

1919-2019

FIRST



CHURCH

100 YEARS

A Church with a Heart  
in the Heart  
of Myrtle Beach

**The Steeple ■ December 20, 2020**

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**IN-PERSON WORSHIP**

**8:30AM Traditional/Blended (Facebook Live)**

**11:00AM Traditional/Blended Worship**



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**Ministers and Ministry Directors**

**Rev. Dr. George K. Howle**, Senior Pastor  
**Rev. Meredith M. Dark**, Nurture Pastor  
**Rev. Thomas Brittain**, Pastor Emeritus  
**Jennifer Hupko**, Director  
Christian Education Ministry/Programming  
**Julia Brooks**, Director, Children's Ministry  
**Cindy Johnson**, Director  
Child Development Ministry  
**Philip Keilen**, Director, Coastal Samaritan  
Counseling Center

**Norman McQueen**, Director  
Music Ministry  
**D. Scott Ferguson**, Pianist/Organist  
**Jayne Smith**, Director, Hand Bells  
**Eve Harris**, Director, Children's Choirs  
**Chad Mullinix**, Director, Youth Ministry  
**Grant Nesmith, Melody Gildner**  
Co-Directors, Youth Ministry

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**Welcome**

*Thank you for being with us in worship this Sunday! Our mission at First Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We are inspired by the words of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, who encouraged believers to "do all the good you can, in all the ways you can."*

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**Church Office Regular Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:00AM - 5:00PM; CLOSED FRIDAY**  
**Main Campus, 901 N Kings Hwy, Myrtle Beach SC 29577 ■ 843-448-7164**  
**North Campus, Thomas N Brittain Center (TNBC), 905 65th Ave N, Myrtle Beach SC 29572**


## WORSHIP GUIDELINES in effect until further notice

Join us for worship on Sunday, as your health permits. We continue to request that everyone please follow these guidelines to ensure everyone's health and safety. Our current capacity remains at 150 per service.


**8:30AM and 11:00AM** Worship-Traditional/Blended, in the Sanctuary  
**Facebook Live @ 8:30AM**

**\*\*\*Please register your attendance (name, address, phone#). Ushers will provide pen/paper then place pen/paper in the specific containers as you exit.\*\*\***

- **Sanitization** weekly and between services
- **Face mask** and **social distance** during worship
- Access via the **Front Door**, center aisle (if rain, use breezeway side door)
- **Ushers will seat & dismiss guests (please do not insist on your regular seat)**
- **Families** may sit together in one pew without distancing
- **Offering plates** are situated at the doors upon exit; please **move outside** to visit
- **Narthex restrooms** only available; **Children under 12**, parent must accompany
- **NO Nursery, NO Children's Church, NO Wiggle Bags — Virtual Sunday School**



**Christmas Eve Worship**  
**Candle Light & Holy Communion (all services)**  
Traditional—NOON, 7PM\* and 11PM—Sanctuary  
Family/Contemporary—5PM\*—Sanctuary  
All services, general seating on a first come basis.  
\*For 5PM and 7PM services, tickets must be presented  
at the front door entrance to the Sanctuary.



Those attending without a ticket will be directed to the Chapel where service viewing will be virtual. All four Christmas Eve services will be live-streamed on Facebook.

Due to Covid-19 Pandemic, the **Snowbirds and Seagulls Thursday meetings are cancelled for 2021. Golf Outings will begin Tuesday, January 5th, at River Oaks Golf Course.** Information and Registration for the Golf Outing have been mailed to last years' golf participants and will also be available in the church office. We encourage you to invite friends to play at these wonderful courses. We look forward to resuming Snowbirds and Seagulls in January 2022 for our 37th year of ministry. May God bless you and keep you safe.



### **Big Tom's "A Quote"**

*"Nothing ever seems too bad, too hard, or too sad when you've got a Christmas tree in the living room."*  
~ Nora Roberts, author

### ***First Church Weekly Readings:\****

First Church invites you to follow this weekly Scripture reading plan if you don't already have one.

Dec 21	2 John 7-11
Dec 22	John 5:41-47
Dec 23	John 10:22-39
Dec 24	John 12:44-50
Dec 25	Matthew 17:1-5
Dec 26	John 14:1-7
Dec 27	John 14:8-14

***ALL IN-PERSON  
SUNDAY SCHOOL  
CLASSES ARE CANCELLED  
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.***

**Virtual Classes available**

\* Indicates: Uniform Series  
International Lesson Series: John 14:1-14  
"The Father Dwells in Jesus"

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## Monthly Mission in Motion—DECEMBER



The journey out of poverty all starts with hope; equipping orphans in Kenya with tools and training to overcome life-threatening poverty for good.

**Monetary donations** may be made **payable to First UMC, note "Zoe"**, and may be placed in the offering plate or dropped by the church office.

**Christmas Eve Offering** is also designated for ZoeEmpowers.

The **Minister's Discretionary Fund** is made available to assist those in need within our community and our church family. Due to this extraordinary year of the coronavirus, recent distributions from this Fund have affected our ability to provide further assistance. Please be in prayer and search your heart to consider donating to this essential local mission and ministry in order that FUMC might continue serving those in need.



### Longest Night Service—Facebook ONLY

December 21st at 6PM

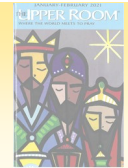
Join us on Facebook (fumcmb) for a time of scripture, music and meditation—a moment of healing hope, and community.

**UMW Annual Oak Tree Lighting**—Help light the Big Oak this winter **"in Memory or in Honor of a Loved One"**. Donate a **string of lights for \$20** to the 6th Annual "Tree Lighting Memorial Fund". Proceeds will benefit UMW missions. Forms are available in the church office and in the Narthex through **December 31st**. Thank you.



