



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization Postage Paid Permit #53

<u> Pastor's Ponderings!</u>

What a great April we had. Nothing like Holy Week and celebrating the resurrection of our Lord! Thank you to all of the people who made it possible. Literally there were dozens of people involved in every aspect of that week. Of course, each Sunday we continue to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. May is going to be a fun and exciting month also. Holy Communion will be during the service on May 7th. May 14th is Mother's Day, the ascension of Jesus to heaven, the Blessing of Circles on a Mission and the recognition of our graduating Seniors. Sunday, May 21st, is Pentecost Sunday (the celebration of the Holy Spirit) and the blessing of Bibles for our 3rd graders and older students who never have received a Bible. The 28th is Memorial Day Weekend celebration. Also, on May 7th, during the Sunday School hour at 10 a.m., we will gather in the Fellowship Hall to hear about the Dulac mission trip that a dozen of our church members went on in April. So don't miss out!

Also, check in the newsletter because our next Bible Study is starting on Tuesday May 2nd! You don't want to miss out.

Blessings, *Laraine*

Easter 2023 was an amazing season for First United Methodist Church - DeRidder! We processed with palms and the children sang on Palm Sunday. We had delicious lunches Monday - Wednesday provided by the United Women in Faith while Rev. Laraine gave devotionals to feed our soul. Maundy Thursday Service was a powerful re-enactment of the Last Supper in Fellowship Hall. The Stations of the Cross was shared with the Children's Ministry and was open to the public on Friday early morning into mid-afternoon in Fellowship Hall. We were then blessed on Sunday to have two beautiful services. Rev. Laraine baptized John Hughes Luttrell at the Sunrise Service, and then baptized Beaux Bishop Major during the 10:00 AM service. Lilies and flowering of the cross, along with our new LED lighting, lit up the Sanctuary to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Happy Easter: He IS Risen Indeed!





















Women's Prayer Breakfast
Thursday, May 4th
Conference Room
8:30 AM

Happy Mother's Day! Sunday, May 14th

Circles on a Mission 2023!

Saturday, May 20th several bicycle race routes & 1-mile walk option

More inside and on our website:

fumcderidder.org

Click on "Circles on a Mission"

under the Menu option

Last Day of School for Beauregard Parish!

Thursday, May 25th

Bicycle ride, food & fun at Wesley
Education Center
5:00 PM

ALL are Welcome!



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

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

> Our mailing address is PO Box 965 DeRidder, LA 70634

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



MINISTRIES













Acolytes are BACK!

John Schwarze sadly gave up his acolyte pin to the children on Palm Sunday. The children were very excited to participate in acolyting again on Sundays! If your child is interested in getting on our acolyte rotation schedule, please contact Cathy Scott cathy@fumcderidder.org



Yard Sale Fundraiser

The Children and Youth Ministries will be hosting a Yard Sale on Saturday, June 3rd. Items will be set up in the youth building parking area and the FUMC large parking lot. In the event of inclement weather we will move into the FUMC Gym. If you have items that you would like to donate, they can be dropped off on Thursdays between 5:00-7:00pm at the Youth Building, or by appointment. All monies raised at this event will be used to further the mission of our children and youth programs. If you would like to set up a table to sell your personal crafts or items at this event, please contact me.

Cathy Scott (337) 396-9610

Safe Sanctuary Training

God calls us to make the Church a safe place, to do all we can to protect children, teens and other vulnerable persons from the devastating effects of abuse. Therefore, all persons who volunteer with children and teens through the ministries and activities of FUMC of DeRidder must attend the Safe Sanctuary Training annually. We are coming into the Vacation Bible School season and will have many opportunities for you to volunteer with the children and youth programs. If you think that you might like to participate in any activities with the children, please consider attending.

We are offering daytime training on Monday, May 8th and Wednesday, May 17th. The Safe Sanctuary training will held be from 9:15-11:15am and the Risk Reduction training will be held from 2:15-3:15. We will use the upstairs classroom in the Fellowship Hall Building.

Registration is requested so that we have ample materials prepared. To register please call/text me at (337) 396-9610 or email me at cathy@fumcderidder.org.

SAFE SANCTUARIES POLICY



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Vacation Bible School 2023! Evenings: Monday, July 17th - Friday, July 21st

VBS presents an ideal opportunity to share the life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ with all the children in our community. We are engaged in an epic battle for the hearts and minds of our youth. Every day, they are bombarded with lies about who they are, who their Creator is, and where their salvation comes from. Thankfully, God has given his children armor to wear in this battle between truth and lies, light and darkness, good and evil.

