

SPECIAL
SUNDAY

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

“In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north;
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide world.”

—UNITED METHODIST HYMNAL, #548



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®



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

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Pastor's Ponderings!

October - a month that just wants to scream the word "Autumn" to us. A time, we pray, for cooler temperatures, a time for High School and college football, a time for camping, a time for decorating, a time for starting to think about the upcoming holidays and what you might be doing. A time for walks in the evening, bicycle rides, and sitting on the back porch in the mornings or the evenings with a cup of hot chocolate or coffee. It's a time for the migration of hummingbirds and butterflies, the leaves to turn colors and some leaves already falling. Every season, as Ecclesiastes tells us has, "A time for every purpose under heaven."

So, with this fall season, what "time" is God calling you into so that He can be a part of your life? Growing up for me meant that fall was also a time to get back involved with Girl Scouts and go camping! I loved camping. I loved being in the woods, being with my friends, cooking over the campfire, making some s'mores, and having Vespers on Sunday mornings when we had church services in the outdoors. We would sing songs, I would play my guitar, and we would take turns sharing a message. I guess those were some of my first devotionals I ever wrote and spoke. Many of those friends were people that I went to church with, and we also went to youth group together. Not all of them though. Several of my friends went to other churches, and that never mattered to us other than wishing we were in church together. Oftentimes, as we got into High School, those Sunday mornings were the times we talked about our churches and what made them different - and more importantly - what made us alike. We had more things alike than we ever had different. Many of these people are now lifelong friends that I deeply cherish. They, along with my church, helped build the foundation of my faith. A foundation that gets stronger every year with where I serve, the relationships I have with my congregations, and the time I spend with God.

How might you grow your foundation of faith this year? Is your foundation on sand or the rock of Christ? What might you get involved with and who do you want to invite to be a part of it? People do not have to be United Methodist to be involved in any part of our church. Maybe you have someone who is still exploring their faith! Come, let us grow together to love and serve our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ!

See you Sunday, Laraine

PS - Be watching for several special events in October. We will be having the Children's Sunday Sabbath, where they help lead worship, and a blessing of the pets later in the month!

Our mailing
address is
PO Box 965
DeRidder, LA
70634

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



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
DeRidder, LA

Miranda Chapman
Admin. Assistant / Bookkeeper
Office: 337-463-4491

Miranda@fumcderidder.org

Worship with us on Facebook at
First United Methodist Church-
DeRidder, or on our YouTube
page: DeridderFUMC



Wednesday's Midweek Meals!

Make sure to you're reserving your Midweek Meals in advance so you can be included in community with one another and delicious meals every week. Dinner is served at 5 PM, and it's come-and-go until 5:45 PM.

Takeouts are also available. The cost per person is \$7, and no more than \$25 for each family. As always, youth and children will continue to enjoy their Wednesday meals free of charge. For those who are participating in the Wednesday evening Bible Study, this meal is set at the perfect time for you to eat and then go on to your meeting!

Reservations are so appreciated because food is ordered ahead of time; forms are available on Sunday mornings in your bulletins or in the pews. You can drop off a check in the offering plate, or stop by the church office to sign up and pay ahead of time. Reserve by the week or the month—whatever is easiest for you! We can't wait to see you there!



