



## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1000 Main Street

P.O. Box 1210

Many, Louisiana 71449

Phone#: 318-256-3632

Fax#: 318-256-0522

Family Life Center/Fellowship Hall#: 318-256-0972

Preschool #: 318-273-2205

Pastor E-mail: [rev.coplin@gmail.com](mailto:rev.coplin@gmail.com)

Office E-mail: [Administrator@fumc-many.com](mailto:Administrator@fumc-many.com)

Website: [fumc-many.com](http://fumc-many.com) "Like" our facebook page

Sunday Morning Worship Broadcast -10:00a.m. KWLTV 107.1

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### MARCH NEWSLETTER 2023

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Church,

I hope these overdue words find you well! We are already beginning week three of Lent, which means that there are only four more Sundays between now and Easter. Things are beginning to buzz around here.

**The Lenten journey continues:** In Church tradition, this is a season of preparation, of contemplating our "prone to wander" (to quote a favorite hymn), and to hope for new life promised in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is a time in which many of us focus on prayer, fasting, self-examination of our priorities, and for searching Scripture. I am thankful to be on this journey with you. A couple of fun facts: though Lent is technically 40 days, there are actually 46 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter. This is because Sundays are considered to be "little Easters." Therefore, fasts are often set aside on Sundays during Lent in our tradition. Make of this what you will!

If you haven't had time or opportunity to join us in the devotional reading or spiritual practices, there is still plenty of time! If you've missed a time or two, no worries. Don't give up! We're calling the current sermon series "Re-Soul." Our time together in worship is being used to discuss how through the Holy Spirit, God breathes newness into our lives, which revives and reforms us from the inside out. However you are going about this Lenten journey, the idea is to make ourselves available to the formational work of the Holy Spirit, which is never easy but always worthwhile. If we stay the course, I am hopeful that when we arrive to Easter, we will see something about Jesus more clearly than we can now.

**Holy Week and Easter Sunday:** Holy Week is fast approaching and our Easter celebration is on April 9! Check the calendar for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and a special Good Friday guided devotional at the Prayer Labyrinth. Please consider who you would like to see in worship with us on Easter morning and extend them an invitation. The more the merrier!

**Our upcoming decision:** All necessary documentation required for calling a special Charge Conference was submitted last week to the Alexandria District office and then forwarded to the Louisiana Annual Conference for review. We expect that their review process will take a few days. When all checks out, they will alert the District office that we are all clear for Charge Conference, at which time the District office will assign us a date. We will then have a couple of weeks to alert our membership before we vote to either disaffiliate or to stay with the UMC for the time being. I will let you know soon after I receive word about scheduling. Thanks to all who have helped in this process.

**Looking ahead:** It is understandable that so much of our conversation, focus, and energy is spent on this one decision. The stakes are high for those of you who are so personally invested in the life of our community. Yet this is not the only vote that you make for the benefit of our church. Each time you attend worship or invite a friend, you make a vote for our wellbeing. Each time you help to lead an event, make a contribution to our budget, or participate in programming, you are making a vote for our mission. If you are voting for our church in this way, thank you! I absolutely stand by the belief that voting through prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness do more for our vitality than will denominational affiliation. No matter how this one particular vote goes, there will be an urgent need for healing and vision as our church enters its next chapter. I therefore encourage you to keep voting for the wellbeing and mission of this congregation until Charge Conference and beyond.

Grace and peace to you on the Lenten journey,

Brian

## Memorials

### Comfort Fund:

In memory of John Godfrey given by James & Cathy Broussard, Briant Noland

### Trustee General Fund:

In memory of John Godfrey given by Gail Thomas

### Committee Meetings for March

#### Trustees:

Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup> - 5:30 p.m.

#### Administrative Council:

Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> - 5:30 p.m.



United  
Women  
in Faith

Thursday, March 2

United Women in Faith will meet at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall

Thursday, March 9

United Women in Faith are hosting SARC clients for lunch and games. Time 10-2pm. in FLC. Anyone who would like to help just show up about 9:30 am.

