



THE CHALLENGER

SEP 2025



Rev. Dr. Jonathan King

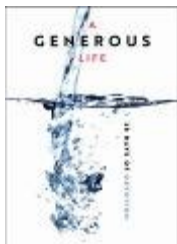
Friends,

Work has begun on the Scout building to build back the inside to usable condition. We had a great welcome celebration for Janice Flannery our new co-administrator. Please welcome her when you talk with her on Monday and Wednesday in our office. She has 30 years experience as an administrative assistant. Janice is a member at Grace Community in Shreveport.

Looking ahead, our Joyful Noise group will resume singing in local retirement homes beginning Monday, September 8th. We will begin giving out devotional books starting on Sunday, September 21st that will coincide with our four-week sermon series on generosity that begins October 19th. The devotional readings begin on October 13th. One devotional book is available per household.

We are gearing up for our Pumpkin Patch, and I ask you to pray for everyone who will be on our campus sharing in the experience. I ask you to volunteer your time and to give above and beyond your tithe towards our pumpkin patch. I am excited about what is happening and what is ahead as we move into the fall!

With Joy, Pastor Jonathan



Our Generosity campaign for fiscal year 2026 will begin in mid-October. Our devotional book this year will be *A Generous Life: 28 Days of Devotion*. We will read this together as a church family beginning on October 13. The books will be available in the narthex beginning September 21st, and are available free of charge. There is also a Kindle version available if you prefer.

We hope that we will all receive blessings as we explore new insights into generosity in our daily lives.

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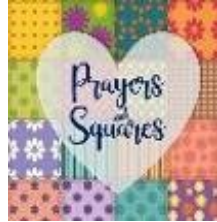
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Christ UMC is closed on Monday, September 1st in observance of Labor Day.



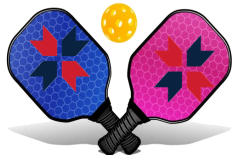
WHEN: Sep 3 @ 7 AM
 WHERE: Denny's Mansfield Rd
The prayer breakfast now meets at 7 AM! Have breakfast your way while you enjoy fellowship and a devotion presented this month by Rev. Joe Donakey, pastor at Ringgold UMC. It's a great way to start off the month! All men are welcome to attend.



WHEN: Sep 5 & 19 @ 9 AM
 WHERE: Quilt Room
 Prayers and Squares resumes their regular twice-a-month schedule this month.



WHEN Sep 8 @ 12 PM
 WHERE: Fellowship Hall
 AARP will meet on Sep 8 this month due to the Labor Day holiday. Bring a dish to share for pot-luck lunch.



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!



SALSA AND JELLY

SALES: There's still time to order salsa and jelly from the Louisiana Methodist Children's Home. Please sign up on the order form in the narthex to let us know your order specifics. Cost is \$10 per jar or three jars for \$27 (mayhaw jelly is \$13 for each jar—no discount). **Orders are due by September 7 and will be ready for pick up on September 14.** Contact Jen Lowe for further information at 318-



WHEN: Sep 9 @ 11 AM
 WHERE: Fellowship Hall
 Our speaker for September is Donna Valentine, Pre-Planning Advisor and Community Development Specialist at Centuries Memorial Funeral Home, who will graciously provide lunch for our meeting. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex and let us know that you're planning to attend, or call the church office at 318-686-2553 and give your information to Janice Flannery or Jen Quick.



September 6
 Clara Lathrem

September 10
 Linda Wright

September 29
 Jen Quick

September 7
 Carolyn Carroll

September 14
 Ruth Sanders

September 8
 Kathy Corliss

September 25
 Janice Crawford

Thank you from Jacob Frederick



Dear Scholarship Committee,

Words cannot express how truly grateful I am to be given this award. This church has, for years, meant so much to me and my family, and it is an honor to now receive back from it. This award is truly generous, and I am deeply appreciative of this support.

I currently am studying both English and History at Louisiana Tech, and now because of this amount, my schooling for the year is completely covered financially. I promise I will make the most of this blessing that the church has bestowed upon me.

Once again, thank you all for your kindness.

Sincerely, Jacob Frederick

Thank you from Bailey Barnes



Dear CUMC,

Thank you so much for blessing me with the scholarship! Your generosity encourages me as I continue my education! I am very grateful for your support!

With love, Bailey Barnes

We had Fun at the Ice Cream Social and Hymn Sing!

