



The Steeple ■ September 10, 2023

10:00AM* COMBINED WORSHIP
Sanctuary

*Facebook livestreamed

A United Methodist Congregation

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

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 10, 2023

The liturgical color is green symbolizing a focus on our Christian growth.

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

Prelude "Air" Scarlatti
(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** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" UMH #89

* **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

* **Scripture Reading** Philippians 4:4-9 Michael Paulk
Pew Bible NT pg. #187

Anthem "Be Thou My Vision" arr. Young

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.

Children's Message Erin Perry
(Following the prayers, children ages 3 years to 1st grade, may be dismissed to Little Church. Parents may pick up children after worship, room 201, Wesley Bldg.)

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

Offertory "Great Are You Lord" Praise Band

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

* **Offertory Prayer** Rev. Louk

(Continued on the next page.)

* Preparatory Hymn	“In the Garden”	Praise Band - UMH #313
Guest Introduction		Rev. McMakin
Scripture	Acts 1:4-8	Bishop L. Jonathan Holston
Sermon	“Can I Get a Witness?”	Bishop Holston
* Closing Hymn	“I’ll Fly Away”	Praise Band

Some glad morning when this life is over, I’ll fly away
to a land on God’s Celestial Shore, I’ll fly away.

Chorus
*I’ll fly away, O Glory, I’ll fly away.
When I die, Hallelujah by and by, I’ll fly away*

When the shadows of this life have grown, I’ll fly away.
Like a bird from these prison walls I’ve flown, I’ll fly away. **[Chorus]**

O how glad and happy when we meet, I’ll fly away.
No more iron shackles on my feet, I’ll fly away. **[Chorus]**

Just a few more weary days and then, I’ll fly away.
To a land where joy will never end, I’ll fly away. **[Chorus]**

* Benediction		Bishop Holston
* Postlude	“Joyful, Joyful”	arr. Shepherd

(*) Please and as you are able.

<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Children</i>
<p>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.</p> <p>Sunday School Classes are available for children ages 3 through adult every Sunday from 9:00-9:50AM. Nursery is available.</p> <p>***Please ask the ushers for children’s Wiggle Bags, hearing devices or large print hymnals***</p>	<p>First Church invites families to worship together. We also offer “Little Church” to children ages 3 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).</p> <p>Parents, please pick up your children immediately after worship.</p>

It is with blessings and great joy that we welcome the Bishop L. Jonathan Holston to the pulpit to bring the message this morning. We welcome all 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 memory of Harrison Clemmons with love from Mom, Dad and Carter.

Worship Flowers are needed for Nov 5, 12; Dec. 10, 17, 24. 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—SEPTEMBER

Front Entrance Carol Ann & Ronnie Felts

Office Entrance Brenda and Rev. Dr. C. Norman Bennett, Jr.

USHERS—SEPTEMBER

Annette Willett: Carol Ann Felts, Ronnie Felts, Denise Daniels, Glen Daniels, Bob Gallagher, Dabney Joyner, Beth Rozier, Jim Rozier, Ed Willett

ACOLYTE Wes Sturzenbecker
CRUCIFER Will Sturzenbecker

BIBLE BEARER Claire Sturzenbecker

VIDEO Jim Lewis

AUDIO Melissa Sadin

LITTLE CHURCH Mary Madison Langway, Barbara Cherry



Monthly Mission Impact—SEPTEMBER

Epworth Children's Home was established in 1895 as Epworth Orphanage by the Methodist people of South Carolina. To this day, the South Carolina UMC remains dedicated to Epworth's mission. Epworth does not receive direct funding from the denomination. Each year, **Mother's Day (May) and Work Day (September)**, are designated as Epworth Children's Home Sundays when special offerings may be made. **For more info, please visit: epworthchildrenshome.org**
Epworth is located in Columbia, SC. Please utilize the links below to order items on their wish lists which will be delivered directly to Epworth.



Amazon Wish List: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/Y8A4WEGNPX18/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex?viewType=grid

Walmart Registry: <https://www.walmart.com/lists/view-events-registry-items?id=8766965e-0a2e-4eab-8138-64b481c72c37>

Monetary donations are welcome—checks payable to FUMC, note "Epworth".
 Place in the offering plate or bring to Kay in the church office.

Church Council Meeting

Monday, September 11th at 6:00PM, Chapel,
 to present the proposal of the affiliation process.
 All leadership chairs are urged to attend.
 The meeting is open to everyone.



Ladies Lunch & Devotion

All ladies are invited to lunch at Magnolia's@26th, upstairs on **Wednesday, September 13th at 11:30AM.** Pastor Michelle will share a devotion. Invite a friend!

