

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, Amy Smith, Sis Funderburk, Jane Mayhew, Nancy Walters (Charlotte Crosby's sister), Mary Burr, Kit Canada (Connie Funderburk's son), Sue McManus, Mike Starling, David Harry (Jane Edwards Hoerner's son), Helen T. Griggs (Betty Hurst's friend), Harry Board, Zenda Rushing, Lib Livingston (Christy Ruffner's friend), Ronnie Cundiff, Laura Harris, Jeff Treadaway (Angie Smith's friend), Mondell & Henry Brasington (Debbie Adams' mom and dad), Clark McAlister (Jerry Turner's nephew), Brooklyn Boone (Jane Rumph's niece), Flo Outen, Connie Covington (Pam Baker & Jan Rogers' mother), Terry Crocker (Dee Dee Crocker's husband), Pam Walter (Angie Smith's cousin), Misty Kennedy (Julia Jones friend), Sarah Beth Bradley (Kristina Allen's friend), Lori Wilds Chassereau Family (Patricia Turner's niece), Gail Eubanks, Lois Baker Family, Jean P. Watson (Betty Hurst friend), Dana Jarman (Betty Hurst niece), Kaye Clark (Betty Hurst friend). **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

UPCOMING EVENTS AT FUMC

Sunday, August 27, 2017

9:00am Choir Practice
10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service

Monday, August 28, 2017

6:00pm Boy Scout Meeting (Scout Hut)

Tuesday, August 29, 2017

10:30am Staff Meeting
5:30pm Weight Watchers

Sunday, September 3, 2017

9:00am Choir Practice
10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service

NEW DIRECTORY – FUMC is partnering with Lifetouch to update our church photo directory. To celebrate our church family and strengthen the bond within our congregation, we welcome everyone to be a part of our upcoming new directory. Photography will take place at our church beginning September 28.

Lifetouch is providing the directory at no cost to our church. Every family photographed receives a complimentary directory and an 8x10 portrait. Please sign up for your photography session in the hallway next to the church office. If you have questions, please call the church office.

Photography Dates and Times:

Thursday, September 28 – 2:00-9:00pm; Friday, September 29 – 2:00-9:00pm; Saturday, September 30 – 10:00am-5:00pm

LEADERSHIP NOTE: Positive leaders united instead of divide. They are able to get everyone on the bus and moving in the right direction. The more united and connected a team, the more they can accomplish.

WEDNESDAYS AT THE FIRST: Begins September 13 with dinner and will be followed by our Bible Study of Revelation. On September 10, there will be reservation cards in the bulletin and we will ask you to share with us your intentions to be present.

UNCHURCHED FRIENDS WELCOME: Please invite your unchurched friends to Sunday School and Worship. Introduce them to members of our church family when we stand to greet each other.

OPEN DOORS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED: Epworth Children's Home goes above and beyond just food and shelter for children who have experienced abuse, neglect and tragedy. It provides children with tutoring, counseling, health care, fun activities, and the spiritual formation they need to heal and gain a sense of belonging. Through the ministry of Epworth Children's Home, we open our doors to these children, surround them with comprehensive care and provide them with the opportunity to transform their lives. On Sunday, September 10, our congregation will stand with Epworth to break the cycle of abuse, neglect and shame through our collection of the Annual Epworth Work Day Offering. Without the support of churches like ours, Epworth could not provide transformational care for children in need. We invite you to give generously to the children who call Epworth home. For more information, please visit Epworth on the web at www.epworthchildrenshome.org.

SYMPATHY - Our congregation expresses sympathy and love to the family of Lois Baker upon her death.

FUMC STAFF

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

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

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

Mimi Coffey, Director of Child Development Ministry (fcddm@yahoo.com)

Mary Lynn Watkins, Interim Music Director

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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THE CHURCH WITH A HEART, IN THE HEART OF CHERAW.

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

AUGUST 27, 2017

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

LITURGICAL COLOR: RED

PARSON TO PERSON

Some of you have heard me say on prior occasions that “some people have character and some people are characters.” During my recent study leave where I prepared the next six months preaching schedule and selected preaching texts, hymns, and other aspects of worship I was focused on Christian Leadership. This fall, I will be preaching a series of sermons dealing with “the building up of the church” and how positive leadership impacts the church’s growth. Much of it comes down to character.

