

Volume 12, Issue 8

AUGUST 2017



# THE CONNECTION

After a Sunday's time for Holy Communion I continue to thank God for the gift He offers through this Sacrament. Each time I partake it is "in remembrance of Christ who died for me." I always rise from such a holy time to prayerfully seek to follow more closely to God's truth. Too often the "things" of life get between me and the Lord. That's why the time of confession during communion is so important. I love the invitation to confession and repentance found in the old ritual many of us can remember.

"Ye that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort and make your humble confession to almighty God." (The United Methodist Hymnal, 1966, #832). As a community of faith we admit that the "things of life get between us and our God. The newer ritual says in that confession prayer the following words: "Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." (The United Methodist Hymnal, Page 12). It is a general prayer of confession. The words point to the frailty of the human condition to which all of us are capable of doing as sinners.

Too many of us stop at the point in this confession and miss what is next. The ritual says: All pray in silence. This is the moment when we have the opportunity in private silent prayer in the midst of our church family to talk to God about those "things" in our lives that get in the way of faith. We have a chance to talk to God about how self-awareness brings us to a place where we know we are not holy and that all of us are dependent on mercy. The Good news is that God's forgiveness is available to every soul and God's mercy is a reality.

Sadly, some people use this as some sort of strange "permission" to live any way they please. Some of the confusion the world has today must be placed at the feet of Christians who do not allow their faith to point them to a

new life. People who never darken the doors of a church and people who are in church every Sunday in too many cases act just alike in the work place and when making life choices and decisions. No wonder people wonder about the power of faith when it doesn't seem to have the transforming power God promised. The difficulty is the human spirit that gets too pleased with itself and does not hold itself accountable to God. My hope as we move into August and the final portion of this year is that we focus ourselves on building the church by being the church. One of the things I love about First Church is the way we "step up to the plate" and do what needs to be done. We are making a systemic progress on goals to become stronger and to "move forward" rather than to simply "maintain." Attendance is up on Sundays and our spirit in worship is great. We need to give consideration about joining the choir as we attempt to grow it. If God has given you a voice, please "give your voice" back to God through singing in the choir. Great music enhances worship and the more we have the better we become. Through a special gift given by a friend of mine the choir will have a chance for new choir robes. Join us. Our giving is good. One privilege we will have in future days is to commit to the endowment fund of the church. This fund helps the church in its future. We will give all a chance to support this above and beyond your regular giving to the church so that we might strengthen this church for its future. One of the marks of a Christian leader is to "name the church in your will." Lastly, did you know that we are the only church I know that offers "life lessons for young learners" rather than "children's time." I am proud of our youth and children who come to spend some time with me each Sunday. Plans are for us to continue this special time in worship. I am especially proud of our "learners" in high school who participate. You provide a good example to younger learners. It feels good to me to be doing something I know that no one else is doing. August is a time to get set for what is coming in the Fall. Draw near to God.

Zechariah spoke to the people of his time saying that God isn't pleased when people "move" away from him. The Lord says, "Return to me, and I will return to you."

How far removed from God are we at times? Let's begin to answer this question!

*Ken Timmerman*

## Our Staff

**Rev. Ken Timmerman, Pastor**  
(timmerman@sc.rr.com)

**Angie Smith, Ministry Assistant**  
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**Sara Sanderson, Director of Children and Youth**  
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**Mimi Coffey, Director of Child Development Ministry**  
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**Mary Lynn Watkins, Interim Director of Music**

## COMING UP

\*Blood Drive, Monday, August 7, 2-7:00pm,  
Fellowship Hall

\*UMM Breakfast, Sunday, August 13, 8:30am,  
Fellowship Hall

\*Newsletter Deadline, Thursday, August 24, 12:00pm

## Memorials & Honorariums

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### ***IN MEMORY OF PETE OWENS***

