

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 THIRD STREET, CHERAW, SC 29520

843-537-7002

www.cherawfirstumc.org



Living Lent Inside Out

<https://www.resourceumc>

THE CHURCH WITH A HEART, IN THE HEART OF CHERAW

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

March 5, 2023

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

LITURGICAL COLOR: BURLAP

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 it in the offering plate.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Martha Starling

PRELUDE

“Voluntary IV”

MAURICE GREENE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lib Norton

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

L: Do we dare place our trust in God?

C: God has promised to be with us to guide us.

L: Are we willing to continue on the journey when we don't know the dangers and are not sure of the destination.

C: No matter what, God is with us. That's the promise and the hope.

L: Let us step forward boldly, listening for God's call in our lives.

C: Let us place our trust in God always. AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER²

Lib Norton

Gracious and glorious Lord, we come, as did Nicodemus, with questions on our hearts and in our lives. We come hoping someone can help us find answers and healing. But we are also hardened with doubts about self, others, and even you. Grant us healing and openness to your spirit that we may be better servants of your Word, your Will, and your Way. In Jesus' Name, we pray. **AMEN.**

PSALTER NO. No 844 Response 1

Psalm 121

Lib Norton

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 12:1-4a

Lib Norton

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH NO. 882**

Apostle's Creed Ecumenical Version

Lib Norton

***GLORIA PATRI NO. 70**

GREATOREX

***HYMN NO UMH UMH 117 verses 1 to 4**

“O God, Our Help In Ages Past”

ST. ANNE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION³

Lord, we are such stubborn people. We want to know all the answers. We find it hard to place our trust even in your Son. When Jesus proclaims that we can have a new life, we want to know how this is possible. How can we get rid of the old burdens and difficulties and start over again? Wouldn't it be just like climbing back into the womb to make a fresh start? How we have misunderstood what Jesus has said. New life is possible. We can place our trust in God's healing care. Forgive us, and help us, gracious Lord. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE⁴

Pastor: New life is given to you. You can place your trust in God and follow God's way. God is with you. In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.

Congregation: In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God! Amen.

DEDICATION OF FUMC'S FOOD BOX FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Pastor: All who take upon themselves the name of Christian are called to ministries of love and service with people in the community where they live. In affirmation of our calling to live out our faith in Christian service, we present this Food Box to those in our Cheraw Community who are food-challenged. May those who receive food from this box be blessed by this mission and come to know the love of Jesus through us. Let us pray,

Congregation: We rejoice with you that you have called us to Christian service through First United Methodist Church in the Cheraw community. We commit ourselves to the rights and dignity of all persons and to the improvement of quality of life. We ask your blessing upon this food box. May it be a lasting witness before all your people and bring honor to your holy name. In the precious name of our Lord Jesus, we pray. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Debra

ANTHEM

"God Loved The World So That He Gave"

AUGUST CRUL

God loved the world so that he gave his only son the lost to save that all who would in him believe should everlasting life receive. Christ is the solid rock of faith, who was made flesh and suffered death. All who confide in him alone are built on this chief cornerstone. God would not have the sinner die; his son with saving grace is nigh. His Spirit in the word declares that we in Christ are heaven's heirs. Glory to God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One! To you, O blessed Trinity, be praise now and eternally!

OFFERTORY

"St. Anne"

PAUL MANZ

***DOXOLOGY NO. 95**

OLD 100th

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor Debra

***HYMN NO. UMH 369**

"Blessed Assurance"

ASSURANCE

GOSPEL SCRIPTURE READING

John 3:1-17

Pastor Debra

SERMON

Living Inside Out: Resident Aliens

Pastor Debra

***HYMN NO. UMH 389**

"Freely, Freely"

FREELY, FREELY

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Debra

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE UMH 665**

"Go Now In Peace"

GO IN PEACE

Go now in peace, go now in peace may the love of God surround you everywhere, everywhere you may go. Sung three times.

***POSTLUDE**

"Improvisation On St. Anne"

1 Ibid.

2 <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4555>

3 Ibid.

4 Ibid.



THE CONNECTION

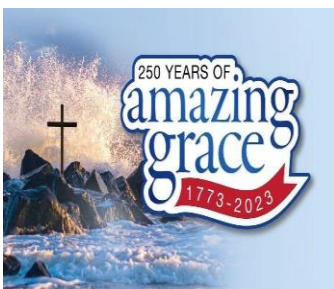
The Mission of First United Methodist Church is to win and nurture souls for Jesus Christ by sharing and living the message of salvation.

www.cherawfirstumc.org

VOLUME
TWENTY
ISSUE 10
MARCH 5,
2023

A few words from the pastor...