## 40 Cans for Lent

Consider having your family donate one can or item to our little pantry for each of the 40 days of Lent. Donations can be dropped off any Sunday. Thanks for your help, Kristie and Cathy

## GIVING

In addition to our offertory, online giving is available through our website [fumc-many.com](http://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.

### March Nursery Volunteers

March 5 - Elizabeth Pickett  
March 12 - Mary Ellen Freeman  
March 19 - Carolyn Dove  
March 26 - Vicki Isgitt

## ***WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES***

The worship committee is working to enhance our worship experiences through spiritual activities, engaging music, altar design, participation in worship as liturgists and leading the congregational prayers each Sunday.

During March and April, we are in the season of Lent, and have planned several opportunities for individual and community worship experiences.

- ❖ Pancake Supper followed by Ash Wednesday Services have already occurred.
- ❖ The Sanctuary for Lent 2023 Devotional Guide will be distributed at the Ash Wednesday Service and Sundays. Be sure to get your family's copy. It will help you journey through Lent as you prepare for the joy of the resurrection.
- ❖ The Labyrinth is open at all times for prayer and reflection (found across the street from the Family Life Center) however, during the Lenten Season you will find a special Labyrinth Walk for Lent. A box posted near the stairs leading to the Labyrinth contains a brochure with special prayers and reflections for this season. The community is welcome.
- ❖ Palm Sunday will be celebrated with the children and youth as Holy Week begins.
- ❖ Thursday of Holy Week a special Tenebrae Service of Shadows with scripture and music.
- ❖ Good Friday the Labyrinth will be set up for individual prayer and reflection using the Stations of the Cross. Individuals or families may go at their convenience.
- ❖ EASTER SUNDAY come celebrate the RESURRECTION!





Easter Lilies will adorn the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. The lilies may be in memory or honor of someone. Be sure to contact the church office to provide the information for the bulletin no later than Wednesday, April 5th. Please have them wrapped in white paper with gold bows. The office is closed on Good Friday, so lilies must be delivered no later than Thursday, April 6th.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

All persons interested in serving as an usher on Sundays please contact either Chris or Bob Nolen [chrisnolen61@gmail.com](mailto:chrisnolen61@gmail.com) or [bobnolen61@gmail.com](mailto:bobnolen61@gmail.com). or by calling 318-315-0793.

Calling all those handy with a needle and thread or sewing machine! We have many wonderful banners that adorn our sanctuary each week thanks to many ladies of the church who have gone on to glory. However, we would like to add to our banner collection. If you have an interest in designing and sewing banners, contact Chris Nolen at 318-315-0793 or [chrisnolen61@gmail.com](mailto:chrisnolen61@gmail.com) or catch me after church.

If you would like to serve as a scripture reader of one who leads the congregational prayer each Sunday, contact Chris Nolen at 318-315-0793 or [chrisnolen61@gmail.com](mailto:chrisnolen61@gmail.com) or catch me after church to get on the list.

If you have an interest in Altar design and would like to assist in the preparation of the altar or provide flowers for the altar contact Chris Nolen at 318-315-0793 or [chrisnolen61@gmail.com](mailto:chrisnolen61@gmail.com) or catch me after church.

## New Cursillistas

Cursillo # 181 was held at the Wesley Center in Woodworth on February 16-19 with three members from our church attending the spiritual retreat. On staff were Donna and Kenneth Ammons. Pilgrims attending were Mike Simpson and Joe and Carole Troha.

## Ammons to Receive Silver Beaver Award

On Sunday, March 19, former Scoutmaster of Troop 80 in Many, Kenneth Ammons will be presented the Silver Beaver Award during church services. The presentation will be made by Scout Executive Jeffery Brasher of Norwela Council in Shreveport.

The Silver Beaver is the highest award that a Council may present for outstanding service to Scouting. The award is presented to Scouters of exceptional character who have given continued, unselfish service to the community. Ammons served as Scoutmaster for 23 years and had nine Scouts attain the rank of Eagle. He has been active in his church, Chamber of Commerce, Lions Clun, Chairman of Many's Hart Airport, Back-to-School Rally and many more civic endeavors since returning to his hometown in 1980.

