

†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 AT THE ALTAR are dedicated to the glory of God and in honor of the Stanley Harrell Sunday school class.

STEEPLE LIGHTING

THE STEEPLE IS LIT for the month of February in dedication to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Frank and Hunter, and in honor of Ben's birthday on February 18th. God bless America and counting our blessings by Mary Ann Holland.

GREETERS

8:30 Lee & Teresa Everett

11:00 Heather & John Boney

Easter Lilies

Easter lilies may be purchased in honor or in memory of a loved one as part of our Easter celebration. These lilies will help decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday as a beautiful reminder of Christ's resurrection. To order, please contact the church office or place your order online.

VBS Volunteer Registration is OPEN!

Get ready for an adventure in God's amazing creation! VBS will be June 15-19, 2026. We are looking for enthusiastic individuals to adventure into the Rainforest. There are a variety of positions available, including class guides for children aged 3 years old to 5th grade, instructors for preschool and elementary games, art and story time, and those who can help with snacks and decorations. Thank you in advance for your willingness to serve.

Operation Christmas Child - Stuffed Animals

We're collecting stuffed animals for Operation Christmas Child throughout February and March! Drop off your donations in the baskets located in the atrium and The Rise Lobby. We may have started the season of Lent, but your generous donations throughout the year make a huge difference when we pack boxes in November. Let's fill those baskets!

Saturday in the Park - March 7 @ 10am

Nursery and preschool families are invited to join us for Saturday in the Park, a relaxed time to come and play while building community together. We'll meet on Saturday mornings at 10:00 AM, creating space for families to connect and children to enjoy time outdoors. Our first Saturday play in the park will be March 7th, and we'd love for you to join us.

Red Cross Blood Drive - Feb 23rd from 9am-3pm

First Methodist Church will host a Blood Drive on Feb 23rd in the Fellowship Hall. Drives are held every other month and are a vital way to serve.

Lenten Lunches - Tuesdays at 12:10pm

Lenten Lunches will begin on Tuesday, February 24th @ 12:10pm with a brief service in the Sanctuary followed by lunch in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend and no reservations are needed.

2/24 - Rev. Vera Price Pastor of St James/Bryant Chapel Perrytown AMEZ

3/3 - Rev. George Gouge, Pastor of Pollocksville Methodist Church

3/10 - Rev. Tim Nichols, Pastor of Bethlehem Methodist Church

3/17 - Rev. Rick Smith, Pastor of Oak Grove Methodist Church

3/24 - Rev. Lee Pittard, Pastor of Harkers Island Methodist Church

3/31 - Rev. Homer Morris, Pastor of Tuttle's Grove Methodist Church

Tuesday Bible Study and Communion

Join us for Bible Study and Communion at 3:00 PM in the Stanley Harrell Classroom, led by Pastor Patrick. During this Lenten season, we will be studying the Epistles of 1, 2, and 3 John, and 1 & 2 Peter.

The Chosen Season 4 - February 24, 2026

On Tuesdays beginning February 24th, Pastor Powell and Fletcher will be leading two small groups exploring The Chosen Season 4. One group will meet from 1:30-3:00 and the second from 7-8:30pm. Come join us in the large conference room on the second floor of the Arendell Building as we travel with Jesus and his disciples through this compelling telling of his life, message, and mission. You may want to watch the episode before coming to group time, but it's not required. No registration necessary.

Rise Against Hunger - Saturday, Feb 29th

We're gearing up for our Rise Against Hunger Experience on Feb 28! Setup begins at 9:00am, the event runs from 10:00am-12:00pm, and we're aiming to pack 10,152 meals with the help of 50 volunteers in one shift. For event day questions, contact Jennifer Hill at (252) 241-8265.

Men's Fellowship - Launches March 10th

Men's Fellowship will hold its first meeting on March 10th from 6:00-7:30 PM. We will gather on the second Tuesday of each month for a time of fellowship, encouragement, and spiritual growth. Evening Schedule includes Prayer & Dinner, Devotion, Speaker and Closing Prayer. Dinner will be provided, so please let us know if you plan to attend to help us get an accurate headcount. Contact Tim Wilson, Caleb Thornton or Jim Reed if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you there!

Egg Hunt and Cookout - March 28th @ 11:15am

Mark your calendar for the Egg Hunt. Bring the family and join us at Camp Albemarle. The egg hunt will begin promptly at 11:15am. After the hunt, stay for a cookout lunch and fellowship. Free event and you don't need to register.

2026 Costa Rica Mission Trip Commitment Meeting

If you've committed to our 2026 Costa Rica mission trip or are interested in committing, please join us for an important meeting on Monday, February 23 at 6:00 PM in the large conference room. This will be a great time to connect with the team, discuss trip details, and prepare for this incredible opportunity to serve together. If you've already committed or plan to commit but cannot attend the meeting, please text Pastor Sarah to let her know.

