

# ***Live from Livingston***

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## **NOTE FROM PASTOR RICK**

Each week pastors ask and answer the question, Through which Scripture reading does God want to speak to his people this Sunday? This year I sensed God leading me to stay with the gospel according to Mark. There is a consensus among scholars that Mark was the first of the four gospels. Matthew and Luke each used material found in Mark, along with another source, adding their own material and being led by the Spirit to present the story of Jesus a different way.

The gospel of Mark invites us to encounter Jesus as if for the first time. What was it like for the first people who heard this gospel? Who encountered John the baptizer? Who heard these first compelling words of Christ?

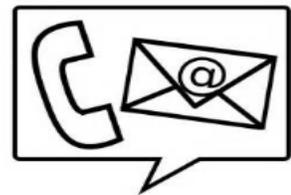
***The right time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is at hand.  
Repent and trust in the good news***

Pastors and mature Christians along with younger believers and those who are not yet disciples of Jesus... we all need to go back to hear and encounter Jesus anew. Who is Jesus? What is this good news? Why do we repent and trust and follow? Why are we Christian believers? What does Mark teach us about the way of discipleship?

And now we begin to journey through the season of Lent. I invite us as believers and as a church to observe this holy season so that God continues to heal and renew and transform us. And the story of our life and lives together reflect even more the kingdom of God present in the work and words of Jesus.

## **STAYING IN TOUCH**

Website: [www.Livingstonlaumc.org](http://www.Livingstonlaumc.org)  
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Pastor Rick's E-mail: [Rick.Livumcla@Gmail.com](mailto:Rick.Livumcla@Gmail.com)  
Pastor Rick's Cell Phone: 225-921-2355



## NEWS FROM YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL

We had several things to discuss at our last church council meeting. And we finished in less than an hour. Glory to God.

The biggest item was a good plan for how to manage the parsonage. Which includes some changes to the church budget.

- Pastor Rick proposed a short “coffee time” after worship once a month. Short and simple and probably the last Sunday of the month.
- And a “family and friends” brunch before worship about once a quarter. The church council ran with that idea and decided to do this when we have a fifth Sunday. And the worship service would be mostly singing with requests and suggestions from you.
- Both give us a chance to know each other better, invite and encourage first time guests and members of the church who have not come for a while.

We also talked about whether our church can partner with Faith Crossing church for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services. Rick will coordinate with John Gilmore pastor of Faith Crossing. Probably one service in Livingston and the other in Walker. Both in the evening.

## CHURCH CALENDAR AND EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY!

Wednesday February 14

**\*7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday service\***

No Kids for Christ or Bible study on Psalms

Sunday February 18

10:00 a.m. Worship

Wednesday February 21

**6:00 p.m. Kids for Christ + Bible study on Psalms**

Sunday February 25

10:00 a.m. Worship

Wednesday February 28

**6:00 p.m. Kids for Christ + Bible study on Psalms**

Sunday March 4

10:00 a.m. Worship with Communion

## IN OUR COMMUNITY

**Every Wednesday** = After school. Ages 12-18 hang out Main Library 2:30-3:30 p.m. Technology, video games, movies, snacks. Visit [www.Mylpl.info](http://www.Mylpl.info) for more information.

**Every Wednesday** = Mighty Moms. Main Library 3:00-4:30 pm. For free after school meal.

**Thursday, January 18** = Craft-o-Rama. Come enjoy putting together an assortment of crafts or make up your own! Visit the Albany-Springfield Library anytime between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. For more information, call the library or visit [www.mylpl.info](http://www.mylpl.info).

Teen Anime Club. Those in grades 7-12 are invited to the Watson Library 5:30 p.m. to watch anime and discuss manga and learn about Japanese culture. For more information, call the library or visit [www.mylpl.info](http://www.mylpl.info).

Coloring and Coffee. Come out and treat yourself to some free time to color, drink coffee, listen to music, and socialize at the South Library 6 p.m. The library will provide intricate coloring sheets and colored pencils. For more information call the library or visit [www.mylpl.info](http://www.mylpl.info).

Fairy Tale Storytime and Puppet Show. Fairy tale-inspired stories! A story about a terrible dragon, a hilarious puppet show, and a craft. Denham Springs-Walker Library 6 p.m. For more information, call the library or visit [www.mylpl.info](http://www.mylpl.info).

**Saturday, January 20** = VITA Tax Preparation. Co-sponsored by Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and the Internal Revenue Service. Free tax preparation for participants with a low to moderate income for 2017. Sessions will be held at the Main Library from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Bring tax documents such as W-2s, 1099s, and information for deductions and credits along with a copy of last year's tax return and a Social Security card for yourself, a spouse and dependents. You may also bring proof of a bank account for direct deposit. Volunteers will prepare most simple returns, but more complicated returns will not be processed. **This program is by appointment only.** To make an appointment or for more information, call the branch hosting your preferred event or visit <http://www.cauw.org/vita/appointments>.

LIGO Science Saturday. LIGO - Livingston Science Education Center. From 1:00-5:00 p.m. you can tour the world's first successful gravitational wave observatory and learn more about the science of senses. Learn about your own senses through activities focused on the senses. The center is located north of the town of Livingston on LIGO Lane. For more information visit [www.ligo.caltech.edu/LA/](http://www.ligo.caltech.edu/LA/).

**Tuesday, January 23** = H.O.P.E. Grief Support Groups. Six-week support group session that provides a safe place for sharing and growth through grief, on Tuesdays through March 6 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. The group will not meet on Mardi Gras. Ochsner Medical Center, 17000 Medical Center Drive (off O'Neal Lane), in the Chapel on the first floor. Please call Denise Domingue at the Hospice of Baton Rouge at (225) 767-4673 for more information or to reserve your spot. All groups are provided to the public at no charge.

**Saturday, January 27** = Watson Gumbo Cook-off. From 10:00-6:00 at the Live Oak Sports Complex, 36965 La. Hwy. 16. Organizers say it will be their biggest cook-off yet with 50 cooking teams competing. Gumbo will include bird and sausage (including andouille), but no seafood. No pre-cooked ingredients allowed. Each competitor must cook enough gumbo to feed 200-300 people. Musical entertainment. Once again, the event will support local homeless veterans at the Quad Area Transitional Housing for Homeless Veterans. For more information visit the Watson's 8th Annual Bird & Sausage Gumbo Cookoff event page on Facebook.

**Saturday, February 3** = Krewe of Denham Springs Parade. 3:00 p.m. The 2018 theme is "Party on the Nile." From Denham Springs High School through the Antique District and end at the intersection of Veteran's Boulevard. Anyone interested in participating in this parade should contact Mickey Sharp, Parade Captain, at [mickey.sharp@cox.net](mailto:mickey.sharp@cox.net) for an entry form. Deadline for entries will be January 31.

Krewe of Diversion Parade. (Time? Location?)