



## 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](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. KWLX 107.1

---

### APRIL NEWSLETTER 2023

---

Church,

I pray these words find you well! As this new year hastens into yet another month, our leadership team prepares for a busy and emotional season. There are several important activities and events taking place over the next few weeks that I would like you to know about...

**Holy Week:** Our worship opportunities begin on Palm Sunday, April 2, and will feature special elements presented by our children and youth. On Wednesday, we will have regularly scheduled activities. Maundy Thursday comes on April 6 and will offer a heartfelt Tenebrae service of song, scripture, and shadow beginning at 6:00 PM. On Good Friday, April 7, our prayer labyrinth will be set for self-guided meditation and prayer through the Stations of the Cross. Finally, our traditional Easter Egg hunt will be offered to the kids on Saturday from 10:00 - 12:00 on the front lawn. All are invited to partake in these events!

**Easter Sunday:** We will gather together at 10:00 on April 9 to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I am excited to spend this time in worship with you! Please extend a personal invitation to anyone you would like to see in attendance. This is shaping up to be a memorable service.

These few, holy days will offer opportunity to remember the sacrifice that Jesus made for us, to celebrate his promise of salvation, and to prayerfully reflect on what these mean for our church during this particular moment in time. Though there are issues which pull at our seams and divide us, this season will afford us opportunity for moments of unity. May we gather united in purpose to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and to rejoice in new life he provides for today and forevermore.

**Our upcoming decision:** If you are a member of our church, you should have by now received from our office a letter signed by our District Superintendent calling for a special Charge Conference to be held on April 16 at 2:00. If you have not, please notify us as soon as possible. At this meeting, all members present will vote to either disaffiliate or stay with the UMC for now. Please make plans to be in attendance. Leading up to this crucial meeting, I remain available for concerns, discussion, or to answer any questions I can about our process.

I imagine that a lot of you are like me, in that you are ready to be done with this part of our dilemma so that we can move on to a new set of challenges. To be sure, there are challenges yet to come. My personal thanks to all who have helped shepherd us through this long and difficult process. Regardless of outcome, our church will continue to have an urgent need for engaged members, healing, and vision. Remember that your constant prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness all count as repeated votes for the wellbeing and restoration of our church.

**Bible study:** During the month of May, I will be leading a weekly Bible study through the Book of Jonah (spoiler alert: it is about more than a big fish)! We will meet on Thursday mornings, from 7:00 to 8:00 AM, at Taqueria Conchita's. Their address is 200 Fisher (in the old DQ). Get there a few minutes early to grab a fantastic breakfast, get caffeinated, and then settle in for an interactive hour with an often overlooked masterpiece.

**Looking ahead:** I confess that in the moments leading up to our last Administrative Council meeting, I busily set to gathering some scattered thoughts so that I might offer a sympathetic, encouraging word for those concerned about the upcoming vote. But as our various committees gave report on progress, momentum, and plans for ministry in the months ahead, I was truly inspired by their innovation, dedication, and genuine excitement for what is yet to come. Despite present uncertainty, the mission of First UMC Many continues. In the midst of change and uncertainty, God seeks to do something new.

As we prepare to celebrate Easter, may we be ever-aware of the hope promised in resurrection. May we stand amazed in the reality of light and truth, even in darkness and struggle. May an extra portion of our Lord's love and grace be upon you all during this holy time.

Grace and peace,



Brian



## Memorials

### Comfort Fund:

In memory of John Godfrey given by Bo & Kay Chevallier

### Memorial Fund:

In memory of Jane Tannehill Fowler given by Mike & Vicki Simpson

## Committee Meetings for April

### Trustees:

Monday, April 10th - 5:30 p.m.

### Administrative Council:

Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup> - 5:30 p.m.



United  
Women  
in Faith

Thursday, April 6

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

## Church Office Closed Good Friday

## 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.

## EASTER LILIES

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.

## ***WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES***

- ❖ 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, April 2<sup>nd</sup> 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!



