

First United Methodist Church

Office Hours

Mon.—Thurs.
8:00am—3:30pm
Friday—8:00am—12:00pm
Lunch 1:00—1:30pm

117 Third Street
Cheraw, South Carolina 29520
Phone: 843-537-7002
Fax: 843-537-7220

April 1, 2012

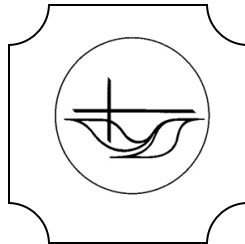
Volume 7, Issue 7

FUMC STAFF

Rev. Dr. Paul A. Wood, Jr., Pastor (woodtz1955@gmail.com)
Jonathan E. Kroepel, Director of Music (jkroepel@bellsouth.net)
Brandon Buchanan, Director of Youth and Children
(Brandon@fumccheraw.net)
Angie Smith, Administrative Assistant (angie@fumccheraw.net)

Brian Enoch, Custodian

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OUR MISSION

The mission of the First United Methodist Church is to win and nurture souls for Jesus Christ by sharing and living the message of salvation.

THE CONNECTION

First United Methodist Church, Cheraw, SC

April 1, 2012

Pastor's Reflection

Each Cheraw Spring Festival that I have experienced since coming here in 2008, the weather has been nice. Each First UMC Barbecue I have experienced (seven since coming here in 2008) the weather has been nice. I write a week in advance of this year's Spring Festival and Barbecue, and I hope the string will continue in 2012. Don't we all?!

Many of us (a hundred, maybe?) will work at the barbecue. There are a lot of different roles to perform and lots of opportunities to serve.

I invite you to stop for a few seconds Friday night or Saturday and look

around. Look at the people of First United Methodist hard at work, serving side by side, focused yet relaxed. A barbecue is not worship, but it certainly is the people of God, with our diverse gifts and talents, acting in the service of the Lord.

So just stop for a few seconds. Look around. And give thanks for the opportunity to serve the Lord side by side with your brothers and sisters in Christ. And then get back to work!!

Grace and Peace.

Paul Wood

Changes in The Connection

In an effort to save money on postage, paper and toner The Connection Newsletter will only be printed and mailed on the first of the month. The newsletter will still be published on the fifteenth of the

month but will only be emailed out. A few copies of the newsletter for the fifteenth will be available in the lobby and narthex for our guest and those members without email.

Remember our Homebound

HOME

Robin Motley, Angela Motley, Sabrina Tucker, Gene Huckabee, Michael Motley, Frances Laney, Betty Ann Crawford

CONVALESCENT CENTER

Laura Stubbs

NURSING HOME

Sara Cook, Elaine Motley

RETIREMENT HOMES

Polly Edwards, Patsy Rushing, Margie Wannamaker



Wednesday At the First

*The meal begins at 5:30, is cooked by Carolyn Gary, and costs only \$7.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under 12 years old (Maximum \$21.00 for a family). Watch the Sunday bulletin each week for the menu. Sign up on the worship attendance sheet, or ask that your name be added to the list of “regulars.”

**The youth meet in the youth hut 6:00pm. (doors open at 5:00pm).

**Children’s Bible Study— 6:15pm.

**Handbells — 6:30pm (3rd—5th Grade).

**Arts and Crafts with Janice Moore at 6:30pm. (K — 2nd grade) and 7:00pm (3rd — 5th grade)

**Children’s Choir — 7:00pm.

**An adult study begins at 6:30 — 7:25pm. Newcomers are always welcome. The study is held in the fellowship hall.

John Wesley And The Beginnings of Methodism ***Book Available***

This second book in the series on beginnings and organization of the Methodism by Roger M. Gramling, Methodist Movement in England in recounts the story of Wesley’s early the 1740’s. life, schooling and formal education, Seventy-Four Pages, Softbound the failed mission to the Georgia Colony, \$4.00 each. Wesley’s Aldersgate experience, Books are available in the lobby and his visit with the Moravians, and the the church office.

