

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 THIRD STREET, CHERAW, SC 29520

843-537-7002

www.cherawfirstumc.org



**Create in me
a clean heart,
O God,
and put a new
and right
spirit
within me.**

Psalm 51:10

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Seurdieck

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

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

MARCH 14, 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

LITURGICAL COLOR: BURLAP

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Ben & Angela Holliday

PRELUDE

"In Christ Alone"

Bryson Hunter

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

PSALTER

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

P: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!

C: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble, and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

All Respond: Give thanks to the Lord for His steadfast love, for all God's wonderful works.

P: Some were fools through their sinful ways, and because of their iniquities suffered affliction;

C: they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death.

P: Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.

C: He sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from their destruction.

P: Let them thank the LORD for His steadfast love, for His wondrous works to the children of man!

C: And let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, and tell of His deeds in songs of joy!

All Respond: Give thanks to the Lord for His steadfast love, for all God's wonderful works. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

Numbers 21: 4-9

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

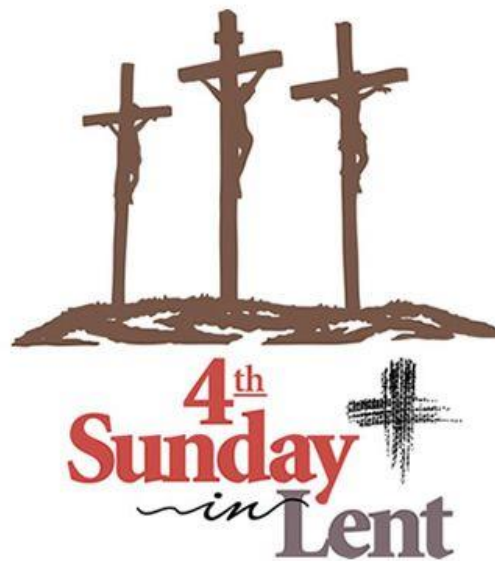
GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be.
World without end, Amen, Amen.

MORNING PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN	“Rescue” by Lauren Daigle	Words in Bulletin
NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING	Ephesians 2: 1-10	Pastor Debra
SERMON	“Look Up and Live”	Pastor Debra
HYMN	“Amazing Grace”	Words in Bulletin
BENEDICTION		
POSTLUDE	“Amazing Grace”	Bryson Hunter

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Brant Thompson by Becky, April, Christy, Ken and Ashlyn.



RESCUE

By Lauren Daigle

You are not hidden
There's never been a moment
You were forgotten
You are not hopeless
Though you have been broken
Your innocence stolen

I hear you whisper underneath your breath
I hear your SOS, your SOS

I will send out an army to find you
In the middle of the darkest night
It's true, I will rescue you

There is no distance
That cannot be covered
Over and over
You're not defenseless
I'll be your shelter
I'll be your armor

I hear you whisper underneath your breath
I hear your SOS, your SOS

I will send out an army to find you
In the middle of the darkest night
It's true, I will rescue you
I will never stop marching to reach you
In the middle of the hardest fight
It's true, I will rescue you

I hear the whisper underneath your breath
I hear you whisper, you have nothing left

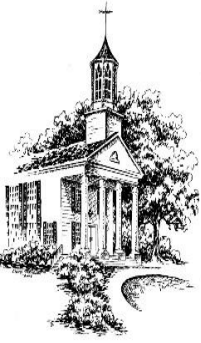
I will send out an army to find you
In the middle of the darkest night
It's true, I will rescue you
I will never stop marching to reach you
In the middle of the hardest fight
It's true, I will rescue you

Oh, I will rescue you

AMAZING GRACE

By John Newton

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.
3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.
4. The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures.
5. Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil,
a life of joy and peace.
6. When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.



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

Volume 16,
Issue 11
March 14, 2021

Words from the Pastor...

Micah 6:8 is one of my favorite scriptures. It is simple and easy to memorize. It is a gauge to check before taking actions and to evaluate with after deeds are done. During this Lenten season it has served as a penitential reminder and course corrector as we rend open our hearts and claim the promise of God to always be with us.

Micah was an 8th Century B.C. prophet with a fiery message for the people of Judah. The Hebrew people were called to task for breaking their covenant with God; for turning away from God. Amid this accountability intervention Micah reminds the people of how God calls them to live and prosper. Act justly. Love Mercy. Walk humbly with God.

