

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)

Jonathan E. Kroepel, Director of Music (jkroepel@gmail.com)

Angie Smith, Administrative Assistant (angie@fumccheraw.net)

Address Service
Requested

Kevin D. Chapman, Custodian

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THE CONNECTION

First United Methodist Church, Cheraw, SC

April 15, 2013

Volume 8, Issue 8

Pastor's Reflection

A Time of Transition

Mrs. Lib Norton addressed the congregation at the close of the April 7 worship service. She announced that Kay and I will be moving from First Church and Cheraw at the end of June. Lib also explained that the new pastor who has been tentatively appointed to the church will have an introductory visit later this month with the Staff-Parish Relations Committee. Then in May, Lib will be allowed to announce the name of your new pastor.

So Kay and I are packing up, cleaning up and preparing to leave. This is a time of mixed emotions for the two of us as we prepare to say farewell to each of you, to Cheraw and Chesterfield County and the Hartsville District. It's been a good five years! Yes,

many of us have faced difficulties and significant life-challenges. But we have served the Lord, you and I, **together**. And for Kay and me and for many of you there have been satisfying victories. Ministry has grown here! We have served the Lord arm-in-arm. So Kay and I have a lot to say grace over, and we hope and trust that many of you can say the same thing.

There is still plenty of time to tie up relationships and say good-bye. So let's don't rush it. Moving Day is not until the last Wednesday of June. And may God bless us all on our journeys of faith and service!

Paul

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

March 31

Christel Allred, Cole Allred, Ike Allred, Emily Berry, Kerry Berry, Ok Yo Chang, April Conklin, Drew Copeland, Marie Davidson, Tom Davidson, Marla Eddins, Alyssa Edwards, Laural Edwards, George Furr, Donna Johnson, Johnnie Johnson, Mary Johnson, Chris Kenny, Andy Koontz, Sara Frances Koontz, Tracy Koontz, Jacob Sherrill, Daniel Watts, Ella Watts, Hannah Watts, Ann Wilson, Karen Wilson.

April 7

Jeb Bennett, Patti Board, Ok Yo Chang, Taylor Clark, Bill Coughman, Ginger Coughman, Tracy Koontz, Katie Phillips, John Trussel, Kathy Trussel.

Wednesday At The First (WATF)

The Wednesday At The First (WATF) meal begins at 5:30pm.

Menus for April

April 17

Baked chicken, rice and gravy, cabbage, rolls, dessert and tea.

April 24

Meatloaf, string beans, rice and gravy, biscuits, dessert and tea.

The Social Principles

The congregation is invited to come together to learn about and discuss the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church. Pastor Paul Wood is leading the classes in the fellowship hall on Wednesday nights from 6:30pm until 7:25pm. Come early for dinner!

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

Memorials & Honorariums

In Memory of Bob Lockey

M&M Walter Crosby, M&M Scott Eddins

In Memory of Elaine Motley

M&M Walter Crosby, M&M Mickey Sullivan, M&M Scott Eddins

In Memory of Al Dingle

M&M Walter Crosby

In Memory of Allison Toole

M&M Walter Crosby, M&M Mickey Sullivan, M&M Scott Eddins

In Memory of Robert Gulledege

M&M Walter Crosby

In Memory of Steve Snipes

M&M Larry Spears

In Memory of R.E. Mayhew

M&M Mickey Sullivan

In Memory of Ruby Clark

M&M Mickey Sullivan

In Memory of Jeff Allen

M&M Scott Eddins

In Memory of Betty Ann Crawford

M&M Scott Eddins

In Memory of Lavern Rivers

M&M Scott Eddins

In Honor of Jim Bennett's Birthday

M&M Jerry Therrell

In Honor of Paul & Kay Wood, Rev. David Townsend, Rev. Ed Davidson, Pete Owens, Dick Griggs, Sue McManus and Hubert Kimrey

M&M Scott Eddins

Epworth Mother's Day Offering

EPWORTH IS OUR MINISTRY! Where do children go when DSS has taken them from their families because of abuse or neglect? What about when a mother is struggling with addiction and is neglecting her children? Last year more than 152 of these children found a home through the ministry we share as United Methodists in SC. Epworth Children's Home has been welcoming children in Christ's name for 117 years through the generous support of churches like ours! We will participate in the annual Mother's Day Offering on Sunday, May 12, to benefit the children who call Epworth home. Please be in prayerful consideration of what God is calling you to give to this valuable and life changing ministry. For more information about Epworth Children's Home, you can visit them on the web at www.epworthchildrenshome.org or find them on Facebook.



