

# WELCOME

WE'RE SO GLAD YOU ARE JOINING US FOR  
**WORSHIP TODAY!** If you would like more information  
about how you can be involved in the life of First Methodist  
Church, Shreveport:

- ♦ Ask one of our wonderful servants in the Welcome Center,  
located on the ground floor of the  
Education & Administration (E&A) Building.  
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.

## MINISTRY MOMENT

Our Prayer Ministry Team met Tuesday night to pray and  
plan ways to have FMC be known as a house of prayer!



## HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST?

We'd love to stand alongside you in prayer! Please share your  
prayer request with us by placing this form in either prayer box  
at the Sanctuary entrance.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer Request: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Would you like our Director of Prayer Ministry to reach out  
to you about this request? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Connect With FMC Shreveport  
Visitor Information • Request Prayer • Give Online



## JOYS & CONCERNS

**HOSPITAL:** Tom Eason, Nicholas Liberto, Delena Thomas

**RECOVERING:** Stephen Bell, Bridget Kennedy-Edwards, Susan Erba, Phillip Legler,  
Hutton Montgomery, Shannon Wicklund

**SYMPATHY** is extended to Rev. Regina Wren in the death of her husband, Gayle Wren;  
to Kelli Doyal in the death of her brother, *Jason Turnage*; and to Kay Allen in the death  
of her brother-in-law, *Sam Sharp*.

**FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
Mary Boggs, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence McGee and Dr. and Mrs. Whitney Boggs, Sr. from  
their family.

If you would like to give flowers, for use during the worship service, in memory or in honor  
of a loved one, please email Katie Weir at [kcwerie@gmail.com](mailto:kcwerie@gmail.com). After worship services,  
flowers from the altar are arranged into small bouquets and delivered to members who are  
hospitalized.

**THE RED ROSE** near the altar honors those serving in the armed forces at home and abroad.

## MEMORIALS

**Jay Pierson, Jr.**

from Leah and Chris Rea

**Ronald "Ronnie" Free**

from Leah and Chris Rea

**David Anderson**

from Leah and Chris Rea

**Sylvia Turner Wright**

from Leah and Chris Rea

**Leo Ducote**

from Linda and Jimmy Ray

**Tom Bullock, Sr.**

from Mr. and Mrs. Winston Ebarb

**Ann Martin Walke**

from Anna Latham

**Mr. and Mrs. William Peacock**

from Carol and Larry Gardner

**Ruby Mulhern Stewart**

from Women of Faith Sunday School

Class

**Linda Dupree Dowling**

from her family

**Linda Dupree Dowling**

from Leta and Ron Brown

## VITAL SIGNS

Contributions	Week Ending 01.11.26	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
Goal	\$146,494	\$146,494	\$146,494
Received	\$142,429	\$142,429	\$142,429
Over/(Under)	(\$4,065)	(\$4,065)	(\$4,065)

### ATTENDANCE: WEEK OF JANUARY 11, 2026

Traditional worship, 8:30 .....	185
Traditional worship, 11:00 .....	327
Faithlink worship .....	305
Palabra Viva Combined Services .....	135
On-line Viewers .....	69
<b>Total worship attendance: .....</b>	<b>1021</b>
Sunday School Attendance .....	393
Weekly Discipleship Activities .....	681
TOTAL Discipleship .....	1074



WE ARE A STEPHEN MINISTRIES CARING CONGREGATION. *A Stephen Minister  
will be to the left of the altar at the end of each service to listen and pray with you. If  
you are in need of a confidential Stephen Minister, call Ann Shocklee at 424-7771.*

Senior Pastor: Dr. Steven Bell • Executive Pastor: Rev. Matthew Hulbert

Associate Pastor: Rev. Kathy Wafer • Associate Pastor: Rev. Stephanie Kidd • Associate Pastor: Rev. Emily Blair

Minister of Music: Dr. David Hobson • Associate Director of Music: Dr. Alison Beck • Organist: E. Ray Peebles

**TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE:** 8:30 & 11:00am, **LIVE TELECAST ON KTBS/ABC** at 11:00am

**FAITHLINK CONTEMPORARY SERVICE:** 11:00am • **SUNDAY SCHOOL:** 9:45am

**COMMUNION SERVICES:** First Sunday of each month at 8:30 & 11:00am in the Sanctuary during services;

Each additional Sunday at 9:30am in the Sanctuary & 12:00pm in Couch Chapel.