**SOCK DRIVE UPDATE!** A total of **6,906 pairs of socks** were delivered to **HELP4KIDS** on Wednesday. Thank you to all who made donations to help us exceed our goal!

**THE UPPER ROOM DEVOTION** books for **January-February 2021** are available to pick up from the church office during office hours or on Sundays in the Sanctuary Narthex.



The infant Jesus is seen on the straw in the manger, depicting the stable in which He was born. Mary and Joseph are on either side of the Baby, kneeling in adoration and wonderment. The manger suggests the lowly birth of our Savior, who, for humanity's sake, became poor, that we, through his poverty, might become rich. The Star of Bethlehem stands in the sky over the manger. Its beam of light shines directly over the Baby. It is the star which guided the Wise Men to Bethlehem and to the Baby in the manger. The city is in the background, and even though it must have been crowded on that night, it is small and insignificant compared to the happening in the manger.



**SYMBOLIC MEDALLION, THREE CROWNS WITH A STAR**  
St. Matthew tells of the Wise Men from the East who came to Jerusalem at the time of Christ's birth seeking Him and the star that went before them showing the way.



**UM YF**  
Youth activities...

**Dec 20-Dec 27: No Youth, No Breakfasts**

**YOUTH IN ACTION FOR DEC**  
**FUMC Ornament and Mask**  
**Fundraisers** to benefit **Youth**  
**Missions** and activities.

**Ornaments—\$5 each**



**FUMC Masks—\$10 each, 2/\$15**

Purchase either from the Youth  
or Youth Directors after worship  
on the front lawn

(also available in the church office).



**Asbury Hills Campers & Families**

In light of the unknown Covid-19 restrictions that lie ahead and the last day of school, **FUMC will not have a “church-sponsored” trip to camp.** Scholarships will still be available for those who need assistance should you choose to attend at a different time this summer. For financial assistance, please apply for a **scholarship through Asbury Hills first** and then apply through FUMC. **Early sign-up with discounted rates are available until December 31<sup>st</sup> at midnight, exactly.** Please know that this was a difficult decision to make; we know how much Asbury Hills means to so many of our families. If you have any questions, please feel free to **contact Jennifer Hupko** in the church office, [hupko@fumcmb.org](mailto:hupko@fumcmb.org) or **843-448-7164 x216.**

*Thank you!*

*Thank you to all the children,  
parents, Jayne, and Eve for your  
time and efforts with the Children’s  
Music in worship last Sunday.  
Their musical offerings were  
beautiful!*

*~Norman McQueen*



**TO: Parents of  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth**  
Please mark your calendar  
for **January 10<sup>th</sup>**, as we  
begin our **2021 Confirmation**



**Class.** 2020 was a different year that  
threw us for a loop; we want to make  
sure that our youth do not miss out on this  
**very important step in their faith journey.**  
We are excited to get back on track and  
look forward to taking this journey with  
your youth. **Watch for a letter** coming  
your way with more information. In the  
meantime, if you know your child will be  
participating, please **contact Jennifer  
Hupko** in the church office,  
[Hupko@fumcmb.org](mailto:Hupko@fumcmb.org) or **843-448-7164.**

I am so glad to assist and help  
out with the **Shepherd’s Child**  
program! I don’t know what  
we would do without your  
church’s assistance. Thank you to the  
youth and the congregation for thinking of  
our families each year. Merry Christmas!  
~ Mrs. Dowling, guidance counselor



**Offering Envelopes** 2021 **Offering Envelopes** are  
available to pick up in the  
Narthex on Sunday or church  
office. If you do not find a  
box with your name on it, please **notify  
Kay** in the church office,  
[kay@fumcmb.org](mailto:kay@fumcmb.org) or 843-488-7164.

**Financials and Attendance**

**Gifts as of 12/13/2020 (includes online giving):**

Giving Week of:	\$ 38,248
Giving YTD:	\$ 1,279,731
Expenses YTD:	\$ 1,540,296
Difference YTD:	- \$ 260,565
<b>Add PPP Loan (to be forgiven):</b>	<b>\$ 130,935</b>
<b>Adjusted Difference YTD:</b>	<b>- \$ 129,630</b>

Expenses include weekly apportionments & direct billing.

**Presence 12/13/2020**

◆ Worship:	185
◆ Worship Facebook/Web:	1,039
◆ All Social Media:	3,431
◆ Sunday School:	Meeting online

## *Happening This Week*

**SUNDAY, December 20, 2020**

**NO Nursery**—Virtual Sunday School

**8:30AM Traditional/Blended Worship**

SANCTUARY | FACEBOOK LIVE 8:30

**9:45AM Pre-K Sunday School**

VIA ZOOM

**10:10AM K-5th Grade Sunday School**

VIA ZOOM

**11:00AM Traditional/Blended Worship**

SANCTUARY

**IN PERSON**

**MASK & DISTANCING, please**

**MONDAY, December 21**

**8AM-5PM Church Office Open**

MASK & DISTANCING

**6:00PM Longest Night Service**

FACEBOOK ONLY

**TUESDAY, December 22**

**9:00AM Staff Meeting**

OFFICE/2nd FLOOR

**WEDNESDAY, December 23**

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

PRAYER ROOM

**THURSDAY, December 24**

**OFFICE CLOSED**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**Candlelight & Holy Communion**

**All services in-person and  
live-streamed on Facebook  
(fumcmb)**

**NOON Traditional Candlelight**

SANCTUARY

**5PM Family/Contemporary**

**Candlelight** SANCTUARY

**7PM Traditional Candlelight**

SANCTUARY

**11PM Traditional Candlelight**

SANCTUARY



**FRIDAY, Christmas Day**

**OFFICE CLOSED**

*Unto Us  
a Child is Born*

