



THE CONNECTION

When I think of the church I think of a large family. Denominations are not really barriers to our unity in the Body of Christ, but as James Howell calls them “a curious collection of broken windows, through which different kinds of broken people still manage to climb into the Kingdom of God.” He goes on to say the following: “The Baptists know the centrality of the Bible. The Quakers embrace the need for silence. Methodists try to engage social issues. The Catholics embody the rich tradition of the faith and the need for saints. The nondenominational denominations creatively reach people wary of churchiness. Mennonites are humble, Presbyterians use their brains. When we in the Apostles’ Creed speak of the “holy catholic church...it is really “a prayer, a longing, a searching after our elusive unity in Christ, a reminder that we all get it wrong, and at times we get it right, and we anticipate life with God in heaven, where there will be no “sections” for various denominational bodies. When I worship in my Church, I am mystically joined with Christians across the street...and across the ocean...in every place and language of God’s earth. John Wesley’s advice is helpful: *Let us keep close to the grand scriptural doctrines everywhere delivered. There are many doctrines of a less essential nature with regard to which even sincere children of God (due to weakness of human understanding) are divided. In these. We may think and let think. We may agree to disagree. But let us hold fast the essentials of the faith once delivered to the saint, strongly insisted on at all times and in all places.*” (James Howell, *The Life We Claim*, pages 115-116).

Since we are really one church in Jesus Christ, we are also one people. I look out into our congregation on Sunday mornings and see one big family. We come from different backgrounds, neighborhoods, States, heritage, environments. We are all ages and stages. As we worship together we commit together to use the gifts and graces God has given us. To be the church reminds us to use what we have been given and each soul is gifted by God. I see it all around this church. We have

those who plant flowers, ushers who help on Sundays, caring souls who visit our shut ins, children who serve through being leaders in a chancel ministry (crucifers and acolytes), adults who fill the choir (and there’s room for more), people who teach Sunday School, volunteers who decorate appropriately the Sanctuary for the seasons we celebrate, people who remember to turn lights off when leaving the room, people who cook or bake or clean up after those who do. All of us have gifts and as we use them we celebrate our place in the life of the church.

For we all love Jesus and that is the essential. In loving Jesus is where we get it right! We are all dependent on Jesus Christ to get it right. The Church is essential in helping us get it right. It is in the Church that we find the Spirit, the Father, and the Son. In the Church we are guided by Scripture and not opinions. Unfortunately, some churches today have elevated opinions about truth. Some try to make the church about social issues without a connection to the Lord. The Scriptures are our life line to God. Reverend John Ed Mathison of Fazer Memorial UMC in Montgomery, Alabama, used to say that the church doesn’t suffer because of agnosticism today...it suffers due to “agnosticism.” Sitting around the church and simply exchanging opinions is what John Ed calls “pooling ignorance.” Scripture guides for a reason. Our opinions are fallible and we need God’s truth to reign within within us. The love for God is strong in the church, but the love of self is sometimes stronger. The Scriptures guide us to decrease self so Christ may increase. Ego can go a long way to directing us inward to self rather than to God.

These are days when people must “stand up for Christ.” Stand up for the teachings of the Scriptures. Stand up for the Church. This world and all its people need the Church. It gives what other places cannot...a living word and a promised hope. Think about it as you consider your connection to Christ through the church. *Ken Timmerman*

Our Staff

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

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

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

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

Mary Lynn Watkins, Interim Director of Music

COMING UP

*Afternoon UMW Circle Meeting, Tuesday, May 8, 3:00pm, Parlor

*Palmetto Ridge Ministry, Sunday, May 6, 9:30am, Palmetto Ridge

*UMW Circle #3 Meeting, Tuesday, May 8, 7:00pm

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

*Scholarship Sunday, Sunday, May 13

*J.O.Y. Club, Thursday, May 17, 12:00pm, Fellowship Hall

*Graduation Sunday, Sunday, May 20

*Newsletter Deadline, Monday, May 21, 12:00pm

*Memorial Day Holiday, Office Closed, Monday, May 28

*Blood Drive, Tuesday, May 29, 2-7pm, Fellowship Hall

Memorials & Honorariums

IN MEMORY OF JEAN REECE TUCKER

Dan L Tillman, III and William R. Tillman

IN MEMORY OF FLO OUTEN

Jean & Billy Boan

IN MEMORY OF MARY HOOK LEWIS

Sara & Charles Stowe

IN MEMORY OF EDYCE JACKSON BRASINGTON

Rachel Lever

From the First Church Child Development Ministry

The Child Development Ministry is operating at full capacity with 81 children enrolled. Ten of our four year old children will be graduating on May 17. That's always a bitter-sweet day for us. We love and care for many of them from the time they're 6-8 weeks old.

The Summer Care Program will begin on June 4. We

have more than enough children on the waiting list to fill the 13 openings. Jessica Elvington will be teaching the class. Jessica is a graduate of Cheraw High School and Winthrop University. She has been teaching music in public schools in SC for the last 7 years.

