



THE CHALLENGER

AUG 2025



Rev. Dr. Jonathan King

Friends,

This past month brought a wonderful celebration of the birthday of our nation. We had a great conversation with a scouting representative who would like to form a new scout troop with us as the host. We are considering that possibility.

We are moving forward on the build back of our scout building after it was damaged by a water leak. The funding for the build back comes from our insurance claim and from your donations. I'm happy to report that the remaining \$7090.96 needed for the build back of the scout building has been raised. The total needed comes from our deductible and some other internal changes we determined were needed.

I'm glad to celebrate with you that we have welcomed Janice Flannery to be our co-administrative assistant. Janice comes to us with 30 years of experience at Summer

Grove UMC. Please welcome her as you see her in the office on Mondays and Wednesdays. She is already a great addition to our staff.

Moving forward, we are implementing a ministry to youth and children on Sunday night during pickleball. We are having several youth and children show up on Sunday nights. We are responding by creating a space for them as their parents play pickleball.

I am already hearing inklings about October with the possibility of hosting National Night Out and with all the many activities for our Pumpkin Patch.

God is good! The church is alive and well!

With Joy, Pastor Jonathan

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Greeting	1
CUMC in Community	2-4
Conference Message	5
Prayer List	6
Finance	7
Attendance	8

On Sunday, August 3 after worship, we're having a welcome reception for our new Co-Administrator, Janice Flannery. Janice was the manager at Summer Grove UMC and has 30 years of experience in that role. Her first day at Christ UMC will be Monday, August 4. Please join us in the narthex and help give her a Christ UMC welcome!

Flower Stock photos by Vecteezy



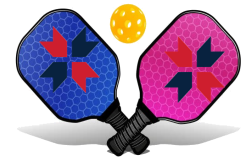
WHEN: Aug 4 @ 12 PM
WHERE: Fellowship Hall
Lunch is a holiday cook-out - bring a picnic side!



WHEN: Aug 6 @ 7AM
WHERE: Denny's Mansfield Rd
The prayer breakfast now meets at 7 AM! Have breakfast your way while you enjoy fellowship and a devotion. It's a great way to start off the month! All men are welcome to attend.



WHEN: Aug 1 @ 9 AM
WHERE: Quilt Room
Prayers and Squares will only meet once this month. They will resume the regular twice-a-month schedule in September.



WHEN: Thursdays 6 to 8 PM
Sundays 5 to 7 PM
WHERE: Christ UMC Gym
Whether you're a seasoned pro or a curious beginner, all are welcome!



Aug 10 @ 4 PM

On August 10, Christ UMC will have a hymn sing and ice cream social in the Fellowship Hall at 4:00 PM. We're asking that everyone bring their favorite ice cream to share at our "ice cream potluck!" We'll be singing our favorite hymns while we enjoy a cool treat in air-conditioned comfort! See you there!



WHEN: Aug 12 @ 11 AM
WHERE: Fellowship Hall
Grab a friend, bring a dish to share for potluck lunch, and come to the August meeting of Christ Seniors in Action. Our speaker will be Ronnie Crawford, our Music Minister. Come for the fellowship and program, visit with friends, and make new ones! Don't miss it!



August 4
Alan Mathison

August 9
Les Michaelis
Brent Schuckers

August 7
Piper Koll

August 12
Harold Sater

Thank you from

Dear Good Friends,

Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$70 and all the Red Bags we get each month. As always, we appreciate your continued support.

Summer camp started in the middle of June, and we had lots of campers. There were kids everywhere with smiles on their faces. Our activities and field trips centered around water and its vital role in the world, encouraging curiosity, learning, and fun. We'll also focus on how each of us can spread LOVE like ripples throughout our community, making a meaningful impact through kindness, connection, and care.

We continue to have good attendance at the community meal and food pantry. Our adults in the Tremendous Tuesday Walking Group are enjoying each other as they get their steps in. The wonderful Wednesday Group also will continue to meet this summer having computer lessons, doing crafts, and playing games. Our urban orchard already has fruit on the trees—we cannot wait to enjoy the apples, pears, plums, peaches, and figs when they ripen.

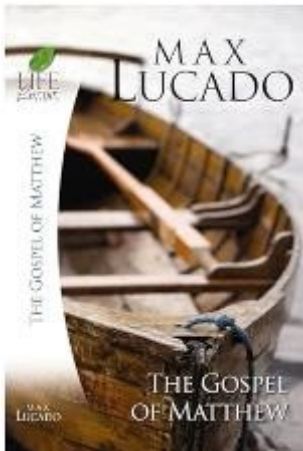
None of this would be possible without donors like you! Thank you again! Many many thanks as always!

Sincerely, Lisa Cronin



New Bible Study

Beginning August 17



Pastor Jonathan's Bible Study class will begin a 12-week study on Sunday, August 17 of the Gospel of Matthew by Max Lucado. The study meets during Sunday School time in the former Joy classroom. Everyone is welcome to attend the study. If you would like more information, please talk with Pastor Jonathan after the service or give him a call at the church at 686-2553. You can also reach him on his cell phone at 225-281-7563.

United Women of Faith

Aug 26 @ 2 PM

UWF AFTERNOON TEA PARTY!!

The ladies of Grace Circle are having an "Afternoon Tea" party on August 26 at 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are invited to attend and bring a friend along to join us in the fun. We will be serving finger sandwiches, pastries and tea. Dress in your prettiest, comfortable dress or pants. Hats are optional! Don't forget to bring a stuffed animal to donate to Gingerbread House! Please RSVP to Jen Lowe, 349-0825, so we will know how many to plan for. Hope to see you at our "par-tea!"



