

# 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 1, 2023***

***FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS***

***LITURGICAL COLOR: WHITE***

#### FUMC STAFF

Rev. Debra Armstrong, Pastor ([fumcpastor1@gmail.com](mailto:fumcpastor1@gmail.com)) 843-537-7002 O 843-253-3132 C

Angie Smith, Administrative Assistant ([fumcangiesmith@gmail.com](mailto:fumcangiesmith@gmail.com))

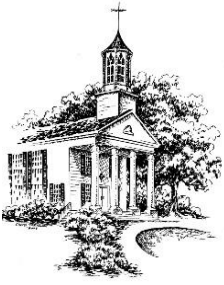
Child Development Ministry Director ([fccdm@yahoo.com](mailto:fccdm@yahoo.com))

*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.*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR			Martha Starling
PRELUDE	<i>"Fugue in C Major"</i>		RANDALL THOMPSON
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS			Shannon Johnson
CALL TO WORSHIP <sup>1</sup>			Shannon Johnson
L: Let your praise of God sound to the heavens!			
C: <b>We shout the good news of God's mighty love!</b>			
L: Let all the stars, the sun, the moon sing praise to God!			
C: <b>The Universe that God created sings its praise!</b>			
L: Praise the Lord!			
C: <b>Hallelujah! AMEN.</b>			
OPENING PRAYER <sup>2</sup>			Shannon Johnson
God of hope and light, your good news has been emblazoned across the skies, the great starry night of Jesus' birth, sung by angels, celebrated by shepherds, witnessed by animals. You have given to us a new chance, a reminder of your continual love for us. Be with us in this worship, we pray. Guide our thoughts, our lives, our spirits. Heal and restore us. For we ask this in Jesus' Name.			
AMEN.			
PSALTER NO. 818 Response #2	<i>Psalms 98</i>		Shannon Johnson
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH NO. 888	<i>Affirmation From 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 and Colossians 1:15-20</i>		Shannon Johnson
*RESPONSE NO. 220 verse 1	<i>"Angels from the Realm of Glory"</i>		
Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.			
*HYMN NO. 251	<i>"Go Tell It On The Mountain"</i>		GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN
MORNING PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER			Pastor Debra
ANTHEM	<i>"Let There Be Peace On Earth"</i>	Chancel Choir	MILLER/JACKSON
OFFERTORY	<i>"Christmas Meditation"</i>	Carillon Choir	ADAPTED BY GLASS
*OFFERING RESPONSE NO. 219 verse 3	<i>"What Child Is This?"</i>		
So, bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh. Come, peasant, king to own Him. The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him. This, this is Christ, the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing: Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!			
*OFFERTORY PRAYER			Pastor Debra
*HYMN NO. 254	<i>"We Three Kings"</i>		KINGS OF ORIENT
SCRIPTURE READING	Matthew 2: 1-15		Pastor Debra
SERMON	<i>"Angels Among Us: More Life"</i>		Pastor Debra
*HYMN NO. 249	<i>"There's A Song In The Air"</i>		CHRISTMAS SONG
*BENEDICTION			Pastor Debra
*BENEDICTION RESPONSE NO. 246 verses 1 & 3	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>		
Angels we have heard on high. Sweetly singing o'er the plains and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo. Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing; come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.			
*POSTLUDE	<i>"Improvisation on Antioch"</i>		
<i>*If you are able, please stand</i>			

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4498>

<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 19,  
Issue 1  
January 1, 2023

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

On Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day the Christ Candle brightened the sanctuary as we celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ. This Christ Candle of Hope Prayer by Samuel Epperly and our Advent and Christmas Candle-lighting liturgies remind us of the important reasons that God sent his only begotten son into our world.



### Christ Candle of Hope Prayer

God, our loving Father, you sent your Son,  
Jesus Christ, into this world to counter  
all the forces of evil: sin, suffering and death,  
and to overcome evil with the force of good;  
hatred with the power of love,  
your great love for us in Jesus.

Help us never to curse the darkness,  
but to join with you in bringing  
Your light into this world,  
the light that is your Son,  
born of the Virgin Mary, in Bethlehem.  
Help us to be instruments of your light  
and love by doing one special act of kindness  
or by being your special instrument  
of reconciliation this New Year.

May the Christ Candle we light symbolize  
our desire to bring light into a  
world of darkness  
and hope into a world of despair.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

The forces of sin, suffering and death were conquered by the forces of good. The power of hate was conquered by the power of love. The darkness of the world was overcome by the light of Jesus and nothing did or every will overcome Jesus's light. Despair was conquered by the hope that Jesus brought and brings into the world every day. The Peace that surpasses all understanding was ushered into the world by the Prince Of Peace. All of these bring great joy to the world.

