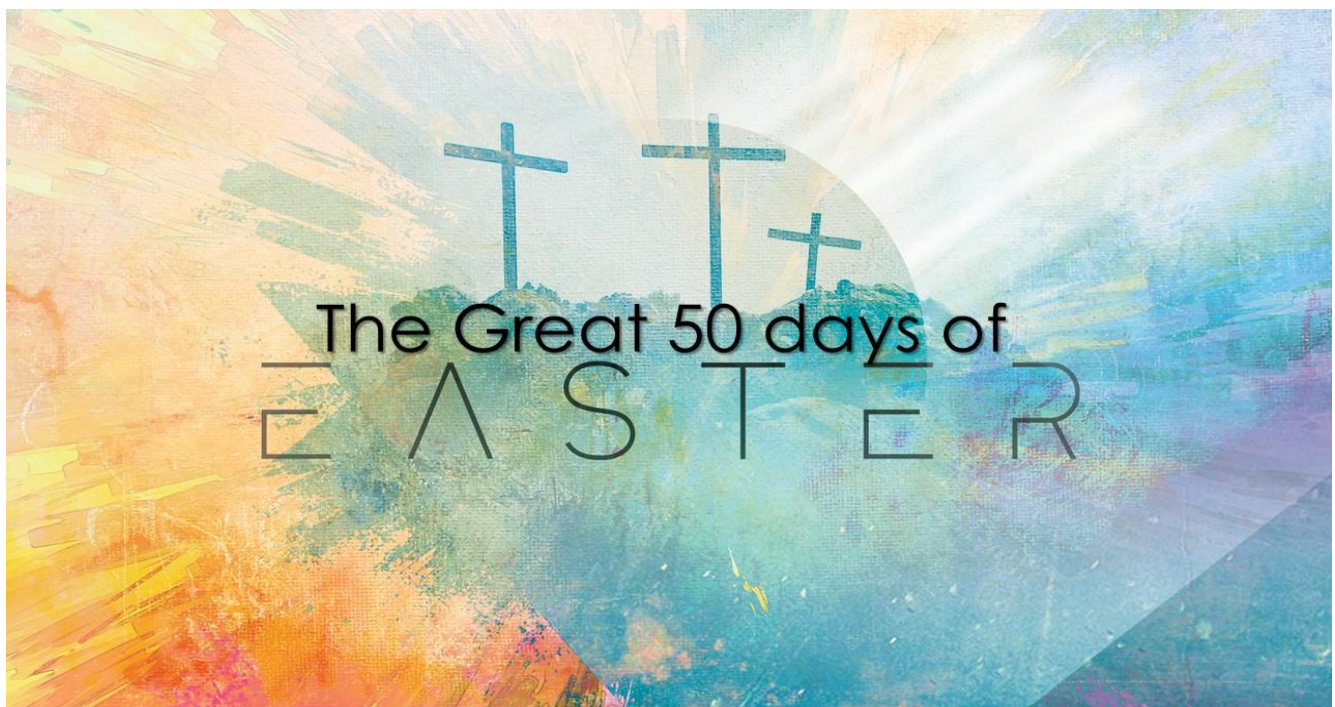


# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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***

***MAY 1, 2022***

***3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER***

***LITURGICAL COLOR: WHITE***

*Please sign the attendance pad and pass it to everyone on the pew. Once the last person has signed, please fold it in half and put in the offering plate.*