The words from the prophet Micah may sound simple but they are not always easy to put into action. Act. Love. Walk. These are actions to be taken for the benefit of others not just ourselves. The general rule of discipleship in the United Methodist Church is to “witness to Jesus Christ in the world through acts of compassion, justice, worship, and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.”ⁱ This rule reminds us that living out Micah 6:8 is a powerful witness for Jesus.

Biblical justice is always about seeing the conditions and improving those conditions for others. The Apostle James says it this way. “Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace, keep warm and well fed,’ but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?” (James 2:16 NIV) Acting justly in this situation requires providing clothing, food, and shelter for those in need.

Mercy is defined as “showing compassion and/or forgiveness toward someone whom it is within one’s power to punish or to harm.”ⁱⁱ Through Jesus Christ we have all received God’s merciful forgiveness and not received the punishment we deserve for our sin. Having compassion for others, offering understanding and forgiveness, rather than condemnation are how we demonstrate that we love mercy.

Worship and devotion to God and submitting to guidance by the Holy Spirit require that we humble ourselves and let God be in charge. We die to our self-centeredness and become more like Christ. Thomas Merton said, “pride makes us artificial. Humility makes us real.”ⁱⁱⁱ

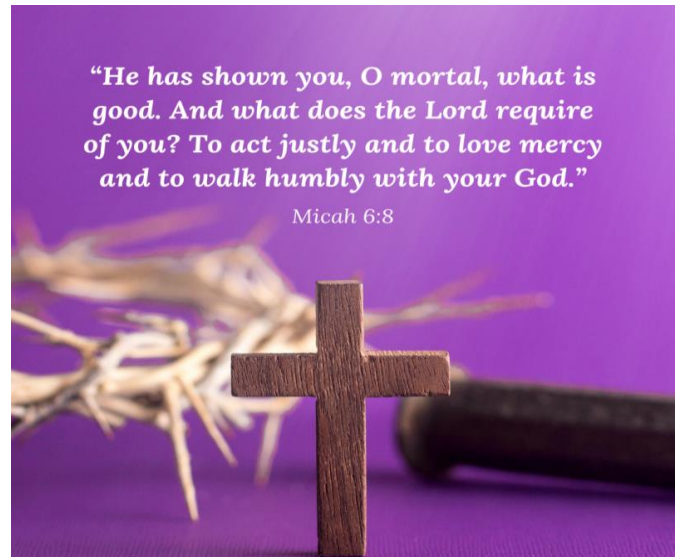
As we continue our Lenten journey together let us be real. Let us seize every opportunity we have every day to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. Let us witness for Jesus with compassion, justice, worship, and devotion by Holy Spirit guidance.

Pastor Debra

ⁱ <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/blog/works-of-mercy-compassion-justice>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.oed.com/mercy>

ⁱⁱⁱ www.brainyquote.com/thomas_merton



“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”

Micah 6:8

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 Campbell, Jeff Foster, Mabel Foster, Betty Thrailkill, Jim Bennett, Phillip Caulder, Taylor Novinger (Dr. Novinger's son), Christy Moore (Sally Smith's friend), Becky Thompson, Judy Quick (Sally Smith's friend), Mary Lomas, Scott Tomberlin, The Family of Lloyd Coren (Courtney Eubank's dad), Dallas Keefe, Charlotte Crosby, Syble Sanderson, Terry Cocker (Becky Thompson's friend), Bill Eutsler, Jr (Renie Seel's friend), Sam Eubanks, Betty Board, Scott Tomberlin. **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED: The UMW have started purchasing catered meals for bereavement meals due to the COVID-19 restrictions. If you would like to donate to this cause, please mark your check bereavement meals and mail it or drop it off at the church on Sunday morning.

FLOWER CALENDAR: The 2021 flower calendar has been placed in the lobby area. If you would like to sign up for a special Sunday, please sign up on the calendar on Sunday or call the church office and Angie will put your name on the calendar for you.

Worship with Us During Holy Week and on Easter Sunday
March 28 – April 4th

Holy week begins with the Palm Sunday worship service at 10:00 a.m. On April 1st we will have a Maundy Thursday Service at 6:00 p.m. Holy Communion will be provided using individual packets during this service.



There will be two services on Easter Sunday, April 4th. The Easter Sunrise service will be on the lawn at 6:30 p.m. Please bring a chair, wear a mask, and keep social distance. We will have the flowering of the cross after this service. Members are invited to bring flowers to put on the cross. The traditional Easter service will be at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

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.



