



# Welcome to First United Methodist Church Fox Hill

A vibrant church, making Christian disciples & enriching lives through outreach.

## December 10, 2023

### Sunday's Schedule

9:00 a.m.	Traditional Service: In-Person/ <u>Livestream</u>
10:30 a.m.	Modern Service: In-Person/ <u>Livestream</u>
10:30 a.m.	Faithlink Class: Classroom
10:30 a.m.	<u>Searchers</u> Class: FH Stage Zoom Passcode: 000846
10:30 a.m.	Rise Children's Ministry: Ed Wing
11:30 a.m.	Worship Team: Music Sunday Rehearsal
12:00 p.m.	Children's Choir Rehearsal
2:30 p.m.	Music Sunday
6:00 p.m.	Elevate Youth Fellowship



Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-8  
"The Present Shepherd"



• The Francis/Miller family in the loss of Peggy Miller  
We continue to pray for our housebound, those with chronic conditions that may require ongoing treatment, and those unspoken prayers.

## Announcements

### Christmas Eve Plans

Please note one small change from previous years – we are planning on a 10am single service Christmas Eve morning (Dec. 24) and then a 4pm service, including children's choir, and probably Rainbow Puppets, then a 6pm second Christmas Eve service. Then, on New Year's Eve, Dec. 31, we will also have a single 10am service, with Pastor Tommy preaching. We will be back to our regular schedule on January 7.

**Christmas Eve: 10am, 4pm, 6pm**  
**New Year's Eve: 10am**

### Children's Choir

We will be having a children's choir sing at the 10am and 4pm Christmas services. If you would like to have your child, grandchild, or any other child in your life join us, we will be holding **rehearsals on the following dates: 12/10 @ noon, 12/17 @ noon, 12/20 @ 6pm, 12/23 @ 6pm**. If you have any questions please contact Larissa Luma at [larissa@firstumcfoxhill.org](mailto:larissa@firstumcfoxhill.org).

### ChristmasGIVING for Our Incredible Staff

The joyous Christmas season is a time for happiness and GIVING. Please join us in recognizing and supporting our fabulous staff. They give tirelessly to enrich our spiritual lives preparing the message, a song, a bulletin, a beautiful musical selection or a powerful prayer. Other staff members provide a nurturing safe place to leave our children during church services and special events, enhance the spiritual development of our youth, make sure all our bills are paid, and maintain a clean and safe environment.

Please join us in GIVING to the Staff Christmas Bonus Fund now through December 17. Make sure to note "Staff Christmas Bonus Fund" on your envelope or online donation.

Our staff are exceptionally talented and skilled, and the ChristmasGIVING staff bonus is a good way to show our appreciation.

Sincerely, Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee

December 10, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

Traditional Service

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

\* Call to Worship

The light shines in the darkness,

**But the darkness has not overcome it.**

During Advent our weary souls seek God's daily strength.

**The Lord gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.**

We grow weary when fear overshadows faith.

**The Lord gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.**

We grow weary when destructive actions erupt in the world around us.

**The Lord gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.**

For all of us feeling weary this Advent season:

**Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.**

Choral Introit

"Christ Be Our Light"

Farrell

Advent Candle Lighting

Michael and Judy Adams

Today we light two candles. The **first candle** illuminates patience in the areas of our lives where God has called us to wait.

The **second candle** extends the promise of strength to all who feel weary and weak in the shadows of this world. As we continue our Advent journey, may our hope be kindled as the light grows brighter.

