

# HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DERIDDER



**PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28TH**  
10:00 AM SERVICE IN THE SANCTUARY & ONLINE



**MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 1ST**  
6:00 PM SERVICE IN THE SANCTUARY & ONLINE



**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2ND**  
7:15 AM - 12:00 PM MEDITATIVE PRAYER TIME  
IN FELLOWSHIP HALL (COME AT YOUR CONVENIENCE)



**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4TH**  
10:00 AM SERVICE IN THE SANCTUARY & ONLINE

**JOIN US EARLY ON EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4TH!**  
6:40 AM SUNRISE SERVICE AT THE NEW FUMC -  
DERIDDER WESLEY CAMPUS ON N. TEXAS STREET  
(BRING YOUR OWN LAWN CHAIR AND/OR A BLANKET)

ALL ARE WELCOME!



First United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 965  
DeRidder, LA 70634

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit  
Organization  
Postage Paid  
Permit #53

## Pastor's Ponderings!

Well, winter is not wanting to go out quietly. That was quite the ice storm and then the battle with water issues and some of you with electricity. The church has been without water now for over a week (not caused by the ice). We hope that will be repaired during this last week of February. We shall see. We all have faced one obstacle after another – and all of it in the midst of you trying to have your homes repaired from hurricanes.

I saw a post on Facebook that seemed so appropriate. During Lent, a lot of people give up things to help them understand the sacrifices and all that Jesus gave up for us. The suggestion was made that we have already given up a lot for the last year – regular worship in person, electricity, running water, time with friends potluck meals and so much more. It has been a season of Lent for the last year.

So, what if instead, we did something more? Something fun. Included in this article is a picture with a different word for the day, done by the UMC, that you are to think about in relation to Lent. For example, February 28<sup>th</sup>, the word is celebrate. Think about what that words means to you in this season of Lent and then take a picture. Maybe the word celebrate makes you think about birds at your bird feeder and, for you, that is a celebration of life that God gives us. Or, you can take a picture of the Bible stating that you celebrate God's Word given to us. Then, send the picture to Erin via email by 2 PM each day. Each day has a different word. She will then put together a collage of pictures that you take for each day for us to put on our website. It's a beautiful way for us to remember Lent and all that God has done for us through the giving of himself, through Jesus, to show us and teach what love, grace and truth are all about!

Another thing you might do is find one nice thing to do for someone each day. Call someone, send cards out to people, leave a meal for someone on their doorstep (call and let them know though!), or pay for a meal for the car behind you in line at the fast-food restaurant. There are so many things we can do.

I hope and pray that the rest of this Lent season you will find and see and hear and experience the love of God in each and every day.

God bless you all,  
*Laraine*

## Spring Ahead!

Don't forget to turn your clocks  
ahead one hour before  
bedtime on  
Saturday, March 13th!



**Happy St. Patrick's Day!**  
Wednesday,  
March 17th

*First Day of Spring!*  
*Saturday,*  
*March 20th*

**Palm Sunday!**  
**Sunday, March 28th**  
**10:00 AM Worship Service**  
**in the Sanctuary & Online**

**Devotional Time with Rev.**  
**Laraine in Fellowship Hall!**

**Bring Your Own Lunch**

**Monday, March, 29th**  
**Tuesday, March 30th**  
**Wednesday, March 31st**

**12:10 PM - 12:50 PM**



Erin Tepley & Mary Allen  
Church Office Administrators  
Office: 337-463-4491  
office@fumcderidder.org  
fumcderidder.org

Follow us on Facebook:  
First United Methodist Church -  
DeRidder

## Return to Church

Once again, Church Council has been looking at the situation with Covid, the numbers, and the various types of Covid going around. We ALL acknowledge two things: 1. We are all wanting to be back in church (unfortunately, this isn't just about readiness or wanting to - it includes safety), and 2. We have to acknowledge the fact that since there was the ice storm, the numbers may not have all been reported last week.