Newsletter Deadlines

April 15 Digital Version Newsletter

Deadline April 4

May 1 Newsletter

Deadline April 23

Holy Week Opportunities

Community Palm Sunday Service (First Presbyterian Church)

Sunday, April 1 at 6:00pm

Maundy Thursday and a Service of Tenebrae

Thursday, April 5 at 7:00pm

Good Friday, Friday, April 6,

the sanctuary will be open all day beginning at 9:00am.

Easter Sunrise, Sunday, April 8 at 6:30am.

Scouting at First Church



BOY SCOUT TROOP 655

Meets weekly on Monday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30pm at the Dan Stowe Scout Hut.

CUB SCOUT TROOP 653

They have a number of Dens and Tiger Cubs. They meet on

various days of the week, at various times and at various locations.

Yours in SCOUTING,

John Moore

Charter Representative

phone number

843-537-2553

Native American Ministries Sunday Special Offering

Please give to the Native American Ministries Sunday Special Offering on April 22.

"What we see is we have to present a gospel message that will be empowering and uplifting, but also address some of the social challenges that we face as a native community."

- Rev. Chebon Kernell

Honoring their traditions while sharing their United Methodist faith, Native American pastors give of themselves daily to benefit Natives and non-Natives alike.

The Rev. Justine Smith, the Rev. Chebon Kernell and the Rev. David Wilson are three of many seminary graduates who benefited from the Native American Ministries Sunday offering scholarship.

Smith, the first full-time Native American professor at United Methodist related St. Paul School of Theology (Okla. Campus), hopes to change how Native Americans view

themselves and how others see them as they affirm their traditions alongside church doctrine.

Kernell, the pastor of Norman (Okla.) First American United Methodist Church, represents the voices of both young Native people like himself and older generations when he addresses their spiritual and social concerns.

Wilson, the superintendent of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, is recognized as a leader who speaks out on vital matters of ministry throughout the denomination.

These three, and others like them, nurture new leaders and advocate for new ministries.

Your gifts on Native American Ministries Sunday fund ministries that pave the way for those who aspire to serve Christ's church by making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Because of your generosity, seminarians prepare to serve, congregations are strengthened and communities are transformed.

April Birthdays

April 4 Kayla Buffington Baldwin	April 18 Laura Harris
April 5 Brant Thompson	April 19 Lindsey Sanderson
April 6 Keith Smith, Jim Bennett	April 22 Sarah Miles, Mary Thomas
April 9 Becky Thompson	April 23 Michelle Kessler
April 10 Anthony Harris, Steven Humphries	April 29 Marianne Crawford
April 13 Jensen Tomberlin	April 30 Walter Crosby, Jim Crawford, IV



April Anniversaries

April 8 M&M Peter Swarr	April 24 M&M John Sanderson
April 13 M&M Paul Miles	April 26 M&M Jim Crawford, III, M&M David Tucker
April 17 M&M Todd Becker	
April 23 M&M Jerry Turner	

A Certain Church

In a fairly small town in the South Carolina Pee Dee is found a certain church – a congregation – which is active, energetic, dedicated and committed to the Lord.

In that church in that town you find many ages (nine months to age 99), many talents, many interests, and (of course!) both sexes.

In that church you find reminders of the church's and the town's rich past and also glimpses of a strong future.

In that church you find people who pray, who serve, who teach, who lead, who organize, who give and who (even!) keep records.

In that church you find the married, the unmarried and the widowed. You

find the joyous and the sad, the hopeful and the distressed. You find *all* God's children!

In that church you find people learning, reading, seeking, listening, discerning and going forward. Their walk with the Lord is not nearly over! Their growth in the Lord is not nearly finished!

In that church (as well as outside that church) you find the name First United Methodist Church, Cheraw, South Carolina.

I love that church, and the Lord loves that church, and I hope that you do, too!

Paul Wood

Spare Change Drive

The Missions Ministries Team is sponsoring a "change" drive to support Salkehatchie and other on-going mission projects. Containers will be placed in each Sunday School classroom as well as the narthex and will remain throughout the upcoming weeks. Please

participate in this spare change drive; together we can make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate! "He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward him for what he has done." Proverbs 19: 17

From the Director of Music

We tend to get stuck in pattern of singing only 50 of the same hymns and cannot find the courage or muster the desire to learn a new song. We are sometimes put off by some hymns whose words have been slightly changed. You might ask yourself, "Why did the editors of this hymnal, in their infinite wisdom, see fit to change a stanza of my favorite hymn?"

