

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

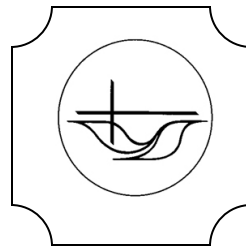
October 15, 2012

Volume 7, Issue 20

FUMC STAFF

Rev. Dr. Paul A. Wood, Jr., Pastor (woodtz1955@gmail.com)
Jonathan E. Kroepel, Director of Music (jkroepel@bellsouth.net)
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Kevin D. Chapman, 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

October 15, 2012

Pastor's Reflection

Countering the Death Tsunami

Dr. Lovett Weems says that by the year 2015, we United Methodists will begin to encounter a “death tsunami.”

Bishop Robert Schnaze points out that over the next four years deaths will far out-number the number of “new” United Methodists. He says it will be as if we lost *every United Methodist in the state of Texas*.

Bishop Schnaze is the leader of United Methodists in the state of Missouri. He says that our decline over the next four years will be equivalent to our losing the entire membership of the Missouri Conference *twice*!

The imagery of Dr. Weems and Bishop Schnaze is disturbing, but we seem to need it to shake us out of our denial. Both men are serving as modern-day prophets. By “prophet” I don’t mean so much that they are predicting the future – though they are, and their predictions are based upon real

facts and figures.

I mean that Dr. Weems and Bishop Schnaze are daring to put into words unsettling truth. We are in a serious state of numerical decline. Few denominations in the United States have an older average age. Our deaths far surpass the number of persons who are becoming United Methodists by affirming faith in Christ or by transferring their memberships from other denominations.

The national picture of the United Methodist Church is a more-exaggerated version of what we are facing at First United Methodist in Cheraw. Watch this space in the weeks to come as I offer some good news and helpful insights for us in Cheraw.

With God’s help, we can turn things around!

See you in church on Sunday!

Paul Wood

“God has a vision for every congregation.... God’s vision for the congregation will probably not come suddenly in a blinding flash, but will be discerned as people are faithful in ‘leaning forward’ and taking one step at a time.”

Lois G. McArn Community Ministry Report

Lois G. McArn Community Ministry, Inc. will be celebrating our 10th Anniversary with an Open House on October 20, from 10:00am until 2:00pm. Ten years ago, organizers had hopes of providing food and supplies for Chesterfield County's less fortunate. We invite you to come and enjoy fellowship and re-

freshments! Visit with us and learn more about our operation and, more importantly, our Mission to end Hunger in our community.

Sharon Hendrix

Executive Director

Lois G. McArn Community Ministry

Director of Children and Youth Job Opening

First United Methodist Church is seeking a Director of Children and Youth; 35-hours per week. This position exists to make our children and youth disciples of Jesus Christ by fostering their personal trust in, knowledge of, dependence on and love for His word. Duties include

planning and managing all children's and youth programs. You may email your résumé to sprc@fumccheraw.net or send it to First UMC, Attn: Mrs. Lib Norton, 117 Third Street, Cheraw, SC 29520.

Remember our Homebound

HOME

Robin Motley, Sabrina Tucker, Gene Huckabee, Michael Motley, Frances Laney

CONVALESCENT CENTER

Laura Stubbs

NURSING HOME

Sara Cook, Vera Meadows

RETIREMENT HOME

Polly Edwards

ASSISTED LIVING

Patsy Rushing, Margie Wanner



First Annual FUMC Fall Festival

Sunday, October 14, 3-6 pm. This new event on the church calendar will have appeal for all ages with numerous games of skill (cornhole toss, basketball free throw, golf putting, etc.), face painting, a baked goods sale and many other activities. This event is sponsored by the Youth Council and the Children's Council

with all proceeds supporting FUMC youth activities. Those who can provide the use of a tailgate tent, donations of bags of individually wrapped candy or donations of juice boxes or bottled water are asked to call Angie at 537-7002 or bring your donations by the church office.

Pictorial Directory Information Needed

There is a list of addresses and telephone numbers as they will appear in the new church directory in the lobby by the church office and in the narthex. Please check your address and phone number for accuracy. If

you would like to include your email address in the church directory, please write it out by your name and address. You may also call the church office to have this information checked for you.

Flower Fund

The flower fund given by the Walters family is almost depleted. The Altar Guild would welcome contributions to this fund so that we can provide

flowers when no one signs up for a Sunday.



