

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

DECEMBER 27, 2020

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

LITURGICAL COLOR: WHITE

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

Lawton Harris

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Praise the Christ-Child, the King of kings.

C: His star lights up the night sky breaking through the darkness.

P: Praise to the Father who sent his Son to save us.

C: We are no longer lost in slavery to sin and death.

P: Praise to the Spirit who leads us and guides us.

C: Holy Spirit fill us with hope, faith, joy, and peace as we worship!

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61: 10-62:3

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

GLORIA PATRI

MORNING PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN

"This Is a Day of New Beginnings"

Words in Bulletin

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 12:22-34

SERMON

Welcome 2021!

HYMN

"Different" By Micah Tyler

Words in Bulletin

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lawton Harris

This Is a Day of New Beginnings 383

Unison

1. This is a day of new be - gin - nings,
 2. For by the life and death of Je - sus,
 3. Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing,
 4. Christ is a - live, and goes be - fore us
 *5. In faith we'll gath - er round the ta - ble

time to re - mem - ber and move on,
 God's might - y Spir - it, now as then,
 step from the past and leave be - hind
 to show and share what love can do.
 to taste and share what love can do.

time to be - lieve what love is bring - ing,
 can make for us a world of dif - ference,
 our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and griev - ing,
 This is a day of new be - gin - nings;
 This is a day of new be - gin - nings;

1-3 | 4 or 5

lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.
 as faith and hope are born a - gain.
 seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.
 our God is mak - ing all things new.
 our God is mak - ing all things new.

*Alternate text for Holy Communion

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1978; alt. 1987 (Rev. 21:5)
 MUSIC: Carlton R. Young, 1984

BEGINNINGS
 98.98

Words © 1983, 1987 Hope Publishing Co.; music © 1987 Hope Publishing Co.

DIFFERENT

By Micah Tyler

[Verse 1]

I don't wanna hear anymore, teach me to listen
I don't wanna see anymore, give me a vision
That you could move this heart, to be set apart

[Verse 2]

I don't need to recognize, the man in the mirror
And I don't wanna trade Your plan, for something familiar
I can't waste a day, I can't stay the same

[Chorus]

I wanna be different
I wanna be changed
'Til all of me is gone
And all that remains
Is a fire so bright
The whole world can see
That there's something different
So come and be different
In me!

[Verse 3]

And I don't wanna spend my life, stuck in a pattern
And I don't wanna gain this world but lose what matters
And so I'm giving up, everything because...

[Chorus]

I wanna be different
I wanna be changed
'Til all of me is gone
And all that remains
Is a fire so bright

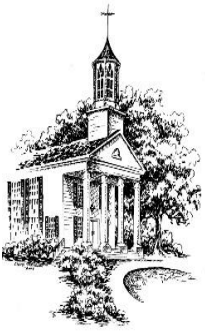
The whole world can see
That there's something different
So come and be different, ooh

[Bridge]

I know that I am far from perfect
But through You the cross still says I'm worth it
So take this beating in my heart and
Come and finish what You started
When they see me, let them see You
'Cause I just wanna be different, ye-ey

[Chorus]

I wanna be different
I wanna be changed
'Til all of me is gone
And all that remains
Ooh is a fire so bright
The whole world can see
That there's something different
So come and be different
I just wanna be different
So could You be different
In me!



THE CONNECTION

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

A Few Words from the Pastor...

After Jesus was born, some wise men from the east came to Jerusalem. ² They asked people, “Where is the child who has been born to be the king of the Jews? We saw the star that shows he was born. Matthew 2:1b-2 ESV

Did you see the Christmas star? Astronomer’s called this event the great mutual occultation. Two gas giants in our solar system, Jupiter, and Saturn, were close enough together that they appeared to combine into one bright elongated star. This phenomenon occurs every twenty years, but this year was exceedingly rare. It was the closet observable conjunction since 1226 AD.¹ If you missed seeing it you can check out the pictures on the University of South Carolina’s Melton Memorial Observatory’s Facebook page.²

It occurred to me, as I gazed upon this site, that was a special gift to us this year when we needed it the most. It was a reminder that God cares, is close, and is present in our lives. This sign of wonder in the night sky, that may well have been the same “star” that the wise men saw, heralded the birth once again of the newborn King.

