

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

Thank you to all who so generously donated for relief following the Hill Country flooding. Over \$35,000 was donated to the FMC Shreveport fund. A large portion was used to help with the installation of a new home for this precious family in the Sandy Creek area, and the balance is being used in the San Angelo region through their longterm recovery team, where almost 1200 homes were deemed unlivable. Restoration efforts continue. Contact Michelle if you are interested in joining these teams.



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: Hutton Montgomery, Tom Eason

REHAB: Chuck Rice, John Mark Willcox

RECOVERING: Harry Haynes, Spencer Lamb, Carobeth Richardz

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Leu Frances Strange Wilder from Amanda and Kirk La Vigne.

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

John S. Turner, Jr.

from Ross and Allison Barrett Family
Bill and Carol Windham Family

Ann Martin Walke

from Johnette and Jim Barnes
Janet K. Elrod

Mr. and Mrs. T. Haller Jackson, III
Mandel C. Selber, Jr.

Pearla Despot

Daphne and Ted Terzia

Tammie and James Oakes

Peggy Allen Holladay

from Seekers Sunday School Class

Jimmie "Jim" McGee

from Malancy Rosenzweig

Jack R. Lamb

from Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Crawford, III

Truman Kerst

from Dr. Cynthia Black Payne

Leu Strange Wilder

from Marian and Reid Grimes

Linda Dupree Dowling

from Marian and Reid Grimes

Mary Hilton

Year to Date - August 31, 2025 (in thousands)			
	Budget	Actual	Variation
Cash Receipts	\$2,723	\$2,685	(\$38)
Cash Disbursements	\$3,152	\$2,942	\$210
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$429)	(\$257)	\$172

VITAL SIGNS

Contributions	Week Ending 09.07.25	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
Goal	\$85,421	\$85,421	\$2,488,671
Received	\$67,995	\$67,995	\$2,461,259
Over/(Under)	(\$17,426)	(\$17,426)	(\$27,412)

ATTENDANCE: WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2025	
Traditional worship, 8:30	174
Traditional worship, 11:00	294
Faithlink worship	268
Palabra Viva Combined Services	139
On-line Viewers	41
Total worship attendance:	916
Total Sunday School attendance, all ages	350
Weekly Discipleship Activities	249
TOTAL Discipleship	599



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: 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.