A Scout himself, he re-activated the local troop and was instrumental activating the local Cub pack. He remains a strong and active leader in the church. He is Chairman of the Trustees and active in Cursillo. Following church services a reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall. You are welcome to attend.



PLEASE JOIN US  
FOR A  
**BRIDAL SHOWER**  
HONORING

*Hannah Alyse Lancaster*

SUNDAY, MARCH 12TH  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MANY  
1000 MAIN ST  
AT 1 O'CLOCK

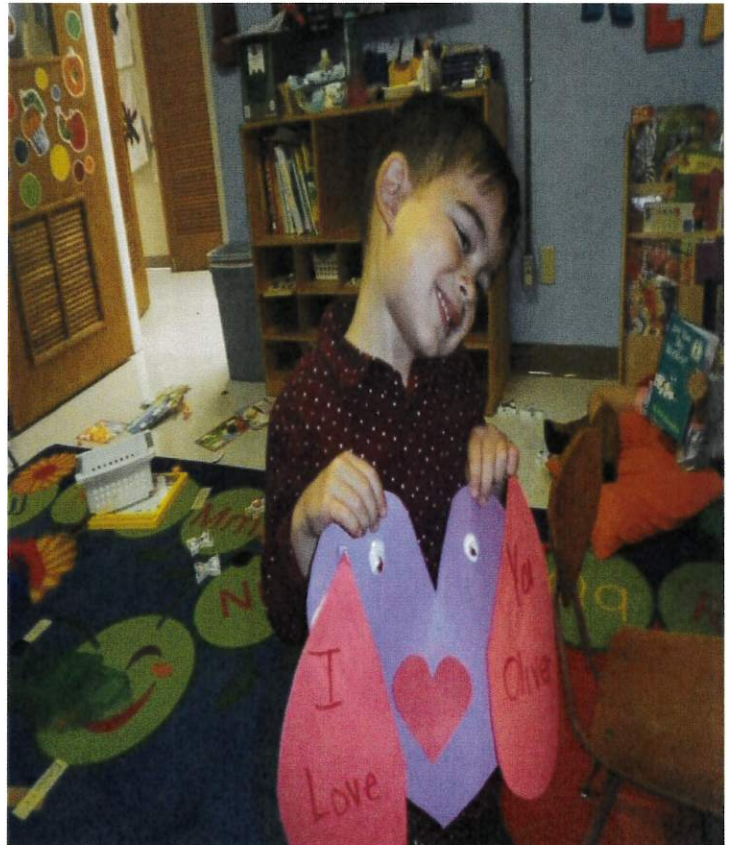
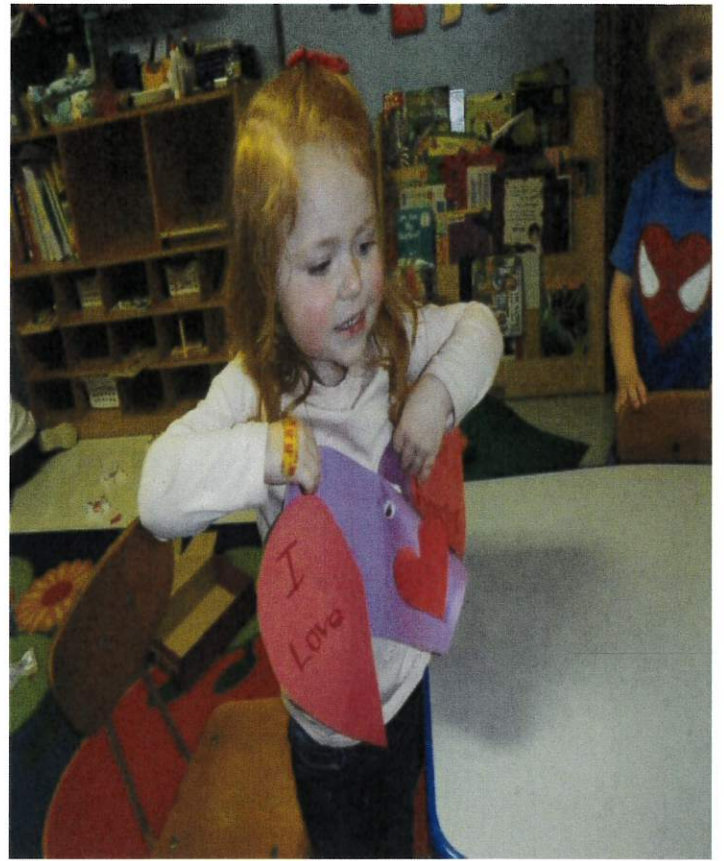
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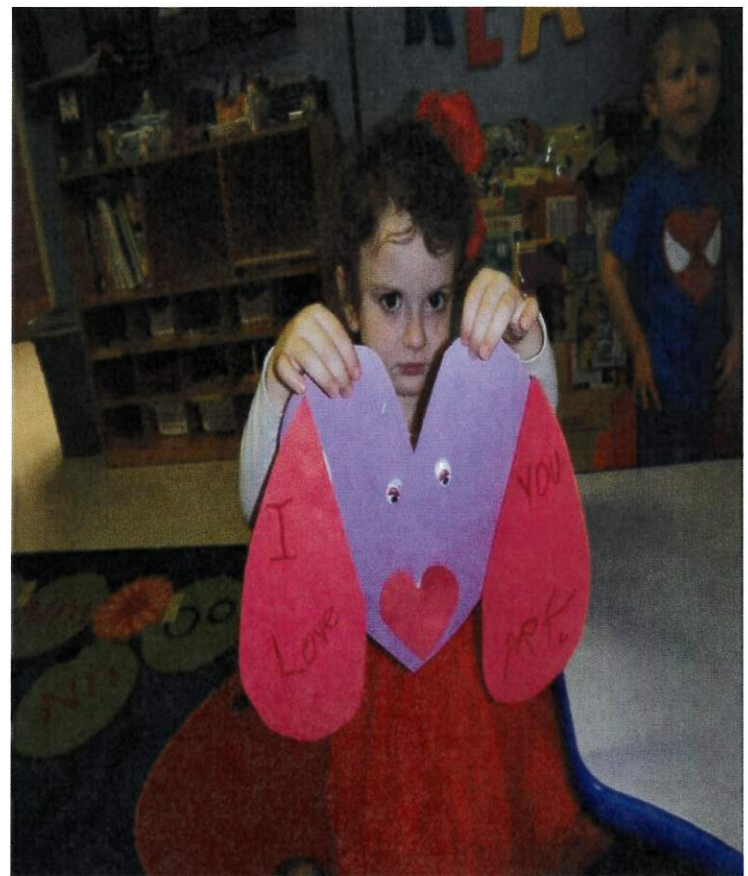
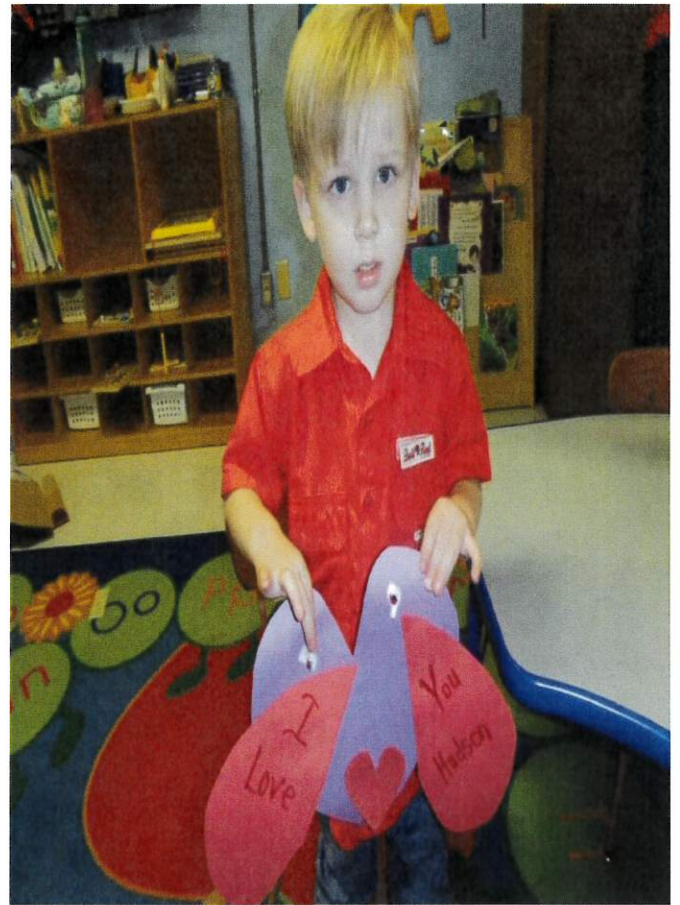
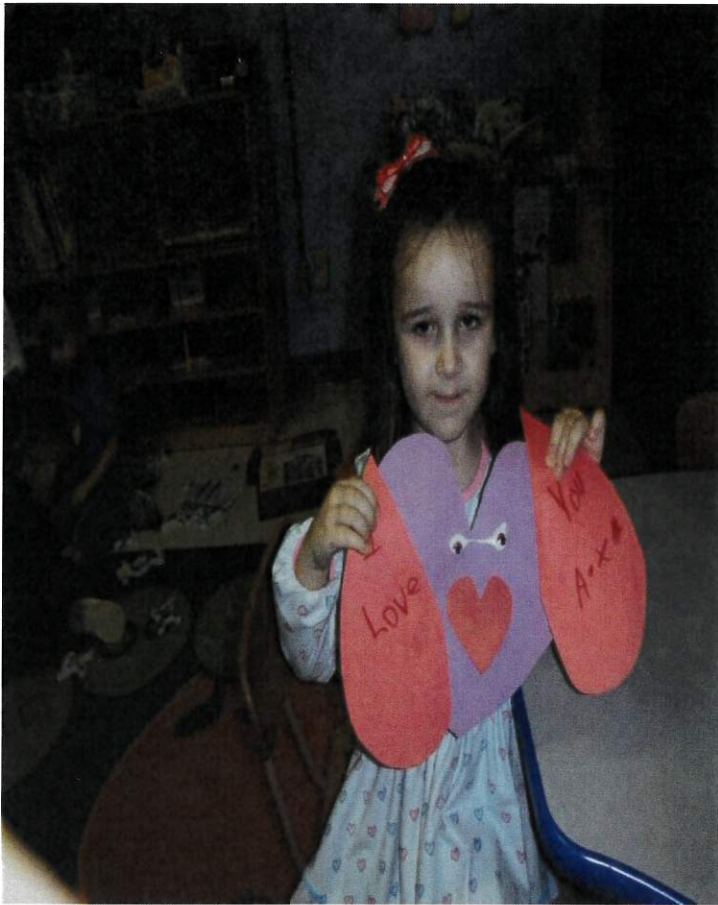




