

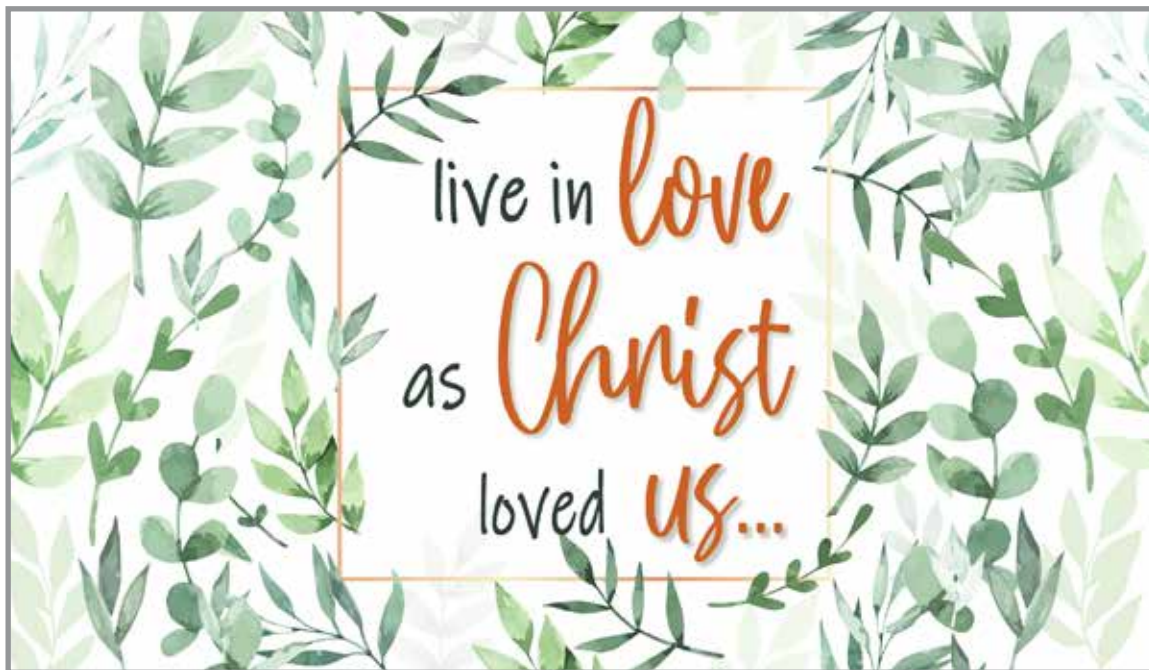
First Christian **Caller**

First Christian Church, Baton Rouge

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SIGNING OFF ...



As this is my last newsletter article, I wish to close with messages of thanks as we prepare for the changes to come...

As the move to Midland is happening relatively quickly, and we're still getting to know the city, we decided to take up temporary residence in an apartment for a few months until we can purchase a house. For the moment our mailing address will be 5001 W Wadley Ave, Apt. F-212, Midland, TX, 79707. Once we're settled in a home, I will send that information to the church office to share with you. I'm keeping my cellphone number—it's the same number I've been using since we moved here. My fccbrla.org

email address will be closed—please use this email: revchisham@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you!

I thank the staff of First Christian for your gifts and support and encouragement—you've been wonderful to count on not only as co-workers, but also as friends and guides.

I'm thankful to the board leadership and board chairs I've served with—you were all supportive of my ministry even in stressful circumstances.

I'm thankful to the music ministry that has been a source of as much heart-felt laughter as it has been a source of beautiful music.

I'm thankful for the children and youth, many of whom I helped lead to baptism. May your faith lead this family into the next generation!

I'm thankful for the wisdom of the retired ministers within the congregation who've listened to me when I was feeling over my head and were always supportive of me.

I'm thankful for the memories of our accomplishments; the outreach projects for hurricane and flood relief; the bike ministry; and the technology upgrades that took us from a single, dim projector to a sanctuary with multiple screens and livestream capability!

I'm thankful for the memories of those who've died while I've been here. I know they continue to watch over us, and I look forward to seeing them again in God's eternity.

I'm thankful to see the solid commitment you've made to one another, whether you've been a part of this congregation for decades, or have joined in recent times.

Most of all, I thank you all for the warm welcome that you gave to me and my family eight years ago, and I thank you for the warm wishes as we depart. We moved here

with no family connections, but you took us in, became our family, encouraged us and walked along side of us. I know that you will welcome the next minister(s) with the same love and support!

One last time, and eternally, Christ's peace,



Rev. Dr. David Chisham
Senior Minister

GENTLE, YET SERIOUS, REMINDERS

Late last week, Gov. John Bel Edwards and the Louisiana Department of Health issued updated guidance recommending that all people, **both vaccinated and unvaccinated**, wear masks indoors when at least six feet of distancing is not physically possible during this, our fourth surge of COVID-19.