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



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES TO RESUME All Sunday school classes will resume on Sunday, April 11, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. Please contact your Sunday school teacher to let them know you plan to attend. This will insure we have enough books and help us set up classrooms following our safety protocols.

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.

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.

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, Bereavement Meals, and named Scholarships. Call the church office for more information.

MEAL BACKPACK MINISTRY: We have reached our first-tier goal of providing funds for one month of food for 50 students! Thank you to all who have contributed so far. We still need donations to reach the second-tier goal of two months and our final goal of providing enough funds for three months of food for 50 students. You may donate by placing cash or checks in the backpack on the table in the lobby on Sunday mornings. Or you may mail or bring in your donation to the church office. Be sure to put meal backpack mission in the memo section of your check and/or on your envelope.



Nurture and Care Ministry Reaching Hearts

First United Methodist Church's Nurture and Care ministry works extremely hard to help shut-ins stay connected with our church especially during the covid-19 pandemic. Phone calls, cards, and gifts help those who cannot attend church at this time know we love them and are thinking about them. The transport ministry has provided rides for several individuals to doctor's appointments. If you would like to be contacted by one of our ministry volunteers, or if you need a ride to a doctor's appointment, please contact the church office at 843-537-7002.



Join us for virtual worship when you cannot be here in person. Sunday Morning Worship Services are recorded each week in the sanctuary. The service is available by 2 p.m. on the Sunday it is recorded. To worship with us virtually go to [www.fumc.org](#). Click on the tab labeled "video sermon archive." Then click on the service you want to participate in and enjoy worshipping with your church family. The most recent sermon will always be at the top of the list.

ENDOWMENT FUND: 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.



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.

AARP FOUNDATION TAX-AIDE TAXPAYER SURVEY: Tax-Aide is for older adults who are on a fixed income or low income, you do not have to be a member of AARP, if you would like to make an appointment or have any questions please call 843-638-3045.



American Red Cross

BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS: FUMC collected 16 units of blood and the potential number of lives saved through those donations was 48.

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Harold Lomas

Troy & Marsha Lomas

In Memory of Jane Mayhew

Mary Lomas

In Memory of Joan M. Easterling

Mary Lomas

In Memory of Amy Smith

Betty & Betsy Thrailkill

In Memory of Vilma Rohde

David & Judy Dixon

In Memory of Anne Bryan

David & Judy Dixon

COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION: Below find the information where the COVID-19 Vaccine is being given. Also below is a chart that shows the phases of this vaccine and when they are expected to begin.

CareSouth Carolina-Chesterfield (Public health provider-Federally Qualified Health Center)
204 Perry Wiley Way, Chesterfield, SC 29709 (Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9am-3pm)
Appointments available based on vaccine allocation and staffing availability. 843-623-5080

McLeod Health (Cheraw) Drive Thru (First Come First Serve) 866-365-8110 @ Cheraw First Baptist Church, 126 Greene Street, Cheraw, SC 29520
Friday, March 12 **FIRST DOSE Phase 1a and 1b** 8:00am-2:00pm, No voucher Required, must have a driver's license or another form of ID.

McLeod Health (Cheraw) Drive Thru (First Come First Serve) 866-365-8110 @ Marlboro County High School, 915 Fayetteville Ave., Bennettsville, SC 29512
Wednesday, March 17 **FIRST DOSE Phase 1a and 1b** 8:00am-2:00pm, No voucher Required, must have a driver's license or another form of ID.

Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center (Hospital)
Accepting Phase 1a and 1b
1304 W. Bobo Newsom Hwy., Hartsville, SC 29550 843-656-0101

OVERVIEW

South Carolina continues to focus on protecting the lives and health of South Carolinians from COVID-19. With the increased supply of vaccine and progress in vaccinating people in group 1a (front line health care workers and those age 65 and over), South Carolina is ready to move on to the next phase. This plan prioritizes those with greatest risk, while ensuring equitable access to the vaccine for every South Carolinian age 16 and over.

This approach continues to recognize that risk of hospitalization and death from COVID worsens with age, especially for those over 45, and that people with certain medical conditions and occupational exposures are at higher risk. As a result, South Carolina will move to phase 1b, and then 1c and 2 as described below with the goal of vaccinating every South Carolinian who wishes to receive the vaccine by Summer.

How will individuals demonstrate eligibility?

