

First Christian Caller

First Christian Church, Baton Rouge

Vol. 86

December 2024

No. 12



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December 2024 OUTREACH

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SOUTHEAST MINISTRIES!!

As we count the days until Christmas, we remember all our blessings and think about those in our community who struggle to make ends meet. To help them, we will be collecting food items (see list) or financial contributions to be given to Southeast Ministries Food Bank. Please place food donations in the Library in the Sanctuary. Monetary contributions should be made to FCC, earmarked: "Advent food drive", and delivered to the office or placed in the offering plates by December 15th.

Macaroni & cheese
Box or can of white potatoes
Powdered milk
Stuffing mix
Cornbread mix
Chicken broth
Boxed pie crust
Pie filling
Powdered milk
Powdered eggs
Gravy (canned or packets, no glass)
Cereal (cold or hot)
Peanut butter (large)
Jelly

Crackers
Tea bags
Instant Coffee
Canned sweet potatoes
Canned Beans
Canned cranberry sauce
Canned pumpkin
Apple sauce
Canned fruit cocktail
Canned fruit
Canned soup
Canned or package tuna
Canned meat

***Note: canned vegetables are not needed at this time.
Also pop-top cans or possibly a can opener would be helpful.**

We Want to Celebrate You!

December Birthdays

Earl Poole	12/04
Beverly Tipton	12/06
Joann Taliaferro	12/07
Leonardo Morgan	12/11
Brandon Wilson	12/12
Nicolas Morgan	12/13
David Fennell	12/16
Jeffrey Judice	12/19
Carl Cotten	12/20
David Landry	12/23
Carol Madere	12/26
Kayla Mercil	12/26
Callie Cody	12/28
Debbie Poche'	12/30
Marjorie Clark	12/31

December Anniversaries

Kish & Nancy Chapaneri	12/03
Frank & Jane Johnson	12/30
James & Kristin Morgan	12/31



We are decorating the sanctuary during Advent with poinsettias. If you would like to order a plant in memory or honor of loved ones, you can order by filling out the form in the bulletin on Sunday or by contacting the church office. Each plant costs \$20 and the deadline to order is December 12th.

Upcoming Events in December

Saturday, November 30	Hanging of the Greens	10:00 am
Sunday, December 1	1st Sunday of Advent Worship	10:00 am
	Prayer Circle	11:00 am
Tuesday, December 3	Service of Remembrance	6:30 pm
Saturday, December 7	Santa's Elves Workshop for Kids	9:00 am
Sunday, December 8	2nd Sunday of Advent Worship	10:00 am
	Annual Congregational Meeting	11:00 am
Sunday, December 15	Christmas Cantata/3rd Sunday of Advent	10:00 am
	Christmas Fellowship Luncheon	11:00 am
Sunday, December 22	4th Sunday of Advent	10:00 am
Tuesday, December 24	Christmas Eve Service	7:00 pm
Sunday, December 29	Praise the Lord after Christmas	10:00 a.m.

December Outreach cont'd



DISASTER RESPONSE

Our church participated with others in the Great River Region to assemble “recovery cleanup kits”. We collected \$725 towards the assembly of 50 kits, which were immediately delivered to the Church World Services disaster staging warehouse in Baldwin, LA for future distribution as needed. Thank you to everyone at FCCBR that participated in this outreach project!



ADVENT SEASON PROJECT



We plan to deliver cookies to our homebound congregants on Sunday December 15th. This ministry is important to those we love that are unable to join us in worship. There are two ways you can become involved in this project: one is to bake homemade cookies, and the second is to help deliver them. Detailed instructions and sign-up sheets for bakers and drivers will be placed in the Narthex the first two Sundays in December. (You may also contact Judy Lester to volunteer if you won't be in church.) Christmas cards will be in the Narthex on those dates as well. We'd like EVERYONE to sign every card, as each recipient family will receive one.

Important deadlines:

Bakers: cookies due to the church office by Wednesday 12/11 (2 doz minimum), PLEASE sign up to ensure we have a variety of types. And see instructions in Narthex for packaging instructions.

Drivers: There are 26 drops to be divided between the number of volunteers. Drivers to meet in the Fellowship Hall immediately after worship on Sunday 12/15 to get your bags and delivery list. Deliver that afternoon if you can, but bags may be delivered the following week if that best suits the driver or recipient.

Our lead-time for this project is very short this year. So please sign the volunteer sheets as soon as possible so we can better orchestrate the multiple tasks that make up this outreach effort.

