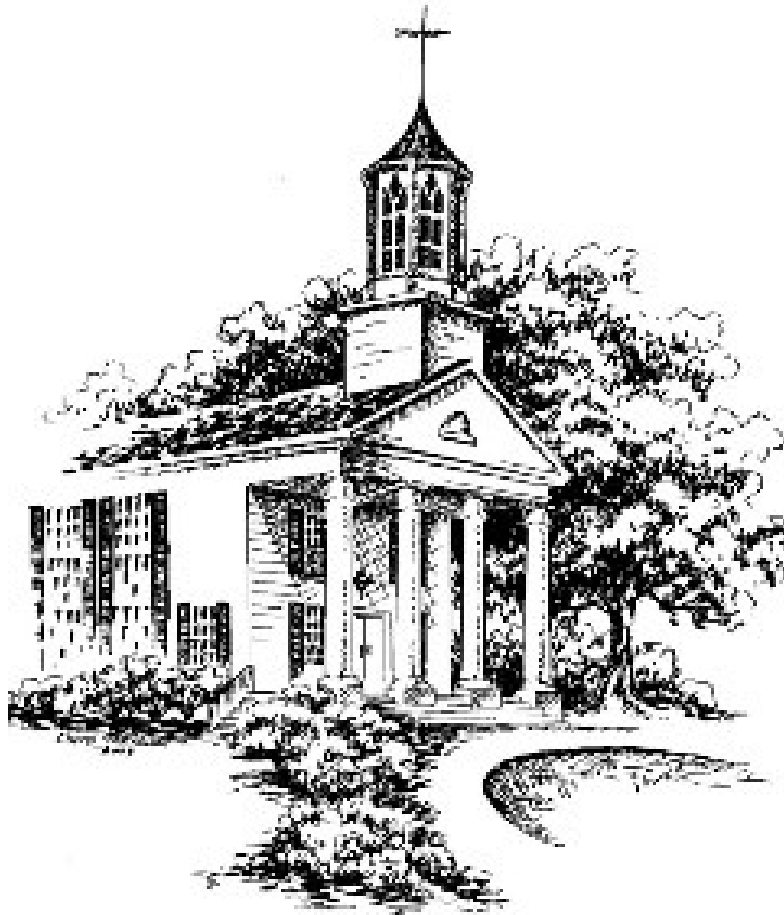


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

MAY 7, 2023

5TH 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 | <i>“Come, Thou Fount Of Every Blessing”</i> | WILBERG/GLASS | |
| WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS | | Greg Sanderson | |
| CALL TO WORSHIP¹ | | Greg Sanderson | |
| L: The Lord is our refuge. | | | |
| C: We can find peace in God’s abiding love. | | | |
| L: When troubles assail us, we call upon the Lord. | | | |
| C: When joys abound, we call upon the Lord. | | | |
| L: Welcome this day to God’s house, one of many dwellings of the Almighty One. | | | |
| C: We thank you and praise God for his refuge and sanctuary. AMEN. | | | |
| OPENING PRAYER² | | Greg Sanderson | |
| O God of all creation, become for us once again the solid foundation upon which we build our daily lives. We gather before you, this first day of the week, to align our lives to the strong teaching and life of Jesus Christ, our Cornerstone. Receive our praise and thanksgiving as expressions of faith and love. We come to you, O Lord, as people who desire to learn and serve like Christ. AMEN. | | | |
| PSALTER NO. 764-765 | <i>Response #2</i> | <i>Psalm 31</i> | Greg Sanderson |
| OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE | | Deuteronomy 30: 15-20 | Greg Sanderson |
| *AFFIRMATION OF FAITH NO. 880 | | | Greg Sanderson |
| GLORIA PATRI NO. 70 | | | MEINKE |
| *HYMN NO. 400 | <i>“Come, Thou Fount Of Every Blessing”</i> | | NETTLETON |
| PRAYER OF CONFESSION³ | | Reverend Darlene Dellinger | |
| Lord of mercy, there are so many times in our lives when we feel alone. We wonder where you are. We cry out to you in our confusion, pain, and hurt. And when you do not immediately grant the prayers of our cries, we begin to doubt that you even care or exist. Stop us from going down this path of self-destruction. Help us look around and find the many ways in which you have blessed our lives. Forgive us when we are so quick to doubt and so arrogant in our demands of your responses. Give us a spirit of patience and willingness to be ready to hear your voice. Strengthen us for the ministries of love and hope that you have placed before us; for we ask this in Jesus’ Name. AMEN. | | | |
| WORDS OF ASSURANCE⁴ | | Reverend Darlene Dellinger | |
| P: Even in the midst of doubt and darkness, the light of God is shining in you, on you, and through you. Out of God’s great love, you have been redeemed and made whole. Rejoice, beloved of God, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. | | | |
| C: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. | | | |
| All: Glory be to God! Amen! | | | |

