

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, Mary Burr, Mike Starling, Harry Board, Jeff Treadaway (Angie Smith's friend), Flo Outen, Connie Covington (Pam Baker & Jan Rogers' mother), Terry Crocker (Dee Dee Crocker's husband), Pam Walter (Angie Smith's cousin), Gina Reid Merriman (Renie Seels' niece), Rowland Faust (Jerry Turner's brother-in-law), Mark and Norma Moore and family (Nancy Wagnon's friend), Jim Murray, Jayne Burr Board. **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, November 19, 2017

10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service
5:00pm UMYF
6:00pm Community Thanksgiving Service
(Sanctuary)

Monday, November 20, 2017

9:00am Bulletin Deadline
12:00pm Newsletter Deadline
6:00pm Boy Scout Meeting (Scout Hut)

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

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

Wednesday and Friday, November 22 & 24, 2017

Office Closed

Sunday, November 26, 2017

10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service
5:00 pm UMYF (Trip to Zoar UMC)

LUNCH FOLLOWS WORSHIP TODAY: Our church family will gather in the fellowship hall following church today for a great time of fellowship and eating. All of us want to be healthy, but today, the meal will be "to the moon and back." All have brought their best dishes and the meat is being provided. Don't run to the restaurants today. Come to the fellowship hall and enjoy a great meal. The Benediction in worship will serve as our blessing over the food.

THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY SERVICE: Tonight at 6:00pm. A great tradition we have of offering our Sanctuary to the community for united worship. Please bring with you an offering for McArn Food Bank and bring canned goods as well. The Reverend Alan Arnold, First Presbyterian Church, will be preaching, and other clergy and laity will serve as liturgists.

WATF: Next session, November 29. God's Peace, Your Peace.

OFFICE CLOSED: Wednesday, November 22 – Friday, November 24.

MERCY IN ME: We are asking our Chesterfield County churches to designate December 3, 2017, as "Mercy in Me Clinic Sunday" and to take up a special offering for our support. With your help, we can continue to meet many of the medical needs of the uninsured in our County.

ADVENT DECORATING: This afternoon after the Community Thanksgiving Service, we will put up the Christmas Tree and put the ornaments on the higher areas. On Monday afternoon, November 20, we will need to finish decorating the tree, decorate the side lights, put up the garland on the balcony, and hang the wreaths on the outside of the church. If you would like to help with these items, please feel free to join the worship team.

SYMPATHY: Bishop Holston's father, Mr. James Holston, passed to the Church Triumphant on Saturday, November 11, 2017. His address is provided below in the event you would like to express your sympathy.

