

First United Methodist Church
117 Third Street
Cheraw, South Carolina 29520
843-537-7002
www.cherawfirstumc.org

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.



FUMC STAFF

Rev. Dr. Paul A. Wood, Jr., Pastor (woodtz1955@gmail.com)

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THE CONNECTION

First United Methodist Church, Cheraw, SC

March 1, 2013

Volume 8, Issue 5

Pastor's Reflection

"Happy Birthday, Theodor Geisel!"

On March 2, people all across America will mark the 99th birthday of Theodor Geisel who was born in Springfield, Massachusetts on March 2, 1904.

So who was Theodor Geisel? ***Why, he was Dr. Seuss, of course!*** And the celebration is not so much about Geisel as it is a national celebration of reading. March 2 every year is observed as Read Across America Day.

Geisel's first book was *And To Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street*, and it was rejected by 27 publishers before finally being accepted in 1937. Notable follow-ups were *If I Ran the Zoo* and *Horton Hears a Who*. The Dr. Seuss book with the greatest impact, though, was his 1951 publication *The Cat in the Hat*. It has a vocabulary of only 220 words.

As our country celebrates reading on March 2, and as teachers, tutors, parents and grandparents continue every day of the year to read to their children and teach them to read for themselves, I hope we won't forget the grandest book of all, the Bible. Without it, we are nothing. We would have no concept of the work of God in the world. Christ himself would just be a rumor.

Yes, Dr. Seuss had enormous and positive impact on America's children. Even today, though dead since 1991, Dr. Seuss is the best-selling author in the English-speaking world.

But the Bible is and ***should always should be*** Number One!

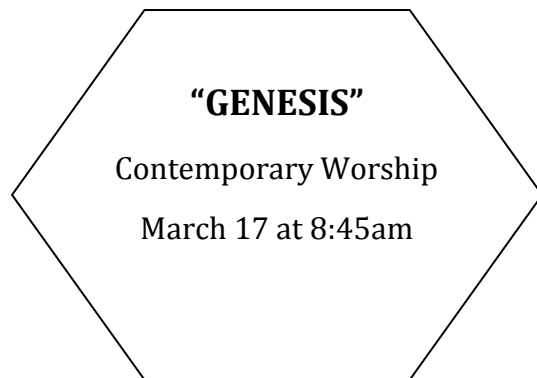
Paul Wood



Job Opening

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee has renewed its efforts to locate a Director of Youth and Children's Ministries. The following ad will run in a variety of publications over the next few weeks. Members of the congregation are encouraged to speak with friends and acquaintances who might wish to apply for the staff position.

First United Methodist Church, Cheraw, SC, is seeking a fulltime Director of Youth and Children's Ministries. In co-operation with active adults, this staff member will plan and manage the congregation's ministries with youth and children. Send your resume to sprc@fumccheraw.net or to First UMC, Attn: Mrs. Lib Norton, 117 Third St., Cheraw, SC 29520.



Our Visitors

February 10

Douglas Anderson, Ok Yo Chang, Susan Conley, Carol Crouse, Tom Davidson, Elijah Haire, Jolly Haire, Johnnie Johnson, Fran Lewis, Andrew McLeod, Daphane Wallace.

February 17

Ok Yo Chang, Susan Conley, Drew Copeland, Abby Jones, Mark Jones, Kiersten Shepard, Jackson Thomas, Mac Thomas, Reagan Thomas, Wendy Thomas, Daniel Whaley, Grace Whaley, Phillip Whaley.

Wednesday At The First (WATF)

The Wednesday At The First (WATF) meal begins at 5:30pm with Bible Study following at 6:30pm each Wednesday.

Menus for March

March 6

Vegetable soup, chicken and rice, corn bread, dessert and tea.

March 13

Ziti, salad, garlic bread, tea, dessert and tea.

March 20

Chicken and dumplings, cabbage, fat back, corn bread, dessert and tea.

March 27

Pork tenderloin, mashed potatoes, butter beans, fat back, rolls, dessert and tea.

The Security of the Building

Friends, the Board of Trustees, the church staff and I have become concerned about the security of the church. On several occasions we have found exterior doors to be unlocked. We have a fine, well-functioning security system to guard against intruders. However, we should not take for granted the safety of the children and staff of our pre-school as well as the security of everyone else in the building. We ask all church members to be conscious of the doors and their locks.

