

WELCOME

We are glad you're here. Please sign our register to let us know that you're visiting, so our members can make you feel at home.



WE'RE SO GLAD YOU ARE JOINING US FOR WORSHIP TODAY! If you have any questions about Sunday morning activities & Worship or you would like more information about how you can be involved in the life of First United Methodist Church, Shreveport:

- ♦ Ask one of our wonderful ushers or volunteers in the Welcome Center. 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.
- ♦ Visit www.firstshreveport.org/getconnected

READY TO JOIN OUR FIRST SHREVEPORT FAMILY?

If you're curious about what membership means and want to meet with one of our pastors before deciding, please contact our front desk at 424-7771 for more information.

You may join the church today by profession of faith, transfer of membership or reaffirmation of your baptismal vows. Our church receives persons from other traditions by transfer. If you have been baptized in another denomination, re-baptism is not necessary. To join, simply come to the front of the church and meet the pastors during the singing of the last hymn.

FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Grab a copy of the *First Weekly* or *The Columns* located at any of the entryways or visit firstshreveport.org.

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

Our Heritage in Stained Glass

Christ at Heart's Door—"Behold, I stand at the door and knock" Revelation 3:20
The fifth window on the right was planned by Lloyd Clanton, only son of T. C. Clanton, in honor of his father. Lloyd died shortly after the window's installation in 1950, and Mrs. Clanton asked that the window be regarded as a memorial to father and son. This beautiful stained glass rendition of Holman Hunt's "Christ Standing at Heart's Door" is a favorite of many members as Christ holds the lantern signifying the "Light of the World." The door must be opened from the inside (our hearts) as there is no latch or handle on the outside. The quote is completed: "If any man will hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him and he with me."

JOYS & CONCERNS

HOSPITALIZED: Lela Tucker, Mark Dutton

DISCHARGED: Laurie Boswell, Charlotte Rogers

SYMPATHY is extended to Cole Henington & family in the death of his grandfather, Harry Stewart and to Beth Hayes & Huck Andrews & family in the death of her niece and his mother, Dabney Andrews.

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in honor of the 50th Wedding anniversary of Spunky and Vida Creger.

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

MEMORIALS

Marilyn Van Deelen
from Debbie and George Brown

Gaines Smith
from Virginia Barlow

Tom Epperson
from Florence Baremore

John "Bob" Roddey
from C. Cody White, Jr.
Frances and Richard Jones

Henry Weyer
from Jere Saur
Bill Bain
from Frances and Richard Jones

Anne Montgomery
from Frances and Richard Jones
Polly and Bruce Williams

Max Edwards
from Frances and Richard Jones

Don Bamburg
from Mr. and Mrs. Bailey Baynham
Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Walker
Beth Hayes

VITAL SIGNS

Contributions	Week Ending 07.26.20	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
Goal	\$85,031	\$340,124	\$2,215,572
Received	\$37,459	\$256,501	\$2,128,455
Over/(Under)	(\$47,572)	(\$83,623)	(\$87,117)



WE ARE A STEPHEN MINISTRIES CARING CONGREGATION. *If you are in need of personal prayer, we have Stephen Ministers available to listen and pray with you. A Stephen Minister will be at the altar by the left door at the end of each service.*

Senior Pastor: Dr. R. Pat Day • Executive Pastor: Rev. Derek Joyce

Associate Pastor: Dr. Ashley Goad • Associate Pastor: Rev. Erik Rasmussen • Pastor of Senior Adult Ministry: Dr. Carl E. Rhoads

Director of Music: Dr. David Hobson • Director of Fine Arts: Dr. Will K. Andress • Principal Organist: E. Ray Peebles

