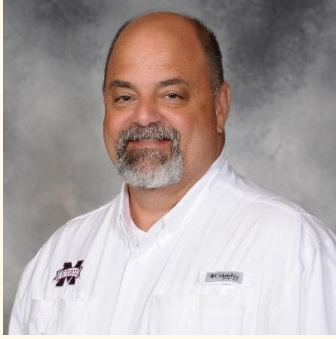


# THE CIRCUIT RIDER



**February 2024**

**This has been one of those months where I have had difficulty trying to write an article for our newsletter. I've stared at this blank screen most of the week. I even began writing about the blank screen and lack of inspiration. Then I read a post about "Church Family".**

**The idea of the solitary Christian is a falsehood. We are called to share our lives with one another.**

**The phrase "one another" appears well over 50 times in the New Testament. Just the phrase "love one another" occurs about 16 times. We are called to honor, build up, accept, admonish, and care for one another. We are called to be patient with, forgive, be kind and compassionate to, and serve one another. We are also called to teach, comfort, encourage, exhort, stir up, and pray for one another. It becomes evident from reading scripture that we are meant to be with one another.**

**On Sunday, January 28, we will have a fellowship meal and movie night with one another. If we are called to be with and be there for one another, then shouldn't we be spending more time together? That seems to make sense to me. I get that life is busy and not all of you will be able to make it to each of our fellowship meals. That's OK, be here when you can. Each month on the last Sunday of the month we will gather for a potluck dinner and some type of program. Some months we may watch a movie together, some months there will be entertainment, some months we may just eat and sing some hymns together. The point is that as a family we need to be in community with one another more than just Sunday mornings.**

**These gatherings are also a great time to invite someone new to come to our church. I will avoid preaching and the gatherings will be very low key. They should be a good place for new folks to get to know some of us and our church without all the pressure that comes with visiting a worship service.**

**I'll see y'all at the meal. I'll be the one eating dessert first while making a plan to conquer all the casseroles.**

**Blessings, Brother Cecil**



## BOOK CLUB

Members of the Book Club met on January 15th. Three new books were selected for reading.

February: Tiffany Girls by Shelley Noble

March: Hello Beautiful by Anne Napolitano

April: Peace Like A River by Leif Enger

## NEW CANDLE LIGHTERS

The Logan grandchildren are pictured entering the sanctuary as the acolytes on Sunday, January 14th. The new lighters were purchased in memory of their grandfather, Ed Logan.



## MINI METHODIST

The Mini Methodist enjoyed an hour of fun and games following church on January 14th. On this beautiful sunny day, they enjoyed a game of hide and seek outside.

## FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS

Greenleaves met on Wednesday, January 24th, during the monsoon! Twenty-two braved the elements to attend. Debbie Brock prepared a wonderful meal serving jambalaya, green beans, and king cake. Penny Jones was the guest speaker. Penny discussed the Franklinton Chamber of Commerce's programs and purposes. The next gathering will be on February 20th.



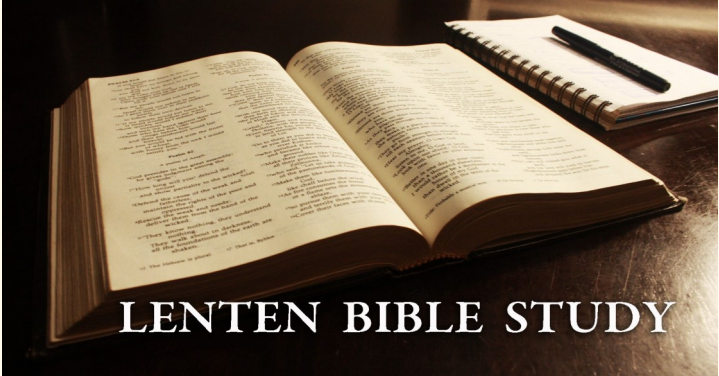


**DRIVE-THRU  
CHICKEN  
DINNER  
FUNDRAISER**

**FEBRUARY 24TH  
11:00 AM—1:00 PM  
FARMER'S MARKET  
CENTENARY MISSION PROJECT  
Benefits the Louisiana Methodist  
Children's Home  
No Pre Ticket Sales**



**FEBRUARY 14th  
6:00 p.m.**



**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY**  
The Easter Experience beginning  
Wednesday, February 21st at 6:00 p.m.

**CENTENARY METHODIST WOMEN**

When our church chose to disaffiliate, we as United Methodist Women decided we needed to discuss what we would do for our group. We researched the National UMW and saw that they changed their name to United Women of Faith, but were still incorporated as United Methodist Women. We gave \$100 per quarter to them each year, which was used for mission work. We also donated to local groups as our local mission work. We decided we could use that \$400 to do more for local needs. We resigned from UMW and renamed ourselves Centenary Methodist Women. We will continue to support the same local groups as well as others that we may learn have needs. We're the same group of ladies dedicated to serving others as much as possible. The name may have changed but the work and love from our group remains the same.

We invite all the ladies in the church to join us the first Tuesday of each month at noon. Bring a sack lunch and our hostess for that day will provide drinks and dessert.



