

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

*Rev. Donnie Wilkinson,
Senior Pastor*



As I write this, the sound of laughter and music is echoing down the hallway. Vacation Bible School is in full swing, and more than 80 children are discovering the love of Jesus and learning what it means to trust Him.

It has been a tremendous week, and I am deeply grateful for the volunteers who have so generously given their time and energy. Through songs and games, snacks and stories, crafts and conversations, they have created a place where our children can encounter the love of God in tangible ways.

Vacation Bible School is one of the many ways First United Methodist Church is renewing the life of our community by helping people of all ages become fully alive in Christ.

But it is not the only way.

Because of your incredible generosity, April and I recently had the privilege of joining several volunteers to serve lunch to one of the squadrons at Barksdale Air Force Base that was personally impacted by the tragic accident at Edwards Air Force Base a few weeks ago.

As we gathered around the tables with these remarkable women and men who serve our country, I shared a simple message: our church wanted them to know they are loved, we are praying for them and their families, and they do not walk through this difficult season alone.

Whether we are welcoming children into the love of Christ through Vacation Bible School or serving a meal to grieving airmen, each is an expression of our calling to renew the life of our community by bearing witness to the love of Jesus Christ.

Thank you for being a church that loves generously, serves faithfully, and gives so that ministries like these are possible. It is a joy to serve alongside you.

As we move into the second half of the year, I am filled with hope for what God has in store. Together, I believe we will continue renewing the life of our community as we help people of all ages become fully alive in Christ. I can't wait to see where God leads us next.


Grace & Peace,
Rev. Donnie Wilkinson


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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW LOVE!


WE HAVE TWO MILITARY FAMILIES WHOSE HUSBANDS ARE CURRENTLY DEPLOYED. IF YOU'RE ABLE, PLEASE CONSIDER SIGNING UP TO BRING A MEAL. WHETHER IT'S HOME-COOKED OR TAKEOUT, OR EVEN A GIFT CARD. EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS LIGHTEN THE LOAD AND REMINDS THESE FAMILIES THEY ARE SUPPORTED AND NOT ALONE.

WEAVER FAMILY





MOER FAMILY



SIGN UP USING THE QR CODE OR CALL THE OFFICE TO COORDINATE 318.742.3823

Let's Go!
on a field trip

Grit and Grace
is going on a field trip!
July 16, 2026

Come on a Field Trip with Grit and Grace! Meet at the church at 10:45am. On to lunch at Roma Italian Bistro on Mansfield Rd. Then to a tour of the Ronald McDonald House at 1:30pm with Lori Moore.

Please contact Kathy Moore at 318-426-1665 if you would like to join us.



YOGA CHURCH



If you long for a quiet, embodied, contemplative space... If you desire to feel more fully alive in God's presence... If you're simply curious... we would love for you to join.

Every Third Sunday at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Please, bring a yoga mat and a water bottle.

Childcare is available.

PAUSED FOR THE SUMMER



HELP US Reach Our Goal!

Grit & Grace
WOMEN'S MISSION TEAM

The Grit & Grace Women's Mission Team is raising funds for our annual Book Mission, providing a new book for every student in the **5th grade classes at Plantation Park Elementary School.**



Would you consider setting aside a little extra to support this ministry? When many people *give what they can*, those gifts come together to make a meaningful difference.



Each donation helps place a book in a child's hands, encouraging a *love of reading*, building confidence, and reminding students that their community cares about them and their future.

HOW TO GIVE:



Drop your donation by the church office.

OR



Place it in the offering plate and mark "Grit & Grace" on your check or offering envelope.

GOAL:
\$1,000

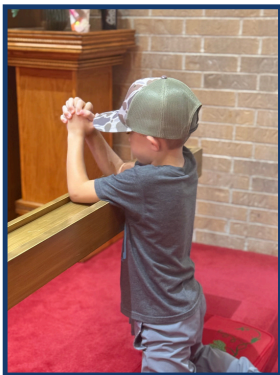
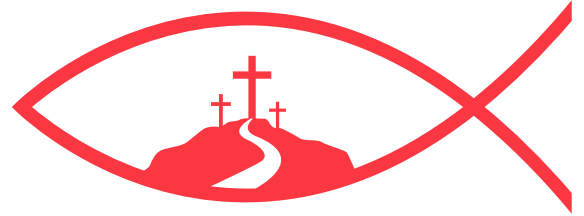




TOGETHER, WE CAN HELP WRITE A NEW CHAPTER for local students—one book at a time.

