

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

APRIL 25, 2021

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

LITURGICAL COLOR: WHITE

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Angela Holliday and Bryson Hunter

PRELUDE

“Come Into His Presence and We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise”

Baird, arr. By Seal

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

P: Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed!**

CALL TO WORSHIPⁱ

L: We have been freed!

P: **Fear and death have no claim on us!**

L: Christ the Lord is risen!

P: **Even though we have not touched his wounded hands, yet we believe.**

L: Even though we have not heard him speak our names, yet we believe.

P: **Let us celebrate God’s love through the life of Jesus Christ. AMEN.**

OPENING PRAYERⁱⁱ

Lord of Resurrection surprises, open our hearts this day to the presence of Jesus Christ. Erase our excuses for unbelief and exchange them for strong witness to the power of your mercy and love. Give us courage and challenge us to walk the path of discipleship, knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and guiding our steps. In his name, we pray. **AMEN.**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH NO. 885

GLORIA PATRI

Greatorex

MORNING PRAYER & LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN

“Praises Be to Christ Our Redeemer”

Rathbun

1) Praises be to Christ our Redeemer. Humbled, now exalted high. Once, like Him, condemned and dying. Now we breathe His risen life.

2) Darkness ruled but for an hour, Weeping lasted through the night. Now the dawn, and what rejoicing! Comes the day of endless light.

3) Lord, your favor lasts forever; pain and pleasure come and go. Life in You is life eternal. Heaven’s fountain freely flows.

4) All our grief is turned to dancing. All is joy, each moment new. Praising, living. Loving, sharing, ever, only, found in you.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 20: 24-31

Pastor Debra

SERMON

“The Upper Room Dance Part Two”

