



The Steeple ■ December 17, 2023

10:00AM* Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
10:00AM^ Contemporary Worship,
Wesley Worship Ctr



A United Methodist Congregation

*Facebook livestreamed ^YouTube livestreamed

WELCOME

We are blessed to have you with us in worship this day!
Our mission: "Follow Jesus and Share Him with Others!"
Gather—Grow—Give—Go!

Order of Worship

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

The liturgical color is purple, symbolizing the watching and waiting for the Messiah to come.

We lift up prayers for the nation, our community, our church family, staff, ministers, and for the work of Christ in the world.

Prelude "Joy to the World" arr. Raney/Sherman
Adult Handbell Choir, Jayne Smith, director; Susan Soehner, piano
(The Prelude is a pathway into the presence of God with meditation and silent prayer.)

Welcome & Passing of the Peace Rev. Michelle Louk

* **Choral Call to Worship** "Advent Processional" arr. Ferguson
Kim Alexander, Taniya Boatwright, Brady Cunningham; soloists

* **Chiming of the Trinity**

* **Opening Hymn** "Angels, We Have Heard On High" UMH #238

Lighting of the Advent Candle—Love Deborah & Ruell Hicks
Congregational Response:

We wait as people who have encountered divine Love that disrupts the status quo and ushers us into abundant life marked by mutual love and peace that flows from the flourishing of all people.

* **Affirmation of Faith** UMH #881
I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

* **The Gloria Patri** UMH #70

Children's Message Missi McMakin
*(Following, children ages **3 years to 1st grade**, may be dismissed to Little Church. Parents may pick up children after worship in room 201, Wesley Bldg.)*

Anthem "God's Peace" arr. Adams

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Louk

The Lord's Prayer
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Celebrating Grace by Returning God's Tithes and Giving Our Offerings
(Offering Stewards will come forward at this time. Please register attendance.)

Offertory "The First Noel" arr. Moglebust
Adult Handbell Choir

(Continued on the next page.)

* The Doxology	“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”	UMH #95
* Offertory Prayer		Rev. Louk
* Preparatory Hymn	“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”	UMH #218
* Scripture	Philippians 2:1-5, 10-11	<i>Pew Bible NT pg.186</i>
Sermon	“Don’t Give Up on Perfect”	Rev. Louk
New Member Reception	<i>Georgia Manges Regina and Everett Saunders Pamela Yvonne Ford Ned Anton Timmerman</i>	UMH #34
* Closing Hymn	“Noel Festival”	arr. Larson
* Benediction		Rev. Louk
* Postlude	“Joy”	Young

(*) *Please stand as you are able.*

<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Children</i>
Members and guests, kindly pass the attendance book along the pew to register your attendance. Members have the option to check-in on the Realm app on their mobile device. Sunday School for all ages—3 through adult—9:00 to 9:50AM. Nursery (infants and toddlers) is offered during Sunday school and worship.	First Church invites families to worship together. We also offer “Little Church” to children ages 3 yrs to 1st grade after the Children’s Message in worship. Little Church is a child-friendly “mini” worship service in room 201, Wesley Building (upstairs). Parents, please pick up your children immediately after worship.

****Please ask the ushers for hearing devices, large print hymnals, or children’s Wiggle Bags.****

We are blessed to welcome everyone in our presence today and pray that you will experience the presence of Christ together in worship.

The **flowers** in worship today are given for the glory of God and in celebration of Linda and Michael Paulk who are celebrating their 35th wedding anniversary on December 16th.

Worship flowers are needed for (2024) Jan. 14, 21, Feb. 4, 25. To reserve one of these dates or a future date to place flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one, please contact Trisha Tuite in the church office, trisha@fumcmb.org or 843-448-7164 x207.

Virtual worship opportunities may be found on Facebook (fumcmb), on our website (www.fumcmb.org), on the mobile app (fumc mb), or Sundays at 10AM on WFXB (FOX TV7), and now on YouTube (@firstchurch6363).

Serving in Worship

GREETERS—DECEMBER

Front Entrance Eileen and Louis Quattrocchi *Office Entrance* Annette & Ed Willett

USHERS—DECEMBER

Preston Bowers: Jackson Bowers, Neal Bowers, Clark Butler, Gene Butler, Tracy Conner, Alec McMillan, Keith McMillan, Zachary McMillan, Dudley Robinson, Mark Sturzenbecker

ACOLYTE Meredith Bowers

VIDEO Jim Lewis

AUDIO Melissa Sadin

Serving in Contemporary Worship

Camera/Livestream Dorothy Hamrick ***Slides/Lighting*** TBD

Ushers Daniel Shuler, Don Myers

Advent Readers: Wood and Youngerman Families

Children’s Message Pastor Donna

Little Church Amanda Sturgeon, Wendi Huberty



We Look Forward to Seeing You

MISSION IMPACT SUNDAY

Please join FUMC of Myrtle Beach

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28th

for combined 8:45AM youth and adult Sunday school in Wesley Hall and 10AM worship, Sanctuary, followed by a catered BBQ lunch, Wesley Hall

We are excited to share updates and to hear from several of our local, regional & global Mission organizations!