**FRANKLINTON WOMEN'S CLUB LOVE COFFEE**  
**FEBRUARY 28th at CENTENARY METHODIST CHURCH**  
**9:30-11:00 A.M.**



### **MEMORIAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS PROJECT**

Each year our Memorial Christmas Tree Lights Project is a huge success. Our live tree on the front lawn was not used this year due to damage from the summer drought. An artificial tree was substituted. A church member shared a story of a friend that came and parked in front of our church at night to view the tree. This friend was comforted knowing that one of the lights burned in memory of her loved one. Other similar stories have been shared. A permanent artificial tree made specifically for outdoors was recently purchased for future use. The tree was purchased in memory of Russell Simmons with funds donated by his brother, Ronald Simmons.

**METHODIST MEN HOSTING**  
**VALENTINE BREAKFAST FOR THE LADIES**  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11th-8:00-10:00 am**



### **YOUTH NEWS**

During the month of December our youth were pretty busy. Each Sunday of Advent one of the youth would present the Advent reading in a little different way. They did a wonderful job presenting it from the perspective of a Biblical character. Several youth also participated in the morning services as liturgists. It was really great seeing the youth as active participants in the services. They were awesome! The youth were also active in missions in December by participating in the Empty Stocking Program. They shopped for a family of four and had fun wrapping the gifts in preparation for the family to receive them. As Christmas got closer some of the youth helped with the behind the scenes work for the children's Christmas program. They also made some Christmas treat bags and distributed them to the congregation after the children's program concluded.

In January, things have slowed down a bit. However, several youth managed to "escape" from an Escape Room based on the study of the parables in the Bible. It took some longer than others to solve the mysteries and free themselves, but we didn't lose anyone to the room! We are now looking forward to the Aldersgate Youth Retreat which will be held March 15-17, 2024 in Gallman, Mississippi. Registration Packets will be coming out soon. If you have a youth that would or even might be interested in joining us, please let me know and I'll be happy to get you the information you need.

## JANUARY ATTENDANCE REPORT

January 7	SS-44	Worship-69
January 14	SS-52	Worship-87
January 21	SS-39	Worship-82
January 28	SS-38	Worship-78

2/2 Cecil Locke  
2/7 Debbie Brock  
2/11 Julie Foret  
2/11 Rosemary Reedy  
2/11 Graham Thomas



2/15 Frazier Bahm  
2/15 Sarah Bahm  
2/15 Cameron Bell  
2/20 Dick Richardson  
2/27 Brent Duncan



## PIECEMAKERS

Piecemakers met on Tuesday, January 23rd. These ladies were in the fabric room making selections for the next quilt.

## CENTENARY METHODIST MEN

The Centenary Methodist Men's Club met for breakfast on January 7th and enjoyed their customary delicious breakfast prepared by Barry and Jack Bickham.

The program that day was The Ddembe Ministries which is a program started by the Richardson family of Hattiesburg, Mississippi to bring Christianity and help to the Ddembe region of Uganda, Africa. Our speakers that day were Ainsley Richardson, Executive Director, and Rayah Hope Spinks (owner of What's Up Coffee Shop) of Franklinton. After hearing their presentation, the club voted to donate \$250 to support the project.

Our next breakfast will be a Valentine's Breakfast for all the ladies (of all ages) to be served on Sunday, February 11th from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. We look forward to sharing with the ladies of Centenary and Mt. Hermon the delicious breakfasts to which we have become accustomed.

The President also informed the club that \$100 was donated to the Waverley Club of Franklinton to help them defray the costs of the festive lighting display that the club had erected on their lot next to the Waverley Hut.

Centenary Methodist Men's Club is enjoying strong growth and attendance and we would like to invite every man in both churches to attend and learn what we are doing.

## PRAYER LIST

**Judy Alston, Lynn Borgoyne, Edsel Brock, Bob Burris, James Crabtree, Patri Gast, Betty Logan, Ila Martin, Mike Mobley, Leighann Morel, Pam Pierce, Rickey Richardson, Tanda Schilling, Dianne Smith, Dean Thomas.**

## REMEMBER THESE FAMILIES

**Francis Tilghman, Mark Cassidy, Robert Spooner, Pam Cook Forrest, Jerry Millet, Susan Suarez, Charlie Wild, Reggie Simmons, Thomas Hood III.**

## TEDDY BEAR BABIES

**Baby Oliver Blake Ginn-Parents: Faith & Zachary Ginn, Grandmother: Christine Beverly Ginn, Centenary Great-Grandparents: Huey & Mary Beverly.**

## OUR MILITARY FAMILY AND FRIENDS

**Gavin Berne, Carson Fontenot, Megan McCain, Kelly Reiss, Brody Schilling, Dr. Rebekah Schott, Lee McCain, Jackson Stewart, Chad Penny, T. J. Smith, Josh Magee, Andrew Darbonne, Gavin Brumfield.**



## MEN'S BREAKFAST SPEAKERS

**IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT THE CHURCH DURING OFFICE HOURS  
CALL 985-839-3808. OTHERWISE 985-515-0134 OR 985-335-7662.**

**Pastor: Cecil Locke**  
**Secretary: Faith Bahm**  
**Custodian: Lee Dudley**

**Choir Director: Bonnie Pope**  
**Treasurer: Julie Foret**

**CENTENARY METHODIST CHURCH**

**office@centenarymethodist.com**

**1015 Cleveland Street, Franklinton, Louisiana 70438**

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**

**FEBRUARY 14th-6:00 p.m.**

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**Centenary Methodist Church**  
**1015 Cleveland Street**  
**Franklinton, Louisiana 70438**