

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 THIRD STREET, CHERAW, SC 29520

843-537-7002

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



*Good Enough:  
Embracing Faith and Life*

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*First Sunday of Lent*

*“Ordinary Lives  
Can Be Holy”*

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

***A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP***

***MARCH 6, 2022***

***FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT***

***LITURGICAL COLOR: BURLAP***

<b>CHIMING OF THE HOUR</b>		Michael Williams
<b>PRELUDE</b>	<b>“Adagio” (One Hundred Voluntaries)</b>	MURRAY
<b>WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>		Bonnie Cundiff
<b>CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup></b>		Bonnie Cundiff
<p>L: For some of us, it was tempting to “sleep in” this morning.  <b>C: But God has called us to this place, to hear God’s word, to open our hearts in prayer and praise, and to seek direction for our lives.</b>  L: There are many temptations placed in front of us. We are called to be strong and place our trust in God.  <b>C: God is always faithful to us, comforting, guiding, lifting us. Thanks be to God. AMEN.</b></p>		
<b>OPENING PRAYER<sup>2</sup></b>		Bonnie Cundiff
<p>Lord, the temptations of the world loom large before us. We are enticed, cajoled, and “sweet-talked” into moving from lives of service to lives of self-centeredness. We need your healing love. As you resisted the temptations in the wilderness, help us to place our trust in you, that we may be strong in our faith and confident in our service to you through serving others. <b>AMEN.</b></p>		
<b>*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH NO. 882</b>	<b>“Apostle’s Creed Ecumenical Version”</b>	Bonnie Cundiff
<b>*PSALTER &amp; RESPONSE NO. 810</b>		Bonnie Cundiff
<b>CONFESSION &amp; PARDON</b>		
<p><i>Pastor:</i> We find ourselves hungry for many things that we believe will bring us satisfaction. In today’s Gospel, the devil lays a bet that Jesus will jump at the chance for glory, fame, and the quick fix. Who wouldn’t? But Jesus keeps up the pithy one-liners long enough that the Tempter just has to slink away. What are the temptations that catch your ear, singing out promises that your life should be more special than it is? What if ordinary life is already holy—as is? Let us take a moment of silent reflection...</p>		
<i>Silent Reflection</i>		
<p><i>Pastor:</i> Hear this compassionate word from the Letter to the Romans: “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart... Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Know that already, God is offering us freedom from the temptations of the “not enough-ness” of our time, inviting us to love and revere the seeming ordinariness of the day-to-day so that we might recognize its true beauty. And know, that despite our sometimes faltering steps, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are being forgiven, even now.</p>		
<b>Congregation: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.</b>		
<b>All: Glory to God! Amen.</b>		
<b>INSTRUMENTAL HYMN NO. 269</b>	<b>“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”</b>	LAND OF REST
<b>MORNING PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER</b>		Pastor Debra
<b>OFFERTORY PRAYER</b>		Pastor Debra
<b>GOSPEL ANTHEM</b>	<b>“I Believe in a Hill Called Mount Calvary”</b>	MOUNT CALVARY Choir

**\*SCRIPTURE READING**

**Luke 4: 1-13**

**INSTRUMENTAL HYMN NO. 521**

**"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"**

**SOJOURNER**

**SERMON**

**"Ordinary Lives Can Be Holy"**

**Pastor Debra**

**A BLESSING FOR A JOYFULLY MEDIOCRE JOURNEY**

*"Blessed are you who realize there is simply not enough—time, money, resources.  
Blessed are you who are tired of pretending that raw effort is the secret to perfection.  
It's not. And you know that now.*

*Blessed are you who need a gentle reminder that even now, even today, God is here, and somehow,  
that is good enough."*

**\*BENEDICTION<sup>3</sup>**

And now, may the God who loves all of creation, especially the ordinary parts, and Jesus, our companion along this crooked path called life, and the Holy Spirit, who loves to improvise in surprising ways, go with you, dwell among you, and give you joy. Amen.