Therefore, the majority of the Council would like for us to wait until March 7th and see what happens with the numbers over this week. We are seriously hoping to be open again on the 7th. Please be in prayer that everyone stays healthy, that the vaccines are helping, and that we are at the beginning of a healthier, safer time in everyone's life.

God bless us all. *Laraine*

## Lent 2021

### Photo-a-Day Challenge

### February

2/17 - Covenant  
2/18 - Living  
2/19 - Sign  
2/20 - Remember  
2/21 - Celebrate  
2/22 - Walk  
2/23 - Name  
2/24 - Everlasting  
2/25 - Call  
2/26 - Bless  
2/27 - Rise  
2/28 - Celebrate

### March

3/1 - Spoke  
3/2 - Words  
3/3 - Steadfast  
3/4 - Labor  
3/5 - Rested  
3/6 - Honor  
3/7 - Celebrate  
3/8 - Thanks  
3/9 - Endures  
3/10 - Gathered  
3/11 - Healed  
3/12 - Delivered  
3/13 - Wonderful  
3/14 - Celebrate  
3/15 - Days  
3/16 - Coming  
3/17 - New  
3/18 - House  
3/19 - Write  
3/20 - Teach  
3/21 - Celebrate

3/22 - Given  
3/23 - Sustain  
3/24 - Weary  
3/25 - Wakens  
3/26 - Gave  
3/27 - Together  
3/28 - Celebrate

### Holy Week

3/29 - Dark  
3/30 - Removed  
3/31 - Loved  
4/1 - Following  
4/2 - Reached  
4/3 - Why  
4/4 - Celebrate

We are so excited to announce that Texola roofing is now working on our church campus! Depending on when the rain hits, we will be through with this part of the repairs from the hurricane over the next week. Texola has offered us a great opportunity. If you are still needing a roofer and would like to use them and do use them, they will give the church \$250 for every church member's home that they do. They want to give back to God for the ways that they have been blessed to help people. If you use them, please call the church office and let us know. They want us to compile a list of names of church members that have used them as a result of the hurricanes, and then they will cut us a check. Obviously, whoever you use is up to you, and we are happy for you to use who you are comfortable with. We just wanted to let you know about this unique opportunity. Please contact Murry Hodge, Texola's Executive Vice President, at **318-423-1209**.







## Children, Teen, & Family Ministries

Is it Spring yet?!

I am looking forward to the warmer temperatures and sun shiny days as we are voyaging through Lent and headed into Easter.

What a great couple of weeks we have already had as we have taken a new journey through Lent. This year we offered a unique Lent in a Box. Lent in a Box was not designed for the situation we currently find ourselves in with churches not being able to physically meet. Lent in a Box is designed to help families and churches to journey together toward Easter.

Each box was filled with hands on activities, interactive prayer activities, and encounters with Jesus. Everything each family needed was provide in each take out box. We still have a couple left. If you are interested to try a new hands on approach please see Erin in the office. Lent in a Box is for all ages!

**Just a Reminder:** Would you like your house "EGGED?"

The "EGGING" will take place on the evening of Saturday March 27th. We will be there after dark, put the dogs inside please. Please let us know if you would like to be "EGGED" by emailing Ashley at [ashley@fumcderidder.org](mailto:ashley@fumcderidder.org) or calling Erin. Please make sure you sign up by March 14th. We need to ensure we have enough eggs for all houses. Please include in the email family name, address, and phone number. This year during Holy Week, during our Wednesday Evening Children's Ministry, I would like to introduce our kids to the very heart of the Christian story, praying the Stations of the Cross. It's an excellent way to introduce our children to the story of Jesus' Passion (his suffering and death), breaking it down into smaller pieces that kids can more easily memorize. But the Stations are more than the re-telling of a story: it is a prayerful participation. At its best, the Stations will engage our kids at a spiritual level.

