

OUR FAITHFULNESS TO OUR CHURCH VOWS
TO SUPPORT THE CHURCH

BY OUR PRAYERS

Remember with prayers, cards, calls, and visits to those in the hospitals, nursing homes, the sick and shut in. If you would like a specific name to send a card or call, please contact the Church Office.

BY OUR PRESENCE

We are thankful that we can participate in worship at our 8:30, 9:45, and 11:00 services in multiple ways. You may gather in either the Fellowship Hall or Sanctuary. You may watch either 9:45 or 11:00 livestreamed on the FMC App, Website, Facebook and YouTube page. We can all worship!

BY OUR GIFTS

Generosity abounds at FMC! You are continuing to support the mission and ministry through your giving. Thank you for sending your gifts by mail, online banking, or through the FMC app. We need your faithful gifts.

BY OUR SERVICE

We are truly thankful for those who continue to serve here at FMC. For the Ushers and Greeters, for the Musicians, for the Cleaning Teams, for the Receptionists, for the Ministers and Staff.

BY OUR WITNESS

We are witnesses for Christ in all we do! Everywhere! We witness as we live holy lives that point to his grace. We witness as we share the good news of Jesus in word and deed.

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR are dedicated to the glory of God and given in loving memory of our son, Harold Hugh Lail, Jr., whose birthdate is February 18th, by his mother, Becky Lail.

STEEPLE LIGHTING

THE STEEPLE IS LIT for the month of February in dedication to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Frank and Hunter, and in honor of Ben’s birthday on February 18th. God bless America and counting our blessings by Mary Ann Holland.

GREETERS

8:30 Susan Lloyd & Kim McConkey
11:00 Christine & Carlos Cannon

Tuesday Bible Study and Communion

Join us for Bible Study and Communion at 3:00 PM in the Stanley Harrell Classroom, led by Pastor Patrick. During this Lenten season, we will be studying the Epistles of 1, 2, and 3 John, and 1 & 2 Peter. Come grow deeper in God’s Word and share in Communion together.

Ash Wednesday - February 18th at 12:10pm and 6:00pm

Join us as we begin the season of Lent with an Ash Wednesday worship service. This service includes prayer, Scripture, and the imposition of ashes as we remember our need for repentance and God’s grace. All are welcome!

Red Cross Blood Drive - Feb 23rd from 9am-3pm

First Methodist Church will host a Blood Drive on Feb 23rd in the Fellowship Hall. Drives are held every other month and are a vital way to serve.

Lenten Lunches - Tuesdays at 12:10pm

Lenten Lunches will begin on Tuesday, February 24th @ 12:10pm with a brief service in the Sanctuary followed by lunch in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend and no reservations are needed.

2/24 - Rev. Vera Price Pastor of St James/Bryant Chapel Perrytown AMEZ
3/3 - Rev. George Gouge, Pastor of Pollocksville Methodist Church
3/10 - Rev. Tim Nichols, Pastor of Bethlehem Methodist Church
3/17 - Rev. Rick Smith, Pastor of Oak Grove Methodist Church
3/24 - Rev. Lee Pittard, Pastor of Harkers Island Methodist Church
3/31 - Rev. Homer Morris, Pastor of Tuttle Grove Methodist Church

The Chosen Season 4 - February 24, 2026

On Tuesdays beginning February 24th, Pastor Powell and Fletcher will be leading two small groups exploring The Chosen Season 4. One group will meet from 1:30-3:00 and the second from 7-8:30pm. Come join us in the large conference room on the second floor of the Arendell Building as we travel with Jesus and his disciples through this compelling telling of his life, message, and mission. You may want to watch the episode before coming to group time, but it’s not required. No registration necessary.

Rise Against Hunger - Saturday, Feb 29th

We’re gearing up for our Rise Against Hunger Experience on Feb 28! Setup begins at 9:00am, the event runs from 10:00am–12:00pm, and we’re aiming to pack 10,152 meals with the help of 50 volunteers in one shift. For event day questions, contact Jennifer Hill at (252) 241-8265.