This is can raise some ethical questions in terms of preserving the hymn writers' words. Some people would feel the same way about changing the words of a hymn that an art aficionado would about changing the Mono Lisa.

The hymn *All Creatures of our God and King* has been changed to *All Creatures of our God Most High*. The first question you might ask is "Why would you substitute the words "Most High" for the words "and King," and the answer is simple might be simple to some, but not to others. On the one hand, we are living in a time where women play an important role in the life of the church. The Bible hasn't changed, but the Holy Spirit is moving and transforming our church to meet the needs of today's world.

I am of the opinion that some of the of the greatest hymn writers today deal with issues such as social justice (poverty, war, and other pertinent societal issues). We are living in a broken world that still needs the redemption of Jesus Christ. Through these hymns, we learn current theological views and how we are to interact with our neighbor. We come to church not only to worship individually, but also to worship corporately with the other people of God. Each person in church brings with her/him individual concerns, sins, and worries. Through some of these hymns, we learn how to dispose of such things that weigh us down.

One of the most beloved hymns, *What a*

Friend We Have in Jesus, addresses what we should do when we are weak and heavy laden. The answer to this is of course turn to the Lord in prayer. We can sometimes feel discouraged to the point that we don't feel like prayer will help. This separation from God only brings about more hurt on the part of the individual.

During a Church Music Conference at Emory University this March, I was able to hear and discuss problems that different church leaders were facing today. In the coming months, I will share with you what I learned. One highlight of this conference was an evening with John Bell. John Bell, for those of you who do not know who him, is a minister in the Church of Scotland, a musician, scholar, and a person devoted to renewing worship on the grass roots level.

Most of you will never meet or hear John Bell in person, but you can know him through the words of one of his classic songs *The Summons*. I will close this article with the words of the first stanza of this song.

*Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

*Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

*Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,

*Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

As we enter Holy Week, ponder in your heart the unmatched love of Christ for us, and the love God that was shown on that first Easter morning.

In Christ,

Jon Kroepel

Serving in April

Hostess

Carole Hennessee

Altar Guild

Susan Eschenfelder and
Zenda Rushing

Acolyte

Sullivan Chapman

Cross Bearer

Sarah Allen

Greeters

April 1 M&M Jimmie Williamson

April 8 M&M Manuel Assef

April 15 Chuck Barber

April 22 M&M Jeff Johnson

April 29 M&M Ray Crouse

Nursery

April 1 Kim Williamson

April 8 Kim Roddy

April 15 Caroline Crouse

April 22 Greer Eddins

April 29 Dawn Leach

Children's Church

April 1 Brandon Buchanan

April 8 NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

April 15 Brandon Buchanan

April 22 Eric Dusa

April 29

Lay Readers

April 1 Bob Lockey

April 8 Ray Crouse

April 15 Jenny Keefe

April 22 Jim Bennett

April 29 Sammy Quick

Counters

April 1 Jackie McGee, Jane Mayhew,
Lanny Rayfield

Alternate: John Moore

April 8 Jim Crawford, Sammy Quick,
Donald Baker

Alternates: John Straughn, Zenda
Rushing

April 15 Jeff Johnson, Betty Hurst,
Jerry Therrell

Alternates: David McLean, Mary Burr

April 22 Robert Calhoun, Herbert
Watts, Ellison Outen

Alternates: Brenda Rayfield, Doug
Marsh

April 29 Rhett Butler, Shelton Rumph

Alternates: Jerry Tucker, Walter
Crosby

Caring Caller Teams

April 1 Jeff Allen, Gailya Wilson,
Betty Thraikill

April 8 Jim Crawford, Jackie McGee,
Kay VanDeman

April 15 Jerry Turner, JoAnne Morgan,
Martha Bentley

April 22 Jim Bennett, Syble Sander-
son, Sarah Jefferies Calhoun

April 29 Marianne Crawford, Julia
Tucker, Chuck Barber

McArn Items

April 1 Flour, corn meal mix, grits

April 8 Peanut Butter & Jelly

April 15 Baby Items

April 22 Paper products

April 29 Personal items

Our Visitors

February 26 — Ok Yo Chang, Abby Jones, Mark Jones, Belinda McGilvray, Craig McGilvray, David Rohde, Jacob Rohde, Michelle Rohde.

