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

Luke Anderson did the next part of his Eagle Scout Project where the Troop retired 66 American Flags which had been donated by members of the church and placed in the gathering box in the E/A lobby. The flags were each prepared, cut up, and then burned according to the U.S. Flag Code. The troop will continue to gather old flags and retire them accordingly. Thanks to all for helping Luke on this important project/step in becoming an Eagle Scout.



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? \Box Yes \Box No

Connect With FMC Shreveport

Visitor Information • Request Prayer • Give Online



Joys & Concerns

Hospital: Hutton Montgomery

REHAB: Tom Eason, Mary Prevost

RECOVERING: Kay Allen, Brett Radabaugh, Susie Paulovich

Sympathy is extended to family and friends in the death of *June Carter Bolch*; and to family and friends in the death of *Lola Kaufman*.

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God by the family of Dave Stone in gratitude to the church for graciously hosting the celebration of his life held Friday October 3, 2025.

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

New Members of FMC-S (August - September)

Bailey Barnes
Nancy Brooks
Anne Michele Erwin
Stacy and Tom Erwin
Camille and Ryan Phillips
Marie Phillips
Tabatha Wynn
WE WELCOME YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL FAITH FAMILY!

VITAL SIGNS

Contributions	Week Ending 09.28.25	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
Goal	\$85,421	\$341,684	\$2,744,934
Received	\$105,922	\$377,559	\$2,770,823
Over/(Under)	\$20,501	\$35,875	\$25,889

Attendance: week of September 28, 2025		
Traditional worship, 8:30	173	
Traditional worship, 11:00	327	
Faithlink worship	283	
Palabra Viva Combined Services	147	
On-line Viewers	32	
Total worship attendance:	962	
Total Sunday School attendance, all ages		
Weekly Discipleship Activities	613	
TOTAL Discipleship	970	



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

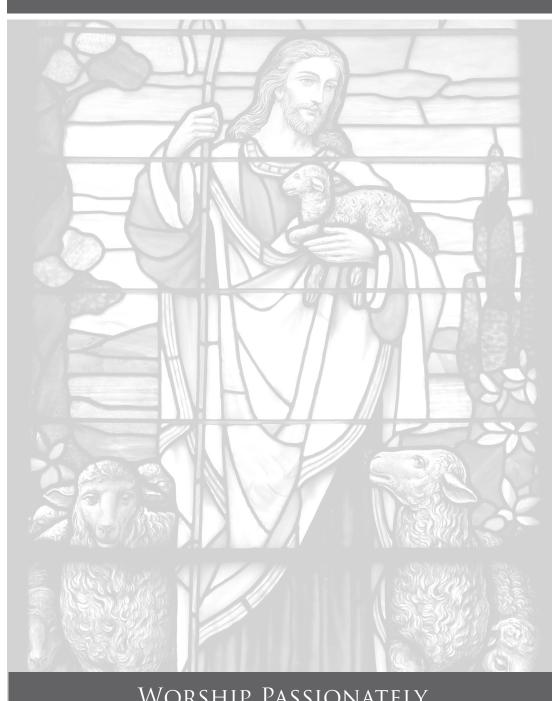
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE: 8:30 & 11:00am, LIVE TELECAST ON KTBS/ABC at 11:00am
FAITHLINK CONTEMPORARY SERVICE: 11:00am • SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45am
COMMUNION SERVICES: First Sunday of each month at 8:30 & 11:00am in the Sanctuary during services;
Each additional Sunday at 9:30am in the Sanctuary & 12:00pm in Couch Chapel.

318.424.7771 office • 318.429.6888 fax • PRAYER LINE: 318.429.6898

www.firstshreveport.com

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, SHREVEPORT

October 5, 2025 , Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost



WORSHIP PASSIONATELY.
LOVE EXTRAVAGANTLY.
WITNESS BOLDLY.

Celebration of Worship

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost - October 5, 2025

Traditional Worship Service: 8:30 & 11:00 am, live telecast on ktbs/abc at 11:00 am

Welcome & AnnouncementsLee DuCote
PreludeE. Ray Peebles, organ
Invitation, Confession, and PardonNo. 730Rev. Emily Blain
† Hymn of PraiseNo. 413
† Affirmation of FaithRev. Emily Blain
† Scripture ReadingDr. Steven Bell
† Gloria PatriNo.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 BlessingHelen Palmer
Morning & Offertory PrayerDebby Williams
Prayer ResponseNo. 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
† DoxologyTraditional
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!
MessageRev. Kathy Wafer
The Great ThanksgivingNo. 731-732Rev. Kathy Wafer

The Lord's Prayer	Congregation (speaks in unison)
will be done on earth as it is in heaven. forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive th	d be thy name. It Thy kingdom come, thy It Give us this day our daily bread. And ose who trespass against us. It And lead us evil. It For thine is the kingdom, and the
Musical OfferingO Divine Rede Charles Gound	emerDr. Briana Sosenheimer, soprano od
Wesleyan Covenant Prayer	No. 710Dr. David Hobson
† Hymn of Invitation"Ta	ake Time to Be Holy"No. 316
(During the singing of this hymn, those tare invited to come to the front of the chu	who wish to join the First Methodist family arch for reception and recognition.)
RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS	Rev. Kathy Wafer
	of Christ's holy church and bid you welcome to rch. With you, we renew our vows to uphold our service, and our witness.
† Benediction	Rev. Kathy Wafer
	menEnsemble (8:30) n Rutter Chancel Choir (11:00)
POSTLUDEFugue in G N [The Little Johann Sebasti	•

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8:30: Crucifer – Lila Holley-Lerchie • Acolyte – Evie Holley-Lerchie

11:00: Banner Carrier – Michael Zavalydriga • Crucifer – Mia White Acolytes – Isabel Haggard and Charlotte Carr

- † 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

ABIDE
JOHN 15:1-17

The Christian way is different, harder, and easier. Christ says, Give me All. I don't want so much of your time and so much of your money and so much of your work. I want you. I have not come to torment your natural self, but to kill it. No half measures are any good. I don't want to cut off a branch here and a branch there, I want to have the whole tree down. Hand over the whole natural self, all the desires which you think innocent as well as the ones you think wicked – the whole outfit. I will give you a new self instead. In fact, I will give you Myself: my own shall become yours. C.S. Lewis

Jesus repeats abide in me 11 times and bear fruit 7 times and then the word love 8 times in John 15. How are these words related?

What is the fruit that will last?

What is the link between obedience and prayer?

As a branch on Christ's vine, how would you describe the fruit in your life?

Do you feel like Jesus' servant of his friend? What helps develop the friendship?

Scripture Memory Verse

"Greater love has no one than this, that He lay down his life for His friends." John 15:13