M&M Rhett Butler, Kristina Allen, Lynn Tweed, M&M Larry Spears, Micki Lockey, M&M Harold Lomas, Gailya Wilson,  
M&M Thomas McKinnon

### ***IN MEMORY OF VIOLA NIVENS***

Lib Norton

### ***IN MEMORY OF ANNE TOWNSEND***

M&M Paul Miles, Jackie McGee, M&M Hewitt Wallace, M&M Rhett Butler, M&M John Wagnon, The Adult Sunday School  
Class of Mt. Olivet United Methodist Church, Chesterfield Visual Art Alliance Club, M&M Curtis Jones, Micki Lockey,  
M&M Harold Lomas, M&M John Moore, M&M Robert Calhoun, Gailya Wilson, M&M Thomas McKinnon, Dare Marsh

### ***IN MEMORY OF PETE HENDRIX***

Lib Norton

### ***IN MEMORY OF FRANCES LANEY***

Gailya Wilson

### ***IN MEMORY OF EDDIE STUBBS***

Gailya Wilson

### ***IN HONOR OF KEN TIMMERMAN***

Caroline Hayes, M&M John Moore

## From the Director of Youth and Children

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I hope everyone is having a great summer! I was on vacation a few weeks ago, and much to my dismay, I missed hearing Peyton Taylor sing "Because He Lives" during worship that week. However, I did have the honor of practicing with her before I left, so I did not miss out on hearing her use her angelic voice for the Lord. Thank you Peyton, we look forward to the next time! I also missed hearing the report from the group who attended Salkahatchie. I heard that the report was fantastic! Great job to all.

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The second Sunday of each month starting September 10... UMKF, and UMYF will come together at 9:30am @ Palmetto Ridge to share the love of Jesus with them. Our group will do an open assembly for their worship service they have each Sunday. We will need help from our congregation...please contact me for more information. If any of you like to

sing, please consider coming along to serve in this way.

A skating outing is planned for August 2 to Skate Land in Florence. We will leave at 10:00am and return at 3:30pm. The cost is \$8.00 to skate...lunch will be provided for kids/youth. Please call the church office (843-537-7002) or me (843-910-7987) and let me know if you are interested in this outing. This is for **ALL** ages...

*Mark 12:29, "...love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength..."*

In Christ's Love,  
*Sara*

## What Accounts can my Memorials be Put in?

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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)

## Good Neighbor

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The Men's Class at FUMC is offering a helping hand. Do you need any help to change a light bulb, clean the gutters, rake the yard, wash the car, or go to the store? Whatever your need, give us a chance to be a good neighbor to you. We're not professionals and will not bill you for services, but

we are handy at doing many things. Our intent is not to take any work away from our local businesses and service professionals, but to simply offer a helping hand. This service is available to all FUMC members, and anyone you know who is in need of help.

You may contact Roger Wolfe at 843-537-7496.

*..help change a light bulb, clean the gutters, rake the yard,.....*

## Pastor's Discretionary Fund

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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*

# Report from Annual Conference Delignates

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The 2017 S.C. Methodist Annual Conference was held June 4-7 in Greenville, S.C. in a marvelous convention center that at first was a little intimidating because it was larger than the Florence Convention Center where it has been held the past several years. We quickly found our way around and really enjoyed all that the facility had to offer including meals on site, a large meeting area and numerous areas for special activities.

As is traditional, Methodists from all across South Carolina gathered together to worship and to attend to church business and social concerns that the churches have. The business and social issues got a little tedious at times but the worship services were always inspirational. We heard wonderful sermons, inspiring Bible studies and beautiful singing. This was a time of spiritual renewal for us. We are grateful for the opportunity to attend and represent First United Methodist Church. We are always stronger and more effective as a church in the realm of scriptural teaching and worshipping God. We are a little uncomfortable when the church becomes too involved in social issues and solving them by advocating for legislation. We pray that the Methodist Church never allows social issues to tear us asunder.

