

Opportunities to Worship, Fellowship and Serve

WORSHIP COMMITTEE — Today, 3 p.m. in the Conference Room.

WORSHIP TEAM REHEARSAL — Today, 5:30 p.m. in the Choir Room.

YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL — Today, 6 p.m. in the Choir Room.

THE GATHERING — Tonight, 7 p.m. in The Gathering Room. Come and bring a friend!

BIBLE STUDY — Tuesday, 7 p.m. in the Billy Raley Classroom. **Praising the God of Grace, The Theology of Charles Wesley's Hymns** will be the theme. Everyone is invited!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP — *Supper line begins, 5:45 p.m.; Program, 6:30 p.m.; Chancel Ringers Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.; Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.*

THE ENERGETICS — Thursday, 11 a.m. in the Billy Raley Classroom.

ADULT BEACH TRIP — Tuesday, September 29, leave MFC about 9 a.m., return approximately 5:30 p.m. Sign up with Tri Odom, 479.2665.

CAMP MEETING AT CHRIST UMC — Next Sunday, October 4, 7 p.m. Our Sunday evening Gathering worship team will lead the worship at Christ UMC next Sunday evening. Let's all plan to meet at Christ Church and join in worship with them!

CHARGE CONFERENCE — Sunday, October 11, 3:30 p.m., Trinity UMC on Highway 38.

CHILDREN'S CENTER FUNDRAISER — *Classic Cookie* products, which include cookie dough tubs and boxes, Aunt Annie's pretzels, other baked specialties, and flavored coffee. Proceeds will purchase much-needed equipment for the Center. Orders accepted through October 8. See any daycare parent or staff to place an order. Thank you!

PEW BIBLES — If you wish to recognize a loved one by giving a pew Bible (\$10 each), send a check to the church including the name(s) and "in memory of" or "to honor." Book plates will be put in the Bibles with the appropriate information. What a loving thing to do for the special people in our lives!

ALTAR FLOWERS NEEDED — Floral contributions are needed for the Sundays of **October 11, 25, November 8, 15, December 27**. Please call or email the church office to reserve a Sunday. Sundays open for the remainder of the year are posted on the church website.

Participating in Worship Today

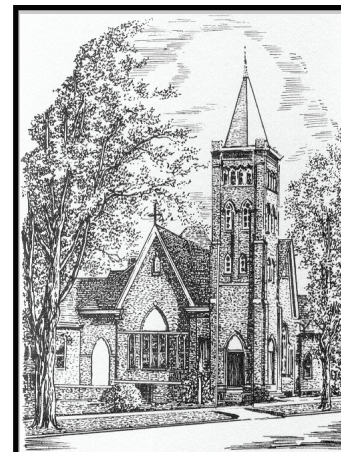
Crucifer—Chris Aubrie; **Acolyte**—Hailey Moody;

Ushers—Dean Moore, Robert Fowler, Stephen Fowler, Hubert Meggs;

Nursery Volunteers—Ashley Cassidy, Elaine Crow (SS and Worship);

Greeters—The Billy Raley Class; **Altar Guild**—May Hamilton, Kenny Hinson

Rev. Mary Virginia Taylor..... RESIDENT BISHOP	Joann Hart	FINANCIAL SECRETARY	
Rev. Quay Adams	DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT	Tim Branch	SEXTON
Rev. Dr. Ben Michael Gafford	SENIOR PASTOR	Rev. J. Leon Newton	RETIRED UMC MINISTER
Rev. Jim Hepler	DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES	Office Phone	843.479.3231
Beth Hepler	EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR	Office E-mail.....	BvilleFUMC@bellsouth.net
April McCall	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	Website	www.BennettsvilleFUMC.net



First United Methodist Church

Bennettsville, South Carolina

The Seventeenth Sunday in Kingdomtide

27 September 2009

I will sing to the Lord all my life

Psalm 104:33

The Church in Worship



WELCOME AND PARISH CONCERNS

Please sign the attendance folder and pass it down the pew for each person to sign. As the folder is returned, note the names of others in your pew. Extend a welcome to our guests!

OPENING VOLUNTARIES

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”
“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”
The Chancel Ringers

arr. Kevin McChesney

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come into God’s presence. Sing praises of joy!

We come with our songs and stories of faith.

Come into Christ’s house. Tell of God’s wonderful deeds.

We love this house, full of mercy and grace.

Enter with the Spirit, the Holy presence of God.

Blessings to the One who calls us here!

*HYMN OF PRAISE 400

NETTLETON

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*THE 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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of steadfast love and faithfulness,

make us like a basket of summer fruit—life-giving and nurturing.

Forgive us for being dried and withered.

Inject new beginnings into our lives and our faith,

even as you remember the times we have failed.

Help us be speakers of love, rather than idle gossipers.

Help us be righteous and just, rather than selfish and evil.

And let Your word flow into our lives, guiding all that we say and all that we do,

that we may be Your people, and You may be our God. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Trust in the steadfast love of God: God is faithful; God is true.
Christ brings us this steadfast love, which is ours for the taking.
In Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

THE PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE

Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer with The Lord’s Prayer in Unison

THE OFFERING OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY **Chorale Prelude on “Rockingham Old”** C. Hubert H. Parry

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE 95

OLD HUNDREDTH

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

**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.**

(TEXT BY THOMAS KEN, 1674; MUSIC ATTRIBUTED TO LOUIS BOURGEOIS, 1551)

*SONGS OF PREPARATION

Worship Choruses

“Seek Ye First”

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you, Allelu, alleluia!**

“Holy Ground”

We are standing on holy ground, and I know that there are angels all around.

Let us praise Jesus now, we are standing in His presence on holy ground.

THE ANTHEM

“This Is My Story, This Is My Song”

Don Besig

The Chancel Choir

*SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 5: 15-20, pg. 183 NT

The Word of God for the people of God; **thanks be to God.**

THE MESSAGE

“Singing Your Song”

Rev. Dr. Gafford

*HYMN OF DEDICATION 380

SWEETEST NAME

“There’s Within My Heart a Melody”

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

Walter L. Pelz

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Tuba Tune”

C. S. Lang

*Those who are able are invited to stand.

We welcome all who worship with us today! Whether you are a member of this congregation, or a visitor, you are not meant to be a stranger. Let us extend a hand of friendship to one another. Please join us in worship any time you are able!

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Pledger Hodges by his parents.