

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT FUMC

### Sunday, December 4, 2016

10:00am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship Service

### Monday, December 5, 2016

6:00pm Boy Scout Meeting (Scout Hut)

### Wednesday, December 7, 2016

12:00pm Sunday, December 11 Bulletin Deadline  
5:30pm WATF Meal  
5:30pm UMYF activities  
6:00pm Handbell Practice (Choir Room)  
6:30pm WATF Bible Study for Adults

### Friday, December 9, 2016

7:00pm Methodist Men's Sunday School Class Christmas Party (Fellowship Hall)

### Sunday, December 11, 2016

8:30am UMM Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)  
10:00am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship Service (Children/Youth Christmas Program)  
3:00pm UMW Quarterly Meeting (Parlor)

**ADVENT HYMN SING** — I am not a pastor who chooses to utilize Advent hymns and save the Christmas hymns until late in the month of December. These great hymns are meant to be sung in more than just a limited venue. I will select and use a few of the Advent hymns, but to help us enjoy the music of the season, we will participate in a hymn sing in the second hymn spot in our service of worship. Such a change is not a major thing, especially since our society moves straight from Halloween to Christmas, skipping Thanksgiving altogether. Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for the coming to God's greatest gift. Jesus is the only reason for the season.

**PIANO AND ORGAN CONCERT** — Mark your Calendars! Piano and Organ concert on Dec.18 at 6:30pm. Dr. David Thompson will join us again this year along with Barbara Dickson.

#### SERVING TODAY

<b>Greeters:</b> M&M Ellison Outen	<b>Head Usher:</b> Robert Calhoun
<b>Lobby Door Greeter:</b> Pete Owens	<b>Hostess:</b> Marsha Butler
<b>Altar Guild:</b> Kim Williamson and Susan Marsh	<b>Acolyte:</b> Alayna Carabo
<b>Next Week's Lay Reader:</b> Greg Sanderson	<b>Cross Bearer:</b> Zachary Carabo
<b>Flowers Next Sunday:</b> Advent Poinsettias	<b>McArn Item:</b> Canned meats
<b>Counters:</b> Jane Mayhew, John Moore	
<b>Alternate Counter:</b> Mary Burr	
<b>Nursery:</b> Caroline Berry & Sarah Allen	
<b>Worship Attendance, Nov. 27</b> — 147; <b>Attendance in Sunday School, Nov. 27</b> — 86	
<b>Received to Date:</b> \$367,089.79 <b>Expenses to Date:</b> \$361,583.83	
<b>Needed Weekly:</b> \$6,523.01 <b>Received week of Nov. 27:</b> \$2,460.57	

#### FUMC STAFF

Rev. Ken Timmerman, Pastor (timmerman@sc.rr.com)  
Angie Smith, Administrative Assistant (fumcangiesmith@gmail.com)  
Sara Sanderson, Director of Children/Youth (saralsanderson@hotmail.com)  
Mimi Coffey, Director of Preschool/Nursery (fmprsn2212@yahoo.com)  
Dr. Shane Robertson, Director of Music (drshanerobertson83@gmail.com)



First United Methodist Church  
A Service of Christian Worship  
The church with a heart, in the heart of Cheraw.



**December 4, 2016**  
**2nd Sunday of Advent**  
**Liturgical Color: Purple**

**\*\*Please take a moment and silence your cellphone for the duration of the worship service.**  
**This is a sacred time when God communes with His people.**

**Prelude** *Please sign the attendance pad and pass it to everyone on the pew.*

**\*Call to Worship** Rev. Ken Timmerman

**\*Hymn No. 567 in the Hymnal** "Heralds Of Christ" Lighting of Love Advent Candle

**Love Advent Candle Reading** Leighton Becker  
We light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Way. May the Word sent from God through the prophets lead us to the way of salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel.