Choral Response

"Christ Be Our Light"

(Refrain)

Farrell

\* Hymn

UMH 381

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Children's Time

Pastor Brian

Service of Baptism 1

UMH 33

Steve Phillips

Offering Prayer and Offertory

\* Doxology

UMH 72

"Gloria, Gloria"

\* Hymn

UMH 217

"Away in a Manger"

Prayer of Confession

**O God, you provide everything that we need, and yet we lack the one thing necessary. You restore our souls, and yet we are overwhelmed by choices and exhausted by demands. You lead us in the right direction, and yet we wander after trivial pursuits. You are with us in the dark places, and yet we sense that we are alone. Speak to us, Good Shepherd. Guide us, protect us, and lead us to the sources of life and peace. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Pastor Tommy

Anthem

"Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

First Fox Hill Family Choir

Austin

Scripture

Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-8

Sermon

"The Present Shepherd"

Pastor Brian

\* Hymn

UMH 220

"Angels From the Realms of Glory"

\* Benediction

Pastor Brian

**May God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be present to us this week so that we can share the presence of God with everyone we meet. So be it – Amen.**

\* Benediction Response

UMH 204

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

Postlude

\*Please stand as you are able

December 10, 2023, 10:30 a.m.

Modern Service

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

\* Call to Worship

The light shines in the darkness,

**But the darkness has not overcome it.**

During Advent our weary souls seek God's daily strength.

**The Lord gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.**

We grow weary when fear overshadows faith.

**The Lord gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.**

We grow weary when destructive actions erupt in the world around us.

**The Lord gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.**

For all of us feeling weary this Advent season:

**Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.**

Advent Candle Lighting

David and Elizabeth Edmonson

Today we light two candles. The **first candle** illuminates patience in the areas of our lives where God has called us to wait.

The **second candle** extends the promise of strength to all who feel weary and weak in the shadows of this world. As we continue our Advent journey, may our hope be kindled as the light grows brighter.

\* Songs

"House of the Lord"

Phil Wickham

"Graves into Gardens"

Brandon Lake

"Healer"

Kari Jobe

Offering Prayer and Offering

Scripture

Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-8

Sermon

"The Present Shepherd"

Pastor Brian

Reflection

"More Like Jesus"

Worship Team

One Voice Worship

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Pastor Tommy

\* Benediction

Pastor Brian

**May God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be present to us this week so that we can share the presence of God with everyone we meet. So be it – Amen.**

Postlude

\*Please stand as you are able

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### Youth Group Clean Up

Our youth group is growing and we need more space! We will be moving some of our group into the (much larger) middle school room. It has turned into a bit of a storage area so we ask that you please have all personal items or items for your group removed by December 29th. We will have a group cleaning out the room on December 30th at 3pm. There are a couple of heavy items to get out and we could use the help of some strong individuals! If you would like to help out please contact Larissa Luma at [larissa@firstumcfoxhill.org](mailto:larissa@firstumcfoxhill.org).

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### Fifty Plus – 2023

**We have a Dec 12 sign-up deadline for our April 10 – 13, 2024 spring trip to Charleston, SC.** Flyers and reservation sheets are on the rack next to the Welcome Desk in the Narthex. Attractions include a tour of Historic Charleston, Fort Sumter, Boone Hall Plantation and Gardens, the Naval & Maritime Museum, and a presentation of *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* in the Historic Dock Street Theatre. Because of the early sign-up date, we have shared the information with some local churches. **Don't miss out; reserve now!**

Watch the bulletin for additional announcements. Contact Anne or Bill Bryan to sign-up – in person, at [abandbb1@cox.net](mailto:abandbb1@cox.net), or by phone to 757-851-0748.

## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday, December 10

- 9:00 a.m. Traditional Service: In-Person/Livestream
- 10:30 a.m. Modern Service: In-Person/Livestream
- 10:30 a.m. Faithlink Class: Classroom
- 10:30 a.m. Searchers Class: FH Stage/Zoom Passcode: 000846
- 10:30 a.m. Rise Children's Ministry: Ed Wing
- 11:30 a.m. Worship Team: Music Sunday Rehearsal
- 12:00 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 2:30 p.m. Music Sunday
- 6:00 p.m. Elevate Youth Fellowship

### Monday, December 11

- 10:00 a.m. Tri-X Monday School: Tri-X Room
- 1:00 p.m. Monday Bible Study Group: Tri-X Room
- 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting: ESR

