

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

FEBRUARY 13, 2022

6TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

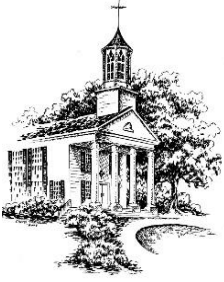
LITURGICAL COLOR: WHITE

CHIMING OF THE HOUR		Michael
Williams		
PRELUDE	“I Love You, Lord/I Love Thee”	arr. S. Arant
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		Ray Crouse
CALL TO WORSHIP¹		Ray Crouse
L: Rejoice, for the power of God has come.		
C: The same transforming power encountered in the risen Christ:		
L: Promising to the poor the realm of heaven;		
C: Promising to the hungry a time of satisfaction;		
L: Promising to the weeping a life of happiness;		
C: Promising to the reviled the gift of acceptance.		
A: Rejoice, O people of God, the transforming power of Christ is here! Amen!		
OPENING PRAYER²		Ray Crouse
O Christ, whom even crucifixion could not separate from either the love or the power of God. Bless us, the members of your body, with the guidance of your spirit, so that we might seek God with your singleness of mind, see God with your clarity of understanding, and worship God with your purity of heart. Amen.		
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH NO. 880	“Nicene Creed”	Ray Crouse
INSTRUMENTAL HYMN 596	“Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word”	LIEBSTER JESU
MORNING PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER		Pastor Debra
OFFERTORY PRAYER		Pastor Debra
GOSPEL ANTHEM	“The Longer I Serve Him”	Bill Gaither
*SCRIPTURE READING	Luke 6: 17-26	
INSTRUMENTAL HYMN 396	“O Jesus, I Have Promised”	ANGEL’S STORY
SERMON	“Living Light: Blessed”	Pastor Debra
*BENEDICTION		
*POSTLUDE	“Lauda Anima”	John Goss

**If you are able, please stand.*

¹ <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/11178>

² 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

Volume 17,
Issue 7
February 13, 2022

A few words from the pastor...

¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure and full of quiet gentleness. Then it is peace-loving and courteous. It allows discussion and is willing to yield to others; it is full of mercy and good deeds. It is wholehearted and straightforward and sincere. ¹⁸ And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of goodness. James 3:17 TLB

In his book, *The Anatomy of a Revived Church*, Thom S. Rainer highlights the things that churches that were close to dying did that resulted in revitalization. Last week I shared that the number one action taken by all the revived churches was consistent and persistent prayer asking for the revival of the church.

Another action that occurred in all the revived churches was the decision to quit looking for “silver bullets” to revive the church. In our quick fix and instant gratification society, we are always looking for fast and effortless ways to do something. Sometimes those do make our lives easier and more fruitful. However, rarely do “silver bullet” fixes bring lasting church revitalization. When it does happen, it lasts only for short periods of time. The right pastor, the right music, the right program, the right financial support, or the right facilities are examples of “silver bullets” that congregations often believe will revive the church. The reality is research of revived churches showed that not one or even a combination of these “silver bullet” fixes brought about the church revitalization. Revival came about with prayer and when churches changed how they perceived and then participated in ministry to facilitate the mission of the church to make disciples for Jesus.

Revival is from God and not humankind. To partner with God in revival requires that we pray for God’s wisdom to guide us to the new future that God has planned. It also requires that we test the wisdom we receive to be sure it is from God. James 3:17 reminds us of what wisdom from God looks like. Anything else is not wisdom that comes from heaven.

Again, I invite you to join me in prayer. Pray first for God to have God’s way with you. Psalm 139:23-24 is one of example of that kind of prayer. Then continue to pray using a variation of Ezekiel 37:9, Come, O breath, from the four winds! Breath into First United Methodist Church so we may live.

We have a few copies of *The Anatomy of a Revived Church* available in the church office. The books were donated to us so there is no cost for a book.. Come by the church office to get your copy while they last.

We are in search of a prayer warrior to lead a prayer ministry at FUMC. If the Lord has put that calling on your heart, please come and talk with me.