Bishop and Mrs. Jonathan Holston
4908 Colonial Drive
Columbia, SC 29203

FUMC STAFF

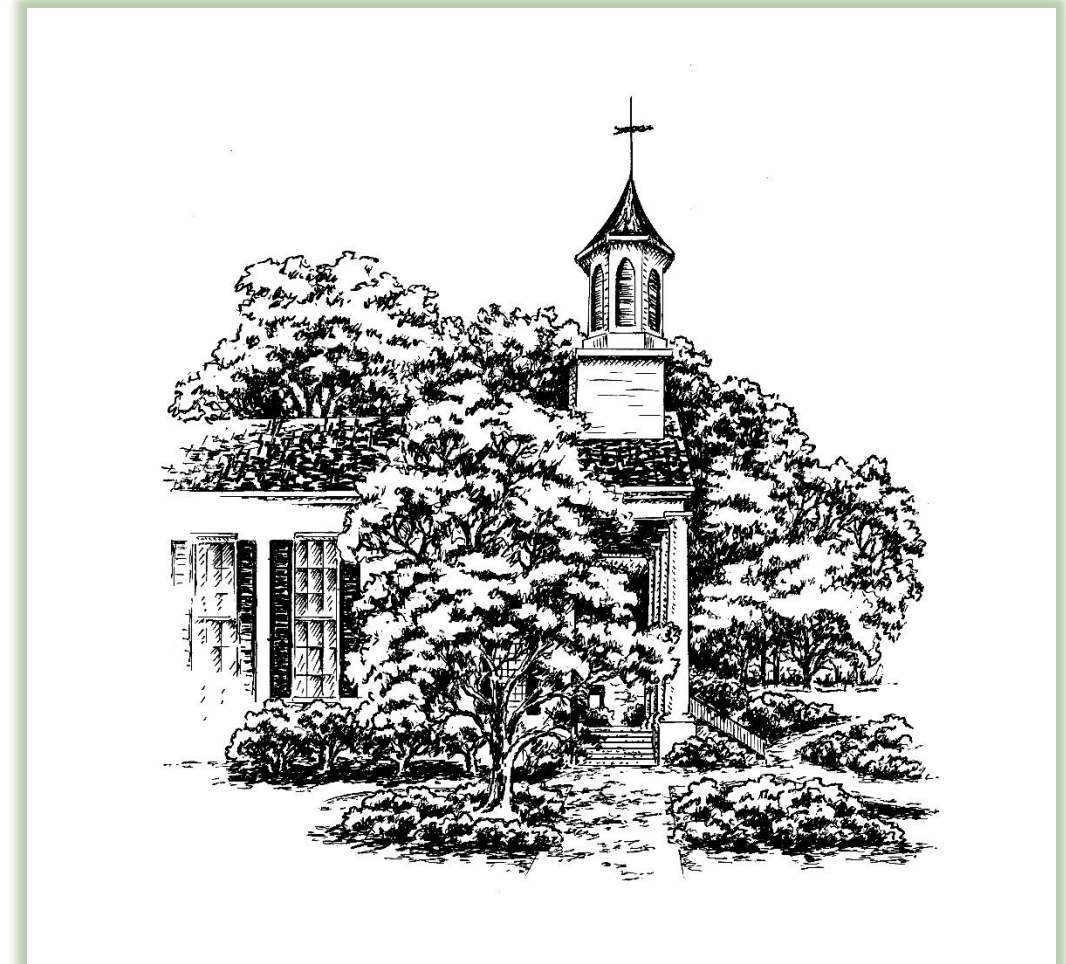
Rev. Ken Timmerman, Pastor (timmerman@sc.rr.com)
Angie Smith, Ministry Assistant (fumcangiesmith@gmail.com)
Sara Sanderson, Director of Children/Youth (saralsanderson@hotmail.com)
Mimi Coffey, Director of Child Development Ministry (fccdm@yahoo.com)
Mary Lynn Watkins, Interim Music Director

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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www.cherawfirstumc.org



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

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 19, 2017

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

LOYALTY SUNDAY

LITURGICAL COLOR: GREEN

PARSON TO PERSON

Many people who fly tell me they feel closer to God. Me? I feel closer to the end rather than to God. Maybe it's the lack of control. I'm not sure. I just do not like to fly. I agree with the late Bishop Ken Goodson, "Not flying is Biblical. It says, 'Lo, I am with you.'"

While flying to Turkey for the Mission and Ministry of Paul tour, I was seated next to a woman from New Jersey who was going to tell me her life story if it killed me. The flight was nearly six hours until we would land in Germany and change flights. All along the way, it was a new chapter in her life along with her husband and children who I got to know by name. We hit turbulence and even that didn't stop her. I admit that while we were having turbulence, the thought occurred to me, "I'm gonna meet the Lord, but not even that possibility will help this woman stop talking." So, while she talked, I bowed my head and prayed. I felt a bit like the man up in the tree with a pole cat. Someone on the ground had a gun and said, "I can't shoot. I might hit you." "Go ahead," I replied. "One of us needs relief!" Through prayer, I asked God to hold on to us. If it was my time, I was ready.

The Scriptures speak of readiness because time does not belong to us. Life unfolds day by day and we live as those who are ready. Readiness is not hard to detect. Readiness is visible in people who go about their business day by day with faith and trust in God's care. Mark's Gospel speaks to such readiness. *The Message reads:* "Stay at your post. Keep Awake. Be ready. Not even the son can predict the time of his coming." Our mission is to live fully into the day we have been given. Our purpose is to serve God. That cannot be done if one spends too much time looking for the conclusions. The Scriptures simply teach us to be ready.

