



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1000 Main Street Phone#: 318-256-3632
P.O. Box 1210 Fax#: 318-256-0522
Many, Louisiana 71449 Family Life Center/Fellowship Hall#: 318-256-0972
Preschool #: 318-273-2205
Pastor E-mail: rev.coplin@gmail.com
Office E-mail: Administrator@fumc-many.com
Website: fumc-many.com "Like" our facebook page
Sunday Morning Worship Broadcast -10:00a.m. KWLTV 107.1

JANUARY NEWSLETTER 2022

Church,

First and foremost, I pray God's grace and peace upon you and yours from the first day of this new year until its last!

For those who have set new year's resolutions, this is the one week of the year in which almost all can celebrate success. If you count yourself among these folks, then good job! Keep it up! I admit that I am not one for resolutions. The last few weeks of the year are a bit too rambunctious for me to give careful attention to planning and establishing any lasting change to daily life. If you can relate, then maybe you find this week to be fitting for remembering the good from the year past and identifying priorities for the year ahead.

Looking back on 2022, I have to give thanks to God for the opportunity to be with you at this critical time in our history. It has not always been fun or easy, as you well know. Yet I believe it has all been with meaning and purpose, thanks only to God's faithfulness. From our earliest days together, I have said that these years will be remembered as a time of great transition for our local congregation, our Church, and our world. Such times have always come with deep discomfort and disruption, but they have also served as "wilderness" spaces in which God forms and strengthens his people to be the Church in the time to come. We might not understand what God is up to until we arrive to the other side of this wilderness. As Oswald Chambers writes, "God does not tell you what He is going to do; He reveals to you who He is." The truth of the matter is that we may never really know *why* we are called to be the Church at such a time as this. But I am glad that we have been called together so that together, we may learn more of who God is. Thank you for your friendship, generosity, kindness, and openness along the way.

Looking forward to the first quarter of 2023, I anticipate significant disruption as we complete our discernment process and decide for or against disaffiliation. As this time draws near, I ask you to join me in the following:

1. As we consider priorities for the new year, I ask first that you join me in consistent prayer for our church. I 100% believe that positive things happen when we give matters over to prayer.
2. Second, please consider prioritizing regular presence among the body of Christ. Of the 144 people who attended worship last year, 62 attended 50% of the time or more. In this season of debating which path is most beneficial for our church, I can think of nothing more beneficial for our church than our people being present.
3. Third, I respectfully ask for continued giving throughout this discernment process. I sympathize with grievance against authorities who do not uphold their commitments. However, a disruption in giving to our local congregation has zero effect on them while it negatively impacts the mission of our church.

If you have identified these three requests as the first three vows of membership to a local Methodist congregation, then move to the head of the class! During these unprecedented times, I understand that there is no great, simple answer to our present dilemma. But so long as we remain UMC, I urge you to remain faithful to our commitment to prayers, presence, and gifts in the year to come. Our faithfulness is made possible only by God's faithfulness.

So, I cannot claim any resolutions, but I offer the above as a few of my priorities for the coming year and a sign of faith in the goodness of our God. I look forward to our time together while hoping to remember that while it will not always be fun or easy, it will be with meaning and purpose. In one year's time, may we look back with gratitude and wonder at what God has done.

Happy new year,

Brian

Memorials

Community Choir:

In memory of Ross Williams given by Kenneth & Donna Ammons, Joe & Carole Troha, Mike & Vicki Simpson

Committee Meetings for

Trustees:

Monday, January 9th - 5:30 p.m.

Administrative Council:

Monday, January 30th - 5:30 p.m. with a light dinner and training concluding by 7:30 p.m.

GIVING

In addition to our offertory, online giving is available through our website fumc-many.com. We can also receive gifts through Text to Give. To use this service, simply text "FUMCM" to 22525. Checks can be mailed to P.O. Box 1210 Many, LA 71449. Please call our church office for additional assistance at 318-256-3632. Thank you.

January Nursery Workers
January 8 - Elizabeth Pickett
January 15 - Cathy Troquille
January 22 - Carolyn Dove
January 29 - Mary Ellen Freeman

