

*I give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his
steadfast love endures forever.*

Psalm 107:1

*Happy Thanksgiving from
First United Methodist Church - DeRidder*



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

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PASTOR'S PONDERINGS!

When I was looking at the calendar today, something new dawned on me. We start out the first Sunday with Holy Communion and All Saints Day. A day we give thanksgiving for and remember those who have gone before us. It's appropriate we celebrate Holy Communion because it is here that we remember and give thanksgiving for our Savior who gave his life for us SO THAT we do have the forgiveness of sins and the gift of everlasting life and surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. Our loved ones and Jesus are a lot to be thankful for each day of our lives. We also have Veterans Day. A day to remember and honor all of those who have served in our armed forces, who have protected and served our country, and who have fought in wars over the years. These men and women have given so much and we must share our gratitude with them for their honor and their service. Then we have the rest of the month where we are preparing for the holiday of Thanksgiving, and we are giving thanks and counting our many blessings in our lives. Our hearts tend to be filled with gratitude for our many blessings. And then there is the last Sunday of the month. Something happens that day that does not happen every year. The Sunday after Thanksgiving is the first Sunday of Advent. So at the end of November, we continue our gratitude for our God who loves us so much that He sends His Son as a newborn baby – the greatest gift of all. He comes to teach us, lead us, heal us, forgive us of our sins and gives us the gift of life eternal. November is truly an amazing month of gratitude.

I invite you to get or print off a blank calendar for the month of November, and each day write 1-3 things down each day that YOU are grateful for in your life. Put it on the breakfast table, on your bathroom mirror, your refrigerator or next to your chair where you read or watch TV. Watch your list grow each day, and at the end of the month, post it somewhere where you can remind yourself of all the many ways you are blessed. Read it especially when you are having one of those hard days.

I think I will start November 1st off with my gratitude for each of you and for serving God in this church and this community! Thanks be to God. Amen!

Laraine

Charge Conference – November 14th

Attention all Church Council members for 2021! We need you to come to the church on Sunday, November 14th at 3 pm. We will be meeting with our District Superintendent for our annual meeting to approve several different items for the church and to celebrate our year! This meeting will be a “cluster” meeting with several other churches via Zoom. This will work best if we can all be together in the same room to watch, listen and participate in this meeting. Anyone may attend, however, only the current board members may vote. The new people we just have talked to about serving on committees do not begin until January 1, 2022. It would be a good idea to attend so you can learn how all of this works. These are fun and interesting meetings, so leadership, please put this on your calendar now and make plans to attend. We will let you know which room we will meet in as we get closer. Blessings!
Y'all are a wonderful church!



Facebook LIVE with Communion
Every Wednesday
8:00 AM!
First United Methodist Church -
DeRidder



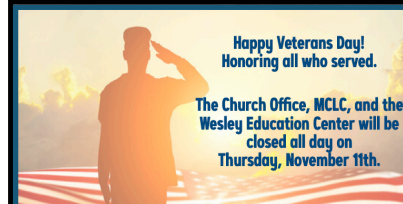
Thursday, November 4th!
11:00 AM
Conference Room
Prepare a special dish.
Music provided!

Please bring an item for the Council on Aging to be used as a gift for their games (hand lotion, soap, shampoo, cozy socks, dish towel, etc.).



All Saints Day with Communion
Sunday, November 7th
10:00 AM
Sanctuary & Online

Blessing of the Pets
Sunday, November 7th
3:00 PM
Prayer Garden
More information inside!



Happy Veterans Day!
Honoring all who served.

The Church Office, MCLC, and the
Wesley Education Center will be
closed all day on
Thursday, November 11th.

The Sons of the American
Legion would like to
invite you to a
**VETERANS
BREAKFAST**
•Before Church•
★★★★★

Sunday, November 7, 2021
Served from 7:00 AM to 10:00 AM

American Legion Hall
Please contact John
Marcello for more
information!

**Family & Children's
Advent Event**
Sunday, November 28th
Crafts, candles, & nativity scenes.
Contact Cathy or the Church Office to
register.



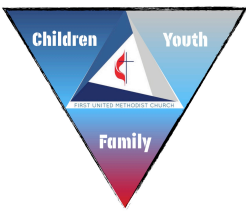
The Church Office will closed on
Wednesday, November 24th at 12:00
PM. The Church Office, MCLC, and
Wesley Education will be closed all
day on Thursday, November 25th, and
Friday, November 26th for the
Thanksgiving Holiday.