# *Can't help but love Sunshine Kids*







# Spring Word Search

E	G	G	E	S	P	R	I	N	G	F	T	I	N
H	I	C	M	R	C	R	T	E	H	C	R	A	M
F	I	M	H	A	F	L	O	U	R	I	S	H	N
X	L	A	M	I	Y	S	L	X	S	U	N	G	L
Q	A	O	G	I	C	U	G	U	X	Y	T	I	M
B	T	E	W	R	B	K	N	D	I	T	G	A	M
R	R	B	A	E	E	F	S	I	H	H	B	K	N
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N	G	B	B	F	T	S	N	H	M	O	Q	A	B
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S	B	R	O	Y	T	B	S	R	W	T	M	W	I
G	P	Q	K	L	G	S	K	F	H	T	U	P	H
A	G	N	E	W	B	S	E	A	S	O	N	C	C

LIGHT	FLOWERS
CHILD	GREEN
SHINE	SPRING
CHICKS	RABBITS
NATURE	MARCH
BLOOM	SUN
FLOURISH	APRIL
MAY	RAIN
SEASON	WARMTH
EGG	BIRTH
FRESH	NEW
EASTER	





## EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 8

10:00 to 12:00

We will need wrapped candy that fits in eggs, plastic eggs, snacks, money, prizes, etc. We will also need someone to read the kids the Easter story and game helpers. We will need egg hiders also. I also would like suggestions for new games. Let me know if you think of something. Please consider coming and helping. You will get a blessing.

