

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT FUMC

### Sunday, March 26, 2017

10:00am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship  
5:00-6:30pm UMYF

### Monday, March 27, 2017

2:00pm GriefShare Meeting  
2-7:00pm Blood Drive (Fellowship Hall)  
4:30-5:30pm UMKF

### Tuesday, March 28, 2017

11:45am Staff Lunch  
5:30pm Weight Watchers

### Wednesday, March 29, 2017

12:00pm Lenten Lunch at Baptist Church  
12:00pm April 2 Bulletin Deadline  
6:30pm Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)  
7:30pm Choir Practice (Choir Room)

### Saturday, April 1, 2017

11am-2pm Spring BBQ

### Sunday, April 2, 2017

10:00am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship Service  
5:00-6:30pm UMYF

#### SERVING TODAY

**Greeter:** M&M Jimmie Williamson  
**Lobby Door Greeter:** Herbert Watts  
**Nursery:** Caroline Berry & Amanda Carabo  
**Next Week's Lay Reader:** Mary Charlotte Dusa  
**Flowers Next Sunday:** Brenda Rayfield  
**Counters:** Robert Calhoun, Herbert Watts, Brenda Rayfield  
**Alternate Counter:** Doug Marsh  
**Head Usher:** Theodore Burns  
**Hostess:** Lib Norton  
**Acolyte:** Sawyer Becker  
**Cross Bearer:** Leighton Becker  
**McArn Item:** Baby food  
**Altar Guild:** Bonnie Cundiff & Ruth Ann Jones  
**Worship Attendance, March 19** — 183 ; **Attendance in Sunday School, March 19** — 83  
**Youth Attendance, March 19** — 13 **Bible Study Attendance, March 15** — 56  
**Received to Date:** \$114,182.47 **Expenses to Date:** \$101,229.60  
**Needed Weekly:** \$6,968.15 **Received week of March 19:** \$3,855.02

#### 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.



**March 26, 2017**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**Liturgical Color: White**

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**\*\*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, putting the sheet in the offering plate.*

**\*Call to Worship**

**\*Hymn No. 101 in the Hymnal**      **"From All That Dwell Below the Skies"**

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

**\*Gloria Patri**

**Reception of New Member** — Congregational Prayer: O God, receive our joy today as we welcome this new member into this portion of the body of Christ. We pray that you will strengthen our church through our witness and ministry as we join together in the faith. We ask you, O Lord, to surround all of us in this community of love and forgiveness, bless each gift of service and compassion, as we seek to grow in our trust of you and willingness to serve others. AMEN.

**Invitation to Celebrate Holy Communion**

**Sacrament of Holy Communion Page No. 12 in the Hymnal**

**Gathering God's Tithes and Our Offerings**

**\*Offertory**

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

**\*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**\*Hymn No. 599 in the Hymnal**      **"Break Thou the Bread of Life"**

**Scripture**      **John 12: 20-33**      Rev. Ken Timmerman

**Sermon**      **"Losing and Saving"**      Rev. Timmerman

**\*Hymn No. 297 in the Hymnal**      **"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

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

*The flowers are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God; and in honor of Ron & Bonnie Cundiff on their 55th wedding anniversary by their grateful daughters, Cathy Edwards and Meg Redlin.*

*The flowers in the lobby are in celebration of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Marshall Fisher.*

**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, Frances Laney Family, Katherine & 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). **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

**ACCOLADES** — Thank you to all who helped with feeding the Spartanburg Methodist College Choir.

**COLLEGE STUDENT INFORMATION** — The Christian Education Team is trying to compile a list of all our current college students and their addresses. Please submit your college students information to Angie in the church office. Rev. Ken plans to go to the campuses and take our college students as a group for a meal.

**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? 1) We need bottled water and cans of soft drinks; you may drop them off at the church office marked RELAY. 2) We need you to buy lots of luminaries in honor or memory of someone you love. 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 81; Tee Shirts 34; Soft Drinks/Water 14; Purple Ribbons 1; Business Signs 2.