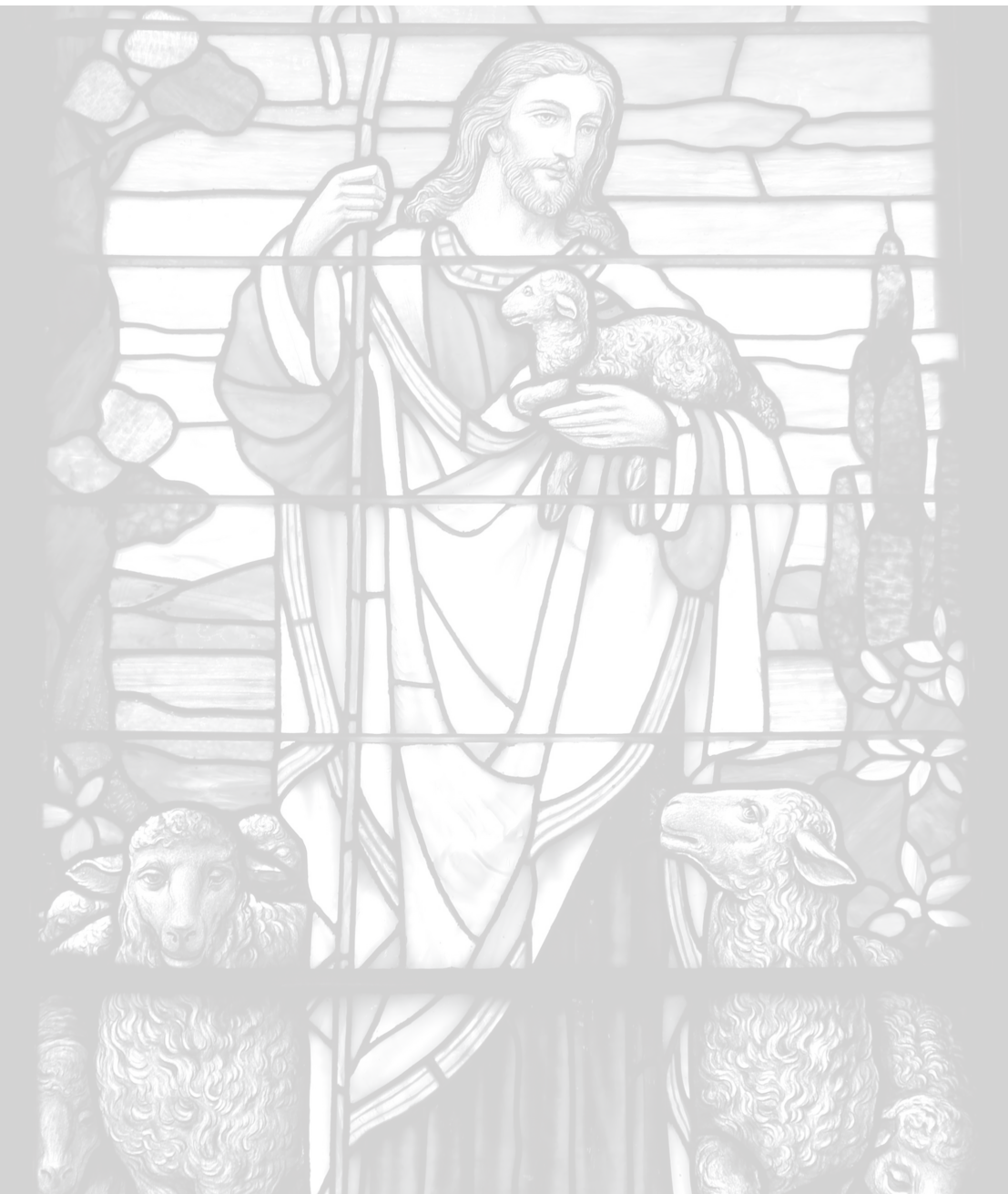
318.424.7771 office • 318.429.6888 fax • **PRAYER LINE:** 318.429.6898

www.firstshreveport.com

FIRST

METHODIST CHURCH, SHREVEPORT

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 · FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



WORSHIP PASSIONATELY.
LOVE EXTRAVAGANTLY.
WITNESS BOLDLY.

Celebration of Worship	
Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost - September 14, 2025	
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE: 8:30 & 11:00 AM, LIVE TELECAST ON KTBS/ABC at 11:00 AM	
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS.....	Rev. Emily Blair
PRELUDE.....	Adagio cantabile.....Alison Beck, piano Ludwig van Beethoven
CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION.....	Dr. David Hobson
† HYMN OF PRAISE.....	“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”No. 5
† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....	No. 691.....Dr. Will Address
CELEBRATION OF LIFE.....	Stewardship.....Michelle Osborn
MUSICAL OFFERING.....	Shadrak.....Virgilio Davis, bass [Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego] Robert MacGimsey
† SCRIPTURE READING.....	Exodus 32:1-6.....Dr. Emily Hobson
† 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.....	Mitzi Nix
MORNING & OFFERTORY PRAYER.....	Rev. Kathy Wafer
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. 341
Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, Alleluia.	
Ask, and it shall be given unto you; Seek and ye shall find; Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, Alleluia.	

MUSICAL OFFERING.....	The Lord is My Light.....Ensemble (8:30) [Psalm 27] Chancel Choir (11:00) Eugene Butler
† 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.....	FIRST FRUITS:.....Dr. Steven Bell THE COMPETITION
† HYMN OF INVITATION.....	“Jesus Calls Us”.....No. 520 (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.	
† 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.....	Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho.....Alison Beck, piano arr. Benjamin Harlan
✠ — — — — — ✠	
8:30: Crucifer – Lorynn Farrington • Acolyte – Sadie Farrington	
11:00: Banner Carrier – Lily Norris • Crucifer – Albany Lyles Acolyte – Mia White	
† 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	
FIRST FRUITS: THE COMPETITION EXODUS 32:1-6	
Recognize the Competition.	
Refuse the Competition.	
Run to the Christ.	
Scripture Memory Verse “For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.” Romans 1:21	