



Pineville First United Methodist Church
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Pineville, Louisiana 71360
(318) 640-1050

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If you are interested in receiving church wide emails regarding upcoming events and announcements, please contact the church office and provide us with your email address.



Church Staff

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Pineville First United Methodist Church

Office Phone: (318) 640-1050
Monday – Thursday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM;
Friday 8:00 AM – Noon



Pineville First United Methodist Church
May 2021 Newsletter

“Living Life Like It Matters”



From the Senior Pastor

Spring Forward

Go outside these days and you can see and smell the signs of spring everywhere. As I walk in my neighborhood each day, I hear the birds chirping as they nest and hatch their young, see more and more colors with the flowers blooming. I even ran across a wild rabbit on Easter afternoon. Every day I am thankful that we are moving beyond the grip of a pandemic that had us running out of ventilators this time last year. As we move forward as a church and community, we will become more and more open to gathering, celebrating, learning and sharing the Good News of Jesus in the light of the resurrection. So, we need to invite our people back to worship, Sunday morning and evening Bible Study and Life Groups, mission support groups, youth and children’s activities. These events and opportunities will continue to open more and more and make their way onto the church calendar. We are looking forward to a great summer with Vacation Bible School, youth activities and when school begins, resuming our Wednesday evening meals and classes.

We will continue to livestream our 9:00 and 11:00 services on Facebook and YouTube but we want to encourage all of our members to return to coming to the services as you feel safer and as vaccination rates climb. Continuing to live stream the services gives us the opportunity to reach new worshippers and potential members the way television coverage did in earlier years. We deeply appreciate our technology team (Audio Visual Ministry Team) capably led by Lorene Christie. This group of volunteers has kept our scattered and quarantined worshippers connected with around 400 attending worship online per week at the height of the pandemic.

Please put July 4, 2021 on your calendar now as a day to celebrate the freedoms of our country and perhaps the end of our restrictions. This will be “Freedom Sunday” at Pineville First United Methodist Church. We will have special musical guests, a father and son duo, Jim and James Linden Hogg from the Baton Rouge area. Before the pandemic, James Linden sold out the Manship Theater in downtown Baton Rouge and has toured the state playing concerts, festivals and worship services. A multi-instrumentalist singer, songwriter James Linden Hogg has a love for music and a heart for God. He has released three CDs: College Fund Vol. 1, 2, & 3. The music genre is a blend of Folk, Americana, Celtic, and Spiritual. That day we will have a church-wide barbeque cooked by M and M Martin meats and served after the 11:00 service. This will be a great time to invite those who have been staying at home and those who are looking for a great place to worship and grow.

So, let us “spring forward” into a great year that is opening up to us like a blooming rose. We have a great opportunity to be an outreaching, healing, teaching and supportive church as we emerge from this past year of great challenges. May God bless you with the vision and passion to move in his grace toward the needs you see.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Steve

Pineville First United Methodist Church

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From the Associate Pastor



Friends,

I am both sad and full of joy to thank you for the many kindnesses that you have shown me as your associate pastor this year. Thank you for praying with me and for me and my family. Thank you for studying with me and gathering with me in body, in spirit and over Zoom. Thank you for encouraging me as I grow in ministry. Thank you for your patience as I grow in ministry. This congregation will hold a special place in my heart and remain in my prayers throughout my life. I am so glad that God sent me here to serve with you. I am sorry to say goodbye so soon, and I am hopeful about the ways God is moving in this congregation.

June 20 will be my last Sunday leading you in worship. I hope that you will pray for Shane, Jack, and I as we move to Lafayette, and that you will pray for me as I continue to serve God with Asbury United Methodist Church.

In Grace and Peace,
Rev. Mary Rachel Moore

“I now have plenty and it is more than enough. I am full to overflowing because I received the gifts that you sent... Those gifts give off a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice that pleases God. My God will meet your every need out of his riches in the glory that is found in Christ Jesus. Let glory be given to God our Father forever and always. Amen.”

Philippians 4:18-20

Happy Spring Church!

The Finance Committee and I wanted to extend our heart felt thanks to you as a congregation for continuing to support FUMC Pineville with your tithes and offerings. While attendance has been lower than we are used to seeing most have continued to send in their offerings even if they were not physically present.

