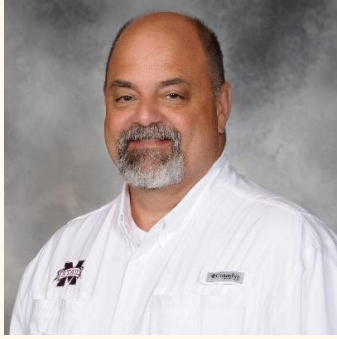


# THE CIRCUIT RIDER



**April 2024**

Something interesting happened to me last night. I was checking my email and noticed an email from a pastor in Texas. Sterling Allen is a GMC pastor in the greater Houston area and he and I have only briefly met in passing. As part of his Lenten discipleship practices during Holy Week, he is praying specifically for some of the pastors in our conference that he knows or who he has met. He included the specific prayer he is praying for me this week. Immediately upon reading the prayer, I felt some weight lift off my shoulders. Holy Week is a busy time for pastors as we pray and discern and plan for events and services. It was nice knowing that someone was specifically praying for me, especially someone I barely know.

This morning, I was wasting a few minutes on FB and caught part of a video as I was scrolling. The gist of the video was that sometimes when we are waiting for some good thing to happen to us, we miss the opportunity to be the good thing for someone else. This Sunday we celebrate the best “Good Thing” to ever happen in the history of the world. Our savior Jesus rose from the grave forever conquering Sin and Death for all of creation. Because God has done such a “Good Thing” for us, we should be willing vessels to be a “Good Thing” for others. Pastor Sterling Allen is being a “Good Thing” for me this week. I pray that God uses me to be that “Good Thing” for someone else. I also pray that you let God use you to be a “Good Thing” for someone who needs a something good to happen in their life.

**Blessings,**

**Bro. Cecil**



## YOUTH NEWS

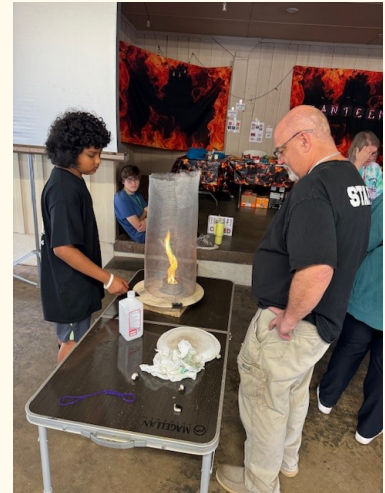
On March 15, 2024, four of our Centenary Methodist youth, Mattie McCormick, Emma Maise, Joseph Williams, and Anderson Williams, left the church on their way to Camp Wesley Pines in Hazelhurst, MS on a new adventure. They were headed to the Aldersgate Youth Retreat. None of them had ever participated in this retreat before and didn't quite know what to expect. Some of the youth were a little nervous and a bit wary of what might lie ahead.

When they reached the camp and were registered and fed, it was time to get to know some of the others who were on this adventure with them. They played ice-breaker games and the nerves in the room began to ease a bit. Next came the worship music. There was singing and dancing and a sense of giving the space over to the presence of the Holy Spirit in preparation for the message that was soon to come.

Each day at the retreat, the youth became closer to new friends they had met, and some formed a closer relationship with God. Those who did not know who God is or how much He loves them heard messages of the loving relationship He desires to have with us. Those messages were relayed through our speaker, the workshops that were presented as well as the camp staff and other campers. Those who already had a relationship with God heard messages of how to draw closer to God and fan the flames of their faith.

On Sunday morning, March 17, 2024, many were physically tired, but spiritually renewed. As the retreat concluded, many of the youth and staff gave their testimonies of what their retreat experience meant to them. As the retreat concluded, goodbyes were said to new friends with an expressed hope that they would see them next year





## GREENLEAVES

**Elizabeth Ard and Steve & Laina Asprion served a delicious meal at the March gathering. Marsha Newman was the guest speaker. Marsha is serving the remainder of John Wyble's term on the WP School Board. She discussed the renovations at the Junior High as well as her recent attendance to the State School Board Convention. Elizabeth Ard concluded the program sharing a couple of poems.**

**JOIN US ON APRIL 16th at NOON!**



## MINI-METHODIST EASTER EGG HUNT at the CODY'S



## CENTENARY METHODIST MEN

The Centenary Methodist Men's Club held their monthly meeting on Sunday, March 3rd and enjoyed a delicious breakfast prepared by Barry and Jack Bickham.

Our speaker that morning was Interim (Now newly elected) District Attorney Collin Sims who informed us about some of the programs and progress that had been made under his leadership.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, April 7th at 7:00 a.m. and our guest speaker will be Marsha Newman, Washington Parish School Board member and Board member of the Atoka Sports Complex North of Franklinton. Ms. Newman will inform the club of the Sports Complex's plans for the new grant money they recently received from the state. She may also share with the club the progress that is being made on the renovation of the Franklinton Jr. High School.

We have great fellowship and delicious food every month and every male member of Centenary is invited to join us.



## TRUSTEES

The front flower beds have been redone and look wonderful. Soon the windows in the sanctuary will undergo repair to the woodwork and painting. All carpet in the church building will be cleaned in several weeks. Our church sign is broken and a new part is needed. This should be resolved soon.

## MARCH ATTENDANCE

March 3	SS	30	Worship Service	65
March 10	SS	41	Worship Service	84
March 17	SS	37	Worship Service	70
March 24	SS	40	Worship Service	101



## BOGUE CHITTO STATE PARK

April 26-28th

If you plan to camp, make your reservations.

## CHURCH PICNIC-SATURDAY, APRIL 27th

Everyone is encourage to come to the State Park for our annual picnic. This will be held at Pavilion 2. The meal will be prepared by our Missions Team and will be served at 6:00 p.m. If you want to bring something, a dessert would be best.

Plan to come in the early afternoon and enjoy the scenery and good fellowship.

happy  
birthday

4/7 Jeffrey Dunnington

4/12 Sherman Thomas

4/15 Cindy Ridgedell

4/22 Alex Brock

4/26 Cissy Draper

4/27 Stephanie Thomas

4/30 Catherine Tiner

## **PRAYER LIST**

**Judy Alston, Steve Bush, Debbie Burris, Lynn Borgoyne, Edsel Brock, Bob Burris, James Crabtree, Clara Sue Driftmier, Amy Dudley, Patri Gast, Barrett Green, Alexia Grogan, Betty Logan, Ila Martin, Mike Mobley, Leighann Morel, Christie Pierce, Pam Pierce, Tanda Schilling, Dianne Smith, Dean Thomas.**

## **REMEMBER THESE FAMILIES**

**Rich Richardson, Kirby Green Northcutt**

## **TEDDY BEAR BABIES**

**Baby Woolman-Parents: Wade and Lindsey Woolman, Centenary Grandparents: Dr. Cheryl and Robert Tilghman, Centenary Great Grandmother: Shirley Brown.**

**Baby Amelia Jane Schaubhut-Parents: Jenna Beber & Aaro Schaubhut, Centenary Great Grandparents: Don & Sarah Tregre, Great-great grandmother and Uncle: Margie & Jeffrey Dunnington.**

## **OUR MILITARY FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

**Gavin Berne, Carson Fontenot, Megan McCain, Kelly Reiss, Brody Schilling, Jackson Stewart, Chad Penny, T. J. Smith, Josh Magee, Andrew Darbonne, Gavin Brumfield, Dillon Mitchell, Mason Knudson.**

**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**

**HAPPY EASTER**

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