¹ <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/8127>

² <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4962>

³ <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/1063>

⁴ Ibid.

ANTHEM

“Be Still, My Soul”

HAL H. HOPSON

The text for today's Anthem is found on Page 534 of your Hymn Book.

UNISON PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

Greg Sanderson

O Lord, our Rock, we stand upon you alone, and upon no other. Build our faith into a house made of living stones. We offer these prayers of compassion for our families and friends. Teach us anew that the foundation of life is love for you and for your neighbors. We pray for the community in which we live and work and learn. Offer us, O God, at least one clear opportunity to be of service to someone in need. Hear our prayers for those who are ill and who struggle to recover health and wholeness. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with us, today as we pray the prayer Jesus taught us to pray. Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. AMEN.

OFFERTORY

“Seek ye First”

ADAPTED

***DOXOLOGY NO. 95**

OLD 100th

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Greg Sanderson

Almighty God, receive these gifts we bring to you in gratitude for your amazing love and provision for us. Bless our gifts, Lord, that they may reveal your love and bless others. **AMEN.**

***HYMN NO. 405**

“Seek ye First”

SEEK YE

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

Reverend Darlene Dellinger

SERMON

Reverend Darlene Dellinger

***HYMN NO. 2146 TFWS**

“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”

SPARROW

*** BENEDECTION**

Reverend Darlene Dellinger

***BENEDECTION 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 Nettleton”

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

**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD IN HONOR OF
DAVID AND MICHELLE ROHDE’S 29TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY ON MAY 7TH
BY THE ARTISTIC HAND OF MICHELLE ROHDE.**

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, 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, Debbie Elmore, the Conrad Family and Joy Blackman. **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**



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 20
May 7,
2023

A few words from the pastor...

May is mental health awareness month. Many people suffer from mental illness in our country and do not live the abundant life that Christ Jesus offers us. Many of us have suffered through grief and situational depression and needed counseling to cope with these problems. In the Bible, we see several examples of people who were overwhelmed by grief and/or depression and needed help, from God and from others, to heal and be made whole mentally.

Job was completely devastated over the loss of his children, livestock, and home. His wife and friends could not help him. God provided Job with the help he needed to become mentally healthy. See Job chapters 3 and 10. Moses was so distraught by the unfaithfulness of God's people that he was willing to die. See Exodus Chapter 32. Mary Magdalene suffered from mental illness and was cured by Jesus who cast out her demons. See Mark Chapter 16 and Luke 8.



Help from professional counselors and doctors is readily available for us today. There is financial aid for those who cannot afford counseling and medication. 24-hour hotlines exist to talk to people and get them help. Despite all this, mental illness continues to be a widespread problem because it is misunderstood and stigmatized by our society. As a result, too many people do not seek treatment for mental illness, lose hope, and see suicide as the only way to cope.