The theme for our 2023 VBS Keepers of the Kingdom. Kids will learn how they can be part of God's kingdom through salvation in his Son and will be equipped with the armor of God to become Keepers of the Kingdom who stand strong in

Volunteer opportunities include: Craft & Science Coordinator, Music Coordinator, Snack Coordinator, Games Coordinator, Puppet Masters, Skit Actors, Costume Coordinator, Team Leaders, Decorations Coordinator, Prayer Warriors, Sound and

AV Coordinator, Missions Leader, and General Volunteers. There are bulletin inserts that you can fill out and place in the offering plate the next several Sundays. Please consider helping in one or more of the available positions. If you need more details, please contact me directly at (337)

> Cathy Scott Coordinator of CYF Ministries



Methodist Children's Learning Center!







Many Easter activities, parties, and crafts took up the month of April. We also went on an Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt at Westwood Manor's Retirement Home. The kids enjoyed entertaining the residents, finding eggs, and taking the bus ride to and from the school. More exciting things will be happening the month of May. We will continue to share additional photos of the children on our Facebook page.

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

You are invited to the Circles on a Mission End of School Celebration Bicycle Ride on Thursday, May 25, 2023 at the Wesley Campus (701 N. Texas St.)! Festivities will begin at 5:00 PM. There will be bicycle riding, food, music, and wonderful fellowship. You can choose to ride the .5 mile loop, or the 5 mile loop. Additional riding routes and a 1mile walking route is also available on Saturday, May 20th. Please scan the QR code below to register and get a tshirt! LIKE Facebook page: Circles on a Mission All are welcome to ride and remember to bring your helmet! Helmets are required for all riders. All proceeds go toward The Methodist Children's Home in Suplur, LA. Thank you - let's ride for the chidlren!







We Want to Hear From **YOU!**

During the entire month of June and the first 2 weeks of July, we worship in Fellowship Hall and sing from both the Cokesbury Hymnal & The United Methodist Hymnal. Please share your top 5 hymns you would like to hear during worship, and we will do our best to put it in the musical order of worship during these Sundays!

Congratulations!!!!

Jake Cobb is graduating from DeRidder High School with honors. He is the son of Melissa and Tyler Cobb. He plans to attend Louisiana Tech in the fall to major in Chemical Engineering.





May Worship Assistants

Sunday, May 7th

Greeters: Jane Fromby & Raymond Cole Readers: Cathy Scott & John Marcello Communion Servers During Service: Rev. Laraine Waughtal, Mary Alice Wisdom, & TBD

Sunday, May 14th Greeters: Sandra Wertz & Brenda Jones Readers: Laura Schultz & John Schwarze Communion Server After Service: Tim Kindler

Sunday, May 21st

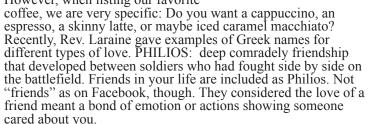
Greeters: The Bladen Family Readers: Barbara Haynes & David Hardesty Communion Server after Service: Jo Blankenship

Sunday, May 28th:

Greeters: Betty Nease & Rodney Fowler Readers: Betty Nease & Frances Cole Communion Server after Service: Betty Nease

I was proposed to today. I guess I shouldn't have been quite so surprised; I've known him, now, for 3 years. Here's what happened: "Me: So who do you think you will marry when you grow up?" First, a look of surprise. Then he answered, "YOU, Grandma!!" Awwwww. He stole my heart with those two words!

The English language seems to use the word "love" very casually. For instance, we say we love boiled crawfish, we love our new car, we love our spoiled pets, or even a new pair of shoes. However, when listing our favorite



The most radical word for love is AGAPE — selfless love extended to all people, whether family members or distant strangers. C.S. Lewis referred to it as "gift love," the highest form of Christian love. I interpret this to mean those we show mercy to; those we want to tell about God and the ultimate

sacrifice of Jesus' death for each of us.

So.....'love" has many sides to it. I am rich in Philios love, friends who stand by me through thick and thin. I am saved by Agape love, requiring me to share this with others always. AND, I will always remember that a 3 year old's love was shown to me by a Marriage Proposal!!

Sending love to each of you, Mary Allen Some descriptions in article by Roman Krznaric, Yes, Magazine, Dec.2022.





Mermorials & Honorariums



Donna & Robert McCullough In Memory of Anna Wiggins Donna & Robert McCullough In Memory of Billy Penney Donna & Robert McCullough In Memory of Tommy Labue John Marcello

Joyce Lewis In Memory of Carla Smith

> Joyce Lewis Dianne Penney

New Bible Study!