Thanks to All Who Helped with Regional Assembly



On behalf of the Regional Board of the Great River Region, I'd like to thank everyone in the congregation of First Christian Church-Baton Rouge for being marvelous hosts to our fellow Disciples from Louisiana, Mississippi, and Arkansas. I received so many compliments about the food, the beauty of the church campus, and especially, the hosts. "We were treated like royalty," said one guest. "You all have really raised the bar on these events," said another.

I'd like to acknowledge the following individuals who worked tirelessly throughout the weekend: *Carl Cotten, Cathi Pourciau, John Engelsman, Ed Atkins, Tony Babin, Tony Fatta, Michael Rankin, Frank and Lorrinda Dickinson, Vicki Krupala, Judy Lester, BevIerly Weselak, Donna Embree, Diane Sympson, Alicia Levell, Ashley Bourgeois, Brenda & Jerry Hilgendorf, Jeff Cody, Lisa Fennell, Toni Wilson, Pam Comeaux, Charles Riddle, Aaron Turnipseed, Earl Poole, Dak & Sherry McInnis, Trey Earle, and all the members of The Study Sunday School Class.*

I would also like to thank *Beverly Weselak, Jill Brian, and Nancy Fatta* for the beautiful assembly banner in the sanctuary and artwork in the Fellowship Hall.

In particular, I'd like to recognize our Local Arrangements Chair, *Nancy Fatta*, whose extraordinary organizational skills and meticulous attention to detail made the Regional Assembly a tremendous success.

Carol Madere
GRR Regional Assembly Coordinator



CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Sunday, December 15 @10:00am

You are invited to bring family and friends to our choir's presentation of our Christmas Cantata, *A Thrill of Hope* by Joel Raney, under the direction of Aaron Turnipseed.

As Worship Chair, I want to thank Aaron, Earl and the choir for the great music they have provided the congregation this year. Thank you for blessing us with your time and talent. We appreciate you! -- Nancy Fatta

Christmas Fellowship Dinner

After enjoying our Cantata, please join us in the Fellowship Hall for a potluck Christmas Party / Fellowship Dinner. Bring your favorite side dish and/or dessert to share. Meat and beverages will be provided by the church.



Come and see our Fellowship Hall decorated once again for Christmas. There might be some surprises, so don't miss it!



Hanging of the Greens

Saturday, November 30, 10:00 am

Please join us to decorate the Sanctuary and Narthex (foyer) for Christmas. Many hands make light work. Come trim the tree, hang wreaths, banners and garland. Everything needs to be fluffed!

Prayer Circle

Please consider taking a few moments after our church service on the First Sunday of every month to pray with your fellow members. It's a time for personal prayer and reflection on what's happening in your life. We look forward to you joining the Circle.

Santa's Elves Workshop on December 7th



Children, ages 4 to 12, are welcome to become Santa's elves on Saturday, December 7, from 9 a.m. till noon in the Fellowship Hall. We will be making and decorating some Christmas cookies and crafts.

There will also be a gift wrapping challenge, hot cocoa station, and even a snowball fight! There may even be some Reindeer Games!

Also, wear your favorite Christmas sweater for Selfies with Santa! *(We promise to turn the A/C WAY DOWN if the weather is warm that day.)*

If you'd like to help with the event or donate cookies or gift wrap, tape, ribbon, or gift boxes (recycled is fine), please contact Carol Madere at 225-931-4413 or by email at cmmadere@gmail.com.

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

We will be holding a special service to begin the holiday season. This service is designed to address feelings of loss or grief that often follow us into our celebrations, hindering us from fully engaging in the happiness we expect to feel at this time of year.

Through meditations and scripture, we will work through stages of grief from SORROW to JOY. Hopefully, we will gain a new perspective and be able to enjoy the miracle of Jesus's birth with our family and friends.

Please consider taking part in this special Service of Remembrance.