Erin Tepley
Church Office Administrator
Office: 337-463-4491
erin@fumcderidder.org

Follow our online worship services on Facebook at
First United Methodist Church - DeRidder, or on our
YouTube page: DeridderFUMC

MINISTRIES



Wednesday Evening Children’s and Youth Ministry

Our Wednesday evenings are growing. The elementary children are working their way through the Fruits of the Spirit with Ms. Laura and the Youth continue to work on the Bible Basics series. Every Wednesday evening starts with Children’s Music Ministry at 5:30, then at 6:00 we will share a meal, then move on to lessons from 6:30 until 7:30. We are looking for volunteers to help, there are a lot of opportunities to serve. Of course, we always can use an extra pair of hands in the classroom to assist the children with their projects. But we also, have an opportunity to provide, or cook, or serve and share a meal with the kids on Wednesday evenings. This is a mission within itself, the kids love to eat, parents welcome a night off from cooking, but most of all it is a unique opportunity to get to know the children in the church. We encourage the adults serving to sit with the children and get to know our future leaders. Additionally, it gives the children the opportunity to get to know the members of the church and lets them know they are a part of the big picture.

Sunday Early Worshipers - 9:00 AM

Every Sunday from 9:00-9:45 our Early Worshipers meet. All children in grades K-12 are invited to attend. We provide light breakfast foods and juice to get the morning started. Currently we are working our way through women of the Bible.

Children’s Church - During Worship

All children in grades K-5 are welcome to attend. This is a one room lesson where we are currently exploring how Halloween fits into the life of a Christian. This time of year, is full of scary characters and gross stuff. How do we rectify that as a Christian? We open our Bibles to find that no one can create a bigger plot or better monster stories than our God. We have discussed the Nephilim and Giants in Genesis 6 who continue to make appearances in the Bible until the time of the great prophets (David and Goliath). Job’s Leviathan that is a ginormous smoke-sorting, fire breathing serpent (perhaps the lock ness monster). We will finish with Apollyon’s Locust, the superbugs (locusts) featured in Revelation 9. This will connect the cartoon universe with all of its myths to the truths that originate in Gods Word. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Cathy Scott
(337) 396-9610

Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries



Youth!

The youth are back to school and their schedules have become very busy. However, youth group is an activity that every tween/teen needs! Here is why:

- They need models and mentors. While parents are responsible to be their child’s spiritual mentor, it’s important for them to see “church activities” as more than just what my parents make me do. They need to understand their own beliefs that will set the foundation for their adult lives.
- Tweens/teens need a safe community of other tweens/teens to grow. Every day they face bullying, gossip, and hate which can destroy their self-identities. Youth group strives to build and protect their self-identity.
- Tweens/Teens need a mission and to feel that they are a part of the bigger picture. When they invite a friend to youth group, they are advancing the ministry of the church and growing in their faith. They are learning to be the disciples they are called to be.
- Tweens/teens need theology, they need to be able to express and explore their doubts and struggles without fear. Youth group can help them resolve their questions using Gods Word.
- Tweens/teens need a safe place to confide their struggles. Our world is full of temptation and youth group is a safe place to open up and talk about struggles and get victory over sin.

The youth meet on the second floor of the Fellowship Hall Building every Wednesday evening. Dinner is provided and the youth now share the meal with the children’s group. If any of our youth would like to join the children’s music ministry, please arrive at 5:30. We will move from that to dinner from 6:00-6:30, then a lesson from 6:30-7:30.

Counting my blessings,
Cathy Scott, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

WINTER CAMP!
December 17-19, 2021
Youth in grades 6-12



What happens at Winter Camp? The URC takes their usual camp activities and centers them around our Christmas traditions, celebrating the birth of our Savior. The food is great, the games are super fun, and it’s the very best, most wonderful time of the year!

Camper check-in: 6pm, Friday, 12/17 - Pick-up: 2pm, Sunday, 12/19

Cost: \$119 per camper

For more details or scholarships call Cathy Scott (337) 396-9610



Methodist Children’s Learning News

The preschool classes took a field trip to Anderson Farms in Leesville on Thursday, October 21st. Look what fun they had! Thank you all teachers and staff for assisting these youngsters help choose their perfect pumpkin and learn about the farm!



My mom was the sweetest, kindest person I have ever known. She was an only child, smart and beautiful, quiet and shy. A life-long love story began when she met and married a handsome Air Force gunner returning from World War II.

