

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

DECEMBER 17, 2023

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE

If you are a visitor, please sign the visitor card on the back of the pew.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

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| PRELUDE | Piano/Organ Duet- Angels We Have Heard on High <i>Sue Skipper, Piano</i> | MARTIN |
| WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS | | Rhett Butler |
| OPENING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER | | Pastor Keith |
| LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES | | Eric and Kelly Dusa |
| *HYMN No. 206 | I Want to Walk as a Child in the Light | HOUSTON |
| *AFFIRMATION OF FAITH No. 880 | The Nicene Creed | Rhett Butler |
| *RESPONSE | Angels We Have Heard on High- Refrain <i>"Gloria, in excelsis Deo!"</i> | GLORIA |
| CHILDREN'S MOMENT | | |
| ANTHEM | "Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning" | Paul Sjolund |
| OFFERTORY | "Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella" | Traditional French Carol |
| *OFFERTORY RESPONSE | Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow Sung to the tune of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." <i>"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel."</i> | VENI EMMANUEL |
| *OFFERTORY PRAYER | | Pastor Keith |
| *HYMN NO. 217 | Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming | ES IST EIN ROS |
| *SCRIPTURE READING | Luke 1: 6-8; 19-28 | Pastor Keith |
| SERMON | A WITNESS TO THE LIGHT | Pastor Keith |
| *HYMN No. 211 | O Come, O Come, Emmanuel V. 1,2,3,7 | VENI EMMANUEL |
| *BENEDICTION | | Pastor Keith |
| *CHORAL RESPONSE | Prepare the Way of the Lord <i>Please remain standing for the choral response</i> | Arrick |
| POSTLUDE | "Let Us Adore Him" | Williams |

Our PRAYER LIST- Our President, our Congress, Governors, Mayors, State and local employees, all health care workers, EMT's, all who defend our Nation, Jim Bennett, Mary Snookie Lomas, Shep Straughn, Betty Thraikill, Mary Burr, Jody Reid, Martha Griggs, Katie Chapman, Thomas McKinnon, Curtis Jones, Meredith Creech, Erika Kollitz, Tony Thraikill, Mike Starlings, Kathy Treadaway(friend of Henrietta Kollitz), Jacorah Booth (friend of Joey and Trina Mills), Scotty Mason(Joey Mills' cousin), Shelton Rumph, Rhonda Jones(sister-in-law of Ruth Ann Jones), Emily Marsh, Carolyn Tuner(Amanda Carobo's Mother) Pam Walter (Angie Smith's cousin), Harley Rushing, The family of JoAnne Morgan, Alice Seel (daughter of Renie Seel), Jayne Board, Zach Mills (Trina and Joey Mills son), Pal Moore, Daryl Stubbs, Joann Spivey, The family of Martha Bentley, Pam Baker. **Note: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY Dec 17th, 2023

10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

1:30 pm Fireflies and Youth (Caroling)

WEDNESDAY Dec. 20th, 2023

9.00 am to 1:30 pm
Church Office Open
10:30 am Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)
5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal (Choir Room)
6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

MONDAY Dec. 18th, 2023

9:00 am to 1:30 pm
Church Office Open
Youth and Fireflies Christmas Party at the Becker's 5:30 pm-7 pm

THURSDAY Dec. 21st, 2023

9:00 am to 1:30 pm
Church Office Open
6 pm Lessons and Carols

TUESDAY Dec. 19th, 2023

9:00 am to 1:30 p.m.
Church Office Open
10:30 am Mat Makers (Not Meeting)

FRIDAY Dec. 22nd, 2023

Church Office Closed

Bible Study 10 am & 6 pm

SUNDAY Dec. 24th, 2023

10:00 am Sunday School
10:30 am Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)
11:00 am Worship
5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

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| <p>Weekly Amount Needed: \$5,928.83 Amount Needed to Date:</p> <p>Sunday School Attendance 43 FUMC Food Pantry Item: Canned Meat /Stew Dried Beans Greeter: Betty Hurst Greeters Next Sunday: Jim & Marianne Crawford Acolyte: Penny Quick Nursery Workers: Kelly Dusa and Michelle Rohde Sound System Operator: Holly Miles</p> | <p>Received week of Dec. 10 : \$18035.04 Amount Received to Date:</p> <p>Worship Attendance 96 McArn Food Bank Item: Canned soup and rice Instant Grits Head Usher: Norma Cobb Liturgist Next Week: Greg Sanderson Flowers Next Sunday: Video Technician: Bryson Hunter</p> |
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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FUMC CHERAW

STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT: As in past years, donations will be accepted for a monetary Christmas gift for members of the church staff. Contributions may be dropped off at the church office, mailed, or placed in the offering plate. (Please clearly designate "STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT" on your check or on the envelope if making a cash donation.) The deadline for contributions is Sunday, December 17th. This is a good way to express our appreciation to the staff for the work that they do! Staff- Parish Relations Committee

December 18th Youth and Fireflies Christmas Party at The Becker's 5:30pm – 7:pm



Martha Nell Bentley passed away on Monday, December 11 in Raleigh, NC surrounded by family. She was a member of FUMC for over forty years, singing in the choir and participating in many mission activities. A memorial service will be held later with a burial beside her husband of more than fifty years JC at Elmwood Cemetery in Birmingham, Alabama. The family has suggested that memorials be made to the Music Ministry here at FUMC.

Mr. Ellison Outen will celebrate his 100th birthday on December 16, 2023.

Those who would like to visit or send cards his address is listed below:

Mr. Ellison Outen
Veteran's Village
1200 E. National Cemetery Road
Room 4112 (Farrow 4A)
Florence, SC 29506-3239

For those who would like to visit or send cards:

Pal Moore
Encompass Health: Room 237
900 East Cheves St.
Florence, SC 29506

Deadline for the December 31st bulletin is December 19th at 12 noon.

All Donations and Contributions should be in the office, no later than December 31, 2023 if you want them included on your end of year report.

You can also drop them in the mail slot, in the Pastor's Office Door.

The Church office will be closed the week of Christmas through New Year's Day. December 25th thru January 1st. The office will reopen January 2nd.



Lessons & Carols

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023
6:00 PM**

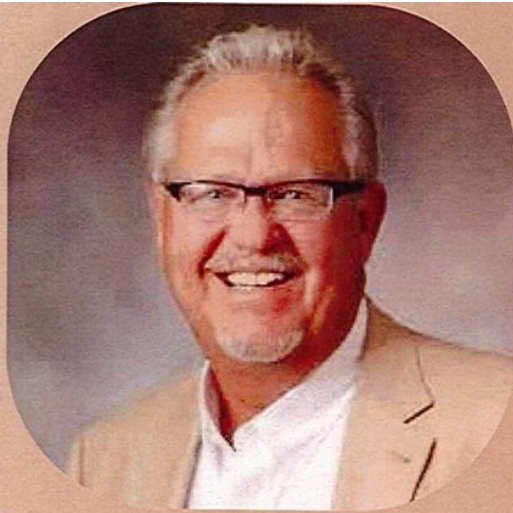
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHERAW, SC

COME HEAR THE MESSAGE OF
CHRISTMAS THROUGH LESSONS &
CAROLS FEATURING OUR CHANCEL
RINGERS & CHANCEL CHOIR

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



First UMC, Cheraw



Family Night

WITH

DENNIS SWANBERG

DECEMBER 17TH

DOORS OPEN [AT] 5PM

SHOW [AT] 5:30PM

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER FOR
THIS FREE NIGHT OF FUN OR CALL THE
CHURCH OFFICE @ 843-537-3863



If laughter is truly the best medicine, then Dennis Swanberg, America's "Minister of Encouragement," is just what the doctor ordered. With his own down-home charm and heaping helping of hospitality, this pastor-turned-comedian has won the hearts of audiences across the country. "The Swan" doesn't care who he's talking to, as long as he can leave knowing he made someone's day a little brighter. The Swan has appeared onstage at the Grand Ole Opry, Focus on the Family, and regularly shares his faith and humor with audiences around the country at Christian conferences and corporate gatherings.

Join us at Cheraw First Baptist for a night of laughter! This event is free of charge and we will have a finger food fellowship immediately following the show.

CHERAW FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ● 126 GREENE STREET ● CHERAW, SC 29520

First United Methodist Church Cheraw Staff

Reverend Keith Stewart, Pastor O: 843-537-7002 C: 803-439-2543 (bkstewart@umcsc.org)

Jackson Stone, Director of Music/Organist C: 843-506-4312

Shelby Nolan, Administrative Assistant (fumcadassistant1@gmail.com) 843-537-7002

Timothy Johnson, Director of Child Development Ministry (cmddirector@gmail.com) O: 843-537-221