

**UPCOMING EVENTS AT FUMC**

**Sunday, April 9, 2017**  
 8:30am UMM Breakfast  
 10:00am Sunday School  
 11:00am Worship  
 5:00-6:30pm UMYF  
*Parlor rented*

**Monday, April 10, 2017**  
 2:00pm GriefShare Meeting  
 TBA UMKF

**Tuesday, April 11, 2017**  
 10:30am Staff Meeting  
 3:00pm UMW Circle #4 (Parlor)  
 7:00pm UMW Circle #3 (Home of Sarah Jefferies Calhoun)  
 5:30pm Weight Watchers

**Wednesday, April 12, 2017**  
 12:00pm April 16 Bulletin Deadline  
 5:30pm WATF Supper (Fellowship Hall)  
 6:30pm Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)  
 7:30pm Choir Practice (Choir Room)

**Thursday, April 13, 2017**  
 7:30pm Maundy Thursday Service

**Saturday, April 15, 2017**  
 10:00am Easter Egg Hunt

**Sunday, April 16, 2017**  
 6:30am Easter Sunrise Service  
 10:00am Sunday School  
 11:00am Worship Service

**SERVING TODAY**

<b>Greeters:</b> M&M Manuel Assef	<b>Head Usher:</b> Jeff Johnson
<b>Lobby Door Greeter:</b> Jerry Turner	<b>Hostess:</b> Carole Hennessee
<b>Nursery:</b> Caroline Berry & Mary Charlotte Dusa	<b>Acolyte:</b> Hollis Dusa
<b>Next Week's Lay Reader:</b> Greg Sanderson	<b>Cross Bearer:</b> Mary Charlotte Dusa
<b>Flowers Next Sunday:</b> Easter Lilies	<b>McArn Item:</b> Breakfast foods
<b>Counters:</b> Roger Wolfe, Jim Crawford, Sammy Quick	<b>Altar Guild:</b> Susan Eschenfelder, Zenda Rushing
<b>Alternate Counter:</b> John Straughn	
<b>Worship Attendance, April 2</b> — 176; <b>Attendance in Sunday School, April 2</b> — 109	
<b>Youth Attendance, April 2</b> — 12 <b>Bible Study Attendance, March 29</b> — 50	
<b>Received to Date:</b> \$125,902.80 <b>Expenses to Date:</b> \$116,753.98	
<b>Needed Weekly:</b> \$6,968.15 <b>Received week of April 2:</b> \$7,505.37	

**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** (fccdm@yahoo.com)



First United Methodist Church  
 A Service of Christian Worship  
 The church with a heart, in the heart of Cheraw.  
**April 9, 2017**  
**Passion/Palm Sunday**  
**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.**

**Service Note:** *The Choir will sing a Choral Introit. Children will process in with palm branches waving. Those seated on the aisle seats are asked to join in with waving the palm branches that will be supplied and to do so with enthusiasm. We cannot have a "dead" parade. The children will make their way around the Sanctuary, the donkey will make its entrance, as will Jesus. The children will place their palms on the kneeling pads at the Altar rail. Adults with palm branches will bring them to the Altar as well. Following this, we will greet each other as family prior to the opening hymn. The atmosphere is to be festive, and we encourage you to greet Palm Sunday with faith and celebration.*

*Palm Sunday: A day we remember and relive as "Hosanna" filled the air and shouts of "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord" resounded in the streets of Jerusalem. What begins in triumph and celebration turns to sorrow as Jesus is tried and sentenced to die on the cross. He speaks the truth that comes from God, but it challenges too many, and they determine to rid themselves of his teaching and preaching. He meets in an Upper Room with his disciples on Thursday evening and shares a final meal (Holy Communion). From there things move quickly to prayer in the garden, to being betrayed, and tried in an illegal trial. This week begins Holy Week. It is a time for prayer and self-reflection. It is also a time of gratitude as God offers us the gift of salvation and the opportunity to be in relationship with him.*

**Prelude** "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" Herzogl  
*Please sign the attendance pad and pass it to everyone on the pew, putting the sheet in the offering plate.*

**\*Call to Worship** "Hosanna" Adult Choir

**\*Hymn No. 278 in the Hymnal** "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

**\*Opening Prayer (In Unison)**  
 Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. We greet you this day, O Lord, and thank you for making a triumphal entry into our hearts. We yearn to become more like you and commit ourselves to God's truth and ways. Empower us to kneel before your majesty and to surrender our lives to your direction. Forgive us when our actions deny your divinity. When we choose to walk away from you, it is your love that gives us second chances to come home to faith. Bless you for your great love and your willingness to give your life for us. We pray in your sacred name and ask you to help us become worthy of it. AMEN.

