

UPCOMING EVENTS AT FUMC

Sunday, March 22, 2020

10:00am **NO** Sunday School (per Bishops recommendation)
11:00am **NO** Worship Service (per Bishops recommendation)
5:00pm **NO** MYF
5:00pm **NO** Fireflies

Monday, March 23, 2020

Office closed

5:00pm **NO** Plarn Meeting (Kinsey Mulloy Classroom)
6:00pm **NO** Cub Scouts (Fellowship Hall)
6:30pm **NO** Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

Tuesday, March 24, 2020

11:00am **NO** Adult Exercise with Betsy Vaughn
(Fellowship Hall)
12:00pm March 29 Bulletin Deadline (Announcements)
3:00pm **NO** Lenten Study (Parlor) (Join us via email)

Wednesday, March 25, 2020

12:00pm **NO** Lenten Lesson and Lunch (First Baptist)

Thursday, March 26, 2020

10:30am **NO** "Fierce" Bible Study (Parlor) (Join us via email)

Friday, March 27, 2020

Office closed

11:00am Clergywomen's Gathering (via Zoom Streaming)

Sunday, March 29, 2020

10:00am **NO** Sunday School (per Bishops recommendation)
11:00am **NO** Worship Service (per Bishops recommendation)

OUR PRAYER LIST — Our President, Our Congress, all who defend our nation, all who make decisions for our nation, Jane Mayhew, Phillip Caulder, Debbie & Randy Butler (Sally Smith's friend), Mary Ann Stalnaker (Judy Dixon's mother), Mondell Brasington (Debbie Adam's mother), James McCall, Billy Woodward (Curtis Jones' friend), Curtis Jones, Charles Watson (Chase Watson's dad), Jane Campbell, Jeff Foster, Mabel Foster, Betty Thrailkill, Jerry & Sarah Margaret Therrell, Jim Bennett, Linda Freeman (Sally Smith's friend), Kevin Tietze (Kristina Allen's Brother), Homer Stanton Family, Margaret Stanton, Howard Williamson (Martha Starling's Brother), Dru and Michael Penny (Emily Marsh's friends), Chris Thrailkill (Betty Thrailkill's son), Barbara H. Watson (Betty Hurst's friend), Jackie Tyner (Kelly Dusa's friend), Holly Kimrey Haire (Betty Hurst's niece), Gene Brymer (Kelly Dusa's friend), Ellen Hurst (Kelly Dusa's friend). **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

FLOWER CALENDAR: The 2020 Flower Calendar is posted in the lobby! Please sign up for one or more Sundays of your choosing! And remember, your dedications can be both in honor or in memory of a person ... in celebration of an event ... or in thanksgiving for something/someone!

A CELEBRATION OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS! First United Methodist members Amy Goodwin and Vincent Prevatte both had Academic Challenge teams make it to the State Tournament this year! Mrs. Goodwin's Camden High School team and Vince Prevatte's Cheraw High School Team both won their regional championships in Div. III! Unfortunately, both lost in the semi-finals! This is the first time ANY school from Chesterfield County has ever advanced to the state level in Academic Challenge! Members of the Cheraw High School team include FUMC member Ella Prevatte and, Grace Willoughby who has participated with FUMC's MYF! Congratulations students and adult leaders!

SUPPORT SCOUTING! My name is Leighton Becker and I am currently working on my Eagle Scout project with the support of Troop 655. My project is comprised of the planning, purchasing of materials, and building of two shelves. In addition, we will be adding outlet covers, removing old plumbing and a door, and several other small projects. We also plan to stock the new shelves with needed paper products for the clients of the McArn Food Bank. Part of the Eagle Scout plan and project is fundraising. I am asking for monetary support to help me implement this project. Every penny helps me complete this project while supporting those in need within our community. Thank you for considering this project as a worthwhile cause to support! If you can help, please make your checks payable to: Troop 655 and put in the memo line - "Leighton Becker/Eagle Project".

SERVING TODAY

Greeter: Angela Holliday

Lobby Door Greeter: Herbert Watts

Nursery Today: Cindy Sanderson, Trina Mills

Nursery Next Sunday: Margaret Wolfe

Next Week's Lay Reader: Shannon Johnson

Flowers Next Sunday: OPEN

Deposit Team: Thomas Samuel, Doug Marsh

Deposit Team Alternate: Betty Hurst

Worship Attendance, March 15 – 79; Sunday School Attendance, March 15 – 47

Year to Date Income: \$68,427.15; **Year to Date Expenses:** \$60,596.27

Head Usher: Theodore Burns

Acolyte: Ella Prevatte

Hostess: Lib Norton

McArn Items: Juice Boxes

FUMC STAFF

Rev. L. Kim Eanes, Pastor (cherawpastor@gmail.com) 843-685-3659

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

Holly Haire, Child Development Ministry Director (fccdm@yahoo.com)

Mary Lynn Hart, Interim Music Director

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 THIRD STREET, CHERAW, SC 29520

843-537-7002

www.cherawfirstumc.org

The Mission of First United Methodist Church is to win and nurture souls for Jesus Christ by sharing and living the message of salvation.



