



## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1000 Main Street Phone#: 318-256-3632  
P.O. Box 1210 Fax#: 318-256-0522  
Many, Louisiana 71449 Family Life Center/Fellowship Hall#: 318-256-0972  
Preschool #: 318-273-2205  
Pastor E-mail: [rev.coplin@gmail.com](mailto:rev.coplin@gmail.com)  
Office E-mail: [Administrator@fumc-many.com](mailto:Administrator@fumc-many.com)  
Website: [fumc-many.com](http://fumc-many.com) "Like" our facebook page  
Sunday Morning Worship Broadcast -10:00a.m. KWLV 107.1

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### SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2021

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Friends,

I pray you are well! I write these words on Monday morning, looking back on a chaotic week for our church, community, state, and nation. Covid continues to disrupt the life of our congregation, many people in our parish are sick and overflowing our hospitals, we are getting first glimpses of damage along our coast in the wake of Hurricane Ida, and we are watching a humanitarian disaster unfold in Afghanistan. If your heart is heavy, or if you are experiencing anger more frequently, I can relate and I hope that you have a few close friends you can call on and who can call on you. We will often take pride in our independence and individuality, yet when we put too high a value on these things, we can neglect human need for community and weaken our collective ability to recover from sustained times of stress and loss.

Being part of a church, by both contributing and receiving, is to participate in such a community. I see in our church a group of folks fully committed to one another. Though there are differences and disagreements to be found in any such group, I see time and again that when push comes to shove, our people are there for one another. I am thinking of a few times just last week when I have seen our people pull together to demonstrate love and support for others. If you have contributed to the life of our church in the past couple of weeks, thank you. If you are reading these words and sense the absence of such a community in your life, I can say firsthand that I have found this church to be warm and inviting. I trust that you will too.

Like so many things these days, what it means to be in community seems to be changing. Time will tell if these changes are for better or for worse. But this word, *community*, is now used to simply mean a collection of people with a common interest. On Facebook, for example, you can be part of astronomy, recipe, or weather-watching groups. As a matter of fact, if you have interest in "things discovered in walls," and you want a community of others with such an interest, then this is your time! Because as our age discovers new ways of connecting people, it becomes easier than ever to surround ourselves with like-minded individuals. But if one common interest is all that is needed to be in such a relationship, then what happens when people eventually find themselves on opposite sides of another issue? This is where I think a vital part of what it means to be in community is being lost in our changing world. I believe community means that we are committed to the wellbeing of others in our group, even if they don't share in our other interests. Likewise, we can trust in them to have interest in our wellbeing, even if we think their enthusiasm for things found in walls is goofy. In short, genuine community comes with sacrifice of preference.

While community is essential to the life of a church, we are yet something more. One of my heroes of the faith, Eugene Peterson, both haunts and inspires me with his definition of local church. He says, "It had taken me a long time, with considerable help from wise Christians, both dead and alive, to come to this understanding of church: a colony of heaven in the country of death, a strategy of the Holy Spirit for giving witness to the already-inaugurated kingdom of God." Though the recent-seminarian in me gets almost giddy at the thought of unpacking all of this, I'll spare you (for now). I do want to drill down a bit on two points.

First, we are a colony. Imagine what the first colony on Mars will be like, so far from home. Imagine how much one would sacrifice, so that the group as a whole can thrive. Imagine how in turn the others must unite to sustain the one. Thankfully, we do not live in the desolation and death of Mars, yet there is much here on Earth that threatens, as this last week proves. We need one another if we are to remain as light in the darkness (Ephesians 5:8) and if we are to thrive. Secondly, we bear witness to the already-inaugurated kingdom of God! We are hearing in the Epistle of James this month how faith cannot simply live in the mind, how faith comes to live in the world through our actions. In infinite wisdom, God has ordained the actions of Christian community as the means by which the world can know the love of its Creator and Redeemer. Likewise, it is through our loving support of one another that we might know God is with us, in the trials of this week and in all of the weeks to come.

God bless you and keep you,  
Brian



## **MEMORIALS:**

### **Memorial:**

In memory Virginia Fremaux given by Mike & Vicki Simpson, Chuck & Linda Boudreaux, Allyson Taylor,

### **Worship:**

In memory Virginia Fremaux given by Ted & Carolyn Dove



**UMW Meeting**  
**Thursday September 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**9:30 a.m.**

### **Committee Meetings for September 2021** **Trustees:**

Monday, September 13 - 5:30 p.m.

### **SPPR:**

Tuesday, September 14 - 5:30 p.m.

### **Administrative Council:**

Monday, September 27 - 5:30 p.m.

### **September Nursery Workers**

Sept. 5 - Mary Ellen Freeman

Sept. 12 - Carolyn Dove

Sept. 19 - Vicki Isgitt

Sept. 26 - Elizabeth Pickett



*...and our story is still unfolding*

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO  
JOIN US AS WE GIVE PRAISE TO GOD FOR

## **THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MANY**

1000 MAIN STREET • MANY, LOUISIANA 71449

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2021**

WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY AT  
**10 O' CLOCK IN THE MORNING**

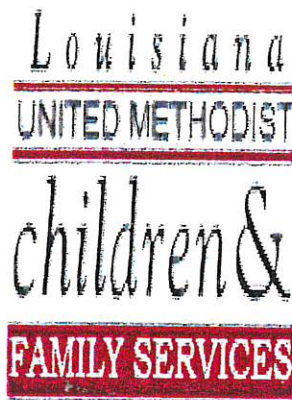
FOLLOWED BY A  
**CELEBRATION LUNCHEON AT 11 O' CLOCK**  
IN THE FUMC FAMILY LIFE CENTER