The theme of the annual conference was “We Walk by Faith and Not By Sight”. Bishop Jonathan Holston spoke on this topic at the opening session Sunday evening saying, “When we walk by faith and not by sight, the spirit begins to work through us. When we cast aside the fears that hold us hostage, God works within us to make us the people that we need and ought to be!” He further stated, “Walking and living by faith means moving ahead with confidence when you can’t see around the next corner. When we dare greatly, it is the difference between thriving and surviving”. He delivered a powerful sermon in a style not usually expected from the Bishop.

Using the same theme, “Walking by Faith and Not By Sight”, Dr. Albert Mosley, President-Dean of Gammon Theological Seminary, led a Bible study session each morning. He challenged the conference to trust God and to believe that God can and will do the impossible.

Each morning at 7:30 there was a communion service for the early risers. We attended Monday morning and found it to be a moving experience.

Aside from the wonderful worship services, there was church business that required attention. The Methodist Advocate did a super job of reporting and you probably already know that we adopted six resolutions. Each resolution was debated before voting took place. The debates were sometimes heated but always there was respect shown for the views of others. Our church had one vote which we carefully and prayerfully considered before voting on each issue. The resolutions passed were social issues having to do with migrants, police, racism apology, lynching, human trafficking, ending suicide and homelessness. The July Advocate has detailed information of each resolution and we suggest you read it if you haven’t already ([www.advocatesc.org](http://www.advocatesc.org)).

The conference ordained 26 men and women as provisional or full elders or deacons and 43 as local pastors. Thirty five retiring pastors were honored in a special service. Phil Thrailkill, Paul Wood and Kay Wood were among those who retired.

In a special service, led by Florence District Superintendent Rev. John Hipp, thirty six clergy, spouses and others who passed on to the Church Triumphant over the past year were lifted up. This was a moving service of God’s magnificent, never-ending love.

Tuesday night we attended a session celebrating missions. We learned about the disaster recovery work that has been done recently in our own state. We also heard about the Homeless Initiative and the Youth Bike Initiative. We came away feeling proud of the efforts of the S. C. Conference and a little guilty that our church has not done more.

It was a busy three days. We were able to reconnect with a few folks that we knew and also meet new ones. We soon realized that our pastor Ken knew lots of people and it was really, really good to have him with us. The most wonderful part of all was the assurance that when the pastor’s assignments were announced Wednesday afternoon Ken would be coming back to Cheraw with us as our pastor for the coming years. What a blessing!

*Gailya Wilson*

*Penny Quick*



# FUMC Happenings

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Baptism of Liam Alexander Lewis, July 2, 2017  
Son of Farrah Davis and Damon Alexander Lewis



Commissioning Service for Salkehatchie Participants



Salkehatchie Group at Tiger Town Tavern, Wednesday night, July 5, 2017  
Back Row: Keyshawn, Hannah, Mason, Sarah, Mary-Charlotte, Dawn, and Benson  
Middle Row: Kathryn, Lydia, Shannon, and Ximena  
Front Row: Alex, Jake, and Stephen

# Serving in August

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## Hostess

### Head Usher

### Acolyte and Cross Bearer

Ella Prevatte (A) Sophia Prevatte (CB)