Thank you

Paul Wood

Organ

Have you heard the organ since its return from Atlanta? Jon Kroepel is back to his usual routine of coaxing beautiful music from this majestic instrument.



Memorials & Honorariums

In Memory of Allison Toole

Mr. & Mrs. David McLean

In Memory of Mack Covington

Mr. & Mrs. David McLean, Gordon Quick

Lenten Lunches at First Baptist Church

The Cheraw Ministerial Alliance is sponsoring Lenten luncheons at noon each Wednesday. Each luncheon will include a devotional message by an area pastor and conclude no later than 1:00.

First Baptist will host each luncheon, and they will continue each Wednesday through March 20.

Speakers:

March 6 Rev. Bill Oldland, St. David's Episcopal

March 13 Rev. Johnny McCledon, Fisher Hill Community Baptist

March 20 Rev. Paul Wood, First United Methodist

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



Remember our Homebound

HOME

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

CONVALESCENT CENTER

Laura Stubbs, Eddie Stubbs

NURSING HOME

Sara Cook, Vera Meadows

RETIREMENT HOME

Polly Edwards

ASSISTED LIVING

Patsy Rushing, Margie
Wannamaker

Newsletter Deadlines

March 15 Digital Version Newsletter

Friday, March 8, 2013

April 1 Newsletter

Friday, March 22, 2013

Sunday School Attendance: Invite a Friend to Join You!

Our Lenten Sunday School Attendance Emphasis is underway. Our six adult classes are competing to see which one can increase its attendance the most as compared to the average attendance during the last quarter of 2012.

The winning class will have the privilege of choosing the agency or ministry which will receive this year's Lenten Offering.

All Sunday School "regulars" are encouraged to invite newcomers to join them in Sunday School. This includes Sunday School drop-outs and persons without a church home.

The Evangelism Ministry Team is posting the previous Sunday's attendance in each adult class. The signs can be found just outside of the church office.

March Birthdays

March 2 Jake Crouse, Christopher Frazier
March 4 Trina Mills
March 5 George Adams
March 6 Mary C. Laney
March 10 Beulah Threatte
March 14 Lois Baker, Ashton Becker
March 20 Delmas (Dick) Griggs, Mabel Foster, R. Walker Laney
March 21 Paul Miles
March 22 Margaret Stanton
March 23 Leighton Becker
March 24 Laura Adams
March 26 Jackson Rushing, Gabriel Watson
March 27 Kathryn Johnson
March 28 John Straughn
March 29 Rob Calhoun
March 30 Sandra Barbour

March Anniversaries

March 3 Mr. & Mrs. C.C. Quick, Mr. & Mrs. John Straughn
March 10 Mr. & Mrs. Homer Stanton
March 17 Mr. & Mrs. George Adams, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Cundiff
March 21 Mr. & Mrs. Doug Carabo
March 27 Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Outen

Salkehatchie Summer Service

Approximately 20-25 youth and adults will be participating in Salkehatchie Summer Service over a two week period this summer. We are planning several events to help raise awareness and money for these missions.

- *To start we would like to ask for water donations to begin now. You may leave your donations in the church office and we will arrange them into a nice display. (We are not taking Gatorade drinks for now. We will let you know when the decision on that is made.)
- *There will probably be a Sunday lunch after worship—at least once!
- *A car wash is being planned for April/May.
- *A pancake breakfast at **FATZ's** will be held **May 18** with all proceeds going to Salkehatchie.

Some of the money raised will be used to purchase power tools that the camp will need this year. (We will bring them home with us.) Some of the folks who usually go to Pendleton will not be going this year. They will be helping to get a camp started in Wyoming. They are the ones who always bring the power tools. If you have extra power tools that you are not using or no longer need, we would love to help you clean out your tool shed!! Just give us a call and we will gladly pick them up.

Most of all, please begin praying now for the camps, the participants, and the home owners who will be served.

If you have any questions or ideas, please contact Debbie Adams at 623-4153 or Jake Keefe at 843-601-2870.



Blood Drive

Honoring Mr. Pete Owens & Mr. Dick Griggs

Time to roll up your sleeve and give the gift of life. FUMC will host a blood drive on Monday, March 11, from 2:00pm—7:00pm, in the fellowship hall, and this time will be extra special because you can give in honor of Mr. Pete Owens and Mr. Dick Griggs. .