Pastor Debra

HYMN NO. 454

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

Scott

BENEDICTION

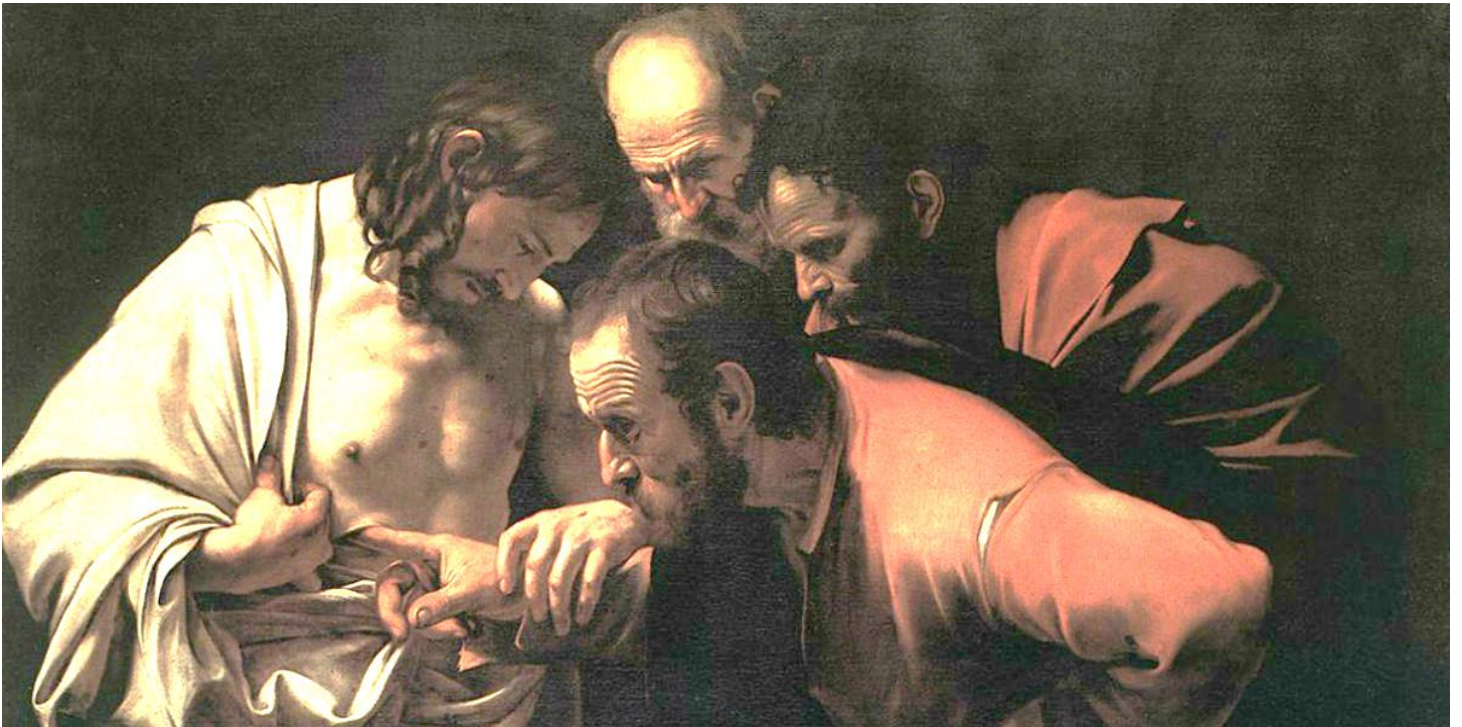
POSTLUDE

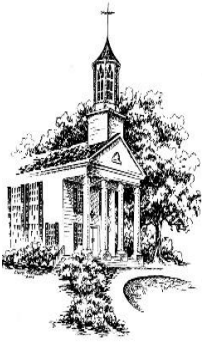
“Rondo “dance””

Johan Boul

ⁱ <https://www.ministrymatters.com>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.ministrymatters.com>





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 17
April 25, 2021

A Few Words from the Pastor...

"I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side." John 20:25d

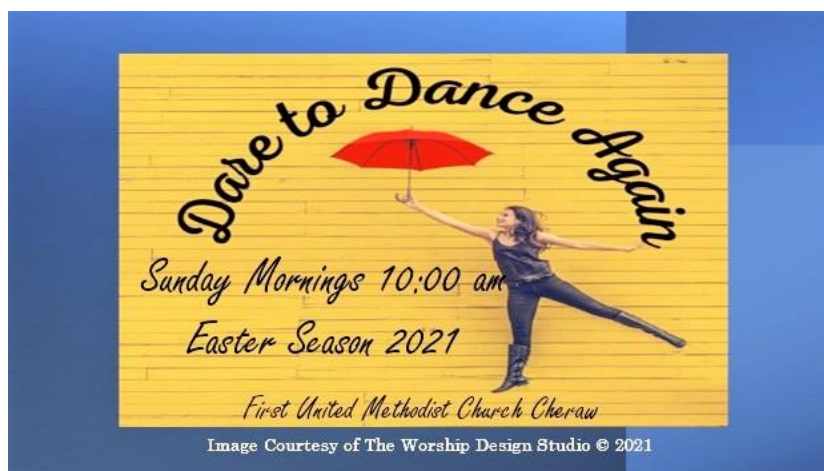
One of the major obstacles to God's grace in our lives is doubt. That pesky "d" word often is a mountain that we struggle to move. It certainly was for Thomas when the disciples told them about seeing Jesus. Thomas' doubt was so strong that he had to have physical evidence himself of the risen Jesus to believe in the resurrection.

It might be easy to pick on Thomas for his lack of faith and his unwillingness to believe the other disciples. But let us not be too quick to jump to that shaky position. Remember that Peter, John, and other disciples did not believe the women or Cleopas and his Emmaus Road friend. They did not believe until they saw Jesus eat a fish. Even the wounds were not enough to help them believe.

If we are honest, all of us at one time or another have had a battle with doubt. When there is no money for food or rent, when a child is diagnosed with cancer, when a virus brings the entire world to a screeching halt doubts sneak right into our lives. We want immediate answers to our prayers in circumstances like these. We want God to fix it or at least explain why not. When those things are not fixed on our timeline, our faith can falter. Like Thomas we can be quick to say, "I'll believe it when I see it."

Faith does not work that way. In Hebrews 11:1 it says, "faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Faith means believing in Jesus and the power of the resurrection when we do not see or feel its presence. Jesus said it this way to Thomas, "have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." (John 20:29b)

The dance of faith can be difficult. Especially when doubt tries to rob us of the new and abundant life Jesus died and was resurrected to give us. When in doubt let us read about God's promises to us in scripture. When in doubt let us pray for God to restore our faith. When in doubt let us ask a friend to pray with us. When in doubt let us trust Jesus to restore our faith. See you on the dance floor as we stomp out our doubts and two-step together in faith!



Pastor Debra

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, Jim Bennett, Phillip Caulder, David Marsh, Taylor Novinger (Dr. Novinger’s son), Judy Quick, Dee Dee Crocker, Terry Crocker, Scott Tomberlin, Charlotte Crosby, Sam Eubanks, Emily Marsh, Jennifer Vaughn Helms Family (Michael Williams’ cousin), Dare Marsh, John Moore. **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

THANK YOU: As special thank you to all those that called or sent cards to me for my birthday, they really meant a lot to me and made me feel special. Dare Marsh

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.

