

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

This past Wednesday, our church began the Lenten season by coming together for the Ash Wednesday service – a wonderful service reminding us of our human frailty and absolute dependence on God.



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: Julia Andress

REHAB: Al Wyche

RECOVERING: Tom Eason, Bridget Kennedy-Edwards, Hutton Montgomery,

Delena Thomas, Tommy Williams, Al Wyche

SYMPATHY is extended to Dr. Pat Leopard (Cindy), Catherine Hunter (James), and Leslie, John Ashton, and Lauren Hunter in the death of mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, *Shirley Leopard*; and to Jawan Keeth in the death of her brother, *Victor Timmon*.

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God in memory of the anniversary of Nick Wibben's death by his family, Gayle Wibben, Tom and Stacy Erwin, Eric and Crystal Wibben, Clayton and Lindsey Burris.

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. 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

Thomas Gayle Wren

from Mr. and Mrs. Charles Knicely

Dan Hale

from Stephanie and David Kidd

Bob F. Anderson

from Mr. and Mrs. Edward Crawford III

Truman Kerst

from Mr. and Mrs. Edward Crawford III

Eva Pearl Henry

from the Mariner's Sunday School Class

Curtis Williams

from Doris and Winston Ebarb

Sybil Kelly

from Miles Hitchcock

Leo Ducote

from Michelle and Andy Osborn

David Walker

from Michelle and Andy Osborn

Babbette Gerard

from James Gerard

VITAL SIGNS

Contributions	Week Ending 02.15.26	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
Goal	\$76,225	\$228,675	\$521,663
Received	\$91,337	\$285,410	\$488,399
Over/(Under)	\$15,112	\$56,735	(\$33,264)

ATTENDANCE: WEEK OF FEBRUARY 15, 2026

Traditional worship, 8:30	165
Traditional worship, 11:00	196
Faithlink worship	162
Palabra Viva Combined Services	188
On-line Viewers	53
Total worship attendance	764
Sunday School Attendance	295
Weekly Discipleship Activities	920
TOTAL Discipleship	1215



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

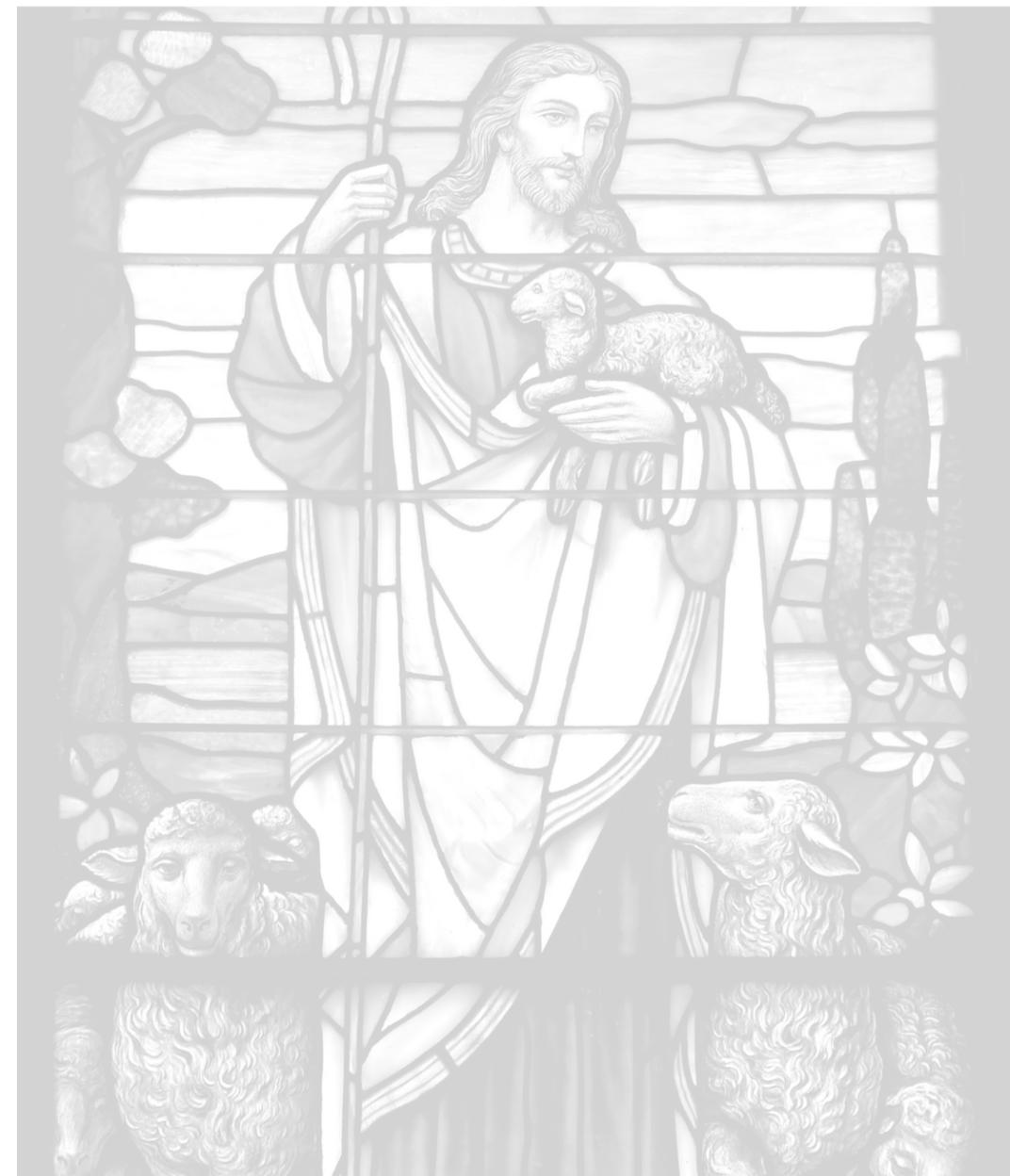
Associate Pastor: Rev. Kathy Wafer • Associate Pastor: Rev. Stephanie Kidd • Associate Pastor: Rev. Emily Blair
Minister of Music: Dr. David Hobson • Associate Director of Music: Dr. Alison Beck • Organist: E. Ray Peebles