I assume Mom expected her quiet, calm life to continue with her new husband & new home, leaving lots of time for her love of reading. Fast forward to real life.

She is now Mom of 6 stair-stepped children (I was third). She cooks from our garden; she sews many of our clothes. She encourages each of us to play the piano, join sports and the band, make good grades and above all — be kind , helpful and respectful. Mom and Dad attended every game and marching event; they were Sunday School teachers and choir members. The oldest child was in 12th grade the year the youngest child started school! Think about that for a minute! Most of those years, they accomplished this with 1 bathroom and 1 car. Remarkable! Simply remarkable!

A year after Mom’s death, the 6 siblings joined together to divide her most-loved items. Lots of laughter was heard; lots of tears were shed. Then came the moment we realized that Mom raised us with such all-encompassing love that we EACH believed we were her favorite. In fact, we still do! How did she do that? To this day, we don’t know. But we know this:

“She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband praises her. Honor her for all that her hands have done and let her works bring her praise at the city gates.” Proverbs 31: 25-29, 31

This picture shows a family who knew you loved them. Thank you, mom.

~Mary Allen



There is a Dr. Seuss book titled Marvin K. Mooney Will You Please Go Now. It reads, “The time has come. The time is now. Just go, go, go. So Marvin went.” My time has come. I have greatly enjoyed and been fulfilled by my time as teacher and director at Methodist Children’s Learning Center. I appreciate the guidance of the MCLC Board, especially the chairperson, Mandy Oldaker and, of course, Rev. Laraine’s never-ending support. A giant thank you to FUMC. The church has supported the Center through bad times and good times. I will sorely miss mentoring my staff, but most of all, I will miss all the sweet children. The little voices calling, “I love you, Ms. Mary” will live in my memory and heart for eternity.

Love & Blessings to All, Mary C. Launey



Children’s MusicMinistry Notes:

The Children's Music Ministry is in full swing. We are busy learning music for Sunday Worship. A highlight of the rehearsal is playing the children's handbells. We have begun to work on Christmas Music. Practice is every Wednesday evening at 5:30 in the Choir Room. Come be a part of this fun time!

Peggy Williams
Children’s Music Ministry Director

UMW’s Chili Café, Casseroles, Baked Goods, Jelly, & More!
Sunday, November 21st
11:15 AM

The United Methodist Women will open the Chili Café in Fellowship Hall selling bowls of Mitch’s Special Chili and much more! Enjoy the chili, then browse all the items to fill out your Thanksgiving table. There will be frozen casseroles, all kinds of cakes, cookies, and other baked goods. They will also have mayhaw and pepper jellies, hot mustard, Cajun pickles, and Methodist Children's Home salsa for sale.

Please join us for fellowship and support for UMW’s missions here at home and around the world!

November Worship Volunteers!

November 7th: All Saints & Communion Sunday

Greeters: Nell & Vic Perry
Readers: Cathy Scott & Joe Ann Lillie

November 14th: Sunday Worship

Greeters: Betty & Scotty Nease
Readers: Barbara Haynes & David Hardesty

November 21st: Christ the King Sunday & Thanksgiving Worship

Greeters: Tepley Family
Readers: Mary Alice Wisdom & Gayle Bailey

November 28th: First Sunday of Advent Worship

Greeters: Lennie Hanchey
Readers: Tim Kindler & Van Allen

Thank you for all your help on Sunday!

Nursery



Hooray, we have two staff members on board dedicated to the Nursery! Nursery services are now available on Sundays during Sunday School beginning at 8:45am, Worship beginning at 9:45, and Wednesday at 5:45pm. Please help us spread the word. If you have any questions about the Nursery, please call me at (337) 396-9610. Cathy

Blessing of the Pets



Rev. Laraine will be blessing any pet you would like to bring to the prayer garden on Sunday, November 7th at 3:00 PM. You may park in either the MCLC parking lot or the parking lot across the street from the sanctuary (if you have a bigger pet). We cannot wait to see all these beautiful animals and bless them on (hopefully) a sunny, beautiful Sunday afternoon!

Advent Adventures!

Please join us on Sunday, November 28th, from 2:00-4:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall to prepare for the coming of Christ. During our Advent Adventures we will remind ourselves what Christmas is really about. We will use hands-on activities and create a family prayer chain to count down the days until Christmas, make a take home Advent wreath, craft a trumpet to herald the Messiah, and celebrate the birth of Jesus in a manger. Parents are welcome to attend with their children but space is limited to 30 children. Please contact either me or the church office to register. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact me directly.

