

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REFORMATION SUNDAY: Today marks the observance of the 508th anniversary of Protestant Reformation which was started when former Augustinian Monk Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the church doors in Wittenberg on October 31st, 1517. The Reformation signifies a significant shift in Christian thought and practice, leading to the establishment of Protestantism as one of the three major branches of Christianity.

HALLOWEEN TABLE: Please have any remaining candy donations turned into the office by Tuesday, October 28th. Thank you (especially the youth) to all who donated candy/bags so far to Missions to be given out on October 30th at the Halloween Walk-through in the town of Cheraw. Come out to join in the fun, hand out candies, see all the costumes, and invite people to our church. From 4:30-5:30 at Centennial Park. Thanks.

ABBA'S HOUSE: We will be feeding Abba House Monday, October 27th. We still have 6 lasagnas that need preparation. We also need people to help prepare plates at ABBA'S House. Please pick up lasagnas Sunday after church. The baked lasagna can be returned to the church on Monday, October 27th by 3:30pm or taken directly to ABBA'S House by 3:45pm.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: November 9th at 8:30am. All men are invited.

GRIEF SHARE: Need someone to talk to? Is the burden too great? GriefShare meets from 10:30am-12:30pm every Wednesday for 13 weeks. It ends Nov. 19th unless a meeting must be rescheduled. Bonnie Cundiff: (843) 910-7526. Susan Marsh: (843) 921-7831.

HALLOWEEN ORGAN RECITALS: If you enjoy Halloween-themed organ music, you have two great opportunities to hear nine organists in recital (including our own 😊). The first happens at Central United Methodist Church downtown Florence on October 30th at 7:00pm. The next happens at First Presbyterian Church of Hartsville on November 2nd at 7:00pm. Admission is free – just bring yourself and your humor. These events tend to be quite humorous and full of levity. You know what they say: When a bunch of organists get together,

A FIRST CHURCH CHRISTMAS – HELP NEEDED: We need your help for our Christmas Program Dec. 18th. Ushering, decorating the church and fellowship hall (additional décor aside from Advent decorations, like greenery, candles, lights, etc.), passing out programs, moving chairs and furniture, supervising the reception, and security are items for discussion. Contact Jackson Stone if you are interested in helping and wish to be added to the “group” of helpers and sign up on the sign-up sheet directly on the church office door. A meeting of all interested helpers and participants will be held on Wednesday, October 29th at 4:00pm in the choir room. Also, please begin thinking about the food items you might bring to the reception. We speculate 400+ in the congregation like last year.

PAL MOORE: Pal Moore is in Cheraw Post Acute on 400 Moffat Rd. She is in room 202. She has her cell phone with her. Please call her to talk or go to see her when you can.

TITHE NEEDED WEEKLY.....	\$5,928.83.	NURSERY TODAY.....	Kelly Dusa
CONTRIBUTIONS OCT 19.....	\$4,967.26.	NURSERY NOV 2.....	Lesley Jean Watson
SUNDAY SCHOOL OCT 19.....	21	MCARN FOOD ITEM.....	Macaroni & Cheese
WORSHIP OCT 19.....	57	CHURCH PHONE.....	(843) 537-7002
LITURGIST TODAY.....	Gregory Sanderson	PASTOR.....	Rev. Joseph Kovas
LITURGIST NOV 2.....	Joey Mills		(803.374.1677; ldkovas@umcsc.org)
GREETER TODAY.....	Zenda Rushing	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT.....	Shelby Nolan
GREETER NOV 2.....	Henrietta Kollitz		(843.537.7002; fumcadassistant1@gmail.com)
HEAD USHER OCT.....	Ray Crouse	MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST.....	Jackson Stone
ACOLYTE OCT.....	Norma Cobb		(843.506.4312; jacjstone14@gmail.com)

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



THE PHARISEE AND THE TAX COLLECTOR – JAMES TISSOT, 1886

THE TWENTY-SIXTH DAY OF OCTOBER 2025

REFORMATION SUNDAY

THE CHURCH WITH A HEART IN THE HEART OF CHERAW

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OCTOBER 26TH, 2025 – 11:00 AM

REFORMATION SUNDAY

†CONGREGATION STANDS

PRELUDE Toccata in B Minor Eugene Gigout

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH! Gregory Sanderson
Welcome to this service! We pray that this time together will be a blessing in your life. Please read and take note of our important announcements.

CHIMING & INTROIT Sing Aloud to God, Our Strength Eugene Butler
Sing aloud to God, our strength. Shout for joy to Him! Raise a song and sound the timbrel! Praise is due to thee, O God, in Zion! Blessed be the Lord, our God, who alone does wondrous things! Sound the trumpet at the feast day! Blessed be His glorious name forever! Great and mighty are His works! Amen and amen! Sing aloud to God, our strength. Shout for joy to Him!

OPENING PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER Rev. Joseph Kovas

†**HYMN 110** A Mighty Fortress Is Our God EIN FESTE BURG

†**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881** Gregory Sanderson

†**GLORIA PATRI 71** GREATOREX
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.

PSALTER 789 – Psalm 65 R Gregory Sanderson

CHILDREN’S MOMENT Rev. Joseph Kovas

†**HYMN 351** Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior PASS ME NOT

OFFERTORY The Well-Tempered Clavier – C Major J. S. Bach

†**DOXOLOGY 95** 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 This is My Story Don Besig
I want to walk each day that I live knowing the peace that He alone can give. I know the wondrous joy it can bring trusting in Christ, my Savior and King. I find His touch in all that I see, showing the love I know He has for me. I will believe and follow His word, building my faith and trust in the Lord. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine, Precious Redeemer, Savior divine. Guiding each footstep, hearing each prayer, He will not fail me; He will be there. I know that Christ will show me the way, shining His light to lead me through each day. I will be grateful; I will be true, serving my Lord in all that I do. This is my story; this is my song! I will be faithful; I will be strong, praising my Savior all my life long! This is my song; this is my song!

†**SCRIPTURE** Luke 18: 9-14 Rev. Joseph Kovas

SERMON *Lord, Forgive Me, a Sinner* Rev. Joseph Kovas

†**HYMN 400** Come Thou Fount EBENEZER

†**DISMISSAL & PRAYER** Rev. Joseph Kovas

†**CHORAL BENEDICTION** Freely, Freely Carol Owens
God forgave my sin in Jesus’ name, I’ve been born again in Jesus’ name, and in Jesus’ name I come to you, to share his love as he told me to. He said, “Freely, freely, you have received, freely, freely, give. Go in my name, and because you believe, others will know that I live.”

†**POSTLUDE** Toccata in D Minor J. S. Bach

PRAYER LIST - Our Church, President, Congress, Governors, Mayors, State & local employees, health care workers, EMTs, 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 & Sharon McKinnon, Tony Thrailkill, Sarah Potapova (Betty Hurst’s sister), Jack Van Deman, Nadia Harris, Frank Shutt, Sandra Laney (Sarah Lee's sister-in-law), Pal Moore, Regina Reames (Brantley Butler Reams' mother-in-law), Barbara Dickson (total hip replacement Mon. Oct. 13th), Kaitlyn Freeman, Lesley Jean Watson, and Betty Hurst.