"Catalyst" Sunday School Class

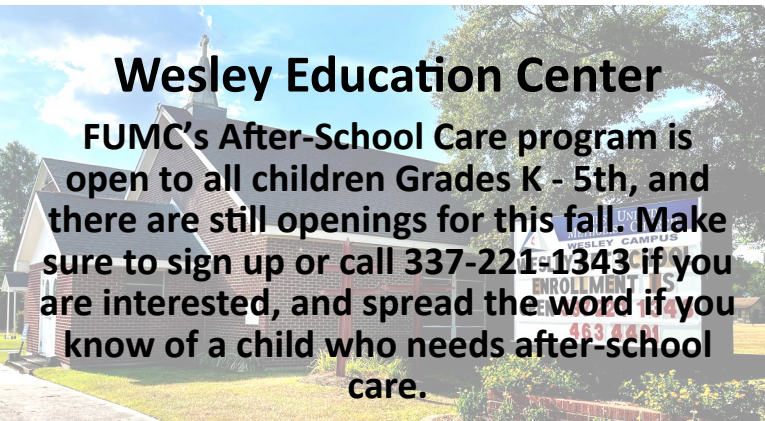
All are welcome to join FUMC's new young adult and "young at heart" Sunday School group as we learn about being a better neighbor in our community. This group meets at 9 AM in the Upper Room classroom, in the Fellowship Hall building. No matter what your life may look like, we want you to know you are welcome here. Join us Sunday mornings!



God's Food Box Needs:

Peanut butter, boxed meals, canned corn, noodles, soup, diced tomatoes, crackers, and volunteers

MINISTRIES



Wesley Education Center

FUMC's After-School Care program is open to all children Grades K - 5th, and there are still openings for this fall. Make sure to sign up or call 337-221-1343 if you are interested, and spread the word if you know of a child who needs after-school care.

Children's Music



The Children's Music Ministry is in full swing. We are busy learning music for Sunday Worship. A highlight of the rehearsal is learning the bucket drum routine that we will play during the Advent Season. Practice is every Wednesday evening at 4:45 in the Choir Room. Come be a part of this fun time.

FUMC's New Homeschooling Group

In September the Children, Youth and Family Program successfully launched its ministry to homeschooled children and parents. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month on the second floor of the Wesley Education Center. In September we had 10 families participate with over 30 children. The DeRidder Homeschool Fellowship is a semi-structured program that allows parents to share ideas and support for the lifestyle. Parents also offer tutoring to each other's children in subjects where they may be struggling. Children are offered fellowship, a structured Biblical lesson, and the opportunity to play in a safe environment with like-minded families.

BEAUREGARD PARISH FAIR - OCTOBER 3-7, 2023

Parade Day!

October 3rd is Parade Day with the Beauregard Parish Fair. We will open up the youth building for the community, and we plan to provide water for those who stop by. Church members are welcome to come out and represent the church in hospitality and love! Don't forget to get here before the parade begins at 5:00 PM.

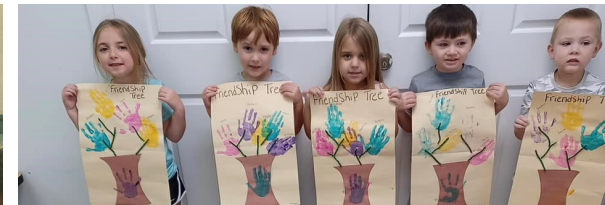


Methodist Children's Learning Center



In September our upstairs classes invited their grandparents to attend a luncheon to honor them, and it was a fabulous event for all. The children put on a program to share their love and appreciation. Now as we look ahead to October, I want to say thank you again to all the church members who donated supplies and booster seats so that we can bring our older classes to the Beauregard Parish Fair at the beginning of the month, as well as to CM Farms in Dry Creek, LA. We also recently purchased a new Bible-centered curriculum for all classrooms, so we have a lot of fun crafts and lessons prepared this fall. Stay tuned!

Natalie Ruano, MCLC Director
natalie@fumcderidder.org



We sure do love our grandparents!



Music Ministry Notes

"There is one body, but it has many parts. But all its many parts make up one body. It is the same with Christ. We were all baptized by one Holy Spirit. And so we are formed into one body. It didn't matter whether we were Jews or Gentiles, slaves or free people. We were all given the same Spirit to drink. So the body is not made up of just one part. It has many parts." - 1 Corinthians 12:12-1



The church has long since flourished by utilizing the talents and spiritual gifts of each of its members. At FUMC we are lucky to have individuals who share their willingness and joyfulness week after week by participating in our various music ministries, whether that's the chancel choir, the praise ensemble, handbells, children's choir, or special events such as Lessons and Carols. Pictured here are many of those such individuals, and I want to celebrate them. As you may already be aware, my wish is that our music ministry would grow, and I want to again encourage anyone who has an interest to show up to rehearsal one week and see how you feel. If you feel led to join one of our ensembles, you will be welcomed with open arms. We practice every Wednesday, starting with Praise Ensemble at 5:15 PM, followed by Chancel Choir at 6:15 PM.

