

First Christian Caller

First Christian Church, Baton Rouge

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January 2025

No. 01



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JANUARY 2025 OUTREACH

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BLESSINGS FOR THE NEW YEAR, AND THANKS!

“The greatest happiness in the world is to make others happy.”

Luther Burbank



SOUTHEAST MINISTRIES!!

A great big “thank you” to everyone who donated food to the Southeast Food Pantry in December. We also received \$250 in donations. Special thanks to Charlene Landry, who has faithfully transported donated items to the pantry for this & many years; and to Brenda & Jerry Hilgendorf for transporting our Advent donations!



ADVENT SEASON PROJECT

Once again Santa’s “elves” (our bakers and drivers) have spread Christmas cheer to our homebound congregants. The feedback I’ve gotten has been so positive. Thank you for your gift of time during the busy holiday season!

BAKERS

Mollie Choate
Donna Embree
Nancy Fatta
Carol Madere
Sherry McInnis
Phyllis Willis
Toni Wilson

DRIVERS

Ashley Bourgeois
Chris Culp
Tony & Nancy Fatta
Jerry & Brenda Hilgendorf
Vicki & Anderson Krupala
Dak & Sherri McInnis
Kristin & Nico Morgan

We Want to Celebrate You!

January Birthdays

Frank Dickinson	01/06
Madison Rankin	01/06
Lisa Fennell	01/07
Tanner Wilson	01/14
Joshua Dotts	01/18
Jim Giammanco	01/18
Toni Wilson	01/19
Cathi Pourciau	01/20
Rhonda Culp	01/21
Teagan Dickey	01/21
Terri Cochran	01/24

January Anniversaries

Allen & Kim Lax	01/24
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Upcoming Events in January

Wednesday, January 1	Happy New Year!!	Office Closed
Sunday, January 5	Prayer Circle	11:00 am
Sunday, January 5	FCC Book Club	11:00 am
Monday, January 6	Pastoral Relations Committee Mtg.	6:00 pm
Tuesday, January 7	Finance Committe Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 12	Elders Organizational Meeting	11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, January 14	Board Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 19	Church Growth Meeting	11:00 a.m.
Thursday, January 23	Disciples Women Meeting	9:30 am
Sunday, January 26	Men's Group Organizational Meeting	11:00 a.m.

Church Growth Needs Your Help!

This year, we're committed to making the community better informed about all FCC has to offer. We'll be using Facebook events, Facebook ads, and promotion through other social media platforms, such as Next Door, the neighborhood app. If you can help in any of the following areas, please contact Carol Madere at cmmadere@gmail.com.

- Photographer -- Do you take good pictures? We need a photographer to take photos of events to be posted to the website and social media platforms and to take photos of new members, so we can get to know them better.
- Next Door Contributors -- Do you use the neighborhood app Next Door? If so, we'd love to send you a photo and description of upcoming events at church to publish on the app. This app is a great way to let our neighbors know what we offer at FCC.

We have lots of great worship and fellowship events at church throughout the year. Please support us by attending and bringing a friend. Also, please share us on your socials.



JANUARY 2025 OUTREACH

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UPCOMING FOR 2025

Reminder that February is the time for our **Week of Compassion** special offering. We participate in this DoC denominational organization's drive annually. It is our sole global outreach initiative. There are so many challenges worldwide now, resulting in people facing desperate situations that we cannot even imagine. Our faith calls us to compassion. Please give prayerful consideration to what you can do to help relieve the suffering of others in the weeks ahead.



The **Sanctuary** looked beautiful for the Holidays thanks to *Ashley Bourgeois; Lucy, Jeff, Cora, Callie Cody & her friend Brennan; Ed Atkins; and Beverly Weselak*. Thanks so much.

-- Nancy Fatta, Worship Chair.



Thank you to all who helped with the **Service of Remembrance** on Dec 3: *Aaron Turnipseed and Earl Poole for music, Tony Fatta and Charles Riddle for sound and livestream, Brenda Hilgen-dorf for video and office support, Rev. Dak McInnis for leading the service, and our readers, Ashley Bourgeois, Carl Cotten, Frank Dickinson, Vicki Krupala, Carol Madere and Bruce Weselak*.

Thank you so much for the great job and support. -- Nancy Fatta, Worship Chair



Thanks to all who put on the **Santa's Elves Party** for our children: *Donna, Embree, Nancy Fatta, Carol Madere, and Julie Olinde*. Also thanks to the moms, dads and grandmas who brought their children and jumped in to help, making the day run smoothly. We started by trimming the tree, then decorating cupcakes, doing crafts, playing games, culminating in a crazy snowball fight. A special thank you to Santa, who took time from his busy schedule to visit the kids and bring them gifts. A good time was had by all!

