

The Messenger

First Christian Church, Baton Rouge, LA

VOL. 88

JULY 2026

NO. 7



◇ [We Want to Celebrate You!](#)

◇ [Sunday Assignments](#)

◇ [Upcoming Events](#)

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

JUDY LESTER, Chair



SOUTHEAST MINISTRIES



Our "pantry focus items" for July are: cookies / snacks, canned tomatoes / sauce, dried (not canned) beans.. Please place donated food items in the shopping cart located in the narthex.

Thank you for your contributions!!

DISASTER RESPONSE WORK TRIP

Thank you FCCBR for your prayers, your donations, the painted rocks (from our children – left with prayers for the new home owners to find), and the send-off blessing of our participants that traveled last month.



This small farming community of Rolling Fork, MS was **SO** very grateful for everyone's help. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their healing and recovery!

COMING SOON



Plans are in the works for a combined project of the Church Growth and Outreach Committees entitled: "Children's Literacy Night at FCCBR", to be held in our Fellowship Hall on September 24th. Stay tuned for more information.

SCHOOL TOOLS

We are collecting school supplies for children-in-need starting with the help of our VBS kids (6/29-7/3), and continuing through the month of July. A collection box is in the Narthex. Collection will continue through July 31st.

School Supply List:

Backpack (mesh or clear plastic)
24-count box of crayons
No 2 pencils
Pink eraser
Washable markers (8-count)
Glue sticks
Bottle of glue
Box of tissues
Hand sanitizer
Blunt tip scissors
Fabric pencil bags
Folders (paper and plastic)



Wide-ruled notebooks and loose-leaf paper
Composition notebooks
Lysol
1-gallon and 1-quart Ziploc bags
Playdoh
Yellow highlighters
Expo dry-erase markers
1-inch binders
Colored pencils
Band-Aids
Paper towels
Ream of printer (blank) paper



Blue / black pens
Rulers
Pencil sharpeners
3 x 5 index cards
Post-it notes
Scientific calculator
Disinfecting wipes
Dividers for binders
Correction fluid/whiteout
Red pens
Graph paper

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DR. CAROL MADERE, VBS Coordinator

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - 2026



What a week! Thank you for an incredible VBS 2026!

This year, we had 9 explorers on a tropical trek to discover how God finds and helps us in every situation we encounter in life. The kids heard stories about Moses, Ruth and Naomi, Zacchaeus, Jesus's disciples and Paul from storytellers, Rev. Stephen Sanders and Shelly Cody.

They ate delicious Tropical Trek snacks prepared by Cathi Pourciau and Beverly Weselak. They played Tropical Trek games organized by Kaylee Hammett. They made Tropical Trek crafts under the direction of Nancy Fatta and Diane Sympson.

The older youth experimented with a new FCC original VBS curriculum called Church Lab. In it, they learned about how we care for God's world from Judy Lester; how service builds God's kingdom from Donna Embree, how to worship, study the Bible, and pray from Rev. Stephen Sanders, and how art and drama are used in worship from Nancy Fatta and Tracy Shaffer.

In the Church Lab, our 8-12 year olds became "faith scientists," experimenting with what the church does in the world. They tried out service, stewardship, creativity, and worship in real, and practical ways. Every activity was designed to help them discover that church is not something we watch — it's something we do together.

Together, Tropical Trek and Church Lab gave our children a week of joy, discovery, service, and faith that strengthened not only their lives but the life of our whole church. From island adventures that reminded our youngest explorers that God seeks them in every moment, to hands on Church Lab experiences that helped our older kids step into the real work of the church, this was a week where faith came alive. We are deeply grateful for every volunteer who showed up with energy and love, every parent who entrusted us with their children, and every student who brought curiosity, kindness, and courage to the journey.



HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

SHERRY McINNIS, Chair

Western Picnic Barbecue

You are invited
for some great food and fun!



Sunday
July 19th

FCC Fellowship Hall
11:00 am

Following the Worship Service



Church will
provide the meat.

NEED A

COOKOUT



SQUAD

TO PRECOOK THE MEAT!

Congregation is
asked to bring a
side-dish and /
or dessert.



Any questions call: Charles Riddle (225-454-5074)

or

Church Office (225-926-4175)



It's Barbeque
Time

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

KIM LAX, Chair



Mascot



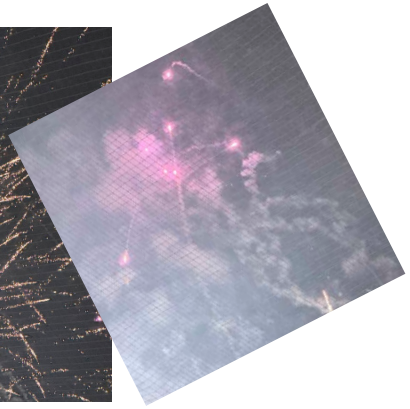
We had 9 people go to the Rougarou Baseball game on June 12th. Everyone had a lot of fun watching these college kids play baseball and the fireworks after the 7th inning.



Kim and Tyler Lax



Fireworks



FCC Members making the church beautiful.



