

FUMC Bossier
201 John Wesley Blvd
Bossier City, LA 71111



FOLLOWING JESUS IN BOSSIER: A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

*Rev. Donnie Wilkinson,
Senior Pastor*



Grounded in Gratitude

Generosity always begins here.

Not with guilt. Not with pressure. Not with an ask.

It begins with **gratitude**—with pausing long enough to recognize just how richly we’ve already been blessed.

What do you have in your life right now that you didn’t earn... but desperately needed?

What relationships, opportunities, provisions, second chances, or unexpected joys could only be called grace?

When we give from that place—not obligation, but abundance—we’re not just writing checks.

We’re **responding in worship**.

Revealed in Prayer

But giving isn’t just about what we give. It’s also about how we give and why. And that’s where **prayer** comes in.

“Lord, what do you want to do through me?”

The Journey Continues: From Trust to Transformation

A few weeks ago, we heard the story of Jesus feeding the five thousand.

Remember that? The disciples, overwhelmed. The crowds, hungry. The resources, scarce.

But Jesus took what little there was... and turned it into more than enough.

That story wasn’t just about bread. It was about our posture toward life.

And now, as we keep walking with Jesus through the Gospel of Mark, we’re uncovering a deeper truth.

The way we handle what we’ve been given is one of the clearest signs of whether we’re still stuck in fear—or learning to live in trust.

So here’s a question worth sitting with:

What does my giving say about what—or whom—I trust?

It’s a simple question, but one that can reshape our relationship with money, our sense of purpose, and our understanding of what God is doing in the world.

God isn’t trying to take something from you. God is trying to do something in you.

SEPTEMBER

God isn't focused on your wallet—God is focused on your **wholeness**. God isn't interested in a **transaction**—God wants to begin a **transformation**. And prayer is where that work begins.

Lived in Faith

This is where the journey becomes real. Once we've been **grounded in gratitude**, and once we've **opened our hearts in prayer**, we're ready to take a step of **faith**.

Not just any step. The **next** step.

For each of us, that step on the Journey of Generosity will look different:

- **Beginning Giver:** You give for the first time—saying, "Yes, I'm in."
- **Intentional Giver:** You plan your giving, setting a rhythm that reflects your values.
- **Growing Giver:** You increase your percentage of giving as your trust deepens.
- **Tither:** You reach 10%, aligning your finances with your faith.
- **Extravagant Giver:** You give beyond, fueled by radical joy and Kingdom vision.

So, where are you on that path? And where might God be inviting you next?

A Gentle Invitation

If you're currently giving intentionally, growing, or tithing, consider **automating** your giving.

By setting up a recurring gift, you create space for generosity to become a spiritual habit.

You align your financial rhythm with your faith—and let God shape your heart in the process.

You can take that step today at:

👉 <https://firstumcbossier.churchcenter.com/giving>

And if you're just starting out—or not sure where to begin?

Start with prayer. Not with numbers. Not with pressure. Just a quiet space and an open heart.

"Lord, what do you want to do through me?" Let the silence speak.

Let God's Spirit nudge you toward the next faithful step.

The Real Invitation

Because ultimately, this journey isn't about giving more. It's about becoming someone who trusts more.

Someone more **grateful**. More **prayerful**. More **faithful**.

Someone whose heart is being transformed. Someone who lives with open hands.

Someone who is becoming fully alive in Christ.

And that's the kind of transformation God delights in.

