



FIRST CHURCH
MYRTLE BEACH

A United Methodist Congregation

The Steeple ■ December 24, 2023

10:00AM* Traditional Worship, Sanctuary

10:00AM^ Contemporary Worship,
Wesley Worship Ctr

*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

4th Sunday of Advent

December 24, 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

"Mary, Did You Know?"

arr. Coates

(The Prelude is a pathway into the presence of God with meditation and silent prayer.)

Welcome & Passing of the Peace

Rev. Joel McMakin

* Chiming of the Trinity

* Opening Hymn

"Good Christian Friends Rejoice"

UMH #224

Lighting of the Advent Candle—Joy

Sturzenbecker Family

Congregational Response:

We wait as people who experience hardship and pain, yet we are called to witness to the persistent joy that sustains our life as God's people.

* Affirmation of Faith

Rev. McMakin | 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

Pastor Donna

(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

"Love Came Down at Christmas"

arr. Rutter

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. McMakin

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

"Christmas Tradition"
String Quartet

arr. Neuen-Rabinowitz

* The Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH #95

(Continued on the next page.)

* Offertory Prayer		Rev. McMakin
* Preparatory Hymn	“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”	UMH #240
* Scripture	Isaiah 9:6	<i>Pew Bible NT pg. 104; 226</i>
Sermon	“A Glimpse of Christmas Future”	Rev. Creel
* Closing Hymn	“O Little Town of Bethlehem”	UMH #230
* Benediction		Rev. Creel
* Postlude	“Toccata on ‘Adeste Fideles’”	Hegarty

(* 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 loving memory of Ann Gorton Horan from her loving family.

Special appreciation for the musical talents of the **String Quartet:** Stephen Williams, violin I, Joshua Parrish, violin II, Wyatt Johnson, viola, Rose Dagraca, cello

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 Will Sturzenbecker
CRUCIFER Wes Sturzenbecker

BIBLE BEARER Claire Sturzenbecker

VIDEO Jim Lewis

AUDIO Scott Bowen

Serving in Contemporary Worship

Camera/Livestream Jason Gildner, Dorothy Hamrick **Slides/Lighting** Jonathan Kittle
Ushers Carol Romanski, Carole Scarpa
Advent Readers: McMillan Family
Little Church Sarah Wood



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.**

Congratulations to Carol Anne and Ronnie Felts, new grandparents, on the birth of their grand-daughter, **Tinsley Evelyn Felts**, on December 18, 2023. Proud parents are **Sally Kate and Jordan Felts**. A Cradle Cross and flower are placed on the altar in honor of this new life.



Christmas Eve
Candlelight and Holy Communion Worship
7PM in the Sanctuary

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

BIBLE CHALLENGE—Read the New Testament in one year!

Week 52 (12/24/23) reading schedule (one chapter per day):

The Book Revelation, chapters 18-22

The Bible reading study will resume in January, 2024.



Big Tom's "A Quote"

"The gift of the Christ Child is too wonderful to keep all to ourselves!"

~ Jean Brittain

First Church Weekly Readings:*

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

Dec 25 Luke 6:27-36
Dec 26 Luke 11:1-13
Dec 27 Romans 8:18-27
Dec 28 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
Dec 29 2 Corinthians 3:17-18
Dec 30 John 20:19-23
Dec 31 Luke 1:67-80

**Uniform Series International Lesson Series
"From Silence to Praise"
Luke 1:67-80; 2:14, 29-38; 11:1-13*

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-203
4th & 5th grades W-204

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. The weekly schedule is shown below. For more info, please contact **Scott Bowen, 843-448-7164**.

Jan. 4th—11:15AM, Chapel; **Program**—Big Tom with John-Paul Miller, piano
Meal—Scott Bellamy's Chicken Bog
Jan. 9th | **River Oaks Golf Course**



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.



At the December 11th meeting of the Church Council, a **unanimous vote was obtained to recommend** to the congregation that **First Church separate** from the United Methodist denomination. In addition, if the January 21st decision is to disaffiliate, the Church Council recommends our new name to be **First Methodist Church of Myrtle Beach**.



"BIG TOM & FRIENDS" first Friday men's lunch will be **January 5th, 2024, 11:30AM, Magnolia's@26th, upstairs**. **John Pruett** will bring the devotion. **All men** of the church are **cordially invited**.



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

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.



**Children's
Advent
Wreath
Making**

**Shepherd's
Child
and Youth**





12/24 No Youth Group—Merry Christmas!

12/31 No Youth Group—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



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?](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/46f91a74/YsbQzsKKiEanK4rzEekynQ?u=https://forms.gle/zjGRZ7VSaqmJ4MFQ6)

[u=https://forms.gle/zjGRZ7VSaqmJ4MFQ6](https://forms.gle/zjGRZ7VSaqmJ4MFQ6)



Offering Envelopes



2024 Offering Envelopes are available to pick up in the Church office on Sunday. If you do not find your name on a box, please contact **Kay** in the church office, 843-488-7164 or kay@fumcmb.org.

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 12/17/2023 (includes online giving):

Contributions week of:	\$ 18,818
Total Revenue YTD:	\$ 1,567,005
Total Expenses YTD:	\$ 1,667,033
Difference YTD:	- \$100,028

Expenses include monthly apportionments and direct billing.