September Sunday School Perfect Attendance

Mary Lou Long, Ellison Outen, Jerry Turner, John Sanderson, Jerry Carter, Robert Calhoun, Jerry Ther- rell, Bill Eutsler, Edith Quick, Brenda Rayfield, Syble Sanderson, Anne Townsend, David Townsend, Druie	Walker, Jane Campbell, JoAnne Mor- gan, Sarah M. Therrell, Jackie McGee, Judy Dixon, Susan Eschenfelder, John Moore, Pal Moore, Bonnie Cun- diff, Brant Thompson, Becky Thompson
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September Worship Perfect Attendance

Allison Becker, Sawyer Becker, Theodore Burns, Robert Calhoun, Sarah Jefferies Calhoun, Jane Camp- bell, Alayna Carabo, Doug Carabo, Jerry Carter, Bonnie Cundiff, Judy Dixon, Susan Eschenfelder, Bill Eu- tsler, Dawn Leach, Thomas McKin- non, Sharon McKinnon, Ruth Mid-	dleton, John Moore, Pal Moore, El- lison Outen, Greg Robinson, Jerry Therrell, Sarah M. Therrell, Becky Thompson, Brant Thompson, Anne Townsend, Jerry Turner, Nancy Wagnon, Druie Walker, Margaret Wolfe, Roger Wolfe
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Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of Jeff Allen

Jerry Carter, Mary Lou Long, Theo-
dore Burns, Martha Bentley

In Memory of Bob Lockey

M&M Harold Lomas, Jim Bennett,
Jerry Carter, Ruth Middleton, Hal &
Amaryllis Duvall, Jennie Curtis,
Catherine Causey, M&M Keith
Smith, M&M Jerry Therrell, M&M
David McLean, Betty Thrailkill, W.C.
& Sara Stanton M&M Thomas Rol-
lings, M&M Steve Barbour, M&M
Charles W. Davis, III, Mary Burr,
Martha Bentley

In Memory of R.E. Mayhew

Jerry Carter, Ruth Middleton, M&M
Thomas Rollings, M&M Steve Bar-
bour, Martha Bentley

In Memory of Ed Jackson

M&M Harold Lomas, Ruth Middle-
ton, M&M Keith Smith, Mary Burr

In Memory of J.C. Bentley

Ruth Middleton

In Memory of Randy Freeman

Ruth Middleton

In Memory of Council Porter

Ruth Middleton

In Memory of Fred Brooks

Ruth Middleton, M&M Keith Smith,
Emmie Hontani, Bari Gambacorta,
Mary Burr

In Memory of Roy Smith

Ruth Middleton

In Memory of Levern Rivers

Virginia Caughman

In Memory of Elaine Motley

W.C. & Sara Stanton, Jerry Carter,
FUMC Fred & Lorraine Harris SS
Class, Jim Bennett, Grady & Judy
Bass, Jimmy Duffy, M&M Steven
Humphries, Mary Burr, M&M John
Moore, M&M Jerry Therrell, M&M
Keith Smith, Martha Bentley, M&M
Scott Eddins, Greer and Cameron.

In Memory of Hud Smith

M&M Steve Barbour

In Memory of Brenda Furr

M&M Steve Barbour

In Memory of John F. McLeod, Jr.

M&M Keith Smith

In Honor of Pal & John Moore

Ruth Middleton

Newsletter Deadlines

November 1 Newsletter

Deadline October 19

November 15 Digital Version Newsletter

Deadline November 8

2012 Jazz Mass Set for Wesley United Methodist Church

Four years ago, the Cheraw community experienced its first-ever Jazz Mass. The ecumenical service with jazz-based music has become a much-loved closing event for each year's South Carolina Jazz Festival.

Wesley United Methodist Church located at 307 Greene Street will host the Jazz Mass. Wesley UMC was where Cheraw's native son Dizzy Gillespie first heard and participated in the music of the church. The renowned jazz artist let audiences all around the globe know that he was proud of his home town – "Cheraw."

The fifth annual Jazz Mass will begin at 3:00 on Sunday October 21. A community choir under the direction of Ms. Karen Wilkerson will lead the music. Rev. Jeff Hart, pastor for Cheraw Family Worship Center, will preach. Area clergy will serve Holy Communion.

Rev. Redonia Thomas is pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church as well as its two sister church, Mt. Zion UMC and Bethel UMC.