Grace & Peace,
Donnie

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

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7 Traditional Community Worship 8:45a Sunday School 10a Contemporary Community Worship 11a Community Worship 11a Youth Group 5-7p	1 Silver Foxes Fitness 10a Prayer Ministry 11a Magnolia Manor Communion Day 10:30a Ukulele Gumbo Rehearsal 3:30p	2 Shreveport Chorale Rehearsal 10a-12p Life 365 5:30-7:30p	3 UMM Breakfast 7a Busy Bee Quilters and Crafters 9a Choir Rehearsal 6p The Good and Beautiful You Bible Study 6p	4 Thursday Morning Bible Study 10a Praise Team Rehearsal 5p	5 Silver Foxes Fitness 10a	6
14 Traditional Community Worship 8:45a Sunday School 10a Contemporary Community Worship 11a Solar Seekers at Church 4-5:30p Common Ground Youth Retreat	8 Silver Foxes Fitness 10a Prayer Ministry 11a Ukulele Gumbo Rehearsal 3:30p	9 Shreveport Chorale Rehearsal 10a-12p Life 365 5:30-7:30p Leadership Board 6p	10 UMM Breakfast 7a Busy Bee Quilters and Crafters 9a Choir Rehearsal 6p The Good and Beautiful You Bible Study 6p	11 Thursday Morning Bible Study 10a Young at Heart 10:30a Praise Team Rehearsal 5p	12 Silver Foxes Fitness 10a Common Ground Youth Retreat	13 Common Ground Youth Retreat
21 Traditional Community Worship 8:45a Sunday School 10a Contemporary Community Worship 11a Youth Group 5-7p	15 Silver Foxes Fitness 10a Prayer Ministry 11a Ukulele Gumbo Rehearsal 3:30p	16 Women in Mission 10a Shreveport Chorale Rehearsal 10a-12p Grit and Grace 5p Life 365 5:30-7:30p	17 UMM Breakfast 7a Busy Bee Quilters and Crafters 9a Choir Rehearsal 6p The Good and Beautiful You Bible Study 6p	18 Thursday Morning Bible Study 10a Praise Team Rehearsal 5p	19 Silver Foxes Fitness 10a Parent's Night Out 5:30-8:30p	20
28 Traditional Community Worship 8:45a Sunday School 10a Contemporary Community Worship 11a Youth Group 5-7p	22 Silver Foxes Fitness 10a Prayer Ministry 11a Ukulele Gumbo Rehearsal 3:30p	23 Shreveport Chorale Rehearsal 10a-12p Life 365 5:30-7:30p	24 UMM Breakfast 7a Busy Bee Quilters and Crafters 9a Choir Rehearsal 6p The Good and Beautiful You Bible Study 6p	25 Thursday Morning Bible Study 10a Praise Team Rehearsal 5p	26 Silver Foxes Fitness 10a	27 Souper Saturday 8a

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

Pastor Donnie has me "Walking with Jesus." Reminds me of singing as I have "walked." As a freckled-faced kid I sang solos and duets with my dad. Singing in choirs all my life has brought me joy and a closer walk with Jesus. No more choir singing, but I still sing to myself and Jesus with my new voice which has been altered through radiation. I woke myself recently in my sleep, "He Keeps Me Singing" page 110 in the old Cokesbury Hymnal.

Recent “wondering” found me seeking the writer and his story, which bears repeating in a little Hymnal History. Luther Bridgers, at 17, began preaching at his home church in Harrodsburg, Kentucky. By age 27 he had a wife and three sons. He took them to visit his wife’s family at her childhood home. They died in a horrible fire while he was away preaching. Deep grief and depression followed, yet several months later he wrote the words and music based on the recurring theme of the Isaiah scripture quoted above. Thus we have his “He Keeps Me Singing.” Songs helped him gain his sanity. Verse 4 expresses his emotions and his struggle.

Though sometimes He leads through waters deep,
Trials fall across the way,
Though sometimes the path seems rough and steep,
See His footprints all the way.



Jesus, Jesus, Jesus,
Sweetest Name I know,
Fills my every longing,
Keeps me singing as I go.

In 1914 Luther became a general evangelist for the Methodist Episcopal Church South. The ministry occupied him for years. He also later went to Europe doing evangelical work in establishing churches.