Blood is needed in our hospitals every day, so please sign up on the sheet in the lobby by the office, go online to www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code FUMCcheraw, or call Angie at the church office.

Contemporary Worship Each Month

Contemporary worship is now in its second year at First United Methodist Church and is held in the fellowship hall. “Genesis” is held the third Sunday of each month at 8:45. The band and praise singers rehearse once or twice a week. Each month, a “curator” coordinates the service and incorporates ten to twelve other members of the congregation into the leadership of the service. Pastor Paul Wood is usually the preacher. A scripture-based theme is carried throughout each Genesis service.

Serving in March

Hostess

Lib Norton

Altar Guild

Bonnie Cundiff and Ruth Ann Jones

Acolyte

Sarah Allen

Cross Bearer

Head Usher

Theodore Burns

Greeters

March 3 M&M Jerry Therrell

March 10 Carole Hennessee

March 17 M&M Harold Lomas

March 24 Linda Smith

March 31 M&M Curtis Jones

Lobby Door Greeters

March 3 Robert Calhoun, Theodore Burns

March 10 Manfred Kollitz, Joey Mills

March 17 Jim Crawford, Rhett Butler

March 24 Herbert Watts, Allan Chapman

March 31 Jerry Therrell, Jerry Carter

Nursery

March 3 Becky Thompson

March 10 Henrietta Kollitz

March 17 Caroline Crouse

March 24 Sally Smith

March 31 Michelle Rhode

Children's Church

March 3 Amy Lewis

March 10 Doug Carabo

March 17 Dee Dee Pickrel

March 24 Palm Sunday

March 31 Easter

Lay Readers

March 3 Joey Mills

March 10 Rhett Butler

March 17 Jensen Tomberlin

March 24 Bonnie Cundiff

March 31 Micki Lockey

Counters

March 3 Jackie McGee, Jane Mayhew

Alternates: Walter Crosby, John Moore

March 10 Jim Crawford, Sammy Quick,
Donald Baker

Alternates: John Straughn, Zenda Rushing

March 17 Jeff Johnson, Betty Hurst, Jerry
Therrell

Alternates: David McLean, Mary Burr

March 24 Robert Calhoun, Herbert Watts,
Brenda Rayfield

Alternate: Doug Marsh

March 31 Rhett Butler, Shelton Rumph

Alternate: Jerry Tucker

McArn Items

March 3 Canned vegetables

March 10 Canned milk

March 17 Canned meats

March 24 Baby food and items

March 31 Paper products

Salkehatchie Fundraiser, March 17

Participants in Salkehatchie Summer Service will hold a fundraiser luncheon following worship on March 17 in the fellowship. Please mark your calendar to have Sunday lunch at First UMC and to help raise much-needed money for this worthy mission project.

Thank You

Dear Pastor & Friends:

My name is Sandra Johnson, a couple of months back I came to your church for help with an extremely high water bill. The pastor took time out to talk to me with care and wrote a check for \$100.00 to help towards my bill which was over \$600.00. He was so concerned for me and my family. He even wanted a follow-up on if they would give me an adjustment, which thank God they did. I just wanted to thank the pastor and members of First United Methodist Church for their help. May God bless each and everyone of you. Enclosed I have sent you a little \$20.00 offering to help a little for someone like me who needed help. It's no much but, maybe it can do something. Thanks again.

Stay Blessed, *Sandra Johnson*

PS Please keep me in your prayers.

Lenten Offering Boxes

Lenten Offering Boxes will be distributed soon throughout the congregation. Everyone is encouraged to put your spare change into your box and to bring your box back to the church on Easter Sunday. The proceeds will be used for missions. (The winning class in our Sunday School Attendance Campaign will choose the mission project.)

From the Music Director

When the music fades...all is stripped away...and I simply come.

These famous words which belong to Matt Redman's song "Heart of Worship," appropriately conveys what was happening in the life of his congregation. The pastor at his church wanted the congregation to return to the real meaning of worship. In fact, the pastor at this country church in England did something so bold. The pastor had asked for the sound system and band to be taken out of the worship service, and wanted people in the church to focus on why they were there; his simple reminder that Jesus, God, the triune God, is why they were there.