REVISED FUMC COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS



- ❖ Please enter through the Fellowship Hall Entrance for Sunday School and Worship
- ❖ Ushers will direct people to the pews.
- ❖ Families may sit together in the same pew.
- ❖ Friends who have had vaccines may sit in the same pew.
- ❖ Properly wear a mask when you are in the church buildings.
- ❖ Maintain social distance in the classrooms, hallways, and sanctuary.
- ❖ Keep traffic flowing smoothly by visiting with others outside buildings.
- ❖ Exit Sunday School classrooms at the direction of the Sunday School leaders.
- ❖ Exit worship through the doors at the back of the sanctuary at the direction of the ushers.



Transportation Ministry at FUMC

Our Nurture and Care team at First United Methodist Church will provide rides to individuals to doctor's or other medical appointments. If you need a ride, please contact the church office at 843-537-7002.

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.



Not able to be here for in-person worship? Then join us online! To worship online, go to our website www.cherawfirstumc.org. Click on the tab at the top of the page that says video sermon archive. The most recent worship service will be the first service listed. Worship services are available on our website by 2:00 p.m. on Sundays.



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 vegetables
- Spaghetti noodles and sauces
- Low sugar nutritious cereal
- Peanut butter
- Pancake mix/syrup

MEETING WITH PARENTS OF SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN: Sunday School Superintendent, Jenny Keefe, would like to meet with the parents of Sunday School children this Sunday, April 25, at 9:00am, to discuss options for Sunday School.

BIBLE STUDY: A new six-week Bible Study Dancing in the Waters of Galatians, Ephesians, and Philippians will be offered on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. beginning April 28th and Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. beginning April 29th, these studies will be in person at the church. Books are \$10. You can register for the study and order a book by contacting the church office.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

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 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, Stephen Board
May 31 Mary Crawford, Terrell Stubbs

ANNIVERSARIES

May 1 M&M Austin Carnell (Kim Starling)
May 7 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 (Shelley Rumph)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, April 25, 2021

9:00am Sunday School
9:00am Meeting with Parents of Sunday
School Children
10:00am Worship in Sanctuary
5:00pm Finance Committee Meeting
(Fellowship Hall)
5:30-7:00pm UMYF
6:00pm Church Council Meeting
(Fellowship Hall)

Monday, April 26, 2021

6:30pm Boy Scouts (NETC)
7:00pm Memorial Committee Meeting
(Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

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

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open
12:00pm May 2 Bulletin Deadline

Thursday, April 29, 2021

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

Sunday, May 2, 2021

9:00am Sunday School
10:00am Worship in Sanctuary
5:30-7:00pm UMYF

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Harold Lomas

Lib Norton, M&M Jack VanDeman

In Memory of Manfred Kollitz

Lib Norton, M&M Joe Witherspoon, M&M Jack VanDeman, M&M Arthur Bays, Betty Thrailkill, Mark Yearty, M&M Robert Calhoun, Clyde & Mary Cobb, Sara Murray, M&M Jeff Johnson, Lynn Tweed

In Memory of Tavener Theatte

M&M Arthur Bays, Betty H. Teal, Mike & Kathy Teal, Wayne & Nancy Eddins, Agape Sunday School Class, Bert & Martha Dawkins

In Memory of Shannon Laney

M&M Jack VanDeman, M&M Jeff Johnson

In Memory of Anne Bryan

M&M Jack VanDeman

In Memory of Gladys Sweeney

M&M Jeff Johnson

In Memory of David Rohde, Sr.

Lynn Tweed

Weekly amount needed for budget: \$5,797.85
Amount received for week ending April 21: \$1,932.92
Sunday School Attendance, April 18: 30
McArn Items: Rice Crispy Treats
Head Usher: Jeff Johnson

Amount needed year to date: \$92,765.60
Received year to date: \$88,481.95
Attendance Worship Sunday, April 18: 63
Greeters: M&M Joey Mills
Acolyte: Norma Cobb

FUMC STAFF

Rev. Debra Armstrong, Pastor (fumcpastor1@gmail.com) 843-537-7002 O 843-253-3132 C
Angie Smith, Ministry Assistant (fumcangiesmith@gmail.com)
Holly Haire, Child Development Ministry Director (fccdm@yahoo.com)
Michael Williams - Music Director (fumcmusic01@gmail.com)