SPECIAL **OCTOBER 2, 2022**

"Renew our communion with your Church throughout the world, and strengthen it in every nation and among every people to witness faithfully in your name."

-----THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY



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Lastor's Londerings!

I want to say a personal thank you to all of you for the way y'all have blessed me over the last couple of months. At a time when your pastor was feeling very weary from such a hectic time over the last two and a half years, you were so tremendously supportive of me taking time off to go on a Spiritual Retreat and to refill my cup. The Upper Room, along with the sponsoring conference (this time in Virginia), puts on an amazing, worshipful, fun, informative, learning, growing, relaxing retreat. I highly recommend their Five-Day Academy to everyone. It is for clergy and laity. This is my second time to participate in this retreat and it is a gift. Thank you for being so encouraging about me taking this time and to unplug from the world.

Thank you also to Erin and all of the people who helped plan, organized and came to my birthday party! What a way to celebrate turning 60!!! I was so surprised! The time was filled with so much laughter, love and smiles. Again, blessed beyond measure.

Finally, with my fall vacation to the Northeast, Canada and Nova Scotia to enjoy the fall leaves, y'all have repeatedly been so supportive about me taking time off to play and unplug from my work. No doubt there will be some amazing times that I will also spend in prayer (obviously I am writing this before I leave), and I will be in awe and wonder enjoying a part of the country I have never been to before.

Thank you for blessing me over and over again.

When I return, I will be so rested and ready to get back in ministry with vou! And we will start that off on October 2nd with World Communion Sunday. A time we take to remember that millions of Christians and

people searching for their faith are joining us to feast at our Lord's Table. That Jesus truly came to save the whole world! How awe inspiring is that?! And then we will be off and running with our fall Bible Study, Music Ministries, children, and youth activities, and more. Read the newsletter and begin learning about Trunk or Treat. All Saints celebration will be the first Sunday in November, then Thanksgiving and, of course, Advent and Christmas will be on the heels of all of it. Come, let us worship our Lord and give him all

the glory for our many blessings!

Love, prayers and peace, Larain

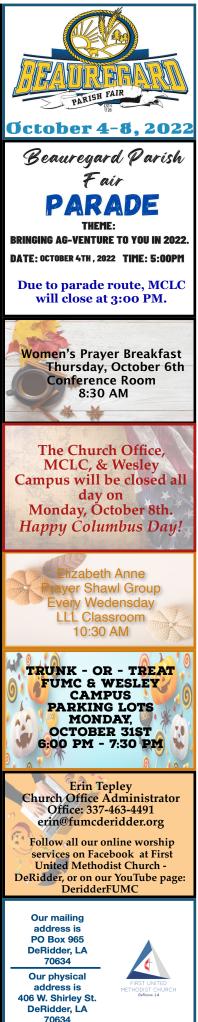
Charge Conference Sunday, October 23rd

FUMC will be having their Annual Charge Conference with the District Superintendent on Sunday, October 23rd at 3 pm at FUMC, Lake Charles. This meeting will be with other churches in our area and last approximately one hour in length of time. The following lay persons from our church are needed to attend: the Pastor, Lay Leader, Council Chair, Trustees Chair, SPRC Chair, Finance Chair and Lay Delegate to Annual Conference. If you are going please call the office to let us know. If you would like to ride together, please call the church office and let her know you would like to go together. It would be a fun time to go on the van or bus together. This is a very important meeting that we need to attend. Others are welcome to attend also.











is limited so register early.

For more information, contact me at (337) 396-9610

or cathy@fumcderidder.org. Financial assistance may be available.

Cathy Scott, Child, Youth, and Family Ministries Coordinator

Nothnagel to go to camp. They enjoyed the blessing more than I can explain with pen and paper

I will be providing pizza for the children on Wednesday, September 7th - always call if you need me to help. Love & God Bless. Pat Limmer





Best Wishes and Many Blessings, Natalie Ruano, MCLC Director natalie@fumcderidder.org

If you were here....

If you were here, Felicity would have come home from college. You two would be walking to the pond at daybreak talking about her new Plant Science Class. You would bring me back a "Surprise Flower" which blooms overnight near your birthday each year. Analise, who is 11 now, would be baking you a cake hoping to place 70 candles on top. 9-year old Rowan would proudly present you with a new rod and reel. You and his dad would find a time to try it out today. Your girls would sit next to you, head on your shoulder, absorbing your loving presence while catching up on life. You would get calls from your twin brother and your sisters, or maybe a visit, singing Happy Birthday I would watch it all with a smile and hide it in my heart.

If you were here, we would not yet know what a miracle a birthday can be. You were our gift. Love you and miss you. We'll see you again. Happy Birthday!

I wrote these words on your birthday, taking a respite from grief as I imagined you being here. I recalled the 38 other birthdays I spent with you in happy celebration.

All of us will experience grief during our lifetime. There is no cure for sadness in the loss of someone you love. But this wonderful promise is given to each of us. John 16:22

(NIV): "So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will



see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your iov -Photo courtesy of James Bailey

📣 FUMC – DeRidder Music Ministry Notes

On September 25th, you heard our vocal quartet sing a song, David's Lamentation, composed by the first native born composer of the United States. As promised last month, I want tell you a bit about this composer. William Billings was born in poverty in Boston, Massachusetts in 1747. He was only educated up to the age of 14 due to the death of his father. He took up the trade of the tanner to make a living, but also showed interest in musical matters. Although taking some rudimentary musical instruction from a choir member at New South Church in Boston, Billings primarily taught himself. He wasn't influenced by any of the European composers composing at this time, and his compositions are considered pure American music. With harmonies characteristic of Renaissance music, Billings's choral works were very popular during his lifetime, however he made little money from their composition. American copyright laws at the time were ractically non-existent. Billings was blind in one eye, walked with a limp because one leg was shorter than the other, and he had a withered arm. Despite these disabilities, he was teaching the art of choral singing by the age of 22 and continued to compose, and teach in singing schools up until his death in 1800.



OCTOBER ASSISTANTS!

Sunday, October 2nd: Greeters: Bladen Family & Jane Rathburn Readers: Lenora Yoon, Ben Bladen, & Gayle Bailey Communion Servers: Susan Hill, Max Bladen, Betty Nease, & Jarrett Tepley

Sunday, October 9th: Greeters: Sandra Wertz & Rodney Fowler Readers: Tim Kindler & Joe Ann Lillie Communion Servers After Service: TBD

Sunday, October 16th: Greeters: Yoon Family Readers: Children & Youth Communion Servers After Service: Children & Youth

Sunday, October 23rd: Greeters: Becky & Ted Hammerschmidt Readers: Mary Alice Wisdom & Ted Hammerschmidt Communion Servers After Service: Mary Alice Wisdom

Sunday, October 30th: Greeters: Tepley Family & Jane Formby Readers: Erin Tepley, Jarrett Tepley, & David Hardesty Communion Servers After Service: Erin & Jarrett Tepley

LOVE OFFERING for SHIPPING

("...go and make disciples of all nations...") OCTOBER

Our Christmas shoeboxes are organized and ready to be packed this month, then shipped in mid-November. We will probably exceed our goal of 80 boxes, thanks to our

congregation's generous donations of items. In spite of inflation, the shipping cost is still \$10 per box, which also includes Biblical

discipleship literature for the next generation of Christian disciples. Any collected offerings that exceed shipping costs will be used as "seed" funds to purchase available items in bulk next year. Thank you again for your generous support in spreading the gospel of Christ worldwide.





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Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Door The people of The United