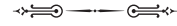


WELCOME

We are glad you're here. Please sign our register to let us know that you're visiting, so our members can make you feel at home.



WE'RE SO GLAD YOU ARE JOINING US FOR WORSHIP TODAY! If you have any questions about Sunday morning activities & Worship or you would like more information about how you can be involved in the life of First United Methodist Church, Shreveport:

- Ask one of our wonderful ushers or volunteers in the Welcome Center. They'd be glad to help!
- Call the church office at 318.424.7771. We're open 8:30am - 5:00pm Monday - Thursday and 8:30am - 4:00pm on Friday.
- Visit www.firstshreveport.org/getconnected

WANT A TOUR OF THE CAMPUS?

Starting Point tours happen the second Sunday of each month at 9:45am beginning in the Welcome Center located in the Education & Administration Building. Whether you're joining us for the first time or have been considering making this your church home, join us as we explore our church campus.

READY TO JOIN OUR FIRST SHREVEPORT FAMILY?

If you're curious about what membership means and want to meet our pastors before deciding, join us for our next Starting Point Luncheon. Contact our New Member Pastor, Rev. Caroline Wilkinson at 424-7771, ext. 135 or cwilkinson@fumcshreveport.org for more information.

You may join the church today by profession of faith, transfer of membership or reaffirmation of your baptismal vows. Our church receives persons from other traditions by transfer. If you have been baptized in another denomination, re-baptism is not necessary. To join, simply come to the front of the church and meet the pastors during the singing of the last hymn.

NEXT STEPS:

- Join a small group! Contact Erik Rasmussen at erasmussen@fumcshreveport.org or call the church office for more info.
- Serve with us! For Local and Global service opportunities visit www.firstserves.org or email Ashley Goad (Global) at agoad@fumcshreveport.org or Michelle Osborn (Local) at mosborn@fumcshreveport.org.

FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Grab a copy of the *First Weekly* or *The Columns* located at any of the entryways or visit firstshreveport.org.

Our Heritage in Stained Glass

Jesus, the Good Shepherd—"The Lord is my Shepherd" Psalm 23:1

The fourth stained glass window on the right is in loving tribute to the entire Hutchinson family and was installed in 1950. The seven brothers and two sisters were active and devoted members of First Methodist. They served on the committee for the building completed in 1913, as teachers in the Sunday school, and in various other capacities. Some of their descendants are still active in the church. Christ, the Good Shepherd, guides us through His teachings and his works to Ash Wednesday.

JOYS & CONCERNS

HOSPITALIZED: Dr. Bill Tenney, Pat Tenney, Jane Drake, Bob King, John Pleasant

HOSPITALIZED: Eleanor Higgs

SYMPATHY is extended to Jennifer Corley & family in the death of her mother, Jo Ann Evans.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God in loving memory of John R. Mills on his birthday and in honor of Vassar Mills on her birthday from Robert and Sheila Mills.

THE RED ROSE NEAR THE ALTAR honors those serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, at home & abroad.

THE LITURGICAL BANNER FOR EPIPHANY is given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. & Mrs. William M. Sale, Jr. by their Grandchildren, William Milton Sale IV, Talbot Jordan Sale, Christopher Charles Sale and Catherine Bourquin Sale.

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Dr. Chad Hargon

from Leigh and Robert Bowman

Karcher Harris

from Amy and Vernon Hastings

Guy Shackelford

from Nan Shackelford

Mary and Charles Cook

from Carole and William Lacefield

Beatrice Merchant

from Margie N. Burns

Joe T. Sepulvado

from Wilna Sepulvado

Meda D. Bruner

from Dr. and Mrs. David Cooksey

Daryl Cooper

from Elizabeth Beck

Leta Ann Eaves

from Dr. and Mrs. Dean Griffen

~Honorariums~

Nadine Siegele

from Elizabeth Beck

Charlotte and Gene Bryson

from Mary and Jim Bolin

VITAL SIGNS

Contributions	Weeks of 12.24.17 & 12.31.17	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
Goal	\$329,276	\$823,190	\$4,221,500
Received	\$291,955	\$753,317	\$4,216,948
Over/(Under)	(\$37,321)	(\$69,873)	(\$4,552)

ATTENDANCE: WEEK OF DECEMBER 31, 2017

Traditional worship (8:30)	n/a
Traditional worship (11:00)	442
FaithLink worship	119
Wesleyan Communion	n/a
Total worship attendance	561
Total Sunday School attendance, all ages	125



WE ARE A STEPHEN MINISTRIES CARING CONGREGATION. If you are in need of personal prayer, we have Stephen Ministers available to listen and pray with you. A Stephen Minister will be at the altar by the left door at the end of each service.

