

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 THIRD STREET, CHERAW, SC 29520

843-537-7002

www.cherawfirstumc.org



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

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

APRIL 16, 2023

3RD 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 it in the offering plate.**

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Martha Starling

PRELUDE

“Aria And Fugue”

HEALEY WILLAN

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jenny Keefe

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Jenny Keefe

L: Protect us, O God, for in you we take refuge;

C: Let us say to God, “You are our Lord; we have no good apart from you.”

L: Today, we come to worship God in truth and turn away from worshiping the idols all around us.

C: God delights in our sincere worship, but sorrow visits those who give their worship to idols.

L: We bless the Lord who gives counsel, who instructs our hearts in the secret of the night.

C: We keep the Lord always before us so that we shall not be moved from God’s ways.

L: Our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice, and our bodies rest secure,

C: Because God keeps us from destruction in this life and the next.

L: God shows us the path of life,

C: And in God’s presence is the fullness of joy forevermore.

L: And so, we say to God,

C: “You are our Lord; we have no good apart from you.” Amen.

OPENING PRAYER²

Jenny Keefe

Good and gracious God, Our most glorious Creator, As we greet the signs in nature around us: of Spring once again regaling us in bloom, In the songs of returning birds and fields soon to be planted. We give you praise for an even greater sign of new life: the resurrection of your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, that we especially celebrate at this time. The sadness and despair of his death has given way to the bright promise of immortality. For the Resurrection is our guarantee that justice will triumph over treason, Light will overcome darkness, and love will conquer death. As we celebrate, we also dare to ask for your grace that we may live the promise given to us, by imitating the life of Jesus in reaching out to the poor, the marginalized, the least among us as we strive to be neighbor to all those we meet. We praise you in this Easter season. Change our lives, change our hearts to be messengers of Easter joy and hope. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord forever. **AMEN.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION³

Jenny Keefe

Risen Lord Jesus, what is it that keeps us from recognizing you? When we are so full of ourselves, it is all too easy to block you right out of our lives. Maybe, it’s the way we interpret Scripture that obscures the signs pointing to you. Perhaps, we are guilty of being slow of heart when we don’t recognize you in our neighbor, or in the guise of the poor or the dispossessed. Our eyes and ears have become so crammed with the sights and sounds of living that we simply fail to see you or to recognize your voice. Risen Lord Jesus, help us to empty ourselves of all that hinders our awareness of your presence with us. Fill us with

¹ Adapted from Psalm 16 NRSVUE by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, October 2022.

² Adapted from “An Easter Prayer” written by Fr. Larry Snyder, <https://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/prayer-index/easter-prayers#:~:text=We%20praise%20you%20in%20this,Amen.>

³ Adapted from “Confession: Recognizing Jesus” by Moira Laidlaw, at [Liturgies Online](https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/04/easter-3-prayer-of-confession.html). Re-posted at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/04/easter-3-prayer-of-confession.html>.

the joy of knowing your continuing presence, so that, like the disciples who first encountered the Resurrected Christ, we too might hasten to share this great good news with others. AMEN.

***HYMN NO. UMH 317** *“Christ Is Alive”* TRURO

ASSURANCE OF PARDON⁴ Jenny Keefe

P: We know that we were ransomed from futile ways With the precious blood of Christ and have been born anew through the living and enduring word of God. In this we recognize God’s great love for the world revealed in the death and resurrection of Jesus who came into the world not to condemn it but to save it. Those who believe in him are not condemned. In the name of the Risen Lord Jesus, you are forgiven.

C: In the name of the Risen Lord Jesus, you are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM *“Now The Green Blade Riseth”* FRENCH CAROL

The text for this morning's Anthem can be found on page 311 of your Hymnbook.

OFFERTORY *“Easter Hymn”* HEALEY WILLAN

OFFERTORY PRAYER Pastor Debra

***DOXOLOGY NO. 95** OLD 100th

***HYMN NO. UMH 462** *“’Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus”* TRUST IN JESUS

SCRIPTURE John 20:19-22 Pastor Debra

SERMON Risen Lord Sightings: The Upper Room Part I Pastor Debra

***HYMN NO. UMH 420** *“Breathe On Me, Breath Of God”* TRENTHAM

*** BENEDICTION** Pastor Debra

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *“He Is Lord”* HE IS LORD

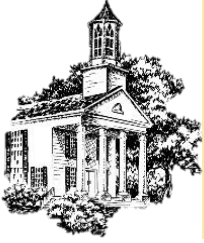
Sing Twice: He is Lord, He is Lord, he has risen from the dead and is Lord! Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. He is Lord, He is Lord, he has risen from the dead and is Lord! Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

***POSTLUDE** *“Improvisation On Easter Hymn”*

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

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD IN MEMORY OF F. GARLAND STREETE AND ELIZABETH KING STREETE TRAYNHAM BY THE LIB STREETE TRAYNHAM ESTATE.

