



This Sunday

Luke 6:27-38 | Boundless Love

Some words from Jesus recorded in the scriptures have a reputation for being "hard words." That is to say, these words are teachings that are counter to our everyday living. One such scripture is the subject for this Sunday's sermon. These words are also recorded in Matthew 5:38-48. We quite often recite "love your neighbor" as a teaching from Jesus. But, in Luke 6 and Matthew 5 Jesus tells us to "love our enemies." He then goes on to give several examples of what that "love" might look like in action. It is easy to say, "I want to follow Jesus," or "I want to be like Jesus." Jesus not only spoke words of boundless love, he put his words into action with his whole life. This Christianity is meant to change the world. Can I let it change me?



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 Now](#)



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.



VOCES8 Concert Recap

Concerts With a Cause featuring VOCES8 was a resounding success! Thanks to the kindness of our patrons, ticket sales raised \$15,000 to directly benefit Volunteers In Public Schools (V.I.P.S.) in its vital mission of enriching the educational experience of students in the community. **THANK YOU** for making a tangible difference in the lives of our city's children! V.I.P.S. could use your help volunteering. Visit vipsbr.org to

learn about opportunities to serve.



Mardi Gras Ball Recap

The 68th Youth Mardi Gras Ball was held Feb. 8. Over 250 youth took part and more than 50 adults were engaged in supporting the "Boots and Beads Ball!" Joseph Sanford (*Susan and Chris Bolton*) was crowned King, Julianne Schwab (*George and Nila Schwab*) the queen. FUMC Youth elected court from their Sunday school classes. Dukes and duchesses were: *Jane Elsie Crawford, Barrett Henry, Mary Harper Hart, Ethan Daigle, Camille Mozingo, Drew DeVille, Avalyn Gardner, Emile Pucheu, Charlotte Sanders, Deacon Mozingo, Grant Toups, and Gracie Coates*. Special thanks to Sarah Deyo, Caroline and Kyle Flettrich, Mary Glenn Gammon, Kim Gilly, Stacy Levy, Mary Mozingo, and India Rives for coordinating the massive effort to make one special night for the Youth of FUMC and Baton Rouge!



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 by clicking the button.

Get a Copy



MLK Unity Celebration

February 27 | 6-8 PM

MLK Unity Celebration at LSU — Rev. Whitton will be the Keynote Speaker at this event hosted in collaboration with LSU, Southern University, and Baton Rouge Community College on Thursday, February 27, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Huey P. Long Field House on LSU's campus. This gathering is an opportunity for our community to come together in the spirit of justice, love, and service, embodying the values of Dr. King. For more information, contact the Clarence L. Barney Jr. African American Cultural Center at 225-578-1627 or aacc@lsu.edu.

RSVP

Kids/Youth Summer Camp Sign Ups

Registration Opens March 1

Registration opens March 1 for FUMC summer camps and mission



opportunities. Go to www.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 the www.firstmethodistchildren.org to register for Vacation Bible School (June 23-27) for rising prek-4 to 6th graders and Mission Day Camp (July 7-10) for rising 4th-6th graders.



Looking Like Christ, Living Like Christ

Begins March 1 | 9:45 AM

How do we persevere in the face of suffering? For first-century Christians who were persecuted by their neighbors, staying focused on their "living hope" was hard to do. The apostle Peter wanted to remind these hard-pressed Christians of their rich identity in Christ and encourage them to respond to their sufferings as Christ did. Open to all ages and stages of faith, the Journey Sunday School class invites you to a study of 1 Peter beginning March 1st in the McKenzie Library. No registration required.

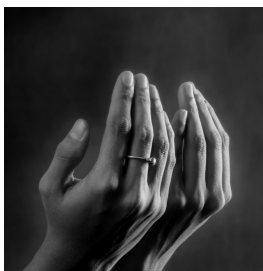


Ash Wednesday

March 5

- **7:00-8:00 AM** drive-thru imposition of ashes on America Street.
- **12:10 and 6:30 PM** sanctuary services with imposition of ashes.
- **6:30 PM** Mid City Church service (at Counterspace on Government St.)

Ash Wednesday marks the start of the Lenten season of reflection and repentance. On this day we mark the sign of the cross on ourselves to be grounded in our mortality as we seek a more faithful life. "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Lent is an opportunity to go deeply into our hearts and the souls of our communities, and to recognize the depth of our estrangement from God.



Prayer Retreat

March 8 | 8 AM - Noon

The Season of Lent is a wonderful time to deepen your life with God. You are invited to attend a halfday retreat 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.

[Sign Up](#)

Growing With

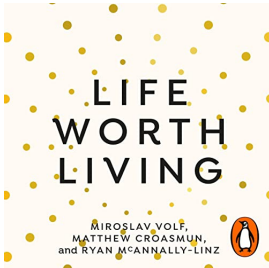
Begins March 9 | 5-6:30 PM

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

[Sign Up](#)



relationship changes that come with transitions in this season of life. Led by Shannon Hyde, this class starts March 9 and will continue for 9 weeks.



Life Worth Living Book Study

Begins March 11 | 11:30 AM - 1 PM

Join Reverend Whitton and Reverend Dr. JC Richardson for a unique group experience: "What makes a life truly worth living?" Nine participants from each congregation, FUMC and Wesley UMC, will meet every other Tuesday for 10-weeks starting March 11. Participants will need to buy "Life Worth Living" by Miroslav Volf and the accompanying workbook by Eagle Reads.

[Sign Up](#)

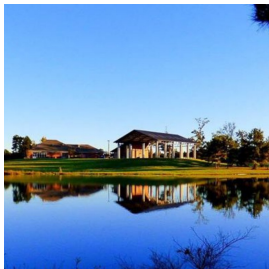


Preteen Color Wars

March 14 | 6:30-8 PM

4th and 5th graders are invited to the Color Wars at Perkins Road Community Park. 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](#)



Men's 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.

[Women's Retreat Sign Up](#)

[Men's Retreat Sign Up](#)



Easter Walk Eggs Needed

April 12

The FUMC Easter Walk is on Saturday, April 12, and the Children's Ministry is collecting 5,000 candy-stuffed and taped eggs. Empty eggs and bags of candy are also accepted. Please bring your donations by April 6. Event sponsorship opportunities are available, and we are accepting monetary donations.

[Donate](#)



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