



The Messenger

September 2, 2021

First United Methodist Church
208 Pine Street
Corner of Church Ave. & Pine St.
(228) 863-9619
firstumclb@gmail.com

Update from our Church Council

Our church council has begun meeting to make decisions about our practices around worship and group gatherings. We value meeting in person and to help make this safer, we have decided to practice safe distancing and highly recommend wearing masks. Masks and hand sanitizer will be available.

Note from Jon

Encouragement. The definition of encouragement means “the action of giving someone support, confidence, or hope.” Recently, our church gave 374 goodie bags to two area hospitals that were full of snacks, a copy of the 23rd Psalm, and a thank you note. These were directed toward nurses who, amid the pandemic, are working long hours in very difficult circumstances. These bags were meant to offer encouragement and hope. By the way, we received thank you letters and cards from the hospitals. I also had a conversation with a nurse at memorial who cried when they realized what they were. They were really touched.

This week we are working on the same for all the School Staff in Long Beach – teachers, administrators, cafeteria workers, maintenance, and bus drivers – 408 employees. Our schools are also under unprecedented strain dealing with the uncertainties of having school in a pandemic. They also need encouragement and support from their community and so that is what we are going to do.

In the wake of Hurricane Ida, we are also beginning a process of responding to the disaster with a disaster recovery trip to Covington, LA on September 11th to help with clean-up and debris removal. We are also collecting needed supplies such as sports drinks, cleaning supplies, food, and water.

But, what about being encouragers in the world you are in – where you live, work, and study? In an age when outrage seems to be the going currency, it is more important than ever for Jesus' people to be signs of hope, light, and encouragement. Take time to encourage people in your circle. Take time to notice how they are doing. Send a text, write an email, make a phone call, or make a visit to offer a compassionate voice. Take time to be the presence of Jesus, offer love, pray for them, be a source of light in their lives. Together, we can encourage, offer support, give confidence, and hope in a time when it is desperately needed. Let's be the change we want to see for good and in the name of Jesus. God bless you all.

Love in Jesus, Jon

Upcoming Events



Shine On...

All of medical and school personnel, the church and our community.

**Community
Groups**

Community Groups

We hope to begin Community Groups again soon! If you are willing to facilitate a group, or would like more information on what it means to facilitate a group, please contact Ben Barlow, or fill out the connect card at the bottom of the

bulletin on Sunday and put it in the offering baskets as you leave the church service.



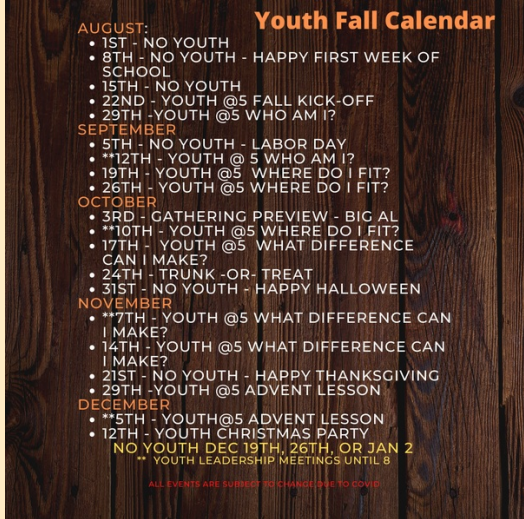
Prayer for Memorial Hospital

In consultation with Memorial Hospital of Gulfport, area churches are gathering to pray for the hospital staff and patients on different nights of the week. Our church will be taking Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. We can gather outside Memorial by the flagpole, pray while walking around the hospital or pray from the south parking lot. To join this effort, please call the church office at (228) 863-9619.



Hurricane Ida Disaster Response

We are gathering supplies to take to areas effected by Ida. You can drop them off at the church during the week or Sunday mornings. The items needed are food, sports drinks, water, and cleaning supplies. We are planning a day trip for clean-up and debris removal to Covington, LA on September 11th. Please call the church office to reserve your spot.



New Directories

We will begin printing updated directories. If you would like to update your photo or information, you can go to our online directory (CTRN) and make needed changes. If you need assistance in updating your information, please contact the church office at 228-863-9619.



Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast

The Long Beach Kiwanis will be hosting a pancake breakfast on September 18th at Grace Lutheran Church located at 19221 Pineville Rd in Long Beach. The hours will be from 8 am - 12 noon. It is \$5.00 All U Can Eat. All are invited to come!



Hope is Here

Need Hope? Join us for a series at the main campus beginning on September 12th centered on the Hope we have in Jesus Christ. There we will find hope for the weary, hope for the broken, hope for those with questions, and hope for the underdog.

Upcoming Sermons

September 5th

Main Campus Worship "On the Mount: The Kingdom - The Foundation for Life"
Matthew 7:24-29

The Well Worship "Come To Me"
Matthew 11:28-30

September 12th

Main Campus Worship "Hope is Here: Hope for the Weary"
Matthew 11:28-30

The Well Worship "Come To Me"
Psalm 46

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1. Your first step, is to select FUMCLB as your charity. Simply go to the following link and logon to your Amazon account: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/64-0334099>
2. At that point, verify that you are choosing FUMCLB as your charity. Then click the button to start shopping as usual.
3. In future shopping trips to Amazon, ALWAYS go to the link <http://smile.amazon.com> to ensure that your shopping produces donations for our church. If you shop at the regular Amazon link, you will NOT produce donations.



PC Havens, Kayne Troutman, Debbie Knight, Wanda Miller, Lois Jones, Connie Durham, Janis Slade, Shorty Haulk, Jo Holyfield, Marie Ward, John French, Chuck Cruthirds, Hank Viehmann, Charlie & Betty Gibson, Sherry Alley, Andrew Beets, Adeline Humphrys, Dorothy Tingo, Lynn Jordan Beck, Cory Miller, Ann Munter, Spencer Humphrey, Pam Upton, Lil Jobe, Lorrie Schiro, Louise Travis, Candy Claeys, Virginia Barnes, Dawn McGinn, Cindy Gates, John Bull, Jake DeHut, Farra Wicks, Joyce St. John, William Hall, Harry Brax, Pete Seyfarth, Jimmy Sample, Steve Wood, Charles & Lisa Oliver, David Berry, Imogene Hoffman, Pam Buell, Johnny Kersnac, Linda Robison, Ricky Bullock, Jackie Calhoun, George Taquino, and McLellan baby

*If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact the church office at 863-9619 or by email to prayer@fumclb.org.



We would like to express our Christian love and sympathy to Terry and Glenda Hull at the death of Terry's father, Ken Hull.



A donation was given in memory of Richard Spencer by Betsy Bullard.

Donations were given in memory of Ken Hull by James & Becky Collins, and Betsy Bullard.



Birth Announcements

Zak Gerard Long was born to Adrian and Kristen Long on August 25th. Proud grandparents are Terri & Mark Oehmichen and Shanna & Mark Boyer.

Mackenlee James Mathes was born to Alexis Stephens and Bruce Mathes on August 31st. Proud grandparents are Bruce and Stephanie Mathes.

Calendar

Sunday, September 5th

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

11:00 a.m. The Well Worship at USM Fleming Auditorium & Online

5:00 p.m. Youth

Monday, September 6th

Office Closed

Tuesday, September 7th

9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study

6:00 p.m. Recovery Group Moore Hall

Wednesday, September 8th

6:00 p.m. Prayer Ministry in the Good News Room

6:00 p.m. Well Band Practice

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, September 9th

9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC

Sunday, September 12th

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

11:00 a.m. The Well Worship at USM Fleming Auditorium & Online

5:00 p.m. Youth

Monday, September 13th

9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC

6:00 p.m. Finance Meeting

7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 14th

9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the CLC

6:00 p.m. Recovery Group Moore Hall

Wednesday, September 15th

6:00 p.m. Prayer Ministry in the Good News Room

6:00 p.m. Well Band Practice

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, September 16th

9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC

Rev. Jon Kaufman

662-279-4993

Email address: jon.kaufman@fumclb.org

Rev. Ben Barlow

228-806-2787

Email address: ben@thewelllongbeach.org

Our Mission

Make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision

To be a church that makes disciples that Live Like Jesus, Love Like Jesus, and

Serve Like Jesus.