

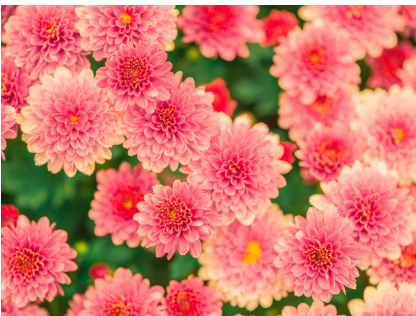
THE MESSENGER

First Christian Church, Baton Rouge, LA

VOL. 88

February 2026

NO. 2



◇ [We Want to Celebrate You!](#)

◇ [Sunday Assignments](#)

◇ [Upcoming Events](#)

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@fccbrrla.org, or 225-926-4175. Names generally rotate off after 30 days.

Members in our prayers:

Judy Albin, JP Averette, Ann Baskin, Dora Blackburn, Jody Chrisope, Rev. Tom & Lucy Cody, Martha Denova, Family of George Gullett, Ruth Horn, Rev. Frank & Jane Johnson, Marie Ladner, BJ McRae, Helen Mitchener, Jerry Moses, Laurie Dickinson Oncale, Helen Rankin, Kelly & Gladys Runnels..

Friends and Family of Members in our prayers:

Elaine Altazan, Milani Cagle, Marie Cannatella, Kishor Chapaneri, Kim Domangue, Kyle Franklin, Carol Henderson, Jamie Herring, Carl Hubeny, Patty Hubeny, James Jablonski, Allison Lampo, Louis LaSalle, Jimmy Maddalone, Paul Miguez, Ruth Payne, Tommy Poirrier, Randall Priestler, Valentin Rhangelov, Debbie Riddle, Chase Roche, Sandy Scallan, Steve Scallan, Travis Valenti

FCC INFORMATION

SISTERS IN CHRIST

The next meeting will be **THURSDAY**, February 19th at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.



Note from Marie Ladner



I am so blessed to have such a caring family of men and women in our church. So many of you took time out from your day to participate in the Cookie Crusade. The cookies were very good and I enjoyed all of them. Thank you for the decorated gift bags as well.

Thanks again!

Love to all Marie Ladner

WE WANT TO CELEBRATE YOU!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Vicki Krupala	February 2nd
Gladys Runnels	February 4th
Ann Baskin	February 6th
Collin Landry	February 10th
Beryl Jacques	February 13th
Roan Dickey	February 22nd
Jenna Carballo	February 25th
Ray Acardo	February 25th
Jerry Moses	February 27th



UPCOMING EVENTS

February 1st	11:00 am	Prayer Circle (Library)
February 1st	11:15 am	Church Growth Committee Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
February 3rd	6:30 pm	Board Meeting (Youth Building)
February 7th	12:00 noon	Youth Group (Fellowship Hall)
February 8th	11:15 am	Outreach Committee Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
February 18th	6:30 pm	Ash Wednesday Service)
February 19th	9:30 pm	Disciples Women (Youth Building)
February 19th	6:00 pm	Sisters in Christ (Fellowship Hall)

Chancel Choir meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm;
Silver Angels meet on Thursdays at 9:30 am

BIBLE TRIVIA

Easy: How many days and nights did it rain when Noah was on the ark?

Medium: Which human author wrote the most books?

Hard: Who returned to Israel to build up the walls of Jerusalem?

(Answers on page 9)



OUTREACH

JUDY LESTER, CHAIR



Cold weather, warm hearts!

SOUTHEAST MINISTRIES



200 food items were delivered to SEM last month, thank you!!

Our **“pantry focus items”** for **February** include:

Potatoes & yams (boxed, canned, or fresh), pasta,
canned spaghetti sauce, and soup.

Please place donated food items in the shopping cart.*

*(*located either in the Narthex or Chancel areas)*

WEEK OF COMPASSION

Week of Compassion special offering will be taken up on February 15th and February 22nd. This year's focus is on Dorchester and Somerset Counties Maryland, who are still recovering from extreme tidal flooding in 2021. In many places, water levels were at or higher than those of hurricane Sandy. Having empathy to our neighbors recalling our own flood-related traumas, please respond as generously as you can.



OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday - February 8th at 11:15 am in the Fellowship Hall meeting room.

JOIN US

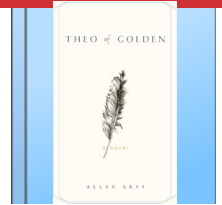


CHURCH GROWTH

DR. CAROL MADERE, CHAIR

BOOK CLUB

The FCC Book Club will meet on Sunday, February 22nd at 11:15 am at Jason's Deli. We are reading "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi,
Any questions contact Carol Madere 225-931-4413.



First Christian Church Baton Rouge will celebrate its 180th Anniversary in 2027.

The Church Growth Committee is planning a big celebration in October of 2027, but we're going to spend 2026 getting ready. We need the following to make this happen:

- Planners to help plan the event and create the historical exhibit.
- Photos and other historical memorabilia, such as old Bibles, hymnals, baptism certificates, board notes, Sunday School rosters or materials, youth group or camp materials, etc. for display in an historical exhibit during the celebration,
- People (specifically seniors) willing to sit for video interviews to capture their memories for an "FCC Documentary" to air during the celebration.

This will be a mountaintop experience in 2027, but we need to start getting ready for it this year.



YOUTH GROUP --- DATE CHANGED

The Youth Group has canceled the meeting on Saturday, January 31st due to the weather.

The new date will be **February 7th** at noon for lunch and some Mardi Gras mask decorating in the Fellowship Hall.

All kids ages 4-12 are welcome.

FCC INFORMATION



Note from Lax's.

We would like to thank everyone that prayed, assisted, brought food, and many other loving tasks during Allen's medical difficulty since May 2025.

Also, we want to thank everyone that attended Allen's Celebration of Life on January 10, 2026, and support of his family from Louisiana and Maryland.

Especially we want to thank Vicki Krupala (and those who assisted her) for setting up the Fellowship Hall for the food fellowship afterward; and Nancy Fatta who set up the sanctuary.

With Love The Lax's



Kim Lax



Fajitas

1/3 cup vegetable oil
2 tsp chili powder
1 tsp of dried oregano
½ tsp garlic powder
½ tsp of onion powder
½ tsp of ground cumin

1/4 tsp of black pepper
Pinch Cayenne pepper
Chicken
Onion
Bell Pepper (green, orange,
yellow red)

(Note: the recipe above is for 4 chicken breasts.)

1. Combine oil, chili powder, oregano, garlic powder, onion powder, cumin, salt, pepper and cayenne pepper in a bowl and then stir these ingredients together.
2. Prep a cooking pan with alumni foil.
3. Cut the chicken in strips.
4. After cutting the chicken, put several pieces of chicken in the bowl of ingredients from #1, and then stir the chicken in the bowl.
5. After all of the chicken is covered put the chicken on the cooking pan.
6. Then cut up the onion in long slices and cut bell pepper is large slices and place on the cooking pan on top of the chicken.
7. Take the extra oil and ingredients and pour on top of food on the cooking pan.
8. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees.; cover the cooking pan with alumni foil; when you find the chicken is almost cooked take off the alumni foil to finish cooking.

CHURCH DEFINITIONS



NAVE:

This is the main body of the church where the congregation sits..

THE STORY OF THE CHALICE SYMBOL

Chalice Symbol:

Is the official logo for the Christian Church. (Disciples of Christ). The symbol is a red chalice with a white St. Andrew's Cross. The chalice represents the centrality of communion to the life of the church. The cross of Saint Andrew is a reminder of the ministry of each person and the importance of evangelism, and recalls the denomination's Scottish Presbyterian ancestry.



St. Andrew's Cross

The diagonal, X-shaped cross inside the chalice connects the denomination to both its history and its mission.

Scottish Heritage

The symbol highlights the Scottish roots of the Disciples of Christ. The church's founders, Thomas and Alexander Campbell, were Presbyterians from Scotland. St. Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland, and the X-shaped cross is featured on Scotland's national flag.

Evangelism

The St. Andrew's Cross is also seen as a reminder of the disciple Andrew, who ran to tell his brother Simon Peter the good news about Jesus. This emphasizes the Disciples' call to evangelism and sharing the gospel with others.