George Outlaw
pressure washing
the courtyard area.

*THANK
YOU!*



Tony Babin cleaning the
gutters in the Fellowship Hall
and Youth Building.

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 call 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, Frank Dickinson, Lee Gullett, Jerry Hilgen-dorf, Jane Johnson, Marie Ladner, BJ McRae, Helen Mitchener, Jerry Moses, Family of Sandy Naylor, Laurie Dickinson Oncale, Helen Rankin, Kim Rankin, Kelly & Gladys Runnels, Scott & Linda Sanders, Aaron Turnipseed & Family

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF MEMBERS IN OUR PRAYERS:

Elaine Altazan, Gerald & Annette Bowers, Marie Cannatella, Tre' Comeaux, Carl & Patty Hubeny, Sandy Krupala, Valerie Marcin, Dorothy Minor, Christy Paola, Ruth Payne, Bretton Pierce, Randall Priester, Debbie Riddle, Sandy Scallan, Steve Scallan, Chrystal Vines



WE WANT TO CELEBRATE YOU!

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Ed Atkins	2nd
Gene Schilf	2nd
Wanda Lax	3rd
Harold Choate	3rd
Bonnie Hutchinson	6th
Douglas Shaffer	8th
Charlene Landry	11th
Daniel Calvert	17th
Chris Gibson	20th
Julia Gibson	22nd
Nancy Fatta	26th
Jane Johnson	28th



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

David & Jill Brian	1st
Scott & Lorraine Pitre	28th



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, July 4th		Fourth of July
Sunday, July 5th		Celebrate the Fourth of July in Worship
Sunday, July 12th	11:15 am	Book Club
Sunday, July 19th	11:00 am	Summer BBQ Luncheon
Thursday, July 23rd	9:30 am	Disciples Women (Youth Building)
Sunday, July 26th	11:00 am	Church Growth Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Tuesday, July 28th	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

LECTIONARY READINGS: JULY 1 - 31, 2026

Wednesday, July 01, 2026: Psalm 47; Isaiah 51:1-3; Matthew 11:20-24;
Thursday, July 02, 2026: Psalm 45:10-17; Genesis 25:19-27; Romans 7:1-6;
Friday, July 03, 2026: Psalm 45:10-27; Genesis 27:1-17; Romans 7:7-20;
Saturday, July 04, 2026: Psalm 45:10-17; Genesis 27:18-29; Luke 10:21-24;
Sunday, July 05, 2026: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-29, 58-67;
Monday, July 06, 2026: Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Genesis 27:30-46; Romans 1:18-25;
Tuesday, July 07, 2026: Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Genesis 29:1-14; Romans 3:1-8;
Wednesday, July 08, 2026: Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Genesis 29:31-35; John 13:1-17;
Thursday, July 09, 2026: Psalm 119:105-112; Exodus 3:1-6; Romans 2:12-16;
Friday, July 10, 2026: Psalm 119:105-112; Deuteronomy 32:1-10; Romans 15:14-21;
Saturday, July 11, 2026: Psalm 119:105-112; Isaiah 2:1-4; John 12:44-50;
Sunday, July 12, 2026: Genesis 25:19-34;
Monday, July 13, 2026: Psalm 142; Micah 1:1-5; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8;
Tuesday, July 14, 2026: Psalm 142; Jeremiah 49:7-11; Ephesians 4:17-5:2;
Wednesday, July 15, 2026: Psalm 142; Obadiah 15-21; Matthew 13:10-17;
Thursday, July 16, 2026: Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Isaiah 44:1-5; Hebrews 2:1-9;
Friday, July 17, 2026: Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Ezekiel 39:21-29; Hebrews 6:13-20;
Saturday, July 18, 2026: Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Exodus 14:9-25; Matthew 7:15-20;
Sunday, July 19, 2026: Genesis 28:10-19;
Monday, July 20, 2026: Psalm 139:13-18; Genesis 32:3-21; Revelation 14:12-20;
Tuesday, July 21, 2026: Psalm 139:13-18; Genesis 33:1-17; Galatians 4:21-5:1;
Wednesday, July 22, 2026: Psalm 139:13-18; Genesis 35:16-29; Matthew 12:15-21;
Thursday, July 23, 2026: Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Genesis 29:1-8; 1 Corinthians 4:14-20;
Friday, July 24, 2026: Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Genesis 29:9-14; Acts 7:44-53;
Saturday, July 25, 2026: Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Genesis 29:31-30:24; Matthew 12:38-42;
Sunday, July 26, 2026: Genesis 29:15-18;
Monday, July 27, 2026: Psalm 65:8-13; Genesis 30:25-36; James 3:13-18;
Tuesday, July 28, 2026: Psalm 65:8-13; Genesis 30:37-43; Ephesians 6:10-18;
Wednesday, July 29, 2026: Psalm 65:8-13; Genesis 46:2-47:12; Mark 4:30-34;
Thursday, July 30, 2026: Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Isaiah 14:1-2; Philippians 4:10-15;
Friday, July 31, 2026: Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Isaiah 41:8-10; Romans 9:6-13.