THE CHURCH WITH A HEART, IN THE HEART OF CHERAW

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

MARCH 22, 2020

4th SUNDAY IN LENT

LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

TIME OF CENTERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Please consult pages 2-4 of today's bulletin as well as the announcements on the Connection page.)*

OPENING PRAYER: **ALL KNOWING GOD, WE GATHER TOGETHER WITH PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING FOR WHO YOU ARE, AND FOR ALL THAT YOU HAVE DONE FOR US. YOU KNOW US BETTER THAN WE KNOW OURSELVES ... ALL OUR THOUGHTS AND ACTIONS ... AND YET YOU LOVE US. NO MATTER WHERE WE GO OR WHAT WE DO, YOUR LOVE ENCIRCLES US ... AHEAD AND BEHIND ... GENTLY LEADING AND GUIDING AND BLESSING. WE PRAISE YOU FOR YOUR LOVE AND FOR YOUR FAITHFUL PRESENCE IN OUR LIVES. MAY YOUR SPIRIT MOVE IN OUR HEARTS AND OUR MINDS AS WE WORSHIP TOGETHER. EXAMINE OUR ATTITUDES AND OUR ACTIONS ... LAY BEAR THE THINGS WE NEED TO CONFESS ... CHALLENGE US WITH YOUR WORD ... AND GUIDE US ON TO PATHS THAT LEAD TO LIFE. FOR WE ARE YOUR PEOPLE ... CALLED BY YOUR NAME. AMEN.**

OPENING HYMN NO. 514 "Stand Up, Stand Up, for Jesus" *(You Tube - CRC Worship/ Jan. 13, 2008)*

A LESSON FROM THE PSALMS *Psalm 139*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON *Ephesians 1:15-22*

GOSPEL LESSON *Luke 9:1-6, 18-25*

WITNESS TO THE WORD *"The Hope To Which He Has Called Us"*

HYMN NO. 347 "Spirit Song" *(You Tube - dhan2346 - Nov. 30, 2008)*

SHARING OF PRAYER JOYS AND CONCERNS *(Please consult the Prayer List on the back of the bulletin)*

COMMUNITY PRAYER: **O LORD OUR GOD, AS WE SIT IN QUIETNESS, OUR THOUGHTS ARE FAR FROM QUIET. WE ARE WRESTLING WITH DOUBTS AND FEARS ... WE ARE LOOKING FOR ANSWERS ... WE ARE HOPING AGAINST HOPE ... WE ARE SEEKING STRENGTH ... WE ARE HUNGRY... HUNGRY FOR WARM SUNSHINE ... HEALED BODIES ... REST FROM FEARS. YOUR WORD SAYS ... THE HUNGRY WILL BE FILLED. SO WE ASK TODAY FOR YOU TO FILL US ... FILL US WITH THE BREATH OF LIFE ... FILL US WITH THANKFUL HEARTS ... FILL US WITH CALMNESS, COURAGE, AND MOST OF ALL, WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR PRESENCE. WE LOOK TO YOU, O GOD, TO BE PRESENT IN OUR COMMUNITIES AND IN OUR WORLD. CONTINUE TO SHOW US HOW WE ... AT FIRST UMC ... CAN BE PART OF YOUR WORK IN THE WORLD. TEACH US HOW WE CAN GROW INTO FAITH AND BECOME MORE AND MORE LIKE JESUS. WE PRAY IN THE NAME OF JESUS ... AND IN THE MANNER IN WHICH HE TAUGHT US TO PRAY ...**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: **GOD, YOU KNOW US BETTER THAN WE KNOW OURSELVES. YOU KNOW OUR THOUGHTS ... OUR WEAKNESSES ... OUR MOTIVATIONS ... OUR SINS ... AND YOU LOVE US STILL. FORGIVE US WHEN WE DON'T BELIEVE SUCH LOVE IS TRUE OR POSSIBLE ... WHEN WE WONDER HOW YOU COULD LOVE US JUST AS WE ARE ... WHEN WE FORGET JUST HOW INTRICATELY WE ARE MADE ... FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE ... IN YOUR IMAGE! REMOVE FROM OUR MINDS, EVERY THOUGHT WHICH KEEPS US FROM YOU. BREAK DOWN THE WALLS ... PUSH ASIDE THE PRIDE ... AND HELP US TO TRUST ANEW. YOU KNOW OUR HEARTS ... AND YOU LOVE US STILL. AMEN.**