When seeking vaccine services individuals included in Phase 1b or 1c may show eligibility by showing an ID that includes their date-of-birth, attesting that they meet the criteria established above for a Frontline/Essential Worker, or by attesting that they have an eligible high-risk medical condition.

PHASE 1B

Appointments can be made by individuals in the following groups beginning March 8, 2021:

1. Individuals aged 55 and up
2. Individuals with Increased Risk for Severe COVID-19 Disease
 - o Persons aged 16-54 with one or more of the following high-risk medical conditions**
 - o Persons who have a developmental or other severe high-risk disability that makes developing severe life-threatening illness or death from COVID-19 infection more likely

****High-risk medical conditions:** cancer (current, not a history of cancer), chronic kidney disease (any stage), chronic lung disease, diabetes (Type 1 and Type 2), Down syndrome, heart disease (congestive heart disease, coronary artery disease, cardiomyopathy, pulmonary hypertension), HIV/AIDS, solid organ transplant, obesity (BMI >30), pregnancy, sickle cell disease.
3. Frontline Workers with Increased Occupational Risk
Frontline workers with increased occupational risk are people who:
 - o Must be in-person at their place of work, and
 - o Perform a job in which they are at increased risk of exposure due to their frequent, close (<6 feet) and ongoing (>15 minutes) contact with others in the work environmentExamples of frontline workers include, but are not limited to teachers and daycare workers, manufacturing workers, grocery store workers, law enforcement officers, etc.

4. Individuals at Increased Risk in Settings where People are Living and Working in Close Contact
 - o Residents and workers in group home settings for the mentally or physically disabled or those with behavioral or substance abuse conditions
 - o Workers and residents in homeless shelters
 - o Workers and residents in community training homes (CTHs)
 - o State and local correctional facility staff with direct inmate contact
 - o Correctional and immigration detention facility inmates
 - o Migrant farmworkers living in shared housing or reliant on shared transportation
5. All workers in healthcare and community health settings who have routine, direct patient contact and were not vaccinated in Phase 1a

PHASE 1C

Appointments can be made by individuals in the following groups beginning approximately April 12, 2021*:

1. Individuals aged 45 and up
2. Essential Workers
This group includes those who work in essential job categories as defined by the CDC* who are not included in phase 1b because they do not have frequent, close contact with others in the work environment (examples may include construction workers, delivery drivers, utility workers, etc. who do not have frequent, close and ongoing contact with others)

PHASE 2

Appointments can be made by individuals in the following groups beginning approximately May 3, 2021*:

All South Carolinians age 16 and above

*All time estimates are subject to change due to vaccine availability, demand, and provider participation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 14, 2021

10:00am Worship in Sanctuary
5:30-7:00pm UMYF

Monday, March 15, 2021

6:30pm Boy Scouts (NETC)

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

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

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open
12:00pm March 21 Bulletin Deadline

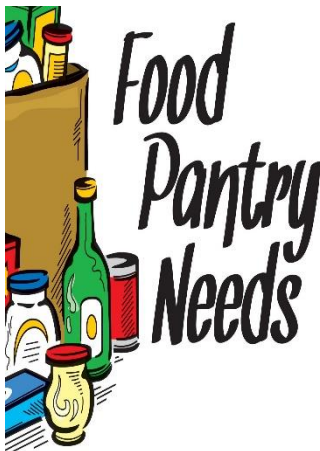
Thursday, March 18, 2021

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open
4:30pm Online Lenten Bible Study

Sunday, March 21, 2021

10:00am Worship in Sanctuary
After Worship Covid-19 Safety Team Meeting
(Fellowship Hall)
5:30-7:00pm UMYF

We have some needs for our food pantry. It is helpful to have items that have pull-top lids. Food for the pantry may be dropped off at the church on Sundays or Tuesday – Thursday during office hours. Items needed at this time are:



Canned meat
Canned Meals—Beef Stew, Beanie Weenies, etc.
Ramen Noodles
Canned vegetables
Canned fruit
Spaghetti noodles and sauces
Instant Grits
Instant Oatmeal
Low sugar nutritious cereal
Individual packs of cookies, cheese crackers, peanut butter
crackers, etc

Weekly amount needed for budget: \$5,797.85
Amount received week ending March 10: \$9,970.00
Attendance March 7: 45
Meal backpacks Total: \$780.00

Amount needed year to date: \$57,978.50
Received year to date: \$49,142.40
McArn Items: Drink mixes
Head Ushers: Keith Smith and Jeff Johnson

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