



FIRST CHURCH
MYRTLE BEACH

A United Methodist Congregation

The Steeple ■ December 3, 2023

10:00AM* Traditional, Sanctuary

10:00AM^ Contemporary,

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

1st Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

The liturgical color is white celebrating the sacrament of Holy Communion.

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

Prelude "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" arr. Ljames
(The Prelude is a pathway into the presence of God with meditation and silent prayer.)

Welcome & Passing of the Peace Rev. Jim Creel, Jr.

* **Chiming of the Trinity**

* **Opening Hymn** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" UMH #211

Lighting of the Advent Candle—Peace Carol Anne & Ronnie Felts

Congregational Response:

*We wait as people who yearn for peace that bears the fruit of community,
equity, and flourishing for all.*

* **Affirmation of Faith** Rev. Michelle Louk | 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

(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 "Let There Be Peace on Earth" arr. Ades

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 "Carol of the Bells" arr. Kelsey

* **The Doxology** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH #95

(Continued on the next page.)

* Offertory Prayer		Rev. Louk
* Preparatory Hymn	“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”	UMH #206
* Scripture	1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19	<i>Pew Bible NT pg. 198</i>
Sermon	“Bah Humbug!”	Rev. Creel
Service of Word and Table		UMH #12
Communion Reflection		Susan Soehner, <i>piano</i>
	<i>Please feel free to pray at the altar. Your communion offering may be left at the altar to benefit Missions.</i>	
* Closing Hymn	“Emmanuel”	UMH #204
* Benediction		Rev. Creel
* Postlude	“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”	arr. Held

(* *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 honor of the marriage of Catherine Nesmith and Zachary Earnest on December 2, 2023.

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 Andrew Langway

COMMUNION STEWARDS: Ann and Ron Andrews, Harriett Clark, Jean Clemmons, June and Frank Moorehead, Jean Hussey

VIDEO Jim Lewis

AUDIO Scott Bowen

Serving in Contemporary Worship

Camera/Livestream Jason Gildner, Dorothy Hamrick ***Slides/Lighting*** Jonathan Kittle
Ushers James Sturgeon, Mary Margaret Kittle
Little Church Piper Butler, Barbara Cherry



Monthly Mission—DECEMBER



Please find the Congregation Care committee's announcement in this newsletter about their **Angel Tree project** and make every effort to **"Be An Angel" in December.**

Coming in January, 2024 | MISSIONS IMPACT SUNDAY

Please join FUMC of Myrtle Beach on **SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH** for combined adult & youth Sunday school and Worship service followed by a catered BBQ lunch.
More details to follow.

Congratulations to Catherine Nesmith and Zachary Earnest who were united in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, December 2, 2023 by Rev. Joel W. McMakin and Rev. Ken Timmerman. Catherine is the daughter of **Ann Standish and Randal Nesmith.**

Church Council Meeting

Monday, December 11th at 6:00PM in the Chapel.
All leadership chairs are strongly urged to attend.
The meeting is open to everyone.



PIZZA! **PIZZA WITH THE PASTORS**
On Sundays, December 3rd and 10th, anyone interested in joining First Church is invited to have pizza with the pastors and discover what being a member of God's Church is all about. Meet us in the **Church Parlor at 11:15AM.** If you are interested in coming or have questions, contact Pastor Michelle, mdlouk@umcsc.org.

BIBLE CHALLENGE—Read the New Testament in one year!
Week 49 (12/3/23) reading schedule (one chapter per day):
The Book Revelation, chapters 3-7
"Gifts" ADVENT Study, 1:30PM in THE 925, led by Pastor Michelle.
All are invited. The Bible reading study will resume in 2024.



Big Tom's "A Quote"
"I never say, 'I can't do it.' I say, 'How can we figure this out?'"
~ Reagan Bischoff, brain injury role model

First Church Weekly Readings:*

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

Dec 4	Psalm 89:1-37
Dec 5	Isaiah 6:1-13
Dec 6	1 Samuel 3:4-10, 19
Dec 7	Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1:16-21
Dec 8	Isaiah 55:10-13
Dec 9	Psalm 143
Dec 10	Luke 1:26-38

*Uniform Series International Lesson Series
"Mary Says Yes!"
Luke 2

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-20434th & 5th grades
	W-204

Youth Classes

6th-12th Grades	Sonshine House
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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



First Church has completed its 4 discernment informational meetings with regard to the United Methodist Church. A Church Conference will be set with the District Superintendent in January or February 2024 for the membership vote.

