

The Messenger

First Christian Church, Baton Rouge, LA

VOL. 88

NOVEMBER 2026

NO. 11



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OUTREACH COMMITTEE

JUDY LESTER, CHAIR



Thanking God by sharing our bounty with others!



SOUTHEAST MINISTRIES

Our annual Advent Outreach project will again focus on Southeast Ministries food pantry. We will be collecting holiday foods to distribute to families in need. We are requesting the following food items this month: ***Cornbread mix, \$ or gift card for meat, pie filling/boxed pie crust mix, cranberry sauce, macaroni & cheese, potatoes (boxed, canned or fresh), dry milk, gravy (canned or dry packets).*** Please place donated food items in the shopping cart located in the Narthex.

We collected **94** food items last month. Thank you!!!!

IT'S ALMOST COOKIE TIME!



We will be distributing Christmas gift bags to our shut-ins in December. We need volunteers to bake homemade cookies and drivers to deliver the gift bags. Volunteer sign-up sheets and detailed instructions will be in the Narthex on Sunday, November 29th. Please note the important dates below:

o 12/9/26 - Cookies due in church office

o 12/13/26 - Gift bag deliveries (must be completed by 12/18)

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

JUDY LESTER, CHAIR

A Biblical Call to Feed Our Neighbors

Dr. Carol M. Madere

The Church does not engage in mission because it is convenient, or because it makes us look good. We do mission because Scripture tells us that God's heart beats for the world — especially for those who hunger, struggle, or feel forgotten. From the very beginning, God blesses His people so that all families of the earth may be blessed (Genesis 12:3). Mission is not an extra activity of the church; it is the identity of the church.

Jesus makes this unmistakably clear. In the Great Commission, He sends us outward — not inward — to embody His love in real, tangible ways (Matthew 28:19–20). And in John's Gospel, He says, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." The Church is a sent people, carrying Christ's compassion into the places where it is most needed.

Scripture also reminds us that love is not merely spoken; it is enacted. "Let us love not in word or speech, but in truth and action" (1 John 3:18). When we place food in the hands of a neighbor, when we stock shelves so families can eat with dignity, we are practicing the kind of love the Bible insists is genuine.

Mission is also an act of worship. Jesus teaches that when we feed the hungry, we are feeding Him. When we serve "the least of these," we are serving Christ Himself (Matthew 25:35–40). Our food pantry is not simply a program. It's a place where we meet Christ in the faces of our neighbors.

This is why First Christian Church of Baton Rouge does mission. This is why we give. This is why we help keep Southeast Ministries open, stocked, and ready. Because the Gospel calls us to move toward need, not away from it. Because the Spirit empowers us to be witnesses of God's generosity. Because feeding our neighbors is one of the clearest ways we proclaim the Kingdom of God.

Your gifts make this ministry possible. Your generosity turns Scripture into action. And your compassion helps us live out the mission God has entrusted to us.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

SHERRY McINNIS, CHAIR

You're invited to join us for our Thanksgiving Fellowship Meal on Sunday, November 15th following the worship service. Enjoy turkey and ham -- specially prepared by the FCC Men's Group. The turkeys, ham, bread and beverages are provided by the church.

The congregation is asked to bring a Thanksgiving side-dish and/ or dessert to share. Please join us for the fellowship and for the giving of thanks together.



What an **AMAZING** turnout on Consecration Sunday for our Fellowship Meal catered by Pizza Artista! We hope everyone enjoyed sampling a few 'new and old' favorite varieties of pizza and desserts, while visiting with friends and family. We're always grateful to see your smiling faces during our fellowship meals.

A special "THANK YOU" goes out to the **STELLAR** crew of talented, dedicated, caring, conscientious, generous and committed hospitality helpers who made it all happen:

Hospitality Crew Organizer: *Sherry McInnis*; **Centerpiece Designer Deluxe:** *Hal Holloway & Jeffrey Judice*; **Delicious Dessert Chef:** *Charles Riddle*; **On-Site Photographer:** *Dak McInnis*; **Saturday Set-Up & Decorating Crew:** *Charles, Hal, Sherry, Bonnie Hutchinson, Tony Babin, David Simon, Presley Hutchinson, Ray Acardo*; **Sunday Meal Preppers:** *Tony, GayLynn Willis, Mark Willis, Lorraine Pitre, Charles, Sherry*; **Sunday 'Servers with a Smile':** *GayLynn, Mark, Lorraine, Tony, Sherry*; **Dedicated Clean-Up Crew:** *Cathy Pourciau, Bobby Johnson, Hal, Tony, Presley, Ray, David, George, GayLynn, Mark, Lorraine, Charles, Dak, Sherry AND THE FCC CONGREGATION!!!!*

Thank YOU ALL for your willingness and enthusiasm to SERVE!! -- Vicki Krupala

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

KIM LAX, Chair

Put on your calendar:

Hanging of the Greens
Saturday, November 28th
10:00 a.m.

