

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

WHITE

December 6, 2015

11:00AM

"As it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" --Luke 3:4

We Gather To Worship God

Prelude Bill Lee, Organist

Opening Prayer

***Call to Worship** "Until Jesus Comes"
Until Jesus comes, until Jesus comes, we'll be watching and waiting until Jesus comes.
Until Jesus comes, until Jesus comes; we'll be watching and waiting until Jesus comes.
(sing twice)

We Praise God

***Opening Hymn** "People Look East" UMH #202

***Affirmation of Faith** "Apostles Creed" UMH #881

***Moments of Fellowship and Passing of the Peace**

Confession and Pardon UMH #12

Lighting of the Advent Candles

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (v. 4) UMH #211

Offering

The Offertory "Silent Night" Lindsey Woodie

***Doxology** UMH #95

The Offertory Prayer

Children's Time Christy Snow

(Sing "Jesus Loves the Little Children" as the children return to their seats.)
Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world. Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in His sight, Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Call to Prayer "Spirit of the Living God" UMH #393
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

The Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer Rev. Bryson Williams

Anthem "Life-giving Bread" Choir

We Hear God's Word

Gospel Reading "Luke 3:1-6" Pew Bible, p.56 (N.T.)

The Good News "A Voice Crying Out" Rev. Bryson Williams

We Go Forth To Serve God In The World

Together At The Table—
The Receiving of the Elements of Holy Communion.....Everyone is invited to the Lord's Table. The ushers will direct you forward.

Prayer After Communion (unison)
Faithful God, in baptism you have adopted us as Your children, made us members of the Body of Christ: we thank You that in this time of Holy Communion You renew Your promises within us, empower us by Your Spirit to witness and to serve, and send us out as disciples of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn of Dedication & Service** "Take Time to Be Holy" UMH #395

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** "His Name Is Wonderful" Congregation & Choir
His name is wonderful, His name is wonderful, His name is wonderful, Jesus my Lord.
He is the mighty King; Master of everything, His name is wonderful, Jesus my Lord.
He's the great Shepherd; the Rock of all ages, almighty God is he; bow down before Him,
love and adore Him; His name is wonderful, Jesus my Lord

Postlude

***The Congregation standing.** If it is uncomfortable for you to stand, please remain seated and continue your participation.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The poinsettias are placed at the altar for the glory of God and in honor and in memory of our loved ones.

WELCOME: Good morning and welcome to all guests, members, youth and children worshipping with us today. We are glad that you decided to join us for worship! We hope you will experience the hope and love of Jesus Christ as we worship together. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to become a part of the Sharon family.

ON-GOING PRAYER-SHARON UMC FAMILY

Ben Brockman David & Gertrude Smith
Betty Jean Brockman June Gossett
Neely Thompson Howard Jackson
Doris Fowler Brian Harrison
Ruby Coggins Dora Edwards
Margaret DeYoung Dorothy McHugh

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Betty Glover
Frank & Ruby Vaughn
J. B. Waddell
Gregg Gowan
Chuck Hembree(home)

ON-GOING PRAYER FOR SHARON FAMILY RELATIVES

Foye Fowler, White Oak Estates, 400 Webber Rd., Spartanburg, 20307

Pat Lee

Sharon Lee

Mike West

Lewis Sutton

Lorraine Sroko, 223 Abners Trail Rd., Greer, SC 29651

Glenn Gardner

Sharon Ellis

Preston Johnson

Bobby DeYoung

Lisa Davis, 15 Crescent St., Lyman, SC 29365

Karson Hendrix

James Hendrix, 102 Bearden Drive, Duncan, SC 29334

ON-GOING PRAYER – SHARON UMC FRIENDS

Bob Wade, relative of Johnny Wade

Kim Turner, Bible Baptist Church Pastor's Wife

Joan Burnett, 940 Lightwood Knot Rd., Woodruff, 29388

Gene Crane, Atlanta, GA., friend of Pat Burgess

Family of Daniel Houck, friend of Dave Wilmer

Steve, Jean, Jordan & Davis Dunlap, our missionaries to Asia Minor

Todd, Pam, Sidney, Ashley, Noah & Hannah Grace Attaway, our missionaries to Thailand

Joe Fowler's mother

Dot Pearson's sister-in-law

Dot Pearson's sister

Joyce Lee's son

Laura Williams' father

Kathy Jordan's mother

Donna Staton's brother

Kaitlyn Pless' aunt

Dan Edwards' cousin

Ken DeYoung's brother

Deb Fowler's sister

Kelsey Hendrix's son

Jackie Floyd's brother-in-law

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NURSERY FOR OUR CHILDREN: Parents, we are so glad that you are our guest today. We have a nursery for our children. The nursery is for newborn to three years old, and is located on the main floor in the gathering space. If you need help with locating the nursery, please see one of our greeters in the narthex. We are so glad that your family came to worship with us today!

CANNED GOODS AND NON-PERISHABLES: We thank you for your generosity in November. For the month of December, we are collecting cranberry sauce, stuffing and 4lb. bags of sugar for God's Pantry and individual grits, individual cereal boxes and individual packets of oatmeal for the Weekend Backpack Ministry. Please place items in the gray boxes located in the narthex and gathering space.