THE STUDY

LED BY REV. DAK MCINNIS

**9:00 am, Every Sunday in the Youth Building
with continental breakfast at 8:45am
Everyone is Welcome!**

God's WORD is POWERFUL!

The Bible describes the Word of God as active alive, and authoritative, possessing the supernatural ability to bring physical creation, sinner transformation, and spiritual salvation.

We study God's Word because it has:

- * **POWER** to penetrate the human heart;
- * **POWER** to guide and direct;
- * **POWER** to create and fulfill; and
- * **POWER** to save and heal.

Come study the **WORD** with us every Sunday and be **EMPOWERED**.

FCC Did you know?

BIBLE TRIVIA



Easy: How did God speak to Moses in the desert?

Medium: How did God make people spread out across the earth?

Hard: True or False: John the Baptist wore clothes made of goat hair.

(Answers on page 10)

INFORMATION IN THE BIBLE

Miriam is the first woman shown to be singing in the Bible (Exodus 15:21).

Bethlehem (Hebrew) means "house of bread".

Amen (Ancient) means "so be it".

Hosanna (Hebrew) means "save us".

Job: In the begging of Job, he had:

7,000 sheep; 3,000 camels; 500 oxen; and 500 female donkeys.

At the end of Job, he had:

14,000 sheep; 6,000 camels; 1,000 oxen; and 1,000 female donkeys.

At the end of Job, God restored what Job had lost, and God gave Job 7 sons and 3 daughters.

FCC Did you know?

ANIMALS IN THE BIBLE

Donkey: *Isaiah 1:3*

"Oxen and donkeys know who owns and feeds them but my people won't ever learn."



Dove: *Genesis 8:8*

"Noah wanted to find out if the water had gone down, so he sent out a dove."



Dragon: *Revelation 12:9*

"The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil..."



Eagle: *Exodus 19:4*

"You saw what I did in Egypt, and you know how I brought you here to me, just as a mighty eagle carries its young."



Fish: *Jonah 1:17*

"The Lord sent a big fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was inside the fish for three days and three nights."



Flea: *1 Samuel 26:20*

"Don't let me die in a land far away from the Lord. I'm no more important than a flea!"



Fly: *Ecclesiastes 10:1*

"A few dead flies in perfume make all of it stink, and a little foolishness outweighs a lot of wisdom."



BIBLE TRIVIA ANSWERS

(from page 9)

Easy: A burning bush.

Middle: Confused their languages.

Hard: False - The clothes were made of camel hair.

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.

JULY 5, 2026

Church Opening	Jerry Hilgendorf
Church Closing	Jeff Cody
Sacraments	Diane Simpson
Liturgist	Carmen Jones
Children's Moment	Ashley Bourgeois
Youth Reader	Cora Cody
Elder	Dr. Carol Madere
Deacons	(Greeter) Alicia Cotten
	Carl Cotten
	Presley Hutchinson
	Greg Taliaferro
Livestream	Michael Rankin
Video Tech	Brenda Hilgendorf
Sound Tech	Pam Jones
Program Builder	Michael Rankin
CW&W Greeter	N/A
CW&W Storyteller	N/A

JULY 12, 2026

Church Opening	David Fennell
Church Closing	Jerry Hilgendorf
Sacraments	Diane Simpson
Liturgist	Alicia Cotten
Children's Moment	Pam Comeaux
Youth Reader	Brynleigh Comeaux
Elder	Sherry McInnis
Deacons	(Greeter) Cathi Pourciau
	Callie Cody
	James Morgan
	Kristin Morgan
Livestream	Daniel Dickey
Video Tech	Kim Lax
Sound Tech	Greg Taliaferro
Program Builder	Jill Brian
CW&W Greeter	N/A
CW&W Storyteller	N/A

JULY 19, 2026

Church Opening	Jerry Hilgendorf
Church Closing	Jerry Hilgendorf
Sacraments	Diane Simpson
Liturgist	Vicki Krupala
Children's Moment	Chris Culp
Youth Reader	Leonardo Morgan
Elder	Dr. Trey Earle
Deacons	(Greeter) Steven Gibson
	Ray Acardo
	Tony Babin
	Shelly Cody
Livestream	Pam Jones
Video Tech	Michael Rankin
Sound Tech	Kim Lax
Program Builder	Kim Lax
CW&W Greeter	N/A
CW&W Storyteller	N/A

JULY 26, 2026

Church Opening	Michael Rankin
Church Closing	Michael Rankin
Sacraments	Diane Simpson
Liturgist	Michael Rankin
Children's Moment	Donna Embree
Youth Reader	Cora Cody
Elder	Ashley Bourgeois
Deacons	(Greeter) Michael Rankin
	Kim Rankin
	Julie Theunissen
	Kendall Theunissen
Livestream	Charles Riddle
Video Tech	Jeff Cody
Sound Tech	Brenda Hilgendorf
Program Builder	Jeff Cody
CW&W Greeter	N/A
CW&W Storyteller	N/A



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*

Emily McDowell, *Guitarist*

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](#)