~Cathy Scott



Packing time is almost here! On Friday, November 5th, we will pack OCC shoeboxes from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM. On Saturday morning from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM the remaining boxes will be packed.

Thank you for your faithfulness in providing items for the OCC shoeboxes. Every shoebox gift is an excellent resource for evangelism and discipleship, which leads to the multiplication of new believers and churches around the world. One shoebox leads to an average of nine people who come to know Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. I am so glad to be a part of a mission minded church – locally, nationally and worldwide.

~Donna McCullough

- Items still needed for 5-9 years olds:
- girls socks - 29
 - girls underwear - 18
 - boys underwear - 22
 - brushes - 14
 - Barbie doll clothes - 28
 - marbles - 59
 - small balls- 54

December Newsletter Deadline

Please submit any photos or articles to the Church Office by Friday, November 19th for next month's newsletter.

Join us after lunch on Sunday, November 21st at 12:30 PM to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas!

Missions Team Christmas Basket Preparations!

We will be collecting donations for Christmas baskets this year. The Missions Team, as well as anyone who would like to help, will be filling and praying over the baskets on Friday, December 10th, and Saturday, December 11th in the Conference Room.

More information soon!



Our church is MOST excited to bring back Breakfast with Santa this year on Saturday, December 4th. Time and place TBD. Volunteers needed to serve, prep, and break down. Volunteers also needed for hungry tummies and smiling faces! Let's share the presence of Jesus in our hearts with the community!

The Aldersgate Sunday School Tree Lighting Project begins Sunday, November 7th. More details to come!



Beauregard Retired Teachers Christmas Luncheon! Thursday, December 9th 9:00 AM Fellowship Hall