Many of you have asked how FUMC Pineville is doing financially. Our tithes and offerings for 2020 were down \$78,117.68 over 2019 with overall income dropping \$119,088.19. However, our expenses, even with rebuilding the parsonage were down \$50,962.94 over 2019.

Fortunately, we began 2020 in a healthy cash position and we tried to be as conservative as possible which allowed the church to begin 2021 in a strong place financially. The loan on the Family Life Center is currently at \$213,705.31.

On May 2, we will start back passing the offering plate during services. If you are willing to serve as an usher, please call the church office and let us know. Justin Lemmons will be making an Usher schedule for the remainder of 2021.

Pastor Steve and the ministry staff are planning several events for the summer so watch for the announcements. VBS will be June 14-18 9am -12pm. We will begin Wednesday night meals and classes on September 1st.

Many Blessings,
Jay Quinton, Business Administrator

Focus on Caring



Assisted Living Friends

England Oaks, Alexandria, LA—Odis Hutchinson
Christus St. Joseph Home, Monroe, LA—Joyce Lofton
Homestead Assisted Living, Houma, LA—Elaine Conerly
Marigold Place, Alexandria, LA - Mary Maddox
The Glen Retirement Center, Shreveport, LA- Patti Wisenbaker

Nursing Home Friends

LifeCare Center of Plano, Plano, Texas- Laverne Henderson
Matthews Memorial, Alexandria, LA—Belinda Carner
Northeast LA War Veterans Home, Monroe, LA—Elaine Tellerfero
Tioga Manor, Pineville, LA—Francis “Bo” Smith

Homebound Friends

Ayme Beeson
Bea Brown
Geneva Clark
Lynn Jordan
Bernie Misner
Marie Reece
Helen Simmering
Virginia Smith
Fred Tannehill



MAY BIRTHDAYS

4- Patti Woods, Jewel Beisser
5- Justin Lemmons
6- William Ford
8- Jim Beisser
9- Pat Cook
10- Bill Gates, Elaine Conerly, David Weir
11- Tom Russell, Suzanne Gauthier
12- Jim Lee, Zachary Holmes, Kayla Lemmons
13- Austin Nelson
14- Billy Fuller, Willow Stroud, Allison Clear
15- Geneva Clark
16- Mallory Baker, Samantha Trowbridge
17- Chris Graves, Hank Smart, Presley Procell,
Monica Nelson, Travis Vallee, Laura Hawkins
18- Justin Walker, Emily Walker
19- Henry Martin
20- Nita Taylor, Larry Prestridge
22- Haley Tassin
23- Shirley Hoben, Dale Barnette
24- Wayne Martin, David Miller
26- Karen Carter, Nancy Meilleur
27- Sylvia Smith, Lajuan Durand, Steve Berger
28- Nancy Baker
31- Aaron Keiser, Conner Smith



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

3- Darren & Trina Barron, Scott & Laura Hawkins
6- Jeff & Nancy Meilleur
14- Craig & Janet Annis
15- Frank & Esther Hill
17- Blake & Hannah Jones
19- Richard & Lillian Robinette
19- Mark & Jerri Bonner
20- Kevin & Jennifer Brazil
23- Thomas & April Bonner
28- William & Zina Ford
31- Micah & Jenni White

Upcoming Meetings

United Methodist Men Monday Night Matters
Mondays, May 3rd & 17th at 6:00 p.m.

Estelle Dameron/Betty Cummings Circle
Tuesday, May 18th at 10:00 a.m. at Sue Lee's Home.

Musically Speaking...

George Gross
Director of Music



It is always a bit of a challenge to come up with ways to say the same thing: Please think about joining the choir. A dear friend sent me a YouTube link a few days ago. It was an old song I had not heard in many years. The chorus goes like this: "All God's Creatures got a place in the choir, some sing low and some sing higher, some sing loud on the telephone wire, and some just clap their hands, or paws or anything they got now." It's a cute song with a lot of meaning. You and I are God's Creatures. One purpose is for us to praise him. You can do this in many ways. I know you will find this hard to believe, but my favorite way to praise Him is through music. So I encourage you to visit our FB page starting May 1 and look for the video and listen to it. Dance around a bit. Have fun. Singing in the choir is serious work, but we have fun in the process. "Some sing out and some just clap their hands or paws or anything they got now." Come and use anything you got.

