

COME

CONNECT

COMMIT



Contemporary Worship

September 7, 2025



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

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

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. Matthew Montgomery

Pastor - Dr. Rick Owen

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. Excellent nursery care is available to children through 4 years.

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

Worship Online We strive to be a church that is accessible to you whenever and however you need us! All worship services are available online:

Website:

www.canterburyumc.org/worship/worship-online

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/CanterburyUMChurch

YouTube:

www.youtube.com/@CanterburyUMC

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.

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 or 205-868-6588, to set that up.

CONTACT US:

Church Office: 205-871-4695

To Join: matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org
205-868-6590 x 2327

Pastoral Care Response Line: 205-999-4887

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

These Are The Days

Welcome & Greeting

We Prepare Our Hearts With Song

Goodness Of God

Great Are You Lord

We Respond To God

God's People Pray

God's People Give

Here And Now

We Listen For God's Voice

Hebrews 10: 24-25

Come. Connect. Commit: COME

We Gather Around God's Table

Holy Communion

Gratitude

We Go To Live Like Jesus

Reminder of God's Promises

A Challenge to Live Like Jesus

SERMON NOTES:

Thanksgiving for the life of

Barbara Taylor (Paula Carter’s mother).....August 27, 2025

Happening at Canterbury

RISE Climbing Event | September 14

4th-6th graders... Let's go climb to new heights at the Hoover Climbing Adventure Complex on September 14. Drop off at 3:30 in the Chapel lot. Fee \$15, to cover climbing and pizza! RSVP: www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children

Legacy Luncheon | September 23 | 12 PM

Join us on September 23 for a very special and inspiring Legacy Luncheon as we welcome Dr. John Waits from Freedom Farm. RSVP by 9/18: valerie.boyd@canterburyumc.org

Men's Breakfast | September 25 | 6:30 AM

Our quarterly Men's Ministry Breakfast will be held Thursday, September 25 at 6:30 AM in Canterbury Hall. Enjoy a great breakfast (\$12), wonderful fellowship, and words of inspiration. RSVP: www.canterburyumc.org/mens-breakfast

Grief Care | Begins October 1 | 12 Noon

When we lose someone we love, we embark on a journey not of our choosing. But it is a vital and sacred journey for grief just the same. This group serves as a means of self-care and shared community for persons in grief. Over the course of 6 weeks, we will listen, share and gain important tools in navigating our unique grief experiences. Led by Hill Carmichael on Wednesdays at 12 PM. Register: www.canterburyumc.org/care

Journey Retreat | November 21-23

Save the date! Journey will be held November 21-23 at Shocco Springs in Talladega, AL. This is for all 7th-12th graders (friends welcome!). Sign-up details to come! Stay tuned!

Wednesday Adult Studies | 6-7 PM

Session 2 Begins October 1

Missed a study from Session 1 you wanted to catch? We're running these same favorite studies again for Session 2!

Register: www.canterburyumc.org/grow/adults

- ACTS - Hill Carmichael
- JOHN - Rick Owen
- REVELATION - Keith Thompson
- JOB - Matthew Montgomery
- PSALMS - Mike Watson
- JAMES - Tori Hastings
- GENESIS - Eleanor Christiansen & Natalie Moon
- JONAH - Annie Skinner
- PAUL - Lisa Donnell & Team

Wednesday Dinner | Canterbury Hall | 5-6 PM

Come enjoy a great meal and connect with your church family before Bible study, kids and youth activities. Served in Canterbury Hall from 5-6 PM. Cash and card accepted.

9/10 Menu:

Adults: BBQ Pork Sandwich, slaw and beans

Kids: Pizza, fruit, dessert

Encore Volunteer Training | October 1 | 9 AM

If you would like to make a difference in the lives of those living with dementia or memory loss, Encore would love for you to join the program as a volunteer. This is the most rewarding experience that you could ask for! For questions or to sign up, email Patti Williams at encorepatti@gmail.com.



At Canterbury, we believe that transformation happens when we Come, Connect, and Commit. Coming means showing up—to worship, serve, and grow. Connection deepens our faith and relationships with God and one another, leading to true Commitment. Together, this Spirit-led cycle produces lives alive with faith and a church that shines with Christ's light through children's ministry, youth, and outreach.

Your continued financial commitments allow Canterbury to thrive in all the areas of ministry that truly make a difference in the lives of those around us. During the month of September, we ask that you be in prayer about what your time and financial commitment will be for Canterbury's ministries in 2026.

We also ask that you join us in worship on **Commitment Sunday, September 21**, when we will make our commitments together as a church and look with hope to where God is leading us in the coming year.

When you make that prayerful decision, please contact the Finance Office or easily enter your 2026 financial commitment online at:

www.canterburyumc.org/giving



Thank you for supporting your church and its mission through your faith and generosity!



This summer was bursting with joy and incredible ministry for our children and youth! From rafting adventures and Magic City Work Week to Day Camp and VBS, laughter was shared, friendships were built, and hearts were touched in ways that will continue to shine brightly.



Canterbury
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

www.canterburyumc.org