

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARCH GET INVOLVED CHALLENGE: Continuing last month's mission goals, we will offer a goal each month for you to reach. The goal for March: *Attend a new or old Sunday School class and remain in attendance for the entire month of March.*

COMMUNITY LUNCHESES: First Baptist Church and First United Methodist Church will join together for lunch on April 2nd (First Baptist), 9th (First Methodist), 16th (First Baptist/First Methodist) leading up to Easter. Please make plans to join us!

BIBLE STUDY: Pastor Keith will be having a Bible Study on the Red Sea Rules starting on Tuesday April 29th at 6:00pm. Join us and take the journey from panic to praise! Books are \$16.00. Please sign up in the church office or by the office door. Please sign up by April 14th so we can order the books.

FIREFLIES & YOUTH: March 30th, April 6th and 27th are still open for dinner. Please contact Lesley Jean Watson if you are interested in providing a meal. Easter Egg Hunt and the Church Wide Ice Cream social will take place Sunday April 13th at 4:00pm. The youth would love for everyone to join us and those who wish to bring their homemade church ice cream. We will have a vote on the most loved homemade ice cream.

MEN'S BBQ: The Men's BBQ is April 5th, 2025. Drive through pick up only from 11:00am-2:00pm. Tickets are \$12.00. If you need tickets, please see Joey Mills or drop by the church office.

ABBA'S HOUSE: They are asking for gently used spring & summer, adult and children's clothing to be given away on April 21st. Please bring your donations to Maranatha between 8:30-2:00 Mon-Fri until April 11th. The give-away will happen on April 21st. Resurrection Partnership on Monday April 21st. Also, our annual ABBA'S House Volunteer banquet: Saturday April 5th from 5:00-7:00...this event is free but Ricky Parker needs to know a number of how many people are coming (843-537-2033). Please invite pastors, come and hear testimonies of the many lives that have been touched because of our partnership. Thanks to everyone who helped in ABBA'S House this past Monday...special thanks to our youth for helping outside and inside. 300 people were served in this great ministry!!

LENTEN PENNIES (PENNIES IN HEAVEN): Purpose: help support your Lenten journey with focus and to measure your progress. Directions: *put a penny in the jar every time you remember Jesus through serving others, donating, devotion, acts of kindness and love, etc.* Conclusion: **turn in jars on Easter Sunday.** Contributions will go to missions. Thanks, Scott Eddins.

UPDATE MEMBER INFORMATION: Please update your phone number and email address information with the church office. Let us know if any of this information has changed.

ADDRESS: Dare Marsh's new address is 4015 Second Ave Box 229, Summerville, SC 29486.

TITHE NEEDED.....\$5,928.83.
 CONTRIBUTIONS.....\$5,195.50.
 SUNDAY SCHOOL ATT. MAR 23.....45
 WORSHIP ATTENDANCE MAR 23.....93
 GREETER.....Dawn & Jay Leach
 LITURGIST.....Keith Stewart
 HEAD USHER.....David McLean
 ACOLYTE.....Nancy Wagnon
 NURSERY.....Leslie Jean Watson



FUMC Staff

Keith Stewart | *Pastor & Friend*

(803.439.2543; Bkstewart@umcsc.org)

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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



THE THIRTIETH DAY *of* MARCH 2025

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

THE CHURCH WITH HEART *in* THE HEART OF CHERAW

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Fourth Sunday in Lent - Purple

March 30th, 2025 | 11:00am

† The people stand

ORGAN VOLUNTARY O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go Jack Morris

CHIMING & WELCOME Rev. Keith Stewart

We welcome each of you to this service! We pray that this time together will be a blessing in your life. Please take note of our important announcements found on the back of this bulletin.

OPENING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Keith Stewart

†**HYMN 378** Amazing Grace NEW BRITIAN

†**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881** The Apostles' Creed Rev. Keith Stewart

†**GLORIA PATRI 70** MEINEKE

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

PSALM 32 | Psalter 766 Rev. Keith Stewart

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Rev. Keith Stewart

†**HYMN 343** Come Back Quickly to the Lord KOREA

OFFERTORY Nearer, My God to Thee Daniel Martin

An offering is collected to support the work of First United Methodist Church. If you are visiting, please sign a visitor's card and place it in the offering plate so we may connect with you. Scan the QR code on the back of the bulletin for digital offerings. Thank you for your contributions.

†**DOXOLOGY & OFFERTORY PRAYER** OLD 100TH

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. Amen.

ANTHEM Lead Me Back Pepper Choplin

TODAY'S ANTHEM IS INSPIRED BY LUKE 15: 11-23, THE SONG OF THE PRODIGAL SON

NARRATION: ROB STEWART

Lead me back to my home, I have wandered far away. I've been gone for far too long. Will You welcome me today? Is it possible You can hear me after the way I turned from You? Is it possible that You're near me, that You never went away and You'll lead me back today? The life I spent, the days I lost, I have lived them all in vain. Now I hold nothing to show but a heart that is full of pain. Lord, I know that You will hear me although I turned away from You. Lord, I see that You were near me, and You never went away, and You call me back today. Lead me back to my home, I have wandered far away. I've been gone for far too long. Will you welcome me today? Now I come to You today.

†**SCRIPTURE READING** Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 (pew Bible pg. 73) Rev. Keith Stewart

SERMON *The Magnitude of God's Graciousness* Rev. Keith Stewart

†**HYMN 348** Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling THOMPSON

**During the singing of this hymn, our altar rail is open for a time of prayer and reflection.*

†**DISMISSAL & PRAYER** Rev. Keith Stewart

†**CHORAL BENEDICTION** Christ, We Do All Adore Thee Dubois

Christ, we do all adore Thee, and we do praise thee forever, For on the Holy Cross Thou hast the world from sin redeemed. Christ, we do all adore thee, and we do praise thee forever. Christ, we do all adore thee. ('Adoramus Te' from The Seven Last Words of Christ, 1867)

IN KEEPING WITH THE PENITENTIAL NATURE OF THE SEASON, THERE WILL BE NO POSTLUDES DURING LENT. THE CHORAL BENEDICTION WILL END OUR SERVICE EACH WEEK, PROVIDING TIME FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND PRAYER.

PRAYER LIST

Our Church, Our President, Congress, Governors, Mayors, State and local employees, health care workers, EMT's, firefighters, law enforcement officers, people of all ages with mental illnesses, all who defend our Nation, Shep Straughn, Mary Burr, Emily Marsh, Martha Griggs, Thomas McKinnon, Curtis Jones, Tony Thrailkill, Bobby Spears, Kathy Treadaway (friend of Henrietta Kollitz), Shannon Johnson, Pam Walter (Angie Smith's cousin), James Thurman (Angie Smith's Father), Jenny Outen, Michelle Rohde, and the family of Betty Thrailkill.