Shepherd's Child | Dec 10th

Shepherds Child was born out of the need to bring the love of Christmas to children in need through financial assistance, a meal, gift giving, and sharing the Christmas Story. The day's activities are planned in advance by First Church adults and youth. **We welcome donations of non-perishable food items.** Please place items in the designated bins in the church office. ****Volunteers are needed on Saturday, Dec 9th, 1PM at the north campus** youth center to help package food boxes; at **3PM in the Wesley Hall, main campus** for light decorating; and **Sunday, Dec. 10th, 3PM in the Wesley Hall** for light clean-up.** Thank you for your support. toniaclemmons@gmail.com



Ladies Lunch & Devotion



Donna Cassity will bring the devotion on **Wednesday, December 13th at 11:30AM** at Magnolia's@26th, upstairs. We encourage all ladies to attend and invite a friend!

This is the third year the **Congregational Care committee** has decorated **two Angel Trees**. One tree is located in the narthex of the main sanctuary, and the other is in the Contemporary worship center. Each tree is decorated with angel tags including the names of our Outreach members.



Please **select one of the "Angels"** and also **pick up one of the stockings** which has a suggested **list inside of suitable stocking stuffers**. The member's contact information is located on the reverse side of the selected angel to help you with contact and **delivery before Christmas**.

During this Advent season, it is our hope that all of us will reflect on our many blessings and **"Be and Angel to one of our own!"** Thank you.



The **Cloister Circle** is sponsoring the sale of **poinsettias** to adorn our worship spaces at Christmas. Plants are **\$15 each** and may be given **"in memory of or in honor of a loved one"**. Find **order forms** at worship entrances and the church office. Turn **orders in by Dec. 10th**. Purchased plants may be taken home after the 7PM Christmas Eve service. **Proceeds to benefit Alzheimer's care.**



MASCOT PECANS are still available to purchase from the Lautrelle Merchant Circle. **Purchase 16 oz. bags of pecans (whole halves) for \$15 each; payment** by cash or check (payable to Lautrelle Merchant Circle). **Proceeds benefit local missions.**

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.





12/3 5:00PM Shepherd's Child, gift shopping, meet at N Campus
 12/6 7:15AM Youth prayer breakfast, Chick-Fil-a, Seaboard St.
 12/10 11:15AM Shepherd's Child, meet at Wesley Bldg. parking lot
 12/10 4:30PM Youth Progressive Dinner, meet at N Campus
 12/16 7:00PM Zach Williams concert, meet at Beach Church

January 12-15, 2024 Look Up Lodge Winter Camp; **payment due Dec. 10th**
 The payment due date is approaching with limited availability. Please **sign up for Lookup Lodge ASAP**. The **price per student is \$227**. Payment may be cash, check or Venmo (@Firstchurchmb). Cost includes all meals, lodging, activities, and programming. *Financial assistance available upon request.
 *Questions? derek@fumcmb.org.

INTERGENERATIONAL ADVENT WREATH-MAKING AND PIZZA! | DEC. 3rd

Children, Youth and Adults are invited to an **Advent Wreath making and pizza** event **TODAY—Sunday, Dec. 3rd at 11:15AM** after worship. Join us for a time of creative fun and fellowship!



CHRISTMAS CAROLING | 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 on **Sunday, Dec. 17th at 2:30PM** 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.

We invite you 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>



Thanks for Your Support!

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

Financials and Attendance

As of 11/26/2023 (includes online giving):

Contributions week of: \$ 19,645
 Total Revenue YTD: \$ 1,420,483
 Total Expenses YTD: \$ 1,547, 221
 Difference YTD: - \$126,738

Expenses include monthly apportionments and direct billing.

MISSION IMPACT 2023

Faith Promise: \$ 111,160
Faith Promise Receipts: \$77,395

Presence 11/26/2023

◆ Worship in person: 357
 ◆ Fox TV & promos (Sep. mo. est): 24,940
 ◆ Worship online: 703
 ◆ Social Media: 1,895
 ◆ Sunday School: 134

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
First Monday (Dec 4) Visitation
Meet at Myrtle Beach Manor
Contact: Dru McLean

Big Tom is MOVING! He now resides at Covenant Towers. His **new address** is:
Rev. Tom Brittain
5001 Little River Rd East-401
Myrtle Beach SC 29577
Big Tom is happy to have visitors; however, **please call before visiting**. Thank you!