SMALL GIFTS. BIG IMPACT. LASTING MEMORIES.

FUMC BOSSIER





CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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

Hello First Families!



The Calm Before the Fun!



Our calendar is taking a little breather right now, but don't worry—more adventures are on the way! Keep joining us each week for worship, learning, laughter, and friendship. Stay tuned for upcoming events and opportunities to grow in faith together.

Sunday Morning Schedule



Worship with us at 8:45am

Kids Sunday School 10:00am

Worship with us at 11:00am and Children's Church during service.



Keep an eye on future newsletters for updates!



SUMMER



YOUTH MINISTRY

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

SUMMER IS HERE

June was an incredible month for our youth ministry! From serving on our mission trip in San Antonio, to laughing and learning alongside the children at Vacation Bible School, to preparing and serving lunch for our friends at Hope House, our students have embraced every opportunity to grow in faith and serve others. It has been a joy to watch them build relationships, step outside their comfort zones, and be the hands and feet of Christ. The fun doesn't stop in July! Our high school students will spend a week at Camp Caney for Christian Community Experience, a life-changing week for all of us. We'll also celebrate our annual Christmas in July party and play some slip-and-slide kickball. Summer gives us unique opportunities to build community, create lasting memories, and deepen our faith together, and we are so thankful!



JULY YOUTH EVENTS



STAY UP TO DATE WITH FUMC BOSSIER YOUTH TEXTS

Text @2020fumcy to 81010 - students

Text @2020fumcp to 81010 - parents

FUMC YOUTH MINISTRY



SARAH MCCURLEY
YOUTH DIRECTOR
 318-742-3823 Ext 128
smccurley@fumcbossier.org
www.fumcbossier.org/youth2



THE CHURCH MOUSE

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

“Hello July! Happy 250th Birthday, America!

July 4th, 1776 the 13 original colonies of the United States declared independence from Great Britain and the rest is history. How many of the original colonies can you name? As July arrives the second half of the year commences on July 2 (exact middle of the year). It was named for Julius Caesar, being the month of his birth. At one time it was called Quintilis, being the fifth month of the calendar that started with March.

It’s been a busy exciting time at FUMC–Bossier. The Midyett Class returned to their beautiful classroom, VBS was packed with fun, worship and wonderful volunteers, the garden helpers continued to provide fresh vegetables for Helping Hand and Souper Saturday kitchen helpers and drivers spread love with their sharing.

Summer vacations are happening and we do miss you when you are not at church. Here’s hoping that July holds something beautiful for you! See you in August when it will be “Back to School”.

God Bless America,
Church Church Mouse



SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES

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



YOUNG-AT-HEART

2ND THURSDAYS EACH MONTH- 10:30 AM-FELLOWSHIP HALL
July 9- 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.



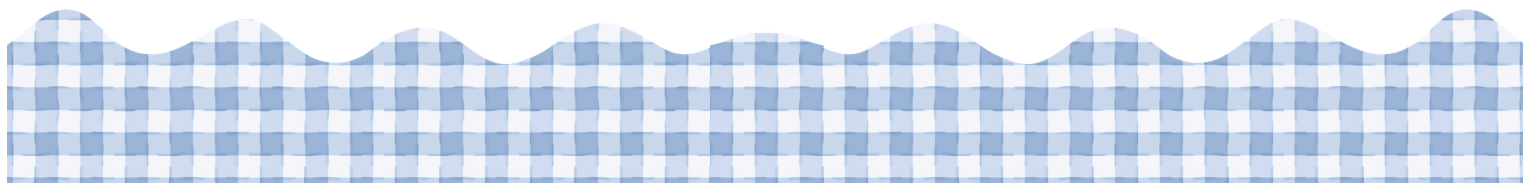


Church Life & Heritage: A July Reflection

Keeping with the spirit of the season, here are a few meaningful reflections inspired by church life and our shared history.

- As we celebrate our nation's anniversary this July 🇺🇸 ✨, we also celebrate a special milestone in our church's story. On July 9, 1973, the congregation began moving into the new church building, and just a few days later, on July 15, 1973, the first worship service was held in that space. Since then, generations of faith, fellowship, and ministry have filled these walls, making July a time to remember where we've come from and how God continues to lead us forward.
- One of the most striking features of our sanctuary is the 30-foot tall vertical faceted Dalle-de-Verre windows framing the altar ✨ More than beautiful architecture, they are deeply symbolic of the resurrection. Their progression of colors from dark to light visually tells the story of Christ bringing life from darkness and hope from despair. Each time sunlight pours through, they quietly remind us of renewal, resurrection, and God's presence breaking into everyday life.
- Our story reaches even further back. The official "Church Register of Members" begins in 1910 📖 ✨ with the first three recorded members: Mrs. Hattye Brown, Mrs. C. G. House, and Mrs. T. J. Fullilove. Their names mark the beginning of a documented faith community whose legacy has grown across generations, shaping the life and ministry of the church we know today.

