



Volume 11, Issue 1

JANUARY 2016



THE CONNECTION

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Yes, it is still Christmas! My hope and prayer is that all of us continue to celebrate the virgin birth of our Lord and Savior on that first Christmas for the entire Christmas season. And I pray as we bring in a new year, 2016 (can you believe it is here already!), that the joy of the Lord swells in us to the point of overflowing to everyone we meet!

I say this not only because we are called to live our lives as Christ-like as possible by the power of the Almighty, but because our community, state, country and beyond are in need of all Christians, from the very youngest believers through our elders, to stand boldly in the Christian faith and share unabashedly our joy of the Lord. We are called to do this by committing ourselves to God as first priority in our lives by both example and word each and every day. We may not know the positive influence we may have in another person's life. And the opposite is true as well. Remember that it would be better to have a millstone around our neck and thrown into the sea than to cause someone to stumble in their faith.

Jesus said to his disciples: "Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come. It would be better for them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to stumble. So

watch yourselves. ... So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'" (from Luke 17, NIV)

I have often prayed for forgiveness of poor choices and actions I have taken plus any negative impact they may have caused others. I pray regularly for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the listening obedient ear to follow that guidance. So as we begin 2016, let us remember who we are and who's we are. And please keep in mind our collective responsibility to raise our children in the Christian faith remembering the vows we as a congregation take as infants and others are baptized and public confessions of faith are made as new members joining the Church.

We vow to proclaim the Good News and live according to the example of Christ with the help of God. We vow to pray for and surround *these persons* with love and forgiveness to nurture them. We also renew our covenant to participate faithfully "in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ." May these vows ring true now and throughout our future days living this gift of life.

Grace, peace and blessings,

Pastor Jack

Our Staff

Rev. Jack Vickers, Pastor
(jhvickersiii@gmail.com)

Angie Smith, Administrative Assistant
(fumcangiesmith@gmail.com)

Sara Sanderson, Director of Children and Youth
(saralsanderson@hotmail.com)

Mimi Coffey, Director of Pre-School and Nursery (fmpsn2212@yahoo.com)

Dr. Shane Robertson, Director of Music
(srobertson@chesterfieldschools.org)

COMING UP

*United Methodist Men Breakfast, Sunday, January 10, 8:30am, Fellowship Hall.

*J.O.Y Club, Thursday, January 21, 12:00pm, Fellowship Hall

*Newsletter Deadline, Friday, January 22

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



Become a Boy Scout

Thank You Notes

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your generosity during this Christmas season. Our Christmas gift is greatly appreciated. We are truly blessed to work with a supportive church.

Angie, Sara, Jack and Shane

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for all the gifts that were given to me during the Christmas Season. It is truly a blessing to work in such a great church. Love you all.

Angie

From the FUMC Pre-School and Nursery

The Preschool and Nursery is back in operation after having a week off for Christmas. Before the break, the children enjoyed a fun "spirit week" in which they wore something special for Christmas each day. They looked adorable, of course! On the last day before the break, we had Polar Express Day. The children and teachers wore their pajamas to school and watched the Polar Express movie. They had

treats in their classrooms and celebrated most of the day. The three and four year olds presented a Christmas program for their families on December 17th. If you missed it, you missed out on a true blessing. They were sweeter and cuter than ever! We do not have any field trips planned until February, but the children are enjoying playing outside on these warm days. The school is currently full with 81 children enrolled. The

waiting list has 57 names at this time.

Happy New Year to you all!
May 2016 be your best year yet!

In Him,

Mimi

What Accounts can my Memorials be Put in?

If you give memorials to FUMC you can designate that they go to a number of different areas of the church. Listed below are areas that your memorials can be designated for:

Endowment Fund
Memorial Fund
Music Fund
Red Bird

Salkehatchie Summer Service
Bus Fund
Youth Ministries
Children Ministries
Contemporary Service Fund
Building Upkeep Fund
Parsonage Upkeep Fund
Wednesday at the First (WATF)
Relay for Life
Grounds Upkeep Fund

Memorials can be designated to go to a number of different areas.

Pastor's Discretionary Fund
Scholarships (Streete, Norton, Harris, Burr, Hook, Eutsler, Brasington, and Laney)

One Million Books

The million book drive is an ongoing project. A box is outside the church office for you to place your new books. There are 140 children in Head Start. We want to collect enough books to give to each of these children. Please bring your

books and put them in the box.

books needed

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Contributions are needed for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Please share 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.")