BIBLE CHALLENGE—Read the New Testament in one year!

Week 37 (9/10/23) reading schedule (one chapter per day):
Book of Colossians, chapters 3-4; Book of 1 Thessalonians, chapters 1-3



Weekly Bible Study for all, Wednesdays, 1:15PM, Magnolia's@26th, 2nd floor, led by Pastor Michelle. All are invited. mdlouk@umcsc.org

Big Tom's "A Quote"

"Lord, bless me with your light and joy as I ride life's ups and downs today."
 ~ Heidi Gaul, writer/speaker

First Church Weekly Readings:*

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

Sept 11 1 Samuel 2:2-5; Luke 1:52-55
 Sept 12 Matthew 25:31-46
 Sept 13 Hebrews 13:1-16
 Sept 14 Proverbs 25:21; Psalm 107:9;
 James 2:14-17
 Sept 15 Philippians 4:10-20
 Sept 16 Revelation 22:1-5
 Sept 17 Mark 6:30-44

*Uniform Series International Lesson Series
 "Twelve Baskets Left Over"
 Mark 2:1-28; 8:1-10

Sunday School Classes

Children's Classes (Wesley Bldg)
 Infants to 2 years W-101
 3 years to 1st Grade W-102
 2nd grade to 5th Grade W-203

Youth Classes
 6th-12th Grades Sonshine 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**
 The Seekers A-207

Grief Support Group now meeting
Wednesdays from 6-7:30PM in the Church Parlor
For more information, please contact:
Pastor Michelle mdlouk@umcsc.org
Rosie Swain rosie.swain@outlook.com



This fall, **First Church will begin a process to prepare for discernment with regard to our affiliation** with the United Methodist Church. The process will **begin on September 17th in the sanctuary following worship** as one of four meetings to provide information to the congregation. A Church Conference will be set after the first of the year in conjunction with the District Superintendent for our church membership vote on affiliation status.

- **September 17th: Background & Overview**
- **October 8th: Theological & Denominational Concerns**
- **October 22nd: Financial & Legal Considerations**
- **November 19th: Other Methodist Affiliation Options**

MARION DISTRICT MEN IN MINISTRY EVENT

A Day of Growing in the Spirit

Saturday, September 30th, 9AM to 3PM

Surfside UMC, 800 13th Ave N, Surfside Beach SC

Light Lunch served

Clergy (including our own, Pastor Joel)
and Lay Speakers presenting:

“6 Characteristics that Lead to Spiritual Maturity
and Effective Discipleship”

Keynote speaker

Rev. Steven Lee Brown, District Superintendent

For more information or to register: 843-246-8398

CALLING ALL SINGERS!

Do you like to sing? There are many ways to share your talents both in our church and local community. The **Wesley Chancel Choir** is kicking off its new year with **rehearsals returning to Wednesday nights from**

6:30PM to 8:00PM in the Chapel. Anyone wanting to “make a joyful noise” is welcome—no previous experience necessary. The Wesley Chancel Choir provides music for our traditional service each week. Those looking for another opportunity might want to consider Vocal Edition, a local auditioned choral group—check out their flyer on the church bulletin boards. **For more information** on either group, you may contact **Norman McQueen at 843-602-5582.**



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The **prayer shawl ministry will meet on Monday, September 11th at 2:00PM in the church parlor** to share ideas and pray together over the shawls. If you knit or crochet, please join us to find out more about this ministry.

Derek Price, Director of Youth Ministries
derek@fumcmb.org Ph: 843-448-7164 x216



**September 10th at 6PM
2023 Fall Youth Kickoff
Anderson Home**

**Parents & Students are invited
to meet & participate**

9/13 7:15AM Youth Prayer Breakfast, Chick-Fil-a, Seaboard St
9/17 5:15PM Youth Group, Britain Center, North Campus

The **Adult Handbell Choir** will begin rehearsals on **Monday, September 11th** for the new church year. Regular rehearsals are held every week on **Mondays at 5PM AND Wednesdays at 1PM** in the handbell room, upstairs in the Wesley Building.



The Sonshiners **New opportunities to fellowship and serve begin in September on Mondays from 10:30AM—12 Noon.**

First Mondays: Nursing Home Visitations—Meet at church and carpool to visitation sites. Contact: Mike Foster, 404-641-4589 or Sandy Springs, 843-446-7745

Second Mondays: Cooking Casseroles—Meet in the Wesley kitchen.

September: Chicken and Rice.

