

## 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 given to the Glory of God in honor of the marriage of Mike Nance and Erica Hughes, also in memory of their departed parents Jesse Nance and Brenda Hughes by their families

### **GREETERS**

8:30 Joe & Beth Kirk  
11:00 Heather & John Boney

### **Ukraine Update**

**January 25, 2026 at 9:45am**

The Stanley Harrell Sunday School Class is hosting an information session on Ukraine with Pastor Patrick and his ministry partners. We will be FaceTiming to hear firsthand updates and stories, giving us an opportunity to hear how our support is helping spread hope in the midst of war. All are welcome to join this meaningful conversation at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, January 25th.

### **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.

### **2026 Vision and Values Nights**

**January 28-29, 2026 at 5:30pm (Register Online)**

As we begin a new year together, join us for a two night gathering including dinner, worship, and informational meetings. It is so important to remember the vision and values that we share together at First Methodist Church - who we are, why we are here, what we are doing, and how we can understand and accomplish the ministry that God has planned for us here on our little corner.

Everyone is welcome! All committee chairs and members, all church members, even visitors! If you don't know where you fit in the mission and ministry of our church, come and find your place to serve and to belong!

### **Prayer Team**

Pray first. Last Sunday, our Built in Love sermon series focused on strengthening the church through prayer. If you are interested in joining the Prayer Team, you can subscribe to the emails sent by Arlene Burns, which share prayer requests with our church family. If you or a loved one is in the hospital, please contact Pastor Patrick or the church office. We want to provide you with prayer, support, and pastoral care during this time. Your well-being is important to us, and we are here to walk alongside you.

### **Easter Sign Design**

We're inviting our church family to help design our Easter 2026 Yard Sign! We will be holding a contest to decorate an Easter sign that will be used as our official yard sign throughout the 2026 Easter season. Designs should be created to fit a 24" wide x 18" high sign and submitted by February 1, 2026. All ages are welcome to participate. Please email your completed design to [kmccoury@firstmethodist.life](mailto:kmccoury@firstmethodist.life). We look forward to seeing your creativity as we share the hope of Easter with our community.

### **Sojourners Women's Bible Study**

Begins Thursday, January 22nd at 10:00am in the Stanley Harrell Classroom. Register online or in the church office.

### **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. A \$400 deposit is due at signup to reserve your spot. The deadline to commit to the trip is February 1st, as this will allow us to begin fundraising efforts and finalize planning.

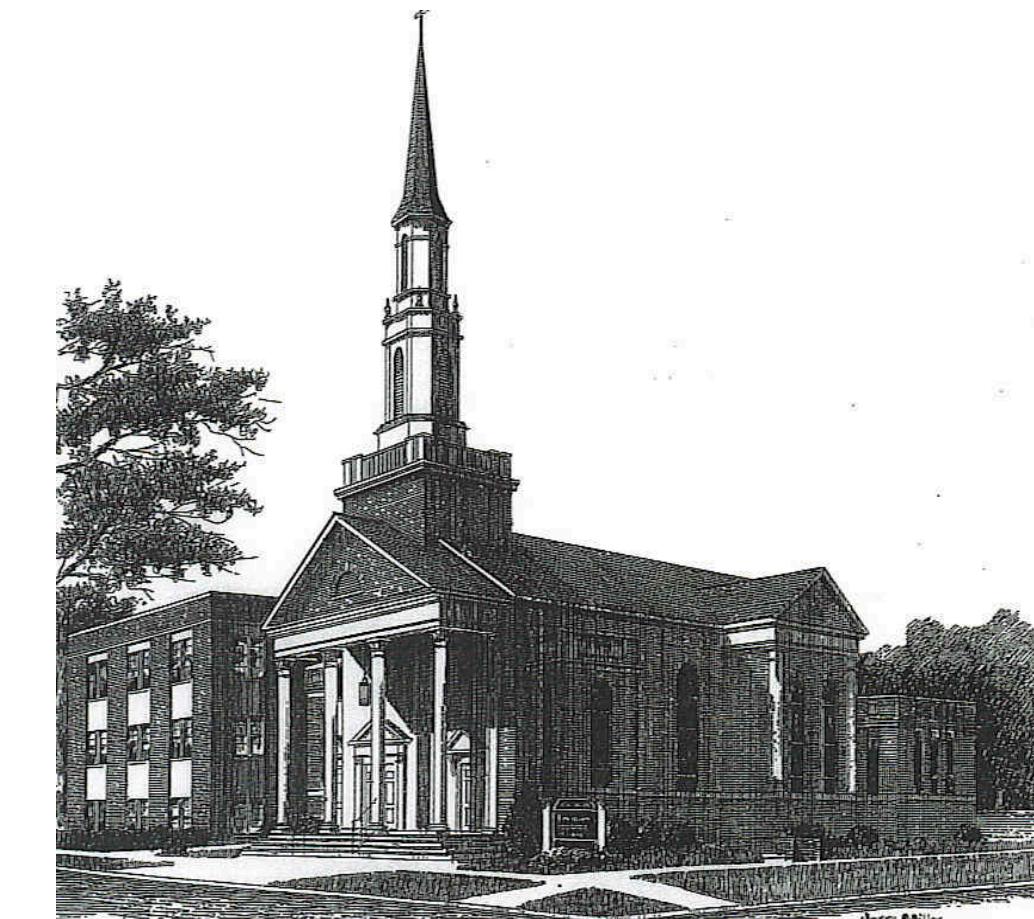
# First Methodist Church

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*Reverend Sarah Williams*  
Associate Pastor

*Reverend Patrick Whaley*  
Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care

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



*Jay Miller*

"WORSHIPPING PASSIONATELY, LOVING EXTRAVAGANTLY, AND WITNESSING BOLDLY"

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

January 18, 2025

8:30 AM &amp; 11:00 AM

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

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts.

**Our souls long for you; our hearts and flesh sing for joy in your presence.**

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself.

**Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever praising you.**

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

**We choose to be present with you and with one another, built together in your love. (based on Psalm 84)****†HYMN****“Come, Christians Join to Sing”****No. 158**

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!  
loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!  
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;  
praise is his gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!  
Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!  
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll descend;  
his love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet the Lord again: Alleluia! Amen!  
Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!  
On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,  
singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!

**†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**

<sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> 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****“Take Time To Be Holy”****No. 395**

Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord;  
abide in him always, and feed on his word.  
Make friends of God's children, help those who are weak,  
forgetting in nothing his blessing to seek.

Take time to be holy, the world rushes on;  
spend much time in secret with Jesus alone.  
By looking to Jesus, like him thou shalt be;  
thy friends in thy conduct his likeness shall see.

Take time to be holy, let him be thy guide,  
and run not before him, whatever betide.  
In joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord,  
and, looking to Jesus, still trust in his word.

Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul,  
each thought and each motive beneath his control.  
Thus led by his spirit to fountains of love,  
thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.

**SCRIPTURE****Hebrews 10:24-25**

<sup>24</sup> And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

**SERMON****Strengthening the Church by Showing Up****Pastor Sarah****†HYMN****“The Church’s One Foundation”****No. 545**

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
she is his new creation by water and the Word.  
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;  
her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder we see her sore oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;  
till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.

O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we  
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

**†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**