, as Christians, we are confident that God will withhold no good thing from our necessity. In other words, God does not withhold good from us. We choose whether or not to accept it.

Again, in this particular understanding of God’s Omnipotence, we appreciate that God is indeed “the source of human good” always ready, willing and able to guide our moral senses. God has all the resources necessary for a moral life and a moral world. In this way God is truly omnipotent! However, that is not the challenge. The challenge has been and continues to be whether or not we accept the good that God offers?

– Doug Fairbanks

Step Up Day (a.k.a. “Promotion Sunday”) June 4, 2017
On Sunday, June 4, we will promote all grades. This means that we will have a bunch of new 6th grade students! However, we hope that all of our seniors stick around until the end of summer!

Middle School Mission Week 2017 @Camp Lookout / June 5 - 9
Our annual middle school mission trip to Camp Lookout will be June 5 – 9. All youth 6th - 8th grade are eligible. Rising 6th graders are also welcome.

UMW General Meeting June 5, 11 a.m., Mohney Hall
United Methodist Women welcomes well-known local artist and First-Centenary member, Sherry Dahrling, who will be featured at our June 5 general meeting.
You will be inspired as music plays and Sherry creates a beautiful chalk drawing of a butterfly, in celebration of the Holston Conference United Methodist Women logo.
We will have a catered salad lunch following the meeting. Your check for $8 is your reservation. Send or give to Peggy Wilkerson by June 1 – Peggy Wilkerson, wilkersonpm@bellsouth.net, 3823 E. Abercrombie Circle 37415, 423-875-6032.

Clergy Corner (Cont’d)
Meet Our New Members

Matthew and Tracy Moore joined May 21 by transfer from Christ Church Presbyterian in Dalton. Their daughters are Caroline, 8, and Sarah, 2 1/2.

Congratulations Ivy!

Congratulations to Ivy Hall on winning the Scenic City Sing Off. Ivy sings each week in The Vine worship service and is the Teen Director of The Centenary, our outreach to children in Chattanooga. We are blessed to have her beautiful voice and beautiful heart serving others from our church.

Sanctuary Worship

May 28 - Worship this Sunday will recognize the Ascension of Jesus. In the 10:45 Sanctuary Worship Service, the Chancel Choir will present Hal Hopson’s arrangement titled, God Has Gone Up With a Shout. The anthem text is based on the Psalm reading for Ascension Day - Psalm 47. This bold anthem is filled with Alleluias and will create an atmosphere of celebration on this festival day!

June 4 is Pentecost Sunday. Music and liturgy will commemorate the unleashing of the Holy Spirit and will celebrate the work of the Spirit in our lives and in the world.

The First-Centenarian Summer Schedule

The First-Centenarian will be published on June 2, 16 and 30; July 14 and 28; August 11 and 25. Beginning September 1, we will go back to weekly distribution.

Vacation Bible School!

JULY 10-14

9 a.m. – Noon
Register today at www.firstcentenary.com/children.

Hello First Centenary! Our Children’s ministry is gearing up for VBS! Our theme is Maker Fun Factory, where we will celebrate that we are created by God and built for a purpose!

To kick off the fun we’re inviting the whole church to join us in a robot making competition! Sunday school classes, families, friends, and all individuals are all welcome to participate!

Make a robot competition!

You have until July 2 to get your robots ready! Judging begins July 2 with the results announced on the following Sunday, July 9. So get your robots to the church dressed in their mechanical finest!

Contact Beth Spears for more details – 756-2021 or bspears@fcumc.org.

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SUNDAY WORSHIP
May 28, 2017
Seventh Sunday of Easter/Ascension Sunday
Sanctuary at 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.
I Am Hurting! Where Is God?
I Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
Dr. Doug Fairbanks

The Vine at 10:45 a.m.
Rev. Will Lauderback

Reading from the Lectionary
Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

Televised sermon by Dr. Fairbanks – When Persecuted for Righteousness’ Sake
Televised on Channel 12, WDEF-TV at 6 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. each Sunday.

Reception for Will and Christina
this Sunday, May 28
The Vine Lobby immediately following the 10:45 services
Join us as we celebrate the April 30th marriage of Will and Christina Lauderback.
We look forward to having you with us!
(In lieu of gifts, Will and Christina ask that a donation be made to the Camp Lookout Capital Campaign.)

On this Memorial Day weekend, we remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our nation and our values. Also we express deep appreciation to all our Veterans.