

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

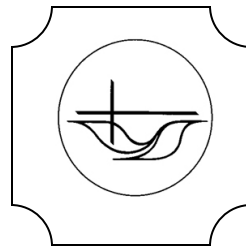
November 15, 2012

Volume 7, Issue 22

FUMC STAFF

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

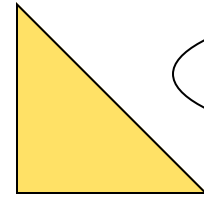
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OUR MISSION

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

November 15, 2012

Pastor's Reflection

Just Don't Look, and It Will Go Away!



Ostriches don't actually hide their head in the sand when confronted by lions or other enemies. That's simply not true of ostriches. But the image still helps us to think about ourselves. Do we choose to hide from unpleasant realities? Do we choose to not hear those things we don't want to hear? Yes, we do! It is common *human* behavior.

We find ways to pretend that bad things aren't really coming our way. Our Methodist heritage of activism, determination and responsibility, as wonderful and biblical as it is, sometimes leads us to *just keep working*. To keep working, doing the same thing we have been doing but with more effort, is oftentimes a way to avoid facing reality. We can do more for God than to simply work harder.

So what are some of the unpleasant realities we choose to avoid? As a nation we try to turn our attention away from the federal debt and cli-

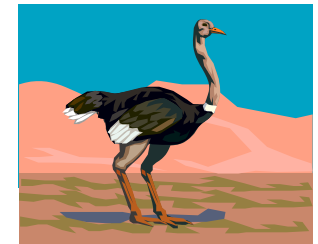
mate change, just to name two. Families often neglect to address their credit card debt. Parents are prone to overlook a child's not-so-desirable friends or near-constant TV watching. Towns and cities oftentimes neglect clogged storm drains until "the big one" comes, and then streets and homes are flooded.

I have seen churches with a "head-in-the-sand" philosophy about maintenance for their aging buildings. I have seen congregations which are dying numerically but choose to stay focused on harmony and tranquility in the ranks and refuse to address the real issue, their declining witness for Jesus Christ.

So putting one's head in the sand is not something ostriches do, but it's sure something we humans do. What's your favorite reason for diving into the sand?

See you in church next Sunday!

Paul



Director of Children and Youth Position Open

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.

Thank You Notes From Schools

Dear FUMC Education Committee:

Thank you so much for making our teachers and staff feel loved and honored. Your thoughtfulness was much appreciated. We all love to eat and the "goodies" you provided this past Friday during our in-service training made the afternoon more enjoyable. Thank you again for reaching out into the community to share your love.

Sincerely,
Faith Christian Academy

Dear Cheraw First United Methodist:

Thank you so much for sending our staff at LMS the appreciation bags. You are a blessing for us each day. May you each have a joyous holiday season.

Sincerely,
Matt Brantley

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



Thank You Note

Dear FUMC:

Thank you so much for your many acts of kindness during Bob's illness and death.

Thank you for the calls, visits, cards, food and most of all the prayers. We could not make it each day without our community of believers and Christian friends.

Please continue to pray for us because the days ahead are hard for us without Bob.

Your kindness will always be remembered.

Love,

Micki & Paige Lockey

Sunday School Perfect Attendance for October

Shari Stubbs, Cindy Sanderson, Drue Walker, Jimmy Duffy, Bill Eutsler, Syble Sanderson, Ellison Outen, Jerry Turner, Sammy Quick, Greg Sanderson, Jerry Carter, Doug Wilson, Robert Calhoun, Jim Bennett, Pam Humphries, Nancy Wagnon, Jane Campbell, JoAnne Morgan, Lib Norton, Sarah M. Therrell, Bonnie Cundiff, Susan Eschenfelder.



Worship Perfect Attendance for October

Jean Assef, Jim Bennett, Robert Calhoun, Sarah Jefferies Calhoun, Jane Campbell, Jerry Carter, Jimmy Duffy, Scott Eddins, Susan Eschenfelder, Bill Eutsler, Pam Humphries, Amy Lewis, Thomas McKinnon, Sharon McKinnon, Holly Miles, Paul Miles, JoAnne Morgan, Lib Norton, Ellison Outen, Greg Robinson, Syble Sanderson, Sarah Margaret Therrell, Jerry Turner, John Wagnon, Nancy Wagnon, Margaret Wolfe, Roger Wolfe.

Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of Bob Lockey

Mary Louise Long & Theodore Burns, M&M Rhett Butler

In Memory of Betty Ann Crawford

Lynn Tweed

In Memory of Elaine Motley

Miriam K. Bell, Susanne Dabnet, M&M Rhett Butler

In Honor of Sis Funderburk's 100th Birthday

M&M Ellison Outen

Our Visitors

October 28

Duane Brasington, Ok Yo Chang, Nancy Chestnut, Carol Crouse, Tom Davidson, Johnnie Johnson, Mary Johnson, Paul Ludlow, Collin McManus, Anne Wallace.

November 4

Alyssa Edwards, Laura Edwards, William Eutsler, Amy Goodwin, Harrison Goodwin, Megan Goodwin, Johnnie Johnson, Kim Truett, Jim Wolfe.

From the Director of Music

"There's Within my Heart a Melody" praises God.

When we are met with hurt and despair, music can be the key to transforming our attitude. Within the refrain of the song "There's Within My Heart a Melody," we are reminded of the one we need to turn to in times of trouble.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus,
Sweetest Name I know
Fills my every longing
Keeps me singing as I go

Sometimes we feel like it is too hard to pray, but we have the reminder of the one who continues to intercedes for us. We may not all agree on the style of music that "should" be used in church, but we can agree on this: that all music that is used in the church is such that it builds up the body of Christ and

The organ console is being returned to Cheraw on November 26, and will be ready for the start of the Advent season. I thank Sara Sander-son who filled in for me in my absence, as I was in Illinois for my sister's wedding.