For God so [greatly] loved and dearly prized the world, that He [even] gave His [One and] only begotten Son, so that whoever believes and trusts in Him [as Savior] shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge and condemn the world [that is, to initiate the final judgment of the world], but that the world might be saved through Him. John 3:16-17 The Amplified Bible



2023 is the 250th anniversary of the popular John Newton hymn, Amazing Grace. This beloved hymn speaks to all of us because we all need a Savior. We are or were spiritually blind, lost and floundering upon the stormy seas of a self-centered and sinful life. So, God sent Jesus to save us, make us right with God, and bring us home to God's Kingdom on earth and then in heaven.

John Newton was taught about Jesus and taken to church by his mother but she passed away when John was six years old and his father was away at sea. Newton had troubled childhood and difficulties in the Royal British Nave, and as a slave ship captain. Lost at sea in a horrible storm John cried out to God to be saved. God saved Newton from the sea and from death and destruction.

Reverend John Newton became an Anglican priest in 1764 and became a popular preacher and hymn writer. Amazing grace was written in 1773 and first printed in the Olney Hymns by William Cowper. Each week for the remainder of Lent we will include a Behind the Music tidbit written by Michael Hoy.

God's grace is amazing. It has brought salvation to millions of people in the world. This week I invite you to live the amazing grace you have received by offering grace in the form of almsgiving to those in need of food. Please bring canned goods with pop-top lids this week to be put in our outdoor food box. Let's continue to live Lent inside out and keep the amazing grace flowing.

Check out these websites for more information about the 250th anniversary of Amazing Grace:

Online Amazing Grace Exhibit at the Museum of the Bible

<https://www.museumofthebible.org/exhibits/amazing-grace-online-exhibit>

Online Commemorations for Amazing Grace at the Cowper and Newton Museum

<https://cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk/amazing-grace-250-commemorations/>

The story behind the beloved hymn Amazing Grace

<https://www.hymncharts.com/2022/01/03/the-story-behind-amazing-grace/>

Pastor Debra



Behind the Music

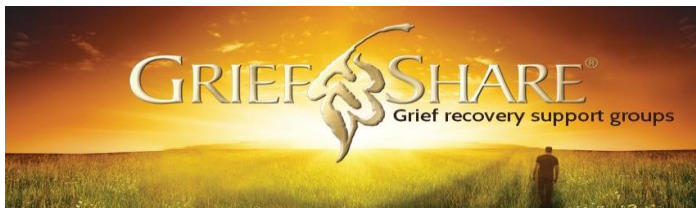
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

while at the helm and would later believed.” Embraced by the in the midst of his terrors, he scandalous life, trusting in Christ Newton’s life applied also to his William Cowper. Cowper was a suffered from mental illness that rejected him. The last worship service of his recurring illness was the one at which Newton first introduced the words of his hymn “Amazing Grace.” Cowper later published the song in Olney Hymns in 1779.



When John Newton was the captain of a slave ship, a violent storm threatened to shipwreck his vessel. He prayed for God’s grace describe it as “the hour I first salutary grace that God loved him openly confessed his past above all. This grace that saved dearest friend and colleague, remarkably gifted poet, but he caused him to fear that God had that Cowper would ever attend because

¹ Hoy, Michael, *Amazing Grace Devotions for Lent*, Creative Communications, Fenton MO., 2023, pg.2.



Grief Share sessions are held at 1:30 p.m. every Wednesday at First United Methodist Church in the church parlor. Please call Bonnie Cundiff at 843-910-7526 for more information.



Life Line Screening will be held Tuesday, March 21st in the Fellowship Hall to register for your appointment please call 1-800-640-6307 or visit April in the Church office during office hours



Joy Club will meet March 16th at 12p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, please R.S.V.P. to your caller by Monday March 13th.

Got Your Tickets for the Murder Mystery Dinner?

The event hosted by FUMC Youth and Fireflies is Saturday, March 25th at 5:00 p.m. Tickets are still on sale for \$25.00 per person and can be purchased in the church office or from Angela Holliday. Tickets will not be available at the door.





We have recently updated our Church Facebook page. The link to join is below. Please Like & follow our page and add your friends & family as well.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089937633979>

A Note Of Thanks

I would like to thank my Church for your prayers, concerns, the many cards, the food some of you delivered and the flowers I received in the past month. It has been a long, though journey but I can feel the healing taking place. Please continue to remember me, and my husband in your prayers.