Thank you to the crew who made the **Christmas Fellowship Dinner** happen: *Tony Babin, Ashley Bourgeois, Trey Earle, Nancy & Tony Fatta, Jeff Judice, and Vicki Krupala*. Thank you to all who brought food and/or attended the dinner, and those who pitched in to clean up afterward. Everyone working together makes great things happen!



Thank You's & Words of Encouragement

To the FCC Congregation, Thank you for the fun - food- fellowship - at the GRR Regional Assembly! You out did yourselves! Blessings, Rev. Vanessa Bostick, FCC-Little Rock, AR

“Thank you ladies of First Christian Church for the delicious cookies. I enjoyed the visit with Nancy & Ashley also.” -- Sincerely, Ann Achord



“I would like to thank my church family for calls, cards, prayers, food, and support during my recent broken hip adventure. I would like to acknowledge my son, Michael, for walking every step of that journey with me. My church family is such a blessing to me. Blessings to you all.” -- Helen Rankin

“I enjoy watching the service from my home, from the YouTube stream. Dr. Dedrick Minor has a gift! Everyone is so welcoming! This church will grow!” -- Sincerely, Lisa Alonzo

*“As we reflect on the past at Capital Area CASA, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for everything we’ve accomplished together. Because of your unwavering support, we have been able to provide dedicated advocacy for countless abused and neglected children in the foster care system, giving them hope and a voice when they needed it most....The difference you’ve made is truly **life-changing** -- not just for children we serve but for the entire community.” -- Kathy Persac, Chair & Allison Traxler, Executive Director*



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.

Men's Group Re-Organizing

Calling all men of First Christian Church of Baton Rouge! After a five-year pause, the men's group of FCCBR will be re-organizing for 2025 and beyond! James Morgan and Trey Earle have agreed to serve as co-leaders of the FCCBR men's group. The first meeting will be held immediately following the church service on **Sunday, January 26, 2025**. At this meeting, James and Trey will discuss the purpose and plans for the group for 2025. We hope that all men in the membership of FCCBR will attend.

2025 Board Officers

The following members were elected by the congregation to be your 2025 Board Officers.

Tony Fatta, Chair
Rev. Dak McInnis, Chair-elect
Cathi Pourciau, Treasurer
Nancy Fatta, Secretary

Members-at-Large:

Jeff Cody
Brenda Hilgendorf
Vicki Krupala
Judy Lester
Carol Madere
Charles Riddle

Sanctuary Decorated for Advent/Christmas



Lectionary Readings: January 1-31, 2025 (Year C)

- **Wednesday, January 01 :** Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 8; Galatians 4:4-7
- **Thursday, January 02:** Psalm 147:12-20; Proverbs 1:1-7; James 3:13-18
- **Friday, January 03:** Psalm 72; Job 42:10-17; Luke 8:16-21
- **Saturday, January 04:** Psalm 72; Isaiah 6:1-5; Acts 7:44-53
- **Sunday, January 05:** Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14
- **Monday, January 06:** Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12
- **Tuesday, January 07:** Psalm 72; Daniel 2:1-19; Ephesians 4:17-5:1
- **Wednesday, January 08:** Psalm 72; Daniel 2:24-49; Ephesians 5:15-20
- **Thursday, January 09:** Psalm 29; Ecclesiastes 1:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
- **Friday, January 10:** Psalm 29; Ecclesiastes 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 2:1-10
- **Saturday, January 11:** Psalm 29; Ecclesiastes 3:1-15; 1 Corinthians 2:11-16
- **Sunday, January 12:** Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
- **Monday, January 13:** Psalm 106:1-12; Judges 4:1-16; Ephesians 6:10-17
- **Tuesday, January 14:** Psalm 106:1-12; Judges 5:12-21; 1 John 5:13-21
- **Wednesday, January 15:** Psalm 106:1-12; Numbers 27:1-11; Luke 11:33-36
- **Thursday, January 16:** Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 3:1-5; Acts 8:18-24
- **Friday, January 17:** Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 3:19-25; 1 Corinthians 7:1-7
- **Saturday, January 18:** Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 4:1-4; Luke 11:14-23
- **Sunday, January 19:** Isaiah 62:1-11; Psalm 36:5-10; I Corinthians 12:1-11
- **Monday, January 20:** Psalm 145; Isaiah 54:1-8; Romans 12:9-21
- **Tuesday, January 21:** Psalm 145; Song of Solomon 4:1-8; 1 Corinthians 1:3-17
- **Wednesday, January 22:** Psalm 145; Song of Solomon 4:9-5:1; Luke 5:33-39
- **Thursday, January 23:** Psalm 19; Isaiah 61:1-7; Romans 7:1-6
- **Friday, January 24:** Psalm 19; Nehemiah 2:1-10; Romans 12:1-8
- **Saturday, January 25:** Psalm 19; Nehemiah 5:1-13; Luke 2:39-52
- **Sunday, January 26:** Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19; I Corinthians 12:12-31a
- **Monday, January 27:** Psalm 119:89-96; Jeremiah 36:1-10; 1 Corinthians 14:1-12
- **Tuesday, January 28:** Psalm 119:89-96; Jeremiah 36:11-26; 2 Corinthians 7:2-12
- **Wednesday, January 29:** Psalm 119:89-96; Jeremiah 36:27-32; Luke 4:38-44
- **Thursday, January 30:** Psalm 71:1-6; 2 Chronicles 34:1-7; Acts 10:44-48
- **Friday, January 31:** Psalm 71:1-6; 2 Chronicles 35:20-27; Acts 19:1-10