Giving to those less fortunate

Serving in January

Altar Guild

Sarah M. Therrell

Hostess

Kelly Dusa

Head Usher

Anthony Harris

Acolyte and Cross Bearer

Alex Lee (A) Lydia Lee (CB)

Greeters

Jan. 3 Betty Thraillkill

Jan. 10 M&M Heath Ruffner

Jan. 17 M&M David Rohde

Jan. 24 M&M Joey Mills

Jan. 31 Kristina & Sarah Allen

Lobby Door Greeters

Jan. 3 Robert Calhoun, Theodore Burns

Jan. 10 Manfred Kollitz, Joey Mills

Jan. 17 Jim Crawford, Rhett Butler

Jan. 24 Herbert Watts

Jan. 31 Jerry Therrell, Jerry Carter

Nursery

Jan. 3 Caroline Berry, Sally Smith

Jan. 10 Caroline Berry, Mary Charlotte Dusa

Jan. 17 Caroline Berry, Kim Williamson

Jan. 24 Caroline Berry, Jean McLean

Jan. 31 Caroline Berry, Alayna Carabo

Children's Church

None during January

Lay Readers

Jan. 3 Eric Dusa

Jan. 10 Lib Norton

Jan. 17 Pam Baker

Jan. 24 Sammy Quick

Jan. 31 Sarah M. Therrell

Flower Calendar

Jan. 3 Communion

Jan. 10 OPEN

Jan. 17 Sue McManus

Jan. 24 Eutsler

Jan. 31 OPEN

Counters

Jan. 3 Jane Mayhew, John Moore

Alternate: Mary Burr

Jan. 10 Jim Crawford, Sammy Quick, Roger Wolfe

Alternates: John Straughn, Zenda Rushing

Jan. 17 Jeff Johnson, Betty Hurst, Jerry Therrell

Alternates: David McLean, Walter Crosby

Jan. 24 Robert Calhoun, Herbert Watts, Brenda Rayfield

Alternate: Doug Marsh

Jan. 31 Rhett Butler, Shelton Rumph

Alternate: Jerry Tucker

McArn Items

Jan. 3 Canned vegetables

Jan. 10 Canned meats

Jan. 17 Dry goods

Jan. 24 Paper products

Jan. 31 Baby items (food, diapers, wipes, lotions, etc.)

February Newsletter Deadline

Friday, January 22, 2016

Memorials

IN MEMORY OF DR. P.W. OWENS

M&M Keith Smith

IN MEMORY OF MABEL DOWDY

M&M Keith Smith

Perfect Attendance for November

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Ashton Becker, Theodore Burns, Mary Burr, Jerry Carter, Bonnie Cundiff, Susan Eschenfelder, Mabel Foster, Curtis Jones, Julia Jones, Amy Lewis, Harold Lomas, JoAnne Morgan, Ellison Outen, Flo Outen, Pete Owens, Brenda Rayfield, Shane Robertson, David Rohde, Jacob Rohde, Michelle Rohde, Thomas Samuel, Jerry Therrell, Sarah Margaret Therrell, Jerry Turner, Druie Walker, Doug Wilson, Gailya Wilson, Margaret Wolfe.

WORSHIP

Allison Becker, Ashton Becker, Leighton Becker, Sawyer Becker, Todd Becker, Jerry Carter, Bonnie Cundiff, Ronnie Cundiff, Susan Eschenfelder, Kathryn Johnson, Amy Lewis, Harold Lomas, Sharon McKinnon, Thomas McKinnon, Ellison Outen, Flo Outen, David Rohde, Bobby Spears, Sarah Margaret Therrell, Jerry Turner, Druie Walker





Our Visitors

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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.