**Psalter No. 817 in the Hymnal** **Psalm 97** Sammy Quick, Lay Reader

**\*Affirmation of Faith No. 881** **The Apostles' Creed** Lay Reader

**\*Gloria Patri**

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ** Rev. Timmerman

**Life Lessons for Young Learners**

**Pastoral and Lord's Prayer** Rev. Timmerman

**Gathering God's Tithes and Our Offerings** Rev. Timmerman

**\*Offertory**

**\*Doxology No. 95** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Old 100th

**\*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**\*Hymn Sing No. 219, 218 & 217 in the Hymnal (v 1, 219; v 1, 218; vs 1&4, 217)**  
"What Child is This?", "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear & "Away in a Manger "

**Scripture Reading** **Matthew 24: 36-44** Rev. Timmerman

**Sermon** "Get Ready!" Rev. Timmerman

## \*Hymn No. 238 in the Hymnal “Angels, We Have Heard on High”

*(During the hymn you are invited to come to the chancel rail, kneel, pray to God, then return to your pew when ready.)*

## \*Benediction

Rev. Timmerman

## \*Postlude

### \*Indicates where you should stand if you are able.

**WELCOME VISITORS** — We welcome our visitors! Please fill out the attendance sheet with your contact information. If you wish to join the church by Affirmation of Faith or Transfer of Membership, please notify Rev. Ken at the church office at 843-537-7002.

**OUR PRAYER LIST** — our President, all who defend our nation, Sue Nichols (Pam Humphries’ mother), Larry Heustess (Lynn Tweed’s friend), Chap Allison (Holly Miles’ friend), Bobby Sellers (Angie Smith’s uncle), Raul Wetternek, Micki Lockey, Carl Li, Dot Jordan, Miriam H. Michaels (Judy Jones’ sister), Calvin Freeman (Betty Board’s brother), Jim Curry (Betty Board’s cousin), Joe Reid, Kristina Roy (Mason Tomberlin’s roommate), Jimmy Lisenby (Ray McManus’ friend), Doug Wilson Family, James Thurman (Angie Smith’s father), Brant Thompson. **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION** — If you should have an emergency and need Rev. Ken over the weekend, when the office is not open, please call the church office 843-537-7002 and it will be forwarded to Rev. Ken’s phone.

**ZOAR UMC LIFE NATIVITY DRIVE THROUGH** — Please mark your calendars for the 17th Annual Live Nativity Drive Through at Zoar United Methodist Church on Sunday, December 11 from 6—8:30pm. Also if you would like to play a character in the Christmas Story, set up, cook and serve food, assist with costumes, taking scenes down, or singing in the choir, please contact Sylvia Campbell at 843-623-7572.

**SPRC TRAINING** — The Hartsville District SPRC Training will take place on Sunday, December 11 from 3-5pm at St. John’s UMC, 45 Roseborough Road, Lugoff, SC. Please make plans to attend this event.

**ADVENT INFORMATION** — The Advent Wreath is in place and light is added to it each week. It is an important part of Advent and we have it as more than a decoration in the church. Wreaths are a part of Advent and Christmas decorations. However, the candles on the Advent Wreath represent four gifts from God: Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace. The wreath is a circle which is a symbol of eternity and the Christ candle sits in the center of eternity. Jesus called himself the light of the world and so we bring light to the wreath on each Sunday of Advent, on Christmas Eve, and on Christmas Day.

**CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP** — Christmas morning we will not gather for Sunday School. We will have worship at 10am. The dress is casual. As a family gathers about the Christmas Tree, so will we. We will sing the hymns of the day, hear the Christmas Story from the Scripture, enjoy the joy we all find in young learners, and have a brief sermon. What a great day it promises to be. Imagine, that there are some churches that forego Christmas Worship on Christmas Sunday. It promise to be a pinnacle day for our church family.

**STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION** — Amount of Pledges \$264,304.00; Number of Pledge Cards Received 73.

**STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT** — As in past years, donations will be accepted for a monetary Christmas gift for members of the church staff. Contributions may be dropped off at the church office, mailed, or placed in the offering plate. (Please clearly designate “STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT” on your check or on the envelope if making a cash donation.) The deadline for contributions is **Friday, December 16**. This is a good way to express our appreciation to the staff for the work that they do!  
*Staff-Parish Relations Committee*

**ICE SKATING & CAROLING** — Will leave at 2pm on Dec. 11, let Sara know if you plan to go. Caroling on Dec. 18 from 4-5pm, Jed Reid will accompany us on his guitar.