The Parables of Jesus

New Bible Study Begins Wednesday, October 24

The Parable of the Prodigal Son... of the Unforgiving Servant... of the Good Samaritan... the parables of Jesus are fascinating, intriguing and often-times hard-to-grasp. A new Wednesday night series will begin October 24 in the fellowship hall led by Paul Wood.

Video portrayals of the parables,

filmed in Israel, will help us to explore the parables in-depth.

Bible study begins at 6:30 each Wednesday and ends promptly at 7:25. There is no need to pre-register. But if you plan to have dinner at 5:30, indicate that on your worship attendance sheet or call the church office at 537-7002.

Wednesday At The First (WATF)

The Wednesday At The First meal will begin at 5:30pm with Bible Study following at 6:30pm each Wednesday.

Menus for October

October 17

Lasagna, salad, garlic bread, dessert and tea

October 24

Chicken bog, green beans, apple salad, corn fritters, dessert and tea.

October 31

No WATF.

Grief Support Group

A grief group is meeting on Thursdays at 6:30pm. It will meet on October 18 and 25. For more infor-

mation, please contact Kay Wood at 537-3635.

Our Visitors

September 16

Anne Bryan, Ok Yo Chang, Susan Conley, Drew Copeland, Tom Davidson, Marla Eddins, Johnnie Johnson, Mary Johnson, Abby Jones, Mark Jones, Ed Kilbourne, Kathleen Kilbourne, Paul Ludlow, Landon Rogers, Nathan Rogers, Woody Rogers, Stephanie Rogers, Jack Rushing, Kiersten Shepard

September 23

Lisa Adair, Tim Adair, Terry Bentley, Anne Bryan, Ginger Caughman, Carol Crouse, Marie Davidson, William Eutsler, Jr., Aretta Grant, Paul Ludlow, Keirsten Shepard, Bobbie St. Clair, Anne Wallace

September 30

Duane Brasington, Anne Bryan, Amy Goodwin, Harrison Goodwin, Megan Goodwin, Hampton Jones, Walker Jones, Paul Ludlow, Landon Rogers, Nathan Rogers, Woody Rogers, Stephanie Rogers, Rebekah Williams, David Rohde, Jacob Rohde, Michelle Rohde, Kim Truett

October 7

Marie Davidson, Amy Goodwin, Harrison Goodwin, Megan Goodwin, Ashlyn Nelson

Genesis—Contemporary Worship

October 28 at 8:45am

In the Fellowship Hall



Consecration Sunday is Coming

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's stewardship committee has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year. *New Consecration Sunday* is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our

attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world. Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

During morning worship on Nov. 18, our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, concluded by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship. We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and governing board members. We will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thank you in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

John Wagnon,
Chairman
Stewardship Committee

From the Director of Music

Changes are never easy for any person, no matter how one may look at them. It is hard to believe that I moved to Cheraw, SC seven years ago, a very anxious 26 year old, but we answer the call of God in our lives. To follow Christ does not mean that we get to pick and choose what we want to do, but yield to the spirit's power and guidance.

In my summer series on prayer, I emphasized the importance of returning to God for guidance. Daily renewal of our commitment to God is necessary for our spiritual journey. Prayer transforms our psychological outlook on life. I purposely planned the song "Jesus Love Me" a few weeks ago to remind us that we are children of the King. We need the child like faith and belief to trust in God no matter how old we get. Without our past and present Sun-

day School, children and youth leaders training our children, whether they stay in Cheraw or not, the Christian church would die out. I thank all the volunteers who lead our youth and children programs.

Travels to Illinois will take me out of the office from October 18-23. I guess this trip will be much happier, and less stressful, than my last trip to Illinois, as my youngest sister is getting married, but all of that is yet to be determined.

We should anticipate the organ console being finished by mid-November, and our new floor in the organ loft is completed.

Jon Kroepel

FUMC Pre-School and Nursery News

First Methodist Pre-School and Nursery is selling the Attraction Books again this year. This book can be very valuable to you and your family. We still have plenty in the pre-school office for sale. The price for the book is \$20.00, and the school receives \$10.00 for every one we sell. If you sell 5 books then you get one free.

If you study the book, you will find that using two coupons will pay for the book, and there are hundreds and hundreds of coupons. You need to register your book, and you can get more coupons on line.

The Pre-School will be attending the Pumpkin Patch in McBee on October 16. The children are so excited. We

will also be going on our fall walk on October 31. This is always a fun time for all the children. On Nov. 2 the four-year-old class will be going to Florence to see Disney On Ice Fantasy Show. They are all buzzing and have already started learning new and amazing things.