THE STUDY

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

Are you aware that, as a Christian, you are particularly gifted? Paul, the Apostle, in his letter to the disciples of Christ in Corinth, writes this: *"Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed, (or ignorant, KJV),"* 1 Corinthians 12:1, NIV.

By inspiration of the Holy Spirit, he instructs the Church as to what the spiritual gifts are and how they are to be manifested in the Body of Christ. Our personal gifting(s) are not for ourselves alone, but are to be shared in love with one another in Christ.

We are presently learning about this in THE STUDY which meets every Sunday morning, 9:00 - 9:45 AM, in the Youth Building. Don't miss these next few weeks in January! All are welcome. Bring a friend,

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 WWII 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, 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, Tracy Shaffer & Family, 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, Phoenix Louis, Melanie Miller, Locksley Rushworth, family of Melissa Stephenson, Paul Stevenson, Roger Trotter, Rev. Bobbie Yellott, Brian Zito



SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS

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

January 5, 2025

<i>Church Opening</i>	David Fennell
<i>Sacraments</i>	Brenda Hilgendorf
<i>Liturgist</i>	Dr. Carol Madere
<i>Children's Moment</i>	Ashley Bourgeois
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Leonardo Morgan
<i>Elder</i>	Tony Fatta
<i>Greeter</i>	Gene Schilf
<i>Deacons</i>	Gene Schilf, Esther Schilf, Carl Cotten, Alicia Levell
<i>Livestream</i>	Daniel Dickey (training)
<i>Video Tech</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Pam Jones
<i>CW&W Greeter</i>	Shelly Cody
<i>CW&W Storyteller</i>	Lucy Cody
<i>Church Closing</i>	Charles Riddle
<i>Program Builder</i>	Brenda Hilgendorf

January 12, 2025

<i>Church Opening</i>	Jerry Hilgendorf
<i>Sacraments</i>	Brenda Hilgendorf
<i>Liturgist</i>	Pam Comeaux
<i>Children's Moment</i>	Judy Lester
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Cora Cody
<i>Elder</i>	Carmen Jones
<i>Greeter</i>	Cathi Pourciau
<i>Deacons</i>	Jeff Cody, James Morgan, Kristin Morgan, Cathi Pourciau
<i>Livestream</i>	Daniel Dickey (training)
<i>Video Tech</i>	Frank Dickinson
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Greg Taliaferro
<i>CW&W Greeter</i>	Pam Comeaux
<i>CW&W Storyteller</i>	Dr. Carol Madere
<i>Church Closing</i>	James Morgan
<i>Program Builder</i>	Jeff Cody

January 19, 2025

<i>Church Opening</i>	Charles Riddle
<i>Sacraments</i>	Brenda Hilgendorf
<i>Liturgist</i>	Tony Fatta
<i>Children's Moment</i>	Nancy Fatta
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Leonardo Morgan
<i>Elder</i>	Rev. Dak McInnis
<i>Greeter</i>	Anderson Krupala
<i>Deacons</i>	Ed Atkins, Tony Babin, Anderson Krupala, Greg Taliaferro
<i>Livestream</i>	Frank Dickinson
<i>Video Tech</i>	Nicolas Morgan
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Carmen Jones
<i>CW&W Greeter</i>	Leonardo Morgan
<i>CW&W Storyteller</i>	Kristin Morgan
<i>Church Closing</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>Program Builder</i>	Dr. Carol Madere

January 26, 2025

<i>Church Opening</i>	James Morgan
<i>Sacraments</i>	Brenda Hilgendorf
<i>Liturgist</i>	Nancy Chapaneri
<i>Children's Moment</i>	Michael Rankin
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Brynleigh Comeaux
<i>Elder</i>	Sherry McInnis
<i>Greeter</i>	Doug Shaffer
<i>Deacons</i>	Kim Rankin, Michael Rankin, Doug Shaffer, Tracy Shaffer
<i>Livestream</i>	Nicolas Morgan
<i>Video Tech</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Tony Fatta
<i>CW&W Greeter</i>	Kayla Mercil
<i>CW&W Storyteller</i>	Genesis Bennie
<i>Church Closing</i>	Jerry Hilgendorf
<i>Program Builder</i>	Jill Brian



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

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 C](#)