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, Jim Ross (Jane Mayhew's nephew), Mary Burr, Mike Starling, Harry Board, Jeff Treadaway (Angie Smith's friend), Connie Covington (Pam Baker & Jan Rogers' mother), Terry Crocker (Dee Dee Crocker's husband), Gina Reid Merriman (Renie Seels' niece), Jim Murray, Sammy Boan (Amy Lewis' cousin), Lynda Coleman (Jenny Outen's friend), Betty Thrailkill, Chris Thrailkill, David Freeman (Brooke Freeman's Father-in-law), Jayne Burr Board, Lib Eddins (Scott Eddins' mother). 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, January 14, 2018

8:30am UMM Breakfast (Fellowship Hall) 10:00am Sunday School

11:00am Worship Service

## Monday, January 15, 2018

6:00pm Scout Meeting (Scout Hut)
OFFICE CLOSED MLK HOLIDAY

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

1:30pm Staff Meeting

## Wednesday, January 17, 2018

5:30pm WATF Meal (Fellowship Hall)

6:30pm UMKF (Kid's Nook)

6:30pm WATF Bible Study (Fellowship Hall

7:30pm Choir Practice (Choir Room)

## Thursday, January 18, 2018

6:00pm Cub Scouts (Fellowship Hall)

## Sunday, January 21, 2018

10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service

5:30pm UMYF (Fellowship Hall and Youth Hut)

**FLOWER CALENDAR:** A flower calendar for 2018 has been placed in the lobby by the fellowship hall. Please take a moment to go by and sign up for a Sunday or two to put flowers in the church.

WEDNESDAYS AT THE FIRST: Begins again January 17. Our study resumes in *Anxious for Nothing* by Max Lucado, and we will be studying "Think About What You Think About." Meal at 5:30pm. The menu is: Meat loaf, rice and gravy, sweet peas, fat back, rolls, dessert, tea and coffee. Cost will be \$7.00 for individuals and maximum \$21.00 for a family.

**HOLY COMMUNION**: Will be in the Sanctuary next Sunday morning at 9:30. This will be for those who would like communion observed more frequently. Our method will be intinction. We will receive a wafer and dip it into the chalice. We will have a short prayer after communion and then go to Sunday School.

**CALLING ALL YOUTH:** Your attendance is needed at youth meetings in January. We are looking to prepare a new youth suite and want input. Meetings begin here at the church at 5:00pm and end at 6:30pm at Wendy's. Join us! A new basketball goal is being ordered too.

\*\*Ken Timmerman\*\*

**CONGRATULATIONS**: To Joel Grady Keefe and Courtney Lyn Haynes, who were united in holy matrimony at First Baptist Church in Columbia on Saturday, January 6, 2018. We send best wishes to this couple.

**SYMPATHY:** First Church extends its sympathy to Jerry Tucker whose mother Ola Rae Tucker died last week.

#### **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

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

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

JANUARY 14, 2018

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

LITURGICAL COLOR: GREEN

### **PARSON TO PERSON**

Nell W. Mohney wrote and published a book some years ago with the title *Don't Put a Period Where God Put a Comma*. In the introduction are these words: "It is my desire to remind you that we put 'one foot in heaven' when we come to faith and enter the Kingdom of God, but we are Christians under construction. God has not finished with us yet. When I become discouraged with my progress, I remember Paul's words to the Philippians: 'The one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion.'" (Philippians 1:6)

To be a "work in progress" means we are moving toward what God wants us to be, that we are striving to do what God wants us to do, that we are standing for the truths for which God stands, and that we are offering ourselves as Jesus offered himself through acts of kindness and charity.

This week's Scripture lesson for the sermon deals with a pearl of great price. Upon finding it, the seeker went and sold all he owned so he might come and buy it. Remember when people considered Jesus that "pearl of great price" and gave themselves to seeking the Lord?

We do that as well when we practice "doing good and helping out." Mission work, baking cookies for others, taking food to families in need, stopping along the way and offering a street-person a hamburger, hugging a weeping soul at church, refusing to yield into judging people, remembering shut-ins, and caring for people are all ways we demonstrate we are "marked" by the love of God. There are so many good works that live in us.

As Methodist Christians we also bear another "mark." It is the "mark" of baptism by which we are claimed as God's own and identified as Christian disciples. God is at work in us as unfinished products who strive to demonstrate what faith can do in the human heart.

Today we will "remember our baptisms and be thankful." The Lord's work on us and in us will continue.

Ken Timmerman

### **SERVING TODAY**

**Head Usher:** Anthony Harris

**McArn Items:** Rice and gravy

**Cross Bearer:** Margaret Jean Harris

**Acolyte:** Lawton Harris

**Hostess:** Ruth Ann Jones

**Greeters:** M&M Heath Ruffner

Lobby Door Greeters: Manfred Kollitz, Joey Mills

Nursery: Caroline Berry & Lesley Jean Watson

Next Week's Lay Reader: Alex Lee Flowers Next Sunday: Becky Thompson

Counters: Roger Wolfe, Jim Crawford, Sammy Quick

**Alternate Counters: ----**

Worship Attendance, January 7 - 116; Sunday School Attendance, January 7 - 84

**Received to Date:** \$46,984.24; **Expenses to Date:** \$14,064.20 **Needed Weekly:** \$7,269.25; **Received Jan. 1 - Jan. 11:** \$46,984.24

#### 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.

We celebrate The Baptism of the Lord on the second Sunday of the year and remember how Jesus submitted himself for baptism, not because he needed cleansing of sins, but to demonstrate an example for people connecting themselves to God through a symbol of God's grace. This washing ritual was a sign of community. Baptism today is a sacrament of the church and speaks of God's grace. It is not a "pass" into heaven. It is a sign that marks us as Christian disciples, and in the event of infant baptism, declares God's claim on a child's life. Baptism indicates that God is at work in a child's life long before the child is aware of it. United Methodists do not re-baptize because our awareness of baptism is not the issue. Baptism is God's work, and we are participants in God's work. We do acknowledge and remember our baptism at appropriate times. Today you will have a chance to come and touch the water in the font and "remember your baptism."

**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. 103

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

ST. DENIO

\*Opening Prayer (In Unison)

We gather in this place, bound together by your name, to declare our love for you and this holy body which is the church. Give us strength to begin this new year, with energy and enthusiasm for the place you hold in our lives. Help us to yield our minds and hearts to your prompting, and to make choices that reflect the faith we profess. In bettering ourselves, may we look beyond physical wellness pursuits and dropping the occasional bad habit, and ask you to change our hearts. For we pray in the name of the one who brings newness of life, Jesus the Lord. AMEN

**Life Lessons for Young Learners** 

**Responsive Psalter Reading No. 761** 

Psalm 29

Leighton Becker, Lay Reader

\*Affirmation of Faith No. 881

"The Apostles' Creed"

Lay Reader

\*Gloria Patri

Morning 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. 189

"Fairest Lord Iesus"

ST. ELIZABETH

Scripture

Sermon

Matthew 13: 44-46

"Priorities"

Rev. Ken Timmerman

\*Celebration of Baptism (Touch the water in the font and give thanks)

\*Hymn No. 2130

"The Summons"

KEVING ROUE

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

\*Please stand if able.

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God and in honor of our grandchildren, Mattox, Parker, and Thaxton Reames with love by Rhett and Marcia Butler.