Your sister in Christ

Zenda Rushing

2023 Lenten Schedule



| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| March 8 th | Bible Study | 6:00 p.m. |
| March 9 th | Bible Study | 10:00 a.m. |
| March 12 th | Third Sunday of Lent Service | 11:00 a.m. |
| March 15 th | Bible Study | 6:00 p.m. |
| March 16 th | Bible Study | 10:00 a.m. |
| March 19 th | Fourth Sunday of Lent Service | 11:00 a.m. |
| March 22 nd | Bible Study | 6:00 p.m. |
| March 23 rd | Bible Study | 10:00 a.m. |
| March 26 th | Fifth Sunday of Lent Service | 11:00 a.m. |
| March 29 th | Bible Study | 6:00 p.m. |
| March 30 th | Bible Study | 10:00 a.m. |
| April 2 nd | Palm Sunday Service | 11:00 a.m. |
| April 6 th | Maundy Thursday Service | 6:00 p.m. |

Lenten Bible Study
Begins March 8 & 9, 2023

Journey this Lenten Season to the resurrection with historical and biblical insights, this **six-week study** takes you through the experiences of Holy Week, from Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem to his resurrection on Sunday morning. Gain a deeper understanding of events like Passover and the Last Supper, Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, the road to Golgotha, and the empty tomb. See how even the smallest details of Holy Week fulfilled Old Testament prophecies. Books will be available in the church office soon. Cost is \$10:00.



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, Bill Eutsler, Jr., Mary Burr, Jody Reid, Craig Norton, Martha Griggs, Katie Chapman, Thomas McKinnon, Zenda Rushing, Cale Yarborough, Erika Kollitz, Spann Family, Jan Brigman, Meredith Rogers Creech, Jennifer Rayfield, Ray Mathews. **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notice.**

FIRST UMC CHERAW EXPANDS FOOD MISSION

A special “Thank You” to Bonnie Cundiff for the suggestion of placing an outdoor food box on our own Church property. Thanks to Dallas Keefe for using his God given carpentry skills to build our food box in the shape of a church and thanks to Jackson Rushing for using his God given skills in placing the support post in the ground and attaching our food box to the post at the exit of FUMC parking lot. The Missions Team appreciates your continued donations to the McArn Food Bank and our own food pantry, but let’s continue reaching out to our community by filling up the new food box and keeping it full at all times for those in need in our surrounding neighborhood. It will be a good way to show that FUMC cares.

Thank You

Your Missions/Evangelism Team

First UMC Women in Faith Host Lenten Luncheon



All women of the church are invited to join us for a catered Lenten Luncheon on March 14, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Since this is a catered luncheon reservations are needed. The cost for the luncheon is \$12.00. Make your reservation today by calling the church office at 843-537-7002.

church council **MEETING**

There will be a special called meeting of the Church Council on March 20, 2023.

The council will meet at 5:15 to vote on a nomination for the
Finance Committee Chairperson.

At 5:30 the council will meet with the Child Development Ministry Board to discuss
reopening the Child Development Ministry Center.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday March 5, 2023

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)
11:00 a.m. Worship
5:30-6:30 p.m. Fireflies (Kid's Nook & Fellowship Hall)
5:30-6:30 p.m. Youth (Youth Hut & Fellowship Hall)

Monday, March 6, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Church Office Open
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (NETC)

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Church Office Open

Sunday, March 11, 2023

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)
11:00 a.m. Worship

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Church Office Open
Noon Bulletin/Newsletter Deadline
1:30 p.m. Grief Share (Parlor)
6:00 p.m. Bible Study (Parlor)
6:00p.m. Carillon Choir Practice (Choir Room)
7:00p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)

Thursday, March 9, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Church Office Open
10:00 a.m. Bible Study (Parlor)

Friday, March 10, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Church Office Open

Weekly Amount Needed: \$5, 928.83
Amount Needed to Date: \$53,359.47
Sunday School Attendance February 26: 53
FUMC Food Pantry Item: Dry Cereal
Greeters: Keith & Sally Smith
Acolyte: The Becker's
Nursery Workers: Farrah Lewis & Michele Rohde
Sound System Operator: Holly Miles

Amount Received Week of February 24: \$2,109.30
Amount Received to Date: \$57,726.21
Worship Attendance February 26: 75
McCarn Food Bank Item: Fruit Cups
Head Usher: Mark Armstrong
Liturgist Next Week: Pam Baker
Flowers Next Sunday: OPEN
Video Technician: Bryson Hunter

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CHERAW STAFF

Reverend Debra Armstrong, Pastor (fumcpastor1@gmail.com) 843-537-7002 O 843-253-3132 C
April Polson, Administrative Assistant (fumcadassistant1@gmail.com)
Jim Glass – Music Director and Organist (fumcmusic01@gmail.com)