

## Opportunities to Worship, Fellowship and Serve

**HANGING OF THE GREENS** — Today, 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Join us as we prepare our Sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas seasons.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL** — Today, 4:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

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

**FUMC BASKETBALL REGISTRATION** — \$30 registration fee due TODAY. Forms are available in the church office.

**WEDNESDAY MUSIC SCHEDULE** — *Harmony rehearsal, 5:45; Chancel Ringers rehearsal, 6:30; Chancel Choir rehearsal, 7:30.*

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

**VEGETABLE BEEF SOUP** — \$6 per quart, homemade, frozen. Benefit for The Children's Center. Can be purchased during business hours, 7:30-5:30, Monday-Friday, or after church today.

**A FESTIVAL OF ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS** — Next Sunday, 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** — Next Sunday, 6 p.m. There will be something for all ages, including adults! Advent is a time to prepare for the coming of Christ. Join with us to begin this year's journey in a very significant way.

**THE JOURNEY: WALKING THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM** — Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., November 29 through December 20. This is another opportunity to make your Advent journey more meaningful! Everyone is welcome!

**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 3:30 p.m.

### Participating in Worship Today

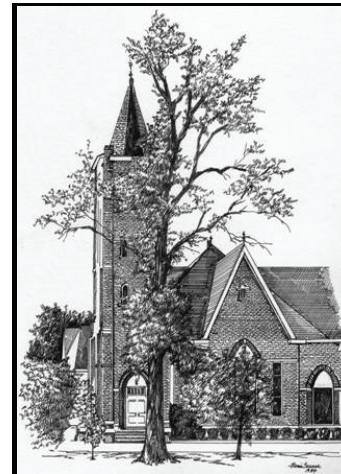
**Crucifer**—Bill Kinney; **Acolyte**—Janis Usher;

**Ushers**—Joey Jones, Brandon King, Mac McLaurin, Phil Thomas;

**Nursery**—Brandy Deal, Vicki Fowler (SS and Worship);

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

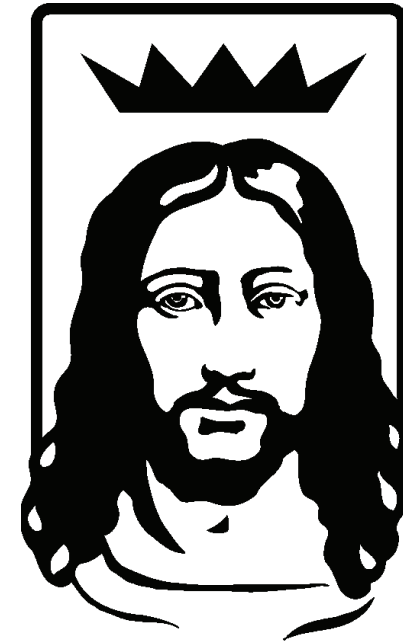
Rev. Mary Virginia Taylor .....	RESIDENT BISHOP	Joann Hart.....	FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Rev. Dickie Knight .....	DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT	Rev. J. Leon Newton.....	RETIRED UMC MINISTER
Rev. Dr. Ben Michael Gafford .....	SENIOR PASTOR		
Rev. Jim Hepler ....	DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES	Office Phone .....	843.479.3231
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

November 20, 2011



Christ

the

King

Sunday

Today, before "Ordinary time" gives way to Advent, we offer a prophetic salute to Christ's reign: no plea, no mere hope or prediction, but rather a celebration that God certainly will sweep away the old. The days are *surely* coming, and they *will* be proclaimed: a new dominion of just, righteous days; a rescue from oppressive powers; light erasing death's shadow, even in the bitter plight of one unjustly executed and sarcastically taunted as "king."

# 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** “Cwm Rhondda Festal” arr. Anna Laura Page  
*The Chancel Ringers*

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Make a joyful noise to the Lord.

**Worship God with gladness.**

Come into God’s presence with singing.

**We are God’s people, the sheep of God’s pasture.**

Give thanks to the Lord; bless God’s holy name,

**for God’s steadfast love is present now and endures forever.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE 157** “Jesus Shall Reign” DUKE STREET

## \*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

Holy One,

we are like sheep that stray from Your fold.

**We are the perpetually hungry, ever in spiritual need, and at times in physical want.**

**We are the naked, with wounds exposed and bleeding.**

**We are the sick, fevered, chilled, and in pain.**

**We are the strangers, separated from others and even from ourselves.**

**Hear us now as we confess our brokenness and our need. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Our creator God sees our hunger and gives us food. Christ, the healer, touches our wounds, offering comfort and blessed relief. The Spirit blows through us, cools our fever, and eases our pain. God sees and touches and heals our wounds.

## THE PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE

Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer

## THE OFFERING OF THE PEOPLE

## OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

arr. Kevin McChesney

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

*The Chancel Ringers*

## \*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)

## THE ANTHEM

“Look at the World”

John Rutter

*The Chancel Choir*

## \*SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ezekiel 34: 11-16, pg. 756, OT

## THE MESSAGE

“Sovereign Shepherd”

Rev. Dr. Gafford

## INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,

who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.

## PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume to come to this Your table, O merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in Your manifold and great mercies.**

**We are not worthy**

**so much as to gather up the crumbs under Your table.**

**But You are the same Lord,**

**whose nature is always to have mercy.**

**Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,**

**so to partake of this Sacrament of Your Son Jesus Christ,  
that we may walk in newness of life,**

**may grow into His likeness,**

**and may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us. Amen.**

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

## THE LORD’S PRAYER

## GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Organist

## \*HYMN OF DEDICATION 715

DARWALL’S 148TH

“Rejoice, the Lord Is King”

## \*BENEDICTION

## \*CHORAL BENEDICTION

Peter C. Lutkin

“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”

## CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

**March Triumphant: “Now Thank We All Our God”**

\*Those who are able are invited to stand.

**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