A huge thank you goes out to the Pre-School board for their outstanding job at the Shrimp Creole Dinner and Auction. This group of ladies and gentlemen did an outstanding job. Our hats off to all of them for supporting the school with their love, talent and time.

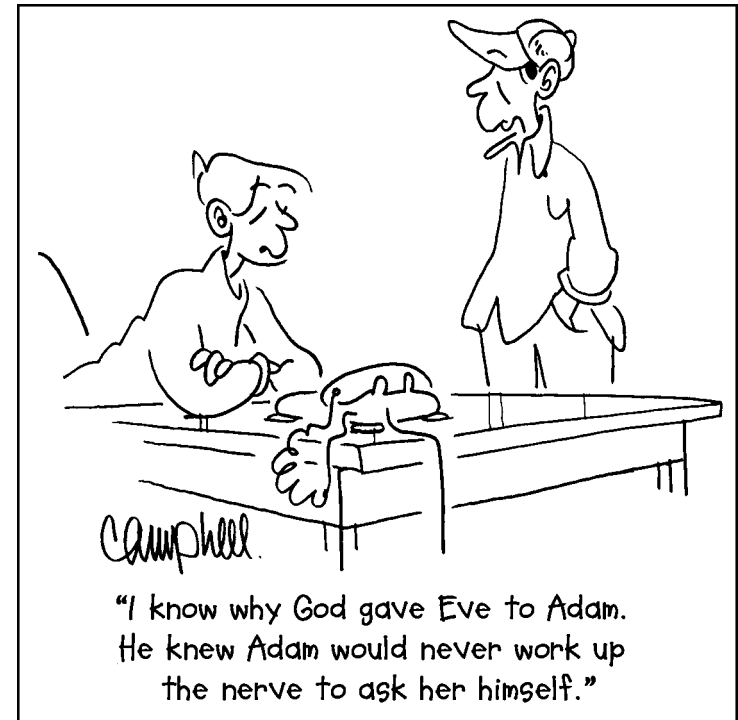
In Christian Faith and Love,

Catreenna

Service of the Blessing of the Hands



The Lighter Side



October 2012

Monday, October 15, 2012

Caring Callers, 11:00am

Boy Scout Meeting, Scout Hut, 6:00pm

Staff-Parish Relations Committee Meeting, Choir Room, 7:00pm

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Praise Band Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Bus Reserved

Wednesday, October 17, 2012

Wednesday At The First (WATF) Meal, 5:30pm

WATF Adult Bible Study, Fellowship Hall, 6:30pm

WATF Children's Ministries (K—5th Grade), 6:30pm

Bulletin Deadline

Thursday, October 18, 2012

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

Grief Support Group, Parlor, 6:00pm

Friday, October 19, 2012

Deadline for November 1 Newsletter

Saturday, October 20, 2012

Fall BBQ, Fellowship Hall, 11:00am—2:00pm

Sunday, October 21, 2012

Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room, 9:00am

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship Service, 11:00am

UMYF, Youth Hut, 5:00pm

Praise Singers Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Monday, October 22, 2012

Caring Callers, 11:00am

Community Greeters Meeting, Fellowship Hall, 3:30pm

Worship Ministry Team Meeting, Choir Room, 6:00pm

Boy Scout Meeting, Scout Hut, 6:00pm

Tuesday, October 23, 2012

Praise Band Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Wednesday, October 24, 2012

Wednesday At The First (WATF) Meal, 5:30pm

WATF Adult Bible Study, Fellowship Hall, 6:30pm

WATF Children's Ministries (K—5th Grade), 6:30pm

Bulletin Deadline

Thursday, October 25, 2012

Grief Support Group, Parlor, 6:00pm

Sunday, October 28, 2012

Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room, 9:00am

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship Service, 11:00am

UMYF, Youth Hut, 5:00pm

Praise Singers Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Monday, October 29, 2012

Caring Callers, 11:00am

Boy Scout Meeting, Scout Hut, 6:00pm

Tuesday, October 30, 2012

Praise Band Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Wednesday, October 31, 2012

Wednesday At The First (WATF) Meal, 5:30pm

WATF Adult Bible Study, Fellowship Hall, 6:30pm

WATF Children's Ministries (K—5th Grade), 6:30pm

Bulletin Deadline