

# Opportunities to Worship, Fellowship and Serve

**TRUSTEES** — Today, 5 p.m. in the Conference Room.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE** — Today, 6 p.m. in the Conference Room.

**FALL BIBLE STUDY** — Tuesday, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. The Study of Christianity and World Religions. 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 MEETING** — *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.

**THE HANGING OF THE GREENS** — Sunday, November 20, 3 p.m. Join us to prepare our Sanctuary for the Advent season.

**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.

**ADVENT FAIR** — 6 p.m. There will be something for all ages! Watch for additional information.

**THIS MAN CALLED JESUS** — Saturday, December 3. A group from First UMC will attend this drama at Lexington. All-day trip; contact the Church Office or Carolyn Wallace (479.7269) to reserve a space on the church bus. Drama is free, but cost of gas will be shared by those on the bus, and you will purchase your meals.

**THE SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS CONCERT** — Sunday, December 11, 7:30 p.m. The Chancel Choir, The Chancel Ringers and Harmony will present an inspirational evening of music of the season, telling the story of the birth of the Christ child. The concert will also be presented at Bethlehem UMC (between Society Hill and Hartsville) on December 4 at 5:30 p.m., and at The Methodist Manor of the Pee Dee in Florence on January 8 at 3 p.m.

## Participating in Worship Today

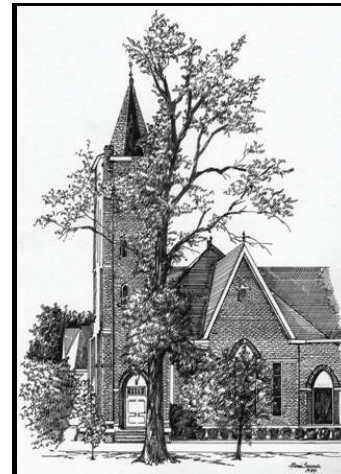
**Crucifer**—Scott Johnson; **Acolyte**—Ellie Fowler;

**Ushers**—Tommy Bostick, Tommy Bostick Jr., John H. Moody, Ken Stuart;

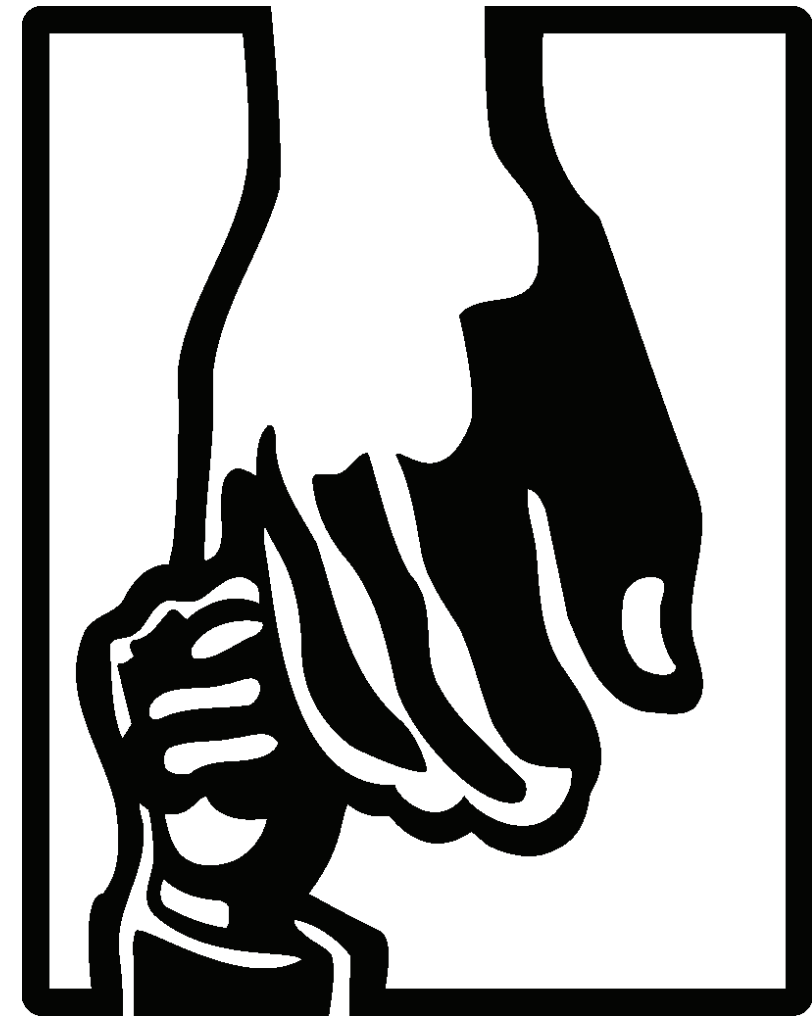
**Nursery**—Brandy Deal, Kathy Stuart (SS and Worship);

**Greeters**—The Fellowship Class; **Altar Guild**—Joye Breeden, Betty Newton

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 Twenty-second Sunday of Kingdomtide*  
*November 13, 2011*



**“Encourage  
one another  
and build up each  
other ...”**

**1 Thessalonians 5: 11, NRSV**

# 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

“Arioso”

George Frideric Handel

*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

Lift up your eyes and see God’s radiant love.

**We lift up our hearts in praise.**

Lift up your lives and walk in the light.

**We lift up our voices in song.**

Open your ears to hear Christ’s call.

**We open our minds to know God’s word.**

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE 575 “Onward, Christian Soldiers”

ST. GERTRUDE

## \*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

Merciful God,

You know the fears and failures  
that prevent us from living as children of light.

When we hide from Your call in our lives,  
forgive us and strengthen us to move forward  
in courage and faith.

When we fall asleep and ignore your teachings,  
forgive us and awaken our spirits  
to walk in the light of awareness and truth.

Encourage us, gracious God,  
to be children of hope and love,  
even as we encourage one another  
in this same hope and love.

In hope and trust, we pray. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Sisters and brothers, you are all children of light! Clothed in faith and love, you are God’s own children, covered with the hope of salvation in Christ Jesus. Take heart! Wake up! We are all forgiven and reconciled to God!

## THE PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE

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

## THE OFFERING OF THE PEOPLE

## OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

George Frideric Handel

“Aria” from *Organ Concerto No. 10*

## \*OFFERTORY RESPONSE 95

OLD HUNDRETH

“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.

## \*HYMN OF PREPARATION 561

ST. AGNES

“Jesus, United by Thy Grace”

## \*THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11, pg. 193 NT

## THE ANTHEM

“Fill My Cup, Lord”

Richard Blanching

*Scott Johnson, Baritone*

## THE MESSAGE

“Encourage One Another”

Rev. Dr. Gafford

## \*HYMN OF DEDICATION 553

DENNIS

“And Are We Yet Alive”

## \*BENEDICTION

## \*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION 666

SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

“Shalom to You”

## CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Triumphal March”

George Frideric Handel

\*Those who are able are invited to stand.

**A warm welcome is extended today** to all who join us in worship. A special welcome to our guests. May we all experience the grace of God, the presence of God, and the power of God in this place. Please join us for worship whenever you are able.

**Christian sympathy** is expressed to the family of Mrs. Juanita “Nita” Langston Sheets, who entered The Church Triumphant on November 7, 2011. The paschal candle is lit today in memory of her baptism.

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

**Thank you** to Ivy B. McLaurin, who is playing the hymns at the organ console today.

**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.