UNITED CHRISTIAN FAITH MINISTRIES

HARVEST FEST 26 GLOW UP

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 26, 2026

Media contact: Nicolette Gordon
unewsnow@ucfministries.org | 225-803-9844 (call or text)
Released by: Miracle Ennis, Marketing and Communications Director

When the World Celebrates Darkness, United Christian Faith Ministries Lights Up Baton Rouge with Harvest Fest 2026: GLOW UP

On Saturday, October 31, the church's free Harvest Fest gives Baton Rouge families one safe, bright place to be together: ten glow zones, Trunk or Treat, an escape room, food trucks and a DJ, under the theme Glow Different. Live Different. Shine Different.

BATON ROUGE, La. (October 26, 2026): When the world celebrates darkness, United Christian Faith Ministries (UCFM) is lighting up its corner of Baton Rouge. The church's Harvest Fest 2026, themed GLOW UP and presented with its Ablaze Youth Ministry, runs Saturday, October 31, from 6:00 to 8:30 PM at 9229 N. Ridgewood Drive. Entry, games, candy and activities are free, the whole community is invited, and guests can register at glow.discovertheu.com.

Harvest Fest is not a Halloween party, and this year's theme says why. GLOW UP and its theme line, "Glow Different. Live Different. Shine Different.", are built around light rather than fright: neon, blacklights, music, candy and food in ten zones for every age, alongside local vendors, food trucks and community resource agencies. Every guest enters through the Glow Tunnel and receives a glow bracelet.

"All of Baton Rouge will be out after dark on October 31, looking for somewhere safe to take their kids. We wanted to give them somewhere bright," said Dr. Mark Ellis Sr., Senior Pastor of UCFM. "Matthew 5:16 tells us to let our light shine, and this year we are taking that literally: a whole lot full of light, a safe place for families to be together, and a welcome for every neighbor who comes onto the lot. And just as we bring light to a dark night, that is what we aim to be for Baton Rouge every day: a light, and a beam of hope."

Highlights of the night include:

- **Treat Street,** the Trunk or Treat, opening at 6:45 PM, where ministries and families compete for five judged titles.
- **Escape the Darkness,** an escape room where teams have fifteen minutes and four clues to bring the lights back.
- **Little Lights,** a calmer corner for nursery through age 5.

The defining moment comes at 7:00 PM. After a five minute word from Matthew 5:16, the main lights come down and the entire lot raises glow sticks together: one light, then another, then hundreds. It is the theme in a single picture, a community choosing to shine. The evening closes at 8:25 PM with the Glow Finale, a worship celebration, the grand prize, and a blessing over every family on the lot.

“We designed every corner of this lot so the whole family has fun together,” said Casaundra McNair, who is coordinating Harvest Fest for UCFM. “The little ones have Little Lights, the teenagers have the Glow Arena and the escape room, and moms, dads and grandparents get to play right alongside them. Nobody sits this one out. Wear something bright, and bring the whole crew.”

Family safety is built into the plan. Everything happens in one contained place, a flat, paved parking lot, so families trade dark streets for a lot full of light. A parking and safety team works the lot, and costumes are welcome as long as they are family friendly: nothing gory, evil or frightening, and no full face masks.

Harvest Fest is open to the whole community, whether or not guests attend UCFM. Registration at glow.discovertheu.com takes about a minute, every registered guest gets a free food item, and each registration comes with a GLOW Pass for the fast lane. Food trucks sell their own food, and walk ups are welcome. Past Harvest Fests have drawn more than 600 people, even in the rain, and organizers are looking forward to even more family fun this year.

Harvest Fest 2026 at a glance

WHAT	Harvest Fest 2026, a free and safe family festival of light
THEME	GLOW UP: Glow Different. Live Different. Shine Different.
WHEN	Saturday, October 31, 2026, 6:00 to 8:30 PM. Trunk or Treat opens at 6:45 PM.
WHERE	United Christian Faith Ministries parking lot, 9229 N. Ridgewood Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70814
COST	Free. Every registered guest gets a free food item, and every guest gets a glow bracelet. Food trucks sell their own food.
REGISTER	glow.discovertheu.com (walk ups welcome)
HOSTS	United Christian Faith Ministries with Ablaze Youth Ministry
PRESS KIT	glow.discovertheu.com/press
QUESTIONS	ablaze@ucfministries.org

About United Christian Faith Ministries

United Christian Faith Ministries (UCFM) is a church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, founded in 2006 by Dr. Mark Ellis Sr. UCFM exists to bring people of all races to Jesus and into His family, to develop their faith into Christ-like maturity, and to equip them for ministry in the church and mission in the world. Worship services are held Sundays at 8 a.m. and 11:15 a.m., with Bible study Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Learn more at ucfministries.org.

For editors and producers

- **6:00 PM:** Grand opening and the Glow Tunnel entrance.
- **6:45 PM:** Treat Street opens.
- **7:00 PM:** Glow Moment One. Hundreds of glow sticks raised at once; the strongest image of the night.
- **8:25 PM:** Glow Finale. Treat Street awards are presented just before it.
- Logos, the flyer and this release are at glow.discovertheu.com/press. To arrange interviews, on site coverage or event artwork, contact Nicolette Gordon at unewsnow@ucfministries.org or 225-803-9844.