**\*POSTLUDE**

**"O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High"**

**DEO GRACIAS**

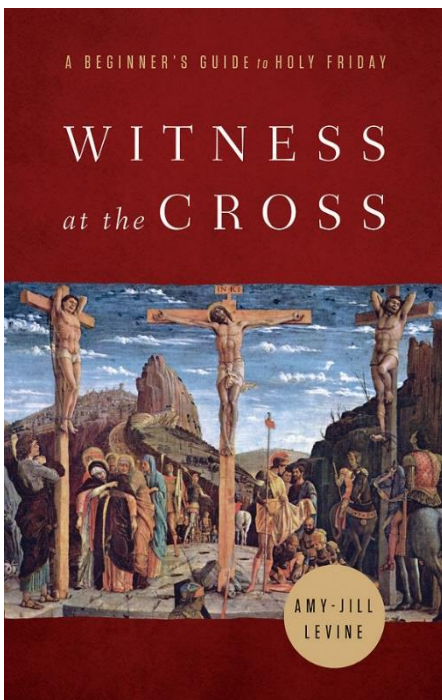
*\*If you are able, please stand.*

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/3560>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid

<sup>3</sup> All liturgy and leader parts not otherwise referenced Marcia McFee © [www.worshipdesignstudio.com/goodenough](http://www.worshipdesignstudio.com/goodenough) Used and adapted with permission.

"A Blessing for a Joyfully Mediocre Journey" from *Good Enough: 40'ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection* by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie. Used with permission. Purchase the book at [www.katebowler.com/goodenough](http://www.katebowler.com/goodenough).



*Lenten Bible Study*

*Witness at the Cross by Amy-Jill Levine*

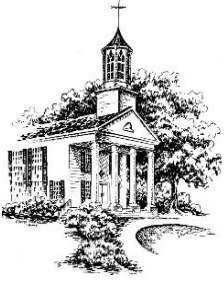
*February 23 - April 13, 2022*

*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](mailto:fumcangiesmith@gmail.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](http://www.cherawfirstumc.org)

Volume 17,  
Issue 9  
February 27, 2022

## *A few words from the pastor...*

*We look away from the natural realm and we focus our attention and expectation onto Jesus who birthed faith within us and who leads us forward into faith's perfection. His example is this: Because his heart was focused on the joy of knowing that you would be his, he endured the agony of the cross and conquered its humiliation, and now sits exalted at the right hand of the throne of God!* Hebrews 12:2

Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie in the preface to their book, *Good Enough: 40ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection* take head-on the notion of perfection. They say, "we are living under the weight of the Perfectibility Paradigm." In this paradigm perfection is just around the corner, at the next class, with the next promotion, with the newest skin product, etc. We just need to try harder, do better, move faster, and keep up with those at the finish line. The Perfectibility Paradigm<sup>i</sup> tells us that perfection is a goal we can carry out on our own is the greatest lie of the natural realm that the author of the letter to the Hebrews cautions us to look away from in this life.



Image © [www.worshipdesignstudio.com/goodenough](http://www.worshipdesignstudio.com/goodenough)

Instead, we are called to focus our attention and our expectations for goodness in this life on Jesus not the natural realm. We do this because Jesus is the perfection of our faith and the one who makes us holy just as he is holy, day by day. John Wesley called this going onto perfection in recognition of the fact that the perfect work of Jesus making us holy is almost always incomplete until we die in the Lord.

So, what does all of this mean? Does this mean we put up with inaccurate, lack luster performance? Does it mean we do not give our very best every day? Absolutely not!!! It means that we recognize that in all things in this life we need Jesus, his holiness, his power, each and every minute of every day. AND we accept that the grace, love and mercy of our Lord Jesus are GOOD ENOUGH. That we also accept that when we have given all we have and come in tenth place or last place in the race. It is GOOD ENOUGH. We do not have to be perfect! We just need to keep our focus on the one who is perfect and allow him to transform us and make us holy just as he is holy.