Isaiah 35:10
AND THE RANSOMED OF THE LORD SHALL RETURN, AND COME TO ZION WITH SONGS AND EVERLASTING JOY UPON THEIR HEADS: THEY SHALL OBTAIN JOY AND GLADNESS, AND SORROW AND SIGHING SHALL FLEE AWAY.

OFFICE NEWS

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

Hi Church Family!

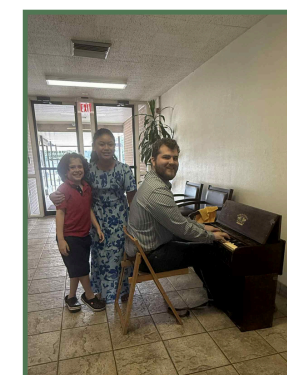
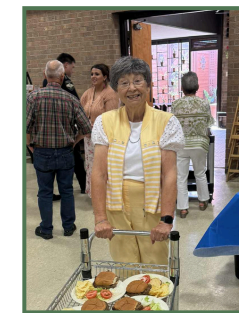
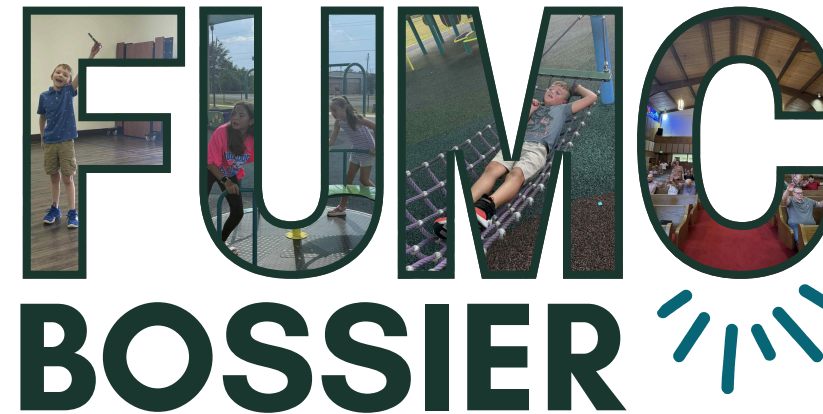
It's Sharon and as my time as your Interim Church Administrator-Secretary comes to a close in a couple weeks, I want to say what a privilege and blessing it has been to serve you for the last three months. I will miss seeing so many of you during the week and now just on Sunday or other special events. I think we've done a good job in hiring Raegan. She's very capable and helpful. So thanks again for allowing me to serve in this capacity. See you around!

Sharon

We would like to thank Sharon for assisting in the process of selecting a permanent replacement for our Church Administrator-Secretary and Maintenance Director. We are very grateful for her contributions and very excited to welcome Raegan Meshell and Josh Tyra into their new roles on our staff team!

A DAY IN THE **LIFE**

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





CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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

As September arrives, it feels like we are all stepping into a new rhythm. School schedules, sports practices, and family routines are settling in, and with that comes both excitement and, at times, a sense of being stretched thin. In the middle of all of this, I am reminded of how important it is to root ourselves—and our children—in God's unchanging presence.

Kids Church we're continuing our adventure through the book of Mark. This month we'll be diving into chapters 8-10, and let me tell you... there are some BIG moments ahead! In these chapters, Jesus asks His disciples, "Who do you say I am?" (spoiler: Peter blurts out the answer 🙋♂️). Jesus also shows what it really means to follow Him—not about being the biggest or the best, but about serving others. And then He surprises everyone by reminding us that in His kingdom, even kids are super important! 🙌

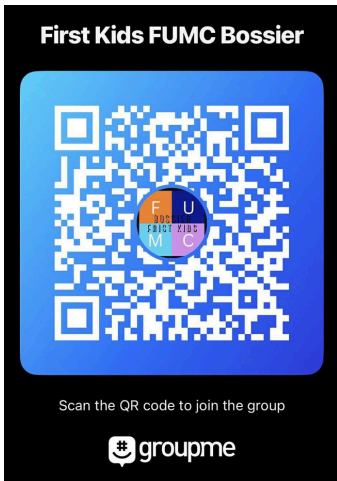
Here's what I'm most excited about: helping our kids see that following Jesus isn't boring—it's the greatest adventure ever. Whether it's being brave at school, choosing kindness when it's hard, or looking for ways to serve, our kids get to live out their faith every single day.