Humility and Sacrifice

According to tradition, St. Andrew was crucified on an X-shaped cross, as he believed he was not worthy to die in the same manner as Jesus. The sideways cross is therefore a symbol of humility and sacrifice.

LECTIONARY READINGS: FEBRUARY 1 - 28, 2026

- Sunday, February 01, 2026: Micah 6:2-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31;
- Monday, February 02, 2026: Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 1:1-18; Philemon 1-25;
- Tuesday, February 03, 2026: Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 2:1-16; James 5:1-6;
- Wednesday, February 04, 2026: Psalm 37:1-17; Luke 6:17-26;
- Thursday, February 05, 2026: Deuteronomy 4:1-14; 1 John 5:1-5;
- Friday, February 06, 2026: Psalm 112:1-9; Isaiah 29:1-12; James 3:13-18;
- Saturday, February 07, 2026: Psalm 112:1-9; Isaiah 29:13-16; Mark 7:1-8;
- Sunday, February 08, 2026: Isaiah 58:1-9; Psalm 112:1-9; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12;
- Monday, February 09, 2026: 2 Kings 22:3-20; Romans 11:2-10;
- Tuesday, February 10, 2026: 2 Kings 23:1-8, 21-25; 2 Corinthians 4:1-12;
- Wednesday, February 11, 2026: Psalm 119:105-112; John 8:12-30;
- Thursday, February 12, 2026: Psalm 2; Exodus 6:2-9; Hebrews 8:1-7;
- Friday, February 13, 2026: Psalm 2; Exodus 19:9b-25; Hebrews 11:23-28;
- Saturday, February 14, 2026: Psalm 2; 1 Kings 21:20-29; Mark 9:9-13;
- Sunday, February 15, 2026: Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; Psalm 99;
- Monday, February 16, 2026: Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55; Exodus 33:7-23;
- Tuesday, February 17, 2026: Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55; Romans 11:1-6;
- Wednesday, February 18, 2026: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17;
- Thursday, February 19, 2026: Psalm 51; Jonah 3:1-10; Romans 1:1-7;
- Friday, February 20, 2026: Psalm 51; Jonah 4:1-11; Romans 1:8-17;
- Saturday, February 21, 2026: Psalm 51; Isaiah 58:1-12; Matthew 18:1-7;
- Sunday, February 22, 2026: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19;
- Monday, February 23, 2026: Psalm 32; 1 Kings 19:1-8; Hebrews 2:10-18;
- Tuesday, February 24, 2026: Psalm 32; Hebrews 4:14-5:10;
- Wednesday, February 25, 2026: Psalm 32; Exodus 34:1-9, 27-28
- Thursday, February 26, 2026: Psalm 121; Isaiah 51:1-3; 2 Timothy 1:3-7;
- Friday, February 27, 2026: Psalm 121; Micah 7:18-20; Romans 3:21-31;
- Saturday, February 28, 2026: Psalm 121; Isaiah 51:4-8; Luke 7:1-10;



OTHER INFORMATION FOR FCC

THE STUDY

8:45 – 9:45 am, Sunday (Youth Building)

Make every effort to present yourself approved to God, an unashamed workman who accurately handles the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2:15, BSB)

The Bible Hub offers this word study to fully understand what the verse above means:

“Make every effort”, calls for deliberate diligence, not casual interest;

“to present yourself”, shifts focus from activity to audience: we present ourselves before God;

“approved unto God”, “approved” signals having been tested and found genuine;

“an unashamed workman”, the image is of a laborer with nothing to hide when the foreman-inspects the job;

“who accurately handles”, good workers must rightly divide the word; and

“the word of truth”, scripture is not merely true; it is “the word of truth”, the final authority.

Come join us in a lively, Spirit led study of God’s Word.

YOURSELF APPROVED TO GOD, AN
UNASHAMED WORKMAN WHO
ACCURATELY HANDLES THE WORD
OF TRUTH.

- 2 TIMOTHY 2:15

Bible Trivia Answers

(from page 3)

Easy: 40 days and nights

Medium: Paul (he wrote 13 books)

Hard: Nehemiah.