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

May 1 Newsletter

Monday, April 22, 2013

May 15 Digital Version Newsletter

Thursday, May 9, 2013

SC Methodist Historical Society

The South Carolina Methodist Historical Society will meet at First UMC Saturday April 20. After a short business meeting in our fellowship hall, the public is invited to join Society members on a tour presented by Cheryl Postlewait (Church Historian) and Rev. Dr. Paul Wood. The tour, entitled "Church History Made Visible," will begin in the sanctuary at 10:45. Cheryl and Paul will demonstrate how First UMC has used innovative as well as traditional methods to interpret the history of the congregation and the town.

The tour will also include stops at Old St. David's, Laney Landing (where Francis Asbury crossed the Great Pee Dee during his first journey into South Carolina) and Wesley United Methodist Church on Greene Street. Before the tour's conclusion (around 12:45), tour participants will be introduced to Cheraw's award-winning cellphone tour.

It is an honor for First United Methodist Church to host the Society's meeting and to conduct the tour. Cheryl and Paul invite you to join them on April 20.

When You Need Kevin's Assistance.....

Many of us on occasion need the assistance of our custodian Kevin Chapman. He is happy and able to help locate items, move chairs and tables and much more. But interruptions to his schedule can be detrimental. When you need Kevin's help, you are asked to contact Angie Smith in the church office at 537-7002. Angie fits your request into the schedule so that Kevin can be looking for you at a pre-determined time. Feel free to continue calling upon Kevin.

Calling All Youth Who Love to Sing God's Praises!

Spirit Singers is a group of teens from South Carolina who love spreading the Gospel through song. We need more voices for the 2013-2014 choir. Youth do not need to be soloist quality or know how to read music. We audition to ensure the vocal balance of the choir. If you are interested in singing with Spirit Singers and are age 13 – 17, please check us out at www.umcsc.org ! Click on Ministries, Youth, Spirit Singers brochure and application. Scholarships are available.

Thank you!

Judy Suggs, Choir Dean, Spirit Singers
(Contact Judy at 803-417-8010 or suggsp@comporium.net.)

Sunday School Perfect Attendance for March

Mary Burr, Jane Campbell, Ruth Ann Jones, JoAnne Morgan, Flo Outen, Sarah M. Therrell, Sara Wicker, Gailya Wilson, Ellison Outen, Jerry Turner, Jerry Carter, Dallas Keefe, Robert Calhoun, Jim Bennett, Jon Kroepel, Sawyer Becker, Ashton Becker, Allison Becker, Cheryl Postlewait, Edith Quick, Brenda Rayfield, Syble Sanderson, Anne Townsend, David Townsend, Todd Becker, Nancy Wagnon, Judy Dixon, Susan Eschenfelder, Amy Lewis, John Moore, Pal Moore, Mary Lou Long, Jenny Keefe, Jacob Rohde, Scott Eddins.



Worship Perfect Attendance for March

Allison Becker, Ashton Becker, Leighton Becker, Todd Becker, Sawyer Becker, Jim Bennett, Mary Burr, Robert Calhoun, Sarah Jefferies Calhoun, Jane Campbell, Gerald Carter, Bonnie Cundiff, Ronnie Cundiff, Judy Dixon, Susan Eschenfelder, Ruth Ann Jones, Dallas Keefe, Jenny Keefe, Amy Lewis, Thomas McKinnon, Sharon McKinnon, Ruth Middleton, John Moore, Pal Moore, JoAnne Morgan, Ellison Outen, Flo Outen, Cheryl Postlewait, Edith Quick, Syble Sanderson, Shep Straughn, Sarah M. Therrell, Anne Townsend, David Townsend, Jerry Turner, Nancy Wagnon, Sara Wicker, Gailya Wilson.

“GENESIS”

Our contemporary service is held on the third Sunday of each month. Genesis will begin at 8:45am on Sunday, April 21.

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.

Summer Camp

Parents, the United Methodist camp in the South Carolina mountains, Asbury Hills, has announced a full summer schedule for children and teens. Check out the camp at www.asburyhills.org. You can also find brochures in the church office.

Salkehatchie Needs

Skill saw	5 gal Gatorade cooler	Ratchets and sockets
Drills	Water	55 gal trash cans
Hand sanders	Powder Gatorade	Magnetic nail picker
Electric sanders	Razor knives	Bottle jacks
Jig saw	Screw drivers	Caulking guns
Drill bits	Nut drives	Scrapers
Screws	Hedge trimmers	Mud knives
Bits	Nail aprons	Air compressors
Chop saws	Screw guns	Tarps (for covering roofs)
Levels	Hammers	55 gal trash bags
Squares	Water hose	
Ladders	Table saw	Paul Bennett at The
Tape measures	Extension cords	Paperhouse knows how
Chalk lines	Post hole diggers	much and which of the
Roof shovels	Nail punch	following we need:
Pry bars	Saw zall	Plates, bowls, cups, des-
Crow bars	Ax	sert plates, forks, knives,
Paint brushes	Shovels	spoons, napkins, paper
Rakes	Wrenches	towels.

