

## 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 dedicated to the glory of God and given in loving memory of Susan Norman Craver by her husband, John, and the family.

### **GREETERS**

8:30 Harry & Kimberly Smith  
11:00 Gail & Butch Gentry

### **Memorials**

Memorial gifts have been received in loving memory of Tommy Webb, Bobby Pridgen, and Susan Craver. We give thanks for their lives and for the generosity of those who have honored their memory through these gifts.

### **Mission of the Month**

Family Promise of Carteret County (FPCC) partners with local churches to provide Christian hospitality, lodging, meals, and compassionate support to homeless families and pregnant women. The day center currently serves 14 residents. In addition to financial support, FPCC welcomes volunteers, especially those able to help with reading and math tutoring for children, a wonderful opportunity for retired teachers. For more information, contact Jenn Hill or board member, Keith Henry.

### **2026 Vision and Values Nights January 28-29, 2026 at 5:30pm**

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!

### **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.

### **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.

### **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. The link to the study book is available through the church website and app.

### **Operation Christmas Child – 2026 Collection Begins!**

We celebrate Christmas all year long through Operation Christmas Child, and our collection for the year begins with January! The January collection item is T-shirts. Donation baskets are available in the Atrium and Fellowship Hall lobby. Let's make this year even bigger than before!

# 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 Rite Music* *Fran Welch, Livestream*



*Greg Miller*

"WORSHIPPING PASSIONATELY, LOVING EXTRAVAGANTLY, AND WITNESSING BOLDLY"

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

January 25, 2025

8:30 AM &amp; 11:00 AM

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

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it;

**The world and all who live in it belong to God.**

Who may ascend the hill of the Lord?

**Those who seek the Lord with clean hands and pure hearts.**

This is the generation who will seek the face of God.

**Let us worship the Lord with open hands and grateful hearts. (Psalm 24)****†HYMN****“O Worship The King”****No. 73**

O worship the King, all glorious above,  
O gratefully sing God's power and God's love;  
our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,  
pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,  
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,  
whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
and dark is God's path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,  
Almighty, thy power hath founded of old;  
hath established it fast by a changeless decree,  
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;  
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,  
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

**†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****“The Gift of Love”****No. 408**

Though I may speak with bravest fire,  
and have the gift of all inspire,  
and have not love, my words are vain,  
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,  
and striving so my love profess,  
but not be given by love within,  
the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,  
our spirits long to be made whole.

Let inward love guide every deed;  
by this we worship, and are freed.

**SCRIPTURE****Luke 21:1-4**

21 And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury,  
<sup>2</sup> and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. <sup>3</sup> So He said,  
“Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; <sup>4</sup> for all  
these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her  
poverty put in all the livelihood that she had.”

**SERMON** **Strengthening the Church with our Gifts** **Phil Routsong**

**†HYMN** **“God of Love and God of Power”** **No. 578**

God of love and God of power, grant us in this burning hour  
grace to ask these gifts of thee, daring hearts and spirits free.  
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

We are not the first to be banished by our fears from thee;  
give us courage, let us hear heaven's trumpets ringing clear.  
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

All our lives belong to thee, thou our final loyalty;  
slaves are we whene'er we share that devotion anywhere.  
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

God of love and God of power, make us worthy of this hour;  
offering lives if it's thy will, keeping free our spirits still.  
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

**†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**