We have more events to look forward to as we head toward Christmas. The handbell choir will play in church on Sunday, November 18, 2012. Our Christmas pageant is scheduled for December 16 during the morning worship hour.

In Christ,
Jon Kroepel

Newsletter Deadlines

December 1 Newsletter

Deadline November 19

December 15 Digital Version Newsletter

Deadline December 7

The Parables of Jesus

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.

The study led by Rev. Wood uses video portrayals of the parables, filmed in Israel, to help us 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.

Soup Kitchen

First United Methodist Church will be hosting the soup kitchen on Tuesday, December 11. Anyone interest-

ed in helping can call John Sander-son at 287-1350.

Genesis—Contemporary Worship

December 2 at 8:45am

In the Fellowship Hall



Cleaning Buckets, Health Kits and Offerings United Methodists Respond to Superstorm Sandy

Cleaning buckets and health kits are very practical gifts we can provide to the victims of the October storm. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) distributes cleaning buckets and health kits mainly to flood victims. Since the storm, UMCOR has given away almost all of the 19,000 buckets it had on hand, and many more are needed.

Churches around the Hartsville District are assembling cleaning buckets and health kits. The lists of contents are available in the church office or by going to www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies. Please bring your buckets and cleaning kits

to the church office. They will be taken to the SC United Methodist Center in Columbia as soon as possible.

You may also wish to support UMCOR's response to the victims of the storm. Our One Great Hour of Sharing offering (taken each year in March) provides for the administrative expenses of UMCOR. Therefore, every dollar we give to disaster relief goes to.... disaster relief! Please be generous. Simply designate part of your offering today to UMCOR Hurricane 2012. This coming week your gift will be conveyed to UMCOR. Thank 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.



First Church will host another blood drive on Tuesday, November 20 from 2:00—7:00pm. Please call the office (537-7002) or go online to www.redcrossblood.org sponsor code FUMCcheraw to schedule an appointment.

Giving the gift of life is so important, please schedule your appointment today.

Blood Donation Eligibility Guidelines:

Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental permission in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood.

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 November

November 21 No WATF

November 28 Ziti casserole, salad, garlic bread, dessert and tea.

Community Thanksgiving Service

First United Methodist Church will again host the Community Thanksgiving Service. Sponsored by the Cheraw Ministerial Alliance, the service will begin at 6:00 on Sunday, November 18. The men's chorus from Pee Dee Union Baptist Church

will sing, and area clergy will lead the service. Rev. Redonia Thomas, pastor of the Cheraw Parish of the United Methodist Church will preach. Mr. Jon Kroepel, Director of Music of First United Methodist, will assist with the music.

Youth Ski Weekend

Our FUMC Youth Group will be attending INFUSE Ski Weekend at Lake Junaluska on Feb 1-3. On Saturday, youth will have an opportunity to hit the slopes, and each evening they will hear a phenomenal worship band and speaker! A deposit of \$50 is needed by November 26 for

each youth and every chaperone that would like to attend. The total cost for skiers is \$179 and for those not skiing the total cost is \$126. Please call or text Dawn Leach at 910-3030 with questions. You can go to www.myp.lakejunaluska.com for many of the details.

Special Offering for Mercy in Me Free Medical Clinic December 2

The Mercy In Me Free Medical Clinic provides significant medical assistance to working people in our area who do not have medical insurance. Dr. Gabe Simpson (director) and his staff (all volunteers) serve in Christ's name. First United Methodist has provided valuable support to the

Free Medical Clinic. Sunday December 2, we will have a special offering for the Free Medical Clinic. The Missions Ministry Team and I strongly urge you to be generous to the clinic and the people it serves.

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Friends, I appreciate your continued support of the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. With it I am able to provide much-needed assistance to Cheraw-area residents. Usually, they ask for help because their power is about to be cut off. I counsel with these persons and make referrals to agencies such as McArn Community Ministry. You may know that our church now shares confidential client information with other members of CAMAN, the Chesterfield and Marlboro Assistance Network. CAMAN has made this part of my ministry much more productive.

I hold some of the Pastor's Discretionary Fund in reserve so that I might assist members of our congregation. Otherwise, the fund is now depleted.

If you, your class or your fellowship group are inclined to resupplement the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, please designate a gift to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

Paul Wood

Mission Ministry Team Breakfast Fundraiser

The Mission Ministry Team is selling \$5.00 tickets for a fundraiser breakfast at Fatz Cafe (pancakes, bacon, and drink) on Saturday, December 1 from 8:00 - 10:00am. Please purchase your tickets from a member of the Mission Ministry Team or at the church office.



November 2012

Thursday, November 15, 2012

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

Friday, November 16, 2012

November 25 Bulletin Deadline

Sunday, November 18, 2012

Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room, 9:00am

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship Service, 11:00am (Consecration Sunday)

UMYF, Youth Hut, 5:00pm

Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting, Choir Room, 5:30pm

Community Thanksgiving Service, Sanctuary, 6:00pm

Praise Singers Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Monday, November 19, 2012

Community Greeters, Choir Room, 3:30pm

Boy Scout Meeting, Scout Hut, 6:00pm

Deadline for December 1 Newsletter

Tuesday, November 20, 2012

Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall, 2:00—7:00pm

Praise Band Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Wednesday, November 21, 2012

Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room, 7:30pm

Sunday, November 25, 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, November 26, 2012

Boy Scout Meeting, Scout Hut, 6:00pm

Tuesday, November 27, 2012

Praise Band Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall, 7:00pm

Wednesday, November 28, 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

Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room, 7:30pm

Bulletin Deadline

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Bus Reserved