Lectionary Readings: December 1-31, 2024

Sunday, December 01: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; Luke 21:25-36
Monday, December 02: Psalm 90; Numbers 17:1-11; 2 Peter 3:1-18
Tuesday, December 03: Psalm 90; 2 Samuel 7:18-29; Revelation 22:12-16
Wednesday, December 04: Psalm 90; Isaiah 1:24-31; Luke 11:29-32
Thursday, December 05: Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 3:5-12; Philippians 1:12-18a
Friday, December 06: Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 3:13-18; Philippians 1:18b-26
Saturday, December 07: Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 4:1-6; Luke 9:1-6
Sunday, December 08: Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Luke 3:1-6
Monday, December 09: Psalm 126; Isaiah 40:1-11; Romans 8:22-25
Tuesday, December 10: Psalm 126; Isaiah 19:18-25; 2 Peter 1:2-15
Wednesday, December 11: Psalm 126; Isaiah 35:3-7; Luke 7:18-30
Thursday, December 12: Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 6:1-8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15
Friday, December 13: Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 8:4-12; 2 Corinthians 9:1-15
Saturday, December 14: Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 9:8-15; Luke 1:57-66
Sunday, December 15: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7
Monday, December 16: Isaiah 11:1-9; Numbers 16:1-19; Hebrews 13:7-17
Tuesday, December 17: Isaiah 11:1-9; Numbers 16:20-35; Acts 28:23-31
Wednesday, December 18: Isaiah 11:1-9; Micah 4:8-13; Luke 7:31-35
Thursday, December 19: Psalm 80:1-7; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 10:10-18
Friday, December 20: Psalm 80:1-7; Isaiah 42:10-18; Hebrews 10:32-39
Saturday, December 21: Psalm 80:1-7; Isaiah 66:7-11; Luke 13:31-35
Sunday, December 22: Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:46b-55; Psalm 80:1-7
Monday, December 23: Psalm 113; Genesis 25:19-28; Colossians 1:15-20;
Tuesday, December 24: Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Luke 2:1-20
Wednesday, December 25: Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97; Luke 2:1-20
Thursday, December 26: Psalm 148; 2 Chronicles 24:17-24; Acts 6:1-7; 7:51-60
Friday, December 27: Psalm 148; Proverbs 8:32-36; John 21:19b-24
Saturday, December 28: Psalm 148; Isaiah 54:1-13; Revelation 21:1-7
Sunday, December 29: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Luke 2:41-52
Monday, December 30: Psalm 147:12-20; 2 Chronicles 1:7-13; Mark 13:32-37
Tuesday, December 31: Psalm 147:12-20; 1 Kings 3:5-14; John 8:12-19





THE STUDY

9:00 – 9:45 am, every Sunday, Youth Building

As for Bible study and knowledge of TRUTH, study the WORD yourself, AND with fellow disciples. Know for yourself, first hand, the scriptures so that you will not be persuaded toward error of false teaching, nor be deceived concerning TRUTH and the will of God.

New employees of the U.S. Treasury Department supposedly spend their first months of employment in the area of currency. There they look at and study real currency only. Afterwards, they have an eye to detect easily that which is false or counterfeit. They know what is true. Error is obvious.

Such is true with the written WORD. The more familiar you are with knowledge of scripture, the more discerning you will be. Come join with fellow believers as we study from the scriptures directly and share understanding with one another. We study not for a head full of Bible knowledge, but for our hearts to be filled with God's LOVE.

FCC Book Club Meeting

The next meeting of the FCC Book Club will be **Sunday, January 5th** at **Jason's Deli** (please note the change of restaurant for this meeting) immediately after church. We'll be discussing "The Keeper of Hidden Books" by Madeline Martin. It is a heartwarming story about the power of books to bring us together, inspired by the true story of the underground library in W/WII Warsaw.



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 days.

Members in our prayers:

Judy Albin, JP Averette, Ann Baskin, Norma Carr, Jody Chrisope, Marjorie Clark, Martha Denova, Lorri Fontenot, George & Lee Gullett, Ruth Horn, Rev. Frank & Jane Johnson, Marie Ladner, BJ McRae, Helen Mitchener, Jerry Moses, Jennifer Netterville, Helen Rankin, Ruth Riddle, Kelly & Gladys Runnels. Scott Sanders, Bill Trotter, Phyllis Willis

Friends & Family of Members in our prayers:

Stella Cade, Charles Campo, James Duncan, Ty Dupont, Patty Hubeny, Jim Jablonski, Victoria Ann Johnson, Phoenixi Louis, Deanna Minton, Locksley Rushworth, Paul Stevenson, Roger Trotter, Rev. Bobbie Yellott, Brian Zito

SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS cont'd

December 29, 2024

<i>Church Opening</i>	James Morgan
<i>Sacraments</i>	Jerry Hilgendorf
<i>Liturgist</i>	Anderson Krupala
<i>Children's Moment</i>	Rev. Tom Cody
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Brynleigh Comeaux
<i>Elder</i>	Nancy Fatta
<i>Greeter</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>Deacons</i>	Jeff Cody Shelly Cody, Callie Cody, Ed Atkins
<i>Livestream</i>	Charles Riddle
<i>Video Tech</i>	Brenda Hilgendorf
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Aaron Taliaferro
<i>CW&W Greeter</i>	Shelly Cody
<i>CW&W Storyteller</i>	Lucy Cody
<i>Church Closing</i>	Tony Fatta
<i>Program Builder</i>	Jill Brian

SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS cont'd on page 10

Please check your worship assignments in advance and arrange for a sub in the case of a scheduling conflict. We appreciate that very much! You can check assignments [online, here](#), or contact the church office at 225-926-4175

December 1, 2024

<i>Church Opening</i>	James Morgan
<i>Sacraments</i>	Jerry Hilgendorf
<i>Liturgist</i>	Dr. Trey Earle
<i>Children's Moment</i>	Ashley Bourgeois
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Brynleigh Comeaux
<i>Elder</i>	Ashley Bourgeois
<i>Greeter</i>	Lisa Fennell
<i>Deacons</i>	Gene Schilf, Esther Schilf, David Fennell, Lisa Fennell
<i>Livestream</i>	Frank Dickinson
<i>Video Tech</i>	Brenda Hilgendorf
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Josh Dotts
<i>CW&W Greeter</i>	Shelly Cody
<i>CW&W Storyteller</i>	Lucy Cody
<i>Church Closing</i>	James Morgan
<i>Program Builder</i>	Michael Rankin

December 15, 2024

<i>Church Opening</i>	Jerry Hilgendorf
<i>Sacraments</i>	Jerry Hilgendorf
<i>Liturgist</i>	Carmen Jones
<i>Children's Moment</i>	Pam Comeaux
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Cora Cody
<i>Elder</i>	Donna Embree
<i>Greeter</i>	Anderson Krupala
<i>Deacons</i>	Anderson Krupala, Kinzley McCoy, Lorry Trotter, Steve Gibson
<i>Livestream</i>	Pam Jones
<i>Video Tech</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Greg Taliaferro
<i>CW&W Greeter</i>	Leonardo Morgan
<i>CW&W Storyteller</i>	Kristin Morgan
<i>Church Closing</i>	Jerry Hilgendorf
<i>Program Builder</i>	Dr. Carol Madere

December 8, 2024

<i>Church Opening</i>	David Fennel
<i>Sacraments</i>	Jerry Hilgendorf
<i>Liturgist</i>	Chris Culp
<i>Children's Moment</i>	Dr. Tracy Shaffer
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Leonardo Morgan
<i>Elder</i>	Rev. Tom Cody
<i>Greeter</i>	Ed Atkins
<i>Deacons</i>	Jeff Cody, Shelly Cody, Ed Atkins, Callie Cody
<i>Livestream</i>	Brenda Hilgendorf
<i>Video Tech</i>	Frank Dickinson
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Tony Fatta
<i>CW&W Greeter</i>	Pam Comeaux
<i>CW&W Storyteller</i>	Dr. Carol Madere
<i>Church Closing</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>Program Builder</i>	Jeff Cody

December 22, 2024

<i>Church Opening</i>	Charles Riddle
<i>Sacraments</i>	Jerry Hilgendorf
<i>Liturgist</i>	Vicki Krupala
<i>Children's Moment</i>	Nancy Fatta
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Anderson Krupala
<i>Elder</i>	Frank Dickinson
<i>Greeter</i>	Nicolas Morgan
<i>Deacons</i>	Nicolas Morgan, Doug Shaffer, Tracy Shaffer, Joann Taliaferro
<i>Livestream</i>	Aaron Taliaferro
<i>Video Tech</i>	Brenda Hilgendorf
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>CW&W Greeter</i>	Kayla Mercil
<i>CW&W Storyteller</i>	Genesis Bennie
<i>Church Closing</i>	Nancy Fatta
<i>Program Builder</i>	Jill Brian



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

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225-926-4175 | fccbrla.org

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

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION AND ONLINE LINKS:

Church Office Phone: 225-926-4175

Email: churchoffice@fccbrla.org

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 am - 3 pm

The Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor, *Senior Minister*

Email: dedrick@fccbrla.org

Minister's Hours: Wed. 4-7 pm; Sat. 10:30 am-1:00 pm, and by appointment

Aaron Turnipseed, M.M.P., *Director of Music*

Earl Poole, *Music Worship Leader*

Brenda Hilgendorf, *Bookkeeper / Administrative Assistant*

Charles Riddle, *Facilities*

Website: fccbrla.org YouTube Video Channel: youtube.com/fccbrla

Facebook: facebook.com/fccbrla Twitter: twitter.com/fccbrla

Instagram: instagram.com/fccbrla

DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS: [Vanderbilt Divinity Library - Year B](#)