

FUMC Bossier  
201 John Wesley Blvd  
Bossier City, LA 71111



# FIRST FAMILY FOCUS

AUGUST 2025



## FOLLOWING JESUS IN BOSSIER: A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

*Rev. Donnie Wilkinson,  
Senior Pastor*



It's hard to believe I've only just arrived because it already feels like home. From the first handshake to the last hug on Sunday morning, the kindness you've shown has been overwhelming. Whether it's been over coffee, in the hallway, or swapping stories in the parking lot, I've felt the warmth, generosity, and faithfulness that make First Bossier such a remarkable church. Thank you. Truly.

As I've begun to settle in, I've found myself returning to one question again and again: What does it mean to follow Jesus in Bossier in 2025?

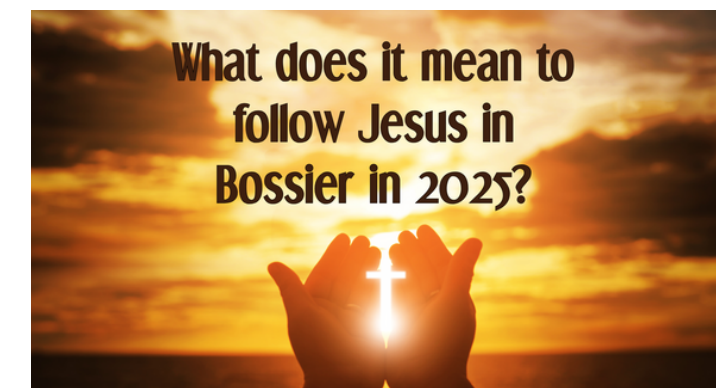
That's why I'm inviting you—yes, you—to stay engaged with the Gospel of Mark reading plan. We're not just reading Scripture to check a box. We're listening for a fresh word from the Lord, together. Because the same Jesus who walked the dusty roads of Galilee is walking the streets of Bossier today, and he's still calling people to follow him.

And following Jesus isn't just something we think about. It's something we do. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus is always on the move. He is healing, teaching, challenging, and loving. The more we read, the more we realize that discipleship is a journey. And it's one we take together.

So if you've fallen behind in the reading, no shame. Jump back in. If you've been faithful every day, keep going. If you haven't started yet, now's a perfect time. There's room for all of us.

Let's keep listening. Let's keep walking. Let's keep asking what it means to follow Jesus right here and right now.

Grace & Peace,  
Donnie







CHURCHWIDE EVENTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT OUR STAFF AT INFO@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG

**BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS**

PLEASE, JOIN US  
ON AUGUST 3, 2025, AT EITHER  
WORSHIP SERVICE, AS WE CELEBRATE  
THE BEGINNING OF A NEW SCHOOL  
YEAR WITH THE BLESSING OF THE  
BACKPACKS. BRING YOUR BACKPACKS  
TO SERVICE.

**BACK TO SCHOOL PIZZA & PRAYER NIGHT**

Join us for a night of worship, prayer & pizza as we prepare for the 2025-2026 school year.

As you leave we encourage you to stop by any school on the way home and say a prayer.

AUGUST 3 @ 5 PM in the Fellowship Hall

GRIT AND GRACE INVITES YOU TO

**MOVIE NIGHT**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19

STARTS AT 5:00 PM

**SECOND HAND LIONS**

EVERYONE WELCOME

**5TH SUNDAY POTLUCK**

AUGUST 31 @ NOON  
FELLOWSHIP HALL

LAST NAMES A - H: PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH (E.G., CASSEROLES, ROASTED VEGETABLES, MASHED POTATOES, MAC AND CHEESE).

LAST NAMES I - P: PLEASE BRING A SALAD (E.G., GREEN SALADS, PASTA SALADS, FRUIT SALADS, POTATO SALAD).

LAST NAMES Q - Z: PLEASE BRING A DESSERT OR BREAD (E.G., CAKES, COOKIES, PIES, BROWNIES, DINNER ROLLS, CORNBREAD).

THIS HELPS US GET A GREAT MIX OF EVERYTHING! WE CAN'T WAIT TO SHARE A MEAL WITH YOU ALL.




BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT OUR STAFF AT INFO@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG

ANNIVERSARIES		BIRTHDAYS	
Parker & Paula Self	8/5	Stacy Wells	8/10
Mike & Carolyn Santure	8/8	Korben Wilson	8/10
Sam & Jayne Merritt	8/9	Jack Wallace	8/10
Glynn & Judy Alderman	8/12	John Byrd	8/11
Don & Louise Jones	8/27	Betsy Overturf	8/15
Larry & Susan Willis	8/30	Lila Windham	8/15
Harry & Bonnie Solomon	8/31	Cooper Finley	8/18
BIRTHDAYS		Roger Moore	8/18
Leon Darden	8/3	Kailea Worsham	8/18
Virginia Johnson	8/3	Elisa Hines	8/20
Ed Carpenter	8/6	Rick Bryant	8/23
Adam Nutt	8/6	Charles Harner	8/23
Larry Willis	8/6	Walter Johnson	8/23
Linda Doss	8/9	Michael Pollitt	8/23
Teresa Digilormo	8/10	Beth Moore	8/25
Rosemary Patterson	8/10	Renae Colwick	8/27

**CHECK OUT OUR CHURCH APP**

- Register & pay for events
- Check-in for service/ events
- Church Calendar
- Giving/Offering



# AUGUST

# 2025

<b>Sunday</b> <b>3</b> Traditional Community Worship 8:45a Sunday School 10a Contemporary Community Worship 11a Back to School Prayer Night 5p Youth Group 5-7p	<b>Monday</b> <b>4</b> Silver Foxes Fitness 10a Prayer Ministry 11a Magnolia Manor Communion Day 10:30a	<b>Tuesday</b> <b>5</b>	<b>Wednesday</b> <b>6</b> Busy Bee Quilters and Crafters 9a Choir Rehearsal 6p The Good and Beautiful You Bible Study 6p	<b>Thursday</b> <b>7</b> Praise Team Rehearsal 5p	<b>Friday</b> <b>1</b> Silver Foxes Fitness 10a Kids Summer Movie Series 1-4p	<b>Saturday</b> <b>2</b>
<b>10</b> Traditional Community Worship 8:45a Sunday School 10a Contemporary Community Worship 11a Solar Seekers: End of Summer at Field of Dreams Park 4-5:30p Youth Group 5-7p	<b>11</b> Silver Foxes Fitness 10a Prayer Ministry 11a	<b>12</b> Leadership Board 6p	<b>13</b> Busy Bee Quilters and Crafters 9a Choir Rehearsal 6p The Good and Beautiful You Bible Study 6p	<b>14</b> Young at Heart 10:30a Praise Team Rehearsal 5p	<b>15</b> Silver Foxes Fitness 10a	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> Traditional Community Worship 8:45a Sunday School 10a Contemporary Community Worship 11a Youth Group 5-7p	<b>18</b> Silver Foxes Fitness 10a Prayer Ministry 11a	<b>19</b> Women in Mission 10a Grit and Grace Movie Night 5p	<b>20</b> Busy Bee Quilters and Crafters 9a Choir Rehearsal 6p The Good and Beautiful You Bible Study 6p	<b>21</b> Praise Team Rehearsal 5p	<b>22</b> Silver Foxes Fitness 10a	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Traditional Community Worship 8:45a Sunday School 10a Contemporary Community Worship 11a Youth Group 5-7p	<b>25</b> Silver Foxes Fitness 10a Prayer Ministry 11a	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Busy Bee Quilters and Crafters 9a Choir Rehearsal 6p The Good and Beautiful You Bible Study 6p	<b>28</b> Praise Team Rehearsal 5p	<b>29</b> Silver Foxes Fitness 10a	<b>30</b> Souper Saturday 8a
<b>31</b> Sunday School 10a Combined Community Worship 11a 5th Sunday Potluck 12p Youth Group 5-7p						

STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE CALENDAR ON CHURCH CENTER OR THE FUMC BOSSIER WEBSITE

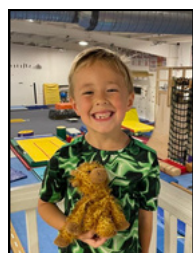


## Celebrating Our Second Graders Receiving Their First Bible!

At FUMC Bossier, we believe in planting seeds of faith early. One of the most meaningful moments in our children's ministry is when each second grader is gifted a bible. This gift marks a special step in their spiritual education—a chance to begin exploring God's Word on their own and with their family.

We're excited to spotlight these amazing kids so our church family can celebrate and pray over them!

### First Kids Second Grade Spotlight



#### ★ Maddox Ardoin★

Favorite Subject: Math

What They're Excited to Read in the Bible: Peter

What They Love About Church: I loving being with my family and Yaya and Pawpaw

Fun Fact About Them: I like to take apart power wheels and rebuild them.