FCC Information

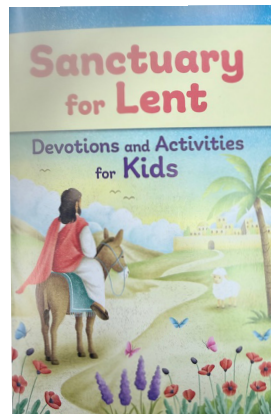
"2026 The Sanctuary for Lent"

devotions are on the narthex.
Please pick up one to help you
prepare for Lent, which begins on
Ash Wednesday, February 18th.



Also, we have children's ***"Sanctuary for Lent Devotions and Activities for Kids"***

These devotions are also placed in
the narthex.
Parents are encouraged to pick up
one for your child / youth.



**First Christian Church will have an
Ash Wednesday Service on
Wednesday, February 18th
at 6:30 pm.**



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.

February 1, 2026

Church Opening	Bonnie Hutchinson
Church Closing	Jeff Cody
Sacraments	Kristin Morgan
Liturgist	Ashley Bourgeois
Children's Moment	Ashley Bourgeois
Youth Reader	Cora Cody
Elder	Dr. Carol Madere
Greeter	Ray Acardo
Deacons	Ray Acardo Alicia Cotten Carl Cotten Presley Hutchinson
Livestream	Kim Lax
Video Tech	Jeff Cody
Sound Tech	Pam Jones
Program Builder	Kim Lax
CW&W Greeter	Kayla Mercil
CW&W Storyteller	Genesis Bennie

February 8, 2026

Church Opening	David Fennell
Church Closing	Jerry Hilgendorf
Sacraments	Kristin Morgan
Liturgist	Harold Choate
Children's Moment	Rev. Stephen Sanders
Youth Reader	Brynleigh Comeaux
Elder	Sherry McInnis
Greeter	Callie Cody
Deacons	Callie Cody James Morgan Kristin Morgan Cathi Pourciau Nicholas Morgan
Livestream	Nicholas Morgan
Video Tech	Amy Taliaferro
Sound Tech	Greg Taliaferro
Program Builder	Jeff Cody
CW&W Greeter	Jervais Averette
CW&W Storyteller	Michael Rankin

February 15, 2026

Church Opening	Jerry Hilgendorf
Church Closing	Jerry Hilgendorf
Sacraments	Kristin Morgan
Liturgist	Chris Culp
Children's Moment	Pam Comeaux
Youth Reader	Leonardo Morgan
Elder	Dr. Trey Earle
Greeter	Greg Taliaferro
Deacons	Tony Babin Shelly Cody Steven Gibson Greg Taliaferro
Livestream	Kim Lax
Video Tech	Michael Rankin
Sound Tech	Jeff Cody
Program Builder	Dr. Carol Madere
CW&W Greeter	Leonardo Morgan
CW&W Storyteller	Kristin Morgan

February 22, 2026

Church Opening	Michael Rankin
Church Closing	Michael Rankin
Sacraments	Kristin Morgan
Liturgist	Alicia Cotten
Children's Moment	Michael Rankin
Youth Reader	Cora Cody
Elder	Ashley Bourgeois
Greeter	Kim Rankin
Deacons	Kim Rankin Michael Rankin Julie Theunissen Kendall Theunissen
Livestream	Pam Jones
Video Tech	Greg Taliaferro
Sound Tech	Kim Lax
Program Builder	Jill Brian
CW&W Greeter	Callie Cody
CW&W Storyteller	Shelly Cody



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

8484 Old Hammond Hwy.
Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1317
225-926-4175 | fccbrrla.org

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

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION AND ONLINE LINKS:

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

Minister's Office Hours: by appointment

Church Office Phone: 225-926-4175

Church Office Email: churchoffice@fccbrrla.org

Church Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9am - 3 pm

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

Earl Poole, *Music Worship Leader*

Brenda Hilgendorf, *Bookkeeper / Human Resources*

Charles Riddle, *Facilities*

Kimberly Lax, *Administrative Assistant*

Website: [fccbrrla](http://fccbrrla.org)

Facebook: facebook.com/fccbrrla

Instagram: instagram.com/fccbrrla

YouTube Video Channel: youtube.com/fccbrrla

Twitter: twitter.com/fccbrrla

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