John Schwarze, Director of Music
schwarze@fumcderidder.org

October Worship Assistants

Sunday, October 1st

Greeters - Stephanie Chavez & Brenda Jones
Readers - John Marcello & Laura Schultz
1st Sunday Communion Servers (During Service) -
Mary Wisdom, Lennie Hanchey, and Youth

Sunday, October 8th

Greeters - Betty & Scotty Nease
Readers - Gayle Bailey & Betty Nease
After-Service Communion Server -
David Hardesty

Sunday, October 15th

Greeters - Frances & Raymond Cole
Readers - Van Allen & Barbara Haynes
After-Service Communion Server -
Tim Kindler

Sunday, October 22nd

Greeters - Tepley Family
Readers - Erin Tepley & David Hardesty
After-Service Communion Server -
David Hardesty

Sunday, October 29th -

5th Sunday in Fellowship Hall

Greeters - Charlotte McGee
Readers - Tim Kindler & Joyce Everett
After-Service Communion Server - Mary Wisdom



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD **("...go and make disciples of all nations.")**

OCTOBER - FILLING IN THE GAPS

We are gearing up for our packing event next month, and there are still many items we need in order to make sure the boxes we send to children across the globe are filled to the brim with love and joy. Our church's goal this year is to send 100 boxes, and your contributions are helping us reach that goal! Our mission is to spread the Word of Christ "to the ends of the earth", and we thank you for your support.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

One-Subject Spiral Notebooks
Small Pencil Sharpeners
Coloring Books
Crayons (20-Count)
Boys/Girls T-Shirts
(for 5-9 Yr. Olds)
Matchbox-Type Cars
Barbie Dolls



MCLC's Halloween Parade

Each year the Learning Center holds a Halloween themed parade where the children walk through the Fellowship Hall, Gym, and Office in their costumes. We would like to cordially invite any church member who is interested to donate candy AND bring a lawn chair to set up a station for the children to receive their "Trick-or-Treat" spoils. This is a fabulous event that everyone adores, and we hope you'll love taking part in. For more information you can contact the church office or the MCLC at 337-463-3750.

Memorials & Honorariums

In Memory of Marty Smith

June Brandt
Laura Coltharp
Scott Colebank
Julie Porter
William Westbrook
Phyllis Blanton
Dianne Penney
Patti & Tom Singer
Elizabeth M. Smith
Carol & David Dwight
Betty & Scotty Nease
Julie & Andrew Scott
Mary Alice Wisdom
Mary & Roger Curtis
Judith Mai Millen
Carolyn Sue Hofstrand
Judith S. Kacy

In Memory of Raymon Powell

John Marcello

In Memory of Bart Fazio

Joyce Lewis

In Honor of Ted & Becky Hammerschmidt

Julie Porter

In Honor of Marcia Ades

Judith S. Kacy
Julie Porter

From the Heart by Mary Allen

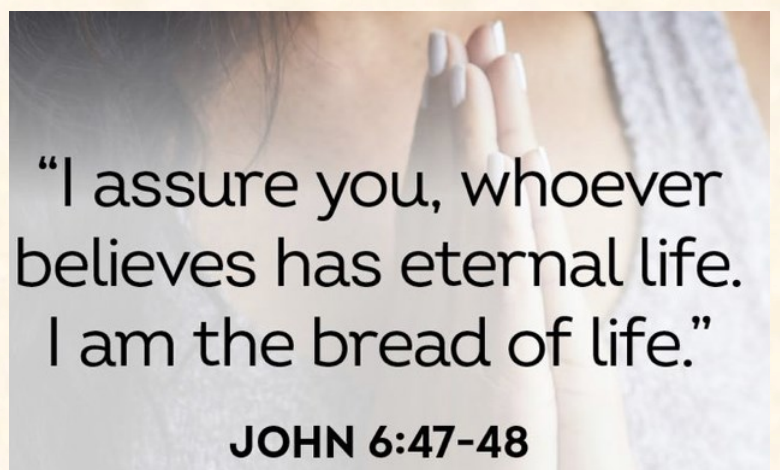
If You Were Here ...

