

# First Christian *Caller*

First Christian Church, Baton Rouge

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## April 2025 OUTREACH (cont. on page 4)



## “SPRING”ING INTO ACTION!



### SOUTHEAST MINISTRIES!!

Our “pantry focus” for April is *flour & sugar* (2 lb bags). However, other needed items are always welcome! Place donated items in the shopping cart which will be on the chancel near the pulpit on the second Tuesday of the month, or in the Narthex on other Sundays.

### WEEK OF COMPASSION OFFERING 2025

The collection total for our February Week of Compassion special offering was \$1756. You are making a difference, and your generosity is greatly appreciated!



### BLOOD DRIVE APRIL 27th



Roll up that sleeve, it's time for our blood drive! The Life Share blood mobile will be parked outside the Fellowship Hall on Sunday April 27th from 8:00 am – noon. You may reserve an appointment time via sign-up sheet in the Narthex on April 13th & 20th; but walk-ups are welcome too! Donated blood will be credited to FCCBR's account and to any member in need of blood.

### LEAF-Louisiana Empowerment Advocacy

On May 8th from 9:00 am – noon, FCCBR will host a meeting of LEAF and other local professionals in the Baton Rouge area that work together to assist youth aging out of the foster care system. Volunteers are needed to act as hosts for this meeting. If you are interested in helping, please contact Carol Madere or the church office.



# We Want to Celebrate You!

## April Birthdays

Mark Willis	04/06
Brynleigh Comeaux	04/04
Lorrinda Dickinson	04/13
Sue Grigg	04/27

## April Anniversaries

Michael & Kim Rankin	04/06
Ernie & Dianne Buhler	04/15
David & Lisa Fennell	04/21
Bo Weathers & Debbie Poche'	04/30

### Thank You Note to the Chancel Choir

*During a time like this  
we learn how much our friends  
and family really mean to us.  
Your expression of sympathy will  
always be remembered.*

Thank you for the beautiful flowers. She  
.loved you all so much.

*Best,  
The Chapmaneri and Sevitts Family*



## Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 5	Pastor's Class	10:00 a.m.
Sunday, April 6	Prayer Circle	11:00 a.m.
Saturday, April 12	Pastor's Class	10:00 a.m.
Sunday, April 13	Palm Sunday Cantata	10:00 a.m.
Sunday, April 13	Palm Sunday Brunch	11:00 a.m.
Thursday, April 17	Maundy Thursday Service	7:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 19	Easter Egg Hunt	10:00 a.m.
Sunday, April 20	Continental Brakfast	8:45 a.m.
Sunday, April 20	Easter Worship	10:00 a.m.
Thursday, April 24	Disciples Women	9:30 a.m.



## April 2025 OUTREACH (cont. from page 2)



### DISASTER RELIEF SERVICE PROJECT

"Getting dirty for Jesus" is back! Week of Compassion and the DoC Great River Region are partnering with "Rolling Fork Rising" to build new homes and create opportunities for home ownership for renters displaced by the EF-4 tornado that devastated Rolling Fork, MS in 2023. Work trips are being planned for the weeks of May 18-24 and May 25-31. The maximum group size is 20. Minimum age of participation is 14 years. (\*Note: there must be 2 adults for every 5 minors.) Volunteers will be housed at the First Baptist Church of Rolling Fork, in classrooms that have been converted into bunk rooms. Meals will be prepared by the group. There is a registration cost of \$50/person/week. Space is limited, so please contact Judy Lester 225-221-4478, or the church office as soon as you can if you are interested in participating.

The Great River Regional Office of the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ has appointed Reverend Ronny Nowell to a newly formed position of "Regional Disaster Response Coordinator". Rev Nowell has been charged with forming a comprehensive disaster response plan for the Region. Listed below are some planning areas Rev Nowell would like to develop. However, it will take the participation of all the congregations in our region to build and staff a viable resource that can be counted on for support during times of natural disasters and operational disruption. If you have any interest in becoming involved in the development of these plans, or of volunteering to serve in any of these capacities once the functional areas are operational, please contact Judy Lester or the church office.