We are in process of hiring a full-time teacher for a two

year old classroom. Next month we will be hiring a full-time caregiver for one of the infant rooms. If you know of anyone with experience in childcare, who might be interested, please pass this information on to them.

In Him,
Mimi

Serving in May

Hostess

Cindy Sanderson

Head Usher

Doug Carabo

Acolyte and Cross Bearer

Sawyer Becker (A) Leighton Becker (CB)

Greeters

May 6 Renie Seel

May 13 M&M Thomas McKinnon

May 20 M&M Ray Crouse

May 27 Drusilla Walker

Lobby Door Greeters

May 6 Robert Calhoun, Theodore Burns

May 13 Manfred Kollitz, Joey Mills

May 20 Jim Crawford, Rhett Butler

May 27 Herbert Watts, Jackie Furr

Nursery

May 6 Caroline Quick, Erika Kollitz

May 13 Caroline Quick, Leslie Jean Watson

May 20 Caroline Quick, Nancy Wagnon

May 27 Caroline Quick, Christy Ruffner

Lay Readers

May 6 Shannon Johnson

May 13 Greer Bennett

May 20 Joey Mills

May 27 Alayna Carabo

Flowers

May 6 Rohde

May 13 Bennett

May 20 Tomberlin

May 27 OPEN

Counters

May 6 Thomas Samuel, Linda Smith,
John Moore

Alternates: Micki Lockey, Todd
Becker

May 13 Roger Wolfe, Jim Crawford,
Sammy Quick

Alternate:

May 20 Jeff Johnson, Betty Hurst,
Jerry Therrell

Alternates: David McLean, Walter
Crosby

May 27 Robert Calhoun, Herbert
Watts, Brenda Rayfield

Alternate: Doug Marsh

McArn Items

May 6 Grits/Oatmeal/Cereal

May 13 Saltines/soups

May 20 Instant potatoes

May 27 Toiletries

Endowment Fund Update

The Endowment Fund committee would like to thank the FUMC Child Development Center for their recent contribution to the Endowment Fund.

Have you considered leaving the church in your will/bequests? The Endowment can grow through your special giving.

Current Amount in the Endowment Fund
\$140,440.11

A Note from Sara

UMYF will have their last meeting on May 13, and UMKF will have their last meeting on May 9.

Please make note:

We are scheduled to go to Palmetto Ridge on May 7 due to May 13 being Mother's Day.

High School Seniors, please turn in a wallet size photo of yourself to the church office by May 7.

Sara

Graduate Information Needed

The Christian Education Committee would like the families of any graduating college students to inform the office. We don't want to leave any-

one out of the graduation stuff in May.

Holly Miles,
Christian Education Committee
Chair

Birthdays and Anniversaries in May

BIRTHDAYS

May 1 Mickey Sullivan
May 2 Jimmy Outen
May 7 Shelton Rumph
May 11 Kathy C. Hancock
May 13 Mary Crouse, John Robert Smith, Carter Keefe
May 14 Jay Lewis
May 16 Benson Stubbs
May 17 Gail Eubanks, Ellen Eschenfelder, Michael Wagnon, Roger Wolfe
May 18 Jamie Lewis, Tyler Goodwin
May 19 Zenda Rushing

May 20 Amy Smith
May 21 Amy Eschenfelder
May 22 Brandon Jones
May 23 Sean Eubanks, Mary-Charlotte Dusa
May 25 Rebecca Miles
May 26 Jean Assef, Betty Board, Henrietta Kollitz
May 28 Jean McLean, Gretchen Powell Kollitz
May 30 Cindy Sanderson
May 31 Mary Crawford, Terrell Stubbs

ANNIVERSARIES

May 1 M&M Austin Carnell (Kim Starling), M&M David Rohde
May 13 M&M Ernie Hancock, M&M Justin Harpe
May 22 M&M Adam Humphries
May 31 M&M Bryan Mears



Relay for Life

We show no mercy against cancer!!! The 2018 Relay for Life of Chesterfield County is Friday, May 4 at Chesterfield High School Football Stadium; the goal for Chesterfield County is \$108,000. What's your life worth? How can you help? 1)

We need bottled water and cans of soft drinks; you may drop them off at the church office marked RELAY. 2) We need you to buy lots of luminaries in honor or memory of someone you love. If you would like to join our team or make an online donation,

you may do so by going to www.relayforlife.org and put "Merciless Methodists" in the team search box.

News From the Staff Parish Relations Committee

As pastor here at FUMC for nearly two years I have worked to bring our congregation closer together and to meet needs. I see a need for a Congregational Care Director. This has been implemented in churches I have served and the results have been excellent. All ages and stages in the church need the church's touch. The Pastor alone cannot do it all. To create a Congregational Care Director is to insure that all ages and stages are being touched. This will not negate volunteer leadership in matters like JOY Club, UMW, and UMM. I propose this to begin effective May 1, 2018. A list of items is below. It is not an exhaustive list, but a guide.