Paul Overstreet and Taylor Dunn wrote a song called *Wise Men Still Seek Him*. In the chorus it says, “Wise men still seek Him. Those on earth who realize how much they need Him. Following Jesus wherever He may lead them. Wise men still seek Him.”³ As we finish the Christmas season and prepare for the new year may we be wise men and women who seek and follow our savior.

Pastor Debra



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¹ <https://earthsky.org/astronomy-essentials/great-jupiter-saturn-conjunction-dec-21-2020>

² <https://www.facebook.com/meltonobservatory>

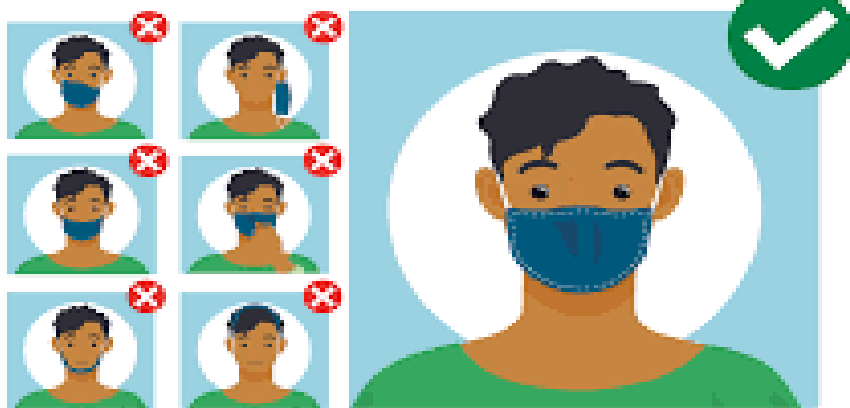
³ Wise Men Still Seek Him lyrics © Scarlet Moon Music Inc., Scarlet Moon Music Inc

⁴ Pictures ©Crosswalk.com

OUR PRAYER LIST — Our President, our Congress, all Governors, Mayors, State, County, and Local employees, all health care workers, EMT's, all who defend our nation, all who make decisions for our nation, Jane Mayhew, Jane Campbell, Jeff Foster, Mabel Foster, Betty Thrailkill, Sarah Margaret Therrell, Jim Bennett, Margaret Stanton, Tony Thrailkill, Dare Marsh, Phillip Caulder, Connie Williamson, JoAnne Morgan, Sherry Cox, Eric Garris (Mary Burr's friend), Taylor Novinger (Dr. Novinger's son), Randy Butler, Mary-Malette Wood, Christy Moore (Sally Smith's friend), Sam Eubanks, Harold Lomas, Amy Smith Family. **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

A mask worn incorrectly is not safe or effective.

ARE YOU WEARING YOUR MASK CORRECTLY?



Make sure:

- ✓ Your nose, mouth, and chin are covered
- ✓ Your straps should hold your mask snugly around your face without any gaps.

#MaskUpWisconsin
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH SERVICES

Thank You For Your Cooperation With Our COVID-19 Safety Protocols!

Enter Through Office Lobby
Temperature Checks
Exit Through Sanctuary Front
Doors after Worship as
Directed by Ushers
Maintain 6ft Distance
No Singing
Wear Masks Properly and
the Entire Time You Are in
the Church

Pledges Reach Two Thirds Mark Towards 2021 Budget

The Stewardship Committee is grateful for the progress so far in our pledge campaign. Thanks to all of you who have made commitments for 2021. If you have not turned in your pledge card yet, please turn it in by the end of December. Pledge cards may be placed in the offering plate, mailed to the church, brought into, called in or emailed to the church office.

