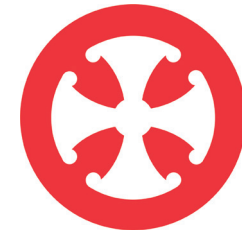




*Thank you for joining us today!*



**REAL**



***Contemporary Worship***

**SEPTEMBER 17, 2023**



### 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/guests](http://www.canterburyumc.org/guests)  
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. Seth Moon  
**High School 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.

## Fall Adult Studies & Small Groups

### WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

#### • Fall Session Two •

#### Boundaries

Led by Sheryl Thornton  
Begins 10/11  
6-7 pm, Room M208, Covenant Classroom

#### Life On Purpose

Led by Tori Hastings  
Begins 10/11  
6-7 pm, Room M227, Aldersgate Classrom

#### Living Your Strengths

Led by Annie Skinner  
Begins 10/11  
6-7 pm, Room A122, Renneker Conference Room

#### Ongoing Studies available to join before Session Two begins:

#### Joshua

Led by Lisa Donnell and John Hutchinson  
6-7 pm, Room M228 (Ongoing)

#### Wednesday Evening Bible Study-Exodus

Led by Keith Thompson  
6-7 pm, Room M209, Wesley Hall (Ongoing)

### Register today!

Jump in to an adult small group or Wednesday evening study. Session One begins this week on August 23! For a full listing of options and to register, please scan the QR code or you may visit: [www.canterburyumc.org/adultbiblestudy](http://www.canterburyumc.org/adultbiblestudy)



### SMALL GROUPS

#### Grief Care

This group serves as a means of self-care and shared community for persons in grief. For six weeks, we will listen, share, and gain important tools in navigating our unique grief experiences. Wednesdays, 10/11-11/15  
Led by Sheryl Thornton | 12:00 pm, Room M200

#### Book Club

Wednesday, 10/2  
*A Knock at Midnight: A Story of Hope, Justice, and Freedom*, by Brittany K. Barnett  
11:30 am-12:30 pm, Room M226

#### Emotionally Healthy Spirituality

Tuesdays, 9/12-10/31  
Led by the Pastors  
-Morning class from 9-11 am, JOY Classroom  
-Evening class from 6-8 pm, Covenant Classroom

#### Emotionally Healthy Relationships

Tuesdays, 9/12-10/31  
Led by Annie Skinner  
-Morning class from 9-11 am, Room M140  
-Evening class from 6-8 pm, Small Dining Room

### Sign Up for the Weekly Outreach Email Update

Want to know what's going on (in detail) with Canterbury Outreach? Want to get a current list of service opportunities that are full of outreach EXCITEMENT and easy YESes? If so, sign up by emailing Rachel Estes at [rachel.estes@canterburyumc.org](mailto:rachel.estes@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**

#### ***Time and Time Again***

Welcome & Greeting

Children's Moment

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

#### ***Goodness of God***

***He Is***

### **We Respond To God**

God's People Pray

God's People Give

***Thank God I Do***

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

Sermon

***Place of Freedom***

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

Reminder of God's Promises

A Challenge to Live Like Jesus

### **SERMON NOTES:**

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### **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

#### **Congratulations to**

- Corey & Amy Funderburg on the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Elizabeth Funderburg, who was born on September 6, 2023.

# Happening at Canterbury

## YAC MidWeek | Wednesdays | 6-7 PM

MidWeek is BACK! All students will start in the Youth Center at 6 pm! We'll then split up into Junior High (7th-9th graders) and Senior High (10th-12th graders) for our lesson. Junior High will move to room M-118, and Senior High will stay in the Youth Center. MidWeek includes games, a lesson, and a whole lot of fun!

## Next Steps | September 24 | 9:15 AM

Interested in membership? Sign up for our Next Steps Class! Next Steps is a 4-week class for anyone wanting to become a member of the church, as well as study our core beliefs and history. We will start Sunday, September 24 at 9:15 AM. Email [becky.king@canterburyumc.org](mailto:becky.king@canterburyumc.org) to sign up or for any questions. Join us!

## Legacy Luncheon | September 26 | 12 Noon

Please join us September 26 as long time Canterbury member, Gerrie Hansford, and the rest of the Knit Wits share the story of their history, what they do, and most of all why they do it. Come enjoy this time of fellowship and connection to learn more about each other and to embrace the spirit of Christ over a wonderful meal prepared by Chef Debbie Lofton. Please RSVP to [valerie.boyd@canterburyumc.org](mailto:valerie.boyd@canterburyumc.org) or 874-1523.

## Children's Talent Show | October 4 | 6 PM

There are so many talented children at Canterbury and we think it is time to share it with our church family with a Children's Talent Show. Their talent might be singing, twirling, gymnastics, dance, playing an instrument, doing a monologue, or a number of other ways. Our talent show will be held on Wednesday, October 4 at 6 PM following our Wednesday night dinner in Canterbury Hall. This will not be a competitive talent show. Children grades K-6 are invited to participate. All acts must be three minutes or less and all music must be appropriate for our Sanctuary. Register your child now at [www.canterburyumc.org/childreensevents](http://www.canterburyumc.org/childreensevents).

**All registration forms must be turned in today!** Contact Ruth Grissom at [ruth.grissom@canterburyumc.org](mailto:ruth.grissom@canterburyumc.org) for more information. We hope your child will plan on being a part of this fun evening and shine for God's glory!

## Wednesday Night Guest Speaker | Lisa Damour, PhD | October 11 | 5:45 PM

Join us to hear Dr. Lisa Damour, author of three New York Times best sellers, speak about "Parenting Girls." She co-hosts the "Ask Lisa" podcast, works in collaboration with UNICEF, and is recognized as a thought leader by the American Psychological Association. Dr. Damour is also a regular contributor to *The New York Times* and *CBS News*. She will be speaking in Wesley Hall on October 11 from 5:45-6:45 PM.

## Journey Retreat | November 17-19

Youth@Canterbury's Fall retreat, called the Journey Retreat, is November 17-19. Registration opens Monday, September 18 at 7 AM! This is a retreat for all 7th-12th grade students, and friends are welcome! The weekend is full of sessions with awesome worship & talks, lots of games, small groups, and a whole lot of fun! This is a weekend that your student will not want to miss, so invite your friends and join us! You can learn more here: [www.canterburyumc.org/youth#journey](http://www.canterburyumc.org/youth#journey).

# 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 Matthew Montgomery at [matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org](mailto:matthew.montgomery@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)