

OUR PRAYER LIST — Our President, all who defend our nation, Sue Nichols (Pam Humphries' mother), Bobby Sellers (Angie Smith's uncle), Raul Wetternek, Oscar Wetternek (Henrietta Kollitz's friend), Sis Funderburk, Jane Mayhew, Nancy Walters (Charlotte Crosby's sister), Mary Burr, Kit Canada (Connie Funderburk's son), Sue McManus, Mike Starling, Helen T. Griggs (Betty Hurst's friend), Harry Board, Ronnie Cundiff, Laura Harris, Jeff Treadaway (Angie Smith's friend), 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), Dick Mullis (Holly Miles' friend), Frances Leppard (Julia Jones' friend), Mary Hillard (Jimmy Duffy's friend), Rhett Butler, II (Rhett & Marcia's son), Gina Reid Merriman (Renie Seels' niece), Rowland Faust (Jerry Turner's brother-in-law). **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, October 1, 2017
 10:00am Sunday School
 11:00am Worship Service
 6:00-7:30pm UMYF (Youth Hut)

Wednesday, October 4, 2017
 5:30pm WATF Supper (Fellowship Hall)
 6:30pm Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
 6:30-7:30pm UMKF Activities (Kid's Nook)
 7:30pm Choir Practice

Monday, October 2, 2017
 5:00pm Finance Committee Meeting (Harris SS Class)
 6:00pm Church Council Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
 6:00pm Boy Scout Meeting (Scout Hut)

Sunday, October 8, 2017
 8:30am UMM Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
 10:00am Sunday School
 11:00am Worship Service
 6:00-7:30pm UMYF (Youth Hut)

Tuesday, October 3, 2017
 10:30am Staff Meeting
 5:30pm Weight Watchers

LEADERSHIP NOTE: Positive leaders are positive not because it is a good concept, but because they view life in positive ways.

WEDNESDAYS AT THE FIRST: Meal at 5:30. The menu is: Chicken and dumplings, cabbage, corn bread, fat back, dessert and tea. Cost will be \$7.00 for individuals and maximum \$21.00 for a family. Our Study this Wednesday will be on the book *Anxious For Nothing* by Max Lucado variety of scripture to study. Session One: Less Fret, More Faith. Join in the fun. Choir practice follows at 7:30 p.m. Join the choir and lend your talents

LUNCH AND MUNCH: Tuesday, October 3, we begin at noon and will lunch a bit and then munch on the word. First Session: I am the Bread of Life, John 6: 25-35. (Bring your own lunch).

FALL FESTIVAL OF PRAISE: We welcome Hank and Beth Martin from Nashville, Tennessee. Natives of South Carolina, they split their time between Nashville and Pawleys Island now. Hank can be heard on many commercials. Some of the more familiar ones are McDonald's, Nationwide, Pepsi, Cadillac, etc. He has sung for the Billy Graham Crusade and with Dolly Parton. He was the arranger on numerous hits of country artist and Christian artist like Amy Grant, Larnell Harris, Michael Card, Steve Green and Sandi Patti. Hank and Beth love to share through music and testimony from brokenness to restoration through God's awesome love. **This program is for all ages and refreshments will be served.**



ATTENTION WOMEN: Baked goods are needed for Market to Market on Saturday, October 21. Baked items should be fall realated (popcorn balls, cheese wafers, pumpkin goodies, "trash", etc.) Your participation would greatly be appreciated.

J.O.Y CLUB: J.O.Y. Club will start this month, come enjoy a good meal and program. Hostess will be Beth Witherspoon, Nell Huntley, and Martha Greene. The cost of the meal will be \$8.00 per person.

FOOD PANTRY: First Church's food pantry is getting a little bare. Please bring canned goods and non-perishable dry goods for the pantry. You may put these items in the church office.