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, Mabel Foster, Jim Bennett, Phillip Caulder, Scott Tomberlin, Tony Thraikill, Theodore Burns, Margaret Stanton, Mary Snookie Lomas, George Adams, Rachel Smith (Brenda Rayfield’s friend), Nancy Chestnut (Michelle Rohde’s mother), Pat Barham. **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. 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 JEFFREY FOSTER

Jim & Marianne Crawford, Mickey & Gwen Sullivan, Ronnie & Bonnie Cundiff

IN MEMORY OF JOYCE QUICK


Ronnie & Bonnie Cundiff

IN MEMORY OF LARRY HARSEY

Rhett & Marcia Butler

IN MEMORY DR. JOIE NEWSOM

Rhett & Marcia Butler



**UPDATED
COVID -19
PROTOCOLS**

All are welcome to worship with us and have their usual meetings. Masks are optional but strongly encouraged. We are not having congregational meals or singing at this time. The choir will practice and supply congregational music wearing masks and social distancing. We hope this variant passes soon and that we can return to congregational meals and singing in weeks rather than months. We urge patience and understanding as we continue to seek the best ways to continue to make First United Methodist Church a safe place to worship and to share the love of Christ by caring for one another.

From the District Superintendent

Greetings Clergy and Laity of The **HEART**-Warming **HARTSVILLE** District...Happy Black History Month!

I pray that we are all well on this brisk 1st Sunday in February morning, and feeling the fresh wind and fresh fire of another day the Lord has so graciously made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Wow...just WOW! These 3 words capture my sentiments when I think of the last 2 weeks across our district. As we continue on our journey of discovery, I am sure that after Tuesday and Thursday, January 27th and 29th; and yesterday - Saturday, February 5th; it is quite clear that Telley Lynnette Gadson absolutely, positively loves to empower people with knowledge and understanding! I really can't help myself. Thanks to my parents, church and community leadership is deeply rooted in the fiber of my being! I am a lifelong learner and I know the value of digging deeper to be stretched wider.

Right along with empowering people, I have a passion for communication. To me, they fit together like hand-and-glove for effective leadership. How can we lead without empowering people to become leaders...AND how can we empower people to lead without good communication??? Yep, those are 2 of the cadre of million-dollar questions! After all, communication is the art of understanding and seeking to be understood.

Glory to God, Thank You Jesus, and Hallelujah in the Holy Ghost for these most recent victory numbers! In addition to the great news of us improving by 8.3% in our Apportionment Givings for 2021; for our first Series of our District Servant-Leadership Development Program for Clergy and Laity, we had 178 people ZOOMING for Session 1 with Rev. Dr. Edward H. McDowell, Jr. as my Cohort-Facilitator (CF), 214 ZOOMING for Session 2 with Rev. Dr. Vance P. Ross as my CF, and 190 ZOOMING for Session 3 with Rev. Dr. Regina Henderson Moore as my CF! We were also blessed to have some Clergy and Laity from other districts, other Annual Conferences, and even other denominations ZOOMING with us!

I want to leave you with these 7 "Pastor T-isms" about Partnership, the duet-dancer to Connection. As these musings bless me, I pray they will also bless you!

1. Confidence is for people, but **TRUST** is for **GOD**!
2. Acknowledge the pain experienced of past **PARTNERSHIPS** without living in a present abyss of doubt, fear, and pride!
3. The **WIN** is good, but winning alone is a practice of isolation, which flirts with arrogance and narcissism.
4. Inviting others to **PARTNER** with you says that you believe the **WIN** is possible!
5. Don't allow negativity to tarnish your spiritual real estate. You have faith-equity on your side!
6. The right **PARTNERSHIPS** will be grounded in the insurance of **LOVE**, connected to the assurance of **HOPE**, knowing that the best is always yet to come.
7. The mortgage for **HEALING** requires an appraisal of character, co-signed by a **PARTNERSHIP** of authenticity and integrity.

