

CHANCEL CHOIR
Director – Phil Routszong

SOPRANOS

Michelle Johnson
Pat Davis
Laura Ball
Pam Styron
Elizabeth Willis
Jeanette Youngblood
Nan Dale

ALTOS

Anne Lindsay
Joanna Whitehurst
Drew Hoover
Susan Griffith
Doris Wade
Kay Carter
Nancy Willis

TENORS

Stanley Harrell
Terry Goodman
Jeff Bashford
Kris Meyer
Ray Ball
Fletcher Poulk

BASSES

Ralph Wade
Larry Hughes
Rusty Rains
Earle Wade
Scott Ham

ORCHESTRA

Piano/Organ - Sunnie Gail Ballou
Cello - Cedar Eldredge
Trumpet - Ralph Wade
French Horn – Rebecca Haines
Percussion - Will Whitehurst
Clarinet/Bass Clarinet – Elaine Hughes

First Violin – Angela Jovanovich
Second Violin - Cayuse Eldredge
Flute/Piccolo – Emily Golightly
Oboe/English Horn – Erica Hughes
Double Bass - Felicia Sink

The Arts and Music Department of First Methodist dedicates this work to the glory of God with a depth of gratitude to the congregation for its support over the past year.

WELCOME
GUESTS
AND VISITORS



Welcome First-Time Visitors!

Welcome to First Methodist Church. As part of our Bread Ministry, we would love to share a loaf of baked bread with you as a symbol of our love and welcome. Simply raise your hand during our welcome and an usher will deliver to your seat. We are so glad you are here!

Kids Christmas Musical “The Uncertain, Poor Shepherd”

Join us this evening, Sunday, Dec 14th at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall for our Children’s Christmas Musical, “The Uncertain, Poor Shepherd.” Come celebrate the season as our kids share the story of Christmas through music and drama, reminding us of God’s love and grace revealed to even the most humble hearts. Enjoy cookies and cocoa following the service!

Merrytime Community Orchestra Concert
Monday, December 15th at 6:00pm

Enjoy a beautiful evening of music as the MerryTime Community Orchestra, under the direction of Felicia Sink, presents a Christmas concert. Celebrate the joy and wonder of the Christmas season. All are welcome. Bring a friend and come enjoy this wonderful community performance!

Christmas Cheer Delivery - December 20th @ 10:00am

First Methodist has adopted 53 families through Project Christmas Cheer this year! If any families remain, you can visit the Atrium to adopt. Families are supported by individuals, Sunday School classes, and various small groups. Along with the gifts provided, we also supply each family with a box of food. If you’d like to help on delivery day, please contact Lisa Chappell.

Christmas Caroling - Sunday, Dec 21st at 3:00pm

Sing the carols and share the joy of the season as we travel from home to home. All are welcome. We will gather at the church just before 3:00 and divide into small groups and drive in our separate cars to 5-8 houses per group and sing! Fa la la la la la la la...

Red Cross Blood Drive – Hosted by Ayla & Asa Webb

Monday, December 29th from 9am-3pm in the Fellowship Hall. We are excited to support Ayla and Asa Webb as they host our upcoming Blood Drive. They are competing for a Red Cross scholarship, and their eligibility is based on the number of units collected at the December drive. Your donation makes a difference, both for those in need and for these students.

2026 Giving Pledges for Mission and Ministry

As we transition from a season of giving thanks into the hopeful anticipation of Advent, we are grateful for all who have already shared their commitment to our 2026 mission and ministry budget. If you haven’t yet had the chance to make your pledge, we are still receiving them throughout December. Submit your pledge online at www.firstmethodist.life/give or complete a pledge card. Thank you for supporting the ministry God is calling us to in the year ahead.

Christmas Eve Services
December 24th

3:00pm - The Rise Children’s Service
5:00pm - Sanctuary Children’s Service
7:00pm - Sanctuary Candlelight Service
11:00pm - Sanctuary Candlelight and Carols

Worship Services on Sunday, December 28th and January 4th

Following the joy of Christmas and the celebration of our Savior’s birth, the Light who came into the world, we will gather for a simplified worship schedule on Sunday, Dec 28 and Jan 4. On each morning, we will offer two services only: The Rise at 9:45 AM and Traditional Worship at 11:00 AM.