If you're reading this on your computer, tablet, or phone, click this link to watch videos of the hymn sing:
<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1BNseeVeYT/>

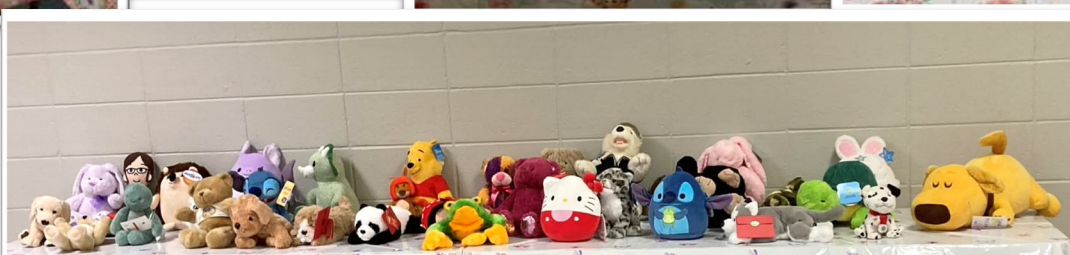


United Women of Faith

Aug 26

Our UWF ladies had a wonderful afternoon Tea Party! Lots of good food, laughter, fellowship, a display of some special teapots and a lot of stuffed animals collected for the Gingerbread House. If you're reading this on your computer, tablet, or phone, you can view all the pictures by clicking this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/16zVpVx8dx/>



IT'S PUMPKIN TIME AGAIN!!



Did you notice that the weather was cooler for a couple of days this past week? Have you noticed the Halloween and Christmas decorations already being put up in the stores? It's quite a shock when we've been having over 100-degree weather and it seems like fall will never get here. But it will be here in another month, so... time to take off my tea party hat and put on my pumpkin patch hat! I visited my brother last week in Baton Rouge and my sister-in-law told me they had a friend of theirs visiting from Shreveport a couple of weeks ago. Somehow, they started talking about our field trips and her friend went on and on about how they had attended with their children and how much they had enjoyed it and it was the best

field trip they had ever taken! So even in Baton Rouge, people are hearing about our field trips! I was talking with some people about how we missed doing vacation bible school in the summer and someone mentioned that we do vacation bible school in October through our field trips. I thought about that and realized how true that was! We reach over 1,000 children, not including parents and teachers, EVERY year through our field trips. We don't actually preach bible stories to them, but we definitely SHOW them Jesus' love for all the little children, parents and teachers that come onto our campus. We put our faith into action by being the hands and feet of Christ and showing how much we welcome each and every one of them into our sanctuary no matter what color or religion they are a part of. Some have never been in a sanctuary.

Our field trips are not just fun, but educational, too! We cram a lot of stuff into an hour and a half for each field trip! We do crafts, science experiments, stories, snacks, shopping for the perfect mini pumpkin, learning new songs, and for some, riding a hayride for the first time! But most important is how many seeds of God's love we are planting! These children and adults get to experience God's love through our wonderful volunteers who take the time to greet, give a high five, share a laugh or a hug with them! What great advertising we do for Christ UMC during the month of October! Our field trips will be October 15-31, but only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for a total of eight days. The time is from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Please consider helping by volunteering for one of these activities or by filling snack bags, cutting out crafts, setting up, or leading the classes around our campus! If you know of anyone else that might be interested in volunteering, a friend, a group you are involved in, a neighbor, or someone from another church, invite them to come help. They will be blessed and so will you! It's a joy to see all the smiling, excited faces and know that we are truly making a difference in the lives of those precious children! Come help us plant some seeds and be a part of this fun ministry! Volunteer forms will be placed in Sunday School rooms and the Narthex soon. Please fill one out and pass one on to a friend or two to help us. Contact Jen Lowe for more information at 318-349-0825 .



Neighborhood Celebration 2025—Save the Date!!

Once again we are celebrating our neighborhood! Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 25 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. We will be serving hamburgers and hot dogs, baked beans and chips. We are in the process of contacting community representatives from the police and fire department. Children's activities will include crafts, games, and a bounce house. The Joyful Noise and Shreveport Metropolitan Band will once again perform for our entertainment. We will update you on more activities that will be available as we confirm them. Just wanted to give everybody Be sure to save the date and time so you can start inviting your friends, neighbors and family to come help us celebrate!

Christ UMC Prayer Lists

Members

Jerry Bruce
Kay Dixon
Peggy Evans
Bettye Hampton
Ethel Haughton

Henry Hutson
Faye Jackson
Chris Ligin
Jackie Moore
Susan Musgrove

Mary Ann Page
Ed Thomason
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

Vickie Barker
Michael Buttermann
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
Leanne Moore
Carl Pendley

Lucio Silviera Da Silva
Michele Silviera Da Silva
Alan Tennille
Lacye Tennille
Richard Tennille
Crew Tidwell
Lori Winderweedle
Willene Wyatt

Memorials

EDNA NEILL

Paul and Margie Rachal

FRANK EBERHARDT

Chris Liggin

Financial Report

July 2025

JULY INCOME	\$ 20,876.30	YTD INCOME	\$ 258,836.63
JULY EXPENSES	44,070.00	YTD EXPENSE	250,150.03
JULY INCOME LESS EXP:	\$ -23,193.70	YTD INCOME LESS EXP	\$ 8,686.60

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



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 August 2025

	Worship	On-Line	Sunday School	P'Ball Church
August 3	51	0	16	27
August 10	63	5	19	30
August 17	58	2	21	33
August 24	50	4	21	25
August 31	57	5	21	—

But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

1 Timothy 1:13-14