These moments remind us that church life is made up of both sacred milestones and everyday faithfulness. At FUMC Bossier, faith, fellowship, and devotion have shaped our story—and we look forward to how each of us will continue to add to it in the days ahead.



Red, White and Blue Summer Salad

Ingredients

- 2/3 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1/2 cup julienned fresh basil
- 1/3 cup white balsamic vinegar
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 2 cups cherry tomatoes
- 8 cups fresh arugula
- 1 carton (8 ounces) fresh mozzarella cheese pearls, drained
- 1c strawberries sliced
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 6 ounces thinly sliced prosciutto, sliced



Directions

- In a bowl, whisk first 9 ingredients. Add tomatoes; let mixture stand while preparing salad.
- In another large bowl, combine arugula, mozzarella, peaches, blueberries and prosciutto. Pour tomato mixture over top; toss to coat. Garnish with additional mint leaves. Serve immediately.

Each month, we highlight a podcast, book, song, or other resource to encourage reflection, growth, and connection in your faith journey. Whether it's music that uplifts, a book that inspires, or a podcast that sparks conversation, our monthly pick is chosen to nourish your spirit and spark meaningful moments in your life. July's pick is from Elisa Hines.

One song I keep coming back to is "Firm Foundation (He Won't)" by Cody Carnes / Maverick City Music. This song is a steady reminder that everything around us may shift, but God does not. It draws from the image of building our lives on the rock of Jesus—something that holds firm when everything else feels uncertain. This song is an oldie but a goodie, with a message that speaks especially when you feel low, unsure, or struggling.

What stands out to me is how honest it is. It doesn't deny storms or struggle, but instead anchors us in the truth that Jesus is trustworthy in the middle of them. That connects so naturally with John's invitation to abide in Christ and find life that doesn't collapse under pressure.

If you listen this month, let it be a reminder of what is actually secure when life feels unsteady.



youtube Link



Happy Birthday USA!

"Happy"...is that what we wish for, pray for, hope for? "Happy" is a good word, but "happy" is hard to sustain for long periods. We could substitute other appropriate words such as joyful, blessed, unified- your choice. The fact that our country has been established for 250 years having survived wars, depression, political and civil conflicts, devastating natural disasters and much more... It has survived 250 years, the longest successful free country in recorded history. Thank you God! The initial planners decreed that it should be governed by God-fearing believers who believed in establishing a country with provision for justice, mercy, and all the ideals of a country acceptable to God. There are many who have died in defense of their country and its beliefs. Jesus died on the cross to set you and me free from sin. As a Christian American it is my/our privilege and duty to live a life worthy of such sacrifice.

Challenging? Yes! God gives us vigilance to seek guidance, to achieve lives worthy of these sacrifices.

250 years! We celebrate! We give thanks for this country, wars and all. We remember with deep gratitude all those who have served and those who continue - those who have been elected by freedom of choice, citizens who lead and protect us, to enforce the successful running of this great country. May God's grace and mercy be a continuing factor for many years yet to come.

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 office@fumcbossier.org

Photos, information, recipes, etc. can also be sent to the office as well.

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!



MISSIONS THAT MATTER

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

MAGNOLIA MANOR MISSIONS

We will serve communion on the First Monday of the month, July 6.



THE GRIT & GRACE MISSION TEAM

July 21- 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. Everyone Welcome! We are currently collecting donations for our Plantation Park Book Mission.

MILITARY FAMILIES MINISTRY

Our mission is to serve those who serve, reflecting Christ's love through community, care, and connection.



SOUPER SATURDAY

July 25- 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.

HELPING HANDS FOOD PANTRY

Open Monday-Thursday 9:00-11:30 AM

Helping Hands Food Pantry -Through generosity, compassion, and service, Helping Hands helps to ensure that no one in our community goes hungry. We currently need peanut butter, jelly, ramen noodles and green beans.

If interested in volunteering contact [Kiersten Whelpley](#).



UMM MEN'S BREAKFAST

Wednesdays- 7:00 AM

We are paused for the summer and will return in August. Our United Methodist Men's Breakfast meets weekly for food, fellowship, and faith. It's a time for men to gather, build friendships, and grow together in Christ in a relaxed, welcoming setting.



