

# 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

March 12, 2023

THIRD 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** *“Ave Maria von Arcadelt”* FRANZ LISZT

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Joey Mills

**CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>** Joey Mills

L: We come to the well of fear and doubt.

**C: We have drawn deeply of those waters.**

L: We come to the well of anger and hate.

**C: These waters flourish in all the land.**

L: Lord, bring us to the water of peace and hope.

**C: Lord, bring us to the well of salvation. AMEN.**

**OPENING PRAYER<sup>2</sup>** Joey Mills

Wellspring of eternal life, we come to you this day having drunk deeply the waters of anxiety and despair. Bring to us your living water. Quench our thirsting souls, for we offer this prayer in Your Name. **AMEN.**

**PSALTER NO. 814-15 Response 1** *Psalm 95* Joey Mills

**OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING** *Exodus 17:1-17* Joey Mills

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH NO. 882** *Apostle’s Creed Ecumenical Version* Joey Mills

**\*GLORIA PATRI NO. 70** GREATOREX

**\*HYMN NO. UMH 89** *“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”* HYMN TO JOY

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>3</sup>**

**God of living waters, we confess that we often turned from you and wandered in our own wildernesses of fear and doubt. Our thirst mounts daily, seeking to be quenched by your redeeming love. Yet, when that love is offered to us, we again turn away, unable to truly believe that you would actually heal and love us. We have behaved in very unloving ways. We have chosen to ignore those in need or to deal only passively with them. Our hearts are not placed in service to others, but rather in self-serving motives. Heal us, merciful God. Wash us again in the living water. Help us be faithful servants. AMEN**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE<sup>4</sup>**

Pastor: The waters of mercy and healing are poured over you. God is loving and faithful to those who come to God. Come, seek the loving presence and be healed. In the name of Jesus, the Christ, you are forgiven.

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

**All: Glory to God! Amen**

## MORNING PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Debra

### ANTHEM

*"Once A Woman Seeking Water"*

CAROLYN WINFREY GILLETTE

Once a woman seeking water at a well not far from home met a thirsty, waiting stranger from a people not her own. Would she give a drink of water and respond to human need? Could she know the joy and wonder she, the giver, would receive? She drew water for the thirsty; Jesus offered something more: living water, God's own mercy, love abundant, freely poured. One, a blessing for the body; one, a blessing for the soul! Both are gifts of our Creator — gifts that help to make us whole. Still God's people carry water from their wells and mountain streams; still at rivers women gather, sharing labor, sharing dreams. Still a cup of water given in a dry and weary place is a blessing overflowing from the fountain of God's grace. God, we ask your richest favor on the work we seek to do; may we gladly share clean water and your living water, too. May we see the face of Jesus, and how far your love extends, in the ones we call our partners — no more strangers, now our friends.

### OFFERTORY

*"Fill My Cup Lord"*

RICHARD BLANCHARD

### \*DOXOLOGY NO. 95

OLD 100<sup>th</sup>

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor Debra

### \*HYMN W&S UMH NO. 3093

*"Fill My Cup Lord"*

RICHARD BLANCHARD

### GOSPEL SCRIPTURE READING

John 4:5-42

Pastor Debra

### SERMON

Living Inside Out: In Need of Water

Pastor Debra

### \*HYMN NO. UMH 301

*"Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross"*

NEAR THE CROSS

### \*BENEDICTION

Pastor Debra

### \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE UMH 665

*"Go Now In Peace"*

GO IN PEACE

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

### \*POSTLUDE

*"Improvisation On Restoration"*

1 <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4749>.

2 Ibid.

3 Ibid.

4 Ibid.

**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 Thraikill, Tony Thraikill, 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, Mabel Foster. **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notice.**

## FILL MY CUP LORD

1. Like the wom-an at the well I was seek - ing for  
 2. There are mil-lions in this world who are crav - ing the  
 3. So, my neigh-bor, if the things this world gave you leave

things that could not sat - is - fy; and then I heard my Sav - ior  
 pleas - ure earth - ly things af - ford; but none can match the won-drous  
 hun - gers that won't pass a - way, my bless - ed Lord will come and

speaking: "Draw from my well that nev - er shall run dry."  
 treas - ure that I find in Je - sus Christ my Lord.  
 save you, if you kneel to him and hum-bly pray:

*Refrain*

Fill my cup, Lord, I lift it up, Lord! Come and

quench this thirst-ing of my soul; bread of heav-en, feed me 'til I

want no more; fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole!

WORDS: Richard Blanchard  
 MUSIC: Richard Blanchard

FILL MY CUP  
 Irr. with Refrain

© 1959 Richard Blanchard. Assigned 1964 Curb Word Music CCLI # 11429516 and #20826643



# 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  
TWENTY  
ISSUE 11  
MARCH 12,  
2023

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

*[Let us fix] our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2 NASB*

What draws your attention as you live your life day by day? What kinds of things are the focus of your eyes? Every day we think about hundreds of different matters. The people in our lives. The things we have to do. Places we need to go. Places we would like to go. Things we need and things we want. Every day we must focus on all sorts of good and important things. But when it comes to what really matters, when it comes to what gives our lives security, meaning, and hope, where do we look?