Please note the dates we are meeting. All dates are on Tuesday except one – May 17th. On that Wednesday, we will meet at another location to be announced. We will be meeting at 11:15 AM and 6:00 PM in the Conference Room on May 2nd, 9th, and 23rd. We will be studying various Scriptures having to do with Jesus' activities between Easter and Ascension.

May 2nd – Luke 24:13-35 and Mark 16:12-13 May 9th – John 21:1-25 May 15th at 11:15 AM, or May 17th (Upper Room) at 6 PM Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:44-53; Acts 1:1-11 May 24th – Acts 2:1-41



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Thank you for your generous gift you gave to the Honduras Mission. We, the St. Luke-Simpson Honduras Mission Team, greatly appreciate your generosity! Your support helps to further mission, and we have been able to accomplish so many of our goals. Your donation helps us to continue to work toward improving the lives of the children and adults of Potririllos. We are so blessed to have your support. You truly make a difference and we are all extremely grateful!

Thanking God for each of you, Katie Leithead St. Luke-Simpson United Methodist Church

Dear Faithful Friends:

On behalf of our children and staff at the Louisiana Methodist Children and Family Services, we thank you for your thoughtful gift of Valentine's Day treats for the Sulphur Campus.

Donations such as yours are important to our organization. With your gift we can do more for the youth in our care. We are proud to partner with you in helping youth across the state of Louisiana. Our residential and community-based ministries positively impact the lives of children and families.

Again, I want to thank you for being part of the Children's Home family. We ask for your continued prayers for our children and staff.

Kind Regards, Rick Wheat President & CEO - Louisiana United Methodist Chidren & Family Services, Inc.