The church office email is fumcangiesmith@gmail.com and phone number is 843-537-7002.



SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS: PRACTICAL HINTS FROM GRIEFSHARE:

- Recognize that the holidays are going to be tough – emotionally, relationally, physically, spiritually.
- Set realistic expectations for yourself, understanding your limitations.
- Pray and ask God to help you. Be intentional. Just because you don't feel God's presence, does not mean He's not there.
- Emotional ambushes – when you pull out Christmas ornaments, when you set the holiday table, in a store when you are shopping. Expect emotional ambushes. It won't stop them, but expectation will help lessen the surprise factor. Emotions are natural and God given – sadness, loneliness, anger. You may want to journal your feelings. It gives you a place to release pent-up emotions. It can be a healing tool for your eyes only.
- Think in advance which activities and traditions have the potential to be hard-hitting. You don't have to do everything you have always done. Having a plan helps keep you from becoming overwhelmed.
- Taking care of your physical health is important. Get enough rest, get some exercise and sunlight and make wise food choices. Be intentional about self-care.
- Gift giving can be strenuous. Consider passing on something special that belonged to your loved one. Give a gift to a cause important to your loved one in lieu of presents.
- If you are fortunate enough to be with your family, sit around the dinner table or Christmas tree and talk about your loved one. Share good memories, lessons learned from your loved one, and character traits to exemplify. Your loved one's legacy lives on through you and through all the people your loved one touched in life.
- Thankfulness is a healing too. There's always something to be thankful for. Write these down.
- One way to take focus off of your pain is to reach out to help others while you are hurting. A phone call, a text message, a card to someone homebound or with no family in the area. Adopt a needy child or family for Christmas.
- Griefshare is there to encourage you. If you have not done so already, log on to Griefshare.org and sign up for the daily encouraging emails you will receive for one year. We hope to start a new 13 week Griefshare series in the Spring. Watch for details

Bonnie J. Cundiff and Susan Marsh, Griefshare Facilitators

BOOK AVAILABLE: Copies of the book titled "Resurrection, A Pastor's Reading of the Major New Testament Resurrection Passages" by Pastor Phil Thrailkill, are available in the church office. They are \$15.00 each and the money is being donated to FUMC.

OFFICE HOURS THE WEEK OF NEW YEARS DAY: The office will be open the regular schedule days, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the week of New Year's Day.

J.O.Y CLUB: The J.O.Y Club will not be meeting until further notice. Mary and Renie will advise when the first meeting will be.

HEAD USHERS NEEDED: If you would like to head usher, please call Theodore Burns at 843-287-1836 or Angie Smith at 843-537-7002.

A MINISTRY OF SERVICE: Our Nurture and Care Committee offers a transport ministry by members of First UMC. If you or a loved one needs a ride to a doctor's appointment or a medical errand, please call the church office. We have several volunteers on the roster who are willing to give you a lift, in strict compliance with the current COVID-19 guidelines. Please don't hesitate to call the church office if you are in need of this valuable ministry of service to others!

FACEBOOK FAN? As you are hopefully aware, during this extended time of social distancing due to the coronavirus, your FUMC staff has continued to try to keep you informed through the various means of emails, One Calls, personal phone calls, and our FUMC Facebook page! Please know that as we continue to "endure" some extended social distancing protocol, your FUMC staff will continue to post pictures, comics, and uplifting messages in order that we might "stay connected". If you would like to share something uplifting or humorous with our FUMC family via the FUMC Facebook page, please submit your post to Angie at: fumcangiesmith@gmail.com.

MEMORIAL GIFTS: If you would like to give an "in memory" gift to FUMC, you may designate it to any area listed below: Contingency Fund, Endowment Fund, Memorial Fund, Music Fund, Adult Exercise Class, Salkehatchie Summer Service, Bus Fund, Youth Ministries, Children's Ministries, Building Upkeep Fund, Parsonage Upkeep Fund, Grounds Upkeep Fund, Pastor's Discretionary Fund, Flower Fund, and named Scholarships. Call the church office for more information.