Everyone is invited.

Special invitation
to kids of all ages.
They will be in
charge of a
Christmas Tree.



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

REV. STEPHEN SANDERS and PAM COMEAUX

We had a great time at the Halloween party on Sunday, October 25th. Thank you to everyone who attended. The kids -- as well as the adults!! -- had a great time playing games, eating snacks, and participating in Trunk or Treat! Here's a few pics from the evening festivities. -- Carol Madere, Party Coordinator



WE WANT TO CELEBRATE YOU!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Tracy Shaffer	7
Jody Chrisope	13
Heather Dickey	15
Kim Lax	17
Beverly Weselak	19
Martha Denova	19
Sara Shaffer	30

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Steve & Chris Gibson	8
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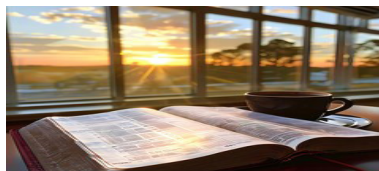
UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 1	10:00 am	All Saints Day Observance
" "	11:15 am	FCC Book Club (Jason's Deli)
" "	4:00 pm	Gospels Class (Fellowship Hall)
Tuesday, November 3	6:30 pm	Finance Budget Mtg (Youth Building)
Thursday, November 5	6:30 pm	Men's Alliance (Youth Building)
Sunday, November 8	10:00 am	Veteran's Day Observance
" "	11:00 am	Worship Committee Mtg (FH)
" "	4:00 pm	Gospels Class (Fellowship Hall)
Fri - Sun, November 13-15	GRR Regional Assembly	(FCC Sherwood, AR)
Sunday, November 15	11:00 am	Thanksgiving Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
Tuesday, November 17	6:30 pm	Board Meeting
Thursday, November 19	9:30 am	Disciples Women (Youth Building)
" "	6:30 pm	Men's Alliance (Youth Building)
Sunday, November 22	11:15 am	FCC Book Club (Jason's Deli)
Tuesday, November 24	6:30 pm	Sisters in Christ (Fellowship Hall)
Thursday, November 26	Office Closed	Thanksgiving Day!
Saturday, November 28	10:00 am	Hanging of the Greens (Sanctuary)

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

LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday, November 01:	Joshua 3:7-17; Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Matthew 23:1-12
Monday, November 02:	Psalm 128; Joshua 4:1-24; 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20
Tuesday, November 03:	Psalm 128; Joshua 6:1-16, 20; Acts 13:1-12
Wednesday, November 04:	Psalm 128; Joshua 10:12-14; Matthew 15:1-9
Thursday, November 05:	Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 5:10-12; Revelation 8:6-9:12
Friday, November 06:	Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 8:30-35; Revelation 9:13-21
Saturday, November 07:	Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 20:1-9; Matthew 24:1-14
Sunday, November 08:	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7; Matthew 25:1-13
Monday, November 09:	Psalm 78; Joshua 24:25-33; 1 Corinthians 14:20-25
Tuesday, November 10:	Psalm 78; Nehemiah 8:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Wednesday, November 11:	Psalm 78; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Matthew 24:29-35
Thursday, November 12:	Psalm 123; Judges 2:6-15; Revelation 16:1-7
Friday, November 13:	Psalm 123; Judges 2:16-23; Revelation 16:8-21
Saturday, November 14:	Psalm 123; Judges 5:1-12; Matthew 12:43-45
Sunday, November 15:	Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123:1-4; Matthew 25:14-30
Monday, November 16:	Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Judges 4:8-24; Romans 2:1-11
Tuesday, November 17:	Psalm 9:1-14; Exodus 2:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18
Wednesday, November 18:	Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Esther 7:1-10; Matthew 24:45-51
Thursday, November 19:	Psalm 100; Genesis 48:15-22; Revelation 14:1-11
Friday, November 20:	Psalm 100; Isaiah 40:1-11; Revelation 22:1-9
Saturday, November 21:	Psalm 100; Ezekiel 34:25-31; Matthew 12:46-50
Sunday, November 22:	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-29; Psalm 100:1-5; Matthew 25:31-46
Monday, November 23:	Psalm 28; Numbers 27:15-23; 2 Timothy 2:8-13
Tuesday, November 24:	Psalm 28; Zechariah 11:4-17; Revelation 19:1-9
Wednesday, November 25:	Psalm 28; Jeremiah 31:10-14; John 5:19-40
Thursday, November 26:	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Zechariah 13:1-9; Revelation 14:6-13
Friday, November 27:	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Zechariah 14:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-18
Saturday, November 28:	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Micah 2:1-13; Matthew 24:15-31
Sunday, November 29:	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Mark 13:24-37; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Monday, November 30:	Psalm 79; Micah 4:1-5; Revelation 15:1-8



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**.