If you were here, the beautiful young lady who made you a Grandpa would have come home. You two would be walking to the pond at daybreak talking about her new plants and what her life is like. Your 12-year-old granddaughter would be baking you a cake hoping to fit 71 candles on top. Did you know she is already a great chef? Your grandson, now 10, would proudly present you with a new rod and reel. You two, and his dad, would find time to try it out today. Your 2 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.

As for myself, if you were here...I would sit and gaze at you, re-memorizing your vivid blue eyes. I would share how amazing God has been, but I'm positive you already know that part. Your grandson reminds me when I'm missing you particularly hard that I will get to be with you a "zillion-million years". He's right.

If you were here...we would not yet know what a miracle a birthday can be. You were our gift. I love you...still.

~Happy Birthday~



October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>1</div> <div>Troop 30 Overnight Event</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>11:00 AM Reconnect Grief Support in Conference Room</div> <div>8:00 AM MCLC Fair Day – Bus Reservation</div> <div>11:30 AM MCLC Fair Day – LLL Room</div> <div>10:00 AM Prayer Shawl – LLL Room</div> <div>11:30 AM Bible Study in Upper Room</div> <div>1:00 PM Finance Sub Meeting</div> <div>3:00 PM K-2nd Grade Activity Time at Wesley</div> <div>5:30 PM MCLC Board Meeting in Aldersgate Classroom</div> <div>8:00 AM Sunday School</div> <div>9:00 AM Blood Drive 9-11 PM in Church Parking Lot</div> <div>10:00 AM World Communion Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary and Online</div> <div>4:00 PM Handbell Practice in the Sanctuary</div>	<div>2</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>11:00 AM Reconnect Grief Support in Conference Room</div> <div>8:00 AM Yoga Class – Gym</div> <div>9:45 AM Chapel – MCLC</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class at the Wesley Campus</div> <div>5:30 PM MCLC Board Meeting in Aldersgate Classroom</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Fair Parade – Office Closes at 3:30PM</div> <div>MCLC Closes at 3:30PM</div> <div>8:00 AM Yoga Class – Gym</div> <div>9:45 AM Chapel – MCLC</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>1:00 PM Finance Sub Meeting</div> <div>3:00 PM K-2nd Grade Activity Time at Wesley</div> <div>5:30 PM Girl Scouts in LLL & Children's Classroom</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class – Wesley Campus</div>	<div>4</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>8:00 AM Facebook Devotional w/Communion</div> <div>9:00 AM MCLC Fair Day – Bus Reservation</div> <div>10:30 AM Prayer Shawl – LLL Room</div> <div>11:00 AM Bible Study in Upper Room</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>4:45 PM Children's Choir – Choir Room</div> <div>5:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper in Fellowship Hall</div> <div>5:15 PM Clubs Night – Conf. Room & Sanctuary</div> <div>6:00 PM Bible Study in Upper Room</div> <div>6:15 PM Chancel Choir – Choir Room</div>	<div>5</div> <div>8:00 AM Yoga Class – Gym</div> <div>10:00 AM MCLC Story Time in Fellowship Hall</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>3:00 PM After School Activity – WEC – 3rd-5th Grades</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class – Wesley Campus</div> <div>5:45 PM Bicycle Riders at Bus Barn</div>	<div>6</div> <div>Schools Closed (MCLC Open)</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>9:15 AM MCLC Activity Time with Cathy in Children's Classroom</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div>	<div>7</div>