### Tuesday, December 12

- 10:00 a.m. Shawl Makers: ESR
- 6:00 p.m. All Scouts Christmas Dinner

### Wednesday, December 13

- 9:30 a.m. Soul Sisters: Faithlink Room
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship of Circumstance for Women
- 4:00 p.m. Love Unites: Faithlink Room
- 5:45 p.m. Wesley Bells Rehearsal: Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. 1st Fox Hill Family Choir Practice: Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Elevate Youth Bible Study: 2nd Fl Ed Wing
- 7:00 p.m. Buckroe New Hope AA Group: FH Kitchen

### Thursday, December 14

- 11:00 a.m. Pastor Tommy's Reunion Group
- 4:30 p.m. TABS: Tri-X Room
- 6:00 p.m. Karate for Christ: FH Stage
- 6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 1051G: FH Kitchen

### Friday, December 15 Anchor Newsletter Deadline

- 9:30 a.m. Women in the Word: Faithlink
- 6:00 p.m. Buckroe New Hope AA Group: FH Kitchen
- 6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 1038 Meeting: Ed Wing

### Saturday, December 16

- 9:00 a.m. Buckroe Men's AA Group: FH Kitchen
- 9:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Prayers: Faithlink Room
- 9:00 a.m. UMM Bell Ringing at Bass Pro Shop (9a-5p)
- 4:30 p.m. Rise: Happy Birthday, Jesus' Party: FH

Scan to  
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First UMC  
Fox Hill



Next Sunday

December 17, 2023

Isaiah 61:1-11, Luke 1:26-37  
"The Present of Presence"



### Women's Fellowship of Circumstances

We will meet on **Wednesday, December 13, 12:00 noon, at Olive Garden**, one of my favorite places. Come join the fun, fellowship, & food! Give me a call (757-851-3109) or email (gboone2@cox.net ) **no later than Monday, December 11.** Thanks, Evelyn

### Last Week's Attendance 12/03/2023

<b><u>In person</u></b>	<b><u>126</u></b>
9:00 a.m. Service	97
10:30 a.m. Service	29
Sunday School	60
<b><u>Internet Live Streaming</u></b>	<b><u>133</u></b>
9:00 a.m.:	72
10:30 a.m.:	61

### Last Week's Tithes & Offerings

Total One Fund:	\$ 14,392.09
Year to Date:	\$ 517,887.21

### Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Last Week:	\$ 156.00
Year to Date:	\$ 3,321.10

### Worship Assistants for December 10, 2023

<b>December Ushers</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.:</b> Calvin Leary (Capt.), Jean Pickin, Bill Drummond, Susan Morehouse, Mike May <b>10:30 a.m.:</b> Dave Sharp (Capt.), Daniel Clark
<b>Liturgist</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.:</b> Joyce Winston <b>10:30 a.m.:</b> Andi Meyer-Orozco
<b>Projection</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.:</b> Joey Meyer-Orozco <b>10:30 a.m.:</b>
<b>Sound &amp; Lights</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.:</b> Jim Bly <b>10:30 a.m.:</b> Joey & Andi Meyer-Orozco
<b>Camera/ Video</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.:</b> John Payne <b>10:30 a.m.:</b> Mike Williams
<b>Livestream</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.:</b> Jim Branstetter <b>10:30 a.m.:</b> Jim Branstetter
<b>Ambassadors</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.:</b> 12/10 Joann Smith & Anne Bryan 12/17 LaRose Richardson & Lisa Hite <b>10:30 a.m.:</b> 12/10 Judy & Mike Adams 12/17 Lynn Landrum
<b>Night Watchmen</b>	12/10 Hunter Francis, 12/17 Dave Rogers, 12/24 Joey Meyer-Orozco

Pastor: Brian Sixbey - PastorBrian@firstumcfoxhill.org

Assistant Pastor: Tommy Markham - PastorTommy@firstumcfoxhill.org

Youth Director/Worship Team Leader: Larissa Luma - Larissa@firstumcfoxhill.org

Music Director/Organist: Mark Biondolillo - musicianmark@firstumcfoxhill.org

Office Manager: Kassandra Brown - churchoffice@firstumcfoxhill.org

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