

UPCOMING EVENTS AT FUMC

Sunday, December 9, 2012

8:30am United Methodist Men's Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
9:00am Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service
5:00pm UMYF United Methodist Youth Fellowship (Youth Hut)
7:00pm Praise Singers Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)
Bus Reserved

Monday, December 10, 2012

6:00pm Boy Scout Meeting (Scout Hut)

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

5:30pm WATF Meal
6:30pm Adult Bible Study
6:30pm Children's Ministries (K—5th Grade)
7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Bulletin Deadline

Thursday, December 13, 2012

6:00pm Pre-School Christmas Program

Friday, December 14, 2012

7:00pm Staff Christmas Party
January 1 Newsletter Deadline

Sunday, December 16, 2012

9:00am Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service
5:00pm UMYF United Methodist Youth Fellowship (Youth Hut)
7:00pm Praise Singers Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)



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

www.cherawfirstumc.org

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 9, 2012
2nd Sunday in Advent

Prelude

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

*Ritual of Friendship

Introit

"Prepare the Way of the Lord"

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Ruffner Family

Leader: On the second Sunday of Advent, we light two candles to show that the church joyfully waits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and scatters the shadows of fear and doubt. We pray that God will bless our lighting of these candles so that we may reflect the splendor of Christ, our Light.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, and turn us toward your light.

Leader: If we walk in the light as God is in the light we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, and turn us toward your light.

Leader: Come down to us like showers upon the fruitful earth; love, joy, and hope, like flowers spring in your path to birth. Before you on the mountains, shall peace the herald go, and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, and turn us toward your light.

Advent Candle Song

Tune to Away In a Manager

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

A candle to signal that conflict must cease.

For Jesus is coming to show us the way;

A message of **Peace** humbly laid in the hay.

Call to Worship

***Hymn No. 220 in the Hymnal "Angels from the Realms of Glory"**

Regent Square

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@bellsouth.net)

Catrenna Buffington, Director of Preschool/Nursery (fmpscheraw@bellsouth.net)

Kevin D. Chapman, Custodian

Unison Prayer Jenny Keefe, Lay Reader
God of hope, you call us from the exile of our sin with the good news of resurrection; you build a highway through the wilderness; you come to us and bring us home. Comfort us with the expectation of your saving power, made known to us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Prayer and Words of Assurance

Mini Sermon Rev. Paul Wood

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 40: 1 — 11 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

Epistle Lesson 2 Peter 3: 8 — 15a Rev. Wood

Sermon "While We Wait" Rev. Wood

Pastoral Prayer

***Hymn No. 209 in the Hymnal** "Blessed Be the God of Israel" Merle's Tune
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 "Litany for Advent"

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

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

Hymn No. 2085 in *The Faith We Sing "He Came Down" He Came Down

***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 memory of Brenda H. Furr by Caroline Atkinson, Emma Hamden and Mary Burr.

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 Thraikill (cancer— would appreciate visits and phone calls), Pal Moore. **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT — As in past years, donations are being accepted for a monetary Christmas gift for members of the church staff. Contributions may be dropped off at the church office, mailed, or placed in the offering plate. (Please clearly designate "Staff Christmas Gift" on your check or on the envelope if making a cash donation.) The deadline for contributions is Friday, December 14. This is a good way to express our appreciation to the staff for the work that they do! *Staff-Parish Relations Committee*

CAROLING — The youth, young adults and families will meet at the church to go caroling this afternoon from 5:00pm until 7:00pm. Afterward we will enjoy a chili cook-off. If you are willing to bring a pot of chili, please contact Gini Eddins. A prize for the best chili will be awarded.

POINSETTIAS — Poinsettias that will be placed in the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas have been ordered by the Altar Guild. If you would like to give \$15.00 to the flower fund in memory or honor of someone during this season, you can do so by calling or bringing your information to the church office.

CONGRATULATIONS — Congratulations to Kaleb Keefe who will graduate from Winthrop University on December 15.

CUSTODIAN 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

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT — Next Sunday's service will include a festive Christmas pageant put on by the children of First United Methodist.

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.

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: Robert Calhoun

Lobby Door Greeters: Jerry Turner, C.C. Quick

Altar Guild: Kim Williamson and Susan Marsh

Nursery: Caroline Berry & Stephanie Rogers

Children's Church: Christy Ruffner

Counters: Jim Crawford, Sammy Quick, Donald Baker

Alternate Counters: John Straughn, Zenda Rushing

Greeter: Edyce Brasington

Hostess: Marsha Butler

Acolyte: Austin Sanderson

Cross Bearer: Greer Eddins

McArn Item: Dry goods

Flowers Next Sunday: Poinsettias

Next Week's Lay Reader: Jim Bennett

Last Week's Genesis Attaendane — 65; 11:00 Worship Service Attendance — 104; Total both services — 169
Worship Attendance in 2011 for the same Sunday — 155

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 please to offer this convenient manner of systematic giving at no cost to the church member.

BIBLE STUDY ON THE PARABLES OF JESUS — The church has begun a seven-week study series on the parables of Jesus. Paul Wood is teaching the classes on Wednesday nights at 6:30 in the fellowship hall. Parables are presented as video recreations. All adults and youth are welcome to take part.

LIVE DRIVE-THRU NATIVITY — We are all invited to the Live Drive-thru Nativity to be held this afternoon from 6:00 until 8:30 p.m. at Zoar United Methodist Church. There is no charge for the event, but Zoar UMC is accepting food donations for the Chesterfield County Food Bank. The church is located at 2842 Zoar Road, Cheraw, SC 29520.

BLUE CHRISTMAS: DECEMBER 19 — We are proudly offering to the community a Blue Christmas Service on December 19. Like all services of worship, we will sing and praise God and hear scripture read. But we will focus on the worries, griefs and sorrows which can afflict so many of us during December. We will bring our concerns before God who is the great healer and our ultimate source of hope.

Invite a friend to a meaningful service in our sanctuary December 19 at 6:30. (NOTE: Our final Wednesday At the First meal of the year will begin at 5:30. Sign up for the meal by calling the church office at 843-537-7002.)

WEDNESDAY AT THE FIRST (WATF) MEAL — The meal begins at 5:30pm and is cooked by Carolyn Gary; the cost is \$7.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under 12 years old (Maximum \$21.00 for a household). Sign up on the worship attendance sheet, or call the church office (537-7002) and ask that your name be added to the list of "regulars". Reservations must be in to the church office no later than 3:00pm on Monday.

6:30—7:30 — Children's Ministries hour (K—5th grade)

6:30—7:30 — Adult Bible Study (The Parables of Jesus)

No Youth Activities on Wednesday.

MENU— (December 12) Ziti casserole, salad, garlic bread, dessert and tea.

Gift to FUMC Endowment Fund Honors Pete Owens

A gift has been presented to the First United Methodist Church Endowment Fund by the Malloy Foundation of Cheraw. The gift honors FUMC member Pete Owens who has faithfully served on the Malloy Foundation Board for many years. The Malloy Foundation has for more than sixty years provided grants and gifts in furtherance of local civic and educational goals.

This is the first contribution to be made to our Endowment Fund. The Fund was created earlier this year by the First UMC Charge Conference. Literature about the Fund can be found in the hallway near the church office or by speaking to any member of the Endowment Fund Committee. Members are Jim Crawford (chair), Harold Lomas, Cheryl Postlewait, Rhett Butler, Robert Calhoun and Susan Marsh.