Sunday School Attendance Campaign

Congratulations to the Ezers Class which won our Sunday School Attendance Campaign. The ladies of the Ezers Class had the highest percentage gain in attendance during Lent as compared to their average attendance in the last quarter of 2012. The Ezers Class inspires all of us to be part of the learning and fellowship life of a Sunday School class.

From First Methodist Preschool and Nursery

The four year olds made their trip to Rockingham to Discovery Place. I have never seen so many happy faces. They came in to tell me all about what they had done, and said that it was the best field trip ever. Then they all got to play on the Sonic playground and eat lunch. What a treat for everyone!

Elaine, our photographer, was here and brought bunnies! The animal lover that I am, I took one in my arms and cuddled with it a little too long. I had to make a quick trip home to change clothes. The children have mixed feelings; one year they love them and the next year they are scared. You just never know. Elaine is so good with them; she figures out how to get the bunny in the picture without them knowing. She has taken pictures of them making cookies, playing golf, and even fairy tale pictures.

We had our annual Trike-A-Thon in our hallways on March 21. The children were allowed to bring their trikes, bikes, or scooters and ride up and down the hall. They were racing back and forth, having spinouts and bump ups. They were so funny. Some were straddling their bikes and walking them, others were pushing them, and some were just sitting. All together we raised over \$400 for St. Jude's. This was enough to buy oxygen for one day.

Praise God for St. Jude's Hospital!!

In Christian Faith,

Catreenna

From the Director of Music

How do others worship God around the world? Do they sing the same songs of praise that we sing? Of course, the answer would be no. No, each ethnicity, country, culture, sub-culture has its own particular way of worshiping God. Even in our own congregation, we have different ways of worshiping God.

I may have surprised you during the Easter Morning Service when I decided to teach a new song without accompaniment. It was my intention to teach the congregation to look beyond the four walls of our church building; to take a glance of how some Christians in the Caribbean Islands proclaim Christ's Resurrection. When we learn new songs from other countries, we begin to understand that we are part of a much larger whole.

My interests have changed a great deal since I was a little boy. When I was around 4 or 5 years of age, it was my dream of being a church musician (and that has not changed) and an employee of Caterpillar. One of my earliest memories is one of staying with paternal grandparents; and I recall the time of day when my grandpa would return home from his job at CAT. He had worked his way through the various CAT factories, and ended his career as an inspector of the popular Caterpillar D9 track-type tractor (bulldozer).

Unlike my paternal grandmother, who was Valedictorian of her high school class, my grandpa had to attend summer school in order to

graduate. My grandpa knew that if he was going to advance through his career, he would have to apply himself and learn advanced mathematics, trigonometry, and algebra. The math that he learned while in high school didn't benefit him as much, as he was a simple farm boy, who had very few opportunities to apply the lessons that he had learned. This, however, changed when he was "forced" to apply the lessons in math to his daily work.

The same can be said of the lessons we learn from the Living Word of God; if we sit in church, listen to the preacher proclaim the word, and fail to find a practical application for it, we, too, have wasted precious moments of life. There are new ways we can show the Love of Jesus each and every day. LOVE. Love is the *raison d'être*, or His reason of being, for his incarnation, suffering, death, and resurrection. There are new concepts that can be gleaned from the lessons we learned long ago.

Today, I remain heavily engrossed in the field of music, but my desire to be a CAT employee has waned. I find myself delving deeper into the past, researching lost and forgotten bits of liturgy, to find new ways of applying them to my life's work.

May you endeavor to reach out to those in need and be the light of Christ in a dark world.

Happy Easter!

Jon Kroepel

Easter Egg Hunt

Although the rain came just in time for the Easter Egg Hunt and it had to be moved indoors, a good time was still enjoyed by all.



April

Monday, April 15, 2013

Boy Scout Meeting, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

Pre-School Board Meeting, 6:00pm, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom

Tuesday, April 16, 2013

Praise Band Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, April 17, 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, April 21 Bulletin Deadline

Thursday, April 18, 2013

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

Saturday, April 20, 2013

FATZ Missions Breakfast Fundraiser, 8:00am, FATZ Café

SC Conference Historical Society, 9:00am—2:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Church and Bus Reserved

Sunday, April 21, 2013

Genesis Service, 8:45am, Fellowship Hall

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

Praise Singers Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Monday, April 22, 2013

Boy Scout Meeting, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

Tuesday, April 23, 2013

Praise Band Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, April 24, 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, April 28 Bulletin Deadline

Saturday, April 27, 2013

Cub Scouts Blue & Gold Banquet, 12:00pm—8:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, April 28, 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

Praise Singers Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Monday, April 29, 2013

Boy Scout Meeting, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

Tuesday, April 30, 2013

Praise Band Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall