

# 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.

## CHURCH CONFERENCE NOV. 9

Sunday, November 9, at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary,  
First Methodist Church of Shreveport will hold our  
annual Church Conference meeting. All FMC members  
are welcome and are encouraged to attend. Along with  
approving our 2026 church budget and leadership  
nominations, we will also be voting to potentially approve  
Lee DuCote as a Candidate for Ministry in the Global  
Methodist Church. We hope to see you here!

## MINISTRY MOMENT

This past Sunday, we had a great time of fellowship and  
connecting with one another over lots of great food in one of  
our newly renovated spaces in the Emmett Hook Center. We  
hope you will join us for our next fellowship event so that we  
can continue growing closer together as God's people here at  
the head of Texas Street.



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



## JOYS & CONCERNS

**HOSPITAL:** Hutton Montgomery

**SKILLED CARE:** Milton Murphy

**REHAB:** Ruby Lynn Capelan, Mary Prevost

**RECOVERING:** Pat Covington, Beth Forsythe, Ezekiel Forsythe, Medy Preston,  
Bob Richardz, Ann Shanley

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Gillian and Robert Crawford on the birth of baby boy,  
*Foster Atkins Crawford*, born October 26, 2025. Grandparents are Laura and Ed Crawford.

**SYMPATHY** is extended to Bob Richardz in the death of his wife, *Carobeth Richardz*.

**FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY** are given to the glory of God from Amanda and  
Kirk LaVigne.

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

**Carol Meyer**

from Beverly and Al Hammett

Desiderata Sunday School Class

**J. David "Dave" Stone**

from Kathie and Sherwood Bailey

**Truman Kerst**

from Kathie and Sherwood Bailey

**Linda Dupree Dowling**

from Claudia and David Oliver

**Wayne Waddell**

from Liz and Sid Potts

**Dr. William "Bill" Mabry Wilder**

from Carolyn and Dean Griffen

**Ann Martin Walke**

from Evelyn H. Quinn

**Wilbert "Bill" O. Crain, Jr.**

from Evelyn H. Quinn

Carolyn and Dean Griffen

**Glenda Witherspoon Crout**

from Pat Johnson

**Baxter Adams**

from Marissa and Wil Adams

## VITAL SIGNS

| Contributions | Week Ending<br>11.02.25 | Month-to-Date | Year-to-Date |
|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Goal          | \$52,172                | \$52,172      | \$3,120,738  |
| Received      | \$73,220                | \$73,220      | \$3,220,934  |
| Over/(Under)  | \$21,048                | \$21,048      | \$100,196    |

### ATTENDANCE: WEEK OF NOVEMBER 2, 2025

|                                                |             |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Traditional worship, 8:30 .....                | 200         |
| Traditional worship, 11:00 .....               | 396         |
| Faithlink worship .....                        | 178         |
| Palabra Viva Combined Services .....           | 154         |
| On-line Viewers .....                          | 157         |
| <b>Total worship attendance: .....</b>         | <b>1085</b> |
| Total Sunday School attendance, all ages ..... | 354         |
| Weekly Discipleship Activities .....           | 986         |
| TOTAL Discipleship .....                       | 1340        |



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.

