

Joys & Concerns:

DISCHARGED: Billie Bauer

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>.

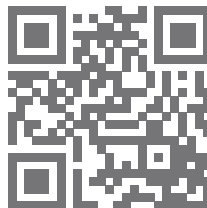
 318.424.7771

 www.faithlinkfumc.org

 djoyce@fumcshreveport.org

 www.facebook.com/faithlinkfumc

 @faithlinkfumc



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



The Good and Beautiful

LIFE

Frenemies:
Living to Bless

Rev. Derek Joyce

06 • 25 • 2017

 **FAITH**link
contemporary
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Frenemies: Living to Bless • Rev. Derek Joyce

Matthew 5:38-48 – “You have heard that it was said, “You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.” But I say to you, “Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” (v. 43-44)

How difficult is it to be attacked, and respond with grace? How difficult is it to endure criticism and accusation, and respond with blessing and prayer? It is a natural reaction of the broken human condition to want to retaliate against those who have harmed us in any way. But again, Jesus is inviting us to consider a different way of living, one that seeks to pray for and bless, rather than curse and destroy. The only way we can do this is if we stand secure as the people of God, filled with the presence of God, living in the Kingdom of God. This week, we have a chance to practice praying for those whom we may consider enemies. Let’s see how prayer challenges our perspective, and maybe even changes our hearts.

Order of Worship:

Welcome!

“Nothing but the Blood” by Andy Cherry

Community Reading & Prayer

Meet & Greet

Children’s Message

“Jesus/Whom Shall I Fear” Medley by Chris Tomlin

“What a Beautiful Name” by Hillsong

Offertory

“You Redeem” by Aaron Shust

Message

Closing Chorus

Prayer/Lord’s Prayer

Benediction

***You are invited to stay after the service, if you’re able, for an extended time of worship and prayer.**

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 song.

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.

Childcare:

Childcare for infants through 4 years is available on Sundays from 8:15am-12:15pm in the Children’s Ministry Center (CMC). The CMC is down the hall and down the left set of stairs from the Emmett Hook Center. There is a sign that says “Children’s Ministry Center” outside of this stairwell. Outdoor access to the Children’s Ministry Center is located on the corner of Douglas and Milam Streets.