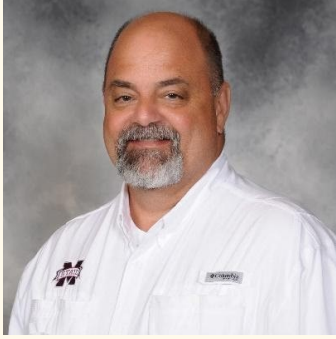


THE CIRCUIT RIDER

February 2023



Fifty-Five, the old speed limit (Y'all remember "55 saves lives"?), double nickel, the beginning of senior citizen discount status or however else it can be described will be my age in a couple of days. I'm learning a couple of things as I continue to age. First, 55 isn't nearly as old as it once seemed. I can remember as a teenager thinking how ancient those folks in my current age bracket seemed to be. All those folks used to talk about how

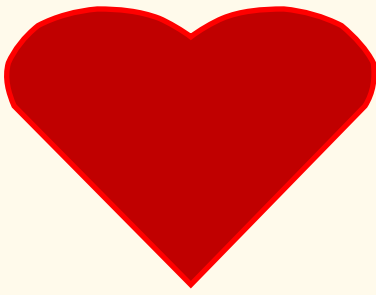
much better things were in their youth. The music of the 50's and 60's to which they nostalgically looked back on seemed so far removed from my cool 80's music. The clothing seemed ridiculous that they once claimed to be the height of fashion. And the slang words they used were just, well they were just old. My, how the tables have turned. Now I'm the recipient of eye rolls when discussing my dated cargo pants or the fact that I believe good music can only be found on classic radio stations, or that I'm still listening to radio rather than spotify or pandora or however music is delivered today. It's OK, I still think of myself as young and hip.

The second thing I've learned is that time can actually speed up. That is the only explanation I can come up with. It seemed that as a young teenager, 18 or 20 would never get here. Time seemed to just creep along. I slowly approached 30 and then woke up and I'm 55. I can remember those years so they aren't lost, but they went by much quicker than I thought they would. I can remember people telling us young people to enjoy our time because it would go by quicker than we thought. They were right.

As I contemplate getting a little older and how quickly I got here, I've been taking a little inventory of my journey through life. I know people who claim they have no regrets and wouldn't change a thing in their lives. I'm not one of them. I wouldn't change the big things that have molded me into the person that I am, but there are some things I would do differently. I would try to love more. I would try to be a better friend. And I would try to tell more people about the love that God has for them. I would share the Gospel more freely.

As Jesus was sending the twelve out on a short missionary journey he told them, "As you go, proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy,^[a] drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give." Matthew 10:7-8. The good news for us is that there is still time for us to go and do likewise. It doesn't matter if you are 55, 25, 85 or 10, God has called you to share his Good News with your friends and family in this hurting world. I'll meet you in the mission field, I've got some catching up to do.

**Blessings,
Bro. Cecil**



GREENLEAVES VALENTINE BANQUET

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

6:00 PM

Come enjoy a night of food and games. All the food will be provided and the youth will be present to serve you and cater to your needs. Prizes will be given to game winners.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Campers, call Bogue Chitto State Park and make your reservations for April 28th and 29th. On Saturday, April 29th, the church will host a Church Picnic at the State Park in Pavilion #1. More details concerning the picnic time and menu to follow.



PIECEMAKERS

Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 28th at 9:30 a.m. Come join us!

The CHOSEN

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

6:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

The Chosen, the first multi-season show about Jesus's life, hopes to take you deeper into gospel stories by retelling and expounding on the character and intentions of Jesus and those who knew Him.

As the biggest crowdfunded project in TV history, The Chosen is the first-ever multi-season show about the life of Jesus.



BOOK CLUB

The January book was enjoyed by all! Join us on Monday, February 20th at 11:00 a.m. The coffee is good and the discussions are fun and light-hearted!



FEBRUARY 7TH AT NOON

FELLOWSHIP HALL

Bring a sack lunch, dessert and drinks will be provided.

FRANKLINTON WOMAN'S CLUB ANNUAL LOVE COFFEE

Thursday, February 9, 2023, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Centenary United Methodist Church

Benefits the Help Center of Churches and the Washington Parish Activity Center

Refreshments will be provided



2022 CHURCH AUDIT COMPLETED

The annual church audit required by the Louisiana Methodist Conference was successfully submitted on January 25, 2023.

Brother Cecil and Julie Foret, church treasurer, traveled to Slidell to submit our paperwork and answer any questions. Please thank Julie for all her hard work when you see her. She spent many hours at the church completing required financial tables plus her time going to Slidell. Centenary is so fortunate to have Julie and Robert Tilghman overseeing our finances.