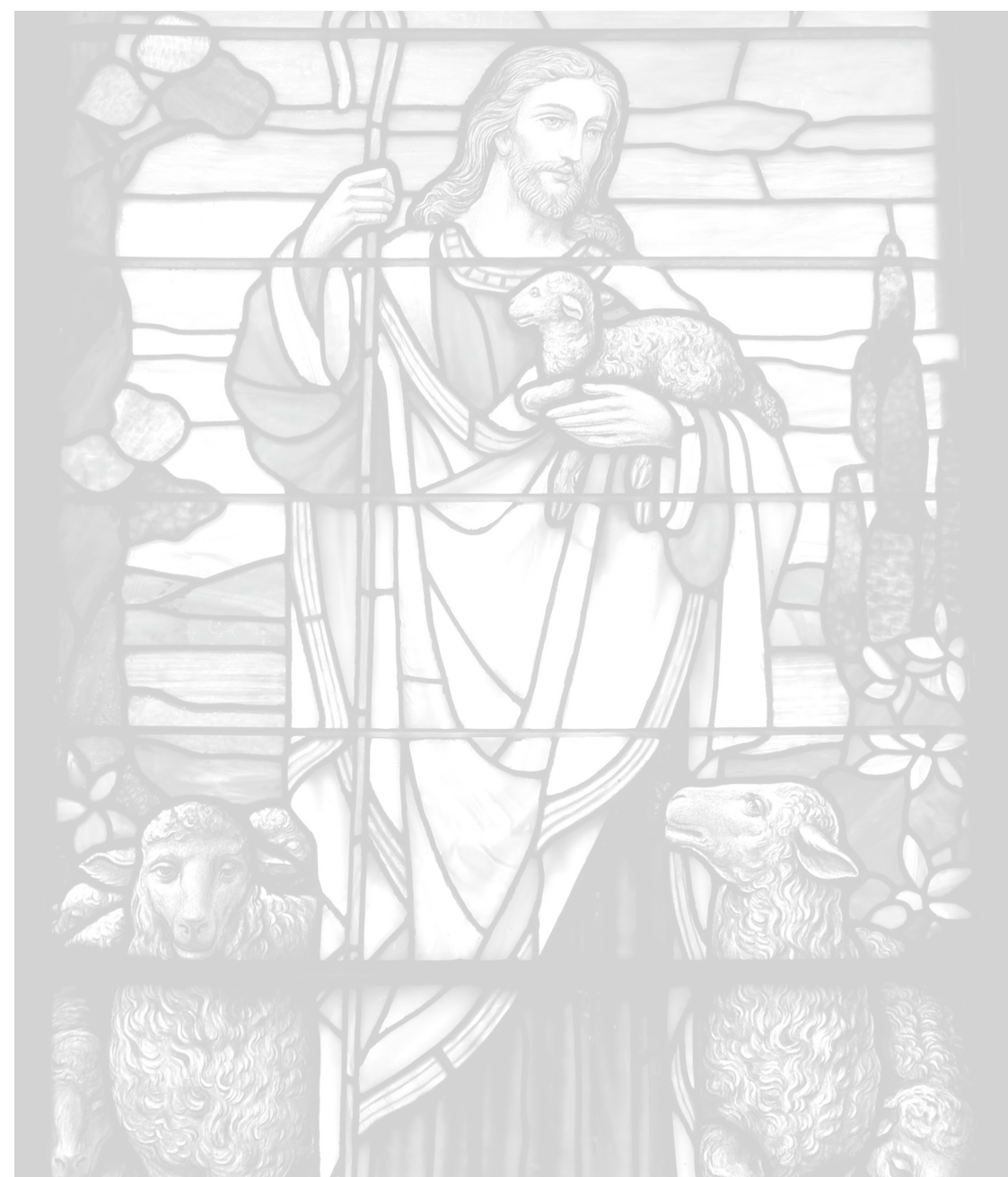
318.424.7771 office • 318.429.6888 fax • PRAYER LINE: 318.429.6898

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

# 1<sup>ST</sup> FIRST

## METHODIST CHURCH, SHREVEPORT

NOVEMBER 9, 2025 • TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



WORSHIP PASSIONATELY.  
LOVE EXTRAVAGANTLY.  
WITNESS BOLDLY.