**Parson to Person** — Many of us readily admit, “I never saw it coming!”

1. In so many fender benders and car accidents, participants will declare, “I never saw them coming!”
2. When the check does come in the mail, we say, “Never saw it coming!”
3. When we are recipients of a random act of kindness, our response is often, “I never imagined that coming my way.”
4. Even at sporting events it happens. I was at Clemson some time ago for the USC-Clemson football game. I stood outside the stadium waiting for my friend to come as we were going to sit together. Then and throughout the day I had young people walk up to me, extend their hand and say, “Hope you have a good game today.” Someone would pat me on the shoulder and say, “Welcome to Tiger Town.” Others would smile and say, “Have a good time.” This happened before and after the game. I never saw it coming! With the rivalry being what it is, I was touched by the sincerity and the class Clemson people have and exude. Life holds for us many moments we “never see coming.” But that is not the case with God. As we enter Advent, be reminded that the word “advent” means “God coming towards us.” The gift of a Savior is something for which we watch. Understanding that God is faithful to God’s promises, we celebrate the nativity annually. God did send a child...God’s gift to humankind. This child, Jesus, revealed the way to salvation and sealed the promise of eternity for those who believe. Some would have declared in those days, “We never saw it coming.” That would mean they did not pay attention nor did they listen because God promised to send the Messiah.

Our task during Advent is to remember God’s faithfulness and celebrate God’s gift in Christ. Our task is also to “watch” for the one who came long ago because he will come again. Its been promised and God is faithful to promises. Between now, and the time God chooses to return, our faith can grow, our service can offer all it can to the ministry of the church, and as disciples we can watch as we wait. It will be sad one day to hear people say, “I never saw Him coming!”  
—*Ken Timmerman*

**MERCY IN ME** — Mercy In Me Free Medical Clinic opened its door seven years ago to provide free medical care to uninsured Chesterfield County residents who fall through the cracks in our healthcare system. All of the services we offer are entirely free to those patients who qualify. Patients must be at least 18, working or seriously seeking employment. They cannot have health insurance, and the patient’s household income must be within 200% of the Federal poverty level. Our purpose in all of these endeavors is to glorify God. Funding for the Clinic comes primarily through donations from the public—individuals, foundations, churches, businesses, clubs, and so forth. As a faith-based clinic, we do not seek, nor do we accept, any government funding. December 4 has been designated as “Mercy in Me Clinic Sunday.” Please designate MERCY IN ME on your check, if you would like to give to this organization.

**LIFE LINE SCREENING** — [What You Don’t Know Can Hurt You!](#) **\*If you are age 21-80 learn your risk for developing 6 different chronic diseases; \*\$3 out of every \$4 spent on healthcare is for treatment of chronic disease; \*Better lifestyle habits can help prevent 80% of heart disease and 90% of type 2 diabetes.** The *6 for Life Health Assessment* measures your risk of developing 6 chronic diseases, including heart disease, congestive heart failure, stroke, diabetes, COPD and lung cancer. A customized report will determine which risk factors contribute most to your disease risk and are within your control to change. Finger-stick blood tests along with biometric measurements are included with this assessment. First United Methodist Church will be hosting a Life Line Screening preventive health event on Monday, December 19, 2016. Protect your health by registering today for the *2 for Life Health Assessment* for \$79. Call [1-888-653-6441](tel:1-888-653-6441) or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/advantagemembers](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/advantagemembers) to schedule your appointment. Take control of your health; Knowledge is empowering.

## **WATF MEAL AND BIBLE STUDY — NEW SIGN UP PROCEDURE — NO SIGN — NO EAT**

The Wednesday at the First meal will begin at 5:30pm this Wednesday. **The menu will be chicken and rice soup, vegetable soup, cornbread, fat back, saltines, dessert and tea.** The cost of the meal is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children under 12 years old (Maximum \$21 for a household). In order for us to purchase enough food for this meal, it is important that you sign up for the meal. [There is a sign up card in the bulletin for you to fill out and put back into the offering plate today; youth must sign up if they plan to eat with Sara.](#) **The WATF Bible Study will begin at 6:30pm; study will be on Luke 10: 25-37, “The Good Samaritan.”**