<div>8</div> <div>9:00 AM Sunday School</div> <div>10:00 AM Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary & Online</div> <div>4:00 PM Handbell Practice in the Sanctuary</div>	<div>9</div> <div>Office Closed (MCLC Open)</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class at the Wesley Campus</div>	<div>10</div> <div>8:00 AM Yoga Class – Gym</div> <div>9:45 AM Chapel – MCLC</div> <div>10:00 AM Mary Martha Circle in the Conference Room</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>3:00 PM K-2nd Grade Activity Time at Wesley</div> <div>5:30 PM Girl Scouts in LLL & Children's Classroom</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class – Wesley Campus</div>	<div>11</div> <div>time sheets due 8:30 am</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>8:00 AM Facebook Devotional w/Communion</div> <div>10:30 AM Prayer Shawl – LLL Room</div> <div>11:00 AM Bible Study in Upper Room</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>4:45 PM Children's Choir – Choir Room</div> <div>5:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper in Fellowship Hall</div> <div>5:15 PM Children & Youth – Conf.</div> <div>5:15 PM Praise Ensemble – Sanctuary</div> <div>6:00 PM Bible Study in Upper Room</div> <div>6:15 PM Chancel Choir – Choir Room</div>	<div>12</div> <div>8:00 AM Yoga Class – Gym</div> <div>10:00 AM MCLC Story Time in Fellowship Hall</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>3:00 PM After School Activity – WEC – 3rd–5th Grades</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class – Wesley Campus</div> <div>5:45 PM Bicycle Riders at Bus Barn</div>	<div>13</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>9:15 AM MCLC Activity Time with Cathy in Children's Classroom</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div>	<div>14</div>
<div>15</div> <div>9:00 AM Sunday School</div> <div>10:00 AM Sunday Worship with Noisy Offering in Sanctuary & Online</div> <div>11:15 AM Staff Meeting – Choir Room</div> <div>4:00 PM Handbell Practice in the Sanctuary</div>	<div>16</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class at the Wesley Campus</div> <div>5:30 PM MCLC Reserved Aldersgate Room</div>	<div>17</div> <div>8:00 AM Yoga Class – Gym</div> <div>9:45 AM Chapel – MCLC</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>3:00 PM K-2nd Grade Activity Time at Wesley</div> <div>5:30 PM Girl Scouts in LLL & Children's Classroom</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class – Wesley Campus</div> <div>5:45 PM Trustees Meeting in the Choir Room</div>	<div>18</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>8:00 AM Facebook Devotional w/Communion</div> <div>10:30 AM Prayer Shawl – LLL Room</div> <div>11:00 AM Bible Study in Upper Room</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>4:45 PM Children's Choir – Choir Room</div> <div>5:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper in Fellowship Hall</div> <div>5:15 PM Children & Youth – Conf. Room & Gym</div> <div>5:15 PM Praise Ensemble – Sanctuary</div> <div>6:00 PM Bible Study in Upper Room</div> <div>6:15 PM Chancel Choir – Choir Room</div>	<div>19</div> <div>November Newsletter Deadline</div> <div>8:00 AM Yoga Class – Gym</div> <div>9:30 AM MCLC Reserve Bus</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>3:00 PM After School Activity – WEC – 3rd–5th Grades</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class – Wesley Campus</div> <div>5:45 PM Bicycle Riders at Bus Barn</div> <div>6:30 PM Scout Meeting – Conference Room</div>	<div>20</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>9:15 AM MCLC Activity Time with Cathy in Children's Classroom</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div>	<div>21</div>
