

Opportunities to Worship, Fellowship and Serve

CHURCH PICNIC — Today, 5 p.m. in the parking lot of the Methodist Family Center. Everyone is encouraged to come for a wonderful evening of Christian fellowship.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN — Tuesday, 10 a.m. with the Fall Bible Study. Dr. Gafford will lead the study on Islam. Please remember to bring items for the Bread of Life Food Pantry.

FALL BIBLE STUDY — Tuesday, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. The Study of Christianity and World Religions will end on November 15. Choose morning or evening study. All welcome!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP — *Harmony rehearsal, 5:00; Supper line opens, 5:45 ; Program, 6:30; Chancel Ringers rehearsal, 6:30; Chancel Choir rehearsal, 7:30.*

THE ENERGETICS — Thursday, 10 a.m. in the Conference Room. You are invited!

UPCOMING MEETINGS — *Worship Committee, November 6, 4 p.m.; PPRC, November 6, 5 p.m.; Early Childhood Committee, November 6, 6 p.m.; Trustees, November 13, 5 p.m.; Finance Committee, November 13, 6 p.m.; Administrative Council, November 20, 4:30 p.m.*

FUMC BASKETBALL REGISTRATION — \$30 registration fee due by November 20. Forms are available in the church office.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY — Next Sunday, November 6. The morning worship service will be a special time of remembrance of those who have gone to their eternal home since last year. Make a special effort to be in worship on this day.

THE HANGING OF THE GREENS — Sunday, November 20, 3 p.m. Join us to prepare our Sanctuary for the Advent season. A light meal will follow.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE — Sunday, November 20, 6 p.m., Bennettsville Church of the Nazarene on Beauty Spot Road. Dr. Gafford will preach.

A FESTIVAL OF ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS — Sunday, November 27, 11 a.m. We will begin our Advent journey in a new and special way! The Chancel Choir will present special music, and as a congregation we will hear the Scriptures and sing the carols preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. Invite someone to join us in worship on this day.

Participating in Worship Today

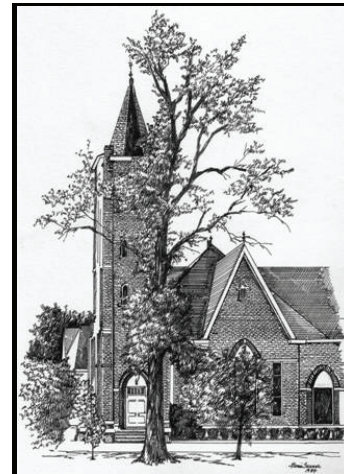
Crucifer—Ellie Fowler; **Acolyte**—Denise Jones;

Ushers—Gray Bostick, Cliff Crosland, Hal Trimmier, Jimmy Usher;

Nursery—Brandy Deal, Ashleigh Kinard (SS and Worship);

Greeters—The Billy Raley Class; **Altar Guild**—Linda Adams, Carolyn Wallace

Rev. Mary Virginia Taylor..... RESIDENT BISHOP	Joann Hart	FINANCIAL SECRETARY	
Rev. Dickie Knight	DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT	Rev. J. Leon Newton	RETIRED UMC MINISTER
Rev. Dr. Ben Michael Gafford	SENIOR PASTOR		
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 Twentieth Sunday of Kingdomtide
October 30, 2011

Sola Gratia

Grace Alone

Sola Fide

Faith Alone

Sola Scriptura

Scripture Alone

Reformation Sunday

Observed on the last Sunday in October, this day reminds us that on October 31, 1517, Martin Luther issued his Ninety-five Theses in Wittenberg, Germany, and began the Protestant Reformation.

In celebrating this day, we are grateful for a movement which restored the priesthood of the believer (emphasizing that every Christian, through the indwelling Holy Spirit, can study the Scriptures and be led to truth, and have full and immediate access to fellowship with God).

We also acknowledge the common Spirit shared among all churches, including the Roman Catholic Church, where Luther served as a priest until his departure with the Reformation movement.

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 VOLUNTARY

Friedrich Wilhelm Markull

Chorale Prelude on “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

The opening voluntary is as a veil between our everyday life and this sacred hour of worship.

Please be silent in this time and prepare your hearts for worship.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Draw near and hear the words of God.

We gather to listen and pray.

Draw near with humble hearts and open minds.

We hunger and thirst for God.

Draw near to walk this journey of faith.

We follow in the footsteps of Christ.

Draw near and drink deep of the marrow of life.

We come to worship the Lord our God.

*HYMN OF PRAISE 110

Text and Music by Martin Luther

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

*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

Rabbi, Father, Teacher, Gracious God, we come to You with humble hearts.

You see us at our best and at our worst.

You know when we have grabbed the seats of honor,

or when we have assumed that the earth’s gifts are ours for the taking.

You know when we have been judgmental rather than encouraging.

And You know when we have enjoyed power

rather than choosing the role of the servant.

When we exalt ourselves, forgive us.

Hear our prayers and guide us through the waters

onto the dry ground of humble servanthood—the promised land of faith. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Draw near, brothers and sisters, and know that we are led as miraculously as those first followers of God. By Christ’s grace, we are led forth into freedom—freedom to serve and live, for God forgives us again and again and calls us to be a people of faith and hope.

THE PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE

Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer in unison

THE OFFERING OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY “Mélodie” (Opus 17, No. 4)

Alexandre Guilmant

*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.

*SONG OF PREPARATION “Grace Alone”

Scott Wesley Brown

Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith,

Every difference we will make is only by His grace.

Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine,

Every blessing left behind is only by His grace.

Refrain: Grace alone which God supplies, strength unknown He will provide.

Christ in us our Cornerstone; we will go forth in grace alone.

Every soul we long to reach, every heart we hope to teach,

Everywhere we share His peace is only by His grace.

Every loving word we say, every tear we wipe away,

Every sorrow turned to praise is only by His grace. (*Refrain*)

*THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13, pg. 192 NT

THE ANTHEM

“Grace Medley”

arr. Jim Hepler

Sue Skipper, Soprano

THE MESSAGE

“The Word of God”

Rev. Dr. Gafford

*HYMN OF DEDICATION 598

MUNICH

“O Word of God Incarnate”

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

Walter Pelz

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Toccata Brevis”

Ovid Young

*Those who are able are invited to stand.

A warm welcome is extended today to all who join us in worship. We especially thank all who have joined us for our celebration of our return to our Sanctuary five years ago. May we all experience the presence and power of God in this place today.

The altar harvest arrangement is presented to the glory of God by The Energetics.

An infant and toddler nursery is provided during the worship service. It is located on the first floor of the Christian Education Building, and the elevator is available to access the nursery.

Personal hearing devices are available for those who have difficulty in hearing the service.