DISTRICT FIVE FAMILY MINISTRIES: District Five Family Ministries Christmas children need folks to "adopt" children they would like to buy clothes/toys for this year (spend approximately \$150.00 per child). You can also volunteer to pack bags with toys and they need shoppers to purchase items on the child's list (they have money that is donated) or help give out the packages. Please contact Ginger Floyd (864-630-1052) or Lyn Turner at District Five Ministries if you would like to volunteer.

MISSION PRAYER FOCUS: This week we pray for Sierra Leone. Sierra Leone is on the West Coast of Africa. The majority of the population (approximately 75%) is Muslim. After the civil war, which ended officially in 2002, the churches, although a minority, have played an important role in healing, peace, and rehabilitation. Christians make up 21% of the population. The United Methodist Church constitutes the majority of Christians.

UMM DECEMBER MEETING: Men make plans on bringing the family to the UMM Christmas breakfast on December 13, at 8:00AM. This will be a time to enjoy a good breakfast and enjoy each other's company. We will also have some special Christmas music.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES: 6:30 Children, Youth, and Adult Bible Study, 7:30 Choir.

BIBLE STUDY: Bible Study will continue this week with Chapter 4 of *Not A Silent Night* by Adam Hamilton. This five week study looks at the birth of Jesus through Mary's eyes. Please consider joining us for this Advent study.

WEBSITE: Our church website, sharonumchurch.com has been relaunched. If you would like to put something on the site, send the information in an email to sharonumcwebsite@gmail.com. Go check out the site!

SHARON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY: Sharon Christian Academy, our new preschool, will begin classes in September of 2016. If you are interested in the director position, teaching or teaching assistant, please send your resume to Pastor Bryson at bwilliams@umcsc.org. We would like to get the staff in place soon, so don't miss your opportunity to be a part of this exciting ministry at Sharon UMC!!!

YOUTH NEWS: The Youth lock-in is on December 11 beginning at 6:00PM. We will spend a night filled with fun and activities at the church. Anyone willing to donate snacks or volunteer to chaperone, please contact me. We will also participate in the Reidville Christmas Parade on December 12. Thanks, Kaitlyn Pless

CONFIRMATION PARENTS: The Confirmation Parents and students will meet on December 6 at 10:00AM in the Historical Room. Confirmation is for students 7th grade and up who have not previously been through confirmation class.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP: On December 24 we will have two Christmas Eve candlelight worship opportunities. The worship times will be 5:00PM and 9:00PM. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend one of these services.

JESUS IS THE GIFT: This year we are asking each church family to give 25% of what they would spend on Christmas to Imagine No Malaria. We can still celebrate Christmas with ¾ of what we would normally spend. We do this to acknowledge that Jesus is the true gift at Christmas.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: Please join the Children's Ministry for "Christmas is...", a children's musical on Sunday, December 13th at 11:00AM. There will be a potluck luncheon to follow the morning service. The Children's Ministry will be participating in the Reidville Town Christmas Parade on December 12th at 3:00PM. If your child would like to ride in the parade, please see Christy Snow.

Our Mission Statement – Sharon United Methodist Church glorifies God as a friendly, caring, Christ-centered fellowship with strong family and spiritual values working to grow our church, our community, and our world one disciple at a time.

Sunday, December 13, 2015 Lectionary Texts

Zephaniah 3:14-20 Isaiah 12:2-6 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6	9:30AM	Prayer Group
	10:00AM	Sunday School
	10:00AM	Confirmation Parents and Students in the Historical Room
	11:00AM	Worship
MONDAY, DECEMBER 7	4:00-6:00PM	God's Pantry
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9	5:30PM	Wednesday night meal
	6:30-7:30PM	Wednesday night activities for all ages
	7:30PM	Choir Practice
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11	6:00PM	Youth Lock-In
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12	9:00AM	UMW Christmas Breakfast, Meeting House
	3:00PM	Reidville Christmas Parade
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13	8:00AM	UMMen Family Breakfast, Gym
	11:00AM	Children's Ministry Christmas Program
	Noon	Potluck Lunch

NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: Pat Burgess & Carolyn Genobles
NURSERY WORKERS Dec. 13: Kay Bright and Angie Davis

CHILDREN'S CHURCH TODAY: Communion
CHILDREN'S CHURCH Dec. 13: Kelle Waters and Christy Snow

Hospitality Team for the month of December 2015: Gerald Snow, Rufus Genobles, J.R. Schroeder, Trudy Cox and Gene Snow.

Sunday, November 29, 2015

Sunday School:	71
Worship:	128
Offering :	\$6,179.50
Received YTD:	\$288,710.06
Needed YTD:	\$286,226.00
Difference:	+\$2,594.06
Needed Weekly:	\$5,960.75
Cemetery Fund (9/30/15)	\$3,606.66
Capital Imp. Bldg. Fund Received	\$397.00
Capital Imp. Bldg. Fund Balance	\$68,619.47

CHURCH STAFF:

Rev. Bryson Williams, Jr., Pastor
Mary Jo Bradley, Secretary
Katie Stewart, Music Director
Clara Godfrey, Pianist
Bill Lee, Organist
Christy Snow, Children's Min. Director
Debra Fowler, Custodian
Kaitlyn Pless, Director of Student Ministries

Ministers: Sharon Congregation Member