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"

District Superintendent/Chief Missional Strategist

The **HEART-Warming HARTSVILLE** District

The South Carolina Annual Conference

The United Methodist Church

tlgadson@umcsc.org

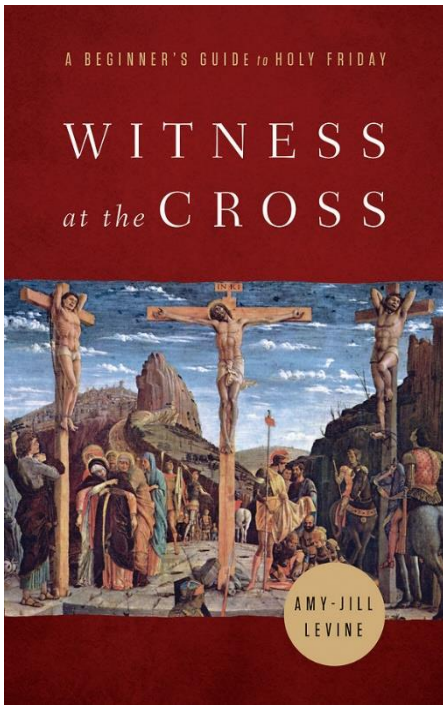
864.483.5602



**American
Red Cross**

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: FUMC will host a Red Cross Blood drive on Thursday, March 3 from 1:00pm-6:00pm. **Join Team Red Cross. Give Blood.** No matter what team you root for, be a part of Team Red Cross! [Schedule your next blood, platelet or plasma donation appointment today.](#)

Thanks to our partners at Fanatics, you can score a \$10 e-gift card when you come to give blood, platelets or plasma in March!* Treat yourself or a sports aficionado friend to official fan gear on us. PLUS, you'll also automatically be entered for a chance to **win a trip for two to the 2022 MLB® All-Star Game® in Los Angeles, California**, when you come to give March 1-31, 2022.** The package includes two tickets to 2022 MLB® All-Star Sunday, the 2022 Home Run Derby, and the 2022 MLB® All-Star Game®, round-trip airfare to Los Angeles, four-night hotel accommodations (July 16-20, 2022), plus a \$750 gift card for expenses. Team Red Cross needs more players, and we're looking to fill the roster with volunteers like you. No special training is required to be an all-star donor, and there is no better time to get in the game.



Lenten Bible Study

Witness at the Cross by Amy-Jill Levine

February 23 - April 13, 2022

Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

(Bible Study will not meet on Ash Wednesday March 2, 2022)

Prepare for Holy Week and Easter this Lenten Season by looking at the witnesses who were at the cross. This seven-week Bible study by internationally renowned teacher and scholar Amy-Jill Levine will view the crucifixion of Jesus from the eyes of those who watched Jesus die. Simon of Cyrene, the bystanders and scoffers, the other crucified victims, the soldiers, the Beloved Disciple, the women, Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, and God and Nature all have perspectives that will transform our views of Holy Week and Easter.

Books are available in the church office. The cost is \$13.50. Sign up by contacting the church office at 843-537-7002 or fumcangiesmith@gmail.com.

Welcome Collins Elizabeth Lewis
Born February 3, 2022 @ 2:51 p.m.
8.5 lbs. 20.5 inches
Parents: Alex and Farrah Lewis
Grandparents: Jay and Amy Lewis

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 13, 2022

10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship

Monday, February 14, 2022

6:30pm Boy Scouts (NETC)

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open
3:00pm UMW Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
5:30pm Trustees Meeting (Fellowship Hal)

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

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

Thursday, February 17, 2022

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

Sunday, February 20, 2022

10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship

Weekly amount needed for budget: \$5,769.24
Amount received for week of February 9: \$5,549.57
Sunday School Attendance February 6: 44
FUMC Food Pantry Item: Dry cereal
Greeters: Ray & Mary Crouse
Acolyte: Bryson Hunter
Nursery Workers: Leslie Jean & Chase Watson
Video Technicians: John Wagnon and Bryson Hunter

Amount needed year to date: \$34,615.44
Received year to date: \$22,126.22
Worship Attendance February 6: 57
McArn Items: Animal crackers
Head Usher: Keith Smith
Liturgist for next Sunday: Eric Dusa
Flowers next Sunday: OPEN
Soundsystem Operator: Jackson Rushing

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