1. Building a regional "early response team"
2. Discerning interest and requirements for forming a "Crisis Emotional Support/Spiritual Care Team"
3. Forming and deploying "rebuild teams"
4. Identification of congregational assets and local preparedness/response partnerships
5. Form a "Disaster Recovery Advisory Council" with congregational representatives (attend VOAD Zoom calls, evaluate programs, etc.)
6. Develop a "Crisis Call Center" and recruit volunteers

## Welcome New Members



Stephen and Claire Sanders joined our church family in membership on Sunday, March 16, 2025. Stephen transferred from the Presbytery of South Louisiana. He has retired after serving more than 44 years in ministry in both the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Christian Church Disciples of Christ. He is also a retired Academic librarian and National Guard chaplain. He is originally from Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Claire transferred from Broadmoor Presbyterian Church. She has been a Head Start Teacher, an administrative assistant, a licensed minister in the Disciples Church, and a pastor's wife. She is originally from Baton Rouge and grew up working in her family's business Coffee Call.

## Easter Egg Hunt, April 19th

The Church Growth Committee is sponsoring its annual Easter Egg Hunt for children 1-12 on Saturday, April 19, from 10 to noon. There will be games, snacks, crafts, and even a petting zoo along with the Easter Egg Hunt. So, bring your children, your grandchildren, or even the neighborhood kids out for this fun spring event. Don't forget their **Easter baskets!**



## 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



## April Worship Events



### PALM SUNDAY - APRIL 13th

- Children's Palm Parade
- Easter Cantata - Our Chancel Choir will present a cantata entitled "Hope in the Shadows" by Joel Raney
- Baptisms - Brynleigh Comeaux, Cora Cody, and Daniel Dickey will be Baptized and honored at a Fellowship Dinner following Wor-

### MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 17th

There will be a special service beginning at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. We will follow Jesus in His journey from His triumphant entry into Jerusalem through His Crucifixion on Good Friday.



### EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 20

Together we will celebrate Christ's Resurrection through word and song.

### PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAISE

We will be adding a new component to our Worship Service continuing forward. During our Pastoral Prayer time, we will offer an opportunity for members to offer their testimony or stories of answered prayer to the Congregation. If you would be interested in sharing in this way, please contact Nancy Fatta, Worship Chairman, in person, by text 405-7097, or email [nancy.fatta@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.fatta@gmail.com).

### Are You Graduating???

Please let the church office know if you are graduating in May 2025 or if you graduated in December 2024. We will have a recognition service in May to honor all our graduates! Please be sure to include which *school you are graduating* from, what your *future plans* are, any *honors* that you received, and a *picture(s)* of you. Please email Kim Lax the above information at [churchoffice@fccbrrla.org](mailto:churchoffice@fccbrrla.org).



## Church Fellowship Events

### Palm Sunday Easter Luncheon, Sunday, April 13, 2025, 11am

A luncheon will follow the worship service on Palm Sunday at 11am. Three tables will be reserved in the fellowship hall for family members of the baptismal candidates. Members of the congregation are asked to bring an entree, side dish and/or dessert. Bread and beverages will be provided by the church. Please text/call Vicki Krupala at 225-328-2461 with any questions.

### Easter Sunday Continental Breakfast, Sunday, April 20, 2025, 8:45-9:45am

A light continental breakfast will be served on Easter Sunday from 8:45-9:15am. Members of the congregation are asked to provide 'easy to serve' breakfast items (i.e.: muffins, croissants, fruit, cheese, etc.). Beverages will be provided by the church. Please text/call Vicki Krupala at 225-328-2461 with any questions.



### Pastor Appreciation Day and Luncheon, Sunday, May 4, 2025

Everyone is invited to show their gratitude for Reverend Dedrick Minor during our first annual 'Pastor Appreciation Day', held Sunday, May 4th. A special worship service will recognize the work of our pastor, followed by a delicious crawfish luncheon provided by the Men's Group. The congregation is encouraged to shower Reverend Minor with appreciation through personal cards, letters, text messages, gifts, artwork, etc. before, during or after the worship service and luncheon.



Join us in thanking Reverend Minor for his uplifting work with our congregation and community!

### Do You Like Us? Follow Us on Social Media!

We have been trying to make the church website and social media pages more friendly and shareable. While it is a work in progress, please share your feedback with us, share our content with your friends, and follow First Christian Church Baton Rouge on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.