**WATF** — This Wednesday at 6:30pm, we will continue our study of Revelation. Chapter 2 will be our focus.

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

**NEW CUB SCOUT PACK # 653** — A new Cub Scout Pack has been formed and is meeting on Thursdays at 5:30pm at the Scout Hut. Applications for both youth and adults can be picked up at the church office.

**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.

**M25 (Relational Ministry) CAMP DEADLINE** — M25 Mission Camp serves the homeless and impoverished. M25 focuses less on manual labor and more on relational ministry as students get a rare chance to meet, get to know, and serve people from a different side of life. Participants also experience nightly worship services and daily training on how to go back home and impact their own community. Sign up and make a deposit of \$75.00 for the youth (6th grade and up) by March 27. Adults are needed for this trip.

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

**ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS — PLEASE SUBMIT 10 PHOTOS FOR A VIDEO PRESENTATION ON SENIOR DAY TO SARA BY MARCH 30.**

**UMYF** — Don't forget to sell your luminaries!!!!

**PAINT PARTY** — The Ezer Sunday School Class is sponsoring a paint party led by Melanie Truskey on April 6 from 7:00-9:00pm in the fellowship hall. The cost is \$25 which includes all the supplies. Come join the fun. If you want to join us, please call the church office so Angie can get a count for the artist.

**SALKEHATCHIE SUMMER SERVICE — WHO?** Salkehatchie Summer Service is for high school and college age youth drawn primarily from the South Carolina United Methodist Conference. Participants must be at least 14 years old by the beginning of the camp they attend. Adult leaders are also needed to offer guidance and support. **WHY?** Many of our neighbors in South Carolina live in homes needing repair, and Jesus has called us to love our neighbor (Luke 10:29-37). South Carolina United Methodist Youth need to experience Christian servanthood. And he said to all, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." (Luke 9:23)

**HOW MUCH?** There is a \$230 fee per person. Each volunteer participates fully in the experience of serving, growing, learning and sharing together.

**WHEN?** FUMC participants have been attending the Foothills camp for the past several years. Dates for this year's Foothills camp are July 1-8. If Foothills does not suit your schedule, other camps are available on other dates.

**HOW TO SIGN UP?** Go to the [Salkehatchie.org](http://Salkehatchie.org) home page and click on "2017 Registration Now Open."

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Shannon Johnson or Dawn Leach.

**PARSON TO PERSON** — Someone sent me the following email. The man whispered, "God, speak to me," and a meadowlark sang. But the man did not hear. So the man yelled, "God, speak to me," and the thunder rolled across the sky. But the man did not listen. The man looked around and said, "God, let me see you." And a star shined brightly. But the man did not notice.

And the man shouted, "God, show me a miracle," and a life was born. But the man did not know. So, the man cried out in despair, "Touch me God and let me know you are here." Whereupon God reached down and touched the man. But the man brushed the butterfly away and walked on.

Don't miss out on a blessing because it isn't packaged the way you expect. That's the email's message. It is also the Lenten message. God reveals his Spirit among us as we journey to the cross. Beware of determining in advance the "packaging" of that spirit. God is ever present in ways we rarely comprehend. His spirit is found in moments of reconciliation and in times when children ask great questions. God's spirit is present when nature unfolds its wonder and beauty declaring its consistency. God's spirit is present in hands folded for a blessing in a restaurant. Many times we miss God's spirit because we anticipate its packaging.

Today, that love comes through the Sacrament of Communion. The place for Holy Communion has been altered within the worship service. Rather than wait until the later portion of worship, our Communion ritual will be observed in the opening portion of worship. This means that the ushers will put the middle of the communion rail in place during the opening hymn and remove it during the second hymn. Our means of coming to the table will remain the same. The placing of the ritual will be our only change. This will make the entire focus of worship the Sacrament. The offertory will follow Communion. Then the second hymn and finally the sermon. With the sermon at the conclusion, I can edit as necessary to be a good steward of our time. Don't be thrown by the "packaging" of the service today. God's spirit is present to bless us. *Ken Timmerman*