

The Poynter Scholarship Trust



Miss Harriet Poynter, educator,
philanthropist.

Long before the class of 2015 seniors were born, two prominent members of Centenary realized in 1985 the need to create a scholarship fund. They wanted to recognize Centenary's students who had already started to glorify God through their scholastic efforts and service to their church, community and family. The visionaries were Miss Harriet Poynter and her niece Miss Emily Ruth Poynter. Miss Harriet, a former teacher for the prestigious college preparatory school, Science Hill, which her family owned from 1879 – 1839, was passionate about helping young people attend college. Miss Emily Ruth, a former social worker, had over the years secretly assisted many worthy young people with their college expenses. Through the 30 years since the trust's initial funding, Centenary's high school graduates have been invited to apply for scholarships. Deserving recipients have been blessed because of the wisdom and generosity of the Poynters.

This year, Centenary's bounty of seniors was a blessing that stretched the scholarship fund beyond its capacity when a record six graduates applied. The Scholarship Fund Committee was resolved that each applicant qualified for a scholarship and the dollars had to be a minimum of \$500 each. The funding was short, (and will be again next year with another large class of graduates) but Centenary's love for its seniors was not. Lynda Tharp, scholarship committee chair, explained the dilemma to her Sunday School class, the Seekers. Without solicitation, checks started being passed to her. In less time than you can say "Miss Harriet", the shortfall was filled with money left over to apply toward next year's fund.

If you would like to help assure next year's scholarship program is adequately funded, please drop a check in the collection plate or mail designated to Centenary's Scholarship Fund. It will be used as needed to provide scholarships for approved applicants and awarded after they complete their first college grading period with a minimum 2.0 grade point average.

The Centenary Scholarship Committee includes, Lynda Tharp, chair; Kim Aitken Serve Ministry Chair; Emily Henderson, Kim Reese, and Nick Headley. Scholarships were awarded to Lindy Bush, Katie Hisle, Jordan Knipp, Shelbi Poehlein, Sabrina Pratt, and Autumn Wall.

Centenary proudly salutes all of its high school seniors:
Lindy Bush, Aubrey Bales, Andi Gaither, Katie Hisle, Jordan
Knipp, Shelbi Poehlein, Sabrina Pratt, Ashton Stovall,
Kirsten Suter, and Autumn Wall

Lindy Bush



Lindy plans to attend Georgetown College in the fall. “I have two routes I am deciding between: I either want to major in biology or anatomy, go into the pre-medicine, program then go on to medical school to become a surgeon or major in art and go on to be an interior designer.

“One of my favorite memories from CUMC was doing VBS when I was younger. I always really enjoyed the activities and being with everyone. I also remember being an angel in the Christmas play one year and I was so proud of myself for not messing up. By far the best memory I have at CUMC are the days I spent at Kids' Korner. Those days were when I was truly happy and really felt God's presence here.” Lindy is the daughter of Bill Bush and Molly Sullivan.

“... I always knew the congregation at Centenary was there with open arms for me; that is something I think is unique about our church and something for which I will always be grateful.”

Aubrey Bales

Aubrey played on Collins High School varsity volleyball team. She is planning to attend Western Kentucky University to study animal science with a pre-veterinarian focus. Aubrey is the daughter of Bryan and Meg Hughes and Tim Bales.

Aubrey fondly recalls a weekend retreat she took with Centenary's Children Ministry Team when she was 8 years old. She says it was filled with fun and laughter.





Andi Gaither

Andi, right, is pictured with her sister Marty. Andi will attend The University of Kentucky and plans to major in education. Andi's parents are LeeAnn Hickman Gaither and Jim Gaither.



Centenary Youth
celebrating their seniors,
Sunday, May 17th.

Katie Hisle

Katie is the daughter of Bill and Erin Hisle. She plans on going to the University of Louisville to major in communications.

“My favorite memory of Centenary,” says Katie, “was when I was an incoming sixth grader and first joined youth group.”