First Methodist Church

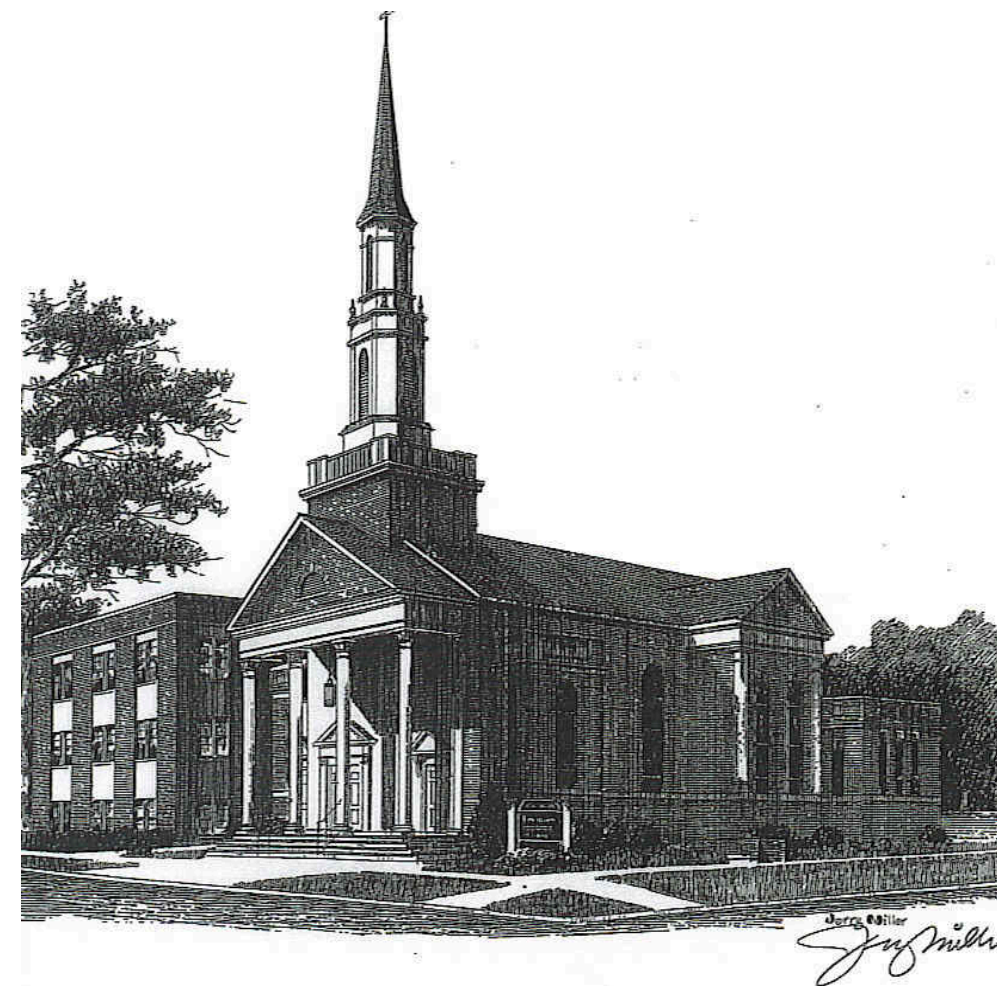
900 Arendell Street
Morehead City, North Carolina
252-726-7102
www.firstmethodist.life

Reverend Sarah Williams
Associate Pastor

Reverend Patrick Whaley
Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care

Kim McCoury, Director of Communications
Shanna du Mont, Director of Children’s Ministry
Phil Routszong, Director of Music
Miranda Routszong, Assistant Rise Music

Sabrina Juarez, Facilities Manager
Stefany Boyd, Office Manager
Sunnie Gail Ballou, Organist
Fran Welch, Livestream



“WORSHIPPING PASSIONATELY, LOVING EXTRAVAGANTLY, AND WITNESSING BOLDLY”

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS
PASSING THE PEACE
PRELUDE

†CHIMING OF THE HOUR & INTROIT

†CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is our chosen portion and our cup;
In God’s presence, our hearts are glad.
The Lord shows us the path of life;
In God’s light, there is fullness of joy.
Come, let us make room for the One who walks into our lives with love.
Let us worship the God who brings us into everlasting joy. (Psalm 16)

†HYMN“Joy to the World”No. 246

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

†OPENING PRAYERUnison
Gracious God, You come among us with the light of joy and the fullness of life. Clear space in our hearts for Your presence, that we may know the gladness, confidence, and delight that come from You alone. Fill this worship with the joy of heaven, and let Your light renew us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles’ CreedUnison
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.

†GLORIA PATRIUnison
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. Amen.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYERUnison

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.

WORSHIP WITH TITHES, GIFTS, AND OFFERINGS
OFFERTORY

†DOXOLOGYNo. 95

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

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

“GLORIA”

By Mary McDonald

Presented By

The Chancel Choir

of

First Methodist Church

- “Christmas Hymn”
- “Tidings of Comfort and Joy”
 - “Still, Still, Still”
- “A Blessed Messiah Born”
 - “Behold Our God”
- GLORIA
 - “Gloria in Excelsis Deo”
 - “Et in Terra Pax”
 - “Gloria Dei Patris”

†HYMN“The Old Hundreth”
Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

All people that on Earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with fear, his praise forthtell;
Come ye before him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his folk, he doth us feed,
And for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
Approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless his name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good;
His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
The God whom heav’n and earth adore
From men and from the angel host
Be praise and glory evermore. Amen

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

Share His love by telling what the Lord has done for you
Share His love by sharing of your faith
And show the world that Jesus Christ is real to you
Every moment, every day!

TRINITY CHIMES

(Please remain in place at the end of the service until the conclusion of the Trinity Chimes)

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God
and in honor of our Chancel Choir, who were invited to perform
this original work, Gloria, by Mary McDonald in
Carnegie Hall, NYC, on December 1, 2025.

THE FLOWERS ON THE CHANCEL RAIL are given in loving
memory of Shirley Garner on the anniversary of her birthday
by her husband Ted Garner. All glory to God.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

The church gratefully acknowledges the memorial gift given in loving
memory of Sharon Quillen. We give thanks for her life and for the
generosity of those who honor her memory through these gifts.

GREETERS

8:30 Harry & Kimberly Smith
11:00 Harold Wright & Greta Boshamer

ONLINE GIVING



Prayerfully consider giving
to support the missions and
ministries of First Methodist
Church by scanning the
QR code.

For God so loved that He GAVE his Son.