



First-Centenary United Methodist Church

419 McCallie Avenue • P.O. Box 208 • Chattanooga, TN 37401 • 423-756-2021 • www.firstcentenary.com

October 9, 2017

Dear First-Centenary Community,

We'd like to begin by letting you know what a privilege it is to share in ministry and worship at First-Centenary. There are many who serve in our church, and our part in helping bring life to the worship of God through music is truly a blessing.

For 25 years, the Music Ministry has provided opportunities for college students to become an integral part of our church by way of the Chancel Choir Scholarship. Based on their specific gifts, these students work in the music program in a variety of ways including participation in the Chancel Choir, as vocal soloists, hand bell ringers, music camp leaders, children's choir directors, and by addressing other needs of the program. The work these students put forth has showered us with so many blessings we can't begin to count, or for that matter, imagine a music program without them.

In turn, we have provided these students with spiritual and musical experiences, and have supported their endeavors in ways that have positively impacted their personal lives and musical careers. Here are a few of their many expressions of thanks.

I want to thank you all for being the family and support system that I have not had. You believed in my success and blessed me with an experience I will never forget. (Jeron Burney, current scholarship recipient)

You all have been such a blessing to me. I had no idea that when I joined the choir at First-Centenary I was becoming a part of such a wonderful family. (Kayla Petrille, 2017 UTC graduate who participated in our program for three years.)

You have been a blessing to me. You helped build my confidence as well as my spirit...you encouraged and inspired me. (Melody Dale Vagnini who was in our program from 2008-2010 and now works with the Disney organization.)

We have all had to say goodbye to someone we have loved and lost. On October 11, 2016, the First-Centenary Chancel Choir lost a most beloved member, Molly Sasse French. Molly was always a strong advocate for the arts and we will never forget the important and significant contributions that she made to our city through Allied Arts (now ArtsBuild), the Chattanooga Symphony and Opera, and to First-Centenary.

As a tribute to Molly, the Music Committee has chosen to rename the Chancel Choir Scholarship Fund the Molly Sasse French Music Scholarship Endowment, effective October 11, 2017. We are seeking to establish an endowment of \$100,000 in order to ensure perpetuation of the music scholarship program in the life of First-Centenary. The renaming of the fund allows us to always remember the passion that Molly brought to the music ministry of our church.

We are asking you to join us in honoring the memory of Molly Sasse French with your contribution that will not only continue to enhance the worship of God through the music in our church, but will positively influence the lives of talented young musicians in our community. You may send contributions in the enclosed envelope, or through



on the church website – www.firstcentenary.com.

Please specify the Molly Sasse French Music Scholarship.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Friedl
Chair, First-Centenary Music Committee

Doug Fairbanks
Senior Minister

Jan McNair
Director of Worship and Music Ministries