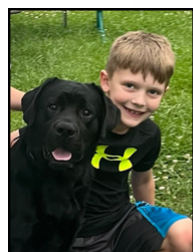
#### ★ Wyatt Finley★

Favorite Subject: Science and History

What They're Excited to Read in the Bible: The story of Adam and Eve

What They Love About Church: Going to Sunday School

Fun Fact About Them: He is an orange belt in karate and is in the gifted program at school.



#### ★ Charlie Lindberg★

Favorite Subject: P.E.

What They're Excited to Read in the Bible: To learn about Heaven

What They Love About Church: Going to Children's Church

Fun Fact About Them: He can run really fast!



#### ★ Nakiva Williams★

Favorite Subject: Art

What They're Excited to Read in the Bible: Jonah and the Whale

What They Love About Church: Movie Days

Fun Fact About Them: He loves to play Minecraft.



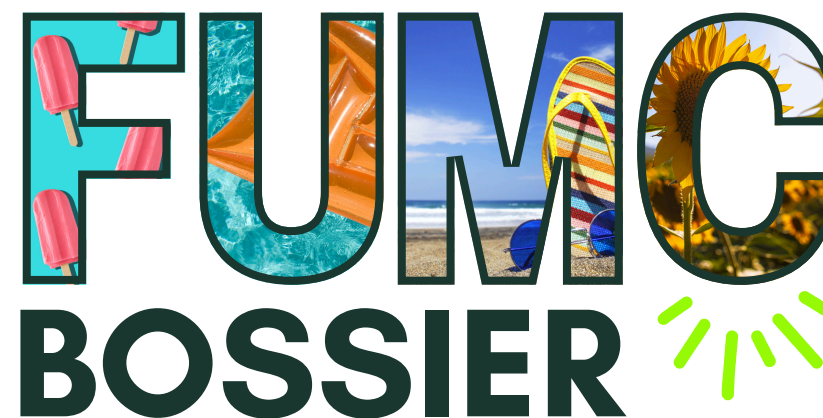
#### ★ Korben Wilson★

Favorite Subject: All of them

What They're Excited to Read in the Bible: how Jesus helps people

What They Love About Church: Singing worship

Fun Fact About Them: He loves to tell funny jokes







## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

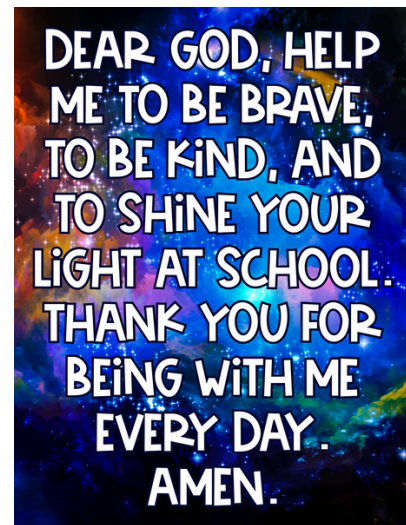
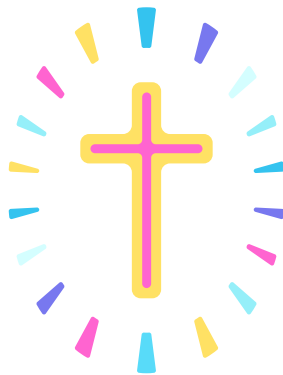
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ELISA HINES AT CHILDREN@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG

Back to School! We hope you had a joyful, restful, and fun-filled summer! As August arrives and the new school year approaches, we want to remind you that wherever you go—whether it's the classroom, the playground, or the school bus—Jesus loves you. 🍷 And there isn't a thing you can do about it!

We're praying over each child as they step into new classrooms, meet new teachers, and grow in wisdom and faith this school year.

Let's walk into the new school year with faith, joy, and purpose. We're so thankful to be part of your child's journey—both spiritually and academically. We're praying for a blessed start to the year!