Bishop-in-Residence: William W. Hutchinson

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

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

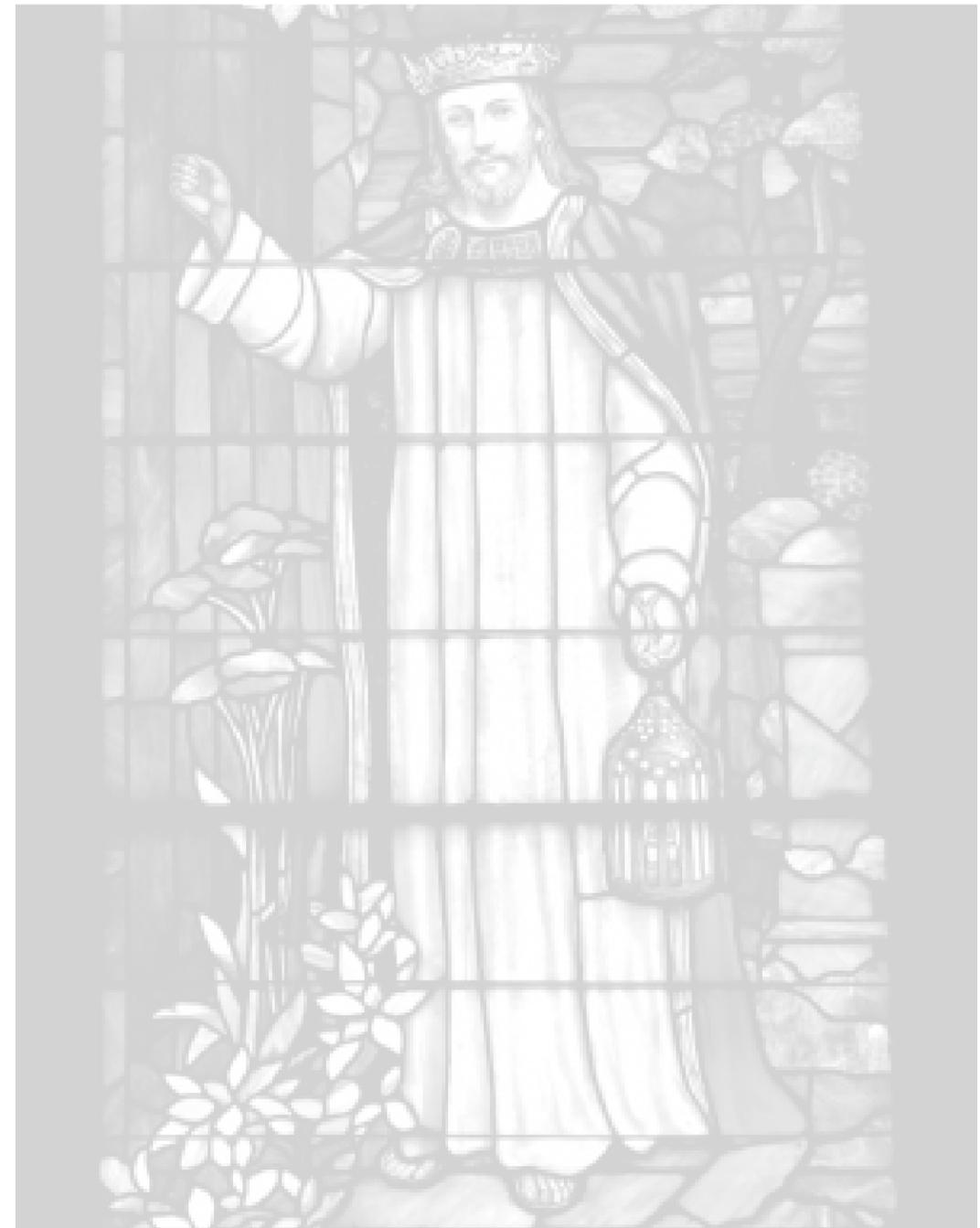
WESLEYAN COMMUNION SERVICE: 9:45 – 10:30am, FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH IN COUCH CHAPEL

318.424.7771 office • 318.429.6888 fax • PRAYER LINE: 318.429.6898 TOLL FREE: 1.888.393.PRAY
www.firstshreveport.org • fumc@fumcshreveport.org

FIRST

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SHREVEPORT

AUGUST 2, 2020 · NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



CONNECT. GROW. SERVE. LEAD.

Hymn of Praise No. 117
“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!

Under the shadow of thy throne, still may we dwell secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
From everlasting, thou art God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages, in thy sight, are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night, before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever rolling stream, bears all who breathe away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come;
Be thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.

Hymns
August 2, 2020



*Hymn of Invitation No. 479
“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide; O receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none, hangs my helpless soul on thee;
Leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want, more than all in thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name, I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am; thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound, make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of thee;
Spring thou up within my heart; rise to all eternity.



*While an extremely personal hymn, note how Wesley deemphasizes first person pronouns as they occur on the unaccented poetic foot (ex. Hide me, O my Savior hide), until the sinner realizes and claims “I am all unrighteousness.” At the same moment in the poetry, Wesley writes in a chiasmus, making a “cross” of the poetic lines between savior and sinner:

Just and Holy is Thy Name (Savior) *False and full of sin I am; (Sinner)*
I am all unrighteousness (Sinner) *Thou art full of truth and grace (Savior)*

The hymn also moves us from our fear of storms and water toward redemption of not only ourselves but also creation – note the more positive and baptismal imagery of water in the final stanza.

Affirmation of Faith

No. 881

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.

Scripture and Creeds

August 2, 2020

Matthew 17:14-23

Jesus Heals a Demon-Possessed Boy

When they came to the crowd, a man approached Jesus and knelt before him. "Lord, have mercy on my son," he said. "He has seizures and is suffering greatly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. I brought him to your disciples, but they could not heal him."

"You unbelieving and perverse generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me." Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed at that moment.

Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?"

He replied, "Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

Jesus Predicts His Death a Second Time

When they came together in Galilee, he said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised to life." And the disciples were filled with grief.

Acts 27:21-32

After they had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up before them and said: "Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete; then you would have spared yourselves this damage and loss. But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed. Last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me and said, 'Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.' So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me. Nevertheless, we must run aground on some island."

The Shipwreck

On the fourteenth night we were still being driven across the Adriatic Sea, when about midnight the sailors sensed they were approaching land. They took soundings and found that the water was a hundred and twenty feet deep. A short time later they took soundings again and found it was ninety feet deep. Fearing that we would be dashed against the rocks, they dropped four anchors from the stern and prayed for daylight. In an attempt to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea, pretending they were going to lower some anchors from the bow. Then Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, "Unless these men stay with the ship, you cannot be saved." So the soldiers cut the ropes that held the lifeboat and let it drift away.