

By The Way...

In case you missed it: THE WORLD IS ENDING
SEPTEMBER 23!

At least that's what the news is reporting about
the claims of one Christian numerologist.

Go ahead and make plans to be in church
September 24. The world is not ending this week.

How do I know?

First, "Christian numerologist" is an oxymoron.
There is no such thing. While there are numbers
in the Bible they are not magical predictors of the
future; numbers are numbers and sometimes
symbols that point beyond the numbers. God
does not paint by numbers. He is way more
creative than that.

Second, without a lot of research I think you can
calculate that the end of world predictions have
been 100% wrong so far. And let me tell you
there have been both great and infamous
characters who have failed in that endeavor:
Pope Innocent III, Martin Luther, Christopher
Columbus, Isaac Newton, Cotton Mather
(multiple times), Herbert W. Armstrong (multiple
times), the Jehovah's Witnesses, Pat Robertson,
and even our own John Wesley. Just playing the
odds here, but it's a safe bet that we will add yet
another name to the list.

Third, "about that day or hour no one knows, not
even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only
the Father" (Mark 13:32). When it comes to the
timing of Jesus' return, no one will be able to say,

"I told you so"—except God. Any time someone
sets that date I know exactly when it is not
happening.

Fourth, the End is a new beginning. When the
Bible says the world is ending what it means is
that the world as it is is ending: a new creation is
being born. Go to Revelation 21 and you will see
that God is not intending to scrap this universe he
created and we messed up; God is renewing
Creation so that heaven and earth will be one. "I
am making everything new!" (Revelation 21:5).

So what are we supposed to do? Jesus says, "Be
on guard! Be alert!" (Mark 13:33). "Take care that
your hearts aren't dulled by drinking parties,
drunkenness, and the anxieties of day-to-day life.
Don't let that day fall upon you unexpectedly"
(Luke 21:34). Paul says, "Be careful then how you
live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the
most of the time, because the days are evil. So do
not be foolish, but understand what the will of
the Lord is" (Ephesians 5:15-17). "Let us not fall
asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be
sober...For God has destined us not for wrath but
for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus
Christ...Therefore encourage one another and
build up each other, as indeed you are doing" (1
Thessalonians 5:6,9,11).

In short, we should be filled with more life than
anyone because we have more life—eternal life—
and nothing and no one can take it away.

Jonathan

Join us Sunday for Pastors lesson
from Matthew 6:14-15
Forgive Us Our Sins



You're Invited to a
80th Birthday Bash
celebrating
Barbara Grove
at FUMC
Community Fellowship Center
Saturday, September 23rd
2-5
No gifts please!



It's time for our 3rd Graders to
receive their Bible from our church.
If you have a 3rd grader that should
be receiving their Bible please call
the church office of let Jeana know.



The Eagles



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UPHOLDING OUR CHURCH OUR GIFTS

Budgeted Giving	\$6,255.00
Last Week's Giving	\$14,605.94
Needed Weekly	\$11,330.00

OUR PRESENCE

Worship	
8:30am	49
10am	135
Last Weeks Attendance	
Worship	
10am	192

IN OUR PRAYERS

Tom Pate (Helen Reynolds' brother) , Harland Patteson, Ray Guidry (brother of John Guidry) , Edith Pate(Helen Reynolds Mother), Wilma & HJ Ducote, Larry Krueger (Bob Krueger's brother), Mary Beth Harris, Kendall Barr, Fred Robbins (brother of Joe Robbins), Laura Farrow, Kenneth Young, Connie Eldred, Ruth Tannehill, Don & Shirley Mace, Jean Gillespie, Maurice & Katy Talbert, Paula Adams, Carol Perkins (Sonya Willis' sister), JoAnn Hearne, Bobby Beard (Sue Neals brother), Cindy Winfrey (Jim Quebedeaux's sister), Bobby Dugas, Gwen Maldonado, Amanda Brugman Fontenot, Verlene Roberts (Sister of Vaudine Taylor), Vaudine Taylor, Scott Merchant (Friend of Tommy Lecoq), Peggy Gray, Jackie Smith (Christi Murphy's father), Pat Laird, Don Aycock, William Scott, Bob Henderson (Margie Hart's father), Manny Vara (friend of Jamie Miller), Julia Nita Franke, Bobbie Medina (friend of Sonya Willis), Edna Harrington, Jim Budwah & Carla Sue Huey (cousins of T.J.Robbins), Jennifer Doornbos, Lou Ann Simmons, Conor Wheatcroft (grandson of Tina & George Wheatcroft), Saylor Lambert, Mike Guidry, James McClammy, Margeret Baker, Harold Westbrook, Wayne Quinn, Glenda Meaux, Karen Ross, Doretha Toler, Gay Furbee, Marian Quinn, Sabery Gary & George Romero (Grandfathers of Trey Romero), Colt Plake (grandson of McClammys), Juanita Macon , Brenda Carroll (sister in law of Pelloats), Richard Wheat (friend of the Richeys) , Evelyn Duncan (friend of Tina Bernard) and Bob Krueger.

If you are interested in being on or have someone you would like to be put on First United Methodist Church prayer list, please call the church office at 722-4379

If there is anyone in our church family who would like to be a Lay Reader please call the church office. 722-4379. Rose Hairston will be lay reader at 8:30 Worship and Christi Murphy for the 10:45 worship service this Sunday.

MEETINGS COMING UP...

Monday, September 25th
Finance 6pm
Adm. Board 7pm



Edith Pate, mother of Helen Reynolds, celebrated her 103rd birthday on September 16, 2017. Many thanks for prayers for her and her family that help take care of her at her home in Groves. Please continue to pray for all of them.



This Sunday we will meet upstairs from 4-5:30 with Mr. Billy our new youth director!

Invite a friend and join the fun!

Get up, get out and get active, ENCOUNTER all that God has in store for you!!!

Remind Account

Text To: 81010

Message: @firststumcyo



PECANS FOR SALE
Price to be determined in Oct.
(HALVES OR PIECES)

They will be coming in the last week of November, please pay then.



**Every Wednesday
4-5:30**

Please text @jesusm to 81010, to receive reminders & updates We have lots of birthdays to celebrate this week... Can't wait to see all of you!



The Chancel Choir is starting to practice for the Christmas Cantata. Cantata Practice will be from 6:30-7:15 with regular Choir practice from 7:15-8. Everyone is invited to join the choir and share your talents.