

# **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

117 THIRD STREET, CHERAW, SC 29520

843-537-7002

[www.cherawfirstumc.org](http://www.cherawfirstumc.org)



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

***A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP***

***JANUARY 30, 2022***

***4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY/HOLY COMMUNION***

***LITURGICAL COLOR: WHITE***

<b>CHIMING OF THE HOUR</b>		Michael Williams
<b>PRELUDE</b>	<b>“O the Glory of Your Presence”</b>	Frye arr. by Tim Conyers
<b>WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>		Jenny Keefe
<b>CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>i</sup></b>		Jenny Keefe
<p>L: God has called us to share the good news of God's love.  <b>C: But who am I, that God should call me?</b>  L: You are a beloved child of God.  <b>C: But I am weak I am not a great speaker or preacher.</b>  L: God is with you; do not be afraid.  <b>C: Lord, help me to trust in your presence with me. Help me to serve you. AMEN</b></p>		
<b>OPENING PRAYER<sup>ii</sup></b>		Jenny Keefe
<p>Gracious God, we come to you with day, seeking your guidance and strength. You have called us to ministries for which we feel inadequate. Help us to understand that it is your love that will support and sustain our efforts. Give us the courage to place our trust in your abiding presence. We ask this in Jesus' Name. <b>AMEN.</b></p>		
<b>*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH NO. 880</b>	<b>“Nicene Creed”</b>	Jenny Keefe
<b>*GLORIA PATRI</b>		GREATOREX
<b>*OPENING HYMN NO. 577 (vss. 1 &amp; 2)</b>	<b>“God of Grace and God of Glory”</b>	CWM RHONDDA
<b>MORNING PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER</b>		Pastor Debra
<b>OFFERTORY PRAYER</b>		Pastor Debra
<b>*DOXOLOGY</b>		
<b>CHORAL ANTHEM</b>	<b>“Nothing Between”</b> Charles Albert Tindley	Choir
<b>*SCRIPTURE READING</b>	<b>Jeremiah 1: 4-10</b>	
<b>*HYMN NO. 419 (vss. 1&amp; 4)</b>	<b>“I Am Thine, O Lord”</b>	I AM THINE
<b>SERMON</b>	<b>“Living Light: Set Apart”</b>	Pastor Debra
<b>*CLOSING HYMN NO. 593 (vss.1 &amp; 2)</b>	<b>“Here I Am, Lord”</b>	HERE I AM, LORD
<b>*BENEDICTION</b>		
<b>*BENEDICTION RESPONSE</b>		
<p>I want to walk as a child of the light I want to follow Jesus God sent the stars to give light to the world The star of my life is Jesus in Him, there is no darkness at all The night and the day are both alike The Lamb is the light of the city of God Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.</p>		
<b>*POSTLUDE</b>	<b>“Praise Him! Praise Him!”</b>	Allen arr. by Hugh Livingston
<b>*If you are able, please stand.</b>		

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/3546>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid



# 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](http://www.cherawfirstumc.org)

Volume 17,  
Issue 5  
January 30, 2022



## *From our District Superintendent...*

Greetings **HEART**-warming **HARTSVILLE** District,

Over the last 10 days, we have experienced some of the climatic-emotions in the winter season. References to "Izzy" (the storm) and "Frosty" (the snow man) point us to our vulnerabilities, mitigated by rain, sleet, snow, and other "inclements" of weather. Anyone over the age of 5 could readily recite the drill - the meteorologist gives the 9-1-1 forecast, and we are off and running to make the emergency trip to the grocery store for bread, milk, eggs, and water. *Side-note, I have often wondered why we buy milk in a time when the dexterity of electricity, which is needed for refrigeration, becomes suspect...but I digress.* Meanwhile, here comes the disappointment of empty bread shelves, only cracked eggs left in discarded cartons, and the well of bottled water gone dry and even by-by?