I can't wait to see how God speaks to our kids through Mark 8-10. Thanks for letting us walk this journey with your family—it's a joy to see your kids learning, laughing, and growing in God's Word every week.

Love & Blessings
Elisa



STAY UP TO DATE WITH
PARENT INFORMATION
ON GROUP ME →

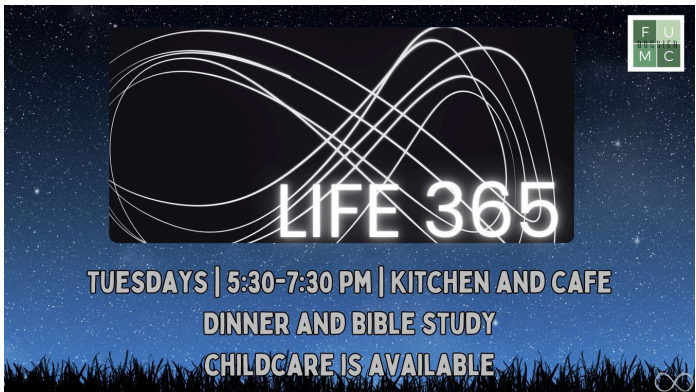


www.fumcbossier.org



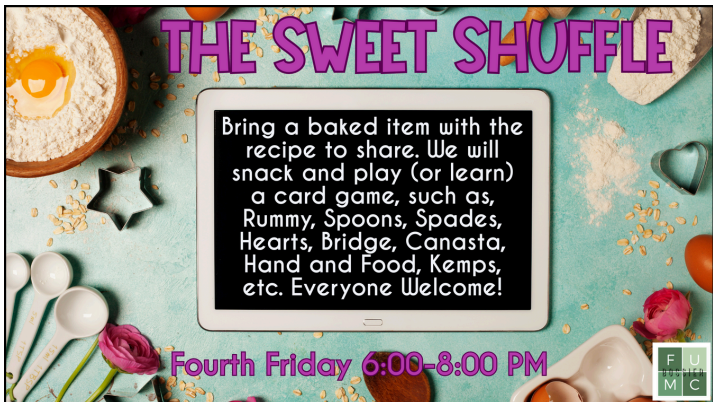
GET CONNECTED TO A SMALL COMMUNITY

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



LIFE 365

Tuesday Nights - 5:30-7:30 PM - Kitchen and Cafe
Life 365 exists to build authentic, Christ-centered community for all ages—every day of the year. We gather to grow in faith, support one another through every season of life, and live out God's love in practical, everyday ways. Rooted in Scripture and strengthened by fellowship, we are committed to walking together in discipleship, prayer, and purpose—365 days a year.



THE SWEET SHUFFLE

Fourth Friday 6:00-8:00 PM
Bring a baked item with the recipe to share. We will snack and play (or learn) a card game, such as, Rummy, Spoons, Spades, Hearts, Bridge, Canasta, Hand and Food, Kemps, etc. Everyone Welcome!