March 4 — Ashlee Brasington, Ok Yo Chang, Marie Davidson, Tom Davidson, Alyssa Edwards, Laural Edwards, Johnnie Johnson, Tracy Koontz, Paul Ludlow, Belinda McGilvray, Craig McGilvray, Sallie McKenzie, David Rohde, David Rohde, Sr., Jacob Sellers.

March 11 — Anne Bryan, Ok Yo Chang, Marie Davidson, Tom Davidson, William Eutsler, Jr., Hunter Lee, Paul Ludlow.

March 18 — Bre Carabo, Ok Yo Chang, Taylor Clark, Carol Crouse, Tom Davidson, Barbara Eutsler, William Eutsler, Jr., David Rohde, Jacob Rohde, Michelle Rohde, Anne Wallace.

From the Director of Youth and Children

Greetings in the light and peace of Christ,

I am so excited to invite you to this years Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 7th at 3pm. We will have prizes, stations for the kids to attend, and of course eggs and candy. Can't wait to see you there.

The youth are currently signing up for SURGE at Lake Junaluska. If you are interested in going, the total

price is \$360 and a \$75 deposit is due April 15th. SURGE is an amazing camp filled with opportunities for worship, meeting new friends, and building deeper relationships with the students in your youth group. A sign-up sheet is posted outside of Brandon and Jon's offices.

Grace and Peace,

Brandon Buchanan

Thank You

Dear First Church Members,

I would like to say thank you for all the cards, calls and especially the prayers for me during my recent illness and surgery. God has been so good to me and I am so thankful for his healing grace.

Thanks again for all you did for me and I love you all very much.

Serving in Christ,
Angie Smith



J.O.Y Club

The J.O.Y Club will meet on Thursday, April 19, at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. This will be a catered meal by Vonceil with the

cost being \$7.00 per person. Please sign up with your caller or with Mary Burr no later than Monday, April 16.

Wednesday At The First Menus



April 4 Spring Break. No WATF.

April 11 Fried chicken, rice and gravy, beans, biscuits, dessert and tea.

April 18 Chicken and dump-
lings, cabbage, cornbread,
fatback, dessert and tea.

April 25 Pork tenderloin,
butter beans, rice and gravy,
biscuits, dessert and tea.

Genesis—Contemporary Worship

April 15 at 8:30am

In the fellowship hall

Thanks for Being a Life Saver

Thanks to all who came out to give blood at our recent blood drive.

Thanks also to Pleasant Grove UMC and Mt. Olivet UMC for being co-sponsors with FUMC. Our blood drive was a huge success. We had 27 individuals who came to give blood and received 24 units. WAY TO GO.

Our next blood drive is on the calendar for Monday, July 2, from 2—7pm.

Please mark your calendars now and be ready to make an appointment when the time comes. During the holidays, blood supplies are always low, so please plan to give.

Again, THANKS SO MUCH.

Salkehatchie Summer Service Stock

Twenty-two youth and adults will participate in Salkehatchie Summer Service this summer and would like to ask for your help. We will be serving during the weeks of June 23-30 and June 30-July 7. All of the campers will be working on homes that are in desperate need of repair which the home owners are unable to do themselves or pay to have done. In years past we have completed such jobs as repairing roofs, tearing out and rebuilding roofs, building porches and ramps, replacing floors, tearing out cabinets and counter tops and replacing them, sheet-rocking, painting, cleaning, scraping the outside of houses and repainting, plumbing work, and much more. Salkehatchie is a wonderful opportunity to serve God's people. You can learn more about the mission at www.salkehatchie.org.

We are trying to raise money to help pay for the trip and some of the supplies needed to accomplish the work to be done on the houses. We would love to have you partner with us in the investment we are making in our

neighbors' lives. The Salkehatchie group is selling stock in our summer service mission for \$10 per share. In buying shares, you also have an interest in the work we do this summer. On Wednesday, July 11, at 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall, we will share stories and pictures from our trips with all of the stockholders. Desserts, coffee and tea will be served.

