## THE CIRCUIT RIDER



#### **March 2023**

145, that's the number I heard announced as being in attendance last night at Loranger Legacy Church. I didn't count, so I'm trusting the number is correct. Even if it's not the exact number, there were a lot of folks at revival last night. 145 people witnessed the power of the Holy Spirit. 145 people participated in an outpouring of God's incredible love.

I don't think every person there last night fully understood what was happening around them. Some left last night with just a warm feeling of having been to a worship service and felt at peace. Some left last night with a little extra exhilaration for God and his kingdom. Some were wrecked by the overwhelming love of God. Healing, assurance, forgiveness, encouragement, conviction, and confession were all being worked on by the people who gathered last night and invited the Holy Spirit to come and minister among them.

There were 145 witnesses to the power of the Holy Spirit and 145 completely different experiences. Our God is a faithful God and gives to us abundantly when we have need. Even when we don't know exactly what we need, he is faithful to provide the exact experience we need at the precise time we need it.

145 people are different today. 145 people have been drawn a little closer to God. 145 people have been transformed a little more into the likeness of Christ. 145 people have received a blessing simply because they asked in faith and expected God to answer.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages us to ask and seek for God's blessings and favor. <sup>7</sup> "Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>8</sup> For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>9</sup> Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for bread, would give a stone? <sup>10</sup> Or if the child asked for a fish, would give a snake? <sup>11</sup> If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!" (Matthew 7:7-11).

When was the last time you asked God to refill you with his Holy Spirit. When was the last time you asked for a deeper relationship with Him. When was the last time you asked to be put to use in His Kingdom. If we ask, he is faithful to provide. If we ask...

I know 145 people who asked and are forever changed today because they simply asked and invited the Holy Spirit to do as he would with them. What's stopping you from making it 146?

Blessings, Bro Cecil

#### **MISSION'S REPORT**

On Sunday, February 12th, the Mission Team held a Chicken Dinner Fundraiser to benefit the Louisiana Methodist Children's Home. The dinner raised \$4,000 of which 100% will be sent to the Children's Home. Courtney Murphy who is employed by the LMCH and her husband were in attendance for worship and the dinner. A big THANK YOU to all who helped make this event successful!







**Courtney & Brother Cecil** 

#### **EVANGELISM DURING LENT**

During this time of Lent, as a church body we would like to place emphasis on inviting others to worship with us.

INVITE, INVITE, INVITE!



March 24th-26th

Aldersgate Youth Retreat

Centenary Mission Team
will be cooking for all
campers on Saturday,
March 25th.

#### **KREWE OF HEARTS**

Greenleaves was treated to a Valentine-Krewe of Hearts-Banquet on Friday, February 10th. A delicious meal was served to the 40+ in attendance. Games were played and a King and Queen were announced. King Bill Burris and Queen Marilyn Richardson are pictured below. Prize winners are also below. A big THANK YOU to Brenda Locke for organizing the event and preparing the meal.







The Franklinton Woman's Club hosted their annual Love Coffee at Centenary. Pictured below are a group of Methodist in attendance.

Sunday, February 12th Worship





#### **GREENLEAVES-MARCH 21st-NOON**

Come enjoy food and fellowship, Dr. Gerry Foret is providing the meal and an activity is planned to test your knowledge of Methodist Hymns.

#### **MEN'S BREAKFAST**

The Centenary United Methodist Men met on Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> and enjoyed an excellent breakfast prepared by Barry and Jack Bickham while experiencing its best attendance since the Covid shutdown.

The program was presented by Dr. John Wyble, President of the Washington Parish School System and President of Leadership Concepts (a firm specializing in more efficient operations for large organizations). Dr. Wyble brought to the member's attention many facts concerning Washington Parish and its lack of growth and opportunity affected by subpar literacy and the steps that the parish is taking to combat that. He also announced his candidacy for State Representative in the upcoming election.

One of our members, Larry Blanchard and his wife Tamara, recently suffered the complete loss of their house due to fire and the club presented him with a check to help them purchase some of the items that they had lost.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, and the guest speaker will be Ms. Ellen Buford, President of Moving Mountains Ministry. Moving Mountains Ministry is a local ministry that provides support for foster families.





REMINDER
Church Campout
April 28th-30th
Make your reservations



#### **TRUSTEES**

Thanks to our trustees and Mike Mobley for purchasing and planting a new tree in the front lawn. The previous one had turned brown and was an eyesore.

	FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE REPORT	
SS-41	Worship-80	
SS-29	Worship-98	
SS-33	Worship-49	
SS-35	Worship-77	
	SS-29 SS-33	SS-41 Worship-80 SS-29 Worship-98 SS-33 Worship-49

In our February Newsletter, we set a goal to average 70 in our worship attendance. February's attendance was wonderful! Our average attendance was 76 despite the Mardi Gras weekend. Sunday School attendance averaged 34.5. Let us continue to worship together as we begin March!



#### THANK YOU FISHER UMC

As most of you are aware, Fisher United Methodist Church closed down in December. The church donated their Baby Grand Piano to Centenary. Temporarily, it has been placed in the Fellowship Hall. Again, thanks to Fisher for this wonderful gift!

#### **MINI-METHODIST**

On Sunday, February, 26th, the kids met for music practice. There were 13 kids present. The next meeting is March 12th at 2:00 p.m. for Bible Study.





- 3/1 Percy Frazier
- 3/3 Dameon Hill
- 3/4 Rebekah Hill
- 3/5 Kathy Andre
- 3/6 Hannah Simmons
- 3/9 Griff McCormick
- 3/12 Spencer Green
- 3/13 Ed Branch
- 3/13 David Hood Burris

3/14 Irvin Andre

3/20 Stacey Richardson

3/21 Philip Morgan

3/30 Cheryl Tilghman

3/31 Anna Reedy

#### **PRAYER LIST**

Irvin Andre, Kathy Andre, Terrance August, Clara Jo Beaushaw, Beth Blalock, Hallie Blalock, Haylee Brooks, Izzy Brooks, 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, Richard Holmes, David James, Sue Johnson, Pat King, Margerite Lipani, Donna Locke, Betty Logan, Peggy Lyles, David McBride, Lylia McInnis, Margie McInnis, Bobbie Brumfield Miller, Mason Pepin, Mary E. Richardson, Mike Sharp, Catherine Tiner, Steve Wise.

Families of: Sherry Magruder, Randy McLeod, Roy Richard, Robbie Bankston, Billy Coile, 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 Madison Elizabeth McCain-Parents: Connor & Natalie McCain, Centenary Grandparents: Kelvin & Kay McCain, Centenary Great Grandmother: Mary E. Richardson.

Baby Bryant-Parents: John & Caitlyn Bryant, Siblings: Beau, Jackson, & Serena

#### **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 Choir Director: Bonnie Pope

Secretary: Faith Bahm Treasurer: Julie Foret

**Custodian: Lee Dudley Nursery: Felecia Forrest** 

# CENTENARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH office@cumcfranklinton.org 1015 Cleveland Street, Franklinton, Louisiana 70438

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

3/7 UMW-noon 3/20 Book Club-11 am
3/12 Mini-Methodist-2 pm 3/21 Greenleaves-noon
3/16 Council Meeting-6:30 3/26 Mini-Methodist-2 pm

Centenary United Methodist Church 1015 Cleveland Street Franklinton, Louisiana 70438