**Saturday, April 8**

**10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

We need volunteers to sign up for cookies, cupcakes, chips, water, etc. Please contact Vicki Weaver or church office. Thank you



**Twists & Turns" Weekend VBS**  
**@ First United Methodist Church of Many**

**Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9:00-3:00**

**Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 - 1:00**

**Kick-Off -- Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 5:30-7:30**

From classic tabletop games to video games and more, kids (rising K-6th grade) will play their way through VBS while learning that Jesus guides them through all the twists and turns of life. And even when we mess up, it's never "game over." *Following Jesus changes the game!*

**Supplies Needed Now:**

- large flat TV box or appliance box for life-size Operation Game
- 30 twelve-pack soft drink boxes (relatively intact) for Giant Jenga

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



# April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																													
<div> <div> <b>Mar 2023</b> <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>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>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div> <b>May 2023</b> <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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>						S	M	T	W	T	F	S	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	31		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	31				1
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																													
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	31																																																																														
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	31																																																																																
2 **Brian & Monica Coplin  **Mike & Tammy Luster  PALM SUNDAY	3 Boy Scouts - FLC - 6 pm  Ultreya- Many 6:00 p.m.	4	5 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.  Names for Easter Lilies need to be called in to office Today  Youth, Children, Covenant Group 6:00 p.m.	6 Easter Lilies should be delivered Today  Tenebrae Service of Shadows 6:00 p.m.  United Women in Faith 9:30 a.m.	7 Church Office Closed  GOOD FRIDAY  The Labyrinth will be set-up for using the Stations of the Cross	8 *Mke Simpson  Easter Egg Hunt 10 am -Noon																																																																													
9  EASTER	10 Boy Scouts - FLC - 6 pm  Girl Scouts 5:30 pm - FH  Trustees - 5:30 p.m.	11	12 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.  Youth, Children, Covenant Group 6:00 p.m.	13	14  6:00 PM Women's Fellowship	15																																																																													
16 VOTE on Disaffiliation 2:00 p.m.	17 *Susan Gblin Boy Scouts - FLC - 6 pm	18 *Vicki Simpson	19 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.  Youth, Children, Covenant Group 6:00 p.m.	20	21	22																																																																													
23	24 Administrative Council Meeting - 5:30 p.m.  Boy Scouts - FLC - 6 pm  Girl Scouts 5:30 pm - FH	25 *Pete Abington	26 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.  Youth, Children, Covenant Group 6:00 p.m.	27	28	29																																																																													
30 *Carole Troha																																																																																			

# PRAYER CONCERNS

## April 2023

### Church Members

#### **Chuck Boudreaux**

Carrie Broussard  
Brian, Monica, Jack & Anna  
Claire Coplin

#### **Janet Elam**

Charles Enterkin  
Greg Everett  
Ken & Mary Ellen Freeman

Laurie Gentry

Susan Giblin

John Hoagland

Grace Kelsey

Bobbie Kratz

#### **Amanda Lambert**

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)

#### **Jason & Diane Davis**

**(Amanda Lambert's nephew  
& niece)**

Linda Christian  
(Janet Elam's cousin)

Lily DeRamos  
(Gary & Janet Elam's  
granddaughter)

Jason Fluitt  
(Vicki Simpson's son-in-law)

Seth Freeman

#### **Family of Janet Tannehill**

##### **Fowler**

Gwen Gastinel  
(Janet Elam's sister)  
Renee Hill (Janet Elam's sister)  
Zachary Hill  
(Janet Elam's nephew)

##### **Bobby Isgitt**

**(Allen Isgitt's brother)**

Judy Boudreaux Jones  
(Chuck Boudreaux's sister)

Rodney Roach  
(Vicki Weaver's nephew)

Cindi Sullivan  
(Suzanne Fogle's sister)

Murlee Wilbanks  
(Carolyn Gates' mom)

Robert Troha

##### **Ward Whitfield**

**(Carole Troha's brother)**

### 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  
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

##### **Jackie Snider**

**(Vicki Weaver's supervisor  
at work)**

Reba Tarpley  
Sissy Tatum  
Nancy Tidwell  
Cindy Wright