MISSION IMPACT 2023

Faith Promise:	\$ 111,160
Faith Promise Receipts:	\$83,864

Presence 12/17/2023

♦ Worship in person:	288
♦ Fox TV & promos (Oct. mo. est):	23,300
♦ Worship online:	742
♦ Social Media:	5,059
♦ 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
1st Monday (Jan 1)—no meeting
Happy New Year!
2nd Monday (Jan 8)
Casserole Cooking Wesley Kitchen
Contact: Phyllis Townsend

Welcome!

It is our blessing to welcome the following **new members** who were received into First Church membership on Sunday, **December 17, 2023**.

Traditional worship:

Georgia Manges transferred from a Baptist church.

Pamela Ford transferred from Chapel Hill UMC, Rome, GA

Ned Timmerman transferred from another UMC.

Regina and Everett Saunders transferred from Mountain View UMC, Pine Bush, NY

Contemporary worship:

Jill and Jamie Lang reinstated with FUMCMB

Denise Oliver transferred from First UMC, Charlotte, NC

Janet Waldorf, transferred from Christ UMC

See what's ahead!

1/1/24: Office Closed
1/5/25: Big Tom & Friends lunch
1/7/24: Community Kitchen week
1/10/24: Ladies lunch/devotion
1/12-15/24: LookUp Lodge

Happening This Week

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



MONDAY, Dec. 25

Christmas Day!
Office closed

TUESDAY, Dec. 26

Office closed

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 27

7:30AM **Women's Prayer Group**
PRAYER ROOM

THURSDAY, Dec. 28

5:30PM **Band Rehearsal** WESLEY HALL

SUNDAY, Dec. 31, 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



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



2024 OAK TREE LIGHTING MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

IN MEMORY OF:

Anonymous

Anne's mother, Peggy Hanna
Ron's mother, Lois Andrews
Ron & Anne Andrews

Mary Frances Bowen
Diane & Greg Bowen

Gerald Boyles
Ellen Boyles

Harrison Clemmons
Steve & Tara Clemmons

Joseph Niski
Gay Disco and Jan Niski

Our Parents and Son, Samuel
Dan & Wendy Fleming

Allene & Clayton Gore
Ann & Walter Rapaport
Clayllene Gore & Kenny Rapaport

Bill Bellamy
Susan Guinn

James Hadstate
Debbie Hadstate

Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Hodges
Dr. & Mrs. T. R. Ramsey
Roger & Jane Hodges

Betty Eaves
Mike & Jean Hussey

Meyer Family
Lorraine Inkpen

Sam and Esther Lou Depue
Jeanne & Bill Kuczerpa

Greg Letts
"Manny" Letts
Nita Letts and Meredith

Jim and Eva Baham
Georgia Manges

Our Departed Loved Ones
Jim Muz & Linda Haines

Those lost from Open Fellowship Class
Open Fellowship Class

IN MEMORY (continued):

Roslyn & Bill Clontz
Rachel Platt

Susann Rebeck
Ben Venables, Jr.
John & Darlene Rebeck

James Olive
Rosalin Robinson

LaRue Sandidge
Aunt Caroline
Linda Neumann
Rock Smith
Kathy Rodwell

Betty and Kenny McCutcheon
Miriam and Jake Rozier
Beth & Jim Rozier

Hazel Koontz
Daniel & Maria Shuler

Rock Smith
Donna Smith

Margaret & Tom Dyer
Wilson Springs, Sr.
Douglas Pruett
Dr. & Mrs. Holmes B. Springs
Sandy Springs

Bob and MaryLee Jones
Ed Suchonic
Ed & Michelle Suchonic

Bob Winn
Danny Singleton
Brenda Sanders
Charlotte Staggs
Judy & Tom Winn

Kenneth & Loreen Glandt
Gordon & Nell Wood
James & Lynn Wood

IN HONOR OF:

Bob & Linda Evans
upcoming 50th Wedding Anniversary
Linda S. Evans

Donna Guinn
Open Fellowship Class
Annette Willett
Susan Guinn

IN HONOR (continued):

Grandchildren-Reid Lilly,
Jacie Julian, Anna Julian
Sharri Hammond

Mark and Julie Mitchell
Mike & Jean Hussey

Claire Kuczerpa
Jeanne & Bill Kuczerpa,

"Big Tom"
Neil & Susan McCoy

My husband, Don
3 Children, 6 Grandchildren,
2 Great Grandchildren
Janice Myers

Open Fellowship Class and Teachers
Open Fellowship Class

Church Staff
John & Darlene Rebeck

Luke, Ava Grace and Preston
Cecelia Shaw

Rowan & Louise Crews
Anne & Neyle Wilson & Family
Lou & Ken Smith & Family
Open Fellowship Class
FUMC Pastors & Staff
Jacqueline Reid
Friday Morning/Ann Herbert Circle
Dave & Tammy Pruett & Family
Jill Pruett & Boys
John Pruett, Steve Pruett and Betsy
Sandy Springs

Ray and Arminia Thomas
Craig & Leslie Thomas

Shirley Bowling
Martha Wagner

Gene, Rhonda, Winn, Duncan Singleton
Alex Mesa
Debbie Connor
Lay Advisory Committee
Trisha Tuitt
Judy & Tom Winn

Marianne Meyer
James & Lynn Wood