Blue Christmas Service Sunday, December 5th 5:00 PM Fellowship Hall

Lessons & Carols Service Thursday, December 9th 6:00 PM Sanctuary

November 2021



BIRTHDAYS

- 1David Lee Prather
- 2Kandy Luttrell
- 6Heather McDonald Dixon

Vail Luttrell

- 9Claire Jones
- 10Maylee Hawes
- 11Ray Hauser

- 13Susan Slover
- 15Kristen Maddox
- Mary Allen

- Julie Robinson
- Jerry Lewis

JoAnn Lillie

Brandi Godair

Billy Hill

Raymond Henderson

Tina Parris

Ashley Carpenter

Scotty Nease

Jo Calhoun

Abigail Cobb

ANNIVERSARIES

Ricky & Cindy Iles




Gary & Margaret Crowe

Don & Liz Savant

David & Anna Wiggins

Our mailing address is
PO Box 965
DeRidder, LA 70634

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 ■ 9:00 AM Sunday School ■ 10:00 AM Reformation Sunday Worship in Fellowship Hall & Online ■ 11:15 AM UMW Chrl Cate in Fellowship Hall ■ 1:00 PM Decorate Sanctuary for Christmas ■ 4:30 PM Handbells Practice in the Sanctuary	1 ■ 6:00 PM Continuing Ed Larane ■ 6:30 PM Cub Scouts Meet in the Gym ■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 30 meet on 3rd floor of MCLC Education Building	2 ■ 9:45 AM Chapel - MCLC ■ 5:30 PM Daisy/Brownie/Junior Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall Building	3 ■ 8:00 AM Facebook Devotional w/ Communion ■ 4:30 PM Praise Ensemble Practice- Sanctuary ■ 5:30 PM Children's Music- Choir Room ■ 6:00 PM Bible Study- Conference Room & Zoom ■ 6:00 PM Children & Youth- Fellowship Hall	4 ■ 11:00 AM Ladies Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall w/music provided ■ 5:30 PM Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts in the Youth Building ■ 6:00 PM Scouts Parent/Committee Meeting in the Conference Room	5 ■ 2:00 PM OCC Shoebox Packing in Fellowship Hall - setting up all day ■ 8:00 AM OCC Shoebox Packing in Fellowship Hall	6 ■ Daylight Savings Time - Fall back! 1 hour ■ 8:00 AM OCC Shoebox Packing in Fellowship Hall
7 ■ 7:00 AM Veterans Breakfast at American Legion Hall ■ 9:00 AM Sunday School ■ 10:00 AM All Saints Day & Communion Sunday & Blessing of the OCC Shoeboxes Service in the Sanctuary & Online ■ 11:15 AM Missions Committee in the Choir Room ■ 3:00 PM Blessing of the Pets in the Prayer Garden ■ 4:30 PM Handbells Practice in the Sanctuary	8 ■ 6:00 PM Continuing Ed Larane ■ 6:30 PM Cub Scouts Meet in the Gym ■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 30 meet on 3rd floor of MCLC Education Building	9 ■ 9:45 AM Chapel - MCLC ■ 10:00 AM Mary Martha Circle in the Conference Room ■ 5:30 PM Daisy/Brownie/Junior Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall Building	10 ■ 8:00 AM Facebook Devotional w/ Communion ■ 4:30 PM Praise Ensemble Practice- Sanctuary ■ 5:30 PM Children's Music- Choir Room ■ 6:00 PM Children & Youth- Fellowship Hall ■ 6:00 PM Bible Study- Conference Room & Zoom	11 ■ Veterans Day - Office, MCLC, & Wesley Closed	12	13
14 ■ 9:00 AM Sunday School ■ 10:00 AM Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary & Online ■ 11:15 AM Staff Meeting in the Choir Room ■ 3:00 PM Charge Conference Meeting with District Superintendent on Zoom ■ 4:30 PM Handbells Practice in the Sanctuary	15 ■ 6:00 PM Continuing Ed Larane ■ 6:30 PM Cub Scouts Meet in the Gym ■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 30 meet on 3rd floor of MCLC Education Building ■ 8:00 PM Finance	16 ■ 9:45 AM Chapel - MCLC ■ 5:30 PM Trustees Meeting ■ 5:30 PM Daisy/Brownie/Junior Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall Building	17 ■ 8:00 AM Facebook Devotional w/ Communion ■ 10:00 AM Rosemary Cady- Conference Room ■ 4:30 PM Praise Ensemble Practice- Sanctuary ■ 5:30 PM Children's Music- Choir Room ■ 6:00 PM Children & Youth- Fellowship Hall ■ 6:00 PM Bible Study- Conference Room & Zoom	18 ■ 5:30 PM Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts in the Youth Building ■ 6:30 PM Round Table District Scout Meeting in the Conference Room	19 ■ December Newsletter Deadline	20
21 ■ 9:00 AM Sunday School ■ 10:00 AM Christ the King Sunday Worship Thanksgiving Service in the Sanctuary & Online ■ 11:15 AM UMW Chrl Cate in Fellowship Hall ■ 1:00 PM Decorate Sanctuary for Christmas ■ 4:30 PM Handbells Practice in the Sanctuary	22 ■ 5:30 PM Finance	23 ■ 9:00 AM Merry Mailers in the Church Office ■ 9:45 AM Chapel - MCLC	24 ■ 8:00 AM Facebook Devotional w/ Communion ■ 12:00 PM Church Office Closes	25 ■ Thanksgiving - Office, MCLC, & Wesley Closed 	26 ■ Office, MCLC, & Wesley Closed	27
28 ■ 9:00 AM Sunday School ■ 10:00 AM Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary & Online - First Sunday of Advent ■ 2:00 PM Family & Children's Advent Event ■ 4:30 PM Handbells Practice in the Sanctuary	29 ■ 6:30 PM Cub Scouts Meet in the Gym ■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 30 meet on 3rd floor of MCLC Education Building	30 ■ 9:45 AM Chapel - MCLC ■ 5:30 PM Daisy/Brownie/Junior Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall Building	1 ■ 8:00 AM Facebook Devotional w/ Communion ■ 4:30 PM Praise Ensemble Practice- Sanctuary ■ 5:30 PM Children's Music- Choir Room ■ 6:00 PM Bible Study- Conference Room & Zoom ■ 6:00 PM Children & Youth- Fellowship Hall	2  ■ 8:30 AM Women's Prayer Breakfast in the Conference Room ■ 5:30 PM Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts in the Youth Building ■ 6:00 PM Scouts Parent/Committee Meeting in the Conference Room		4



In Memory of Daisy Geiger

Mary & Billy Brister
Frances & Raymond Cole
Julie Porter
Judy Kay

Chris & Rodgel Daugherty
Martha Smith

In Memory of Milton Cole

Mary & Billy Brister

In Memory of Joseph Kulaga

John Marcello

In Memory of Dick Myers

Martha Smith
Debbie & Van Allen
Marcia & Roy Ades
Betty & Scotty Nease
Melanie & John Marcello
Patty & Seth McCullough
Donna & Robert McCullough

Brigitte & James Booth
Frances & Raymond Cole

Judy Kay

Joyce & Jerry Lewis