⁴ Ibid.



THE CONNECTION

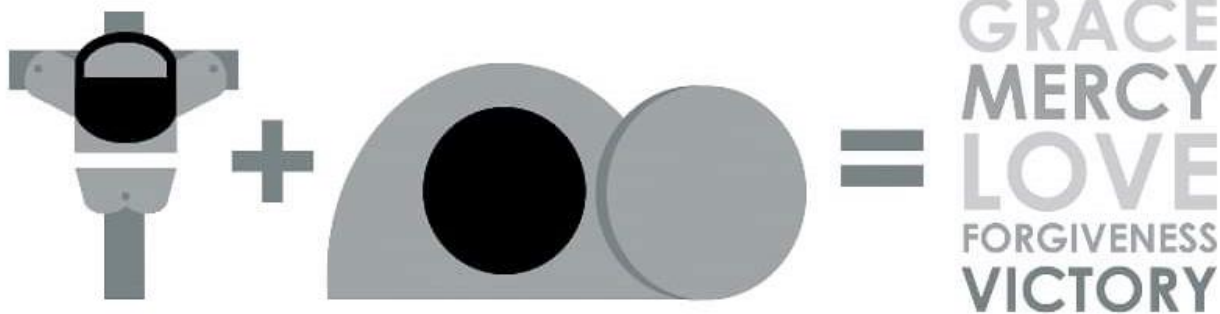
The Mission of First United Methodist Church is to win and nurture souls for Jesus Christ by sharing and living the message of salvation.

www.cherawfirstumc.org

Volume
20,
Issue 17
April 16,
2023

A few words from the pastor...

The great 50 Days of Easter are well under way. During these fifty days we celebrate over and over the work of Jesus on the cross and the power of his resurrection. It is easy to see life as a progression of seasons or stages marked on a calendar; it is also too simple. Life rarely progresses smoothly through days or stages—instead, we alternate between triumphs and tears, advances and setbacks. What our journey with our Lord teaches us is that God goes with us through all of it, our best shining moments and our darkest failures. The celebration and praise of Easter marks the victory of God over our greatest enemy, death. And it emphasizes the gifts of grace, mercy, love, and forgiveness we receive when we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.



Resurrection day, the day we call Easter, proclaims that we do mean something to God: God so loved the world to die and rise again for it! There is no more profound proclamation. Each Sunday here at FUMC, we gather to tell the story again and again, of how we are claimed, and marked, and carried, through this life and beyond, as God's people. We are at our best when we are together as God's people, reminding each other and ourselves who we are called to be, and how much we are blessed. I hope you will be part of the gathering each Sunday, as we celebrate the great fifty days of the Easter season here at First United Methodist Church, and that you will encourage others to join us on the journey.

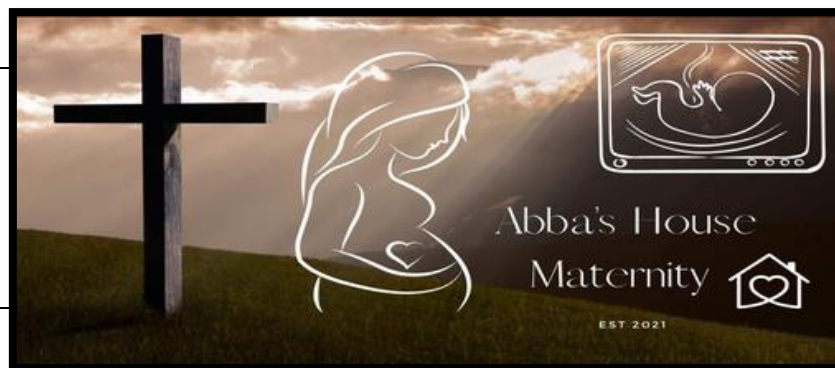
Pastor Debra

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, Mary Snookie Lomas, Shep Straughn, Betty Thrailkill, Tony Thrailkill, Bill Eutsler, Jr., Mary Burr, Jody Reid, Craig Norton, Martha Griggs, Steve Humphries, Katie Chapman, Thomas McKinnon, Zenda Rushing, Cale Yarborough, Jan Brigman, Meredith Rogers Creech, Ray Mathews, Jane Board, Jean Davis, James Thurman, Mike Elmore, and Debbie Elmore. **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