We're on the Web!
www.cherawfirstumc.org

November 22

Linda Coffy, Lyle Coffy, Drew Copeland, Charlie Inabinet, Kate Reed Inabinet, Emily Keeney, Hayden Keeney, Olivia Samuel, Thomas Samuel, Susa Stripling

November 29

Ok Yo Chang, Linda Coffy, Lyle Coffy, Hayden Keeney, Collin McManus, Klint McManus, Keyshawn Melton, Charles Owens, Ximena Perez, Olivia Samuel, Thomas Samuel, Tony Thrailkill,

December 6

Ok Yo Chang, Lyle Coffy, Drew Copeland, Terry Crocker, Chappell Hurst, John Ruffner, Avonlea Samuel, Christina Samuel, Olivia Samuel, Thomas Samuel, Kiersten Shepard, Lawson Shepard

December 13

Ok Yo Chang, Gloria Chapman, Linda Coffy, Lyle Coffy, Pat Davis, Jerry Griggs, Sharon Griggs, Angela Holiday, Olivia Samuel, Thomas Samuel,

Birthdays and Anniversaries in January

BIRTHDAYS

Jan. 2 Hollis Dusa
Jan. 4 Reagan Freeman
Jan. 5 Jeffery Johnson, Margaret Wolfe
Jan. 12 Jerry Carter
Jan. 14 Zachary Carabo
Jan. 15 Sara Wicker
Jan. 17 JoAnne Morgan
Jan. 20 Shellie Stanton, Kay VanDeman, Anne Townsend, Carolyn Wallace
Jan. 21 Kaitlyn Nicole Freeman, Abbey Pickrel
Jan. 22 Mary Kathryn Wagnon, Rhett Butler
Jan. 24 Britt Baxley, Aiden Freeman
Jan. 25 Kate Wilson Kollitz
Jan. 28 Austin Newton

Jan. 29 Sally Smith

Jan. 31 Becky Moore

ANNIVERSARIES

Jan. 7 M&M James Joplin

Jan. 9 M&M Harold Lomas

Jan. 26 M&M Steven Humphries

Jan. 28 M&M Tavener Threatte



Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary

January Calendar

Sunday, January 3, 2016

Sunday School, 10:00am
Worship, 11:00am (Children's Christmas Program)
United Methodist Youth Fellowship, 5-7:00pm, Youth Hut

Monday, January 4, 2016

Boy Scouts, 6:00pm, Boy Scout Hut

Wednesday, January 6, 2016

WATF (Wednesday At The First) Children's Activities (K-5th Grade), 4:30pm, Kid's Nook
Handbells, 6:00pm, Choir Room
Adult Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room
Sunday, January 10 Bulletin Deadline, 12:00pm

Sunday, January 10, 2016

United Methodist Men (UMM) Breakfast, 8:30am, Fellowship Hall
Sunday School, 10:00am
Worship, 11:00am
United Methodist Youth Fellowship, 5-7:00pm, Youth Hut

Monday, January 11, 2016

Boy Scouts, 6:00pm, Boy Scout Hut

Wednesday, January 13, 2016

WATF (Wednesday At The First) Children's Activities (K-5th Grade), 4:30pm, Kid's Nook
Handbells, 6:00pm, Choir Room
Adult Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room
Sunday, January 17 Bulletin Deadline 12:00pm

Sunday, January 17, 2016

Sunday School, 10:00am
Worship, 11:00am
United Methodist Youth Fellowship, 5-7:00pm, Youth Hut

Monday, January 18, 2016

Boy Scouts, 6:00pm, Boy Scout Hut
Office closed for Martin Luther King Holiday

Wednesday, January 20, 2016

WATF (Wednesday At The First) Children's Activities (K-5th Grade), 4:30pm, Kid's Nook
Handbells, 6:00pm, Choir Room
Adult Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room
Sunday, January 24 Bulletin Deadline, 12:00pm

Thursday, January 21, 2016

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

Friday, January 22, 2016

February Newsletter Deadline

Saturday, January 23, 2016

Fellowship Hall Reserved

Sunday, January 24, 2016

Sunday School, 10:00am
Worship, 11:00am
United Methodist Youth Fellowship, 5-7:00pm, Youth Hut

Monday, January 25, 2016

Boy Scouts, 6:00pm, Boy Scout Hut

Wednesday, January 27, 2016

WATF (Wednesday At The First) Children's Activities (K-5th Grade), 4:30pm, Kid's Nook
Handbells, 6:00pm, Choir Room
Adult Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room
Sunday, January 31 Bulletin Deadline 12:00pm

Sunday, January 31, 2016

Sunday School, 10:00am
Worship, 11:00am
United Methodist Youth Fellowship, 5-7:00pm, Youth Hut

NOTE: The schedule for United Methodist Women's Circle Meetings will be posted in the weekly bulletin.