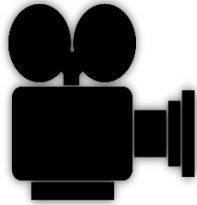
DID YOU KNOW? First UMC offers a Nurture and Care Ministry. If you have a loved one who could use a visit and/or a word of cheer, and/or if you know of a shut-in who needs some care and attention, please contact the church office. Please note that while our Nurture and Care volunteers have "re-modeled" their ways of reaching out due to our current social distancing recommendations, they are continuing to contact shut-ins via phone calls, greeting cards, and porch "deliveries"! So please let us know if there is someone of whom you are aware who would appreciate some extra TLC!



THANK YOU: I would like to say thank you for all the cards, calls, visits, and love shown to me for my birthday. It made not only my day, but the month to receive so many acts of kindness.

Love, Ellison Outen

If you are unable to attend a worship service in the sanctuary but wish to view this service at a later date, FUMC now provides you a means to do so. Simply go to the church's website at cherawfirstumc.org, click on the tab labeled "Video Sermon Archive" and then select the service you wish to view. Each Sunday's worship service and accompanying bulletin is usually available by 2pm the day of the service.



Your Help Needed!

We do not currently have a person on staff to provide music for worship. Volunteer musicians are providing the music for the prelude and postlude each Sunday. We are using recordings of hymns. If you can play the guitar, piano, organ we need your help to provide music for our worship service in this transition. Please contact Jenny Keefe at 843-601-2586 and offer to share your

God-given talents with our church.

ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE: Have you considered remembering the church in your will/bequests? The Endowment can grow through your special giving, if you would like to make a contribution to this fund, mark on the "for line" of your check Endowment Fund.

IN MEMORY OR HONOR

In Memory of Jerry Therrell

Judy Dixon

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

- January 2 Hollis Dusa
- January 4 Reagan Freeman
- January 5 Jeffery Johnson, Margaret Wolfe
- January 9 Carley Watson
- January 14 Greer Eddins, Zachary Carabo
- January 17 JoAnne Morgan
- January 20 Shellie Stanton, Kay VanDeman, Carolyn Wallace
- January 21 Kaitlyn Nicole Freeman
- January 22 Mary Kathryn Wagnon, Rhett Butler
- January 24 Aidan Freeman
- January 25 Kate Wilson Kollitz
- January 29 Sally Smith
- January 31 Becky Moore

ANNIVERSARIES

- January 9 M&M Harold Lomas
- January 28 M&M Tavener Threatte

MOMENTS FROM THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Thank you to Jennifer Tomberlin, the children and youth and everyone who helped with this program!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 27, 2020

10:00am **NO** Sunday School
10:00am Worship in Sanctuary
5:30-7:00pm **NO** UMYF
5:00pm **NO** Fireflies

Monday, December 28, 2020

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

Tuesday, December 29, 2020

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open
11:00am **NO** Adult Exercise with Betsy Vaughn (Fellowship Hall)
12:00pm January 3 Bulletin Deadline

Wednesday, December 30, 2020

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open

Thursday, December 31, 2020

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open

Friday, January 1, 2021

Happy New Year

Sunday, January 3, 2021

10:00am **NO** Sunday School
10:00am Worship in Sanctuary
5:30-7:00pm UMYF
5:00pm **NO** Fireflies

FUMC STAFF

Rev. Debra Armstrong, Pastor (daarmstrong@umcsc.org) 843-537-7002 O 843-253-3132 C

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

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

Now Hiring! - Music Director

McArn Items: Canned meats
Head Usher: Eric Dusa
Attendance December 20: 47

Year to Date Received: \$329,435.75
Year to Date Expenses: \$331,869.40