### Greeters

Aug. 6 M&M Keith Smith

Aug. 13 Gailya Wilson

Aug. 20 M&M John Wagon

Aug. 27 Drusilla Walker

### Lobby Door Greeters

Aug. 6 Ellison Outen

Aug. 13 Jerry Turner

Aug. 20 John Sanderson, Harold Lomas

Aug. 27 Jerry Therrell, Jerry Carter

## Nursery

Aug. 6 Christy Ruffner

Aug. 13 Lesley Jean Watson

Aug. 20 Jean Assef

Aug. 27 Sarah Allen

### Lay Readers

Aug. 6 Ella Prevatte

Aug. 13 Jenny Keefe

Aug. 20 Hannah Leach

Aug. 27 Jim Bennett

### Flowers

Aug. 6 Marianne Crawford

Aug. 13 OPEN

Aug. 20 Sue McManus

Aug. 27 OPEN

## Counters

Aug. 6 Thomas Samuel, Linda Smith,  
John Moore

Alternates: Micki Lockey, Todd  
Becker

Aug. 13 Roger Wolfe, Jim Crawford,  
Sammy Quick

Alternate: John Straughn

Aug. 20 Jeff Johnson, Betty Hurst,  
Jerry Therrell

Alternates: David McLean, Walter  
Crosby

Aug. 27 Robert Calhoun, Herbert  
Watts, Brenda Rayfield

Alternate: Doug Marsh

### McArn Items

Aug. 6 Flour

Aug. 13 Canned meats

Aug. 20 Rice

Aug. 27 Canned Spaghetti, Ravioli,  
Etc.

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## From the First Church Child Development Ministry

The Child Development Ministry currently has 83 children enrolled. August will be a big month for children leaving and new children being enrolled or moving up to the next age group. The waiting list continues to grow, especially for newborn babies.

Our summer care program was successful again this year. The program is for children 5-7 years old. It begins the Monday after school ends and ends the Friday

before school starts back. If you know of anyone who will need care for the summer next year, they should call and ask to be placed on the waiting list. This class fills up fast.

Our dishwasher is on its last leg. We will need to buy one soon. If anyone has one that works well and would like to donate it, please call us. We are looking at used ones to buy, but will need someone who can install it.

Thank you to everyone who brings us their plastic grocery bags. We go through them pretty fast.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and be safe.

In Him,  
*Mimi*

# Birthdays and Anniversaries in August

## BIRTHDAYS

Aug. 1 Micki Lockey  
Aug. 3 Gailya Wilson, Holly Miles  
Aug. 4 C.C. Quick  
Aug. 7 Drusilla Walker, Amy Lewis  
Aug. 8 Jim Crawford, III  
Aug. 9 Manuel Assef  
Aug. 10 Allison Becker, Judith Dixon  
Aug. 11 Jimmie Williamson  
Aug. 12 Stephanie Rogers, Mae Li,  
Lesley Jean Watson, Bill  
Eutsler, Jr.  
Aug. 13 Debbie Adams  
Aug. 14 Betty Thrailkill  
Aug. 15 Ron Cundiff, Jayson Lewis  
Aug. 18 Sawyer Becker, Robert Calhoun

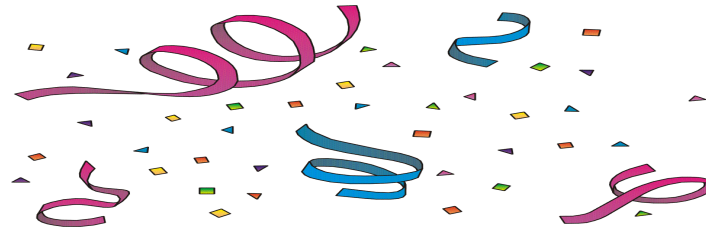
Aug. 19 Taylor Gunner Smith  
Aug. 20 Patsy Rushing  
Aug. 21 Margie Wannamaker  
Aug. 22 Jordan Williamson  
Aug. 23 David Dixon  
Aug. 25 Sarah Allen, Kristina  
Allen, Rebecca Baker  
Aug. 26 Katie Moore, Olivia  
Crawford, David  
Townsend  
Aug. 27 Brenda Rayfield  
Aug. 28 Ethel Ann Streater  
Aug. 29 Martha Starling  
Aug. 30 Heath Ruffner  
Aug. 31 Patti Rollings, Harley  
Rushing, IV.