We get so caught up in our own likes and dislikes in the life of the church that we fail to see why we are attending church. We all bring a myriad of talents; but when we enter into God's house, we offer those talents back to God, the source from which all talents come. It is hard to divorce "self" from the gifts that we possess, but often times it is necessary to do so. As an offering of our gifts, can they properly be given to God if we hold on to the credit? Musicians and other performing artists are many times are the worst to boast their talents.

During this season of Lent, we should think about the sacrifices that Christ made on our behalf, which were selfless. At the heart of all sacrifice is Love, nothing else.

To close this newsletter article, I will end with the first verse and chorus of Redman's song.

When the music fades, all is stripped away, and I simply come.
Longing just to bring something that's of worth that will bless your heart.

I'll bring more than a song, for a song in itself, is not what you require.
You search much deeper to the way things appear-
You're looking into my heart.

I'm coming back to the heart of worship and it's all about you,
All about you, Jesus.
I'm sorry for the thing I've made it
When it's all about you,
All about you, Jesus.

Jon Kroepel

United Methodist Women Quarterly Meeting

**Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at 6:30pm
In the Fellowship Hall**

***Special Missions Program**

***Refreshments — Bring finger foods**

***Bring an item for residents of
Palmetto Ridge Assisted Living
(Formerly Cheraw Manor)**

**Suggestions:
Personal Care Items —
Tooth brushes, tooth paste, body wash, body powder
Socks (men's and women's)
Sweat pants/tops (all sizes)
Word search books (large print)**

If you need a ride, call Lib Norton at 537-3623 or 921-6902

March

Friday, March 1, 2013

Cub Scouts set up for Pinewood Derby, 4:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Saturday, March 2, 2013

Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby, 8:00am, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 3, 2013

Adult Choir Rehearsal, 9:00am, Choir Room

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship, 11:00am

Confirmation Class, 4:00pm, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom

United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF), 5:00pm, Youth Hut

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

Taizè Worship Service, 7:00pm, Sanctuary

Monday, March 4, 2013

Boy Scout Meeting, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

United Methodist Women's Quarterly Meeting, 6:30pm, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

WATF Meal, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

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

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

Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm, Choir Room

Sunday, March 10 Bulletin Deadline

Friday, March 8, 2013

March 15 Digital Version Newsletter Deadline

Bus Reserved

Saturday, March 9, 2013

Bus Reserved

Sunday, March 10, 2013

United Methodist Men's Breakfast, 8:30am, Fellowship Hall

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship, 11:00am

United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF), 5:00pm, Youth Hut

Taizè Worship Service, 7:00pm, Sanctuary

Bus Reserved

Monday, March 11, 2013

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

Community Greeters Meeting, 3:30pm, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom

Boy Scout Meeting, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

Tuesday, March 12, 2013

United Methodist Women Circle #1, 10:00am, Parlor

Praise Band Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 13, 2013

WATF Meal, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

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

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

Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm, Choir Room

Sunday, March 17 Bulletin Deadline

Friday, March 15, 2013

Winter Jam Concert, 1:00pm, Columbia

Sunday, March 17, 2013

Genesis, 8:45am, Fellowship Hall

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship, 11:00am

Salkehatchie Fund-Raiser Lunch, 12:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Confirmation Class, 4:00pm, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom

United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF), 5:00pm, Youth Hut

Taizè Worship Service, 7:00pm, Sanctuary

Monday, March 18, 2013

Boy Scout Meeting, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

Pre-School Board Meeting, 6:00pm, Choir Room

Wednesday, March 20, 2013

WATF Meal, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

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

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

Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm, Choir Room

Sunday, March 23 Bulletin Deadline

Bus Reserved

Thursday, March 21, 2013

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

April 1 Newsletter Deadline

Sunday, March 24, 2013

Adult Choir Rehearsal, 9:00am, Choir Room

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship, 11:00am

Confirmation Class, 4:00pm, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom

United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF), 5:00pm, Youth Hut

Taizè Worship Service, 7:00pm, Sanctuary

Monday, March 25, 2013

Boy Scout Meeting, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

Wednesday, March 27, 2013

WATF Meal, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

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

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

Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm, Choir Room

Sunday, March 31 Bulletin Deadline

Sunday, March 31, 2013

Easter Sunrise Service, 6:30am

Adult Choir Rehearsal, 9:00am, Choir Room

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship, 11:00am