In the final analysis, our best efforts to prepare for the storms of nature and storms of life don't make us exempt from the winds and rains, and the storms and pain. These elements are not in exclusive relationships, especially when they show up in something as commonplace as a billboard, located in one of the branches of our beloved HEART-Warming HARTSVILLE District. An unwelcomed prelude to the National Holiday honoring Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. raised its ugly head on Saturday, January 15th in Sumter County. On the date of Dr. King's actual birthday, a 17 year old white male hacked the controls of a digital sign on busy Highway 378, only minutes away from the Shaw Air Force Base. With calculated intentionality, he changed the originally-intended message for safety during construction, to the destructive verbiage of blatant, relic racism! His reconfiguration touched on the familiar brand-jargon, "*Honk if you love...*" only to be followed by the evil and premeditated "*n-word!*"

Once again, what an indictment on our civilization and society! As if we haven't seen enough-of-enough blatant banishment on headline news, periodical front pages, and the social media posts from Facebook's "*What's on your mind*" to Twitter's tweets to the expeditiousness of instagram. *Side-note, there is absolutely nothing wrong with these media outlets, especially when they bring tidings of good news.* Interestingly enough, we manage technology with just a touch, but can't seem to control-alt-delete hate from hearts! We withdraw money from ATMs, but can't seem to deposit accountability, tenor, and mindfulness for each other's humanity! We put people on the moon, but can't seem to put principle in people! We have even matriculated the navigation of a pandemic, but still have people with antiquated mentalities that are absolutely pathetic! What are we to do when we feel like we have done all we can? In the words of the Psalmist, Donnie McClurkin, we must "STAND!"

So, how do we STAND when we often feel the weakness of societal disenfranchisements? How, how, how do we STAND when so many have traded community for isolation as their best posture for self-preservation? How do we STAND when it seems there is more division than diversity? How do we STAND when the forecasts read derailments to dignity and harassments for humanity? How do we

STAND when *that* menaced sign-word really stands for sign-language that racism still has a pulse, because too many refuse to sign the DNR to its existence? How do we STAND?

We STAND in the character, dignity, fortitude, and integrity of who we are - the daughters of destiny and the sons of a sober-society! We STAND in the faith, hope, and love of the One who gives us grace and grit for every Goliaths, and mercy and majesty to transform our missteps to missional-mindsets! We STAND in the courageous wisdom of our weary years, beckoning us to use our "strength for today" to be God's hands and feet engaged in "bright hopes for tomorrow!" So, even when we are sick and tired of being sick and tired, and want to just sit on the premises, we are reminded of the call to STAND on the promises of Christ our King, the everlasting promises of God!

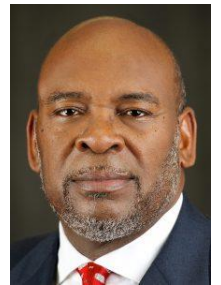
As always, thank you for allowing me access to your time and attention in this space of sharing. Have a BLESSED Week, stay safe and warm; and remember, I love and appreciate YOU, and there is absolutely, positively, nothing you can do about it!

Steadfast in Faith...  
Much LOVE and GRACE (MLAG),  
**Reverend Telley Lynnette Gadson**  
"PASTOR T"

## Bishop Holston: Respond to racism with action – witness, advocacy, prayer

by [UMCSC](#) | Jan 18, 2022 |

*Bishop L. Jonathan Holston, resident bishop of the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church, released this statement regarding regarding the racist message posted on a roadside sign in South Carolina over the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend:*



The posting of a racist message on an electronic roadside sign in Sumter has prompted much dismay, anger and sorrow. Such use of hate speech has gained renewed acceptance in recent years, proving we have a long way to go in fulfilling God's commandment to love our neighbors.

As a people of faith opposed to racism and committed to social justice, we must pledge that our response to such an act is to take action through witness, advocacy and prayer. We must resist all efforts by those who would seek to divide us by inciting hate, whether through speech, action or complacency.

It was the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. himself who reminded us that "every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals."

As we take our next faithful steps on this path, let us be tireless in our witness to the love of Jesus Christ and to God's commandment to love our neighbor. Let us be passionate in our advocacy for justice. Let us be dedicated to constant, active prayer for righteousness to prevail.

An effective and caring way to engage in this effort is through "[Our Response to Racism](#)," a resource developed by South Carolina UMC clergy and laity to provide each of us with tools to listen, lead

discussions, strengthen relationships, and help in the process of healing within our churches and communities.

Please join me in praying that love will be vigilant and truth will be bold.