Vicki Weaver  
Education Committee

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P.O. Box 1210, 1000 Main Street  
Many, LA 71449



# March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
<div>Feb 2023</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28					<div>Apr 2023</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30							<b>1</b> Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.  Youth, Children, Covenant Group 6:00 p.m.	<b>2</b> *Ashley Ford  *Ted Dove  United Women in Faith 9:30 a.m.	<b>3</b> *Suzanne Ammons	<b>4</b> United Women in Faith District Officers Meeting 10:00 am. - FH
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<b>5</b> Second Sunday in Lent	<b>6</b> *Brian Tannehill Boy Scouts - FLC - 6 pm  Ultreya- Holy Grove - 6:00 p.m.	<b>7</b> Lion's Club - Noon	<b>8</b> Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.  Youth, Children, Covenant Group 6:00 p.m.	<b>9</b> SARC Clients Day Out - 10:00 a.m. - FLC	<b>10</b> *Amanda Lambert  *Kevin Troquille  *Marilyn Mitchell  6:00 PM Women's Fellowship	<b>11</b>																																																																																											
<b>12</b> Daylight Saving Time Begins  *Shirley Lee  Bridal Shower- Hannah Lancaster- 1- 3 pm - FH  Third Sunday in Lent	<b>13</b> *Donna Ammons Boy Scouts - FLC - 6 pm  Girl Scouts 5:30 pm - FH  Trustees - 5:30 p.m.	<b>14</b> Lion's Club - Noon	<b>15</b> *Dean Lambert Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.  Youth, Children, Covenant Group 6:00 p.m.	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> *Addison Hable	<b>18</b>																																																																																											
Spring Break Sabine Parish Schools & Preschool																																																																																																	
<b>19</b> Fourth Sunday in Lent  Reception - Fellowship Hall- Kenneth Ammons Recognition from Norwela Council	<b>20</b> Back to School Rally Meeting 4:00 p.m. - FH  Boy Scouts - FLC - 6 pm	<b>21</b> Lion's Club - Noon	<b>22</b> Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.  Youth, Children, Covenant Group 6:00 p.m.	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> *Joe Troha	<b>25</b> FLC Rental - Toledo Toms- 8:00 a.m.																																																																																											
<b>26</b> Fifth Sunday in Lent	<b>27</b> *Alex Isgitt Administrative Council Meeting - 5:30 p.m.  Boy Scouts - FLC - 6 pm  Girl Scouts 5:30 pm - FH	<b>28</b> Lion's Club - Noon	<b>29</b> *Ken Freeman Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.  Youth, Children, Covenant Group 6:00 p.m.	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>																																																																																												

# PRAYER CONCERNS

## March 2023

### Church Members

Carrie Broussard  
Brian, Monica, Jack & Anna  
Claire Coplin  
Charles Enterkin  
Greg Everett  
Ken & Mary Ellen Freeman  
Laurie Gentry  
Susan Giblin  
John Hoagland  
Grace Kelsey  
Bobbie Kratz  
**Debbie Loudon**  
Billie Lou Luster  
**Patsy McCormick**  
Bonnie Fox Miles  
Janice Rike  
Kevin Troquille

### 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)  
**Jerry Lee (Louis Lee' dad)**  
Rodney Roach  
(Vicki Weaver's nephew)  
Cindi Sullivan  
(Suzanne Fogle's sister)  
Murlee Wilbanks  
(Carolyn Gates' mom)  
Robert Troha  
**Family of Lynn Wooley**

### Friends of our Community

**Kathy Alford**  
**(Donna Ammons' friend)**  
Marie Alford  
Cade Anderson  
Steve Biggs  
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  
Ginger Jordan  
Sally Landry  
Cassie LaRoux  
Dena Sue Moore  
Cheryl & Daniel Procell  
Mike Rankin  
Denise Richardson  
Tara Seals  
Douglas Seegers  
(Linda Seegers' son)  
Linda Seegers  
Ken Seegers  
**Craig Skinner**  
**(Rev. Brian's friend)**  
Arlene Small  
Reba Tarpley  
Sissy Tatum  
Nancy Tidwell  
**Cindy Wright**