**Life Lessons for Young Learners**

**Responsive Psalter Reading, No. 748** **Psalm 16: 5-11** Hollis Dusa, Lay Reader

**\*Affirmation of Faith No. 881 in the Hymnal** "The Apostles' Creed" Lay Reader

**\*Gloria Patri**

## Pastoral Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

### Gathering God's Tithes and Our Offerings

**\*Offering** "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked" Rev. Ken Timmerman  
**\*Doxology No. 95** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Old 100th  
**\*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**\*Hymn No. 277 in the Hymnal** "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus"

### The Prayer for Illumination (In Unison)

Come, Holy Spirit. Unlock the Truth and inspire our hearts that we may be led in the Way that leads to eternal life. AMEN

**Scripture** **Matthew 26: 69-75** Rev. Timmerman

**Sermon** "I Will Never Deny You"

**\*Hymn No. 430 in the Hymnal** "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

**\*Please stand if able.**

*The flowers are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in memory of Kim's mother, Betty Dickens, and in honor of Jimmie's installation as President of the North Carolina Community College System by Kim, Jordan and Jake Williamson, Tom Dickens, and Keyshawn Melton.*

**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), Bobby Sellers (Angie Smith's uncle), Raul Wetternek, Carl Li, Miriam H. Michaels (Judy Jones' sister), Amy Smith, Sis Funderburk, Catherine & Carter Kenny (Mary & Johnny Johnson's grandchildren), Jane Mayhew, Ruby Sims (Jane Mayhew's friend), Erika O'Neil (Theodore Burns' friend), Nancy Walters (Charlotte Crosby's sister), Mary Burr, Stan Quick, Meg Redlin. **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

**RELAY FOR LIFE** — We show no mercy against cancer!!! The 2017 Relay for Life of Chesterfield County is Friday, May 5 at Chesterfield High School Football Stadium; the goal for Chesterfield County is \$113,000. What's your life worth? How can you help? **WE HAVE ENOUGH SOFT DRINKS AND WATER. PLEASE PURCHASE LUMINARIES.** If you would like to join our team or make an online donation, you may do so by going to [www.relayforlife.org](http://www.relayforlife.org) and put "Merciless Methodists" in the team search box.

**MERCILESS METHODIST RELAY STATUS** — These are the amounts that we have to date: Luminaries 112; Tee Shirts 44; Soft Drinks/Water 17; Purple Ribbons 1; Business Signs 2.

**WATF** — This Wednesday at 6:30pm, we will continue our study of Revelation. Chapter 3 will be our focus.

**CONFIRMATION RETREAT** — Will be at Lake Junaluska on April 21-23.

**VBS VOLUNTEERS** — It is time to start planning for VBS the week of June 11. If you are willing to volunteer, please contact Sara at 843-910-7987.

**UMYF BEACH RETREAT, JULY 16-21** — Sign up and a deposit of \$100.00 is due by May 22.

**WATF MEAL** — This Wednesday, April 12 we have a group that is going to provide a meal at 5:30pm. The cost will be \$7.00 per person with a maximum of \$21.00 per family. The menu will be BBQ, baked beans, slaw, rolls, dessert and tea. Please sign up on the attendance pad with the number that will be attending.

**PARSON TO PERSON** — One of the things I have learned on my journey to the cross is that "storms of life" are real. Life rarely "work out" the way we desire and we spend time with anguish in our spirits and souls over life issues.

1. The death of a friend or loved one.
2. Family crisis and issues that are difficult to resolve.
3. Work issues that create an atmosphere of anxiety rather than security.
4. Relational realities and temperament issues that create distance particularly in the work arena.
5. Hard questions of life that have seemingly no answers.
6. "Storms of life" that become overwhelming.

What are we to do as the "storms of life" rumble all around us? Charles Wesley has an answer. In the words of one of his many hymns, he provides us a direction. As United Methodists celebrate the anniversary of his 300th birthday and sing over and over hymns he penned...we marvel at his poetic reminders of the love of God. Reportedly, he wrote between 6,000 to 9,000 hymns. Most of his hymns points to his own "heart-warming" experience of conversion to Christ.

One such hymn is "Jesus, Lover of my Soul." It is this hymn that speaks of the Lord as a refuge in the storm. Reportedly, while at sea in the midst of a storm the story is told that Charles noted a bird flying into his cabin in the midst of a "storm" at sea. This bird comes to the safety of the cabin. Charles notes that coming to Christ is much the same. Listen to the words of the verse:

*Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly, while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high! Hide me, O my Savior, hide...till the storm of life is past; safe into the haven guide, O receive my soul at last.*

Is there one who understood the source of strength in the midst of storms better than our Lord? Greeted by shouts of Hosanna on his Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, the storms will begin as shouts of greeting turn to jeers and suspicions. People will try to trap him with his own words. He will be accused of blasphemy because he speaks of a faith with which people are unfamiliar. By Friday, the palms waving as a greeting to a king will change to thumbs-down gestures that call for death. Through all these storms, Jesus remains faithful. Even from the cross facing death he declares "*It is finished.*" The Lord did everything God wanted him to do. In spite of the storms Jesus holds onto the Father and knows the storm will end and peace will come. That is our faith. Storms come and storms go. They do not come to stay. Our anchor in the midst of the storm is Jesus Christ. That is part of the Lenten journey—to walk with him on Palm Sunday and to stand with him on Good Friday.

Reliving the joy and sorrow this week is important. Those days did not bring physical pain and suffering for us. We had someone standing in our place. I, for one, am eternally grateful. *Ken Timmerman*

### IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL 13 — MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE AT 7:30PM

APRIL 15 — EASTER EGG HUNT 10:00AM

APRIL 16 — EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE AT 6:30AM (SANCTUARY PORCH)  
EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11:00AM