



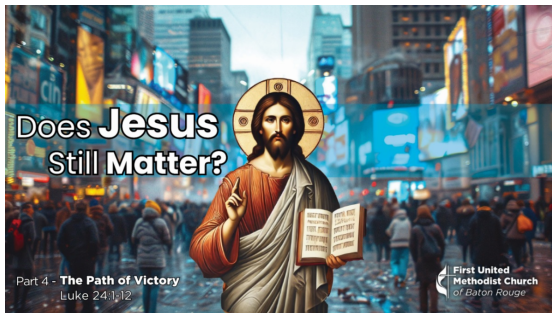
# FUMC E-News

Give Now

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Online Worship

## This Sunday



**Sermon Title:** Does Jesus Still Matter?  
(Part 4) | The Path of Victory

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 24:1-12

**Theme:** Do you ever find yourself overwhelmed by the pain and injustice in your life and the world? Would you like to have a clear, hope-filled path forward? This sermon explores the story of Jesus' resurrection—not just as a future promise but as a defiant declaration that suffering and death don't get the last word. Even in the hardest moments, Jesus' resurrection shows us God's goodness and power are at work, offering hope, courage, and direction for today.

*Join us for the rest of this sermon series:*

**February 9:** Dreams Really Do Come True, *Revelation 21:1-5*

**February 16:** Living the Way, *Matthew 4:18-22*

MID CITY  
CHURCH

### Mid City Church

All are welcome to worship at our Mid City Church campus this Sunday!

- Fellowship with king cake at 3:30 PM
- Worship at 4 PM
- 250 S. Foster Drive



## Discover First

A great place to learn more about First United Methodist Church is at the monthly “Discover First” gathering in the Ory Parish Hall. The next gatherings, led by Shan Schatzle, Discover First Coordinator, are **this Sunday at 9:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.** Registration is not required. For more information, email Shan at [shan@firstmethodist.org](mailto:shan@firstmethodist.org).

## Love Others



### 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](mailto:tonnimccollister@gmail.com). (Volunteers are also needed on Wednesday, February 19, and Wednesday, March 12.)



### COPE

Imagine being part of a church group with people you’ve known for over a decade, only to learn for the first time that your friend once experienced homelessness—a part of her life she had never shared with anyone.

Now, picture her being fully embraced by the community, finding renewed connection to the church, and rising to become a leader who inspires unity and drives meaningful change. This is the kind of transformation COPE fosters—a safe and supportive space where people can open up, build authentic connections, and develop the skills to navigate both everyday stress and deeper, more traumatic challenges.

What is COPE? Communities Organizing for Power through Empathy (COPE) is a series of interactive, small-group workshops designed to reconnect people with each other and their community. Through these sessions, participants build essential skills to recognize their responses to stress and trauma, learn practical ways to support others, and work together to identify resources and take meaningful action. We invite you to join us for this transformative three-part workshop series, where we’ll explore and strengthen our collective coping abilities. Sessions will be facilitated by FUMC member Georgia Small, PLPC.

COPE will meet at FUMC for three sessions: **Sunday, February 2;** 2:30-6:30, **Sunday, March 9;** 5-6:30, **Sunday, April 6;** 5-6:30.

This program is free, and food and snacks will be provided. Please contact Jennifer Carwile at [m4sj2020@gmail.com](mailto:m4sj2020@gmail.com) to sign up.



[Get Tickets](#)

## Concerts with a Cause: VOCES8

Purchase your ticket! “Concerts with a Cause” featuring VOCES8 in concert at First United Methodist Church, **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, the group performs repertoire from Renaissance polyphony to contemporary arrangements; 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. Tickets are available by presale only and will not be available at the door.