I look forward to this Lenten Season as we travel together allowing God to take all our weaknesses, imperfections, mis-steps, and failures and turn them into a life that is GOOD ENOUGH.

*Pastor Debra*

<sup>i</sup> Bowler, Kate and Richie, Jessica, *Good Enough: 40ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfections*, Covergent Publishing, New York, 2022, pgs vii-viii.

## MEMORIALS:

### ***IN MEMORY OF JERRY & JEAN LEACH***

Jack & Kay Van Deman

### **IN MEMORY OF JOYCE QUICK**

Jack & Kay Van Deman

### **IN MEMORY OF LENA VANCE**

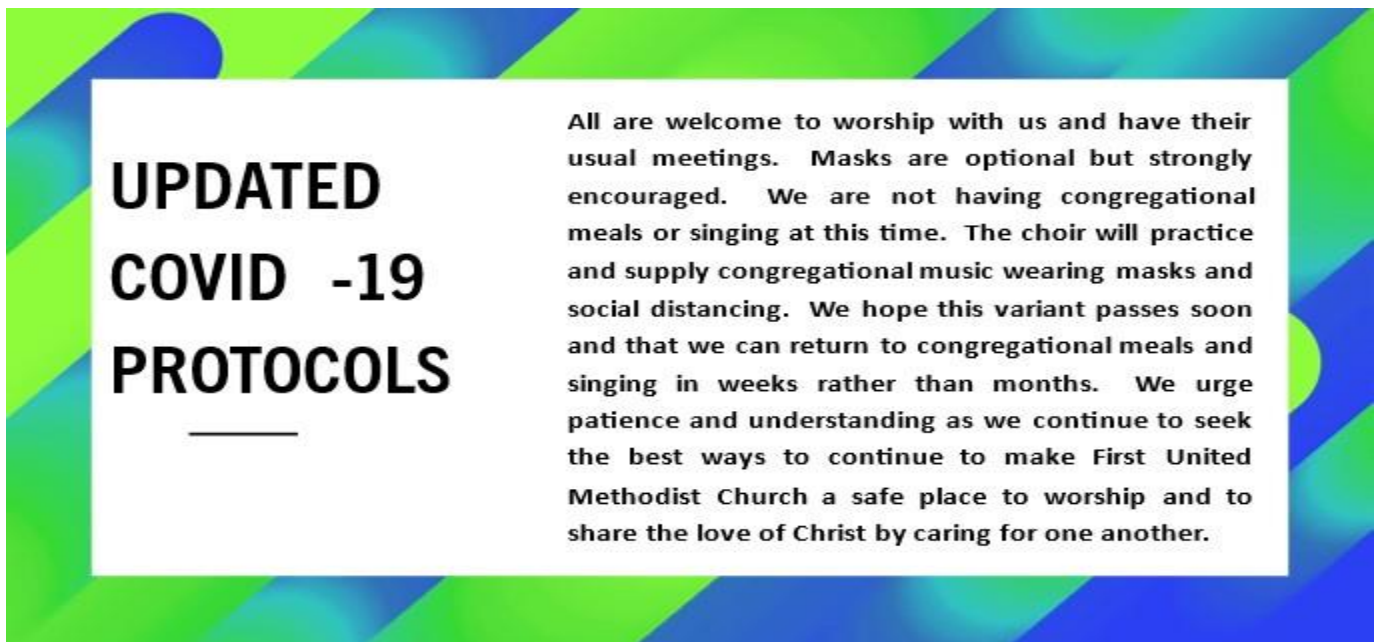
Keith & Sally Smith

### **IN MEMORY OF JEFF FOSTER**

Jack & Kay Van Deman

### **IN MEMORY OF ELESE GRIGGS**

Keith & Sally Smith



**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, Nancy Chestnut (Michelle Rohde's mother), Pat Barham, Dan Ellenburg (Patty Fisher's brother-in-law), Daryl Stubbs, Rachel Smith (Brenda Rayfield's friend). **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.



## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one.

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life.

Thursdays 10:30 am

Beginning March 3

First United Methodist Church

843-537-7002

117 Third Street, Cheraw

**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.

**MCLEOD HEALTH WANTS YOUR FEEDBACK:** McLeod Health wants to hear your thoughts about important health issues in our community (Chesterfield and Marlboro counties). Your feedback is valuable and will help us evaluate what health needs are most prevalent our region. **Please take a few minutes to complete the survey before March 31, 2022.** Go to this link to access the online survey: <https://www.mcleodhealth.org/surveys/chesterfield-community-health-survey/> (it says Chesterfield County but it includes Chesterfield and Marlboro county resident feedback), or a hard copy of the survey is available in the church office . Thank you, Arielle Williams Miles, Director of Communications & Public Information *Public Information Officer*

Join United  
Methodists  
Worldwide as We  
Respond to War  
with Prayer and  
UMCOR Relief  
Efforts.



*Pray for Peace every day when you  
awaken, and when you  
lie down to sleep.*



Give to Advance #982450  
<https://umcmmission.org/give-to-umcor>

**TURNING 90 OR ABOVE:** We have a church member who will turn 90 or above this month. If you would like to send a card to her the address is listed here.

Margaret Stanton (March 22)  
Rehabilitation of Cheraw  
1150 State Road  
Cheraw, SC 29520



**Music Camp for All Ages  
with Gospel Musician Christal Hayward  
March 12, 2022  
10:00 a.m. to Noon  
Church Lawn  
Bring your lawn chair**

**Great Music  
Free BBQ Sandwich Box Lunch  
Fabulous Prizes**

**Sponsored by the  
South Carolina  
Christian Action Council**

Registration is required for lunch by March 10, 2022. To register for a lunch contact the church office at 843-537-7002 or [fumcangiesmith@gmail.com](mailto:fumcangiesmith@gmail.com)

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, March 6, 2022**

10:00am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship  
5:30-7:00pm Fireflies (Kids Nook & Fellowship Hall)  
5:30-7:00pm UMYF (Youth Hut & Fellowship Hall)

**Monday, March 7, 2022**

6:30pm Boy Scouts (NETC)

**Tuesday, March 8, 2022**

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

**Wednesday, March 9, 2022**

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

**Thursday, March 10, 2022**

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open  
10:30am GriefShare (Parlor)

**Sunday, March 13, 2022**

10:00am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship  
5:30-7:00pm UMYF (Youth Hut & Fellowship Hall)

## Join Us for Lent 2022



March 9 <sup>th</sup>	Witness at the Cross Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
March 13 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Witness at the Cross Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
March 20 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Witness at the Cross Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
March 27 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
March 30 <sup>th</sup>	Witness at the Cross Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Witness at the Cross Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
April 10 <sup>th</sup>	Palm Sunday Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
April 13 <sup>th</sup>	Witness at the Cross Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Maundy Thursday Worship Service	6:00 p.m.

**Weekly amount needed for budget:** \$5,769.24  
**Amount received for week of March 2:** \$6,375.94  
**Sunday School Attendance February 27:** 38  
**FUMC Food Pantry Item:** Canned vegetables  
**Greeters:** Keith & Sally Smith  
**Acolyte:** Penny Quick  
**Nursery Workers:** Erika & Gretchen Kollitz  
**UMYF Leader for next week:** Scott Eddins  
**Video Technicians:** Bryson Hunter & Peyton Taylor

**Amount needed year to date:** \$51,923.16  
**Received year to date:** \$56,451.33  
**Worship Attendance February 27:** 63  
**McArn Items:** Rice crispy treats  
**Head Usher:** David McLean  
**Liturgist for next Sunday:** Lib Norton  
**Flowers next Sunday:** OPEN  
**UMYF Meal for next week:** Cindy Sanderson, Norma Cobb  
**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