RUSHEON DONUT DROP

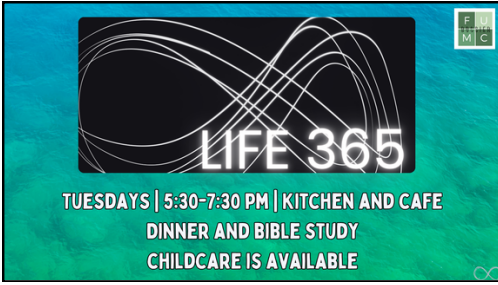
Tuesdays- 7:20 AM - Following the Bossier School Calendar

Out for the Summer! We will return when school starts.



GET CONNECTED TO A SMALL **COMMUNITY**

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



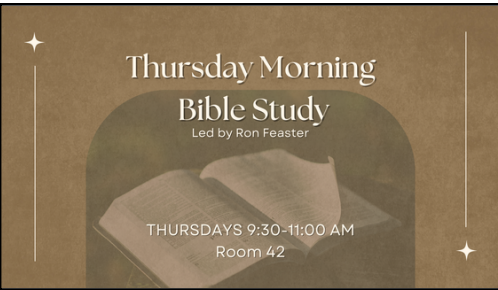
LIFE 365

Tuesday Nights - 5:30-7:30 PM - Kitchen and Cafe

Life 365 is a Christ-centered community where people of all ages grow in faith, support one another, and live out God's love every day of the year.

THE GOOD AND BEAUTIFUL BIBLE STUDY

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



THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

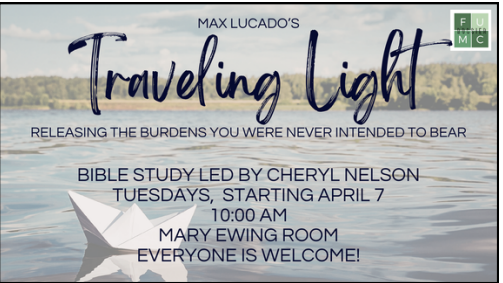
Thursdays at 9:30 AM- Mary Ewing Room
Study is led by Ron Feaster.

Paused for July.

TRAVELING LIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays at 10:00 AM - Mary Ewing Room
Bible Study led by Cheryl Nelson
Everyone is welcome!

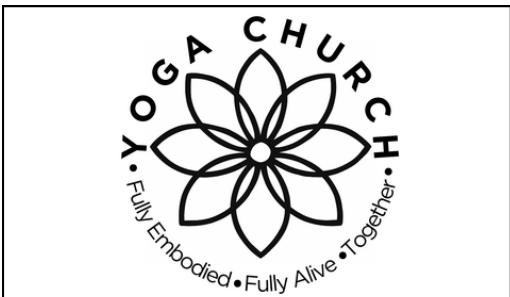
Paused for the Summer



BROTHERHOOD-MEN'S GROUP

First and Third Thursdays 6:00-7:00 PM Room 43

Brotherhood is a gathering of men committed to growing in Christ together. We're not trying to build perfect men. We're trying to build faithful ones...the kind who walk with Jesus in the real world.



YOGA CHURCH

Third Sunday- 4:00-5:30 PM - Fellowship Hall

Yoga Church is paused for the summer. We will return in the fall.

Yoga Church is a worship service that blends breath, movement, Scripture, and Holy Communion, helping us prepare body, mind, and spirit to encounter Christ in the Gospel and the bread and cup.

If you long for a quiet, embodied, contemplative space... or simply want to experience God's presence in a new way, you're warmly invited.



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

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

ANNIVERSARIES

Ron & Kiersten Whelply	7/3
David & Linda Tyrone	7/7
Mark & Pam Johnston	7/8
Mike and Carolyn Santure	7-9
Paige & Kathy Redfield	7/10
David & Melissa Solomon	7/17
Matt & Becky Halbrook	7/22
John Michael & Beth Moore	7/22
Preston & Carey Delaune	7/29
Jackie & Cheryl Nelson	7/31

BIRTHDAYS

Brooks Estes	7/11
Judy Mayhugh	7/11
Mary Parker	7/11
Jack Ihle	7/13
Butch Harrington	7/15
Tesha Biddle	7/16
Kathy Jacobs	7/19
Pam Johnston	7/20
Becky House	7/21
Eric Tuxen	7/21
Ronald Feaster	7/22
Lynn Florence	7/22
Beth Tu'uta	7/22
April Wilkinson	7/23
Robert Covington	7/24
Belton Sonier	7/26
Laynee Inman	7/28
James Duffala	7/29
Jane Cooper	7/29
Kathy Covington	7/29
Sandy Craft	7/31