United in Compassion: Supporting Texas Through Prayer and Giving

Greetings in the name of Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Our hearts are heavy as we witness the tragic flash flooding that has swept across parts of Texas. Lives have been lost, homes destroyed, and entire communities left reeling in the aftermath. As the water rises, so too must our prayers, and our response.

We are reminded in times like these of the sacred connection we share through The United Methodist Church. When one part of the body suffers, we all suffer. When one church cries out, we are all called to answer.

The United Methodist connection is not a concept—it is a lifeline, built on shared grace, mutual care, and a commitment to serve one another in times of need.

I invite you to join me in prayer for the families who have lost loved ones, for first responders working tirelessly, and for the churches in Texas who are stepping into the gap with courage and compassion.

But let us also give.

Our prayers can be matched with tangible expressions of love. This week, The Louisiana Conference sent a \$15,000 solidarity grant to the Rio Texas Conference to assist the Hill Country in their relief and recovery efforts. I urge you and your congregations also to support the Rio Texas Conference's relief efforts.

Together, we can show the people of Texas what it means to be United Methodists — people who build, connect, and equip for a transformative future, together.



Blessings, Bishop Delores J. Williamston

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
The United Methodist Church

At Christ UMC, we are supporting First United Methodist Church in Kerrville, Texas in their flood recovery efforts. Your donations will help this congregation as they support their members and rescue workers in the area. You can pay by check (please write "Kerrville UMC" in the memo line) or pay through Vanco using the QR code at the right or on the app. Thank you for your support of this congregation!



Christ UMC Prayer Lists

Members

Jerry Bruce
Carolyn Carroll
Bettye Hampton
Henry Hutson
Faye Jackson
Chris Liggin

Jackie Moore
Susan Musgrove
Mary Ann Page
Ed Thomason
Barbara Ward
Bill Ward

Shut-Ins, Rehab, Nursing Home

Betty Booty
Louise Brandt
Kathy Corliss
Carole Cragon
Renda King
Clara Lathrem
Marjorie Letsinger

Ann Maxwell
Ray Mitchell
Beth Roblow
Rita Schuckers
Jerry Talley
Charles Wilson
Jean Wisinger

**"THE PRAYER OF
FAITH WILL SAVE THE
SICK, AND THE LORD
WILL RAISE THEM UP,
AND ANYONE WHO HAS
COMMITTED SINS WILL
BE FORGIVEN.**

JAMES 5:15

Relatives and Friends

Michael Butterman
Jill Carroll
Wanda Cunningham
Lorraine Desporte
Millie Diaz
Angelo Governale
Patti Hartsell
Danny Horton
Rev. Tom Howe

Kathy & Jerry Humphries
Bob Kendrick
Dave and Penny Kendrick
Ed Long
James & Pat McClure
Dale Miers
Carl Pendley
Lucio Silviera Da Silva
Michele Silviera Da Silva

Alan Tennille
Lacye Tennille
Richard Tennille
Crew Tidwell
Josephine Wade
Donnie Walpool & Family
Lori Winderweedle

Memorials

EDNA NEILL

Paul and Margie Rachal

FRANK EBERHARDT

Chris Liggin

Financial Report

June 2025

JUNE INCOME	\$ 58,423.17	YTD INCOME	\$ 239,958.97
JUNE EXPENSES	28,798.97	YTD EXPENSE	205,585.20
JUNE INCOME LESS EXP:	\$ 29,624.20	YTD INCOME LESS EXP	\$ 34,373.77

On-line Giving with Vanco

Through our website or the Vanco smartphone app, you can:

- Pay your monthly tithe
- Give a memorial or honoraria gift
- Make donations to organizations that Christ UMC supports
- Pay your communion offering

- Pay for special events or purchases

To log in and create an on-line account, you can click this link:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZJE2/home>

You can also use this QR code to set up your Vanco account.

If you have any questions about using Vanco, please call the office at 686-2553 and Vivian Locking can help you get started.



PAY ONLINE WITH
VANCO

August Communion Offering: SB Rescue Mission

August 3

This month's communion offering will support the many programs of the Shreveport Bossier Rescue Mission. The Mission exists to pursue the passion of Jesus Christ to lift up the hungry, homeless, abused, and addicted by providing emergency shelter, helping secure and keep employment, providing life coaching, teaching Christian foundation and essential life skills, and helping people transition back into the community. You can find out more about the many ways the Rescue Mission serves the community by clicking this link: <https://www.sbrescuemission.com/programs/>



1204 Crabapple Dr.
Shreveport LA 71118-4097

CHURCH STAFF

Dee Williamston Bishop
Ramonalynn Bethley District Supt
Jonathan King Lead Pastor
Willis Dear Senior Adult Pastor
Dianne Wilkinson Treasurer
Vivian Locking Finance Secretary
Donnie Walpool Custodian
Janice Flannery/Jen Quick Ofc Administrator
Ronnie Crawford Music Director
LaWanda Blakeney Organist
Alan Mathison Sound Technician
Joseph Orban Sexton

CHURCH OFFICE

Phone: (318) 686-2553

Email: churchadmin@christ-umc.com

Web: www.christ-umc.com



Attendance July 2025

	Worship	On-Line	Sunday School	P'Ball Church
July 6	65	6	24	23
July 13	58	6	21	31
July 20	59	3	24	25
July 27	44	4	21	

*Let us come to him with thanksgiving. Let us sing
psalms of praise to him. For the LORD is a great
God, a great King above all gods.*

Psalm 95:2-3