Andy Stanley in his book *Louder Than Words* declares this: We can all name various traits that a person with character demonstrates, but what is it? Everybody agrees that character is important. But without a clear working definition, a target to shoot, we are easily deceived into thinking that we are, in fact, men and women of character...and that it’s everybody else who has a problem. In some circles, people are considered to have character if their behavior is friendly or nice. Others define character as standing up for one’s beliefs. The rightness or wrongness of those beliefs is rarely questioned. The fact that a man or woman takes a stand is enough to brand him or her as an individual or character. Bottom line, in our culture character is a moving target. It is subject to personality, mood, background, economic status, religious affiliation...the list is endless. The Bible presents an entirely different picture of character. Good character is nothing less than a reflection of the character of God. (*Andy Stanley, Louder Than Words, pages 27-28*)

I agree with Andy. Anyone can be nice. Anyone can stand and render opinions until the Lord comes back. Anyone can be divisive. Anyone can be negative. The ability to do those things does not mean we are people of character. Reflecting God defines our character. Standing for God’s truth, uniting rather than dividing, building up rather than tearing down, being loving rather than ugly are important to having character rather than being characters.

May God bless us as we move to the Fall. It is a time to “Press On.” *Ken Timmerman*

LAY SERVANT TRAINING: Courses will be available October 14-15 at Bethlehem UMC, Bishopville. To register you must have already completed the Basic Course. Register now if you have interest in continuing the journey in Lay Servant Education opportunities. It will cost \$45.00 to register.

Basic: Gene Feagin/Teresa Griggs

Leading Bible Study: Fran Elrod

Pastoral Caregiving: Anna Feagin/Emma Jones

Youth: Jeffery Tadlock

Planning Worship: Joseph James/Angela Nelson

Learning to Preach: Larry McCutcheon

REMEMBER: When you are away, the church continues to count on your support. Help us move forward during this summer in strong fashion because of your faithfulness. Go to church while you are on vacation, but stop by and leave your tithes and offerings here.

Picture of solar
eclipse



Just a
reminder...

SERVING TODAY

Greeter: Drusilla Walker

Lobby Door Greeter: Jerry Therrell, Jerry Carter

Nursery: Caroline Berry & Sarah Allen

Next Week's Lay Reader: Joey Mills

Flowers Next Sunday: OPEN

Counters: Robert Calhoun, Herbert Watts, Brenda Rayfield

Alternate Counter: Doug Marsh

Worship Attendance, August 20 —156; **Attendance in Sunday School, August 20** — 85

Received to Date: \$264,079.25 (Includes \$11,163.50 from Contingency); **Expenses to Date:** \$259,486.75

Needed Weekly: \$6,968.15; **Received week August 20:** \$4,120.94

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

****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 Welcome to every visitor. 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. 64**

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

NICAEA

*Opening Prayer (In Unison)

God of all people we pray that our heart and minds are open this morning to listen for truth that comes from above. We live in a world filled with opinions and ideas and as we listen we know that all of them do not come from you. Help us, as Christian people, to decline behaviors that bring no dignity to life. Empower us to reject ideologies that separate people along racial lines and poverty lines. Teach us again that the worth of a person was declared on Calvary’s cross, and that Jesus died for all. Strengthen us to reject what society and the world teaches us about people that we may see everyone as a brother or sister in the family of God. We pray for education that expands, not just our minds but our hearts. Thank you that you provide for the security of our souls through your Holy Word. Remind us that we must guard our souls from the unholy things of life. For we pray in the name of the One who always stood with and for you, Jesus our Lord. AMEN.

Life Lessons for Young Learners

Responsive Psalter Reading No. 829

Psalm 106:1-12

Jim Bennett, Lay Reader

***Affirmation of Faith No. 881**

“The Apostles’ Creed”

Lay Reader

*Gloria Patri

Pastoral Prayer/The Lord’s Prayer

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. 468**

“Dear Jesus, in Whose Life I See”

HURSLEY

The Prayer for Illumination (in unison)

As we open the Scriptures this morning, give us receptive hearts and minds that we might hear the Truth and respond to it. Teach us your Word, O God. AMEN.

Scripture

Galatians 5: 13-15

Rev. Ken Timmerman

Sermon

“Do No Harm”

***Hymn No. 421**

“Make Me a Captive, Lord”

DIADEMATA

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

***Please stand if able.**