A grateful THANK YOU to all those who came to the church this past week to help decorate the worship spaces, office and other areas of the church for Advent. Your energy, skills, and interest made the work gratifying. We are blessed to enjoy the meaningful additions to our worship spaces.

The Steeple newsletter announcements must be submitted **in writing** or email by **Monday at Noon**. All other written requests received after that day/time will be published as space permits or in the following week's newsletter. **Please email** melinda@fumcmb.org.

See what's ahead!

12/10: Pizza with the Pastors
12/10: 2PM Shepherd's Child
12/14: CDM Christmas Program
12/17: 10AM Worship/music
2:30PM Christmas Caroling
12/24: Christmas Eve Worship
10AM, 2 regular services
7PM, 1 candlelight service

Happening This Week

SUNDAY, December 3, 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
11:15AM **Wreath-making** WESLEY HALL
11:15AM **New Member Class** PARLOR
4:15PM **Children's Choirs** WESLEY BLDG
5:15PM **Youth Group** NORTH CAMPUS
6:00PM **Festive Brass Concert**
SANCTUARY

MONDAY, Dec. 4

8:30A-5PM **Church Office Open M-Th**
10:30AM **The Sonshiners** MB MANOR
2:00PM **Prayer Shaw Ministry** PARLOR
3:00PM **Grief Support Grp** ASBURY #104
1:00PM **Wesley Handbells** WESLEY BLDG

TUESDAY, Dec. 5

9:00AM **Staff Meeting** OFC-UPSTAIRS
10:00AM **UWF Exec Board** PARLOR
12 Noon **"Wonder" Advent Study** PARLOR
5:30PM **Evangelism Cmtee** PARLOR
6:00PM **Worship Cmtee** OFC UPSTAIRS
6:30PM **Adult Handbells Program**
BRIGHTWATER

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 6

7:15AM **Youth Prayer Breakfast**
CHICK-FIL-A, Seaboard St
7:30AM **Women's Prayer Group**
PRAYER ROOM
2:00PM **Adult Handbell Program**
COVENANT TOWERS
1:30PM **"Gifts" Advent Study** PARLOR
6:30PM **Wesley Chancel Choir**
CHAPEL

THURSDAY, Dec. 7

10:00AM **Caregivers Group** PARLOR
5:30PM **Band Rehearsal** WESLEY HALL

FRIDAY, Dec. 8

10:30AM **Ann Herbert Circle** PARLOR
5:00PM **Ark Class party** WESLEY HALL

SATURDAY, Dec. 9

1PM-3PM **Shepherd's Child** BRITAIN CTR
3PM-4PM **Shepherd's Child** WESLEY HALL

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



*MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS
FOR NOVEMBER 2023 BULLETIN*

IN MEMORY OF:

Bill Bellamy

John & Ann Reed Springs (Epworth Children's Home)

Bobby & Ann Anderson (Epworth Children's Home)

Rhonda & Tom Slavish (Music Fund)

Joanne Herring (Epworth Children's Home)

Joseph Disco

Tom Brittain (Summer Camp Endowment)

Phillip Eaves

Tom Brittain (Summer Camp Endowment)

Barbara Lancaster Fisher

Tom Brittain (Summer Camp Endowment)

Jason Moody

Tom Brittain (Summer Camp Endowment)

Ted Herman Mullinix

Tom Brittain (Summer Camp Endowment)

Scott Polston

Tom Brittain (Summer Camp Endowment)

Doug Shaw, Sr.

Cecelia Shaw & Family (Youth Fund)

Rock Smith

Carmen Springs (Memorial Fund)

Claylene Gore (Chancel Choir)

Rhonda & Tom Slavish (Music Fund)

Sheree Stancoven

Tom Brittain (Summer Camp Endowment)

IN HONOR OF:

Tom Brittain

Joanne Herring (Summer Camp Endowment)

Mabel Waldorf

M.D. Moore Class (Epworth Children's Home)