Celebration of Worship

Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost - November 9, 2025

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

|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS.....      | Lee DuCote                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| PRELUDE.....                      | <i>Fairest Lord Jesus</i> .....Handbell Choir<br>Traditional                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION..... | Dr. Will Address                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| † HYMN OF PRAISE.....             | “This is My Father’s World” .....No. 19                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| † AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....       | No. 691.....Rev. Kathy Wafer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| CELEBRATION OF LIFE.....          | Trinity Annual Conference.....Rev. Lamar Oliver<br>of the GMC                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| MUSICAL OFFERING (8:30).....      | <i>God So Loved the World</i> .....Texas Street Singers<br>John Stainer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| MUSICAL OFFERING (11:00).....     | <i>Search Me, O God</i> .....Chancel Choir<br>[Psalm 139]<br>K. Lee Scott                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| † SCRIPTURE READING.....          | Romans 8:18-28.....Bart Alexander                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| † GLORIA PATRI.....               | No. 33                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| †                                 | <i>Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,<br/>as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.</i><br>‡                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| CHILDREN’S BLESSING.....          | Helen Palmer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| MORNING & OFFERTORY PRAYER.....   | Rev. Emily Blair                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| THE LORD'S PRAYER.....            | Congregation (speaks in unison)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| †                                 | <i>Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. ✠ Thy kingdom come, thy<br/>will be done on earth as it is in heaven. ✠ Give us this day our daily bread. And<br/>forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. ✠ And lead us<br/>not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. ✠ For thine is the kingdom, and the<br/>power, and the glory, forever. Amen.</i><br>‡ |

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| PRAYER RESPONSE.....          | No. 341                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| †                             | <i>Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,<br/>And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, Alleluia.</i><br><br><i>Ask, and it shall be given unto you; Seek and ye shall find;<br/>Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, Alleluia.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| MUSICAL OFFERING.....         | <i>He That Keepeth Israel</i> .....Mia Moreno, alto<br>Adolphe Schlösser                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| † DOXOLOGY .....              | Traditional                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| †                             | <i>Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below:<br/>Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose<br/>power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| MESSAGE.....                  | <b>THE WAY OF THE EARTH</b> .....Dr. Steven Bell                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| † HYMN OF INVITATION.....     | “The New Creation”.....No. 636<br><br><i>(During the singing of this hymn, those who wish to join the First Methodist family<br/>are invited to come to the front of the church for reception and recognition.)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS..... | Dr. Steven Bell                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| †                             | <i>We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ’s holy church, and bid you welcome<br/>to the congregation of First Methodist Church. With you, we renew our vows to<br/>uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| † BENEDICTION .....           | Dr. Steven Bell                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| † SENDING FORTH.....          | <i>Christ, We Do All Adore Thee</i> .....Handbell Choir<br>[see No. 687 for text]<br>Theodore Dubois                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| POSTLUDE.....                 | <i>Now Thank We All Our God</i> .....E. Ray Peebles, organ<br>[March Triumphal]<br>Sigfried Karg-Elert                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| †                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| †                             | 11:00: <i>Banner Carrier – Caroline Summers • Crucifer – Mollie Rice</i><br><br><i>Acolytes – John Marshall Rice and Andrew Summers</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| †                             | <i>Those who are able may stand. ‡ Latecomers may be seated at these times.</i><br>* <b>IF YOU WISH TO JOIN</b> the First Methodist Church family, please come forward at this time.<br>**Children leaving the service for Children’s Chapel may be picked up after the service.<br>• 3–4 years (8:30 & 11:00): Children’s Ministry Center<br>• K5–3RD graders (11:00): Dawson Building, Room 208, behind the Sanctuary<br>Childcare for infants through 4 years is available from 8:15 to 12:15 in the Children’s Ministry Center.<br>From the sanctuary, follow the sign located in the hallway between the sanctuary and the Dawson<br>Building. Outdoor access is located on the corner of Douglas and Milam Street. |

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| Sermon Notes                                                                                                                                                     |
| THE WAY OF THE EARTH                                                                                                                                             |
| ROMANS 8:18-28                                                                                                                                                   |
| Creation Is Grieving                                                                                                                                             |
| Creation Is Groaning                                                                                                                                             |
| Creation Is Glorifying                                                                                                                                           |
| Scripture Memory Verse                                                                                                                                           |
| “Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do<br>not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit<br>intercedes with sighs too deep for words.” |
| Romans 8:26                                                                                                                                                      |