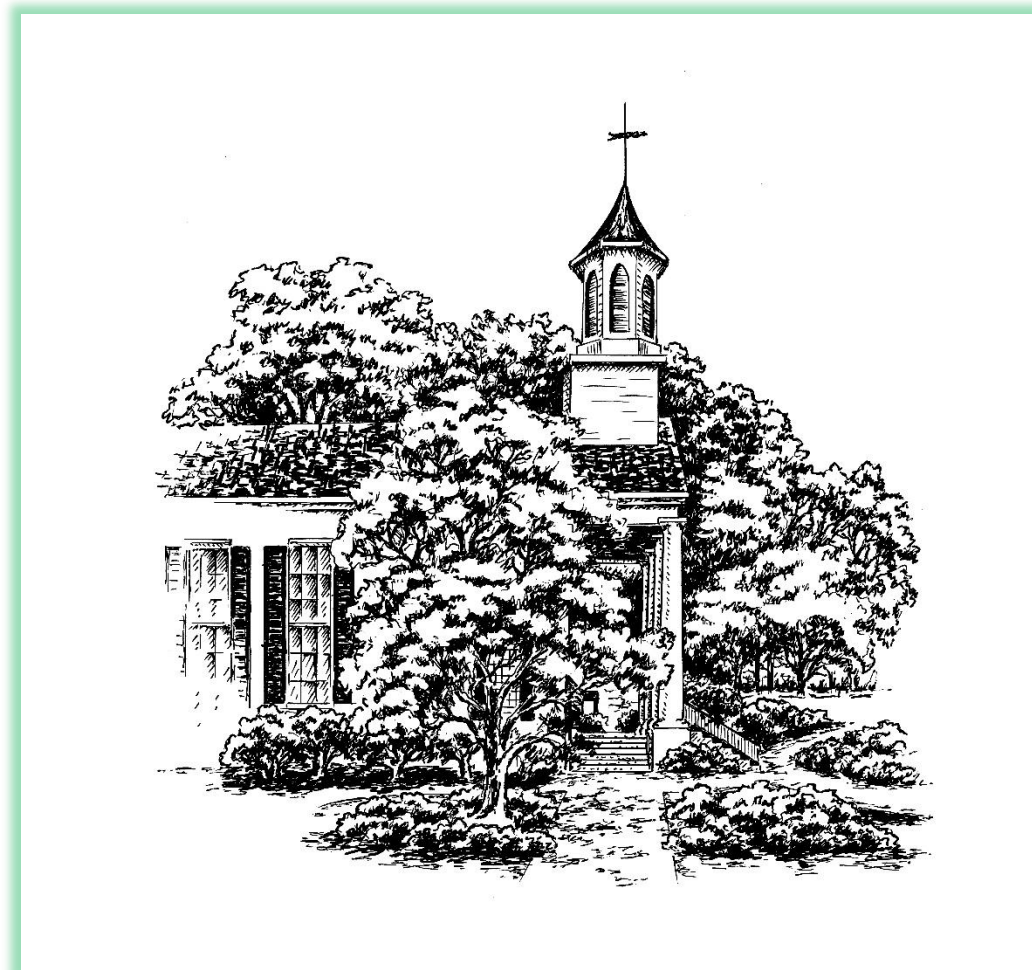
FUMC STAFF
Rev. Ken Timmerman, Pastor (timmerman@sc.rr.com)
Angie Smith, Ministry Assistant (fumcangiesmith@gmail.com)
Sara Sanderson, Director of Children/Youth (saralsanderson@hotmail.com)
Mimi Coffey, Director of Child Development Ministry (fccdm@yahoo.com)
Mary Lynn Watkins, Interim Music Director

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 THIRD STREET, CHERAW, SC 29520

843-537-7002

www.cherawfirstumc.org



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

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

OCTOBER 1, 2017

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

LITURGICAL COLOR: GREEN

PARSON TO PERSON

Since the dawn of creation, God has blessed humankind with his presence and the certainty that the laws created by God are laws that God will not violate. God's love grants free will to his creation and the certainty that choices we will make, while at time heartbreaking to God, will stand. Some years ago Reverend Jamie Coots, better known as the snake handling preacher, died. Jamie adhered to a practice created in 1910 of snake handling and has been bitten several times all from which he recovered. This last occasion, the snake bite claimed his life. Another voice that preached the Gospel is gone.

I am glad that faith does not call me to the handling of snakes. For some who read the Scriptures with a literal mindset, it does say in Mark (the second longer ending) "they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them." The Bible also has a story in Acts 28 where Paul, picking up some brush to make a fire, comes up with a snake wrapped around his hand, and he simply casts it aside. Neither text says the snake "bites" nor does it encourage that we should willfully seek out handling serpents to prove the power of God. The serpent is the symbol for malady or illness. I believe that the "encouragement" in Scripture to handle the snake points to the reality of evil in the world, and God's promise that we do not have to live in fear of it. God has already overcome the world. We are free to speak the Gospel no matter how many voices seek to silence us. The church, in fact, is called to be counter-cultural and to lift up teachings and opinions that are contrary to the current ways of the world. I am saddened that in too many ways, even the church attempts to "fit in" with the rest of the world lest its words be offensive to some. If such mindset had existed in the first century, I fear that the church may not have found its life.