First Methodist Church

900 Arendell Street
Morehead City, North Carolina
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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

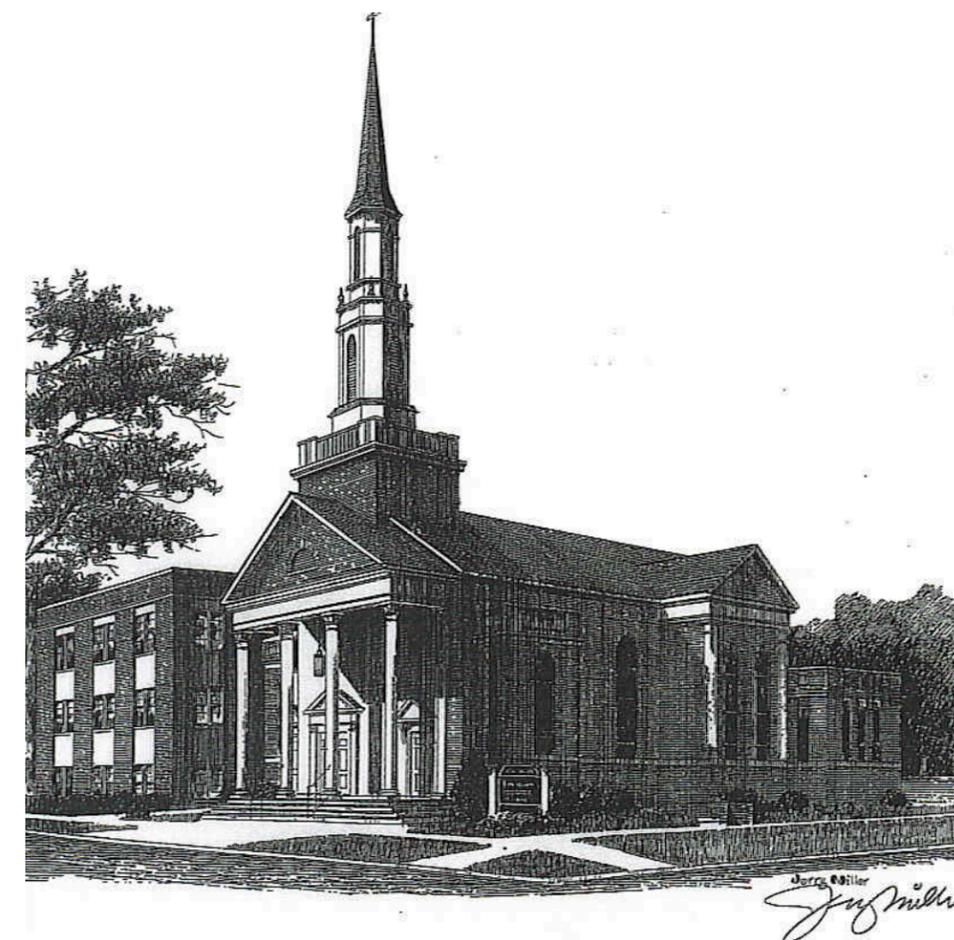
Miranda Routszong, Assistant Rise Music

Sabrina Juarez, Facilities Manager

Stefany Boyd, Office Manager

Sunnie Gail Ballou, Organist

Fran Welch, Livestream



"WORSHIPPING PASSIONATELY, LOVING EXTRAVAGANTLY, AND WITNESSING BOLDLY"

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

February 22, 2025 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

PRELUDE

†CHIMING OF THE HOUR & INTROIT

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Show us your ways, O Lord; teach us your paths.

Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are our salvation.

The Lord instructs sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in what is right and teaches them his way.

Those who fear the Lord are taught by him.

He makes his covenant known to them. (Psalm 25)

†HYMN “And Can it Be That I Should Gain?” No. 363

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood!
Died He for me? who caused his pain! For me? who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all: th'Immortal dies! Who can explore his strange design?
In vain the firstborn seraph tries to sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore; let angel minds inquire no more.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore; let angel minds inquire no more.

He left his Father's throne above, (so free, so infinite his grace!),
emptied himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free, for, O my God, it found out me!
'Tis mercy all, immense and free, for, O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay, fast bound in sin and nature's night;
thine eye diffused a quickening ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
my chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth, and followed thee.
My chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him, is mine;
alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach th'eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ my own.
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ my own.

†OPENING PRAYER Unison

Gracious God, teach us to be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and thanksgiving, to make our requests known to you. Quiet our hearts and shape us by the words of Jesus, that we may seek your kingdom and live in the peace that surpasses understanding; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed Unison

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 PATRI Unison

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.

CROWN OF THORNS READING

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER 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.

SCRIPTURE Jeremiah 29:11-14

11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. 12 Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. 13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. 14 I will be found by you," declares the Lord, "and will bring you back from captivity.[a] I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you," declares the Lord, "and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile."

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

WORSHIP WITH TITHES, GIFTS, AND OFFERINGS

**OFFERTORY “Be Still My Soul” Chancel Choir
Arr. by Courtney**

†DOXOLOGY No. 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.

†HYMN “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me” No. 361

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure; save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyes shall close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

SCRIPTURE Luke 12:22-34

²² Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! ²⁵ Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? ²⁶ Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest? ²⁷ “Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ²⁸ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! ²⁹ And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. ³⁰ For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. ³² “Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

SERMON Listen to Him - Worry Pastor Patrick

†HYMN “Jesus, Keep me near the Cross” No. 301

Jesus, keep me near the cross; there a precious fountain,
free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain.

(Refrain)

In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,
Till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me;
there the bright and morning star sheds its beams around me. (Refrain)

Near the cross! O lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;
help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me. (Refrain)

Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river. (Refrain)