“ . . . Having a place where I know that I am accepted and loved unconditionally has been extremely important to me. Centenary United Methodist Church has been my second home since I was a child.”



Jordan Knipp

“I plan on attending Lindsey Wilson College, majoring in elementary education,” Jordan says with a winning smile. Jordan’s parents are Willard and Julie Knipp.

“My favorite memory of Centenary is of a bunch of youth group kids coming to see me the day before I had leg surgery. They came bearing balloons and chocolate brownie ice cream. They are extremely supportive of one another.”

“This church has a way of wrapping people in love, and letting anyone who is going through a hard time know that the church has their back and they love and care for them. This is just a part of what Centenary means to me.”

Shelbi Poehlein

Shelbi is the daughter of John and Theresa Poehlein. She says, “I will be attending Transylvania University to pursue a degree in marine biology while playing soccer and softball.”

Reflecting on Centenary moments, Shelbi recalls, “One of my favorite memories from Centenary is skiing my first black diamond with Jeff Gaither.”

“It is a special thing to be loved unconditionally by so many people, and to have such a strong foundation to fall back on when the world is tough. That is what CUMC has created.”



Looks like Youth Director Matt Bell “photo bombed” this great picture of some of Centenary’s seniors following Senior Day recognition services. Pictured (l-r) Lindy Bush, Autumn Wall, Sabrina Pratt, Katie Hisle, Kirsten Sutter, and Jordan Knipp.





Sabrina Pratt

Sabrina is headed to Murray State University this fall with plans to major in psychology. Sabrina is the daughter of Rebecca Abbott and Brandon Pratt.

Sabrina says, “A memorable part of Centenary has been teaching the preschool class during Vacation Bible School. Through the smiling faces of the little kids, full of energy and affection, I have most clearly seen God's love.”

“To My Church Family, I love you all so much and I will never be able to thank you for always supporting me and motivating me to become a better person, for being there when I needed a helping hand, or just being a smiling face in a pew when I gave a speech from the pulpit. It is impossible to convey how much it has all meant to me. So again, thank you!!!!!!”



Ashton Stovall

Ashton is taking a year off to prepare to go to Jefferson Community College for her general education classes before transferring to the University of Louisville. She plans to major in social work to prepare to work for CPS (Child Protective Services).

Thinking about growing up in Centenary, Ashton says, “Centenary has meant always knowing your roots, and never being denied a home. A perfect example of Christ's love.” Her parents are Jennifer Crick Vanover and Shawn Stovall.

Kirsten Suter

Kirsten, the daughter of Keenan and Heidi Suter, is going to Eastern Kentucky University, hoping to major in pre-pharmacy.

Kirsten says, “My favorite memory is from the ASP Mission Trip. We replaced a rotting kitchen and foundation for a local family. However, in between sawing and hammering, we had the opportunity to hang out with a six-year-old named Cameron. Cameron was one of those kids who won't sit still and you can't tell no. One day he tried something new: tying clover flowers together. We made a chain as long as the yard and then we did it again. Next we tied together wild daisies. We had so much fun stringing them up, trying to find the longest one. Every time I see a clover flower I think of Cameron and all the fun we had together.”



Autumn Wall

Autumn wants to major in communication disorders to prepare her for a masters in speech therapy. She will attend Western Kentucky University. She is the daughter of Nancy Overstreet Wall and Matt Wall.

Autumn says, “There are so many memories Centenary has given me that I will cherish for a lifetime. Going to Winter Blitz, the ramp ministry and the mission trips have been my favorite. I got to use a saw and meet people with amazing stories. I always have a good laugh with my "squad" knowing that they'll be there for me whenever I need them. These experiences have gotten me closer to my peers in the church and my relationship in Christ.”

“Words can't describe my gratitude for this church. . . Centenary has fueled my passion for helping people and has helped me grow in my faith and better my relationship with Christ.”