

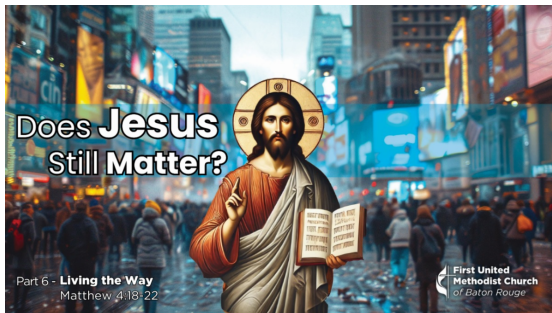


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This Sunday



Sermon Title: Does Jesus Still Matter?
(Part 6) | Living the Way

Scripture Reading: Matthew 4:18-22

Theme: What does it really mean to follow Jesus? The first disciples didn't just believe in him—they immersed themselves in his way of life, and it changed their lives and the world around them. This sermon will explore what saying "yes" to Jesus looks like today and how his grace can bring renewal, purpose, and transformation. If you're feeling stuck or are searching for more, or if you're seeking hope and direction for a world that feels broken, join us to learn how living the way of Jesus is the answer.

Our Stories



Our youth are on a mission! On MLK weekend, they put their faith into action in Baton Rouge—serving, loving, and making a difference in the community. From hands-on projects to heartfelt connections, MissionBR is all about being the hands and feet of Jesus. Want to see the impact? **Watch the video and be inspired!**

Watch the Video

Love Others



Love Your Neighbor Van Snacks

The *Love Your Neighbor* van needs your help feeding the hungry! Bring individual fruit cups like peaches and pears and individual beef jerky (Slim Jims) and place them in the box near the welcome center.



Habitat Workday

Love your neighbor by joining in the First United Methodist Habitat Work Day on **Saturday, February 15, 2025**, from 8:00 AM to 2:30 PM at 2909 Dayton St. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old and are asked to arrive by 7:45 AM for a safety meeting. All tools and necessary safety equipment will be provided, and lunch will be served to all participants. To register, or if you have any questions, please email Tonni McCollister at tonnimccollister@gmail.com. (Volunteers are also needed on Wednesday, February 19, and Wednesday, March 12.)

Braver Angels

Fed up with today's politics? Join us for the



next Braver Angels meeting at First United Methodist Church on Sunday, **February 16, from 2:30 – 4:00 PM.** In the wake of the recent election, the divide between working-class Americans and the college-educated “elite” has become more evident. Braver Angels is addressing this challenge by forming a “We the People” caucus to give voice to workers. During our meeting, we will watch key portions of Braver Angels’ latest video series on this issue and hear insights from Matt Wood of the AFL-CIO. For more information about Braver Angels, visit www.braverangels.org.



[Get Tickets](#)

Concerts with a Cause: VOCES8

This Sunday (2/16) is the last day to purchase tickets. Purchase now so you don't miss your chance to hear this renowned group! First United Methodist's "Concerts with a Cause" will feature VOCES8 on Tuesday, February 18 at 7:30 p.m. benefiting Volunteers in Public Schools (V.I.P.S.). VOCES8 is among the most celebrated choral ensembles internationally. The 2023 Grammy-nominated British vocal ensemble is proud to inspire people through music and share the joy of singing. Touring extensively, versatility and a celebration of diverse musical expression is central to the ensemble's performance ethos. VOCES8 is the world's top streaming classical vocal group. This concert is graciously underwritten to enable 100% of ticket sales to benefit V.I.P.S. Purchase tickets (\$30) by visiting fumcbr.org/concert or clicking the button. **Tickets are available by presale only and will not be available at the door.**

Love God and Self

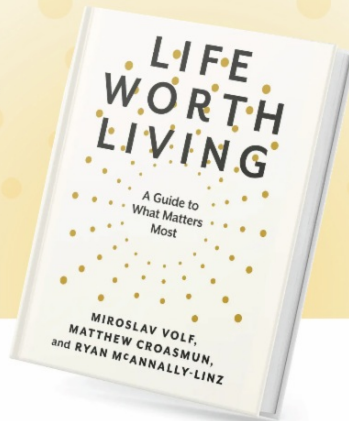
Book Study



Join Rev. Dr. JC Richardson and Rev. Brady Whitton for a unique group experience

What makes a life truly worth living?

“Life Worth Living” is a profound exploration into the depths of human existence, challenging readers to confront the ultimate question: what makes a life truly worth living? Weaving



together insights from philosophy, theology, and personal narratives, Volf invites us on a transformative journey to discover the meaning, purpose, and joy that can be found in every moment.

