

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 ON THE ALTAR are presented in loving memory of Barbara H. Taylor by her family

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 Brian & Gloria Zane
11:00 George West & Gwen Joyner

A Valentine Love Concert - February 8th
The concert featuring Morehead Brass Consortium and Sunnie Gail Ballou has been postponed.

ONLINE GIVING



Prayerfully consider giving to support the missions and ministries of First Methodist Church by scanning the QR code.

For God so loved that He GAVE his Son.

High Youth Ski Trip - February 20th

Get ready for an unforgettable winter adventure! Our High School Youth Ski Retreat to Massanutten Ski Resort is booked. Registration is \$300 per youth and scholarships are available. We will leave Friday after school.

VBS Save the Date - June 15-19

Get ready for an adventure in God's amazing creation! Vacation Bible School will be June 15-19, 2026. This year's theme, Rainforest – Exploring the Nature of God, invites kids to explore the rainforest and discover God's love in exciting, hands-on ways! Registration will open on March 15th.

2026 Costa Rica Mission Trip - July 18-25

Prayerfully consider joining our upcoming mission trip to Costa Rica, scheduled for July 18-25. This is a unique chance to serve, make a difference, and experience the beauty of Costa Rica, all while being a part of a life-changing adventure and serving with our missionary Wil Bailey! The total cost for the trip is \$700, which covers transportation, lodging, meals, and all mission-related activities.

Wednesday Night Bible Study with Pastor Sarah

Join us on Wednesday evenings from 5:45–6:45 p.m. in The Loft for a 10-week Bible study beginning February 11. Knowing Jesus as Savior focuses on the Gospel of Luke shining a light on God's plan of salvation throughout history, culminating in the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

WaveRunners Lunch at Southern Salt - Feb 15th at 12:00pm

Join the Wave Runners for a time of fellowship and conversation at a Dutch lunch at Southern Salt on February 15 at 12:00 PM. Each person will cover their own meal. Please register in advance to provide the restaurant with an accurate headcount. Registration is available in the church office or online.

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 to attend as we prepare our hearts for Easter together.

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.

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. The Chosen is available free at the website or via streaming services.

First Methodist Church

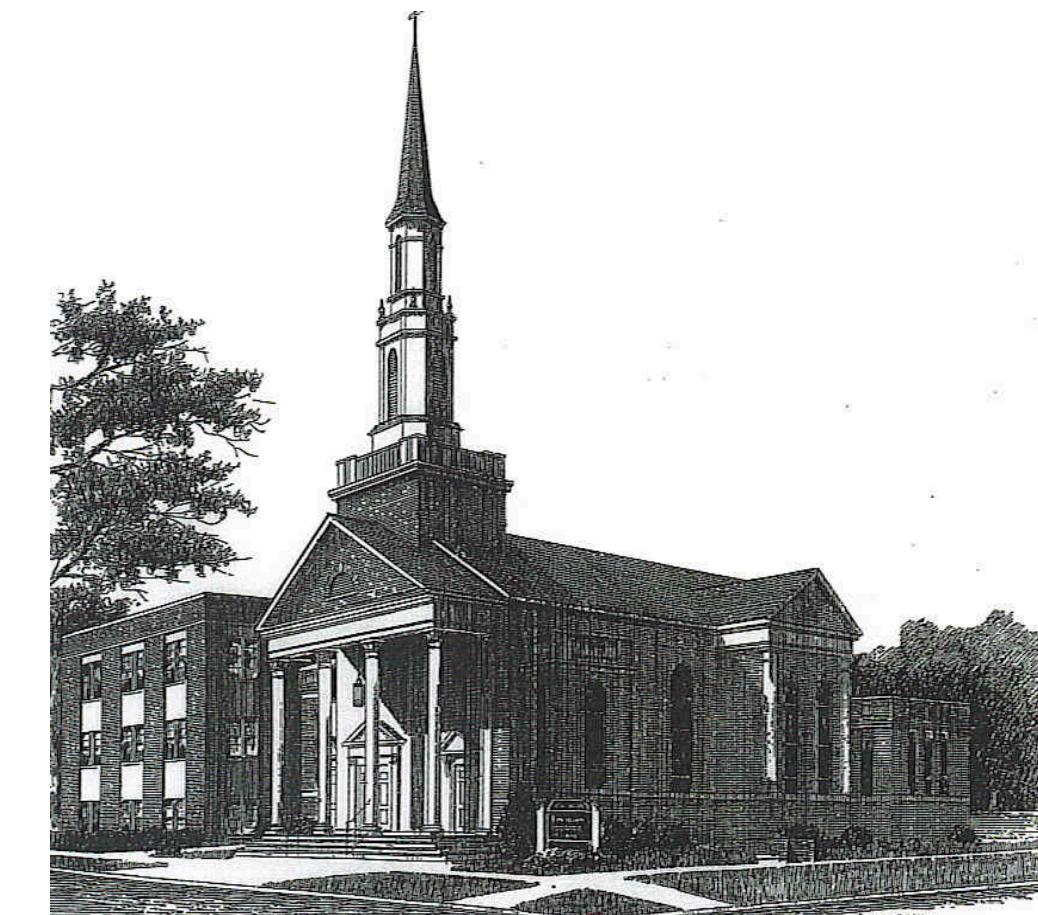
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*Reverend Sarah Williams
Associate Pastor*

*Reverend Patrick Whaley
Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care*

*Kim McCoury, Director of Communications
Shanna du Mont, Director of Children's Ministry
Phil Routsong, Director of Music
Miranda Routsong, Assistant Music Director*

*Sabrina Juarez, Facilities Manager
Stefany Boyd, Office Manager
Sunnie Gail Ballou, Organist
Fran Welch, Sound Tech*



Jeff Miller

"WORSHIPPING PASSIONATELY, LOVING EXTRAVAGANTLY, AND WITNESSING BOLDLY"

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

February 8, 2026

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**PASSING THE PEACE****PRELUDE****†CHIMING OF THE HOUR & INTROIT****†CALL TO WORSHIP**

O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

We will sing to the Lord and bless His name.

Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all peoples.

We will tell of the hope and salvation God has made known.

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.

We come to worship the Lord with our whole lives. (Psalm 96)**†HYMN****“I Sing the Almighty Power of God”****No. 152**I sing the almighty power of God, that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
the moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.I sing the goodness of the Lord, who filled the earth with food,
who formed the creatures thru the Word, and then pronounced them good.Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky.There's not a plant or flower below, but makes thy glories known,
and clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne;
while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care;
and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.**†OPENING PRAYER****Unison****Faithful God, you call us into covenant as the body of Christ: receive our prayers, gather us by your presence, consecrate our gifts, strengthen us for service, and empower our witness, that in all we do your love may be known in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.****†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed****Unison**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**Ephesians 4:15-16**

¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT**WORSHIP WITH TITHES, GIFTS, AND OFFERINGS****OFFERTORY****†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**“Tell Out, My Soul”****No. 200**

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of God's word;
in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of God's name!
Make known God's might, who wondrous deeds has done;
God's mercy sure, from age to age the same;
God's holy name, the Lord, the mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of God's might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of God's word!
Firm is the promise, and God's mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and forevermore!

SCRIPTURE**1 Peter 3:15**

¹⁵ But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

SERMON**Strengthening the Church through Witness Pastor Powell****†HYMN****“I Love to Tell the Story”****No. 156**

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Refrain:

I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems
than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams.

I love to tell the story, it did so much for me;
and that is just the reason I tell it now to thee. [Refrain]

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.

I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word. [Refrain]

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.

And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. [Refrain]

†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)

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD**POSTLUDE**