

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. Kurt McPherson, Pastor (pastor@fumccheraw.net)

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

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THE CONNECTION

First United Methodist Church, Cheraw, SC

September 15, 2013 Volume 8, Issue 18

Pastor's Reflection

Did you know that the first impression guests leave with when visiting a church determines whether they will be back? So what is it that goes into a good first impression?

Researchers Gary L. McIntosh and Charles Arn interviewed a number of people who had recently visited a church for the first time. They were asked what made the biggest impression on them and what effect it had on their decision to return the following week. It was *the friendliness of the people*. Regardless of denominational affiliation, attractiveness of the facilities, eloquence of the preacher, breadth of the program, or quality of the music, visitors seem to be most impressed with friendliness.

So how do visitors determine the friendliness of a church? The interviewees' response was simple, yet insightful. Visitors determine the friendliness of a church by *the number of people who talk with them!* That's it. Simple but significant!

They were asked one more question: "When did you conclude that the church you visited was — or was not — a friendly church?" More than any

other, the critical time for making a friendly impression is the *ten minutes right after the service ends*.

Consider the experience as perceived by newcomers. Entering the worship center is experienced as a sort of individual act, since people do it more or less separately. Leaving, however, is a group experience, since it happens together. This can be the loneliest moment of all if everyone else is greeting friends as the visitor walks up the aisle in a pocket of isolated silence.

It's common for churches to include a time of greeting during the service as we have done from time to time. This is nice but not particularly helpful in terms of welcoming newcomers. Most people simply turn to the persons next to them, smile, shake their hands, say good morning, and then go on.

Some creative churches have moved the greeting time to the last event of the service. That is why after I give the closing benediction, I then encourage people to greet their neighbor. This makes it easier to have a conversation that isn't abruptly cut short by the next event in the service.

In Christ, *Kurt*

Our Visitors

September 1

Mimi Coffey, Drew Copelan, Marie Davidson, Tom Davidson, Carly Douglas, Barbara Eutsler, William Eutsler, Jr.

September 8

Ok Yo Chang, Kevin Chapman, Marie Davidson, Tom Davidson, Barbara Eutsler, William Eutlser, Jr.,

Newsletter Deadlines

October 1 Newsletter

Monday, September 23, 2013

October 15 Newsletter

Wednesday, October 9, 2013

J.O.Y Club

This month's meeting will be on Thursday, September 19 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. The hostesses are Gailya Wilson, Ruth Middleton and Joanne Morgan. The meal will be catered by Lobie Morgan and Renee Creech at a cost of \$7.00 per person.

All seniors are invited to attend. Please sign up with your caller or call Mary Burr at 537-3920 by Monday, September 16.

We look forward to seeing you and enjoying fun, fellowship and good food.

Needed Item

First Methodist Pre-School and Nursery uses plastic grocery bags for putting soiled diapers and other dirty items in. As you get bags would you please save them up and bring them to the church to be used in the Pre-School and Nursery.

Remember our Homebound



Frances Laney

CONVALESCENT CENTER

Laura Stubbs, Eddie Stubbs

NURSING HOME

Sara Cook, Vera Meadows

RETIREMENT HOME

Polly Edwards

HOME

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

ASSISTED LIVING

Patsy Rushing, Margie Wanner

Red Bird Mission Trip

This year's Red Bird Mission Trip to Kentucky is scheduled for October 20—26. Your financial support as well as your prayers will be greatly appreciated.

Memorials

Memory of Dr. Ervin Funderburk

M&M Keith Smith

Sunday School Perfect Attendance for August

Layton Becker, Hollis Dusa, Drew Copeland, Michelle Rohde, Judy Dixon, Amy Lewis, Susan Eschenfelder, Ashton Becker, Sawyer Becker, Ellison Outen, Jim Bennett, John Sanderson, Greg Sanderson, Jon Kroepel, Roger Wolfe, Jerry Carter, Sammy Quick, Doug Wilson, Joey Mills, Zach Carabo, Sophie McPherson, Martha Bentley, Jane Campbell, JoAnne Morgan, Lib Norton, Linda Smith



Worship Perfect Attendance for August

Martha Bentley, Jane Campbell, Amanda Carabo, Doug Carabo, Zach Carabo, Jerry Carter, Bonnie Cundiff, Ronnie Cundiff, Ed Davidson, Judy Dixon, Jimmy Duffy, Susan Eschenfelder, Bill Eutsler, Amy Goodwin, Megan Goodwin, Curtis Jones, Julia Jones, Thomas McKinnon, Sharon McKinnon, JoAnne Morgan, Lib Norton, Flo Outen, Cheryl Postlewait, Edith Quick, Sammy Quick, Greg Robinson, Michelle Rohde, Nancy Wagnon, Shirley Walton, Gailya Wilson, Margaret Wolfe, Roger Wolfe.

Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser

The Missions Team will be sponsoring a Spaghetti Lunch on Sunday, September 15. The proceeds from this lunch will go toward the Red Bird Mission Trip. Since this will be Genesis Sunday, lunch will be served at 11am and at noon. We hope you will plan now to attend and financially support our members who will participate in this mission. Please begin praying for this mission trip and all of the participants: John Moore, Pal Moore, Jerry Therrell, Bill Stubbs, Wilford Goforth, Bonnie Williams, Billy Lynch, Mary Lynch, Donald Therrell, Denise Therrell, Richard Stafford, and Willie Roberts.

Red Cross Blood Drive

First United Methodist Church will host a blood drive on Tuesday, October 22 from 2—7pm in the Fellowship Hall. To schedule an appointment you can call the church office at 537-7002 or go online to www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code FUMCcheraw. The earlier you schedule your appointment the more likely you are to get the time you want.



"GENESIS"

Our contemporary service is held on the third Sunday of each month. Genesis will begin at 8:45am on Sunday, October 20.

Blessing of the Hands

As a means of showing our appreciation to those in our church who are active educators, the Christian Education Ministry Team will be sponsoring a Blessing of the Hands on Sunday, September 22 during the 11:00 service. If you are employed by any public or private school in Cheraw, please make plans to participate in this ceremony by sitting together at the front of the church.

To show our appreciation of many years working in the Cheraw area schools, we would also like retired teachers in our congregation to sit together at the front of the church.

Wednesday At The First (WATF) Menus

The Wednesday At The First (WATF) meal begins at 5:30pm and is cooked by Carolyn Gary; the cost is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children under 12 years old (Maximum \$21 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 the church office no later than 3pm on Monday.

September 18— Pork loin, yellow rice, butter beans, rolls, dessert and tea.

September 25—Meat loaf, mashed potatoes, cabbage, corn bread, dessert and tea.

October 2—Chicken bog, beans, corn fritters, dessert and tea.

The Walk to Emmaus

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them. Luke 24:15

The Men's Walk to Emmaus will be held October 3-6. The Women's Walk will be held October 17-20. If you are interested in becoming a participant, please contact either Mary Lou Long at 537-7949 or Micki Lockey at 537-4612.

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Our contributions are needed for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Please share of your surplus with those who have precious little on which to live. (Write a check to FUMC and designate it or part of it for "Pastor's Discretionary Fund.")

From the Finance Committee

2013 Estimate of Giving Update

100% Giving Income Expected for 8 months ending August 31— \$217,945

Actual Giving Income Received for 8 months ending August 31— \$211,611

Deficit — \$ 6,334

Thank you to all members for your financial support of First United Methodist Church. Please try to keep your giving up-to-date if at all possible.

Building Use and Scheduling Meetings

If you wish to use the building or schedule meetings at the church, please contact Angie in the church office. In doing so, you are assured that the room will be set up and the AC is set for your meeting.

Lost and Found Items

There are several items in the church office that have been found and turned in. If you are missing an item, come by the office and see if it has been turned in.



POSITION OPEN FOR DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

First Methodist Church is seeking a full-time Director of Children and Youth Ministries. This staff member will be responsible for planning and managing the congregation's ministries with youth and children. This position requires a person who is enthusiastic, energetic, dynamic and interested in building a program of learning, service, worship and fellowship.

Send resume to sprc@fumccheraw.net or to First United Methodist Church, Attn: Mrs. Lib Norton, 117 Third Street, Cheraw, SC 29520.

September

Sunday, September 15, 2013

Genesis Service, 8:45am, Fellowship Hall

Sunday School, 10:00am

Missions Fundraiser Meal for Red Bird, 11am-1pm, Fellowship Hall

Worship, 11:00am

UMYF (United Methodist Youth Fellowship), 5-7:00pm, Youth Hut

Praise Singers Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 16, 2013

Community Greeters Meeting, 3:30pm, Fellowship Hall

Boy Scout Meeting, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

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

Tuesday, September 17, 2013

Praise Band Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, September 18, 2013

Sunday, September 22 Bulletin Deadline

Thursday, September 19, 2013

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

Sunday, September 22, 2013

Adult Choir Practice, 8:30am, Choir Room

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship, 11:00am

UMYF (United Methodist Youth Fellowship), 5-7:00pm, Youth Hut

Praise Singers Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 23, 2013

Boy Scout Meeting, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

Tuesday, September 24, 2013

Praise Band Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

October 1 Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Sunday, September 29 Bulletin Deadline

Sunday, September 29, 2013

Adult Choir Practice, 8:30am, Choir Room

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship, 11:00am

UMYF (United Methodist Youth Fellowship), 5-7:00pm, Youth Hut

Praise Singers Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 30, 2013

Boy Scout Meeting, 6:00pm, Scout Hut