Have A Super Fantastic Smiley Day,

**Ashley Carpenter**

Director of Children and Family Ministries  
First United Methodist Church, DeRidder



### First United Methodist Youth

Resilience is the ability to adapt well in the face of hard times, disasters, or high stress. Our youth continue to build their resiliency skills over Zoom. They have explored their self-awareness and the core competency of optimism and learned how to "hunt the good stuff." They researched Bible versus that reinforced those skills and were encouraged to put those in a place where they could see them daily. We also tied this skill to the power of prayer and how we can always find something to be thankful for, even in these trying times. Our youth practiced how to avoid "thinking traps," or our tendencies to allow our emotions direct our thought processes. Redirecting our emotions and consistently training our minds to thinking positively allows us to be ready for the opportunities that God presents us. We are looking forward to getting back to in person meeting, but until then we will continue to stay positive and hunt the good stuff. Please encourage your youth to attend our weekly meetings, and have them invite a friend.

Counting my blessings.  
Cathy Scott



## METHODIST CHILDREN'S LEARNING CENTER NEWS



### Happy Valentine's Day!

Love, Mary Launey  
Director of Methodist Children's Learning Center  
[mccl\\_director@yahoo.com](mailto:mccl_director@yahoo.com)

I got to put my grandson, Rowan, to bed one night. He said his prayers with me and I thought we were all done. As I pulled the covers up he said, "Gammaw, wait. Here's what we do every nite-nite. You read Finker Mafink (Dr. Suess) to me. THEN, I throw the book real far outta my bed.

THEN, I turn big Elmo upside down. THEN, I get my blanket. THEN (he lays his head on his Elmo pillow with sleepy eyes and says) nite-nite." --- Oh, the things you can learn from a two-year old!! ---

Just recently, I was visiting when bedtime arrived. I got to see the nightly routine again, 5 years later. It played out like this - teeth brushed, hair brushed, lunch boxes in place, books read, hugs and kisses, then off to bed. As I waited for their mom and dad to get back from tucking them in, I was given an amazing gift! Marcie and Rowan, now 7, began to sing:

*I awake to the day on a mountain high;  
The sun shines bright in a perfect sky.  
The pines like arrows are pointing above;  
My world is peaceful because of God's love.  
This day is my own. I must use it with care  
So when night comes and I say my prayers  
I'll thank you God for a beautiful day.*

*This is my morning song.*

I am blindsided by their beautiful duet. They are singing a song taught to my husband by HIS mom when he was 2, becoming their nightly routine. My husband taught this song to Marcie when she was 2, and it became their nightly routine. Now, I am hearing the precious tradition carried on. My heart is full!

As a parent, I hope Ted and I have raised our children right. Seeing my girls raising their own children beautifully is such a joy. This song is, also, a reassurance to me. God's Word says, "Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle." 2Thess.2:15

*~Mary Allen*



### FUMC - DeRidder Music Ministry Notes

On February 21, we debuted our new camera system for use in streaming our services and other activities. The system is truly remarkable. God is great and has richly blessed our church through technology and the volunteers who have embraced the challenge of learning how operate it. I am amazed that they dove right into those uncharted waters and successfully delivered a quality streaming experience for you. I am excited to use this technology in our music ministry, including our upcoming classical concert series, featuring our vocal quartet, Mary Allen on piano, and Kelley Allen on clarinet. The second concert will be a vocal recital of art song and opera arias sung by me and accompanied by Mary and Kelley. It is exciting and nerve racking for me to prepare music for a solo vocal recital. I have not done that in 25 years. Like Mary and DiAnne's hymn concert, these concerts will be recorded and streamed later. They will not be live. Stay tuned for more information on these two concerts coming in the near future.

John Schwarze - Director of Music  
[schwarze@fumcderidder.org](mailto:schwarze@fumcderidder.org)

### Children's Music Ministry

Our children will be providing a special anthem for the Palm Sunday service on March 28. We will be rehearsing at 5:30 on Wednesday evenings in the choir room. Call/text (337-396-8349) or email me at [kelly@fumcderidder.org](mailto:kelly@fumcderidder.org) to let me know that your darlings will be participating. A copy of the music and a practice CD will be made available to each participating family. A few extra copies will also be available in the church office.

Stay safe, stay warm, and never stop smiling! God be with us all 'til we meet again...

Your Sister in Christ,  
Kelley Allen,  
Children's Music Ministry







I would like to personally thank the congregation of First United Methodist Church - DeRidder for their faithfulness in paying 100% of the 2020 Louisiana Conference Apportionments in December. The prompt payment of apportionments enables us, through our connectional structure, to do ministry in Jesus' name in all areas of the world. Again, I would like to thank you and the entire congregation for your dedication and service as we strive to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In Christ's love and service,  
Sandy O'Brien  
Executive Director, Administrative Services  
Louisiana Conference - The United Methodist Church

To All FUMC - DeRidder Members,  
Thank you so much for all your prayers, thoughts, and encouragement. From the time I was put on prayer lists and prayers across the world, the doctors have said I was a miracle patient. I was in ICU for a record recovery and out of rehabilitation a month short of what everyone thought I would be able to leave. Know that prayers still create miracles and God listens to them. Thank you for your caring and prayers. They gave me lots of energy to fight to get home.

Love to All, Karen Wesley  
Sister of Ted Hammerschmidt

Dear First United Methodist Church,  
Thank you very much for your generous donation to God's Food Box. Through your support we are able to help those in need in our community. Thank you for answering the Lord's call to help feed the hungry.

God Bless You,  
Angela Mudd & the Volunteers at God's Food Box

## Community Outreach

**June Jenkins Women's Shelter**  
A big thank you to all who participated in the Bleach Challenge. We donated over 40 each of bleach wipes and bottles of bleach to the June Jenkins Women's Shelter!



### Methodist Children's Home -Sulphur

Another expression of gratitude to Susan Hill, our Missions & Caring Coordinator, who gathered the items and created hygiene baskets for girls at the Sulphur Methodist Children's Home. She made total of 15 kits. FUMC church members contributed a total of \$400 to help accomplish this mission. We also truly appreciate Crystal Hammerschmidt for making the delivery on a Saturday morning so that the girls could receive the gift baskets on Valentine's Day!

## WORSHIP LEADERS

WE ARE KEEPING EVERYONE LISTED EXACTLY LIKE LAST MONTH. IF YOU NEED TO MAKE A CHANGE, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE. THANK YOU!

### MARCH 7

GREETERS: BETTY & SCOTTY NEASE  
READERS: MARY ALICE WISDOM & JOHN MARCELLO  
POWERPOINT RUNNER: LAURA SCHULTZ

### MARCH 14

GREETERS: TEPELY FAMILY  
READERS: JANET & D. LAMAR OLIVER  
POWERPOINT RUNNER: ERIN TEPELY

### MARCH 21

GREETERS: GRANT BEAL & CATHERINE WHITE  
READERS: BARBARA HAYNES & TED HAMMERSCHMIDT  
POWERPOINT RUNNER: LAURA SCHULTZ

### MARCH 28

GREETERS: BETTY & SCOTTY NEASE  
READERS: LAURA SCHULTZ & JOE ANN LILLIE  
POWERPOINT RUNNER: ERIN TEPELY

## Putting on a Face Mask

Creator God, as I prepare to go into the world, help me see the holy nature of wearing this face covering. Let it be a tangible and visible way of living love for my neighbors, as I seek also to love myself.

Blessed Jesus, since my lips will be covered, uncover my heart, that people would see my smile in the crinkles around my eyes. Since my voice may be muffled, help me to speak clearly, not only with my words, but with my actions.

Holy Spirit, as I secure this mask around my ears, remind me to listen carefully and caringly to all those I meet.

May this simple face covering be shield and banner, and may each breath it holds be filled with Your love. It is in your name I pray and it is in your name I love.

Amen.  
(Modified from a prayer by Rev. Richard Bott, Moderator, Presbyterian Church of Canada)

Designed by Sheila Fryer of McCabe United Methodist Church in Bismarck, North Dakota

"Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines...yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will be joyful in God my Savior."

Habakkuk 3:17-18







March 2021

Birthdays

- 1 Bill Sweikert
- 2 Dana Morrow
- 3 Peggy Chisholm
- 6 Robert Bennett III
- Tyler Husak
- 7 Tripp Clanton
- 9 David Robinson
- 10 Emma Major
- Sandra Wertz
- 12 Shelton Chavez
- 14 Lauren Blankenship
- Dustin Nothnagel
- 19 Terra Rembet
- 21 Bobbye Gehron
- Zach Major
- 23 Marcie Hauser
- Billy Brister
- 24 Margaret Crowe
- LaRue Luttrell
- 26 Patrick Wertz
- James Buxton
- 30 Daisy Geiger

Anniversaries

- 15 Raymond & Gloria
- Marcello

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 <div>■ 10:00 AM Sunday Worship Service Online</div> <div>■ 4:00 PM Bible Study</div>	1 <div>■ 5:00 PM OCC Crafting with Danna in the Youth Building</div> <div>■ 6:30 PM Cub Scouts meet in the Gym</div> <div>■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 30 meet on 3rd floor of MCJC Education Building</div>	2 <div>■ 10:00 AM Mary Martha Circle</div> <div>■ 5:30 PM Daisy/Brownie/Junior Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall Building</div> <div>■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 911 in the Youth Building</div>	3 <div>■ 8:00 AM Facebook Live Morning Devotional with Communion</div> <div>■ 5:30 PM Praise Ensemble Practice in the Sanctuary</div>	4 <div>■ 5:30 PM Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts in the Youth Building</div>	5	6 <div>■ First Day of Spring!</div> <div>■ 10:00 AM Junior Girl Scout Digital Photography Badge Workshop in the Youth Building</div>
7 <div>■ 9:00 AM Sunday School</div> <div>■ 10:00 AM Blood Drive - LifeShare</div> <div>■ 10:00 AM Sunday Worship Service with Communion in Sanctuary &amp; Online</div> <div>■ 4:00 PM Bible Study</div>	8 <div>■ 5:00 PM OCC Crafting with Danna in the Youth Building</div> <div>■ 6:30 PM Cub Scouts meet in the Gym</div> <div>■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 30 meet on 3rd floor of MCJC Education Building</div>	9 <div>■ 5:30 PM Trustees Meeting</div> <div>■ 5:30 PM Daisy/Brownie/Junior Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall Building</div> <div>■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 911 in the Youth Building</div>	10 <div>■ 8:00 AM Facebook Live Morning Devotional with Communion</div> <div>■ 5:30 PM Children's Music Ministry in the Choir Room</div> <div>■ 5:30 PM Praise Ensemble Practice in the Sanctuary</div> <div>■ 6:00 PM Children &amp; Youth Meet in LLL Room &amp; Conference Room</div> <div>■ 6:00 PM Cub/Boy Scouts Troop 911 in the Youth Building</div>	11 <div>■ 5:30 PM Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts in the Youth Building</div>	12	13
14 <div>■ Daylight Savings Time Begins - Spring Ahead!</div> <div>■ Children's Ministry "House Egipt" Sign-Up Deadline</div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Sunday School</div> <div>■ 10:00 AM Sunday Worship Service in Sanctuary &amp; Online</div> <div>■ 4:00 PM Bible Study</div>	15 <div>■ 5:00 PM OCC Crafting with Danna in the Youth Building</div> <div>■ 6:30 PM Cub Scouts meet in the Gym</div> <div>■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 30 meet on 3rd floor of MCJC Education Building</div>	16 <div>■ 5:30 PM Trustees Meeting</div> <div>■ 5:30 PM Daisy/Brownie/Junior Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall Building</div> <div>■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 911 in the Youth Building</div>	17 <div>■ 8:00 AM Facebook Live Morning Devotional with Communion</div> <div>■ 10:00 AM Rosemary Cady Circle in the Conference Room</div> <div>■ 5:30 PM Children's Music Ministry in the Choir Room</div> <div>■ 5:30 PM Praise Ensemble Practice in the Sanctuary</div> <div>■ 6:00 PM Children &amp; Youth Meet in LLL Room &amp; Conference Room</div> <div>■ 6:00 PM Cub/Boy Scouts Troop 911 in the Youth Building</div>	18 <div>■ 5:30 PM Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts in the Youth Building</div>	19	20 <div>■ First Day of Spring!</div> <div>■ 10:00 AM Junior Girl Scout Digital Photography Badge Workshop in the Youth Building</div>