Please prayerfully consider how God would have you support this summer service and return the bottom portion of this letter with your donation to the church office. We are very excited about this opportunity to serve others and to see God at work in the home owners' lives, our fellow campers' lives and our very own lives.

We encourage you to begin praying now for the families whose homes we will work on, for our leaders and for all the campers that God's love will be evident in all we do.

In Christ's service,
Salkehatchie Participants

Salkehatchie Summer Service Stock

I would like to purchase ____ shares of SSSS at \$10 per share for a total of \$_____.

Name_____

Address_____

Email_____Phone Number_____

Please make checks payable to FUMC.

April 2012

Sunday, April 1, 2012

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship Service, 11:00am

Confirmation Class, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom, 3:00pm

UMYF Ministry Arts, Youth Hut, 4:00pm

UMYF, Youth Hut, 5:00pm

Praise Singers Rehearsal, Choir Room, 7:00pm

Monday, April 2, 2012

Caring Callers, 11:00am

Boy Scout Meeting, Scout Hut, 6:00pm

Tuesday, April 3, 2012

Praise Band Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Wednesday, April 4, 2012

Wednesday At The First Activities, 5:30pm

Bulletin Deadline

April 15 Newsletter Deadline

Thursday, April 5, 2012

Maundy Thursday Worship & Tenebrae Service, Sanctuary,
7:00pm

Friday, April 6, 2012

The sanctuary will be open all day beginning at 9:00am

Saturday, April 7, 2012

Easter Egg Hunt, Church grounds, 3:00pm

Sunday, April 8, 2012

Easter Sunrise Service, Front of sanctuary, 6:30am

Light Breakfast, Fellowship Hall, 7:15am

Sunday School, 10:00am

Young Adult Meeting, Fellowship Hall, 10:00am

Worship Service, 11:00am

Praise Singers Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Monday, April 9, 2012

OFFICE CLOSED EASTER HOLIDAY

Boy Scout Meeting, Scout Hut, 6:00pm

Tuesday, April 10, 2012

Adult Bible Study, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom, 10:00am

UMW Circle #1 Meeting, Parlor, 10:00am

Caring Callers, 11:00am

Genesis Planning Team Meeting, Fellowship Hall, 6:00pm

UMW Circle #3 Meeting, 7:00pm

Praise Band Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Wednesday, April 11, 2012

Wednesday At The First Activities, 5:30pm

Bulletin Deadline

Sunday, April 15, 2012

Genesis Service, Fellowship Hall, 8:30am

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship Service, 11:00am

Confirmation Class, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom, 3:00pm

UMW Circle #4, Parlor, 4:00pm

UMYF Ministry Arts, Youth Hut, 3:00—5:00pm

UMYF, Youth Hut, 5:00pm

Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting, Kinsey Mulloy Class-
room, 5:30pm

Praise Singers Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Monday, April 16, 2012

Caring Callers, 11:00am

Boy Scout Meeting, Scout Hut, 6:00pm

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Praise Band Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Wednesday At The First Activities, 5:30pm

Bulletin Deadline

Thursday, April 19

J.O.Y. Club Luncheon, Fellowship Hall, 12:00pm

Sunday, April 22, 2012

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship Service, 11:00am

Confirmation Class, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom, 3:00pm

UMYF Ministry Arts, Youth Hut, 3:00—5:00pm

UMYF, Youth Hut, 5:00pm

Praise Singers Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Monday, April 23, 2012

Caring Callers, 11:00am

Boy Scout Meeting, Scout Hut, 6:00pm

Preschool Board Meeting, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom, 6:00pm

May 1 Newsletter Deadline

Tuesday, April 24, 2012

Praise Band Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Wednesday At The First Activities, 5:30pm

Bulletin Deadline

Sunday, April 29, 2012

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship Service, 11:00am

Confirmation Class, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom, 3:00pm

UMYF Ministry Arts, Youth Hut, 3:00—5:00pm

UMYF, Youth Hut, 5:00pm

Praise Singers Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Monday, April 30, 2012

Callers, 11:00am

Boy Scout Meeting, Scout Hut, 6:00pm