If you stay for Lunch with your children, please contact Trisha in the Church Office, 843-448-7164, to register the number of children and age of each child. **Childcare is available** for ages infants to 3 years.

Pastor Donna Cassity will host a **Special Mission Project** for children, **ages 4 through 5th Grade.**

A separate children's lunch will be provided.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Marjorie Mae Paul Wing

November 11, 1927—December 11, 2023

"I am the resurrection and the life; those that believe in me, even though they die, yet shall they live."

Condolences—The pastors, staff and church family extend Christian sympathy to **Joy Taylor** and family on the passing of her sister, **Sue Latimer**, on December 3, 2023 in Greensboro, NC.

BIBLE CHALLENGE—Read the New Testament in one year!

Week 51 (12/17/23) reading schedule (one chapter per day):

The Book Revelation, chapters 13-17

The Bible reading study will resume in January, 2024.

"Gifts" ADVENT Study, 1:30PM in THE 925, led by Pastor Michelle.



Big Tom's "A Quote"

"The only things we can truly give are the things we can truly give—an ear to listen, a word of encouragement, and a hand to help." ~ Jimmy Carter

First Church Weekly Readings: *

First Church invites you to follow this weekly Scripture lesson reading plan.

Dec 18 1 Samuel 2:1-10
Dec 19 Luke 4:14-19
Dec 20 Ezekiel 11:19-20; 36:22-38
Dec 21 Zechariah 4:17
Dec 22 Acts 10:34-48
Dec 23 Galatians 5:22-26
Dec 24 Luke 1:46-55

*Uniform Series International Lesson Series
"A Song Justice"
Luke 4

Sunday School Classes

Children's Classes (Wesley Bldg)

Infants to 2 years W-106
3 & 4 yr olds W-102
K & 1st grades W-202
2nd & 3rd grades W-204
4th & 5th grades W-203

Youth Classes

6th-12th Grades Sunshine House

Adult Classes (W=Wesley; A=Asbury)

Ark The 925
Brittain Fellowship A-101
New Creation A-203
MD Moore* W-105
Open Doors* W-103
Open Fellowship* A-104
Seekers A-207



Welcome Snowbirds & Seagulls!

Snowbirds & Seagulls ministry is a **weekly program** held from **January through March** for **local and snowbird seniors**. Weekly programs are held Thursday mornings, and weekly golf outings take place Tuesday mornings. Information packets and applications are available on the church website or in the church office. For more info, please contact **Scott Bowen, 843-448-7164**.

Christmas Eve
 10AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
 10AM Contemporary Worship, Wesley Worship Ctr
 7PM Candlelight and Holy Communion Worship

First United Methodist Church Myrtle Beach
 901 N. Kings Hwy, Myrtle Beach SC
 843-448-7164 www.fumcmb.org

First Church has completed its 4 discernment informational meetings with regard to the United Methodist Church. A Church Conference has been scheduled with the District Superintendent for **January 21, 2024 at 3:30PM in the Sanctuary for the membership vote**. Please join us for **daily prayer leading up to the vote**. The **Sanctuary and Chapel are available** during regular office hours and on Sundays. **Be sure to verify your membership status with Trisha, trisha@fumcmb.org no later than January 8th.** Thank you.

Many thanks for the blessing of music today from our musicians.

Wesley Chancel Choir: Kim Alexander, Karen Bennett, Taniya Boatwright, Brady Cunningham, Sam Davis, Peggy Ecker, Les Haga, Tara Howser, Mike Hussey, Janice McKinsey, Michael Paulk, Terrence Piette, Jack Rebeck, Rhonda Singleton, Susan Smith, Joy Taylor, Arminia Thomas, Phyllis Townsend, Lisa Washburn, Suzie Wheeler, Heather Whitley; *Norman McQueen, director*

Adult Handbell Choir: Susan Wagner, Debbie Duncan, Lisa Washburn, Kathy Rodwell, Shai Kahn, Jamie Egerton, Kathy Brittain, Willa Wrenn, Denise Daniels, Darlene Rebeck, Ginny Roof, Dabney Joyner, Preston Bowers, Melinda Morgan, Glen Daniels, David Marlette; *Jayne Smith, director*

Organ/Piano: Susan Soehner

Community Kitchen
Of Myrtle Beach

First Church needs volunteers at the **Community Kitchen**
January 8-12, 2023, Monday thru Friday
 Two volunteers are needed for each shift each day.
Breakfast: 7:00AM-10:00AM | Lunch: 10:00AM-1:30PM
 Please contact Michelle Bowers 843-655-2253 to volunteer.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Light the Big Oak this Christmas!
\$20/String of Lights

Help us light the big Oak Tree this Christmas **in honor or in memory of your loved ones**. **Proceeds** go to United Women in Faith (formerly UMW) for **local mission projects**. Order forms are outside each worship entrance and in the church office.