May 2023

Saturday	Scouts – IOLS BALOO training	13	20	Circles on a Mission Starts! Scouts – Blue & Gold Ceremony	27		6	6:00 AM Yard Sale at the Bus Barn
Friday	8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Cym 10:00 AM MCLC Activity Time with Cathy in Children's Classroom 11:30 AM Walking Group – Cym 6:00 PM TCIFF – Youth in the Youth Building	6:30 AM MCLC Muffins with Mom 8:00 AM Archots Class - Cym 10:00 AM MCLC Activity Time with Cathy in Children's Classroom 11:30 AM Walking Group- Cym	19	B:00 AM Aerobics Class - Cym 10.00 AM MCLC Activity Time with Cathy in Children's Classroom 11.30 AM Walking Group- Cym	26	Scouts - Camp Edgewood Service Weekend 8:00 AM Aerobics Class - Cym 10:00 AM MCLC Activity Time with Cathy in Children's Classroom 11:30 AM Walking Group- Cym	2	
Thursday	# 8:00 AM Yoga Class - Cym # 8:30 AM Women's Prayer Breakfast in the Conference Room # 10:00 AM MCLC Story Time in Fellow- ship Hall # 11:30 AM Walking Croup- Cym # 3:00 PM 3rd - 5th Crade Activity Time # Wesley # S:30 PM Zumba Class - Wesley Campus # 5:30 PM Cadette and Senior Cirl Scouts - Youth Building # 5:30 PM Softball Training - Cym # 5:30 PM Softball Training - Cym # 6:00 PM Aerobics Becky's Way in FH	Scouts - Cakasieu Area Council Banquet 8:00 AM Yoga Class - Cym 9:00 AM Retired Beauregard Teacher's Assoc. Banquet in Fellowship Hall 9:15 AM MCLC KR Hanchey Trip - VAN reserved 11:30 AM Walking Croup- Cym 3:00 PM 3rd - 5th Grade Activity Time at Wesley 5:30 PM Zumba Class - Wesley Campus 5:30 PM Zumba Class - Wesley Campus 5:30 PM Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts 5:30 PM Softball Training - Cym 6:00 PM Aerobics Becky's Way in FH	18	8:00 AM Yoga Class - Cym 10:00 AM MCLC Story Time in Fellow- ship Hall 11:30 AM Walking Group- Gym 3:00 PM 3rd - Sth Grade Activity Time at Wesley 5:30 PM Zumba Class - Wesley Campus 5:30 PM Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts - Youth Building 5:30 PM Southall Training - Cym 6:00 PM Aerobics Becky's Way in FH 6:00 PM Aerobics Becky's Way in FH 6:30 PM Scout Meeting - Conference Room		Laraine - vacation Last Day of School 8:00 AM Yoga Class - Cym 9:00 AM Merry Mailers in the Church Office 11:00 AM MCLC Story Time in Fellowship Hall 11:30 AM Walking Group- Cym 5:30 PM Circles on a Mission @ Wesley 5:30 PM Zumba Class - Wesley Cam 5:30 PM Cadette and Senior Girl Scuts 5:30 PM Cadette and Senior Girl Scuts 6:30 PM Cadette and Senior Girl Scuts 6:00 PM Aerobics Becky's Way in FH	1	8:00 AM Yoga Class – Cym ship Hall 10:00 AM MCLC Story Time in Fellow– ship Hall 11:30 AM Walking Group– Cym 5:30 PM Zumba Class – Wesley Cam– pus 5:30 PM Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts – Youth Building 5:30 PM Softball Training – Cym 6:00 PM Aerobics Becky's Way in FH
Wednesday	8:00 AM Aerobics Class - Cym 8:00 AM Aerobok Devotional w/Communion 10:30 AM Prayer Shawl - LLL Room 11:30 AM Walking Croup- Cym 4:54 Po McIndern's Choir - Choir Room 5:00 PM Children & Youth - Conf. Room & Cym 5:15 PM Praise Ensemble - Sanctuary 6:15 PM Chancel Choir - Choir Room	time sheets due 8:30 = 8:00 AM Aerobics Class - Cym = 8:00 AM Facebook Devotional w/Comminion = 10:30 AM Prayer Shawl - LLL Room = 1:30 AM Walking Group- Cym = 4:45 PM Children's Choir Choir Room 8:00 PM Children & Youth - Conf. Room & Cym = 5:15 PM Praise Ensemble - Sanctuary = 6:15 PM Chancel Choir - Choir Room	17	### 8:00 AM Aerobics Class - Cym ### 8:00 AM Aerobics Class - Cym ### 9:15 AM WCLC Safe Sanctuary Training ### 9:00 AM Mosemary Cady: Conference ### 8:00 AM Prayer Shawl - LLL Room ### 9:15 PM WCLC Risk Reduction ### 8:15 PM WCLC Risk Reduction ### 9:15 PM WCLC Risk Reduction ### 9:15 PM Worldnen's Choin - Choir Room ### 5:10 PM Paider's Choir - Choir Room ### 5:15 PM Paise Ensemble - Sanctuary #### 6:00 PM Bible Study in Upper Room ### 6:15 PM Chancel Choir - Choir Room		time sheets due 8:30 am 8:00 AM Aerobics Class - Cym 6:00 AM Aerobics Class - Cym murion 10:00 AM MCLC Graduation Ceremony - Sanctuan 11:30 AM Prayer Shawl - LLL Room 11:00 AM MCLC Reception in Fellow- ship Hall 11:30 AM Walking Group- Cym 5:00 PM Children & Youth - Conf. 8:00 PM Children & Youth - Conf. 8:00 PM Children & Youth - Conf. 6:15 PM Praise Freemble - Sanctuany 6:15 PM Praise Freemble - Sanctuany		8:00 AM Aerobics Class - Cym 10:30 AM Prayer Shawl - LLL Room 11:30 AM Walking Groud - Cym 5:00 PM Children & Youth - Conf. Room & Cym 5:15 PM Praise Ensemble - Sanctuar 6:15 PM Chancel Choir - Choir Roon