Love & Blessings  
Elisa



**STAY UP TO DATE  
WITH PARENT  
INFORMATION**

Text @firstkidsb to  
81010



[www.fumcbossier.org](http://www.fumcbossier.org)



## GET CONNECTED TO A SMALL COMMUNITY

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT OUR STAFF AT INFO@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG

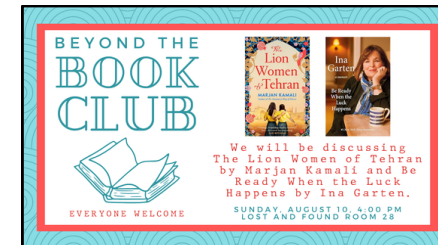
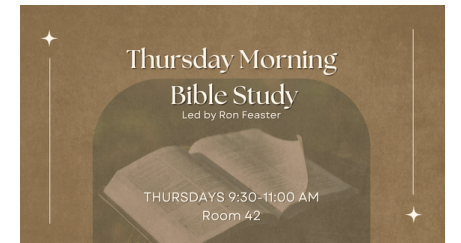


### WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Nights - 6:00-7:00 PM - Midyett Room  
The Good and Beautiful YOU Bible Study continues.

### THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays at 9:30am- Mary Ewing Room  
Study is led by Ron Feaster. We will not be meeting in July or August. Our next meeting will be September 4.



### BEYOND THE BOOK CLUB

August 10 at 4:00pm - Lost and Found Room  
We will be discussing *The Lion Women of Tehran* by Marjan Kamali and *Be Ready When the Luck Happens* by Ina Garten.  
Everyone is welcome!



## YOUTH FALL RETREAT

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT SARAH MCCURLEY AT SMCCURLEY@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG



The Common Ground Youth Retreat is coming up September 12-14 at Camp Caney, and you do not want to miss it. It's a weekend packed with awesome worship, hangouts, games, bonfires, and plenty of time to connect with friends—and with God. The cost is \$75, and you can register with Sarah TODAY. Grab your spot ASAP and get ready for one of the best weekends of the year!



[www.fumcbossier.org](http://www.fumcbossier.org)





# MISSIONS THAT MATTER

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT OUR STAFF AT [INFO@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG](mailto:info@fumcbossier.org)



## SOUPER SATURDAY

August 30- 8:00 AM - FUMC BOSSIER KITCHEN  
Come pack meals or deliver meals to the home bound & those who receive meals on wheels. We provide meals the last Saturday of each month.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Second Saturday- 11:00 AM-1:00 PM -ALEXIS PARK APARTMENTS  
\*\*Has been postponed until the Fall\*\*



## THE GRIT & GRACE MISSION TEAM

August 19- 5:00 PM- Mary Ewing Room  
We meet on the third Tuesday of each month. Come join us if you would like to help with our Mission Projects. This month is movie night with Second Hand Lions, hot dogs, popcorn and dinks. Everyone Welcome!

## MAGNOLIA MANOR MISSIONS

We will serve communion on the First Monday of the month, August 4.



## WOMEN IN MISSION

August 19- 10:00 AM- Room 49  
We meet on the third Tuesday of each month. Come join us if you would like to help with our Mission Projects.



# FIRST FAMILY FOCUS NEWSLETTER

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT OUR STAFF AT [OFFICE@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG](mailto:office@fumcbossier.org)

Our monthly newsletter is a collaboration by all members of our church staff. If you notice any discrepancies please let us know so we can address them. If your group or class has anything for the newsletter or bulletin you can turn it in at the office or email it to [info@fumcbossier.org](mailto:info@fumcbossier.org)  
Please, make sure to submit all information for the newsletter by the 20th of the month to ensure it is included in the upcoming month's issue.  
Thank you!



# YOUTH MINISTRY

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT SARAH MCCURLEY AT [SMCCURLEY@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG](mailto:SMCCURLEY@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG)

## CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

Our high school students spent a week at Camp Caney for CCE--a leadership camp focused on how to create Christian community. We had the best week together strengthening our relationships and forming new ones with new friends!



*I want them to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love. I want them to have complete confidence that they understand God's mysterious plan which is Christ Jesus himself. Colossians 2:2*



## YOUTH MEAL TRAIN

LOOKING FOR MEALS EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT TO FEED BETWEEN 15-20 PEOPLE. CONTACT SARAH FOR MORE INFO!

Our students eat dinner together at youth group every Sunday night. We are so appreciative of any and all help to make this happen! We have dates available on our meal train through December. Contact Sarah to sign up!