<b>CHIMING OF THE HOUR</b>		Martha Starling
<b>PRELUDE</b>		Beth Maier
<b>WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>		Ray Crouse
<b>CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup></b>		
L: Great Spirit of God, you have healed our wounds.		
<b>C: You have brought us from paths of hurt and anger.</b>		
L: You have blessed our life that we might be a blessing to others.		
<b>C: Let us worship you in great joy.</b>		
L: Let us remember the ways you have turned our mourning into dancing.		
<b>C: Let us give thanks to you forever. AMEN.</b>		
<b>OPENING PRAYER<sup>2</sup></b>		Ray Crouse
God of power and might, let your love shine on us and through us to others. Take the blindness from our eyes and our hearts. Give us the joy of knowing and serving you in all that we say, think and do. In Jesus' Name, we pray. <b>Amen.</b>		
<b>PSALTER NO. 762-763</b>	Psalm 30	Ray Crouse
<b>*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH NO. 885</b>	"A Modern Affirmation"	Ray Crouse
<b>*GLORIA PATRI NO. 70</b>		MEINKE
<b>*HYMN NO. 173</b>	"Christ Who's Glory Fills the Skies"	RATISBON
<b>FIREFLY HANDBELLS</b>	"Jesus Loves, B.I.B.L. E., Happy Birthday"	Martha Starling, Director
<b>MORNING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER</b>		Rev. Paul Frey
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	"Surely the Presence and As the Deer"	Choir
<b>*DOXOLOGY NO. 95</b>		OLD 100 <sup>th</sup>
<b>*OFFERTORY PRAYER</b>		Rev. Paul Frey
<b>*HYMN NO. 369</b>	"Blessed Assurance"	ASSURANCE
<b>SCRIPTURE READING</b>	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Rev. Paul Frey
<b>SERMON</b>	"What's New?"	Rev. Paul Frey
<b>*HYMN NO. 364</b>	"Because He Lives"	RESURRECTION
<b>*BENEDICTION</b>		Rev. Paul Frey
<b>*BENEDICTION RESPONSE</b>	"He Is Lord"	HE IS LORD

He is Lord, He is Lord, he has risen from the dead and is Lord! Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. He is Lord, He is Lord, he has risen from the dead and is Lord! Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

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

<sup>1</sup><https://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entry/3724>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

***The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Mark and Debra Armstrong in honor of Mark's birthday and their 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.***

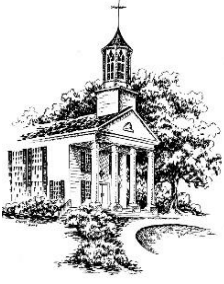
**OUR PRAYER LIST** – Our President, our Congress, all Governors, Mayors, State, County, and Local employees, all health care workers, EMT's, all who defend our nation, all who make decisions for our nation, Jane Campbell, Mabel Foster, Jim Bennett, Phillip Caulder, Scott Tomberlin, Theodore Burns, Margaret Stanton, Mary Snookie Lomas, Shep Straughn, Dennis Pressley (friend of Jenny Keefe), Betty Thraikill, Tony Thraikill, Brenda Rayfield, Gwen Sullivan, Syble Sanderson. **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

**PASTOR ON VACATION:** Mark and Pastor Debra Armstrong will be on vacation from April 29<sup>th</sup> to May 11<sup>th</sup>. If you need pastoral care during this time, please contact Pastor Angela Hampton at 864-908-2167.

**FROM STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE:** Stewardship means putting complete trust in God in all things.

**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.

**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.



# 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 18,

Issue 18

May 1, 2022

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



*As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening, and the day is now nearly over." So, he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. Luke 24:28-31 NRSV*

Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> will mark the 14<sup>th</sup> day and the Second Sunday of the Easter Season. By this time, 2000+ years ago many people had encountered the risen Jesus. We mentioned the women who saw the Jesus on Easter morning in the last edition of The Connection. Luke 24:34 and 1 Corinthians 15:5 tell us that later that very same day Peter had a brief meeting with Jesus near Jerusalem. Peter will see and speak with our Risen Lord on several more occasions before Jesus's ascension into heaven and we will talk more about Peter in the future.

Mark 16:2 and Luke 24:13-31 both talk about Jesus walking with two disciples on the Emmaus Road. The disciples were deep in grief and did not recognize Jesus. They were shocked that Jesus did not seem to have a clue about the recent events that took place in Jerusalem. In this time of deep despair, Jesus comes to them, walks with them, and listens to the horrific events they have witnessed. When their sorrows were all poured out then, and only then, did Jesus explain to them using the scriptures why all they witnessed and experienced needed to happen. They invited Jesus to stay in Emmaus and he agreed. When Jesus broke the bread and gave it to them and then disappeared, they finally realized they who had been lovingly walking with them on that dusty road of despair.