The answer from the book of Hebrews is that we keep our focus on Jesus who is the author and perfecter of our faith. We keep our eyes on the one who the joyfully conquered evil, death, shame, selfishness and sinfulness on a cross for us.

When we keep our eyes focused on Jesus we are then relying on our Lord who sits at the right hand of the throne of God and is our advocate. So let us pause at the midpoint in our Lenten Journey and look to Jesus as we reflect upon our travels so far living Lent from the inside out. Jesus demonstrated to us that he understands and forgives our sinfulness, that he will help us get back up when we fall down, and that he will lead us successfully through each step of our journey especially in the unknown and unexpected places we sometimes are called to travel.

In those times, a little refocusing can be found in the words of Helen Lemmel, “Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full in his wonderful face and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace.”<sup>1</sup> Let’s keep our eyes focused on Jesus, my brothers and sisters in Christ, and then let’s live our focus inside out by sharing the faith, hope, love and joy we received from the Lord with those around us.

*Pastor Debra*



<sup>1</sup> Lemmel, Helen H., *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*, The United Methodist Hymnal, The United Methodist Publishing House, Nashville, Tennessee, 1989, pg.349.





## Behind the Music<sup>2</sup>

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; was blind but now I see.*

When John Newton, a former sea captain, wrote the Year's Day 1773, he could see the "prodigal" several occasions to help him, but Newton "wretch" (a word he borrowed from earthly father as well as the heart of God. Christ's deep and abiding love does not give up the story of the prodigal restored to who received his sight (John 9). Both aptly Christ's saving grace.



lyrics of "Amazing Grace" for a sermon on New son" in his early life. His own father tried on was a hardened prodigal, a self-confessed Romans 7:24), distant from the heart of his Still, John Newton discovered that God in up on anyone. In his opening stanza, he lifts sonship (Luke 15:11-32) and the blind man describe his being blessed in the mercies of

<sup>2</sup> Hoy, Michael, Amazing Grace Devotions for Lent, Creative Communications, Fenton MO., 2023, pg.3.



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



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.



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.

# 2023 Lenten Schedule



March 15 <sup>th</sup>	Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
March 19 <sup>th</sup>	Fourth Sunday of Lent Service	11:00 a.m.
March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
March 26 <sup>th</sup>	Fifth Sunday of Lent Service	11:00 a.m.
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
March 30 <sup>th</sup>	Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Palm Sunday Service	11:00 a.m.
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Maundy Thursday Service	6:00 p.m.

## Got Your Tickets for the Murder Mystery Dinner?

The event hosted by FUMC Youth and Fireflies is Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> 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.



*Joy Club will meet March 16<sup>th</sup> at 12p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, please R.S.V.P. with Renie Seel at 843-344-1841 by Monday March 13<sup>th</sup>.*

## Church-wide Information Meeting

**When: Sunday, March 26**

**Time: 2:00 p.m.**

**Where: Church Sanctuary**

All members of First United Methodist Church are invited to attend a church-wide meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm in the sanctuary. At this meeting, information will be provided on the South Carolina UMC's Local Church Discernment Process and the FUMC Church Council's January 22, 2023 decision not to enter the process at this time. Following a brief presentation, time will be available for answering questions previously submitted. Please send your questions by email to [jwwagnon@gmail.com](mailto:jwwagnon@gmail.com) or questions may be submitted anonymously by addressing them to John Wagnon and mailing them to the church at 117 Third Street Cheraw SC. Please submit your questions by Wednesday, March 22, 2023.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Sunday March 12, 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 13, 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 14, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Church Office Open  
12:00 p.m. UMC Women in Faith Lenten Lunch  
(Fellowship Hall)

## Sunday, March 19, 2023

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

## Wednesday, March 15, 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)

## Thursday, March 16, 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)  
12:00 p.m. Joy Club (Fellowship Hall)  
6:00p.m. Carillon Choir Practice (Choir Room)  
7:00p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)

## Friday, March 17, 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: \$59,288.30  
Sunday School Attendance February 26: 53  
FUMC Food Pantry Item: Dried Milk  
Greeters: Norma Cobb  
Acolyte: The Becker's  
Nursery Workers: Allison Becker & Sawyer  
Sound System Operator: Holly Miles

Amount Received Week of March 1: \$5,219.12  
Amount Received to Date: \$59,226.10  
Worship Attendance February 26: 72  
McCarn Food Bank Item: Rice Crispy Treats  
Head Usher: Mark Armstrong  
Liturgist Next Week: Shannon Johnson  
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)