## JULY YOUTH NIGHTS



## STAY UP TO DATE WITH FUMC BOSSIER YOUTH TEXTS

Text @2020fumcy to 81010 - students  
Text @2020fumcp to 81010 - parents



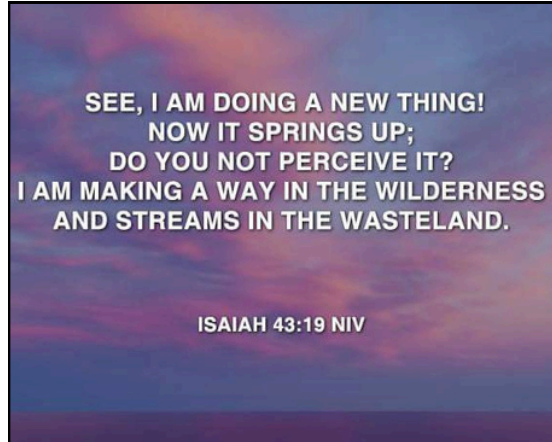
SARAH MCCURLEY  
YOUTH DIRECTOR  
318-742-3823 Ext 128  
[smccurley@fumcbossier.org](mailto:smccurley@fumcbossier.org)  
[www.fumcbossier.org/youth2](http://www.fumcbossier.org/youth2)





## A WORD FROM THE PRAYER ROOM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT OUR STAFF AT [INFO@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG](mailto:INFO@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG)



The scripture above is from Isaiah as he speaks to the Israelites upon their return from captivity. We have not been a captive congregation, but circumstances have prevented us from moving forward. Thus, we welcome a New Beginning with Rev. Donnie Wilkinson as our new pastor. His opening remarks at the July 13<sup>th</sup> series was, "I am a Jesus Guy and a Bible Boy!"

Rev. Donnie comes to us with an amazing background or challenges and life experiences which have prepared him for his time with us. We are thankful for your prayers and ask that you continue to ask God's presence to be with us, our pastor, our leaders and each member of our church family.

Let us pray!



## FIRST FRIENDS CHRISTIAN LEARNING CENTER



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT SHANNON KELLEY AT [SKELLEY@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG](mailto:SKELLEY@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG)



Our first day of school is Tuesday, September 2, 2025. We are so excited to welcome our precious little ones back to school! As we begin this new school year, we pray for joyful hearts, growing minds, and God's love to shine in every classroom. May this year be filled with learning, laughter, and blessings for every child and family!

[www.fumcbossier.org](http://www.fumcbossier.org)



## THE CHURCH MOUSE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT OUR STAFF AT [INFO@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG](mailto:INFO@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG)

Greetings FUMC Bossier,

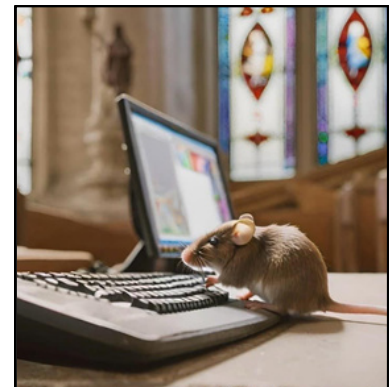
Welcome Rev. Donnie Wilkinson and family to FUMC-Bossier! Stay tuned for lots of new challenges as he leads us to draw on God's strength in times of uncertainty and change. We will be using "Walking With Jesus: A Daily Reflection Journey" as Rev. Wilkinson's Sunday messages take us through the Gospel of Mark to develop a clearer understanding of Jesus' identity. Church Mouse saw the Reverend in the kitchen....good sign for me for "tasty crumbs". I heard he likes to cook! Be sure and introduce (and reintroduce) yourself and let him know how happy we are that he is with us. He is very anxious to get to know each church member.

Church Mouse is so glad I left a school to make my home with you at this church. I used to go visit my cousin in the country for summer months. Schools close down for the summer with few people around, but FUMC-Bossier keeps going all seasons and always there's "crumbs" for me. Speaking of school, it will be starting soon (watch for speed limits in school zones) and our First Friends will be returning. There's nothing like the sound of children's voices to warm your heart. Keep all teachers and school personnel in your prayers.

See you in September starting off with Labor Day as we remember the contributions of workers to our country's development and well-being. 1 Corinthians 15:58

"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

Blessings,  
Church Mouse



## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT OUR STAFF AT [INFO@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG](mailto:INFO@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG)



### YOUNG-AT-HEART

2ND THURSDAYS EACH MONTH- 10:30 AM-FELLOWSHIP HALL  
August 14- Lunch, drinks and dessert provided. Cost is \$5.00.  
Call the church office to make your reservation.

### SILVER FOXES FITNESS

Mondays and Fridays 10:00 AM-Fellowship Hall  
Join our Silver Foxes for a Chair Exercise Class.



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