

Need to Know

THANK YOU FROM CHURCH STAFF

Each staff member thanks you for your generous Christmas love offering, cards, delicious sweet treats, and other expressions of your appreciation. We look forward to serving you in 2026.



DIAPERS FOR FIRST 1,000 DAYS SUNCOAST

Sundays, January 11 and 18

This community initiative supports families from birth to age three. Please bring diapers and/or wipes to church these two Sundays or during the week.

Any size is appreciated; sizes 4-7 and pull-ups are often requested. If you prefer to give financially, designate "First 1,000 Days" on the memo line of your check. To learn more about the initiative, go to www.first1000dayssuncoast.org.

SERVE AT DINNER PARTY

Dinner Party returns Thursday, January 15 at 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall. We are in need of some extra hands and hearts to help serve food and share hospitality at the tables. To be a part of blessing SongSquad and Early Care Center families through this vital outreach, contact Joy VanDeMortel at joy@firstSRQ.com.

BECOME A GREETER AT OUR 8:30AM SERVICE

Would you like to be a smiling face for the 8:30am worship service? Contact Lynne Koy at happiness.sarasota@gmail.com for more information.

CARING CONNECTIONS

If you know of anyone who could use a home visit from a Caring Connections team member, contact Lynne Koy at happiness.sarasota@gmail.com.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18 - ONE SERVICE 11:00am

Gospel SUNDAY

with Atlanta, Georgia's own
SEVENFOLD SISTERS

Music starts at 10:45am
Lunch and interactive performance
following service.

As we commemorate Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend, we will feature an interview with our own Linda Carson, a television news reporter who covered Dr. King and Coretta Scott King during the Civil Rights Movement in Atlanta.



EARLY CARE CENTER TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Friday, January 30 - 6:30pm
Fellowship Hall

Join us for an evening of fun, trivia, silent auction, food, and fellowship to benefit our amazing Early Care Center. Free childcare available for ages 2-9. Come as a team of 8 for \$160 per table or \$25 per individual. Entry fee includes pizza and a drink. Desserts and ECC t-shirts will be available for purchase. For more information or tickets, contact Laura Ross at laura@firstSRQ.com.

Celebrations



For the third year in a row, we provided \$1,000 for presents for the children of the Ukrainian Refugee Support Group that meets weekly at the church. Their Christmas Party in Fellowship Hall had more than 30 kids and 80 adults. The kids loved their gifts and had a lot of fun decorating Christmas ornaments. The adults sang Ukrainian songs. This funding came from our Christmas Offering (BLESS Response Fund).

Church Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

Missions - Room 104/Zoom
Choir Practice - Choir Room

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

Worship - Chapel
Faith Café - Room 104/Zoom
Kids Sunday School Sign-In Narthex/Lobby
Worship - Sanctuary
Youth Group - Youth Hall

5:30pm
6:30pm

8:30am
9:40am
11:00am
11:00am
5:00pm

First United Methodist SARASOTA

January 4, 2026



104 South Pineapple Avenue
Sarasota, Florida 34236
941-955-0935
www.firstSRQ.com

This service is being live-streamed and recorded so others can worship with us online.

First United Methodist Church of Sarasota

Epiphany Sunday
January 4, 2026

PRELUDE
We Three Kings

John H. Hopkins
arr. Jeanine Yeager

WELCOME / OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Brett DeHart

HYMN SING/PASSING THE PEACE (8:30am)

*HYMN
We Three Kings

Hymnal 254 v1,2,3,5

*PASSING THE PEACE / KIDS LEAVE FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL (11:00am)

*ADVENT DOXOLOGY (11:00am)
Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son, laud and honor to the Spirit, Ever three and everyone; one in might and one in glory, while unending ages run.

PRAYER

Joyce Johnson
Pastoral Care/Faith Community Nurse

LORD’S PRAYER
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.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Harold Darke
What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb. If I were a wise man, I would do my part. What I can I give him; give Him my heart.

OFFERING AND PRAYER
On Communion Sundays, we receive a special offering for the Caritas ministry, which helps the less fortunate in our community with utilities, work boots, bus passes, and groceries. Please place your offering in one of the baskets/boxes as you exit the service, mail a check to the church, or you may give online at SRQgives.com.

OFFERTORY (8:30am)
Christmas Lullaby

Chip Davis

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (11:00am)
Glory and Honor to the Newborn King

arr Robert Decormer

SERMON
“When Seekers Become Finders” (Matthew 2:1-12)
Lessons we can learn from the wise men’s search to help us on our search for Jesus:
· Pilgrimage- It’s a Journey
· Intensity/Passion
· Get help from others
· Get help from the Supernatural
· Enjoy the journey
· Don’t stop until you find Him
· Worship
· Continue to Be Led by the Spirit
· Be Transformed

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION
Pastor: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON
All: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we’ve not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (All pray in silence.)
Pastor: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
All: Glory to God. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

See Insert

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION ANTHEM (11:00am)
O Magnum Mysterium

Morten Lauridsen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Let us pray together: **Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*HYMN OF RESPONSE
O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright

Hymnal 679


BENEDICTION

MUSICAL BENEDICTION
O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us; we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide in us, our Lord Emmanuel.

POSTLUDE (11:00am)
A Joyous Christmas

arr John Leavitt

**Please stand as you are comfortable.*



IN MEMORIAM
Robert Acree
December 23, 2025

Memorial Service January 10 - 2:00pm
Toale Brothers - 170 Honore Ave., Sarasota



We are glad that you are here and hope that you’re blessed by the experience. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here at First United Methodist.

Please fill out the enclosed **Guest Connection Card** or text the word **WELCOME to 941-352-1050** to connect with us further. Pastor Brett would love to meet you following the service.

- CONTACT US**
Phone 941-955-0935
- “IN THE LOOP” TEXT UPDATES**
Text LOOP to 941-352-1050
- WiFi PASSWORD**
SRQWORSHIP
- WEBSITE**
firstSRQ.com
- ONLINE WORSHIP**
SRQworship.com
- OUR SOCIALS**
facebook: fumcsarasota
youtube: firstmethodistsarasota
instagram: firstchurchsrq



AN INVITATION TO KNOW MORE ABOUT JESUS
Jesus loves you. Jesus offers you new and abundant life. Jesus desires to be in relationship with you.

AN INVITATION TO FOLLOW JESUS
A disciple is a follower of Jesus who is...
Inwardly Becoming More Like Jesus by cultivating the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control) and Outwardly Living More Like Jesus by practicing holy love.

To discuss either invitation, please contact Rev. Brett DeHart at brett@firstSRQ.com or 941-955-0935.