318.424.7771 office • 318.429.6888 fax • **PRAYER LINE:** 318.429.6898

[www.firstshreveport.com](http://www.firstshreveport.com)

# 1<sup>ST</sup> FIRST

## METHODIST CHURCH, SHREVEPORT

JANUARY 18, 2026 • SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



WORSHIP PASSIONATELY.  
LOVE EXTRAVAGANTLY.  
WITNESS BOLDLY.

*Second Sunday After Epiphany - January 18, 2026*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Rev. Kathy Wafer

PRELUDE.....“Nimrod” from *Enigma Variations*.....E. Ray Peebles, organ  
Edward Elgar

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION.....Dr. David Hobson

† HYMN OF PRAISE.....“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” .....No. 47

• AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 691.....Vicki Sullivan

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*.....Gary Elam, tenor  
arr. Richard Walters

† SCRIPTURE READING.....Genesis 37:1-11.....Denny Moton

+ GLORIA PATRI.....No.33

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.

CHILDREN'S BLESSING.....Ashley Martin

MORNING & OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Rev. Emily Blair

THE LORD'S PRAYER.....Congregation (speaks in 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.

PRAYER RESPONSE.....No. 670

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
Look full in His wonderful face,  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
In the light of His glory and grace.

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Be Not Afraid*.....Ensemble (8:30)  
Taylor Davis Chancel Choir (11:00)

† DOXOLOGY.....Traditional

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose  
power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

MESSAGE.....JOSEPH:.....Dr. Steven Bell

FAVORED SON, DESPISED BROTHER

† HYMN OF INVITATION.....“He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!”.....No. 73

*(During the singing of this hymn, those who wish to join the First Methodist family are invited to come to the front of the church for reception and recognition.)*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS.....Lee DuCote

*We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ's holy church and bid you welcome to the congregation of First Methodist Church. With you, we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.*

† BENEDICTION ..... Dr. Steven Bell

† SENDING FORTH.....*May the Grace of Christ Be with You*.....Ensemble (8:30)  
arr. Dale Wood Chancel Choir (11:00)

POSTLUDE.....*Festival Voluntary*.....E. Ray Peebles, organ  
Flor Peeters



8:30: *Crucifer* – Anna Claire Caudle  
*Acolytes* – Ellie Caudle and Molly Ann Petree

11:00: *Banner Carrier* – Lily Norris • *Crucifer* – Mia White  
*Acolyte* – Chloe Meyers

† Those who are able may stand. ‡ Latecomers may be seated at these times.

\* IF YOU WISH TO JOIN the First Methodist Church family, please come forward at this time.

**\*\*Children leaving the service for Children's Chapel may be picked up after the service.**

- 3-4 years (8:30 & 11:00): Children's Ministry Center

• K5-3RD graders (11:00): Dawson Building, Room 208, behind the Sanctuary

Childcare for infants through 4 years is available from 8:15 to 12:15 in the Children's Ministry Center. From the sanctuary, follow the sign located in the hallway between the sanctuary and the Dawson Building. Outdoor access is located on the corner of Douglas and Milam Street.

## JOSEPH:

## FAVORED SON, DESPISED BROTHER

## GENESIS 37:I-II

# God's Training Manual

## Favored Son

## Despised Brother

## Lessons Learned from Adversity

### Scripture Memory Verse

*“For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.”*

## Romans 15:4