GREENLEAVES

This group met on January 17th. Brother Cecil provided the meal of sloppy joes and chips. Greenleaves meets each month and is for anyone 55+. Come join us on February 10th for a special evening.

MINI-METHODIST NEWS

Our Mini-Methodist are geared up for 2023. Anticipate seeing them participate more often in our worship service. They are meeting the second and fourth Sunday each month from 2:00-3:00 p.m. at the church. On January 8th, they met and began a study focused on learning about the Bible. The children were assigned rooms in the church and were sent out with the mission of counting all the Bibles we have. The final tally was over 500. On January 22nd, under the direction of Patri Gast, the children began learning pieces of music for a Christmas Program to be presented in December. They are also learning songs for Easter and other holidays as well.

UNITED METHODIST MEN-MEN'S BREAKFAST

On January 8th, Dr. Robbie Brown shared his experience and pilgrimage across Spain in 2022. He inspired and entertained the group with his stories. The next meeting will be Sunday, February 5th at 7:00 a.m. Breakfast will be served. Dr. John Wyble, School Board President, will present an update on the Braveheart program. This is a program for children affected by incarcerated parents.



Breakfast
prepared by
Barry, Jack and
Ben Bickham



COMMUNION OFFERING-FEBRUARY 5TH

Our communion offering on February 5th will be a Love Offering to benefit Steve & Jackie Wise. Steve was involved in a freak accident causing immobility and inability to work. Jackie has had to quit her job to become a full time caretaker. Steve & Jackie are neighbors to several of our church members. If you are not going to be in attendance on the 5th and would like to contribute, just come by the church office.

JANUARY ATTENDANCE REPORT

Jan. 1	SS-21	Worship-54
Jan. 8	SS-33	Worship-46
Jan. 15	SS-37	Worship-49
Jan. 22	SS-38	Worship-83
Jan. 29	SS-33	Worship-58

FEBRUARY70'S****
 Let us strive to boost our
 average attendance to 70+



Share the news
and invite your
friends!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH
CENTENARY METHODIST CHURCH
EAT IN OR TAKE OUT
11:00 A.M-1:00 P.M.
**\$10/plate (chicken, sausage, green beans,
 bread, cake)**
Benefits the La. Methodist Children's Home



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- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 2/2 Cecil Locke | 2/2 Cecilia Morgan |
| 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 | 2/28 Mike Henley |

"FOR GOD
 SO LOVED THE
 WORLD THAT HE GAVE
 HIS ONLY
 BEGOTTEN
 SON, SO
 THAT WHOEVER
 BELIEVES IN HIM
 SHALL NOT PERISH
 BUT HAVE ETERNAL
 LIFE."
 ♥ JOHN 3:16

We love because
 He first loved us.
 1 John 4:19

PRAYER LIST

Irvin Andre, Kathy Andre, Terrance August, Clara Jo Beaushaw, Jay Beverly, Beth Blalock, Hallie Blalock, Al Bontrager, Lynn Bourgoyne, Stacey Breaux, Bob Burris, Steve Bush, Polly Carter, Roland Carter, Patti Catalano, Willie Chauvin, Charlie Corkern, Kelli Darbonne, Amy Dudley, Lee Anna Dudley, Kathy Dykes, Elaine Forrest, Prentiss Forrest, Sue Johnson, Pat King, Margerite Lipani, Donna Locke, Betty Logan, Ed Lyles, Peggy Lyles, David McBride, Lylia McInnis, Margie McInnis, Bobbie Brumfield Miller, Mason Pepin, Steve Wise.

Families of: Richard Newman, Bill Ferrante, Buck Mosley, J.J. Warner, Darren Dillon, Susan Kilroy Chapman.

TEDDY BEAR BABIES

Baby Boy Wallace-Parents: Ryan & Blaire Bienvenu Wallace, Grandparents: Paul Bienvenu and the late Stephanie Miller Bienvenu, and Centenary Great Grandmother Sandra Alston Miller.

Baby Girl Tregre-Parents: Cody & Sofia Tregre, Centenary Grandparents: Don & Sarah Tregre, Centenary Great grandmother: Margie Dunnington, Centenary Great uncle: Jeffery Dunnington.

Baby McCain-Parents: Connor & Natalie McCain, Centenary Grandparents: Kelvin & Kay McCain, Centenary Great Grandmother: Mary E. Richardson.

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.

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
Nursery: Felecia Forrest

CENTENARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

office@cumcfranklinton.org

1015 Cleveland Street, Franklinton, Louisiana 70438

DATES TO REMEMBER

2/7 UMW-noon

2/1,8,15,22 The Chosen-6 pm

2/10 Greenleaves-6 pm

2/12 Chicken Dinner Fundraiser

2/16 Council Meeting

2/20 Book Club

Centenary United Methodist Church

1015 Cleveland Street

Franklinton, Louisiana 70438