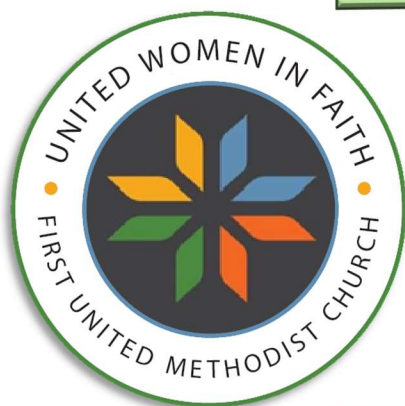
As the deeply devoted disciples of Jesus at First UMC here in Cheraw, South Carolina, I invite you to be part of the solution to the mental health crisis in our country. Here are some things you can do:

- ❖ Go to the Mental Health South Carolina Website and learn more about mental health issues in our state. <https://mha-sc.org/in-a-crisis>
- ❖ Offer support to people who are suffering from grief by inviting them to attend GriefShare classes here at FUMC.
- ❖ Keep these Mental health 24-7/365 hotline phone and text numbers available to share with others.
 - ✓ SC Mental Health Mobile Crisis Hotline 1-833-364-2274 or Text HOME to 741741
 - ✓ Mental Health America Crisis Line 864-271888
 - ✓ Teen Mental Health Text Line Text to 839863 TEXTME

✓ National Suicide Prevention Life Line 1-800-273-8255

Christian writer C.S. Lewis once said, “Mental pain is less dramatic than physical pain, but it is more common and also harder to bear. The frequent attempt to conceal mental pain increases the burden: It is easier to say, ‘My tooth is aching’ than to say ‘My heart is broken.’”⁵ Let’s be part of the team that helps to break down these types of barriers, my brothers and sisters, so that the citizens in our town, our state, and our country can live mentally healthy and abundantly.

Pastor Debra



The United Women in Faith will meet Tuesday May 9, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be putting together care bags for DSS to give to children who have been removed from their homes. The ages are from 4 to 10 and from 11 to 18 (boys and girls). Some of these items are toothbrushes, toothpaste, hairbrushes, combs, socks, stuffed animals, and coloring books. If you would like to contribute to this project, please leave items at the church office.

We welcome all women of our church to join us!

*Every Wednesday
at 1:30 p.m.*



*FUMC
church parlor*

Please call Bonnie Cundiff at 843-910-7526 for more information.

Our Nurture and Care Team at First United Methodist Church will provide rides for individuals to doctor’s or other medical appointments. If you are willing to provide a ride for one of our members or if you need a ride, please contact the church office at 843-537-7002.



⁵ <https://www.hopechest.org>

Next Sunday is Mother's Day



EPWORTH MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING

Coming Up May 14th

While we prepare to celebrate our own Mothers and the wonderful effects they have had on our lives, take a moment to consider those motherless children who must navigate life alone.

Epworth Children's Home serves children from communities throughout South Carolina who are referred from abusive and parentless homes for care through high school and beyond.

Epworth does not receive apportionments from the South Carolina Conference and relies on United Methodist congregations' donations to the annual Mother's Day and Work Day Offerings.

Prayerfully consider what you can give on Mother's Day, May 14th.

Find more information at www.epworthchildrenshome.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY MAY 7, 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, MAY 8, 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, MAY 9, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. / 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Church Office Open
3:00 p.m. United Women in Faith (Fellowship Hall)
6:00 p.m. Girls Scouts (Youth Hut)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 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. Carillion Choir (Choir Room)
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (Choir Room)

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023

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

FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2023

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

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 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)

Weekly Amount Needed: \$5,928.83
Amount Needed to Date: \$107,728.94
Sunday School Attendance April 30: 43
FUMC Food Pantry Item: Ramen Noodles

Greeters:

Acolyte: Zenda Rushing

Nursery Workers: Christy Ruffner & Leslie Jean Watson

Sound System Operator: Holly Miles

Received week of May 3: \$2,998.62

Amount Received to Date: \$82,041.05

Worship Attendance April 30: 66

McCarn Food Bank Item: Peanut Butter Crackers

Head Usher: Doug Carabo

Liturgist Next Week: Rhett Butler

Flowers Next Sunday: Jim Bennett

Video Technician: Bryson Hunter

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