12/17 5:15PM Youth Group @ N Campus
 12/24 Merry Christmas!
 12/31 Happy New Year!
 1/3 7:15AM Youth prayer breakfast, Chick-Fil-a, Seaboard St.
 1/7 5:15PM Youth Group @ N Campus
 1/10 7:15AM Youth prayer breakfast, Chick-Fil-a, Seaboard St.

January 12-15, 2024 Look Up Lodge Winter Camp derek@fumcmb.org

CHRISTMAS CAROLING | TODAY, DEC. 17th

We will visit three nursing homes to share the joy of Christmas with our voices. Children and adults are invited to meet at CDM, 904 65th Ave N, today at 2:00PM to travel together by bus to each location.



Small Group Feedback Needed!

At First Church, your feedback is valuable to us! We continually strive to better serve our congregation and community. You are invited to complete a brief survey to help us understand your needs and preferences regarding small group topics and participation.

Your input will help shape our focus and ensure that we provide the best possible support and spiritual guidance.

Click below or scan the QR code to complete the survey:

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/46f91a74/YsbQzsKKiEank4rzEekynQ?u=https://forms.gle/zjGRZ7VSaqmJ4MFQ6>



All 2023 year-end giving to the church, via US Mail, must be postmarked no later than December 31st.



Thanks for Your Support!

Financials and Attendance

As of 12/10/2023 (includes online giving):

Contributions week of: \$ 71,559
 Total Revenue YTD: \$ 1,546,811
 Total Expenses YTD: \$ 1,633,895
 Difference YTD: - \$87,084

Expenses include monthly apportionments and direct billing.

MISSION IMPACT 2023

Faith Promise: \$ 111,160
 Faith Promise Receipts: \$82,069

Presence 12/10/2023

◆ Worship in person: 370
 ◆ Fox TV & promos (Oct. mo. est): 23,300
 ◆ Worship online: 870
 ◆ Social Media: 4,787
 ◆ Sunday School: 115

Give electronically with a cell phone. Scan the QR code below with your phone's camera, then tap the link at the top of the screen to open VENMO to give.



venmo

Mailing address: First United Methodist Church, PO Box 1367, Myrtle Beach, SC 29578
 Phone: 843-448-7164 Email: office@fumcmb.org Website: www.fumcmb.org
 Facebook.com/FUMCMB Instagram.com/firstchurchmb YouTube.com/@firstchurch6363
 Request The Steeple via email: thesteeple@fumcmb.org
 Televised worship, Sunday mornings—10AM, FOX Channel 7

The Sunshiners

Opportunities to Fellowship and Serve
Mondays, 10:30AM—12 Noon
3rd Monday (Dec 18)
Gift Ministry—plating brownies for Myrtle Beach First Responders
4th Monday (Dec 25)—no meeting
Merry Christmas!

Thank you!

THANK YOU FIRST CHURCH!
What an outpouring of love and compassion you have shown our outreach members! As a result of your giving spirit, all of our Angels have been selected. What a caring congregation!
~ Congregational Care Committee



Need one more communion server for Christmas Eve 7PM
worship.



To volunteer, please contact Susan Smith, susan1257@aol.com.

AND

Opportunities are available to **assist** in the **Extended Table ministry** to take communion to our **local shut-ins**. Please contact Rhonda Singleton, volunteers@fumcmb.org.

See what's ahead!