21 <div>■ 9:00 AM Sunday School</div> <div>■ 10:00 AM Sunday Worship Service in Sanctuary &amp; Online</div> <div>■ 11:15 AM Staff Meeting in the Sanctuary</div> <div>■ 4:00 PM Bible Study - last meeting</div>	21 <div>■ APRIL Newsletter Deadline</div> <div>■ 5:00 PM OCC Crafting with Danna in the Youth Building</div> <div>■ 6:30 PM Cub Scouts meet in the Gym</div> <div>■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 30 meet on 3rd floor of MCJC Education Building</div>	22 <div>■ 5:30 PM Daisy/Brownie/Junior Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall Building</div> <div>■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 911 in the Youth Building</div>	23 <div>■ 8:00 AM Facebook Live Morning Devotional with Communion</div> <div>■ 5:30 PM Children's Music Ministry in the Choir Room</div> <div>■ 5:30 PM Praise Ensemble Practice in the Sanctuary</div> <div>■ 6:00 PM Children &amp; Youth Meet in LLL Room &amp; Conference Room</div> <div>■ 6:00 PM Cub/Boy Scouts Troop 911 in the Youth Building</div>	24 <div>■ 5:30 PM Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts in the Youth Building</div>	25	26
28 <div>■ 9:00 AM Sunday School</div> <div>■ 10:00 AM Palm Sunday Worship Service in Sanctuary &amp; Online</div>	29 <div>■ 12:10 PM Sacrament lunch with Devotional in Fellowship Hall</div> <div>■ 5:00 PM OCC Crafting with Danna in the Youth Building</div> <div>■ 6:30 PM Cub Scouts meet in the Gym</div> <div>■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 30 meet on 3rd floor of MCJC Education Building</div>	30 <div>■ 12:10 PM Sacrament lunch with Devotional in Fellowship Hall</div> <div>■ 5:30 PM Daisy/Brownie/Junior Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall Building</div> <div>■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 911 in the Youth Building</div>	31 <div>■ Baugaland Parish School Spring Vacation</div> <div>■ 8:00 AM Facebook Live Morning Devotional with Communion</div> <div>■ 12:10 PM Sacrament lunch with Devotional in Fellowship Hall</div> <div>■ 5:30 PM Children's Music Ministry in the Choir Room</div> <div>■ 5:30 PM Praise Ensemble Practice in the Sanctuary</div> <div>■ 6:00 PM Youth Meet in LLL Room</div> <div>■ 6:00 PM Cub/Boy Scouts Troop 911 in the Youth Building</div> <div>■ 6:15 PM Children's Ministry - Stations of the Cross in the Sanctuary</div>	1 <div>■ Maundy Thursday</div> <div>■ 6:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service with Communion Online &amp; in the Sanctuary</div>	2	3 <div>■ MCJC Closed All Day</div> <div>■ Good Friday</div> <div>■ Church Office Closed All Day</div> <div>■ 7:15 AM Good Friday Meditative Prayer Time in Fellowship Hall</div>



When giving memorials or honoraria for persons other than church members, please provide the name and address of the person to be notified of the gift. Thank you.

In Memory of  
Jack Uns  
John Marcello  
The Tromara Family  
Marcia & Roy Ades  
Dianne & Bill Penney  
Joyce & Jerry Lewis  
The Godwin Family

In Memory of  
Ruby Gibson  
Dianne & Bill Penney  
Joyce & Jerry Lewis

Our physical address is  
406 W. Shirley St.  
DeRidder, LA 70634