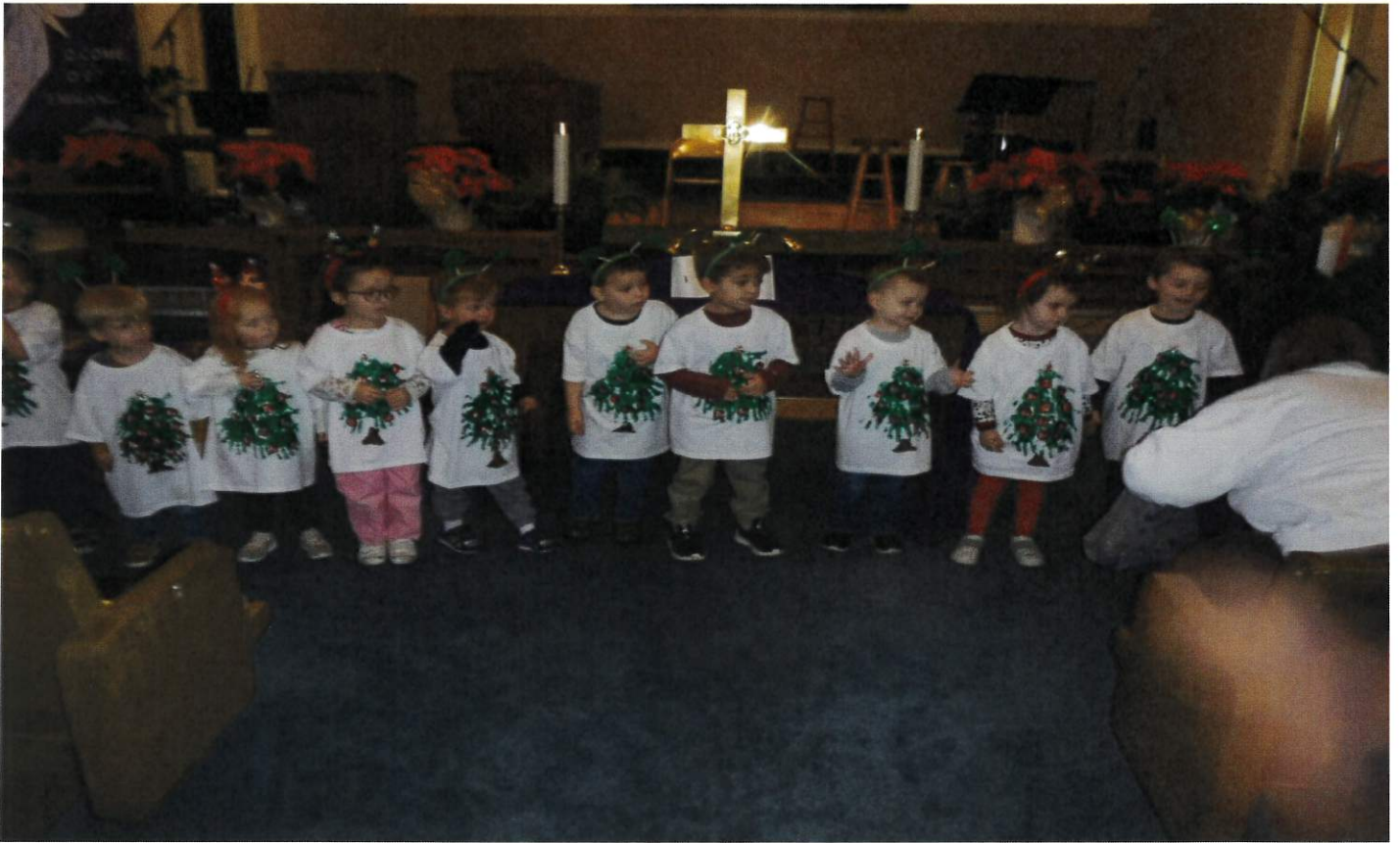
For Peace in the New Year

At the start of each day, help us to recognize you above all else. Enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see you, and notice how you're at work through our lives. Give us the wisdom to make the best choices, fill us with a desire to seek after you more than anything else in this world. Let your Spirit and power breathe in us, through us, again, fresh and new. Thank you that you are greater than anything we may face in our day. Thank you that your presence goes with us and that your joy is never dependent on our circumstances, but it is our true and lasting strength, no matter what we're up against. We ask that your peace lead us, that it would guard our hearts and minds in you. We ask for your grace to cover our lives this day. We love you Lord...we need you. Amen.

THANK YOU

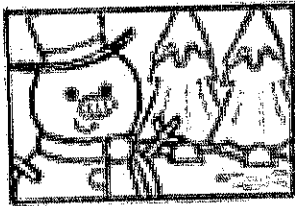
Many thanks to our congregation for the generous gifts to the church staff.