KINDLY RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 3 TO  
**(318) 256-3632**

OR

**ADMINISTRATOR@FUMC-MANY.COM**





***Beginning in September UMW is asking for donations of school supplies for the Louisiana Methodist Children's Home.***

***If you would like to donate there will be a collection box in narthex.***

- #2 Pencils
- Soft-tip Pens (Various Colors)
- 2-inch Binders
- 3-inch Binders
- Notebooks (**non-wire/non-spiral bound**) single subject or 2-3 subject
- Pocket Folders (non-glossy and various colors)
- Loose-leaf Paper
- Dry Erase Board Markers (Dark or Bold Colors -- Black, Blue, Red, Green)
- Dry Erase Board Cleaner/Erasers
- Pencil Sharpeners (**Electric**) -- (no individual sharpeners with blades!)
- Colored Pencils

Sunshine Kids kicked the new school year off with a celebration of Eric Carle's story of the Hungry Caterpillar. The food table was elaborately decorated with all the foods the hungry caterpillar ate. This year the preschool has 21 students in 2 classes with two teachers working in each class to bring learning to these precious boys and girls. The parent orientation went well and the boys and girls were excited to see their classrooms, friends and teachers. The first week of school was full of hugs and giggles and occasional tears and bumps. This is going to be a really fantastic year at Sunshine Kids!



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P.O. Box 1210, 1000 Main Street  
Many, LA 71449



# September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
<div> <div>Aug 2021</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div> <div>Oct 2021</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1 2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1 2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31									<b>1</b> Choir Practice - 7:00 p.m. Play Practice - 6:00 - 7:00 p. m. Youth & Children - 5:30 p.m.	<b>2</b> *Mike Luster UMW 9:30 am. - Fellowship Hall	<b>3</b> *Carolyn Norris	<b>4</b>
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<b>5</b> **Dean & Amanda Lambert	<b>6</b> Labor Day Holiday Church Office Closed	<b>7</b> 175th Anniversary Meeting - 1:00 p.m. CTP ZOOM Meeting - 5:30 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.	<b>8</b> *Susan Hills Choir Practice - 7:00 p.m. Covenant Groups -5:30 p.m. Play Practice - 6:00 - 7:00 p. m. Youth & Children - 5:30 p.m.	<b>9</b> *Becky Lafitte	<b>10</b> 6:30 PM Women's Fellowship	<b>11</b>																																																																																											
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Trustees 5:30 p.m.	<b>14</b> *Bret Courtney PPR Meeting - 5:30 p.m.	<b>15</b> Choir Practice - 7:00 p.m. Covenant Groups -5:30 p.m. Play Practice - 6:00 - 7:00 p. m. Youth & Children - 5:30 p.m.	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>																																																																																											
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<b>26</b> FUMC 175th Anniversary: Worship -10 a.m. Celebration Luncheon - 11:a.m.	<b>27</b> Administrative Council - 5:30 p.m.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Choir Practice - 7:00 p.m. Covenant Groups -5:30 p.m. Youth & Children - 5:30 p.m.	<b>30</b> *Jerry Lombard																																																																																													

# PRAYER CONCERNS

## September 2021

### Church Members

Donna Ammons  
**I.D. & Betty Bostian**  
Carrie Broussard  
Charles Enterkin  
Ken & Mary Ellen Freeman  
**Family of Virginia Fremaux**  
**John & Betsy Godfrey**  
Richard & Ann Harpel  
John Hoagland  
Grace Kelsey  
Becky Lafitte  
Shirley Lee  
Ashley Lee  
**Patsy McCormick**  
George & Bonnie Fox Miles  
Elizabeth Mitchell  
**John Norris**  
Garland Peterson  
Janice Rike  
Nancy Spiller  
Kevin Troquille

### Family of Church Members

Cassity Barrett (Shirley Lee's great niece)  
Sandra Bishop (Diann Migliore's mom)  
Carolyn Brasell (Carrie Broussard's daughter)  
Scott Brosh (Joe Troha's brother-in-law)  
Cindy Wright Calhoon (Patsy McCormick's sister)  
Beverley Carlson (Chris Nolen's sister)  
Jason Fluitt (Vicki Simpson's son-in-law)  
Seth Freeman  
Tanina Fusilier (John Migliore's sister)  
Judy Boudreaux Jones (Chuck Boudreaux's sister)  
Corporal Aaron McGrew (Virginia & Eugene's grandson)  
Kay McKey (niece of Chris & Susan Hills)  
Verline Olinde (Gail Thomas' foster sister)  
Lloyd Waters (Laurie Gentry's cousin)  
Murlee Wilbanks (Carolyn Gates' mom)  
Robert Troha

### Friends of our Community

Marie Alford  
Cade Anderson  
**Family of Andrew Biggs (Mike & Brenda Hill)**  
Steve Biggs  
**Family of June Booker (Friend of Vicki Simpson)**  
Ace Bowling  
Jiles Bowling  
Cathy Byles  
Dudley Carver  
Ivan Droddy  
**Bonnie Duck**  
Raegan Ensinger  
Darlene Griffin  
**Ron Graves**  
Kathy Humphries  
Sally Landry  
Cassie LaRoux  
Dena Sue Moore  
Louise Moore  
**Family of Philip North**  
Mike Rankin  
Eddie Richard  
Bart Rumsey  
Tara Seals  
Douglas Seegers (Linda Seegers' son)  
Kristin Sepulvado  
Arlene Small  
Reba Tarpley  
Sissy Tatum  
Nancy Tidwell  
Jacquie Williamson (friend of Vicki Simpson)