BIBLE TRIVIA

Easy: How did Moses' mother save him from the Egyptian soldiers?

Medium: What did Esau receive in exchange for his birthright

Hard: Which member of the Jewish ruling council came to ask Jesus questions at night?

(Answers on page 10)



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, J. P. Averette, Ann Baskin, Dora Blackburn, Ashley Bourgeois, Jody Chrisope, Lucy Cody, Christopher Comeaux, Rhonda Culp, Martha Denova, Lorrinda Dickinson, Lorri Wese-lak-Fontenot, Rich Griswold, Lee Gullett, Jane Johnson, Carmen Jones & Family, Marie Ladner, Kim Lax, B. J. McRae, Helen Mitchener, Helen Rankin, Dr. Kelly & Gladys Runnels, Linda Sanders, Phyllis Willis

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF MEMBERS IN OUR PRAYERS:

Elaine Altazan, Stanley Bihm, Marie Cannatella, Angela Ducote, Judy Duncan, Jim Finney, Christy Fontenot, Kathy Garlington, Andrew Hardy, Andrea Hebert, Carl & Patty Hubeny, James Jablonski, Sandy Krupala, Danielle Lax, Dorothy Minor, Cheyenne Moles, Randall Priester, Debbie Riddle, Wanda Teston, Amy Woods

SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS

November 29, 2026



ANSWERS

(from page 9)

Easy: Put him in a basket in the river

Medium: Stew

Hard: Nicodemus

Church Opening	Jerry Hilgendorf
Church Closing	Jerry Hilgendorf
Sacraments	Carl Cotten
Liturgist	Dr. Trey Earle
Children's Moment	Rev. Stephen Sanders
Youth Reader	Brynleigh Comeaux
Elder	Lorrinda Dickinson
Greeter	Kendall Theunissen
Deacons	Kim Rankin
	Michael Rankin
	Julie Theunissen
	Kendall Theunissen
Livestream	Daniel Dickey
Video Tech	Brenda Hilgendorf
Sound Tech	Jeff Cody
Program Builder	Jeff Cody
CW&W Greeter	Kayla Mercil
CW&W Storyteller	Genesis Bennie

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.

November 1, 2026

Church Opening	Jerry Hilgendorf
Church Closing	Jerry Hilgendorf
Sacraments	Carl Cotten
Liturgist	Vicki Krupala
Children's Moment	N/A
Youth Reader	Cora Cody
Elder	Carmen Jones
Greeter	Alicia Cotten
Deacons	Ray Acardo
	Alicia Cotten
	Carl Cotten
	Presley Hutchinson
Livestream	Charles Riddle
Video Tech	Brenda Hilgendorf
Sound Tech	Jeff Cody
Program Builder	Jill Brian
CW&W Greeter	Kayla Mercil
CW&W Storyteller	Genesis Bennie

November 8, 2026

Church Opening	David Fennell
Church Closing	Jerry Hilgendorf
Sacraments	Carl Cotten
Liturgist	Sherry McInnis
Children's Moment	Pam Comeaux
Youth Reader	Brynleigh Comeaux
Elder	Frank Dickinson
Greeter	Cathi Pourciau
Deacons	Callie Cody
	Kristin Morgan
	James Morgan
	Cathi Pourciau
Livestream	Nicolas Morgan
Video Tech	Michael Rankin
Sound Tech	Carmen Jones
Program Builder	Michael Rankin
CW&W Greeter	Kayla Mercil
CW&W Storyteller	Genesis Bennie

November 15, 2026

Church Opening	Jerry Hilgendorf
Church Closing	Jeff Cody
Sacraments	Carl Cotten
Liturgist	Rev. Stephen Sanders
Children's Moment	Donna Embree
Youth Reader	Leonardo Morgan
Elder	Donna Embree
Greeter	Greg Taliaferro
Deacons	Tony Babin
	Shelly Cody
	Steven Gibson
	Greg Taliaferro
Livestream	Michael Rankin
Video Tech	Jeff Cody
Sound Tech	Pam Jones
Program Builder	Brenda Hilgendorf
CW&W Greeter	Leonardo Morgan
CW&W Storyteller	Kristin Morgan

November 22, 2026

Church Opening	Michael Rankin
Church Closing	Michael Rankin
Sacraments	Carl Cotten
Liturgist	Michael Rankin
Children's Moment	Michael Rankin
Youth Reader	Cora Cody
Elder	Pam Comeaux
Greeter	Julie Theunissen
Deacons	Kim Rankin
	Michael Rankin
	Julie Theunissen
	Kendall Theunissen
Livestream	Brenda Hilgendorf
Video Tech	Amy Taliaferro
Sound Tech	Greg Taliaferro
Program Builder	Brenda Hilgendorf
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*

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](#)