Senior Pastor: Dr. R. Pat Day • Executive Pastor: Rev. Derek Joyce • Associate Pastor: Rev. Caroline Wilkinson

Associate Pastor, Global Missions & Women's Ministry: Dr. Ashley Goad • Pastor of Senior Adult Ministry: Dr. Carl E. Rhoads

Director of Music: Dr. David Hobson • Director of Fine Arts: Dr. Will K. Andress • Principal Organist: E. Ray Peebles

Bishop-in-Residence: William W. Hutchinson

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:30am & 11:00am, LIVE TELECAST ON KTBS/ABC at 11:00am

FAITHLINK CONTEMPORARY SERVICE: 11:00am • SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45am

WESLEYAN COMMUNION SERVICE: 9:45 – 10:30am, FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH IN COUCH CHAPEL

318.424.7771 office • 318.429.6888 fax • PRAYER LINE: 318.429.6898 TOLL FREE: 1.888.393.PRAY
www.firstshreveport.org • fumc@fumcshreveport.org

FIRST

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SHREVEPORT

JANUARY 7, 2018 • EPIPHANY SUNDAY



CONNECT. GROW. SERVE. LEAD.

Celebration of Worship

Epiphany Sunday - January 7, 2017

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM, LIVE TELECAST ON KTBS/ABC at 11:00 AM

PRELUDE..... *Cantilène*.....E. Ray Peebles
Gabriel Pierné

WORDS OF WELCOME & GREETING Rev. Wilkinson

INTROIT.....*This is the Day*.....Ensemble (8:30)
Warren Angel Chancel Choir (11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION.....Rev. Wilkinson

† HYMN OF PRAISE“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”..... No. 117

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 885.....Rev. Wilkinson

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Deep River*.....Janet Coughlin, alto
Harry T. Burleigh

† SCRIPTURE READING.....Jeremiah 29:11-13.....Erik Rasmussen
Old Testament, Page 895 in your Pew Bible

‡

† GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.*

‡

**CHILDREN’S BLESSING Billie Beck

JOYS & CONCERNS Dr. Day

MORNING PRAYER Dr. Rhoads

THE LORD’S PRAYER Congregation (speaks in unison)

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.

‡

† HYMN OF PREPARATION.....“Hymn of Promise”.....No. 707

† OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Erik Rasmussen

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Create in Me a Clean Heart*.....Ensemble (8:30)
Allen Pote Chancel Choir (11:00)

† DOXOLOGYNo. 94
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose
power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

SCRIPTURE READING.....Isaiah 43:18-19.....Dr. Day
Old Testament, Page 823 in your Pew Bible

MESSAGE.....**STRATEGIC STEPS FOR A GREAT NEW YEAR**.....Dr. Day

† *HYMN OF INVITATION.....“This is a Day of New Beginnings”.....No. 383
*(During the singing of this hymn, those who wish to join the First Methodist family
are invited to come to the front of the church for reception and recognition.)*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS.....Rev. Wilkinson
*We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ’s holy church, and bid you welcome to
the congregation of First United Methodist Church. With you, we renew our vows to
uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.*

BENEDICTIONRev. Wilkinson (8:30)
Dr. Rhoads (11:00)

SENDING FORTH.....*May the Grace of Christ be with You*.....Ensemble (8:30)
arr. Dale Wood Chancel Choir (11:00)

POSTLUDE.....*In Thee is Gladness*.....E. Ray Peebles
[In dir ist Freude]
Johann Sebastian Bach



Banner: Annie Anderson (8:30), Vivian Vekovius (11:00)

Acolytes: Grayson Hargon, Layton Clark (8:30), Ivy Frierson, Claire Frierson (11:00)

Crucifer: Emily Anderson (8:30), Sanders Graf (11:00)

† *Those who are able may stand. ‡ Latecomers may be seated at these times.*

♦ COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED AT 9:30AM IN THE SANCTUARY AND NOON IN COUCH CHAPEL.

* **IF YOU WISH TO JOIN** the First United Methodist Church family, please come forward at this time.

***Children leaving the service for Children’s Chapel may be picked up after the service:*

• 3–4 years (8:30 & 11:00): Children’s Ministry Center

• K5–3RD graders (11:00): Dawson Building, Room 208, behind the Sanctuary

Childcare for infants through 4 years is available from 8:15 to 12:15 in the Children’s Ministry Center. From the sanctuary, follow the sign located in the hallway between the sanctuary and the Dawson Building. Outdoor access is located on the corner of Douglas and Milam Streets.

Sermon Notes

STRATEGIC STEPS FOR A GREAT NEW YEAR

Isaiah 43:18-19

I. First, think positively about all things, including yourself.

II. Second, expect the best and always do your best.

III. Third, focus on your goals and visualize them being fulfilled.

IV. Fourth, be willing to pay the price to achieve your goals.

V. Fifth, look forward to a wonderful year and future.

VI. Finally, seek God with all your heart.