<div>22</div> <div>9:00 AM Sunday School</div> <div>10:00 AM Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary & Online</div> <div>11:15 AM Circles on a Mission Meeting in the Choir Room</div> <div>4:00 PM Handbell Practice in the Sanctuary</div>	<div>23</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class at the Wesley Campus</div>	<div>24</div> <div>8:00 AM Yoga Class – Gym</div> <div>9:00 AM Merry Mailers in the Choir Room</div> <div>9:45 AM Chapel – MCLC</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>3:00 PM K-2nd Grade Activity Time at Wesley</div> <div>5:30 PM Girl Scouts in LLL & Children's Classroom</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class – Wesley Campus</div>	<div>25</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>8:00 AM Facebook Devotional w/Communion</div> <div>10:30 AM Prayer Shawl – LLL Room</div> <div>11:00 AM Bible Study in Upper Room</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>4:45 PM Children's Choir – Choir Room</div> <div>5:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper in Fellowship Hall</div> <div>5:15 PM Children & Youth – Conf. Room & Gym</div> <div>5:15 PM Praise Ensemble – Sanctuary</div> <div>6:00 PM Bible Study in Upper Room</div> <div>6:15 PM Chancel Choir – Choir Room</div>	<div>26</div> <div>8:00 AM Yoga Class – Gym</div> <div>10:00 AM MCLC Story Time in Fellowship Hall</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>3:00 PM After School Activity – WEC – 3rd–5th Grades</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class – Wesley Campus</div> <div>5:45 PM Bicycle Riders at Bus Barn</div>	<div>27</div> <div>time sheets due 8:30 am</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>9:15 AM MCLC Activity Time with Cathy in Children's Classroom</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div>	<div>28</div>
<div>29</div> <div>9:00 AM Sunday School</div> <div>10:00 AM 5th Sunday Worship in Fellowship Hall</div> <div>4:00 PM Handbell Practice in the Sanctuary</div>	<div>30</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>9:30 AM MCLC Halloween Parade</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class at the Wesley Campus</div>	<div>31</div> <div>8:00 AM Yoga Class – Gym</div> <div>9:45 AM Chapel – MCLC</div> <div>3:00 PM K-2nd Grade Activity Time at Wesley</div> <div>5:00 PM Fall Festival at Fairgrounds?</div> <div>5:30 PM Girl Scouts in LLL & Children's Classroom</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class – Wesley Campus</div>	<div>1</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>8:00 AM Facebook Devotional w/Communion</div> <div>10:30 AM Prayer Shawl – LLL Room</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>4:45 PM Children's Choir – Choir Room</div> <div>5:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper in Fellowship Hall</div> <div>5:15 PM CLUBS NIGHT – Conf. Room & Gym</div> <div>5:15 PM Praise Ensemble – Sanctuary</div> <div>6:15 PM Chancel Choir – Choir Room</div>	<div>2</div> <div>8:00 AM Yoga Class – Gym</div> <div>8:30 AM Women's Prayer Breakfast in the Conference Room</div> <div>10:00 AM MCLC Story Time in Fellowship Hall</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>3:00 PM After School Activity – WEC – 3rd–5th Grades</div> <div>5:30 PM Zumba Class – Wesley Campus</div> <div>5:45 PM Bicycle Riders at Bus Barn</div>	<div>3</div> <div>8:00 AM Aerobics Class – Gym</div> <div>9:00 AM MCLC Homeschool Event</div> <div>9:15 AM MCLC Activity Time with Cathy in Children's Classroom</div> <div>11:30 AM Walking Group– Gym</div> <div>3:00 PM Children's Holiday Bazaar set-up in Fellowship Hall / Gym</div>	<div>4</div> <div>7:00 AM Children's Holiday Bazaar Fundraiser at Gym / Fellowship Hall</div>

Birthdays

- 5 Darrell McDonald
- 7 Janice Vinyard
- 8 Duncan Clanton
- 10 Laura Fisher
- Peggy Williams
- Tanya Craig
- 12 Chad Hammerschmidt
- Kadron Luttrell
- 15 Cameron Craig
- 16 Kyle Bennett
- 17 Mary Chapman
- 19 Stacie Husak
- 21 Stryder Husak
- 23 Nikolai Chapman
- 25 Stephen Lewis
- 26 Joanna Hauser
- 28 Mary Launey
- 29 Dale Vincent

Anniversaries

- 3 Raymond & Frances Cole