

## *Opportunities to Worship, Fellowship and Serve*

**CHOIR AT METHODIST MANOR** — Today, 3:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Our Chancel Choir and Chancel Ringers will provide music at The Methodist Manor this afternoon. You are invited to join us in worship!

**WORSHIP COMMITTEE** — Today, 4 p.m. in the Conference Room.

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

**2012 GIVING ENVELOPES** — are available in the rear of the Sanctuary. May our giving in 2012 reflect our love for God, and our desire for our church to minister to our community and world.

**FUMC BASKETBALL LEAGUE** — Games begin this week! You're invited to stop by the Methodist Family Center and enjoy watching the children play. Also, the church will be offering a canteen, staffed by members of our church. Contact Elaine Crow if you would like to help. Ricky Sheets is the coordinator for the League.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIPS** — will resume in February.

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

**THE ENERGETICS** — Thursday, 10 a.m. in the Conference Room.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS** — *PPRC*, January 15, 3 p.m.; *Finance*, January 22, 4:45 p.m.; *Administrative Council*, January 22, 5:45 p.m.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** — are needed for: **January 22; February 26, March 4, 11, 18, 25.** Please call or email the church office to reserve a date. April through December 2011 open dates are posted on the church website, or may be viewed on the calendar in the office.

**CHURCH WEBSITE** — The church news page is updated every Friday, and the Sunday worship bulletin is also posted on the resources page. Spend time discovering features of the church website, and share the site with a friend.

## *Participating in Worship Today*

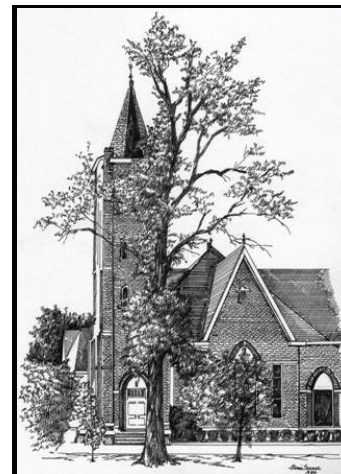
**Crucifer**—Walker Jones; **Acolyte**—Ellie Fowler;

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

**Nursery**—Cathy Culbertson, Brandy Deal (SS and Worship);

**Greeters**—The Billy Raley Class; **Altar Guild**—Kathy Culbertson, Libby Shutt

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 Baptism of the Lord*

*January 8, 2012*



# 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

**“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”**

*The Chancel Ringers*

arr, Kevin McChesney

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

**God said, “Let there be light!”**

There was evening and there was morning.

**God called it good.**

Jesus came up from the waters of the Jordan.

**God said, “You are my Son, the Beloved.”**

There was for us a new beginning.

**God called it good.**

We gather here to praise the God of blessing.

**This is a day of new beginnings!**

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE 383 “This Is a Day of New Beginnings”

BEGINNINGS

## \*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

Creating God, You formed the world and called it good.

Yet, we take our earth for granted:

consuming its resources, polluting its air and water, ignoring its beauty.

You called forth humanity and called it good, yet we treat one another with disrespect:

ignoring those in pain, choosing violence over peace.

We repent of the many ways we have dishonored Your gifts.

We turn our lives toward You, opening ourselves to the power of Your transforming love.

Shine the light of Your grace upon us, that we may see Your way.

Send Your Spirit upon us, giving us the power to proclaim Your word. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The breath of God sweeps across the waters of your life, recreating you, forgiving you, calling you good. You are God’s beloved child, forgiven and made whole through the Spirit.

## THE PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE

Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer

## THE OFFERING OF THE PEOPLE

### OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY “Baptized in Water”

arr. Kevin McChesney

*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)

### \*SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1: 4-11, pp. 32-33, NT

### THE MESSAGE

**“Doing Positive Things”**

Rev. Dr. Gafford

### THE ANTHEM

**“We Remember You”**

Lloyd Larson

*The Chancel Choir; Mrs. Ivy B. McLaurin, Accompanist*

## INVITATION TO THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

**Who of Your great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins  
to all who with repentance and true faith turn to You:**

Have mercy upon us;

**pardon and deliver us from all our sins;**

**confirm and strengthen us in all goodness;**

**and bring us to everlasting life;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 2248 “Baptized in Water”

BUNESSAN

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*CHORAL BENEDICTION “Sevenfold Amen”

John Rutter

### CLOSING VOLUNTARY Prelude to the “Te Deum”

Marc-Antoine Charpentier

\*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!

**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.