We are so fortunate this year to begin the very first day of 2023 on Sunday and in worship together. As we begin a new year, let us remember what we are to be for Jesus because of all that Jesus has done for us. We are to be instruments of hope for those who believe all is lost. We are to be instruments of peace in the midst of chaos and fear. We are to be instruments of joy for those who simply cannot find a reason to rejoice because of their deep pain and/or sorrow. We are to be instruments of life-giving love to others in the midst of hatred and violence. We are to be the light-bearers for Jesus who hold up our candles in the darkness and dispel it one candle at a time.

The new year is full of hope, peace, joy, love, and light. I look forward to serving God with you in 2023 and discovering together the plans that God has for us in this new year. Happy New Year!!!

*Pastor Debra*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Sunday, January 1, 2023**

10:00am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship  
No Youth Meeting  
No Fireflies Meeting

### **Monday, January 2, 2023**

6:30pm Boy Scouts (NETC)

### **Tuesday, January 3, 2023**

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open  
10:00am Worship Committee take down Christmas  
5:00pm Girl Scouts (Youth Hut)

### **Wednesday, January 4, 2023**

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open  
12:00pm Bulletin/Newsletter Deadline

### **Thursday, January 5, 2023**

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

### **Sunday, January 8, 2023**

10:00am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship  
5:30-7:00pm Fireflies Meeting  
5:30-7:00pm Youth Meeting

**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, Jim Bennett, Scott Tomberlin, Margaret Stanton, Mary Snookie Lomas, Shep Straughn, Betty Thrailkill, Tony Thrailkill, Gwen Sullivan, Bill Eutsler, Jr., Mary Burr, Dan Ellenburg (Patty Fisher’s Brother-In-Law), Jody Reid, Craig Norton, Martha Griggs, Katie Chapman, Thomas McKinnon, Joel Keefe, Betty Hurst, Emily Marsh, Zenda Rushing, Jennifer Rayfield (Lanny Rayfield’s wife). **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

**IN MEMORY OF:**

**In Memory of Peaches:**

Rhett Butler, II

**In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. C.E. Watts, Sr.**

Claudius E. Watts, III

**In Memory of Emma Jean Winburn**

Jeff & Shannon Johnson

**In Memory of Mrs. Leila Wannamaker and Herbert Wannamaker**

Claudius E. Watts, III

**In Memory of Harvey Leavitt**

Jeff & Shannon Johnson

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

**BIRTHDAYS**

January 2 Hollis Dusa  
 January 4 Reagan Freeman  
 January 5 Jeffery Johnson  
 January 9 Carley Watson  
 January 14 Greer Eddins, Zachary Carabo  
 January 17 JoAnne Morgan  
 January 20 Shellie Stanton, Kay VanDeman, Carolyn Wallace

January 21 Kaitlyn Nicole Freeman  
 January 22 Mary Kathryn Wagnon, Rhett Butler  
 January 24 Aidan Freeman  
 January 25 Kate Wilson Kollitz  
 January 29 Sally Smith  
 January 31 Becky Moore

**ANNIVERSARIES**

No January Anniversaries

**SERVING IN JANUARY**

**GREETERS FOR JANUARY**

January 1 Rhett & Marcia Butler  
 January 8 Joey & Trina Mills  
 January 15 Angela Holliday  
 January 22 Jimmie & Kim Willimason  
 January 29 Jeff & Shannon Johnson

**LITURGIST FOR JANUARY**

January 1 Shannon Johnson  
 January 8 Greg Sanderson  
 January 15 Joey Mills  
 January 22 Mark Armstrong  
 January 29 Jenny Keefe

**FLOWERS FOR JANUARY**

All month is OPEN

**HEAD USER FOR JANUARY**

Sammy Quick

**NURSERY FOR JANUARY**

January 1 Trina & Joey Mills  
 January 8 Allison Becker & Choles Reid  
 January 15 Kelly Dusa & Choles Reid  
 January 22 Michelle Rohde  
 January 29 Lesley Jean Watson & Christy Ruffner

**ACOLYTE FOR JANUARY**

Nancy Wagnon



**THANK YOU:** We would like to thank all those that gave to the Staff Christmas Gift fund and to those that gave individual gifts to each of us. We are truly blessed to be serving God along side of you. Love, Debra, Jim and Angie

**Weekly amount needed for budget:** \$5,769.24  
**Amount needed year to date:** \$300,000.48  
**Christmas Eve Attendance:** 116  
**FUMC Food Pantry Item:** Peanut butter  
**Greeters:** Rhett & Marcia Butler  
**Acolyte:** Nancy Wagnon  
**Nursery Workers:** Trina & Joey Mills  
**Soundsystem Operator:** Holly Miles

**Amount received for week of December 28:** \$3,495.03  
**Received year to date:** \$303,333.50  
**Worship Attendance December 25:** 38  
**McArn Items:** Animal cookies  
**Head Usher:** Rhett Butler  
**Liturgist for next Sunday:** Greg Sanderson  
**Flowers next Sunday:** OPEN  
**Video Technician:** Bryson Hunter