TIME OF SILENCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE: **OUR GOD OF MIGHT PROTECTS US EVERY MOMENT OF OUR LIVES! OUR GOD OF MIGHT PROTECTS US IN ALL THE DECISIONS WE FACE! OUR GOD OF MIGHT PROTECTS US IN OUR HOMES AND IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS! OUR LORD OF LOVE BRINGS HEALING WHERE THERE IS SICKNESS AND DISEASE! OUR LORD OF LOVE BRINGS HOPE WHERE THERE IS HUNGER AND DESPAIR! OUR LORD OF LOVE BRINGS RELEASE WHERE THERE IS OPPRESSION! OUR SPIRIT OF HOLINESS ENABLES US TO BE OVERCOMERS OF FEAR AND TEMPTATION! OUR SPIRIT OF HOLINESS ENABLES US TO BE VICTORS OVER SIN AND DESPAIR. OUR SPIRIT OF HOLINESS ENABLES US TO BECOME EVERYTHING GOD HAS MEANT FOR US TO BE! THIS IS THE GOOD NEWS!**

OFFERTORY *(Please remember that this is a great time of need, and our ministries, missions, and church operations still require our continued generous giving.)*

THE THANKSGIVING: **HOLY GOD, YOU DELIGHT IN CREATING LIFE AND BEAUTY. THANK YOU FOR THE ABUNDANT GRACE YOU SO FREELY GIVE. LET OUR CHURCH BE A COMMUNITY THAT LIVES BY THIS GOOD NEWS ... EVEN OUR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST IS A GIFT WE RECEIVE! SO USE THESE OFFERINGS TO FURTHER OUR CHURCH'S MISSION ... PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE TO GROW IN WISDOM AND TO SPREAD THE HARMONY OF YOUR PEACE. WE PRAY IN JESUS' NAME. AMEN.**

CLOSING SONG NO. 399 "Take My Life, and Let It Be" *(You Tube/Vineyard Music - LSwe1 - Jan. 23, 2013)*

BENEDICTION: **MAY THE EMBRACE OF THE FATHER BE THE COMFORT YOU DESIRE. MAY THE NAME OF THE SON BE THE ONE ON WHOM YOU RELY. MAY THE PRESENCE OF THE SPIRIT BE WITH YOU EVERY HOUR. MAY THE THREE IN ONE BE THE FOCUS OF ALL YOU ARE.**

INFORMATION ABOUT CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) AND THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: To view South Carolina United Methodist Bishop L. Jonathan Holston's statements of recommendation for dealing with the COVID 19 pandemic in local churches, please go to: www.umcsc.org. On that same website, you will find multiple resources to answer many of your "who, what, when, and where" questions for all things related to the COVID 19 pandemic.

CHURCH OFFICE OPERATIONS: Per the recommendations of SCUMC Bishop Jonathan Holston, church offices will stay open as long as state and local government offices remain open. In accompaniment with this recommendation however, the Bishop requests that as much church business as possible be done through phone calls and emails, rather than in-person visits. FUMC church office hours are: Tuesday-Thursday, 8:30am-4:30pm with noon – 1 pm as the lunch hour.

ONE CALL COMMUNICATIONS: First UMC is using our One Call communication system quite frequently during this time of restriction and separation caused by the COVID19 pandemic. This One Call system involves a recorded message from First UMC which comes to your selected phone number automatically, with the latest news and notifications. And the service is absolutely free! Just call or email the church office with your preferred phone number and Angie will import you into our system. In this time of forced social distancing, let's make sure to NOT simultaneously practice emotional distance!

A LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR LENT: Please note. Due to the current "large group gathering" restrictions in response to the COVID19 pandemic, the special presentation entitled...Messiah in the Passover...scheduled for Wednesday, March 25th **has been cancelled.**

SPRING BBQ CANCELLED: In light of the 3/17/20 speech by Governor McMaster, along with the Town of Cheraw's decision to cancel the Spring Festival, along with South Carolina United Methodist Bishop Holston's recommendations for local churches, along with President Trump's guidelines on social distancing, the First UMC United Methodist Men have decided to cancel the Spring BBQ. You are encouraged to take the following steps for refund of advanced ticket sales: all ticket sellers are invited to get in touch with your ticket buyers, and offer them a full refund in return for their ticket; upon return of the tickets to the church office, ticket sellers will be refunded the full price of their returned tickets. We thank all of our church family who have supported the Spring BBQ in the past, and we invite you to continue to find other ways to support our scouting programs and other ministries typically funded by the Spring BBQ proceeds. The First UMC United Methodist Men regret this unusual cancellation, but we pray that our First UMC family will graciously understand this decision.

RELAY FOR LIFE ACTIVITES: For the safety of our staff and volunteers, the American Cancer Society, Southeast Region (Charlotte) has closed their offices to the public until further notice. All events including the Relay for Life of Chesterfield County and in-person meetings have been suspended through mid-May.

TUESDAY LENTEN STUDY: A Community Lenten study is being offered over the next several weeks. This study is in alignment with our current Sunday sermon series for Lent. Talk to Pastor Kim for more information. Please consult your church email inbox for resources to review related to this study.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY: A Community Bible study is being offered over the next several weeks. During this study, we will be introduced to several less well-known biblical women who lived courageously, obediently, and faithfully - solely in order to fulfill God's plan for their lives! This study is for all women ... and any men who are courageous enough to meet, and celebrate, the fierce women God has placed in our history! Talk to Pastor Kim for more information. Please consult your church email inbox for resources to review related to this study .