Men’s Fellowship - Launches March 10th

Men’s Fellowship will hold its first meeting on March 10th from 6:00–7:30 PM. We will gather on the second Tuesday of each month for a time of fellowship, encouragement, and spiritual growth. Evening Schedule includes Prayer & Dinner, Devotion, Speaker and Closing Prayer. Dinner will be provided, so please let us know if you plan to attend to help us get an accurate headcount. Contact Tim Wilson, Caleb Thornton or Jim Reed if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you there!

Egg Hunt and Cookout - March 28th @ 11:15am

Mark your calendar for the Egg Hunt. Bring the family and join us at Camp Albemarle. The egg hunt will begin promptly at 11:15am. After the hunt, stay for a cookout lunch and fellowship. Free event and you don’t need to register.

VBS Volunteer Registration is OPEN!

Get ready for an adventure in God’s amazing creation! VBS will be June 15–19, 2026. We are looking for enthusiastic individuals to adventure into the Rainforest. There are a variety of positions available, including class guides for children aged 3 years old to 5th grade, instructors for preschool and elementary games, art and story time, and those who can help with snacks and decorations. Thank you in advance for your willingness to serve.

First
Methodist
Church

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Reverend Sarah Williams
Associate Pastor

Reverend Patrick Whaley
Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care

Kim McCoury, Director of Communications
Shanna du Mont, Director of Children’s Ministry
Phil Routszong, Director of Music
Miranda Routszong, Assistant Rise Music
Sabrina Juarez, Facilities Manager
Stefany Boyd, Office Manager
Sunnie Gail Ballou, Organist
Fran Welch, Livestream



“WORSHIPPING PASSIONATELY, LOVING EXTRAVAGANTLY, AND WITNESSING BOLDLY”

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

PRELUDE

†CHIMING OF THE HOUR & INTROIT

†CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is Sovereign; let the people tremble in awe.

God is enthroned in the heavens; let the earth shake.

The Lord is great in Zion, and is high above all peoples.

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God, and worship God upon the holy mountain.

†HYMN	“Christ is the World’s Light”	No. 188
	Christ is the world's light, Christ and none other; born in our darkness, he became our brother. If we have seen him, we have seen the Father: Glory to God on high!	
	Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none other; no one can serve him and despise another. Who else unites us, one in God the Father? Glory to God on high!	
	Christ is the world's life, Christ and none other; sold once for silver, murdered here, our brother; he, who redeems us, reigns with God the Father: Glory to God on high!	
	Give God the glory, God and none other; give God the glory, Spirit, Son and Father; give God the glory, God with us, my brother: Glory to God on high!	

†OPENING PRAYER

God of glory and mercy, before his death in shame your Son went to the mountaintop and you revealed his life in glory. Where prophets witnessed to him, you proclaimed him your Son, but he returned to die among us. Help us face evil with courage, knowing that all things, even death, are subject to your transforming power. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

†GLORIA PATRI

Unison

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. Amen.

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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.

SCRIPTURE

2 Peter 1:16-19

¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain. ¹⁹ We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

WORSHIP WITH TITHES, GIFTS, AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“In Christ Alone”

Chancel Choir

Arr. by Larson

†DOXOLOGY

No. 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†HYMN

“He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought”

No. 128

He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain:

He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me;
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom, sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
by waters still, o'er troubled sea, still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.
[Refrain]

Lord, I would place my hand in thine, nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis my God that leadeth me.
[Refrain]

And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace, the victory's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jordan leadeth me.
[Refrain]

SCRIPTURE

Luke 9:28-36

²⁸ About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. ²⁹ As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. ³⁰ Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. ³¹ They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. ³² Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. ³³ As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, “Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” ³⁴ While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ A voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.” ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

SERMON

Transfiguration Sunday - Listen to Him!

Pastor Sarah

†HYMN

“Jesus Shall Reign”

No. 157

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run; his kingdom spread from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Jesus endless prayer be made, and endless praises crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns; all prisoners leap and loose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen!

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

Share His love by telling what the Lord has done for you
Share His love by sharing of your faith
And show the world that Jesus Christ is real to you
Every moment, every day!

TRINITY CHIMES

(Please remain in place at the end of the service until the conclusion of the Trinity Chimes)