



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1000 Main Street

P.O. Box 1210

Many, Louisiana 71449

Phone#: 318-256-3632 Fax#: 318-256-0522

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Office E-mail: Administrator@fumc-many.com

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MARCH NEWSLETTER 2024

Dear Church,

"Connectionalism" is a word that we don't hear in our day-to-day, yet it names a vital part of who we are as Methodist. Not long after Monica and I joined a Methodist congregation, we witnessed the power of connectionalism firsthand. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, we saw UMCOR orchestrate a vast network of volunteers—reaching beyond Louisiana and the UMC itself—to aid in cleanup and rebuilding. This experience of our connection, among many others, both inspired and paved the way for me to attend seminary and enter ordained ministry in the UMC as an Elder, all thanks to the support and resources provided by our Methodist connection.

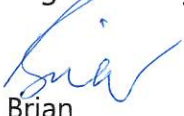
Our Book of Discipline beautifully articulates this sense of unity, stating, "Connectionalism is an important part of our identity as United Methodists. It is a vital web of interactive relationships that includes the agencies of the church... with the purpose of equipping local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry throughout the world, all to the glory of God." Many of you have experienced this principle in action through ministries like Cursillo and The Happening, which foster deep spiritual renewal and leadership within our church and across denominational lines.

I am pleased to share that through our connection, **First UMC of Many has received a transformative opportunity: a \$50,000 grant from the Louisiana Conference of the UMC, dedicated to establishing a firm foundation for our church's revitalization.** This grant is not mere financial aid; it is our Annual Conference's affirmation of our church's potential to flourish in the 21st century.

However, it is crucial to recognize that this grant is not the solution to our challenges. This is simply the starting point in our work to adapt to an ever-changing landscape. The Louisiana Annual Conference Office of Congregational Vitality pledges to walk with us in this journey, promising a partnership aimed at fostering true and sustainable revitalization. Pieces are falling into place, but we all have our part to play. I invite each of you to reflect on how we can contribute to this shared endeavor. Whether through volunteering, participating in church ministries, offering new ideas for community engagement, or simply offering a warm invitation to friends and acquaintances, your active involvement is crucial.

Friends, we are well poised to navigate the challenges ahead. As we begin this new chapter, we hold fast to Jesus' promise to be with His church always. With God's grace and mutual collaboration, we will witness these hurdles transformed into milestones, marking our progress towards fruitful ministry for the wellbeing of our congregation and Sabine Parish.

In grace and gratitude,



Brian

MEMORIALS:

Youth:

In memory of Walker Pickett given by Kenneth & Donna Ammons, Mike & Vicki Simpson

Preschool:

In memory of Walker Pickett given by Chuck & Linda Boudreaux

FLC Memorial:

In memory of Thelma & CD Hancock given by Billy & Becky Lafitte

In memory of Polly & Wallace Delatin given by Billy & Becky Lafitte

Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 19th - 6:00 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 church office for additional assistance at 318-256-3632. Thank you.

Monthly Financial Update

Amount Needed Monthly: \$17,487.00
Received in February: \$18,480.00

FOOD PANTRY

Thank you for your continued support of our little pantry. Current needs are protein items. For example: tuna fish, chicken, Vienna sausage, spam, nuts, etc. Also needed is canned or packaged fruit, any kind of bars or other individually wrapped items.