1. Grief Share and its ongoing work. 13 two week sessions a year plus a holiday season session. Between sessions during the year is a time for Bible Study which is an extension of grief share.
2. Keeping in touch with New Moms, New Members, Visitors (along with Evangelism), and our College Kids (making arrangements for meals with our college students for the pastor, plus connection to Christian Education committee efforts to provide care cards to students.)
3. Be available to assist pastor with in home visits and hospital visits.
4. Work with Martha Starling as an

- extra person who can care for members in the Nursing Homes. Also, Palmetto Ridge ministry the second Sunday of the month.
5. Coordinate the Shepherds Child program in December annually.
6. Touch base with grieving families dealing with loss. Keep pastor appraised of needs.
7. Provide Day Trips for senior members of the church. Involve the pastor as his/her schedule allows it.
8. Establish at the church fitness classes for senior adults.
9. Help set up travel and rides for folks needing rides to treatment, or doctor appointments.
10. Send notes to shut ins and those disconnected from the church because of inability to attend.
11. Assist pastor in the confirmation process.
12. Seek a volunteer to work with our children in the UMKF. Includes extra events like Easter Egg Hunt, VBS, etc.
13. Seek volunteers to guide our youth group meetings on Sunday evenings and arrange occasional outings for youth group.
14. Establish small group Bible Studies. It would be good to

- investigate beginning neighborhood Bible Study Groups.
 15. Screen people coming to our door for assistance.
 16. Keep the link between congregation and Child Development Ministry solid.
 17. Assist the pastor in ways the pastor indicates.
- Such efforts should strengthen our church family and provide greater connection to First UMC.

Salkehatchie

Any youth 14 and older or adults interested in attending Salkehatchie this summer should begin registering as soon as possible. Just go online to Salkehatchie.org and choose the Foothills Camp in Pendleton, SC if you wish to go with the larger group who

attends each year. Other camps for other dates are also available, so please feel free to choose the camp of your choice. Contact Shannon Johnson if you have questions. We love to add new attendees each year, so please join us!

What Accounts are for Memorials?

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:

Contingency Fund
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

Memorials can be designated to go to a number of different areas.

Grounds Upkeep Fund
Pastor's Discretionary Fund
Scholarships (Streete, Norton, Harris, Burr, Hook, Eutsler, Brasington, and Laney)

Good Neighbor

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

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

May Calendar

Tuesday, May 1, 2018

Staff Meeting, 1:30am, Pastor's Office

Sunday, May 6 Bulletin Deadline, 2:00pm

Weight Watchers, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 2, 2018

WATF Meal, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

Adult Bible Study, 6:30pm, Fellowship Hall

UMKF, 6:30pm, Kid's Nook

Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room

Thursday, May 3, 2018

Cub Scouts, 6:00pm

Sunday, May 6, 2018

Palmetto Ridge Ministry, 9:30am, Palmetto Ridge

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship, 11:00am

UMYF, 5:00pm, Youth Hut/Fellowship Hall

Monday, May 7, 2018

Boy Scouts, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

Staff Meeting, 1:30am, Pastor's Office

Sunday, May 13 Bulletin Deadline, 2:00pm

Afternoon UMW Circle Meeting, 3:00pm, Parlor

Weight Watchers, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

Circle #3 Meeting, 7:00pm

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

WATF Meal, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

Adult Bible Study, 6:30pm, Fellowship Hall

UMKF, 6:30pm, Kid's Nook

Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Cub Scouts, 6:00pm

Sunday, May 13, 2018

UMM Breakfast, 8:30am, Fellowship Hall

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship (Scholarship Sunday), 11:00am

Monday, May 14, 2018

Boy Scouts, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

Sara Vacation

Tuesday, May 15, 2018

Staff Meeting, 1:30am, Pastor's Office

Sunday, May 20 Bulletin Deadline, 2:00pm

Weight Watchers, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

Sara Vacation

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room

Sara Vacation

Thursday, May 17, 2018

J.O.Y. Club, 12:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Cub Scouts, 6:00pm

Sara Vacation

Sunday, May 20, 2018

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship (Graduation Sunday), 11:00am

Monday, May 21, 2018

Boy Scouts, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

June Newsletter Deadline, 12:00pm

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

Staff Meeting, 1:30am, Pastor's Office

Sunday, May 27 Bulletin Deadline, 2:00pm

Weight Watchers, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room

Thursday, May 24, 2018

Cub Scouts, 6:00pm

Sunday, May 27, 2018

Sunday School, 10:00am

Worship, 11:00am

Monday, May 28, 2018

Memorial Day Holiday, Office Closed

Tuesday, May 29, 2018

Staff Meeting, 1:30am, Pastor's Office

Sunday, June 3 Bulletin Deadline, 2:00pm

Blood Drive, 2-7pm, Fellowship Hall

Weight Watchers, 5:30pm, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom

Wednesday, May 30, 2018

Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room

Thursday, May 31, 2018

Cub Scouts, 6:00pm



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

117 Third Street
Cheraw, SC 29520

Phone: 843-537-7002
Fax: 843-537-7220
E-mail: fumcangiesmith@gmail.com

We're on the Web!
www.cherawfirstumc.org

**JUNE
NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE**

Monday, May 21, 2018
Noon