The second part of being ready is living in a way that reveals that Christ has a hold on us. When Jesus takes hold of a human heart, things change. Our approach to life will always include hope for positive days in our being the church. Our values begin to come in line with that of our Savior. Truth becomes the rule for every life and every day. Living for others shows our desire to be servants of the Most High God. Being the church, and loving the church and sacrificing for the church, become things that we do with a smile on our face and a song in our heart. Having Christ take hold of us inspires believers to PRESS ON in all life matters. The church of God does not stand still. The Church of God does not focus on what it doesn't have, but instead what it does have. God takes our little, when giving in faith, and makes it greater.

I have said time and again that our best days for First Church Cheraw are ahead of us. I believe that with all my heart. May we all dare to PRESS ON to great days of good faith and personal commitment to build the church and to be disciples of Christ. Today is a great day to be taken hold of by our Savior. It is His spirit that gives us the power to PRESS ON. *Ken Timmerman*

ZOAR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH DRIVE THROUGH NATIVITY: The Live Drive Through Nativity will be Sunday, December 10 from 6:00-8:30pm. Come and enjoy this annual event. If you would like to participate, please call Leah Crawford 843-623-7075 Home, 843-287-0845 Cell, Helen Long 843-623-2954, or Debbie Foote 843-623-6234.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: It's time once again to participate in the Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Ministry. This year we have bought boxes for you to use or you can use your own. Please stop by and pick up your box and your list today. I would like to have 100 boxes this year! Please join me in making dreams come true for children around the world. If anyone would like to make donations for this, you can leave the donation in the office or give it to Jenny Keefe. I ask you to please pray about what you can do to help this ministry. ALL BOXES ARE DUE ON NOVEMBER 19. *Jenny Keefe*

FREE 8 X 10 POTRAIT AVAILABLE: If you had your picture taken for the pictorial directory, but did not purchase pictures, your free 8 x 10 is in the church office.

STEWARDSHIP NOTE: Let us give the best we have to the highest we know. As we complete our Pledge Card for our PRESS ON emphasis, remember that each area of support is important.

FOOD PANTRY: Since the first of October, we have given out 28 bags of food for those in need. That being said we are low on most things in our pantry. The following are a few of the items we need for our pantry: Spaghetti noodles and sauce, canned meats, hot and cold cereals, grits, peanut butter, jelly, pancake mixes and syrup, Jell-O, applesauce, pudding, or any type of snack items.

SERVING TODAY

Greeter: JoAnne Morgan

Lobby Door Greeters: Jim Crawford, Rhett Butler

Nursery: Caroline Berry & Nancy Wagnon

Next Week's Lay Reader: Sophia Prevatte

Flowers Next Sunday: Eddins

Counters: Jeff Johnson, Betty Hurst, Jerry Therrell

Alternate Counters: David McLean, Walter Crosby

Worship Attendance, November 12 — 176; **Attendance in Sunday School, November 12** — 103

WATF Bible Study Attendance, November 8 – 35

Received to Date: \$346,297.11 (Includes \$16,663.50 from Contingency); **Expenses to Date:** \$349,193.23

Needed Weekly: \$6,968.15; **Received week November 12:** \$6,418.00

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.***

In 1621, the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged today as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies. For more than two centuries, days of thanksgiving were celebrated by individual colonies and states. It wasn't until 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held each November. It is a holiday created for religious purposes as a nation pauses to give thanks to God for all the blessings of family and life. May gratitude guide us in our worship today.

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. 131**

"We Gather Together"

KREMSER

***Opening Prayer (In Unison)**

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus. To reach out and touch him and to say that we love him.

Open our ears, Lord, and teach us to listen. Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus. We cannot live on our own without your sacred help. Bind us together this morning in our common need to be known and loved by you. In the name of Jesus we pray. AMEN

Life Lessons for Young Learners

Responsive Psalter Reading No. 789

Psalms 65

Jacob Rohde, 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. 694**

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

Scripture

Philippians 3: 7-21

Sermon

"Press On!"

Rev. Ken Timmerman

***Hymn No. 374**

"Standing on the Promises"

PROMISES

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

***Please stand if able.**

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the Glory of God and in memory of Doug Wilson by Gailya Wilson and family.