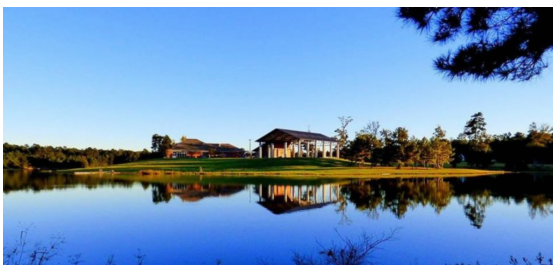
When: Every other Tuesday from 11:30 AM to 1 PM for 10 weeks starting March 11 (bring your lunch)

Where: Wesley United Methodist & First United Methodist of Baton Rouge

Who: 9 participants from each church (18 total)

Cost: Participants will need to buy “Life Worth Living” by Miroslav Volf (\$17) and the “Workbook for Life Worth Living” by Eagle Reads (\$12)

To register or for more information contact
Rev. Dr. JC Richardson at pastor@wesleybr.org
or Rev. Brady Whitton at bwhitton@firstmethodist.org



Men and Women's Retreats

Mark your calendars to attend FUMC's annual Men's Retreat (**March 21-23**) and Women's Retreat (**March 28-30**). Each retreat will be held in the serenity and beauty of the Wesley Center in Woodworth, LA – a two-hour drive from Baton Rouge. These all-inclusive weekends will include single lodging accommodations, delicious meals, and all program materials. Cost is \$325.00 per person. Questions? Contact Pattye Hewitt at phewitt@firstmethodist.org.

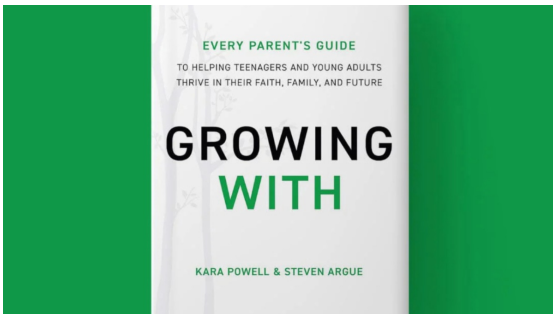
Register for Men's Retreat

Register for Women's Retreat



Men's Walk to Emmaus

February 20-23 ~ Broadmoor UMC, Baton Rouge, LA. Walk to Emmaus (separate Women's Walk and Men's Walk) is a three-day experience designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christian people, and through them their families, congregations, and the world in which they live. Emmaus is a combined effort of laity and clergy toward the renewal of the church. Reverend Whitton will serve as Spiritual Director for this upcoming retreat. Interested in applying or want to know more? Contact Pattye Hewitt at phewitt@firstmethodist.org or by calling 225-383-4777, ext. 255.



Growing With

If you are a parent of a graduate and/or high school senior, this 8-week offering is for you! Gain useful tools to help guide you through the relationship changes that come with transitions in this season of life. Led by Shannon Hyde, this class starts **March 9 from 5:00-6:30 PM** and will continue for 9 weeks.

Sign Up

Learn More

Children and Youth



Color Wars

4th and 5th graders are invited to the Color Wars at Perkins Road Community Park on Friday, **March 14 from 6:30-8:00pm**. They should wear white and expect a mess (and a whole lot of fun)! Cost is \$30/child and includes supplies, a t-shirt, and a light dinner. Share this invitation with friends!

Sign Up

Summer Camp Sign-Ups

Registration opens March 1 for FUMC summer camps and mission opportunities. Go to firstmethodistyouth.org to register for the Sr. High Mission Trip (May 24-June 1) for 8th-12th graders and the Jr. High Mystery Mission Trip (July 22-26) for 6th-8th graders and to firstmethodistchildren.org to register for Vacation Bible School (June 23-27) for rising pre-k-4 to 6th graders and Mission Day Camp (July 7-10) for rising 4th-6th graders.

Lent at FUMC



Prayer Retreat

The Season of Lent is a wonderful time to deepen your life with God. You are invited to attend a half-day retreat on Saturday, **March 8 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at FUMC. Rev. Dr. Jack O'Dell, retired United Methodist Elder of the Louisiana Annual Conference, will facilitate and cover facets of an enlivened prayer life.

[Register](#)



Lent Devotional

Experience a transformative Lenten journey with The Sanctuary for Lent 2025 devotional. Each day includes a suggested Scripture, a short devotion, and a prayer or practice. Based on the Revised Common Lectionary, this annual favorite will guide you from Ash Wednesday to the glory of Easter Sunday. Devotionals are available on the Resource Tables and at the entrances to the sanctuary. Those who would like a printed copy mailed to their home or a downloadable version can email Pattye Hewitt below.

[Get the Devotional](#)

Ways to Give

TEXT "DONATE" to 225-425-3862 and follow instructions

[Give Online](#)

MAIL a check to FUMC, 930 North Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802

If you would no longer like to receive the E-news from FUMC, please email [Katie Omafuaire](mailto:Katie.Omafuaire), or call 383-4777 and we will remove you from this list.



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