Our faith is in the teachings of God. I do not believe that the Bible is to be read literally in all matters. I will not kill my child if he sins. I will not put away my spouse if she disagrees with me. I will not avoid the sick fearing that I could catch their illness. I will not believe that women are to have no voice in the church. And I will not believe that Reverend Jamie Coots had to die. How sad.

You would think that the way people avoid church in our society, we were requiring the handling of snakes. Today, we do as far opposite as you can get as the world in church bows to take Holy Communion which declares that God is the God of life.

Ken Timmerman

STATE FAIR OUTING: This outing is Sunday, October 22.

COLLEGE STUDENTS ADDRESSES: The Christian Education Ministry Team would like to get your college students address. Please place it in the offering plate, email it to the church office, or call the church office and give it to Angie. Thanks, Holly Miles.

YOU'RE INVITED TO A SHOWER: To celebrate the upcoming arrival of Allison and Todd Becker's sweet daughter please join us on Sunday, October 1 for a drop-in shower from 2:00pm-4:00pm in the Parlor.

ATTENTION PARENTS: Starting Sunday, October 1 we are very excited to be starting a new nursery program during the Sunday school hour in the newly renovated nursery for children - Kindergarten age and younger. If you have a child that is a little older and is more comfortable being with their sister or brother, they are welcome too. We will be teaching Bible stories with felt boards, like many of us learned on as kids. The children will be involved in putting the felt figures on the board while the story is being told. There will be coloring and activity sheets given out to go with the stories. We are so excited to be starting this new class, and we hope that the children, parents, and grandparents will be too. Please come and support this new class and help us grow our Sunday School classes and our church.

TRUNK OR TREAT: Will be on Sunday, October 29. Trunks need to be decorated by 4:45pm, event begins at 5:00pm.

ENDOWMENT FUND: We had a good beginning last Sunday with 22 families pledging support. If you have not had the opportunity to share your commitment, you may do so this Sunday and next. We will give a full report as soon as our pledge time ends. A pledge sheet can be found in today's bulletin. Thank you for your faithful giving.

SYMPATHY: Our congregation expresses sympathy and love to Mrs. Betty Thrailkill upon the death of her sister, Jenny Morris.



"Hey, look – the church is still there' – so someone continued giving right on through the summer!"

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.**



World Communion Sunday: This Sunday calls the church to be inclusive and universal. It was first observed by Presbyterians in 1936 and adopted by the Federal Council of Churches in 1940. Shortly thereafter, Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren churches began to observe this special day. It is a time that believers around the world all kneel in need of God's grace found in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

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. 92**

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

DIX

***Affirmation of Faith No. 881**

"The Apostles' Creed"

***Gloria Patri**

Litany for World Communion (Insert)

Gathering God's Tithes and Our Offerings

***Offertory**

Beth and Hank Martin

***Doxology No. 95**

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD 100TH

***Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

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

II Timothy 1: 1-14

Rev. Ken Timmerman

Sermon

"Gifts of Communion"

***Hymn No. 620**

"One Bread, One Body"

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

***Please stand if able.**

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Margie M. Bennett by Jim Bennett.

SERVING TODAY

Greeter: Amy Lewis

Head Usher: John Sanderson

Lobby Door Greeter: Ellison Outen

Acolyte: Mary Charlotte Dusa

Nursery: Caroline Berry & Ericka Kollitz

Cross Bearer: Hollis Duas

Next Week's Lay Reader: Austin Sanderson

McArn Item: Canned meats

Flowers Next Sunday: Eddins

Counters: Thomas Samuel, Linda Smith, John Moore

Alternate Counters: Micki Lockey, Todd Becker

Worship Attendance, September 24 —149; **Attendance in Sunday School, September 24** — 83

Received to Date: \$293,111.45 (Includes \$16,663.50 from Contingency); **Expenses to Date:** \$299,009.18

Needed Weekly: \$6,968.15; **Received week September 24:** \$2040.00