


**REAL** **GRACE**  
**LOVE**   
**LIFE**

***Contemporary Worship***

**JANUARY 28, 2024**



## THANK YOU FOR VISITING CANTERBURY!

We are so glad you are here, and we would love to connect with you. Let us know you are here by scanning this QR code or by visiting:

[www.canterburyumc.org/attendance](http://www.canterburyumc.org/attendance)

We look forward to connecting with you!

**Senior Pastor** - Rev. Keith Thompson

**Pastor** - Rev. Hill Carmichael

**Pastor** - Rev. Tori Hastings

**Pastor** - Dr. Bill Morgan

**Pastor** - Rev. Sheryl Thornton

**Pastor** - Rev. Sam Williamson

**Pastor** - Rev. Matthew Montgomery

**Children's Pastor** - Rev. Ruth Grissom

**Youth Pastor** - Rev. Gann Waters - Wright

**Bishop in Residence** - Dr. Mike Watson

**Director of Contemporary Music** - Natalie Moon



## Who Are We

As people of the church, we are committed to following Jesus with an authentic faith. We seek to be real and authentic in every part of our lives because we believe that Jesus wants to know us. We also believe that Jesus wants to meet us wherever we are in life. At Canterbury United Methodist Church, this is what it means to be in relationship with Christ. Jesus said the most important thing we can do is to love God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind, and love our neighbor as our self. This simple yet profound statement represents the real grace and real love Jesus has for all people, particularly those whom the rest of the world often overlooks. This statement from Jesus also represents the very nature of who God is. Through sharing real grace and real love with people, Jesus brought healing into their lives. At Canterbury, we seek to follow Jesus' example, striving to share and experience real grace and real love in our real life.

### Real Grace

Grace stands as a central tenant to our community. It is at the very core of who we are as children of God because it is part of our lives before we are even aware of it. We confess that we are each imperfect, regularly falling short of our own standards and God's. God loves us anyway just as we are. God initiates every relationship with us through grace. God's grace can never be earned, it is all gift. We, as God's children, strive to do the same with each other. We start with grace given to us by God. We live offering the same grace to ourselves and one another.

### Real Love

In a world where people are sometimes criticized for being different, the people of the church are called to be intentionally different. Our Holy Scriptures remind us that we are all created in the image of God; and, if God is Love, then we are created in the image of love. God as revealed in Jesus Christ is what real love looks like. When we are most true to who we are created to be, we are loving. At Canterbury, we seek to embody that love is patient and kind ... and we particularly like it best when it is a verb.

### Real Life

God constantly invites us into a life of full connection with God and others through Jesus Christ. This is the real life we are created for. Nothing but relationship with God and each other will truly satisfy the longing inside us. We believe this is the path to real, abundant life. Our desire is to walk this path together.

# Welcome to Canterbury

## ***We are so glad you chose to worship with us today!***

We want you to feel at home. Through close relationships, the study of scripture, education, and caring for others, our goal is to connect you to God, each other, and His world in a real and meaningful way. We want to be a place where you will meet Jesus exactly where you are. You will find a community of real people, led by leaders who express their real experiences to help renew and empower you to follow Him. So no matter where you are in life, we invite you to come as you are and to live for something greater. If you need help finding your way around, we have welcome guides located at our main entrances and outside the worship areas. We look forward to connecting with you!

## **WORSHIP:**

**Children in Worship** All children are welcome in worship! The sights, sounds, and interactions of worship are appropriate for every age. Worship Activity bags, Sensory bags, and other resources are available as you enter. If you have a child with sensory challenges who might need a break from worship, we have a Sensory Room located on the 2nd floor of the Children's Building that is staffed with knowledgeable caregivers. Excellent nursery care is available to children through 4 years old, however we love having all ages worshipping together and look forward to the ways they can help us worship God.

**Watch Online** We understand the challenges you face and we strive to be a church that is accessible to you whenever and however you need us. Our Sanctuary and Contemporary Worship services are available on our website.

## **Things to Know:**

- *Make sure your children get a worship activity pack on the wall in Canterbury Center.*
- *The Children's Comfort Room is in the back hallway.*

## **NEXT STEPS**

If you are new to Canterbury, this is a great class for those who want to learn more about our church. Held on Sunday mornings, it provides an overview of what makes Canterbury thrive. You can find out more about the church, ask questions, and make personal connections. Sundays, 9:15-10:15 AM in the Dining Room. For questions or to sign up for the next session, please contact Becky King at [becky.king@canterburyumc.org](mailto:becky.king@canterburyumc.org).

## **MEET WITH OUR PASTORS:**

Our pastors would love to meet with you over coffee and get to know you. You can bring any questions you might have and get to know a little more about Canterbury, and anything else you want to talk about. Contact Matthew Montgomery at [matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org](mailto:matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org) or 205-868-6588, to set that up.