Many of you know Connie Gates and Sue Lee both had surgery during the Lent/Easter Season. Both are doing well. Sue Lee is responsible for our altar settings in the traditional services. While she was recuperating, Joni Findlay did an outstanding job of creating worship altars for several services. Thank you Joni. Thank each of you for your comments and for all the work many assist in to make worship happen.

Love you,
George

Join the Choir!

CHOIR PRACTICE
Wednesdays, 6pm-7pm in the choir room
All are welcome, no matter what your level of joyful noise may be.

UPCOMING MAY EVENTS

Dinner for 8
Monthly gathering for dinner!
Food, Fun & Comraderie
All are welcome
Contact Judy McDonald for more information 318.704.3932

COMBINED WORSHIP
MAY 2, 2021 @10:30AM
No Sunday School Classes or Life Groups

Confirmation
SUNDAY

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

National Day of Prayer is
Thursday, May 6th
The Sanctuary will be open for prayer
from 9am-3pm.

TAKE HOME MEAL

Youth Fundraiser
SUNDAY, MAY 23rd
9:30am-1:00pm
Cost: \$10.00
Our CHEF is Ritchie Martin!!

Please email Leslie to reserve your meals @
leslie@pinevillefumc.org

- Beef Roast
- Baked Beans
- Potato Salad
- Roll
- Dessert

Thank you for supporting our youth!!

PENTECOST SUNDAY
May 23, 2021

We will celebrate Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021.
Wear red to church.

The church offices will be closed Monday, May 31st in observance of Memorial Day.

Youth Focus

Leslie Frietch
Interim Director of Youth Ministries



There are so many things to celebrate this month in the life of our PFUMC Youth!

Confirmation Sunday will be celebrated on May 2, 2021. The Confirmands spent time in class learning about John Wesley and the roots of the United Methodist Church, as well as attended classes about Baptism, Communion, Worship, Service, Prayer and more. They joined us for traditional worship and contemporary worship, visited the Jewish Temple and St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church, made pillows for Hope House and took a historical tour with Dr. Bill Simpson. Thank you to all those who have served as teachers, prayer partners and mentors to them along the way.

We celebrate those who are graduating high school, as well as our college graduates. Life is all about the journey we take and we pray for these young adults as they continue their journey into the future. Please be in prayer for them as they make decisions about their futures.

Youth Dates to Remember:

May

- May 9 – Mother’s Day – No Youth
- May 15 – Hiking at Longleaf Vista (tentative)
- May 23 – Youth Take Home meal / Sunday Funday Bowling
- May 24 – Mission Monday
- May 25 – Terrific Tuesday Disc Golf
- May 28-30 – Happening at Wesley Center (High School Only)

SUMMER KICKOFF

Youth Summer KickOff Fun

May 23—Sunday Funday Bowling after church
 May 24—Mission Monday 11:30—2:00
 May 25—Terrific Tuesday Disc Golf 1:00—3:30

TAKE HOME MEAL

Youth Fundraiser

SUNDAY, MAY 23rd
 9:30am-1:00pm
 Cost: \$10.00

Our CHEF is Ritchie Martin!!

Please email Leslie to reserve your meals @
leslie@pinevillefumc.org

Beef Roast
 Baked Beans
 Potato Salad
 Roll
 Dessert

Thank you for supporting our youth!!

Kids' Focus

Leslie Frietch
Director of Children’s Ministries



A look back.....

What fun we had at Easter Eggstravaganza! Special thank you to all of the volunteers, parents and youth who made this day extra special for our PFUMC kids.

A look forward.....

Are you as excited as I am!! Rocky Railway VBS will roll into town June 14 – 18; 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.

At Rocky Railway, kids discover through life’s ups and downs that Jesus’ power pulls us through. They will participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, take part in one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, and engage in Science Fun. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with the Rock Wrap-Up that gets everyone involved in living what they’ve learned. See our website or Facebook page for registration information.

VBS doesn’t happen without our volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me as soon as possible. We have several workdays scheduled but you don’t have to be present at all the workdays to volunteer. There is room for everyone to come aboard Rocky Railway!

Hope to see you on the tracks!



**Vacation Bible School
 Crew Training**

Sunday, May 16th after 11:00
 service. Lunch provided.

**Jesus' Power
 Pulls Us Through**

Vacation Bible School
 June 14-18, 2021, 9am-12pm