## Lectionary Readings: April 1 - 30, 2025 (Year C)

- **Tuesday, April 01, 2025:** Psalm 53; Leviticus 25:1-19; Revelation 19:9-10;
- **Wednesday, April 02, 2025:** Psalm 53; 2 Kings 4:1-7; Luke 9:10-17;
- **Thursday, April 03, 2025:** Psalm 126; Isaiah 43:1-7; Philippians 2:19-24;
- **Friday, April 04, 2025:** Psalm 126; Isaiah 43:8-15; Philippians 2:25-3:1;
- **Saturday, April 05, 2025:** Psalm 126; Exodus 12:21-27; John 11:45-57;
- **Sunday, April 06, 2025:** Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8
- **Monday, April 07, 2025:** Psalm 20; Exodus 40:1-15; Hebrews 10:19-25;
- **Tuesday, April 08, 2025:** Psalm 20; Judges 9:7-15; 1 John 2:18-28;
- **Wednesday, April 09, 2025:** Psalm 20; Habakkuk 3:2-15; Luke 18:31-34;
- **Thursday, April 10, 2025:** Psalm 31:9-16; Isaiah 53:10-12; Hebrews 2:1-9;
- **Friday, April 11, 2025:** Psalm 31:9-16; Isaiah 54:9-10; Hebrews 2:10-18;
- **Saturday, April 12, 2025:** Psalm 31:9-16; Leviticus 23:1-8; Luke 22:1-13;
- **Sunday, April 13, 2025:** Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Luke 19:28-40
- **Monday, April 14, 2025:** Hebrews 9:11-15; John 12:1-11
- **Tuesday, April 15, 2025:** Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 71:1-14; John 12:20-36
- **Wednesday, April 16, 2025:** Psalm 70; Hebrews 12:1-3; John 13:21-32
- **Thursday, April 17, 2025:** Exodus 12:1-4 (5-6), 11-4; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; John 13:1-17, 31b-35
- **Friday, April 18, 2025:** Psalm 22; Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9, John 18:1-19:42
- **Saturday, April 19, 2025:** Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16; 1 Peter 4:1-8; John 19:38-42
- **Sunday, April 20, 2025:** Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26; Psalm 46; Exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18
- **Monday, April 21, 2025:** Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Joshua 10:16-27; 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8;
- **Tuesday, April 22, 2025:** Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Judges 4:17-23; 5:24-31a; Revelation 12:1-12;
- **Wednesday, April 23, 2025:** Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 2 Samuel 6:1-15; Luke 24:1-12;
- **Thursday, April 24, 2025:** Psalm 150; 1 Samuel 17:1-23; Acts 5:12-16;
- **Friday, April 25, 2025:** Psalm 150; 1 Samuel 17:19-32; Acts 5:17-26;
- **Saturday, April 26, 2025:** Psalm 150; 1 Samuel 17:32-51; Luke 24:36-40;
- **Sunday, April 27, 2025:** Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29; Revelation 1:4-8
- **Monday, April 28, 2025:** Psalm 122; Esther 7:1-10; Revelation 1:9-20;
- **Tuesday, April 29, 2025:** Psalm 122; Esther 8:1-17; Revelation 2:8-11;
- **Wednesday, April 30, 2025:** Psalm 122; Esther 9:1-5, 18-23; Luke 12:4-12;







## **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,

## **Next Book Club Meeting**

The next FCC Book Club meeting will be at Jason's Deli on May 18th at 11:15 a.m. The book for this session is *"The House of My Mother"*, by Shari Franke. All are welcome even if you haven't finished the book yet. Suggestions for books for us to read are also welcome. Please contact Carol Madere if you have any questions.



## 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@fccbri.org](mailto:churchoffice@fccbri.org), or 225-926-4175. Names generally rotate off after 30 days.