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## **CONTACT US:**

**Church Office:** 205-871-4695

**To Join:** [matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org](mailto:matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org)  
205-868-6588

**Pastoral Care Response Line:** 205-999-4887

**[canterburyumc.org](http://canterburyumc.org)**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## WORSHIP IS AN AWARENESS AND EXPRESSION OF GOD'S PRESENCE LIVED OUT MOMENT BY MOMENT

### **We Gather In God's Presence**

#### ***Good Plans***

Welcome & Greeting

Children's Moment

### **We Prepare Our Hearts With Song**

#### ***New Creations***

#### ***Made For More***

### **We Respond To God**

God's People Pray

God's People Give

#### ***Hold On To Me***

### **We Listen For God's Voice**

2 Samuel 12: 1-9, Luke 15: 11-32

Faith At Work: The Office-Denial (And Reality)

#### ***Jesus You Alone***

### **We Go To Live Like Jesus**

Reminder of God's Promises

A Challenge to Live Like Jesus

**SERMON NOTES:**

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**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Thanksgiving for the Life of**

Elsie Boyd.....January 20, 2024

Jay Bates (Betty McKewen's brother).....January 23, 2024

# Happening at Canterbury

## **Today is United Methodist Women Recognition Sunday**

UMW is recognized as the largest religious denominational organization for women. Canterbury's United Methodist Women includes women of all ages who are actively involved in faith driven, hands on service; who enjoy regular fellowship; and who champion the improvement of the lives of women, youth and children. For more information about this diverse organization, simply email [CanterburyUMW@gmail.com](mailto:CanterburyUMW@gmail.com).

## **Encore Volunteer Training | January 29 | 9 AM-12 Noon**

Encore Community Respite Ministry is designed to empower those with memory loss to live fully and live well. The program is progressive, interactive and affirming, incorporating elements of creative and cultural arts, fitness, intellectual stimulation, and social and spiritual fulfillment. Held here at Canterbury on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, the program is thriving and can always use new volunteers. Join us for a training session on January 29 at 9 AM in the Encore room. Questions? Contact Patti at [encorepatti@gmail.com](mailto:encorepatti@gmail.com).

## **Book Club | February 5 | 11:30 AM**

Now is a great time to join BOOK CLUB! Two wonderful reads are lined up for February 5 and then March 4. February's reading is *The Same Sky* by Amanda Eyre Ward. Book Club is held from 11:30 AM-12:30 PM in Room M200 (next to the Resource Room). Register at: [www.canterburyumc.org/grow/adults](http://www.canterburyumc.org/grow/adults)

## **Ash Wednesday | February 14**

- Drive through Ashes – 12:00-1:00 PM

A pastor will greet you with ashes at your car under the porte-cochere drive through at the main entrance near the Welcome Center.

- Service of Ashes – 6:00 PM, Sanctuary

Join us as we mark the beginning of Lent with this beautiful service that serves as a solemn reminder of our human mortality and our need for reconciliation with God and others.

## **Created by God | February 22 Parents & February 24 Students**

This workshop brings together 5th and 6th graders, their parents, and adult leaders for a faith-filled, comprehensive study of human sexuality, anatomy, growth and development, reproduction, and God's call to intimacy and responsibility. (\$60.00 per student) Register at: [www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children](http://www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children)

- Thursday, February 22 | 6:30-8:00 PM Parents & Leaders
- Saturday, February 24 | 9:00 AM-4:00 PM Students & Leaders

## **Discovery Weekend | March 15-17**

Discovery Weekend is our YAC spring retreat for all 7th-12th grade students. This weekend is designed for our junior high students, where our senior high students (grades 10-12) take on leadership roles during the whole weekend. Senior high students give the session talks, lead the small groups, and more. It all takes place here at the church. Your student is not going to want to miss this weekend! Registration opens tomorrow morning online at: [www.canterburyumc.org/grow/youth](http://www.canterburyumc.org/grow/youth)

# Upcoming Events



## Raising Boys

GUEST SPEAKER  
**David Thomas**

TODAY  
2-4 PM

What does it look like to raise boys with emotional strength? Young men who have the skills and resources to navigate all the moments of life - from the first day of school to conflict with friends, losing games and struggling with homework, facing challenges, and developing resilience.

This session will equip you to help boys develop three foundational ingredients for emotional health, known as the 3 R's. You will walk away with questions to ask the kids in your life, practical ideas and intentional practices for building emotional strength in your family.

David is the Executive Director of Daystar Counseling Ministries in Nashville, Tennessee. He is a frequent guest on national television and podcasts and has been featured in publications like The Washington Post and USA Today, and speaks across the country. For more information, visit [raisingboysandgirls.com](http://raisingboysandgirls.com).

**Free Admission. Open to the public!**  
**Childcare available.**



**AGAINST HUNGER**

**February 25 & 26**

Canterbury Hall

Rise Against Hunger is an international hunger relief non-profit organization that coordinates the packaging and distribution of food and other aid to people in developing nations. Each year, Canterbury partners with Rise Against Hunger to pack thousands of meals. In 2023, we reached our goal by packing 150,000 meals. **In February, we plan to pack 200,000 meals** - bringing the total meals packed at Canterbury since beginning this program to 4 million meals!

This is a wonderful opportunity to serve with your Sunday school class, small group, or even your neighbors and friends. Many hands and hearts are needed, so register for a shift today! Click the QR code below or visit:

[www.canterburyumc.org/rise-against-hunger](http://www.canterburyumc.org/rise-against-hunger)





*Thank you for joining us today!*