Grace and peace,  
L. Jonathan Holston  
Resident Bishop  
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

**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, Mabel Foster, Jim Bennett, Phillip Caulder, Scott Tomberlin, Tony Thrailkill, Theodore Burns, Margaret Stanton, Mary Snookie Lomas, Keith Burr (Jack Van Deman's friend), George Adams, Rachel Smith (Brenda Rayfield's friend), Nancy Chestnut (Michelle Rohde's mother), Pat Barnham. **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:** A flower calendar for 2022 is in the lobby by the fellowship hall. Please take a moment to go by and sign up for a Sunday or two to put flowers in the church.

**WORSHIP ONLINE:** Not able to be here for in-person worship? Then join us online! To worship online, go to our website [www.cherawfirstumc.org](http://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.

**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.

**MEMORIALS:**

***IN MEMORY OF JOYCE QUICK***

Lib Norton

***IN MEMORY OF JEFFREY FOSTER***

David & Jean McLean, Virginia Trammell, Paul & Holly Miles, Doug & Susan Marsh, Connie Spencer, B.J. Moore, Henrietta Kollitz, Raymond & Kathyn Young

### **GREETERS FOR FEBRUARY**

February 6 Renie Seel  
February 13 Ray & Mary Crouse  
February 20 Ruth Ann Jones  
February 27 Jerry & Julia Tucker

### **FLOWERS FOR FEBRUARY**

February 6 Pal Moore  
February 13, 20, & 27 OPEN

### **NURSERY FOR FEBRUARY**

February 6 Nancy Wagnon & Michelle Rohde  
February 13 Leslie Jean & Chase Watson  
February 20 OPEN  
February 27 Kelly & Hollis Dusa

### **LITURGIST FOR FEBRUARY**

February 6 Sammy Quick  
February 13 Ray Crouse  
February 20 Eric Dusa  
February 27 Rhett Butler

### **HEAD USER FOR FEBRUARY**

Keith Smith

### **ACOLYTE FOR FEBRUARY**

Bryson Hunter

## ***BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES***

### **BIRTHDAYS**

February 6 Susan Allen  
February 7 Cameron Crouse  
February 9 Alex Lee  
February 12 Gini Eddins  
February 14 Jimmy Duffy  
February 16 Shellie Mears  
February 17 Jake Williamson, Sammy Quick  
February 18 Keith Smith, John Sanderson  
February 24 Scott Tomberlin  
February 28 Will Smith

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

February 26 M&M Jackson Rushing

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Sunday, January 30, 2022**

10:00am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship  
5:00pm Finance Committee Meeting  
(Fellowship Hall)  
6:00pm Church Council Meeting (Fellowship  
Hall)

### **Monday, January 31, 2022**

6:30pm Boy Scouts (NETC)

### **Tuesday, February 1, 2022**

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

### **Wednesday, February 2, 2022**

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open  
12:00pm Bulletin/Newsletter Deadline  
6:00pm Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)  
7:00pm Choir Practice

### **Thursday, February 3, 2022**

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

### **Sunday, February 6, 2022**

10:00am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship

**Weekly amount needed for budget:** \$5,769.24  
**Amount received for week of January 19-26:** \$1,212.00  
**Sunday School Attendance January 23:** No SS  
**FUMC Food Pantry Item:** Canned Meats, stews  
**Greeter:** Jeff and Shannon Johnson  
**Acolyte:** Zenda Rushing  
**Nursery Workers:** Kelly & Hollis Dusa  
**Soundsystem Operator:** Jackson Rushing

**Amount needed year to date:** \$23,076.96  
**Received year to date:** \$6,858.01  
**Worship Attendance January 23:** 45  
**McArn Items:** Lance or peanut butter crackers  
**Head Usher:** Jack VanDeman  
**Liturgist for next Sunday:** Sammy Quick  
**Flowers next Sunday:** Pal Moore  
**Video Operator:** John Wagnon

**FUMC STAFF**

**Rev. Debra Armstrong, Pastor** (fumcpastor1@gmail.com) 843-537-7002 O 843-253-3132 C  
**Angie Smith, Ministry Assistant** (fumcangiesmith@gmail.com)  
**Tara McPherson, Child Development Ministry Director** (fccdm@yahoo.com)  
**Michael Williams - Music Director** (fumcmusic01@gmail.com) 704-294-4510 C

