
Joys & Concerns:

HOSPITALIZED: June Miller • Ruth Isler

SYMPATHY is extended to Bennette & Jack Daniel & family in the death of their sister-in-law Barbara Daniel.

Please let the church office know if you, one of your family members or church friends enters the hospital so they can be offered pastoral presence and the love and concern of the congregation.

Sign up now!

Each week, we'll send you an informative, interactive bulletin packed full of upcoming events and opportunities to help keep you connected to all the wonderful things going on here at First Shreveport. You'll find band member spotlights, a word from our pastor, encouraging scriptures, noteworthy articles, and links to that worship song from Sunday that you just can't get out of your head! Best of all, you can receive this weekly bulletin through an easy-to-use app on your smart phone or by email. To sign up simply scan the QR code with your phone, or email Heather at hgunter@fumcshreveport.org, or go to <http://pixelark.com/faithlink>.

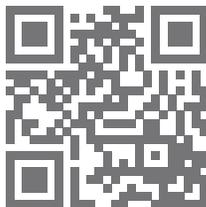
 318.424.7771

 www.faithlinkfumc.org

 djoyce@fumcshreveport.org

 www.facebook.com/faithlinkfumc

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Rev. Derek Joyce, Associate Pastor • Heather Gunter, Director of Contemporary Worship
Dr. R. Pat Day, Senior Pastor



04 • 02 • 2017

 **FAITHlink**
contemporary
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Becoming Covered • Rev. Derek Joyce

John 17:1-26 —I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth. (vv. 14-19)

One of the last things that Jesus does for his disciples is to pray for them. I wonder how many glance over this prayer, giving little more than a perfunctory nod towards this prayer. I think it can be overshadowed by the whole setting of the last supper, the washing of the disciples' feet that comes beforehand, as well as the quick movement to the arrest, trial, and crucifixion that follows. In between the teaching about and modeling of sacrificial love, we see Jesus in communion with the Father in this prayer. Aren't you curious to know the nature and depth of Jesus' prayer? Aren't you intrigued to find out what Jesus was concerned with as the hour of his departure drew close? This final prayer is offered to cover his disciples with truth, assurance, and power to overcome this world, and ultimately be found in the love of God. This final prayer is given to cover you and me, so that our lives might also glorify the Father, saturated with joy, and filled with the presence of the Living Jesus, today and in the days to come. May we draw strength and courage today, knowing that we are covered by the prayer of Jesus.

Order of Worship:

Welcome!	"Lamb of God" by Vertical Church Band
"Open Up the Heavens" by Meredith Andrews	Offertory
Meet & Greet	"Shepherd" by Crowder
Children's Message	Message
Scripture Reading	"Lion & the Lamb" by Big Daddy Weave
"O Praise the Name (Anástasis)" by Hillsong Worship	Prayer/Lord's Prayer
	Benediction

Welcome

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.