ABBA’S HOUSE MATERNITY HOME

3RD ANNUAL APPRECIATION & CELEBRATION OF LIFE BANQUET

SATURDAY APRIL
29TH AT 5:00 P.M.
MARANATHA
FAMILY CENTER
66 PRAISE LANE,
CHERAW



RSVP BY APRIL
15TH
CALL 843-537-2033
OR
TEXT 843-287-0363

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.



We have some needs for our food pantry. It is helpful to have items that have pull-top lids. Food for the pantry may be dropped off at the church on Sundays or Tuesday – Thursday during office hours. Items needed at this time are:

Ramen Noodles

MEMORIAL GIFTS: If you would like to give an “in memory” gift to FUMC, you may designate it to any area listed below: Contingency Fund, Endowment Fund, Memorial Fund, Music Fund, Adult Exercise Class, Salkehatchie Summer Service, Bus Fund, Youth Ministries, Children’s Ministries, Building Upkeep Fund, Parsonage Upkeep Fund, Grounds Upkeep Fund, Pastor’s Discretionary Fund, Flower Fund, Bereavement Meals, and named Scholarships. Call the church office for more information 843-537-7002.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

*Joy Club will meet April 20th at 12 p.m.
in the Fellowship Hall.
Please R.S.V.P. to Renie Seel at 843-344-1841
by Monday April 17th.*

CHILD DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY BOARD MEETING: Meeting scheduled for Monday April 17th at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE will meet at 5:00 p.m. April 23, 2023, in the Fred Harris Sunday School Classroom.

THE CHURCH COUNCIL will meet April 23, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fred Harris Sunday School Classroom.

THE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE will meet on Monday April 24th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



GRADUATES INFORMATION REQUESTED:

If you are a high school or college student who will graduate this year or have a child who will graduate this year, please provide contact information to the church office. We need the full name, date of graduation, degree earned, and high school or college from which the student will be graduating. This information is needed to help us prepare for Graduate Sunday and the Graduate Breakfast.

The United Women in Faith are planning to resume their Mats for the Homeless Project. If you would like to participate in making mats, please call the church office at 843-537-7002, or Martha Starling at 843-910-4789 or Judy Dixon at 843-439-2579. If you are interested in cutting the bags for the mats, instructions will be available on the table outside of the Fellowship Hall or by email from Judy Dixon medtechduo@shnext.com. Some time ago, we took our first mat to the Cheraw Police Department. A homeless man was there and accepted the mat with great appreciation. We hope to be able to make more mats for the Glory of God and help people in need.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday April 16, 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)

Wednesday, April 19, 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)
 No Choir Practice

Monday, April 17, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
 Church Office Open
 5:30 p.m. Child Development Ministry Board Meeting in the Fellowship Hall
 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (NETC)

Thursday, April 20, 2023

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

Tuesday, April 18, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
 Church Office Open
 6:00 p.m. Girls Scouts (Youth Hut)

Friday, April 21, 2023

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

Sunday, April 22, 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)

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| <p>Received Maundy Thursday, April 6: \$374.00 Weekly Amount Needed: \$5,928.83 Amount Received to Date: \$72,757.78 Sunday School Attendance April 9: 51 FUMC Food Pantry Item: Ramen Noodles Greeters: Gailya Wilson Acolyte: Norma Cobb Nursery Workers: Kelly Dusa and Choles Reid Sound System Operator: Holly Miles</p> | <p>Received on Easter Sunday, April 9: \$1,899.24 Amount Needed to Date: \$88,942.45 Worship Attendance Maundy Thursday, April 6: 48 Worship Attendance Easter Service, April 9: 98 McCarn Food Bank Item: Fruit Cups Head Usher: Jeff Johnson Liturgist Next Week: Sammy Quick Flowers Next Sunday: OPEN Video Technician: Bryson Hunter</p> |
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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CHERAW STAFF

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

Nicole Francisco, Administrative Assistant (fumcadassistant1@gmail.com) O: 537-7002

Jim Glass, Director of Music and Organist (fumcmusic01@gmail.com) O: 843-537-7002