FOLLOW SANCTUARY SIGNS, PLEASE

We still have a portion of our sanctuary designated as “Masks Required” areas. That portion comprises the east-most (Airline Hwy. side) section of pews, and the first few rows of its neighbor, the south-east section.

You are welcome to sit wherever you are most comfortable, but we do ask that **if you are in the “Masks Required” section, you wear a face mask, properly covering your nose and mouth** (except when consuming the Lord's Supper).



WEAR A MASK

Please keep your mask on when entering or exiting the sanctuary, and at all times (except during communion) if seated on the mask-required side.



USE HAND SANITIZER

Bottles are located at each entrance and exit, in the restrooms, and elsewhere.

Farewell Brunch for the Chishams



Sunday, August 8 - immediately following the 10 am service

Please join us in celebration of the eight wonderful years Reverend David Chisham, his wife, Kori, and their daughter, Layne, have served our congregation, during our *Laissez Les Bons Temps Rouler* Brunch.

We ask all members of our congregation to **bring their favorite brunch item to share**, in the way of breakfast casseroles, finger sandwiches, fruits and veggies, and, of course, pastries and sweets. The church will provide coffee, water, juice, milk, and paper products.

Please contact [Vicki Krupala](#) or 225-328-2461 to offer assistance with set-up on Saturday, August 7, or with brunch needs on August 8.

NEXT STEPS - A Brief Update

The Finance Committee will be meeting later this week and their agenda includes a financial package for an Interim Minister. I will also be speaking with potential pulpit supply speakers in the coming week.

During the second week of August, a few of us from the Board will be putting together a list of most important qualities in an Interim Minister. The Board will meet the third week of August and will review these recommendations. Upon approval by the Board of those two items, the job will be posted with the GRR (Great River Region of DOC) and we will begin accepting applications for an Interim Minister.

Last but certainly not least, we hope to have the Senior Minister Search & Call Committee members available for you after the August Board Meeting. Please pray that we exercise wisdom and follow our Lord's lead in these upcoming decisions as in all things.

Love and Peace,
Pam Jones, *Board Chair*

Almighty God,

Look graciously upon us, the people of First Christian Church, Baton Rouge, and grant us the guidance of your Holy Spirit as we seek an Interim Minister, and a new Senior Minister for this congregation.

Grace us with continuous direction and inspire us, so that we find the Interim Minister who will help us prepare for our next Senior Minister.

Give us discernment, wisdom, and confidence in your timing, and guide the members of our Search Committee, as they labor to be faithful in seeking your will.

And we pray for the life of our congregation; that we may continue to be strengthened in our mission, care, and love - for one another as well as all those within our reach - and that we may be blessed with mutual trust and respect, courage and foresight, as you shepherd us through this journey.

All this we ask in the name of your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

MEAL MINISTRY is now forming!



COOKS and DRIVERS needed! As we do what we can to help our church family who are recovering from medical issues, we are developing a **First Christian Church Meal Ministry**.

This ministry will address those within our church community whose **temporary need for meal assistance due to medical issues** is not already being met through their involvement in a church group, family, or friends.

You may ***bring a frozen meal by the church office during business hours, to be labelled and stored in our freezers until called for, or sign up for prep of a ready-to-eat meal on an as-needed basis.*** Depending on the recipient's needs and physical restrictions, delivered meals may be frozen, or ready-to-eat.

"I don't cook, anymore. What can I do to help?" We all have differing gifts! Perhaps you'd like to be a delivery driver, picking up a prepared or frozen meal from one of our volunteer cooks, and delivering it to our member in need? We need you, too!

TO VOLUNTEER: Contact the **church office by email, here, or phone 225-926-4175**, and let us know whether you'll be a cook/contributor of meals, or delivery driver. Wanda Lax will serve as our initial coordinator. You may contact Wanda at 225-239-5612.

Disciples Virtual Gathering



The banner features a white background on the left and a red background on the right, separated by a diagonal line. On the left, the text "NOTHING CAN SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD" is displayed in large, bold, black letters, with "NOTHING" in a larger font. Below this, "ROMANS 8:31-39" is written in smaller black text. A red button with a white arrow and the text "REGISTER NOW" is at the bottom left. On the right, the text "DISCIPLES VIRTUAL GATHERING" is in white, bold, sans-serif font. Below it, "SATURDAY 08.07.21" is in large, white, bold, sans-serif font. A circular logo with a cross and the text "Imagining GOD'S LIMITLESS LOVE" is at the bottom center. At the bottom right, the text "Let's be the church we say we are." is in white, italicized font.

The virtual gathering of Disciples across the life of the church is next **Saturday, August 7, 2021**. An opportunity for Disciples to connect, learn, worship, and imagine new ways of gathering as church, the program will consist of bible lectures, educational workshops, and worship service, with invited speakers and presenters. Register at disciples.org, or click the image, above.

SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS

August 1, 2021

August 8, 2021

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Church Opening Marion Denova
Sacraments Rhonda & Chris Culp
Deacon/Greeter Dak McInnis
Liturgist Sherry McInnis
Youth Reader Leonardo Morgan
Children's Sermon Chris Culp
Elder Carol Madere
Video Tech Greg Taliaferro
Sound Tech Jeff Cody
Livestream Ted Baldwin
Church Closing Jeff Cody
Graphic Builder Jill Brian

Church Opening Pam Jones
Sacraments Rhonda & Chris Culp
Deacon/Greeter Sherry McInnis
Liturgist Nancy Fatta
Youth Reader Rev. David Chisham
Children's Sermon Lucy Cody
Elder Callie Cody
Video Tech Greg Taliaferro
Sound Tech Greg Taliaferro
Livestream Ted Baldwin
Church Closing Tony Fatta
Program Builder Jeff Cody

Lectionary Readings: July 28 - August 10, 2021

Wednesday, July 28, 2021: Psalm 37:12-22; 2 Chronicles 9:29-31; Mark 6:35-44
 Thursday, July 29, 2021: Psalm 51:1-12; Exodus 32:19-26a; 1 Corinthians 11:17-22
 Friday, July 30, 2021: Psalm 51:1-12; Joshua 23:1-16; 1 Corinthians 11:27-34
 Saturday, July 31, 2021: Psalm 51:1-12; Judges 6:1-10; Matthew 16:5-12
 Sunday, August 1, 2021: Proper 13: Psalm 51:1-12; 2 Samuel 11:26—12:13a; Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35
 Monday, August 2, 2021: Psalm 50:16-23; 2 Samuel 12:15-25; Ephesians 4:17-24
 Tuesday, August 3, 2021: Psalm 50:16-23; 2 Samuel 13:1-19; 1 Corinthians 12:27-31
 Wednesday, August 4, 2021: Psalm 50:16-23; 2 Samuel 13:20-36; Mark 8:1-10
 Thursday, August 5, 2021: Psalm 130; 2 Samuel 13:37-14:24; Romans 15:1-6
 Friday, August 6, 2021: Psalm 130; 2 Samuel 14:25-33; Galatians 6:1-10
 Saturday, August 7, 2021: Psalm 130; 2 Samuel 15:1-13; Matthew 7:7-11
 Sunday, August 8, 2021: Proper 14: Psalm 130; 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33; Ephesians 4:25—5:2; John 6:35, 41-51
 Monday, August 9, 2021: Psalm 57; 2 Samuel 15:13-31; Ephesians 5:1-14
 Tuesday, August 10, 2021: Psalm 57; 2 Samuel 18:19-33; 2 Peter 3:14-18

Prayer List

The following people represent some of the current concerns at First Christian Church. If you would like to have a name added, update a current prayer request, or remove someone from the prayer list, please fill out the prayer request section of our [online check-in page](#), or contact us at churchoffice@fccbrla.org, or 225-926-4175. Names generally rotate off after 30/60/90 days without an update, depending on the nature of the original request.

Members in our prayers:

JD Albin, Dora & Ron Blackburn, Lois & Bill Burt, Norma Carr, Jody Chrisope, Pam Culp, Marion Denova, Martha Denova, Paul Foster, Rich Griswold, Lee Gullett, Ruth Horn, Jane Johnson, Jeff Judice, Marie Ladner, Ann Landry, Helen Mitchener, Bob & Jennifer Netterville, Michael & Helen Rankin, Donna Tetrick, Mary Jon Turner, Wally and Bev Weselak, Toni Wilson

Friends & Family of Members in our prayers

Ellen Ashbrook, Greg Anderson, Donna & Don Bohlcke, Brittany Stevenson Boothe, Angela Marie Avansi Casarotti, Rhett Castleberry, Jimmy Cody, Tony Coleman, Pam and Barton Confadi, Patricia Cornelius, the family of John Durham, the family of Jackie Fatta Marioles, Dean Fife, the family of Rev. Monte Gravenstein, Lane Holloman, Amber Lessard, the family of Tina Mazer, Tallu Schuyler Quinn, Cherry Quin, Maxine Rak, Matt Rink, Jimmy Rudd, Alyssa Russell, Scott Sanders, Dayna Coupel Simoneaux, Jyoti Soni, Nick Tullier, Amy Zietflow

Members in Active Military Service:

PVT Gage Goodspeed

CONTACT INFORMATION AND ONLINE LINKS:

Church Office Phone: 225-926-4175

Email: churchoffice@fccbrla.org

Rev. David Chisham: 703-220-6011

Email: david@fccbrla.org

Website: fccbrla.org

YouTube Video Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/FCCBRLA/featured>

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/fccbrla> Twitter: <https://twitter.com/fccbrla>

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/fccbrla>



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

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Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1317

225-926-4175 | fccbrla.org

SERVICE AT 10:00 AM EACH SUNDAY - IN PERSON and ONLINE

Backpack Blessing

Students, faculty, and staff:

Bring your backpack

to the 10:00 a.m. service

next Sunday, August 8