Members in our prayers:

JD & Judy Albin, JP Averette, Ann Baskin, Jody Chrisope, Marjorie Clark, Martha Denova, George & Lee Gullett, Ruth Horn, Rev. Frank & Jane Johnson, Marie Ladner, David Landry & Family, Allen Lax, BJ McRae, Helen Mitchener, Jerry Moses, family of Jennifer Netterville, Helen Rankin, Ruth Riddle, Kelly & Gladys Runnels, Scott Sanders, Phyllis Willis

Friends & Family of Members in our prayers:

Christy Fontenot, Patty Hubeny, Jim Jablonski, Jerry & Terry Johnson, Theresa Pasanovic



## 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

### **April 6, 2025**

<i>Church Opening</i>	Michael Rankin
<i>Sacraments</i>	Ashley Bourgeois
<i>Liturgist</i>	Chris Culp
<i>Children's Moment</i>	Ashley Bourgeois
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Brynleigh Comeaux
<i>Elder</i>	Rev. Dak McInnis
<i>Greeter</i>	Esther Schilf
<i>Deacons</i>	Gene Schilf, Esther Schilf, Carl Cotten, Alicia Levell
<i>Livestream</i>	Daniel Dickey
<i>Video Tech</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Aaron Taliaferro
<i>CW&amp;W Greeter</i>	Pam Comeaux
<i>CW&amp;W Storyteller</i>	Dr. Carol Madere
<i>Church Closing</i>	Michael Rankin
<i>Program Builder</i>	Jill Brian

### **April 13, 2025**

<i>Church Opening</i>	James Morgan
<i>Sacraments</i>	Ashley Bourgeois
<i>Liturgist</i>	Dr. Carol Madere
<i>Children's Moment</i>	Judy Lester
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Leonardo Morgan
<i>Elder</i>	Sherry McInnis
<i>Greeter</i>	Kristin Morgan
<i>Deacons</i>	Jeff Cody, James Morgan, Kristin Morgan, Cathi Pourciau
<i>Livestream</i>	Michael Rankin
<i>Video Tech</i>	Frank Dickinson
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Brenda Hilgendorf
<i>CW&amp;W Greeter</i>	Kayla Mercil
<i>CW&amp;W Storyteller</i>	Genesis Bennie
<i>Church Closing</i>	Charles Riddle
<i>Program Builder</i>	Michael Rankin

### **April 20, 2025**

<i>Church Opening</i>	Jerry Hilgendorf
<i>Sacraments</i>	Ashley Bourgeois
<i>Liturgist</i>	Rev. Tom Cody
<i>Children's Moment</i>	Nancy Fatta
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Cora Cody
<i>Elder</i>	Carol Madere
<i>Greeter</i>	Anderson Krupala
<i>Deacons</i>	Ed Atkins, Tony Babin, Anderson Krupala, Greg Taliaferro
<i>Livestream</i>	Pam Jones
<i>Video Tech</i>	Michael Rankin
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Carmen Jones
<i>CW&amp;W Greeter</i>	Leonardo Morgan
<i>CW&amp;W Storyteller</i>	Kristin Morgan
<i>Church Closing</i>	James Morgan
<i>Program Builder</i>	Brenda Hilgendorf

### **April 27, 2025**

<i>Church Opening</i>	Charles Riddle
<i>Sacraments</i>	Ashley Bourgeois
<i>Liturgist</i>	Dr. Tracy Shaffer
<i>Children's Moment</i>	Michael Rankin
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Brynleigh Comeaux
<i>Elder</i>	Debbie Poche'
<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>	Greg Taliaferro
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Tony Fatta
<i>CW&amp;W Greeter</i>	Shelly Cody
<i>CW&amp;W Storyteller</i>	Lucy Cody
<i>Church Closing</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>Program Builder</i>	Jeff Cody



## First Christian Church

*Disciples of Christ*

8484 Old Hammond Hwy.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1317  
225-926-4175 | [fccbrla.org](http://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](mailto:churchoffice@fccbrla.org)

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 am - 3 pm

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

Email: [dedrick@fccbrla.org](mailto: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 / Human Resources*

Charles Riddle, *Facilities*

Kim Lax, *Administrative Assistant*

Website: [fccbrla.org](http://fccbrla.org) YouTube Video Channel: [youtube.com/fccbrla](https://youtube.com/fccbrla)

Facebook: [facebook.com/fccbrla](https://facebook.com/fccbrla) Twitter: [twitter.com/fccbrla](https://twitter.com/fccbrla)

Instagram: [instagram.com/fccbrla](https://instagram.com/fccbrla)

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