*Happy
New
Year!*



Sunshine Kids wishes everyone a blessed New Year.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
P.O. Box 1210, 1000 Main Street
Many, LA 71449**



January Word Search

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| A | A | R | N | H | L | T | T | S | H | O | V | E | L | R |
| L | G | S | V | U | Z | K | Z | I | X | J | A | N | U | D |
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| S | C | A | R | F | I | R | A | A | T | N | O | N | I | D |
| N | E | Y | J | A | N | U | Y | R | Y | T | S | L | E | D |



January
 New Year's Day
 Resolutions
 MLK Day
 Winter

Snowman
 Snowball
 Snowflake
 Blizzard
 Frozen

Sled
 Coat
 Mittens
 Scarf
 Shovel

January 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 1 **Billy & Becky Lafitte New Years Day | 2 Utreya - Holly Grove 6:00 p.m. | 3 | 4 **Kent & Shirley Lee Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Meal 5:30 p.m. Youth, Children, Covenant Group 6:00 p.m. | 5 *Robert Gentry UWF - 9:30 a.m. | 6 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 *Bradley Goodman *Robert Hable | 9 Boy Scouts - FLC - 6 pm Girl Scouts 5:30 pm - FH Trustees Meeting - 5:30 p.m. | 10 *Glen Ford *Jayden Gentry | 11 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Meal 5:30 p.m. Youth, Children, Covenant Group 6:00 p.m. | 12 *Amie Mitchell | 13 *Charles Enterkin *Faith Gentry *Timmy Mitchell 6:00 PM Women's Fellowship | 14 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 ** Robert & Crystal Hable United Women of Faith Sunday | 16 Boy Scouts - FLC - 6 pm | 17 Sanctuary Prayer - 10:45 a.m. | 18 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Meal 5:30 p.m. Youth, Children, Covenant Group 6:00 p.m. | 19 | 20 Church Office Closed | 21 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | 23 Boy Scouts - FLC - 6 pm District Wide Statistical Review - Audit 2022 - Fellowship Hall (Time to be announced) Girl Scouts 5:30 pm - FH | 24 | 25 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Meal 5:30 p.m. Youth, Children, Covenant Group 6:00 p.m. | 26 *Carolyn Dove *Chad Ford | 27 LA Happening - Wesley Center, Woodworth | 28 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 29 LA Happening | 30 Administrative Council Meeting - 5:30 p.m. with a light dinner & training concluding by 7:30 p.m. Boy Scouts - FLC - 6 pm | 31 | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Dec 2022</th> <th colspan="7">Feb 2023</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | | | Dec 2022 | | | | | | | Feb 2023 | | | | | | | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | |
| Dec 2022 | | | | | | | Feb 2023 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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PRAYER CONCERNS

January 2022

Church Members

Carrie Broussard
Brian, Monica, Jack & Anna
Claire Coplin
Charles Enterkin
Greg Everett
Ken & Mary Ellen Freeman
Laurie Gentry
Susan Giblin
John & Betsy Godfrey
Crystal Hable
John Hoagland
Grace Kelsey
Bobbie Kratz
Billie Lou Luster
Janice Rike
Kevin Troquille

Family of Ross Williams

Family of Church Members

Cassity Barrett
(Shirley Lee's great niece)
Ann Boudreaux (Chuck's mother)
Carolyn Brasell
(Carrie Broussard's daughter)
Beth Coplin
(Rev. Brian's mother)
Linda Christian
(Janet Elam's cousin)
Lily DeRamos
(Gary & Janet Elam's
granddaughter)
Jason Fluitt
(Vicki Simpson's son-in-law)
Seth Freeman
Renee Hill (Janet Elam's sister)
Zachary Hill
(Janet Elam's nephew)
Gwen Gastinel
(Janet Elam's sister)
Judy Boudreaux Jones
(Chuck Boudreaux's sister)
Mary Ann McDaniel
(Kristie Smith's mother)
Rodney Roach
(Vicki Weaver's nephew)
Family of Steve Rosencrans
(Renee Nolen's father-in-law)
Bill Sky (George Ellis, Laurie
Gentry's dad)
Logan Spears
(Rev. Brian's cousin)
Cindi Sullivan
(Suzanne Fogle's sister)
Murlee Wilbanks
(Carolyn Gates' mom)
Robert Troha

Friends of our Community

Marie Alford
Cade Anderson
Steve Biggs
Norman Booker III
Ace Bowling
Jiles Bowling
Kathy Byles
Dudley Carver
Lake Childress
(friend of Gary & Janet Elam)
Ivan Droddy
Donna Ellzey
Joe Eschbacher (Stan & Debbie
Arthur Proforis' son-in-law)
Odis Faust
Linda Findley
Darlene Griffin
Kathy Humphries
Sally Landry
Cassie LaRoux
Dena Sue Moore
Louise Moore
Family of Adam Nelson
Cheryl & Daniel Procell
Mike Rankin
Denise Richardson
Bill Roach
Tara Seals
Douglas Seegers
(Linda Seegers' son)
Linda Seegers
Ken Seegers
Kristin Sepulvado
Craig Skinner
(Rev. Brian's friend)
Arlene Small
Reba Tarpley
Sissy Tatum
Nancy Tidwell