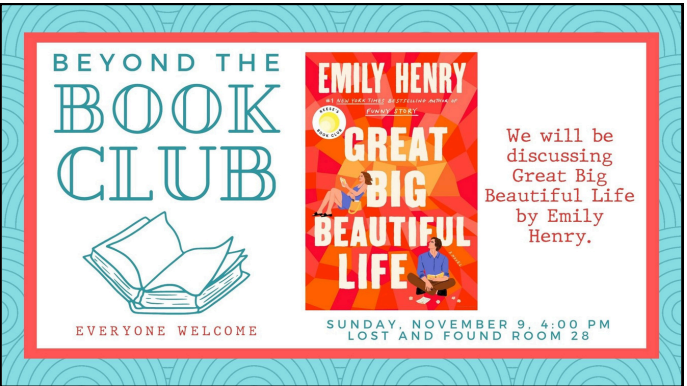
At The Sweet Shuffle, we come together as a joyful community united by faith, friendship, and fun. We believe God delights when we gather in fellowship—sharing His blessings through the sweetness of baking and the joy of games. Our mission is to encourage one another, build meaningful relationships, and honor God in every card played and every recipe shared. Together, we savor His love and grace as we mix, shuffle, laugh, and grow.

www.fumcbossier.org



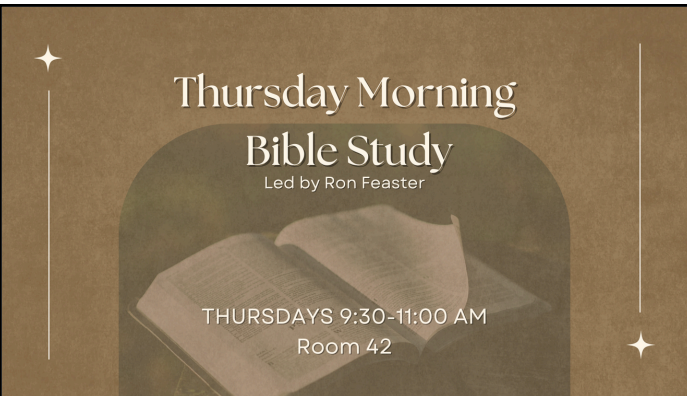
WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

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



BEYOND THE BOOK CLUB

November 9 at 4:00pm - Lost and Found Room
We will be discussing *Great Big Beautiful Life* by Emily Henry. Everyone is welcome!



THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays at 9:30am- Mary Ewing Room
Study is led by Ron Feaster. We will start meeting again September 4.



MISSIONS THAT MATTER

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



MAGNOLIA MANOR MISSIONS

We will serve communion on the First Monday of the month, September 1.

THE GRIT & GRACE MISSION TEAM

September 16- 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.



WOMEN IN MISSION

September 16- 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.

SOUPER SATURDAY

September 27, 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.



SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES

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



YOUNG-AT-HEART

2ND THURSDAYS EACH MONTH- 10:30 AM-FELLOWSHIP HALL
September 11- 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.



PRAYER MINISTRY

Mondays at 11:00 AM- Room 41
Connecting hearts to God through prayer and handwritten care.

www.fumcbossier.org



YOUTH MINISTRY

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

WELCOMING A NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

School is here and in full swing. We are so thankful for our Sunday nights together to help start our weeks well. Our new 6th graders are getting used to things, and it's been awesome seeing our high schoolers become leaders! We are just so excited about what God is doing in the lives of our students!



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

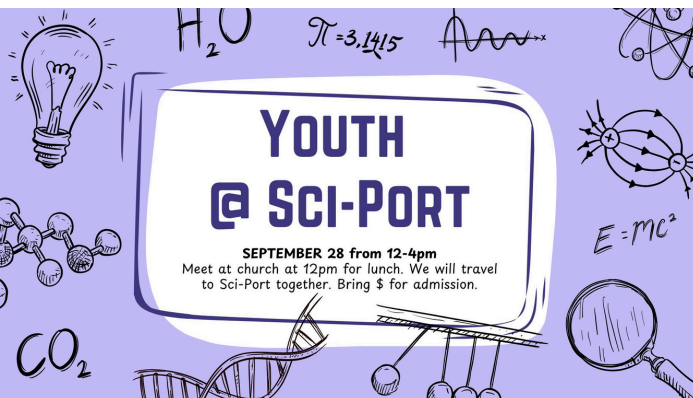


YOUTH MEAL TRAIN

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!