BIRTHDAYS

Sam Merritt	7/2
Bill Lindberg	7/2
Pat Berry	7/4
Kathy Redfield	7/6
Virginia Hackman	7/8
Lanelle Groh	7/9
Quinn Lindberg	7/9
Mary Lou Hughes	7/10
Sherrie Yorba	7/10
Myra Sobral	7/10

CHECK OUT OUR CHURCH APP

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



MIDYETT UPDATE

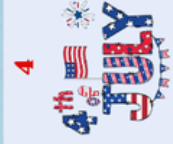
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT OUR STAFF AT OFFICE@FUMCBOSSIER.ORG

Come and See! The Midyett room has been restored and it is better than ever. A year ago a fatal flaw was found in the rafters supporting the roof and the room was declared unsafe. The class that met there on Sundays moved to the Youth wing and the search for a contractor began. Finally, in early February, Jackson Construction contracted the job which came in on time and within the budget! Deanie Galloway was instrumental in finding the contractor and making plans for the renovation. The Leadership Team and her Sunday School class offer a heartfelt Thank You to Deanie for her diligence and expertise in handling the project.

The room was named for Rev. Jack Midyett, a beloved pastor in the 1960s. On Sunday, June 7, Rev. Donnie Wilkinson blessed and rededicated the room to the glory of God and to be of service to the entire church. The Midyett Sunday School class is thrilled to be back in its home base, thanking Sarah McCurley and the youth for their gracious hospitality, and extending a welcome to anyone looking for a class to join - just Come and See!

JULY

2026



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

5

Traditional Community
Worship 8:45a
Sunday School 10a
Contemporary Community
Worship 11a
Youth Group 5p

6

Office Closed for the
Holiday
Magnolia Manor
Communion 10:30a
Ukulele Gumbo 3:30p

7

Life 365 5:30p
Yoga with Nikki Clawson
5:30p

8

Busy Bee Quilters and
Crafters 9a
Choir Rehearsal 6p
The Good and Beautiful Bible
Study 6p

9

Yoga with Nikki Clawson
9:30a
Young at Heart 10:30a
Praise Team Rehearsal 5p

10

Silver Foxes Fitness 10a

11

12

Traditional Community
Worship 8:45a
Sunday School 10a
Contemporary Community
Worship 11a
Youth Group 5p

13

Silver Foxes Fitness 10a
Prayer Ministry 11a
Ukulele Gumbo Rehearsal
3:30p

14

Life 365 5:30p
Yoga with Nikki Clawson
5:30p

15

Busy Bee Quilters and
Crafters 9a
Choir Rehearsal 6p
The Good and Beautiful Bible
Study 6p

16

Yoga with Nikki Clawson
9:30a
Field Trip with Grit and Grace
10:30a
Praise Team Rehearsal 5p
Brotherhood 6p

17

Silver Foxes Fitness 10a

18

19

Traditional Community
Worship 8:45a
Sunday School 10a
Contemporary Community
Worship 11a
Youth Group 5p

20

Silver Foxes Fitness 10a
Prayer Ministry 11a
Ukulele Gumbo Rehearsal
3:30p

21

Life 365 5:30p
Yoga with Nikki Clawson
5:30p

22

Busy Bee Quilters and
Crafters 9a
Choir Rehearsal 6p
The Good and Beautiful Bible
Study 6p

23

Yoga with Nikki Clawson
9:30a
Praise Team Rehearsal 5p

24

Silver Foxes Fitness 10a

25

Souper Saturday 8a

26

Traditional Community
Worship 8:45a
Sunday School 10a
Contemporary Community
Worship 11a
Youth Group 5p

27

Silver Foxes Fitness 10a
Prayer Ministry 11a
Ukulele Gumbo Rehearsal
3:30p

28

Grit and Grace 5p
Life 365 5:30p
Yoga with Nikki Clawson
5:30p

29

Busy Bee Quilters and
Crafters 9a
Choir Rehearsal 6p
The Good and Beautiful Bible
Study 6p

30

Yoga with Nikki Clawson
9:30a
Praise Team Rehearsal 5p

31

Silver Foxes Fitness 10a

MAKING DISCIPLES FOR THE
TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD

FUMC Bossier
201 John Wesley Blvd
Bossier City, LA 71111



VERY BEST SUMMER!