Contact: Darlene Rebeck, 412-608-2709 or Phyllis Townsend, 540-834-3020

Third Mondays: *Sonshine Gifts—Meet in the 925

Contact: Linda Evans, 843-234-0173 or Ann Truex, 843-222-3106

Fourth Mondays: Fellowship

September: Bag lunch & bingo fellowship at Sandy Springs' home.

Contact: Jean Clemmons, 843-283-7473 or Sandy Springs, 843-446-7745

***We need your help!** We're accepting donations of medium-size boxes; small baskets; coffee mugs; tea bags; chapstick; small candles; small containers of hand lotions, shampoos; nail polish; small jars of jams or jellies; small trinkets; notecards; small devotionals or journals; tissue paper; ribbon; 8"x8" disposable baking pans. Monetary donations by check may be made to FUMC, attn: The Sonshiners.



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 9/3/2023 (includes online giving):

Contributions week of:	\$ 21,665
Total Revenue YTD:	\$ 1,050,598
Total Expenses YTD:	\$ 1,109,922
Difference YTD:	- \$ 59,324

Expenses include monthly apportionments and direct billing.

MISSION IMPACT 2023

Faith Promise:	\$ 111,160
Faith Promise Receipts:	\$ 64,564

Presence 9/3/2023

◆ Worship in person:	343
◆ Fox TV & promos (July wkly est):	24,200
◆ Worship online:	771
◆ Social Media:	1,894
◆ Sunday School:	104

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

American Guild of Organists
 Worship Celebration in Music
TODAY, September 10th at 4:00PM

 First Church Sanctuary
 Choir and 3 organists
 Free, open to the public.

Happening This Week

SUNDAY, September 10, 2023

- 8:45AM--
- 11:15AM **Nursery Provided** WESLEY CTR
- 9:00AM **Sunday School** ALL AGES
- 10:00AM COMBINED Worship***
 SANCTUARY *Facebook
- 4:00PM **American Guild of Organists**
 SANCTUARY (Open to the public)
- 6:00PM **Youth Kickoff** Parents & Students
 ANDERSON HOME

MONDAY, Sept. 11

- 8:30A-5PM **Church Office Open M-Th**
- 10:30AM **The Sonshiners** WESLEY KITCHEN
- 2:00PM **Prayer Shawl Ministry**
 PARLOR
- 5:00PM **Wesley Handbell Choir**
 WESLEY BLDG-upstairs
- 6:00PM **Church Council Mtg**
 CHAPEL

TUESDAY, Sept. 12

- 9:30AM **Staff Meeting** OFC-2nd FLR
- 10:00AM **Tennessee Collier Circle**
 COVENANT TOWERS
- 3:00PM **Lautrelle-Merchant Circle**
 PARLOR
- 5:30PM **Sisters in Service Circle**
 CHAPEL
- 4:30PM **Missions Cmtee** OFC-2nd Flr
- 6:00PM **Cloister Circle** DURANT HOME

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 13

- 7:15AM **Youth Prayer Breakfast**
 Chick Fil-A
- 7:30AM **Women's Prayer Group**
 PRAYER ROOM
- 11:30AM **Ladies Lunch/Devotion**
 MAGNOLIA'S@26TH, upstairs
- 1:00PM **Adult Handbell Choir**
 WESLEY BLDG-upstairs
- 1:15PM **Bible Study-Reading Challenge**
 MAGNOLIA'S@26TH, upstairs
- 6-7:30PM **Grief Support Group** PARLOR
- 6:30-8PM **Wesley Chancel Choir**
 CHAPEL

THURSDAY, Sept. 14

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

SATURDAY, Sept. 16

- ALL DAY **CDM Training** BRITAIN CENTER

First Church is preparing for the vote in early 2024 regarding the affiliation status of our church. As a reminder, **you must be a professing member of First UMC Myrtle Beach.** Uncertain? **Verify your membership status by contacting Trisha** in the church office, trisha@fumcmb.org as soon as possible. Thank you for your immediate attention.



TELL A FRIEND **SUNDAY, SEPT. 24th BRING A FRIEND!**
 Let's return to our routine of **Sunday Christian Education** for all ages at **9AM** and **worship at 10AM**, both services. **Invite a friend, neighbor, or family member** to worship with us. **Following worship, enjoy a time of fellowship, and picnic** on the front lawn **with inflatables** for the children.



LOOK!
What's Coming!
 9/17 **11:15AM Affiliation Discernment Mtg, Sanctuary**
 9/24 **10AM Bring A Friend Children's Bibles; picnic on the lawn & inflatables**
 10/1 **10AM World Communion**
 10/8 **9:45AM Combined Adult SS, Chapel, Project Agape guest**

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*