SEPTEMBER YOUTH NIGHTS



STAY UP TO DATE WITH FUMC BOSSIER YOUTH TEXTS

Text @2020fumcy to 81010 - students

Text @2020fumcp to 81010 - parents



www.fumcbossier.org



TRUNK OR TREAT

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

FUMC BOSSIER PRESENTS

TRICK OR TREAT

CANDY, GAMES, SNACKS, TRUNK DECORATING CONTEST, FOOD TRUCKS AND MORE!

SATURDAY OCTOBER 25 12:00-2:00 PM

FREE ADMISSION

AT OUR TRUNK OR TREAT!

201 JOHN WESLEY BLVD. BOSSIER CITY, LA



OCT 25 12-2

FUMC TRUNK OR TREAT

VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

Paper forms available in the office. Register online using the QR code or link on www.fumcbossier.org





CANDY DONATIONS

We are now collecting candy and small prize donations. They can be dropped in bins around the church or at the office. Thank you so much!

QUESTIONS? CALL OR EMAIL ELISA 318-780-5210 or CHILDREN@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG

NOW-10/24



FIRST FRIENDS CHRISTIAN LEARNING CENTER



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT SHANNON KELLEY AT SKELLEY@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG



Our grand adventure began on Tuesday, September 2, 2025! We are thrilled to have our precious kiddos back in the halls! As we kick off this school year, we are wishing for hearts full of joy, minds ready to grow, and God's love lighting up every classroom. Here's to a year full of learning, laughter, and blessings for each child and family!



THE CHURCH MOUSE

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

Happy September,

Welcome Raegan Meshell, FUMC-Bossier Church Administrator!! We are so glad to have you with us. She looks forward to meeting everyone. Office Volunteers could still use some helpers. Contact Sharon Roy at the church.

Summer comes to a close and Church Mouse looks forward to cooler days as I know each of you do the same. "School days, School days" means August for most schools in the area. Gone are the days when most schools started "after Labor Day". Please remember that our First Friends begin on Tuesday after Labor Day. Be cautious of children/parents arriving each morning. Once again this year our church prayed for every Bossier School and added every Caddo School. Keep alert in school zones and say a prayer for that school (children and all the employees) as you drive by.

FUMC-Bossier's 5th Sunday POTLUCK was once again the place to be for delicious food and "tasty crumbs" for me. I wish every month had a 5th Sunday!! Grit & Grace movie night "Second Hand Lions" was another time of fellowship and good eats. Mark your calendar for August 2026 for the next movie night. There's still a place for "U" with Helping Hands and all the other opportunities listed in THIS WEEK and throughout the Sunday bulletin.

Blessings, Church Mouse.



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

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

ANNIVERSARIES		BIRTHDAYS	
Tom & Brenda Bullock	9/2	Charlie Self	9/13
Scott & Renee Spalding	9/5	Jerry Staton	9/14
Jack & Donna Ihle	9/7	Macy Beth DeLaune	9/15
Billy & Lana Bennett	9/17	Elsie Braswell	9/16
Adam and Elisa Hines	9/27	Erica Lindberg	9/18
BIRTHDAYS		Kevin Martin	9/18
Debbie Fowler	9/1	Gwen McKellar	9/19
Marilyn Norton	9/2	Thomas Myers	9/19
Don Pittard	9/2	Keagan Malone	9/21
Adam Johnston	9/4	John Michael Moore	9/22
Marsha Herron	9/5	Jackie Howard	9/23
Lacey Clinton	9/7	Caty Kingfisher	9/24
Gail Morgan	9/8	Steve Jacobs	9/25
Rylie Hadel	9/9	Andrew Moore	9/25
John Groh	9/10	Cheryl Willhite	9/26
Annabelle McBee	9/11	Sonny Hinton	9/29
Milo Ardoin	9/12	Kirk Armitage	9/30
Isaac Clawson	9/12	Catherine Schember	9/30

CHECK OUT OUR CHURCH APP

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