## Love Self

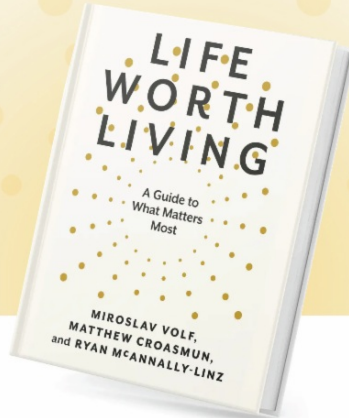
### Book Study



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.

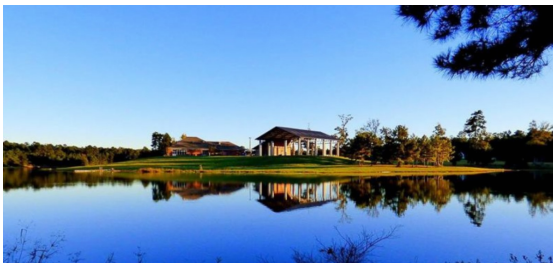
**When:** Every other Tuesday from 11:30 AM to 1 PM for 10 weeks starting March 11 (bring your lunch)

**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](mailto:pastor@wesleybr.org)  
or Rev. Brady Whitton at [bwhitton@firstmethodist.org](mailto: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](mailto:phewitt@firstmethodist.org).

### Men's Walk to Emmaus

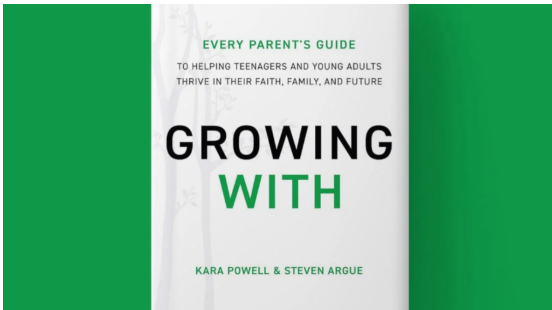


February 20-23, 2025 ~ Broadmoor UMC, Baton Rouge, LA. Walk to Emmaus (separate Women's Walk and Men's Walk) is a three-day experience designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christian people, and through them their families, congregations, and the world in which they live. Emmaus is a combined 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](mailto:phewitt@firstmethodist.org) or by calling 225-383-4777, ext. 255.



### Walking Group

Join our walking group to boost both physical and social well-being! Enjoy heart-healthy exercise and great conversation as we stroll together. Led by Caitlin Rush, the group meets **Sundays at 5:10 PM** in the America Street Lobby, returning by 6:25 PM. Open to men and women of all life stages, rain or shine, with alternate plans for inclement weather. No registration needed—just show up!



### 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.

Sign Up

Learn More

## Children and Youth



### Mardi Gras Ball

Youth in grades 6th-12th are invited saddle up and put their dancin' boots on at the 68th Annual FUMC Youth Mardi Gras Ball on **Saturday, February 8** from 7-9:30pm in the FUMC Joe Dean Gym (3rd Floor)! Dress to this year's theme "The Boot Ball": denim, western boots, cowboy/girl hats, or come in semi-formal attire. Tickets are \$20 online through Feb. 7 and \$25 Feb. 8 and at the door. Ticket includes DJ, prizes, food, and photo booth.

Get Tickets

Youth parents, join us tonight from 5-7:30pm in the 3rd floor gym to help with Mardi Gras Ball decorations and set up, or come Wednesday 2/5 from 3:30-8pm!



## Daddy Daughter Dance

Calling all girls and the special father figures in their life...the FUMC Children's Ministry invites you to the Daddy Daughter Dance on **Thursday, February 6** from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.! Tickets are \$20 per family (1 adult and up to 4 kids ages birth-5th grade). Come for dancing, photos, food, and lots of fun! All are invited to support the Children's Ministry by donating flowers, desserts, door prizes, or helping with the event!

Get Tickets

Volunteer

## 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.



Visit our Website

First United Methodist Church | 930 North Blvd | Baton Rouge, LA 70802 US

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