

UPCOMING EVENTS AT FUMC

Sunday, December 23, 2012

9:00am Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service
Bus Reserved

Monday, December 24, 2012

4:30pm Christmas Eve Service
7:00pm Christmas Eve Service
Office Closed

Tuesday, December 25, 2012

Office Closed

Wednesday, December 26, 2012

Office Closed

Thursday, December 27, 2012

Office Closed

Sunday, December 30, 2012

9:00am Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service

CUSTODIAN'S DUTIES — Kevin Chapman, our custodian, has a lot of job duties at the church. While he is so willing to help, his regular job duties are important. If you would like Kevin's assistance, please coordinate special requests as far in advance as possible through Angie Smith in the church office. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

— The Staff-Parish Relations Committee

THANK YOU — Once again my sincere thanks to the faithful members of First United Methodist Church for remembering a member who has been absent for many years. May God bless each of you and Merry Christmas. — *Ruth Funderburk*

FUMC STAFF

Rev. Dr. Paul A. Wood, Jr., Pastor (woodtz1955@gmail.com)
Angie Smith, Administrative Assistant (angie@fumccheraw.net)
Jonathan E. Kroepel, Director of Music (jkroepel@gmail.com)
Catrenna Buffington, Director of Preschool/Nursery (fmpscheraw@bellsouth.net)
Kevin D. Chapman, Custodian



First United Methodist Church
117 Third Street, Cheraw, SC 29520

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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.

December 23, 2012
4th Sunday in Advent

Prelude

Greeting and Announcements *Please sign the attendance pad and pass it to everyone on the pew.*

*Ritual of Friendship

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Tomberlin Family

Leader: Today we will light all four Advent candles. Their brightness recalls God's glory that shone around the shepherds when they heard the angel's first Christmas greeting: "Do not be afraid." We pray that God's glory will reign on earth as it does in heaven.

People: Come, Lord Jesus. Shine on us, and the night will be bright as day.

Leader: For once you lived in shadow, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light, enjoying all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

People: Come, Lord Jesus. Shine on us, and the night will be bright as day.

Leader: O holy child of Bethlehem, descend on 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 with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

People: Come, Lord Jesus. Shine on us, and the night will be bright as day.

Advent Candle Song

Tune to Away In a Manager

A candle is burning, a candle of **Love**;

A candle to point us to heaven above.

A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth;

For Jesus is bringing God's **Love** to our earth.

Call to Worship

Rev. Paul Wood

*Hymn No. 250 in the Hymnal

"Once in Royal David's City"

Irby

Unison Prayer

Sammy Quick, Lay Reader

Gracious God, your servant Mary discovered new life growing within her and knew it to be your promised presence. In tender reverence for the holy mystery of your Incarnation, may we be as a womb for your blessed presence, ready to receive and nourish your Word in our lives, open to the stirrings of your Spirit within us. May we faithfully bear your love in the world, that by your grace Christ may be born in us. Amen.

Silent Prayer and Words of Assurance

Mini Sermon Rev. Paul Wood

Special Music "He is Born" Handbell Quartet

Old Testament Lesson Micah 5: 2 — 5a Lay Reader

***Affirmation No. 881 in the Hymnal** The Apostles' Creed Lay Reader

***Gloria Patri — Page No. 70 in the Hymnal** "Glory be to the Father" Meineke

***Gospel Lesson** Luke 1: 39 — 45 Lay Reader

***Responsive Reading No. 199 in the Hymnal** The Canticle of Mary Rev. Wood

Sermon "Scandalous! Absolutely Scandalous!" Rev. Wood

Pastoral Prayer

***Hymn No. 230 in the Hymnal** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" St. Louis
During the singing of this hymn, the altar is open for those who wish to come for prayer and dedication.

Presentation of Tithes and Other Offerings

Offertory Anthem "People Look East" arr. Malcolm Archer

***Doxology No. 95** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Old 100th

***Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer**

Special Music Amy and Megan Goodwin

***Hymn No. 196 in the Hymnal** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Hyfrydol

***Dismissal with Blessing**

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** "Until Jesus Comes" McIntyre

***Postlude** *Indicates where you should stand if you are able.

WELCOME VISITORS — We welcome our visitors! Please fill out the attendance sheet with your contact information. If you wish to join the church by Affirmation of Faith or Transfer of Membership, please notify the pastor at 843-537-3635.

FLOWERS — The flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Elaine Motley given by Dallas & Jenny Keefe and family; loving memory of Carolyn Barber and in honor of Chuck Barber by Beth Barber; loving memory of T.B. Watson, J.A. Wolfe, Evelyn Wolfe and Betty Harris by Roger & Margaret Wolfe.

OUR PRAYER LIST our president, our nation, Brady & Sue Nichols (Pam Humphries' parents), Bailey Turner (8-yr-old from Ruby with cancer), Taylor Novinger (Dr. Novinger's son), Betty Thrailkill (cancer— would appreciate visits and phone calls), Pal Moore, Kenny "Zeke" Alford (friend of Kelly Dusa), Louis Anderson (friend of Kelly Dusa), Harry Board, Vickie Williams, Shelton Rumph. **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS — In order for contributions to be posted to your 2012 giving record, they must meet one of three requirements: 1.) The gift is received and posted to your account before December 31st. 2.) The contribution is dropped into the offering plate or delivered to the church office on or before December 31st. 3.) The envelope in which the gift is mailed is postmarked on or before December 31st. The Church Office will be open December 28 from 8:00am—12:00pm and December 31 from 8:00 am - 3:30 pm to assist you with year-end giving matters. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact the church office at 843-537-7002.

BANK DRAFT SERVICE OFFERED— First United Methodist Church is pleased to announce that effective in January 2013 we will offer bank draft service for monthly giving. Drafts must be established on a monthly basis. Drafts on your account will occur on the 10th of each month or the next business day. Angie Smith, our Administrative Assistant, will handle the bank draft so it will remain entirely confidential. If you are interested in this process, please contact Angie Smith in the church office at 537-7002. First United Methodist Church is pleased to offer this convenient manner of systematic giving at no cost to the church member.

ORGAN NEWS — Why aren't we using the organ in our worship services? The pipework still remains in place in our sanctuary-all 2,000+ pipes, but the organ console is in the workshop of Robert Coulter in Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Coulter has been extremely helpful to us since we first contacted him in May 2011. One issue, which has caused a lengthy delay, was that the console contained some plywood parts; those sections of the console had to be rebuilt for the console to have a uniform appearance. Further delays have been caused by supplier error. We currently expect the organ console to be returned on January 2, 2013. For more information about this issue, you may contact the Director of Music.

SERVING TODAY	
Head Usher: Robert Calhoun	Greeters: M&M Jay Leach
Lobby Door Greeters: Jerry Therrell, Jerry Carter	Hostess: Marsha Butler
Altar Guild: Kim Williamson and Susan Marsh	Acolyte: Austin Sanderson
Nursery: Caroline Berry & Henrietta Kollitz	Cross Bearer: Greer Eddins
Children's Church: No Children's Church	McArn Item: Baby items
Counters: Robert Calhoun, Herbert Watts, Brenda Rayfield	Flowers Next Sunday: Bill Eutsler
Alternate Counter: Doug Marsh	Next Week's Lay Reader: Lib Norton
Last Week's Worship Service Attendance — 204; Worship Attendance in 2011 for the same Sunday — 129	