12/25 & 26: Office Closed
12/31: 10 AM, 2 regular services
1/1/24: Office Closed
1/7/24: Community Kitchen week
1/12-15/24: LookUp Lodge

Happening This Week

SUNDAY, December 17, 2023

8:45AM--
11:15AM **Nursery Provided** WESLEY CTR
9:00AM **Sunday School** ALL AGES
10:00AM **Traditional Worship***
SANCTUARY *Facebook
10:00AM **Contemporary Worship^**
WESLEY WORSHIP CTR ^YouTube
2:00PM **Caroling**—MEET @ N CAMPUS
5:15PM **Youth Group @ N Campus**

MONDAY, Dec. 18

10:30AM **The Sonshiners** THE 925
2:00PM **Prayer Shawl Ministry** PARLOR
3:00PM **Grief Support Group** THE 925

TUESDAY, Dec. 19

12 Noon **"Wonder" Advent Study** THE 925

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 20

7:30AM **Women's Prayer Group**
PRAYER ROOM
1:30PM **"Gifts" Advent Study** THE 925
6:30PM **Wesley Chancel Choir**
SANCTUARY

THURSDAY, Dec. 21

9:30AM **Staff Meeting** OFC-UPSTAIRS
10:00AM **Caregivers Group** PARLOR
5:30PM **Band Rehearsal** WESLEY HALL

Christmas Eve December 24, 2023

8:45AM--
11:15AM **Nursery Provided** WESLEY CTR
9:00AM **Sunday School** ALL AGES
10:00AM **Traditional Worship***
SANCTUARY *Facebook
10:00AM **Contemporary Worship^**
WESLEY WORSHIP CTR ^YouTube
7:00PM **Christmas Eve Worship***
Candlelight & Communion
SANCTUARY *Facebook



Ministers

Rev. Joel W. McMakin, Senior Pastor **Rev. Michelle D. Louk, Associate Pastor**
Rev. Jim Creel, Jr., Associate Pastor, Spiritual Formation
Rev. Thomas N. Brittain, Pastor Emeritus

First United Methodist Church Myrtle Beach, 901 N Kings Hwy, Myrtle Beach SC
Church Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday, 8AM-5PM—CLOSED FRIDAYS
North Campus: Thomas N. Brittain Center, 904 65th Ave N, Myrtle Beach SC



Poinsettias given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of:

Vickie Baker

By: Tracy & Jan Gunter

Lydia Hussey Banks

By: Michael & Jean Hussey

Matthew Beers

By: Rachel Platt

Bill Bellamy

By: Susan & John Guinn

Lucille Brewer

By: Laurens & Jaunita Lynn

Jean Baumgardner

By: Les & Jan Haga

Arthur Carlson

By: Nancy Carlson

Scott A. Clawson

By: Christina Clawson

Mary Lois & Bethel DuRant

By: Sharon & George DuRant

Rosemary & George Graves

By: Stokes & Susan Graves

Charles Haga

By: Les & Jan Haga

James Hadstate

By: Debbie Hadstate

Ann Harmon

By: Rick Harmon

Wayne & Ebeth Hucks

By: Michael & Jean Hussey

Clara & Corky Hunsucker

By: Sharon & George DuRant

Pearline & Richard Hussey

By: Rick Hussey Family
By: Michael & Jean Hussey

Hariot & Gordon Lynn

By: Laurens & Jaunita Lynn

Betty & Kenny McCutcheon

By: Beth & Jim Rozier

Alex & Susan Mordvinov

By: Daniel & Maria Shuler

My Parents & In-Laws

By: Carla & Henry Lowenstein

My Parents & My Sister

By: Willa Wrenn

Lyn Pierce Gardner

By: Harry Gardner, Chris, Cynthia,
& Landon Pierce

Carol, LeRoy & Randy Platt

By: Rachel Platt

Mary & Marvin Robinson

By: Dudley & Rosalin Robinson

Joanne & Eugene Ross

By: Stokes & Susan Graves

Miriam & Jake Rozier

By: Beth & Jim Rozier

Claude Shuler

By: Daniel & Maria Shuler

Rock Smith

By: The Smith Family
By: Susan & John Guinn

Abert Springs

By: Carmen Springs

Bob Sturgess

By: Carol Sturgess

Martha White

By: Tracy & Jan Gunter

Margaret Whitney

By: Rhonda & Tom Slavish

Poinsettias given to the Glory of God and in Honor of:

Ark Class Teachers

By: Jim & Helen Shaffer

Tom Brittain

By: Big Tom's Friends Lunch Group

Church Clergy & Staff

By: Tom & Judy Winn

Carter, Wilson & Ellis

By: Steve & Tara Clemmons

Our Children & Grandchild

By: James Moe & Linda Haines

Norman McQueen, Susan Shoener and Choir

By: Tom & Judy Winn

David Haga

By: Les & JanHaga

Austin Louise Huguley

By: Carmen Springs

Josephine Jeannette

By: Dudley & Rosalin Robinson

Jim Lewis

By: Cloister Circle

Harry & Beverly McKnight

By: Janie McKnight

Aaron & Elizabeth McKnight

By: Granma

Norman McQueen & Chancel Choir

By: Rhonda 2

John Morrow

By: Beth Ervin Morrow

Ray & Arminia Thomas

By: Craig & Leslie Thomas