March Church Closing

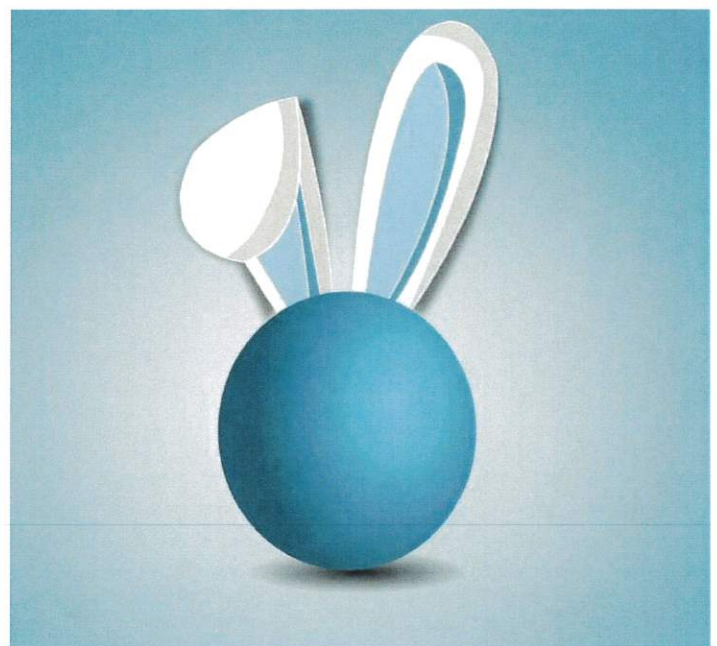
March 3 - Dove
March 10 - Isgitt
March 17 - Nolen
March 24 - Norris

All Are Invited

On Sunday, March 10th we will have a churchwide meeting with the Missions Team to discuss Mission projects and ideas for 2024.

Meeting immediately after worship services in the FLC, pizza will be provided.

If you have any questions see Amie Mitchell 318-471-1062



Saturday, March 30

12:00 -3:00 pm

Easter Egg Drive Thru

Many Fairgrounds

We still need lots of donations such as: wrapped candy, small baggies, small prizes, money, etc. We also will need helpers to give out treat bags

March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #ffffcc;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Feb 2024</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <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></td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #ffffcc;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Apr 2024</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <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>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>					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			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			1	2
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*Suzanne Ammons Third Sunday in Lent	Scouts 5:30 p.m. Utreya -Many 6:00 p.m.		*Brian Tannehill Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Covenant Group 5:30 p.m. WOW Kids 5:30 pm. Youth 5:30 p.m.	UWF 9:30 a.m.	6:00 PM Women's Fellowship	Toledo Toms Rental -FLC																																																																																				
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*Amanda Lambert *Kevin Troquale *Marilyn Mitchell Daylight Saving Time Begins Fourth Sunday in Lent	Scouts 5:30 p.m.	*Shirley Lee	*Donna Ammons Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Covenant Group 5:30 p.m. WOW Kids 5:30 pm. Youth 5:30 p.m.		*Dean Lambert	Rental (Marilyn Great grandson 1st birthday party) - Fellowship Hall																																																																																				
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*Addison Hable Fifth Sunday in Lent Youth Winter Jam Bossier City	Scouts 5:30 p.m.	Church Council Meeting 6:00 PM	Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Covenant Group 5:30 p.m. WOW Kids 5:30 pm. Youth 5:30 p.m.	SARC - FLC 9:30 a.m - 12:30 p.m.																																																																																						
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*Joe Troha Palm Sunday	Scouts 5:30 p.m.		*Alex Isgett Choir Practice 7:00pm Covenant Group 5:30 p.m. WOW Kids 5:30 pm. Youth 5:30 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Service 6:00 p.m.	Church Office Closed GOOD FRIDAY	Easter Egg Drive Thru Many Fairgrounds 12:00 - 3:00 p.m																																																																																				
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PRAYER CONCERNS

March 2024

Church Members

Carrie Broussard
Zelma Broussard
Monica Coplin
Family of Susan Giblin
John Hoagland
Bobbie Kratz
Mike Morris

Family of Church Members

Sandra Bishop
David Cox
(Linda Boudreaux's brother)
Wendy Curtis
Jason Fluitt
Judy Boudreaux Jones
(Chuck Boudreaux's sister)
Buck Phillips (Carolyn Gates brother-in-law)
Family of Walker Pickett
Gage Pickett
William Roach
(Relative of Vicki Weaver)
Jeff Troha (Joe Troha's nephew)

Friends of our Community

Kathy Alford
Wyatt Bedgood
Elizabeth Clark
Glen Graham
Joyce Hay
Sharla Meyers

To keep our Prayer List current, we plan to **RE-SET** it at the beginning of every month.

