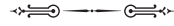


# WELCOME

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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:erasmussen@fumcshreveport.org) or call the church office for more info.
- Serve with us! For Local and Global service opportunities visit [www.firstserves.org](http://www.firstserves.org) or email Ashley Goad (Global) at [agoad@fumcshreveport.org](mailto:agoad@fumcshreveport.org) or Michelle Osborn (Local) at [mosborn@fumcshreveport.org](mailto: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](http://firstshreveport.org).

## Our Heritage in Stained Glass

"Virgin with lamp"— "Be Ye Also Ready" Matthew 24:44

In loving memory of Our Idolized Daughter, Maude Lucile Atkins" August 10, 1886 - October 13, 1910. The center panel in this second window from the front on the right depicts a virgin with a lighted lamp. This beautiful window takes on deeper meaning when one realizes that in the central figure the artist has incorporated the face of the lovely young woman for whom the memorial was given in 1913.

## JOYS & CONCERNS

**HOSPITALIZED:** Dr. Bill Tenney, Tim Dulany

**DISCHARGED:** Dorothy Dornier

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Heidi & Jason Cram on the birth of their twin daughters, Evienne Grace and Ella Suzanne Cram on November 27, 2017. Maternal grandparents are SuZanne & Tom Pace.

**SYMPATHY** is extended to the family & friends of Christa Jones in her death; to Jack Daniel & family in the death of his nephew, Judson Henry and to Clay Eaves & family in the death of his mother, Leta Ann Eaves.

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

**THE ALTAR WREATH AND FLOWERS** are presented each Sunday in Advent to the Glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hamiter and Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Andress by their family.

## MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

**L. Wayne Hennigan**

from Diane and Chuck Chesley  
Kelli and Steve Mayfield

**Dr. Chad Hargon**

from Kelli and Steve Mayfield

**Tressie S. Craton**

from Jo Pennington

**James King**

from the Desiderata Sunday School Class

Diane and Chuck Chesley

~Honorariums~

**Tina Kendrick**

from Mariners Sunday School Class

**Linda Ferguson**

from the Mariners Sunday School Class

**Susan Daniels**

from Jo Pennington

## VITAL SIGNS

Contributions	Week Ending 11.26.17	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
Goal	\$80,209	\$320,836	\$3,398,311
Received	\$38,560	\$254,035	\$3,463,624
Over/(Under)	(\$41,649)	(\$66,801)	\$65,313

## ATTENDANCE: WEEK OF NOVEMBER 26, 2017

Traditional worship (8:30)	187
Traditional worship (11:00)	391
FaithLink worship	162
Wesleyan Communion	n/a
<b>Total worship attendance</b>	<b>742</b>
Total Sunday School attendance, all ages	446



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](http://www.firstshreveport.org) • [fumc@fumcshreveport.org](mailto:fumc@fumcshreveport.org)

# FIRST

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SHREVEPORT

DECEMBER 3, 2017 • FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



CONNECT. GROW. SERVE. LEAD.

# Celebration of Worship

First Sunday of Advent - December 3, 2017

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

PRELUDE.....“Sinfonia” from *Christmas Oratorio*.....E. Ray Peebles  
Johann Sebastian Bach String Quartet

WORDS OF WELCOME & GREETING ..... Dr. Goad

INTROIT (8:30).....*Christ is the World’s Light*.....Ensemble  
CHRISTE SANCTORUM

INTROIT (11:00).....*Carol of the Stars*.....FUMC Children  
Sharp, Hager and Bock

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION.....Dr. Goad

† HYMN OF PRAISE .....“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”.....No. 196

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 885.....Dr. Goad

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE ..... Clayton & Amber Burris (8:30)  
Gavin, Sawyer, & Hope  
Matthew & Brigitte Melton (11:00)  
Owen & Evan

MUSICAL OFFERING.....“Pastorale” from *Christmas Concerto*.....String Quartet  
Arcangelo Corelli E. Ray Peebles

† CONGREGATIONAL READING.....No. 201.....Rev. Wilkinson

†  
† 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 ..... Staci Zeagler

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.....“O Little Town of Bethlehem” .....No. 230

† OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Rev. Wilkinson

MUSICAL OFFERING.....“And the Glory of the Lord” from *Messiah*.....String Quartet  
G.F. Handel Ensemble (8:30)  
Chancel Choir (11:00)

† DOXOLOGY .....No. 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 9:2,6.....Dr. Day  
Old Testament, Page 780 in your Pew Bible

MESSAGE.....**THE PROMISE OF HOPE**.....Dr. Day

† \*HYMN OF INVITATION.....“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”.....No. 206  
*(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.....Dr. Rhoads  
*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.*

BENEDICTION .....Dr. Rhoads

SENDING FORTH.....*O Holy Child of Bethlehem*.....Ensemble (8:30)  
FOREST GREEN Chancel Choir (11:00)

POSTLUDE.....*Toccata on “Il est né, le divin Enfant”*.....E. Ray Peebles  
Denis Bédard  
[He is born, the Divine Christ Child]

**Banner:** Kace Sweatman (8:30), Madalyn Byrd (11:00)

**Acolytes:** Layton Clark, Grayson Hargon (8:30), John Ashton Hunter, Owen Melton (11:00)

**Crucifer:** Rowan Miller (8:30), Harrison Ayers(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

THE PROMISE OF HOPE

Isaiah 9:2,6

I. First, the promise of hope is based upon the indestructibility of truth.

II. Second, the promise of hope is based upon the fact that God is still on the throne.

III. Third, the promise of hope is based upon Christ’s comforting companionship.

IV. Fourth, the promise of hope is based upon the assurance that God will keep us safe and secure in life’s storms.

V. Finally, the promise of hope is based upon the fact that God knows exactly what you need.