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## ANNIVERSARIES

Aug. 4 M&M Jeff Kollitz  
Aug. 13 M&M Greg Sanderson  
Aug. 15 M&M Manuel Assef,  
M&M Curtis Jones  
Aug. 19 M&M Roger Wolfe  
Aug. 31 M&M Jakie Streater



### FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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**We're on the Web!**  
[www.cherawfirstumc.org](http://www.cherawfirstumc.org)

### SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Thursday, August 24, 2017  
Noon

# August Calendar

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## Tuesday, August 1, 2017

Staff Meeting, 10:30am, Pastor's Office  
Weight Watchers, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

## Wednesday, August 2, 2017

Sunday, August 6 Bulletin Deadline, 12:00pm

Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room

## Thursday, August 3, 2017

Set-Up Meeting, 6:00pm, Littleton Street UMC, Camden

## Sunday, August 6, 2017

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship, 10:00am

## Monday, August 7, 2017

Sunday, August 13 Bulletin Deadline, 12:00pm

Blood Drive, 2:00-7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Boy Scouts, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

## Tuesday, August 8, 2017

Staff Meeting, 10:30am, Pastor's Office

Weight Watchers, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

## Wednesday, August 9, 2017

Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room

*Angie 1/2 day of vacation*

## Thursday, August 10, 2017

*Angie Vacation Day*

## Sunday, August 13, 2017

UMM Breakfast, 8:30am, Fellowship Hall

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship, 10:00am

## Monday, August 14, 2017

Boy Scouts, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

## Tuesday, August 15, 2017

Staff Meeting, 10:30am, Pastor's Office

Weight Watchers, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

## Wednesday, August 16, 2017

Sunday, August 20 Bulletin Deadline, 12:00pm

Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room

## Sunday, August 20, 2017

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship, 10:00am

## Monday, August 21, 2017

Boy Scouts, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

## Tuesday, August 22, 2017

Staff Meeting, 10:30am, Pastor's Office

Weight Watchers, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

## Wednesday, August 23, 2017

Sunday, August 27 Bulletin Deadline, 12:00pm

Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room

## Thursday, August 24, 2017

September Newsletter Deadline, 12:00pm

## Saturday, August 26, 2017

*Fellowship Hall in use*

## Sunday, August 27, 2017

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship, 10:00am

## Monday, August 28, 2017

Boy Scouts, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

## Tuesday, August 29, 2017

Staff Meeting, 10:30am, Pastor's Office

Weight Watchers, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

## Wednesday, August 30, 2017

Sunday, September 3 Bulletin Deadline, 12:00pm

Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room

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## Back-packs for Needy Children

Last summer, three weeks before school started, Ken challenged our church family to provide school supplies for needy students in our community. The response was astounding! In a very short time, the office was filled with school supplies—37 back-packs were filled, and there were several bags of “overflow” supplies as well. All were delivered to Cheraw Primary and Cheraw Intermediate Schools, where they were gratefully accepted on behalf of students. The staff let us know how happy the children were to be able to “shop” for the supplies that they otherwise would not have had. Unfortunately, through no fault of their own, some students simply arrive at school with only the clothes on their backs. Many teachers purchase items for needy students out of their own pockets.

This year, with your help, our goal is to provide 100 more back-packs than last year. If we could provide 37 back-packs and supplies in just three weeks, imagine what we can do this year with more time to prepare. If you feel led to help with this ministry, you can pick up a supply list (located on the table between the doors to the fellowship hall) for a student and purchase some or all of the supplies on the list. Wide ruled paper, #2 pencils, erasers, crayons, and washable markers are things all elementary students can use. Middle and high school students can always use pencils, composition books, and college ruled paper. If you feel that you can give more, please consider purchasing a back-pack (or more) and filling it with everything on the supply list. Many of you did this last year. If you choose this option,

please leave the supply list inside the bag. This will allow the Educations Committee to sort “complete” bags from “incomplete” ones, and help us to deliver to the appropriate school. We hope that you will prayerfully consider supporting this ministry. All materials will be collected on Sunday, August 13, and will be delivered later that week. Materials may also be left in the office before then as well.

Thank you and God Bless,

FUMC Education Committee