If you know someone who needs to be placed on or remain on the prayer list for another month, please call the church office at 256-3632. In the evenings or on weekends call our Pastor, Rev. Brian Coplin. He may be reached by cell phone 318 614 5050 or send him an e-mail: rev.coplin@gmail.com.

Please do not respond to e-mail prayer concerns from the office. E-mail prayer concerns are for your information only. Please check your church directory for individual e-mail addresses so you can respond directly. If you need an e-mail address please call the office.

2024 Church Council Roster
First United Methodist Church of Many, Louisiana

Class of 2024

Carolyn Dove - Church Council Chair, F
Kirt Voorheis - Finance Chair, F, T
Vicki Weaver - Secretary, S
Thad Smith - S, T

Class of 2025

Kenneth Ammons - Trustees Chair, F, S, T
Vicki Isgitt - Church Council Vice-Chair, S, T
Diann Miglore - SPR Chair, F, S
John Norris - S

Class of 2026

Eugene Fremaux - Treasurer, F, T
Amie Mitchell - F, LD, LL, T
Mike Simpson - F, T
Halley Wilson - S

Pastor

Brian Coplin

Key

F - has Finance/Memorials vote (seven total)
LD - Lay Delegate to Annual Conference
LL - Lay Leader (serves Ex Officio on SPRC)
S - Staff/Parish Relations (seven, plus the Lay Leader, and Lay Member to Annual Conference have votes)
T - has Trustees vote (seven total)

Note

A new class of Church Council members will be elected annually by the Nominations and Leadership Development Committee

**2024 Committee on Nominations
and Leadership Development**
First United Methodist Church of Many, Louisiana

Class of 2024

Chris Nolen
Sarah O'Neal

Class of 2025

Ashley Ford
Gail Thomas

Class of 2026

Cathy Troquille
Ashlee Lee

Note: Lay Leader votes on this committee ex-officio

Covenant

As the 2024 Church Council of First United Methodist Church of Many, Louisiana, we agree to the following expectations:

1. **That we are one Council with one voice.** We will fully invest in conversations and decisions with vigor and passion. However, once the board has come to a decision, each of us as board members will openly and publicly support the decision of the board.
2. **That we will make every effort to be in attendance.** We understand that to lead effectively, Council members must be in attendance at all meetings. If we experience difficulty in attending regularly, we expect to discuss the best way forward for the Council and the individual member.
3. **That we will be mindful of monthly timelines.** If we have content to submit for the meeting information packet, we will send it to the church office one week before the scheduled Council meeting. Each member can expect to receive the information packet by email on Friday prior to the meeting.
4. **That meetings will begin and end promptly.** We will make every effort to be on time to Council meetings and to reduce distractions from the business at hand.
5. **That we will be informed prior to the meeting.** We will review the meeting information packet prior to attending the meeting. We will arrive prepared to participate.
6. **That we will be accountable.** Council members will hold ourselves, the pastor(s), and other council members accountable for their leadership roles and responsibilities. The board will be collectively and individually accountable to the congregation.
7. **That there will be conflict.** Vocal disagreement is natural to any community and can be a constructive force. As a council, we will approach matters of disagreement with transparency and maintain our emotional focus as a council.

Signed

Date

2/27/2024

Kevin Collier
Vivian Weaver
Kurt Voorhees
Jalleg Wilson Lowe
Tucker Lytt
Carolyn Dove
JMS
W. Hunt

Thad King
D.D. Simpson
Kennea Sumner
Carm Mitchell



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 or ask the florist to provide the names for the bulletin no later than Wednesday, March 27th. 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 Noon, Thursday, March 28th in the Conference Room.

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