One of the things I love most about the Emmaus story is the fact that Jesus listened to them before he told them anything. Even though they did not recognize him. Even though they were astounded by his lack of knowledge about recent events. Jesus lovingly walked with them and listened to them. Often the most important gift we can give someone who is suffering from grief, illness, or another heart wrenching event is the gift of our presence and a listening ear. Most of the time people do not need us to offer suggestions or give advice. They simply need and want a person who will listen to them. As we journey together during these great 50 days of the Easter Season, I pray that we will join others on this road called life and be a disciple for Jesus who is present and who listens.

*Pastor Debra*

**Covid Restrictions Lifted** - Based upon recent and continually improving Covid-19 risk factors in the county reported by the SC Department of Health and consistent with CDC guidance, the Church Council voted unanimously this week to remove the remaining restrictions previously imposed on our activities and routines at First Methodist. Masking remains optional and we will continue to monitor the situation for changes that might warrant action in the future.

#### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. Grief Share is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. Thursdays 10:30 am.



Wonderful Wednesdays will take a break May 4<sup>th</sup> and return on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

Pastor Phil Thrailkill will be here May 11<sup>th</sup> to tell us about his mission trip to Africa. Mark your calendar and plan to attend!

**EPWORTH CHILDREN'S HOME MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING:** DON'T FORGET YOUR MOTHERS OR EPWORTH CHILDREN'S HOME NEXT SUNDAY! Next week is Mother's Day. We will buy flowers, call the mothers in our lives, and remember those mothers who have impacted our lives in the past. Most of the children served by Epworth Children's Home will not be celebrating Mother's Day with their birth mothers. Instead, they will be surrounded by loving staff, and foster parents who walk with them daily to provide spiritual, educational, emotional, and physical support. Consider what God is calling you to give to support our church's ministry to the children in South Carolina. Your generous contribution to our church's ministry enables transformation to happen for the children who call Epworth home. Epworth does not receive apportionments from the United Methodist Conference. This offering is our opportunity to support this vital ministry. For more information about Epworth Children's Home, visit them online at [www.epworthchildrenshome.org](http://www.epworthchildrenshome.org).



## YOUTH SUNDAY

Thanks to the FUMC Youth and their leaders for an awesome Youth Sunday Service on April 24, 2022. The youth surprised retiring youth leaders Shannon Johnson and Dawn Leach with a well deserved special thank you during the service. You can watch the entire service at <http://cherawfirstumc.org/>.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Sunday, May 1, 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, May 2, 2022

6:30pm Boy Scouts (NETC)

### Wednesday, May 4, 2022

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open  
12:00pm Bulletin/Newsletter Deadline  
7:00pm Choir Practice (Choir Room)

### Thursday, May 5, 2022

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open  
10:30am Grief Share (Parlor)  
5:00pm-7:00pm CDM Training (Fellowship Hall)

### Sunday, May 8, 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)

**Weekly amount needed for budget:** \$5,769.24  
**Amount received for week of April 27:** \$6,590.36  
**Sunday School Attendance April 24:** 52  
**FUMC Food Pantry Item:** Canned meats, stews  
**Greeters:** Jay & Dawn Leach  
**Acolyte:** Peyton Taylor  
**Nursery Worker:** Christy & Charlie Ruffner  
**Soundsystem Operator:** Scott Eddins  
**UMYF Leader for next week:** Scott Eddins  
**UMYF Meal for next week:** Judy Jones & Amy Lewis

**Amount needed year to date:** \$98,077.08  
**Received year to date:** \$95,147.39  
**Worship Attendance April 24:** 93  
**McArn Items:** Instant grits  
**Head Usher:** Doug Carabo  
**Liturgist for next Sunday:** Eric Dusa  
**Flowers next Sunday:** Jim Bennett  
**Video Technicians:** Bryson Hunter & Peyton Taylor

### 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)  
Beth Maier – Interim Music Director