Tuesday	8:00 AM Yoga Class - Gym 9:45 AM Chapel - MCLC 11:15 AM Blab Study Conf. Room 11:30 AM Walking Group- Gym 3:00 PM K-2nd Grade Activity Time at Wesley 5:30 PM Granny Basketball in the Gym 5:30 PM Granny Basketball in the Cym 5:30 PM Granny Basketball in the Cym 6:30 PM Cranny Basketball in the Cym 6:30 PM Granny Cast Sours in LLL & Children's Classroom 6:30 PM Zumba Class - Wesley Cam- pus 910 6:00 PM Bible Study Conf. Room 6:00 PM Aerobics Becky's Way in FH	8:00 AM Yoga Class - Cym 9:45 AM Chapel - MCLC 10:00 AM Mary Martha Circle - Pat Limmer's Home 11:15 AM Bible Study Conf. Room 11:30 AM Walking Group- Gym 8:00 PM K-2nd Grade Activity Time at Wesley 5:30 PM Granny Basketball in the Gym 5:30 PM Granny Basketball in the Gym 6:30 PM Granny Group Granny	16	Earaine - Conf. Clergy Retreat in Woodworth 8:00 AM Yoga Class - Cym 9:45 AM Chapel - MCLC 11:30 AM Walking Group- Cym 3:00 PM & Zhd Grade Activity Time at Wesley 8:00 PM & Zhd Granty Basketball in the Cym 5:30 PM Granry Basketball in the Cym 5:30 PM Granry Basketball in the Cym 6:30 PM Canny Basketball in the Cym 6:30 PM Canny Basketball in the Cym 6:30 PM Zumba Class - Wesley Campus 7:30 PM Zumba Class - Wesley Campus 6:00 PM Aerobics Becky's Way in FH 6:00 PM Aerobics Becky's Way in FH		8:00 AM Yoga Class - Cym 9:15 AM Chapel - MCLC 11:15 AM Bible Study Conf. Room 11:15 AM Bible Study Conf. Room 11:30 AM Walking Group- Cym 3:00 PM K-2nd Grade Activity Time at Wesley 5:00 PM Carnny Basketball in the Cym 5:00 PM Clanny Basketball in the Cym 5:30 PM Clin Scouts in Llt. & Children's Classpoom 5:30 PM Clin Scouts in Llt. & Children's Classpoom 5:30 PM Clin Scouts in Llt. & Children's Figure Company Company Company Company Company Company Clin Company Co	30	8:00 AM Yoga Class - Cym 9:45 AM Walking Group-Cym 3:00 PM K-Znd Grade Activity Time: 3:00 PM K-Znd Grade Activity Time: 4Wesley 5:30 PM Granny Basketball in the Cyp 6:30 PM Granny Basketball in the Cyp 7:30 PM Granny Basketball in the Cyp 8:30 PM Granny Basketball in t
Monday	8:00 AM Aerobics Class - Cym 11:30 AM Walking Group- Cym 5:30 PM Zumba Class at the Wesley Campus 6:00 PM Guidance Team Meeting in the Conference Room 6:30 PM Cub Scouts Meet in the Cym 7:30 PM Troop 30 in the Education Building	8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Cym 9:15 AM Walking Croup- Cym 1:130 AM Walking Croup- Cym 2:15 PM MCLC Risk Reduction Training 5:30 PM Jumba Class at the Wesley Campus 6:00 PM PPR Meeting in the Choir Room 7:00 PM Troop 30 – Education Building		11:15 AM Behaviors Class - Cym 11:15 AM Bible Study Conf. Room 11:30 AM Valking Croup- Cym 5:30 PM Zumba Class at the Wesley Campus 5:45 PM Trustees Meeting in the Choir Room 6:30 PM Cub Scouts - Cym 7:00 PM Troop 30 - Education Building	22	# 300 AM Walking Croup- Cym # 1.30 PM Awlking Croup- Cym # 5:00 PM Eulowship Hall Reserved # 5:30 PM Zumba Class at the Wesley Campus	29	Church Campus Closed Memorial Day B. 30.0 AM Aerobics Class - Cym 11.30 AM Walking Group- Cym 5.30 PM Zumba Class at the Wesley Campus
Sunday	Scours – Cub Farnily Stem/Nova Campout 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Fith Sunday Worship in the Fellowship Hall & Online 11:15 AM Strik Sunday Free BBQ, Open Mic & Fellowship in Cym 2:30 PM Softball Training in the Cym 4:00 PM Handbell Practice in the Sanctuary	Scouts - IOLS BALOO training 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Communion Sunday Worship In the Sanctuary and Online 11:15 AM Staff Meeting in the Choir Room 2:30 PM Softball Training in the Cym 4:00 PM Handbell Practice in the Sanctuary	14	Mother's Day 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Sexension Sunday Worship 40:00 AM Sexension Sunday Worship 40:00 AM Sexension of Circles on a Mission in 41:00 AM Softball Training in the Cym 41:00 PM Handbell Practice in the Sanctuary		2020 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Pentecost Sunday Worship with Noisy Offering/3rd Grade Bibles in Sancuard & Online 2:30 PM Softball Training in the Gym 4:00 PM Handbell Practice in the Sanctuary	28	



BIRTHDAYS

თ <	Erin Tepley
4 0	Colby Vaugnn Iris Buxton
7	Mary Bishop
	Rick Erpelding
10	Ken Carlson, Jr.
12	Jackie Reviel
	Tammi Henderson
17	Ron Roberts
	Misty Clanton
20	Melissa Mistrzak
	Gina Wright
23	Dr. John Mistrzak
	Scott Hammerschmidt
26	Emily Mistrzak
27	Jill Cooper
28	Joyce Lewis
29	Camille Godair
30	Luke Brister
	Melissa Cobb

ANNIVERSARIES

Mike & Debbie Clanton	Mike & Bobbye Nothnagel	Kade & Sunshine	Bardin	Richie & Jo	Blankenship	Ted & Becky	Hammerschmidt	Amanda & Hunter	Oldaker
20		21		22		24		78	