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

FIRST

METHODIST CHURCH, SHREVEPORT

FEBRUARY 22, 2026 • FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



WORSHIP PASSIONATELY.
LOVE EXTRAVAGANTLY.
WITNESS BOLDLY.

Celebration of Worship

First Sunday of Lent - February 22, 2026

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE: 8:30 & 11:00 AM, LIVE TELECAST ON KTBS/ABC AT 11:00 AM

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Dr. David Hobson

PRELUDE.....*Prelude on CRIMOND*.....E. Ray Peebles, organ
[The Lord's My Shepherd]
Alec Rowley

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION.....Rev. Kathy Wafer

† HYMN OF PRAISE.....“At the Name of Jesus”.....No. 105

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 691.....Dr. Will Address

BAPTISM (11:00).....John Curtis Prince, V.....Dr. Steven Bell
Presented by his parents,
John Curtis and Emily Prince, IV

The Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Pastor: *Brothers and sisters in Christ, we have witnessed this baptism. God requires that we be accountable for our part in the welcoming of this child into the household of faith. Therefore, I hereby commend him to your love and care.*

Congregation: *John Curtis, we welcome you and receive you into the fellowship of the church. We promise to surround you in a community of love and forgiveness as you grow in Christ, so that you may confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in the royal priesthood of all his people to the glory of his name. Amen and Amen.*

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Christus Paradox*.....Ensemble (8:30)
Alfred Fedak Chancel Choir (11:00)

† SCRIPTURE READING.....Matthew 16:13-20.....Vicki Sullivan

† 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.....Erin Hogg

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 RESPONSENo. 674

*Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Hear our prayer, O Lord.
Incline Thine ear to us,
And grant us Thy peace. Amen.*

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Beautiful Savior*.....Handbell Choir
[Son of God, and Son of Man
- see No. 113 for text]
arr. Beverly Simpson

† DOXOLOGY682

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

MESSAGE.....**TRANSFORMATIONAL QUESTIONS FOR LENT:**.....Dr. Steven Bell
HOW TO MOVE FROM KNOWLEDGE TO KNOWING?

† HYMN OF INVITATION.....“Who is He in Yonder Stall”.....No. 141

(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.....Dr. Steven Bell

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.

† BENEDICTIONDr. Steven Bell

† SENDING FORTH.....*Lord of the Dance*.....Handbell Choir
[Simple Gifts]
arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

POSTLUDE.....*Fugue in C Minor, BWV 537*.....E. Ray Peebles, organ
Johann Sebastian Bach



8:30: *Crucifer – Lorynn Farrington • Acolyte – Sadie Farrington*

11:00: *Banner Carrier – Albany Lyles • Crucifer – Anna Claire Caudle
Acolytes – Ellie Caudle & John Marshall Rice*

† *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.

Sermon Notes

**TRANSFORMATIONAL QUESTIONS FOR LENT:
HOW TO MOVE FROM KNOWLEDGE TO KNOWING?**

MATTHEW 16:13 TO 20

When Jesus Came to the Region of Caesarea Philippi.

He Asked His Disciples, “Who Do People Say the Son of Man Is?”

Who Do You Say That I Am?

You Are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God.

Scripture Memory Verse

*“Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’”
Matthew 16:16*