

EPIPANY SUNDAY

WHITE

January 3, 2016

11:00AM

"Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places."
--Ephesians 3:8-10

We Gather To Worship God

Prelude Bill Lee, Organist

Opening Prayer

Gospel Reading "Matthew 2:1-12" Pew Bible, p.,1-2 (N.T.)

*Call to Worship "There's a Song in the Air"
There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky! There's a mother's deep prayer and a baby's low cry! And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing, for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

We Praise God

*Opening Hymn "We Three Kings" (v.1,2) UMH #254

*Apostles' Creed UMH #881

*Moments of Fellowship and Passing of the Peace

Confession and Pardon UMH #12

Offering

The Offertory Clara Godfrey, Organist

*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.

The Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Rev. Bryson Williams

We Hear God's Word

Scripture Reading "Ephesians 3:1-12" Pew Bible, p.181-183 (N.T.)

The Good News "An Epiphany" 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 "Blessed Assurance" UMH #369

*Benediction

*Benediction Response "Shine, Jesus, Shine" Congregation & Choir
Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory, blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire; flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy, send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

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.

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

January 3, 2016

Ben Brockman
Betty Jean Brockman
Neely Thompson
Doris Fowler
Ruby Coggins
Margaret DeYoung

David & Gertrude Smith
June Gossett
Howard Jackson
Brian Harrison
Dora Edwards
Dorothy McHugh

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

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
Lisa Davis, 15 Crescent St., Lyman, SC 29365
James Hendrix, 102 Bearden Drive, Duncan, SC 29334

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
Deb Fowler's sister
Jackie Floyd's brother-in-law

ON-GOING PRAYER – SHARON UMC FRIENDS

Bob Wade, relative of Johnny Wade
Kim Turner, Bible Baptist Church Pastor's Wife
Gene Crane, Atlanta, GA., friend of Pat Burgess
Holly Wood, Eddie Waldrep's coworker's wife
Steve, Jean, Jordan & Davis Dunlap, our missionaries to Asia Minor
Todd, Pam, Sidney, Ashley, Noah & Hannah Grace Attaway, our missionaries to Thailand

GIFTS AND MEMORIALS: A memorial was given to the Capital Improvement Fund in memory of Olivia Davis by Pat Burgess, Bill & Jo Ellen Brockman, Bennett/Brockman/Jackson SS Class, Allan, Gayle & Karl Fowler, Al & Myra Boland, Pat & Phyllis Brockman, Eddie & Karen Waldrep and Bud & Dot DeYoung.

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 December. For the month of January, we are collecting dried beans and rice, canned meats, macaroni & cheese and Jiffy cornbread mix 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.

MISSION PRAYER FOCUS: This week we pray for Jordan. Jordan is a Muslim nation, but it embraces the region traversed by Jesus in his earthly journeys, where Jacob wrestled with the angel, the mountain from which Moses saw the Promised Land, and the country of Ruth. The majority of Christians are Greek Orthodox, but there are sizeable Armenian, Latin, Greek Catholic and Anglican communities and some small but thriving Protestant groups. Christians enjoy freedom of worship and have contributed greatly to education and social service. The Dunlap's one of the missionary families we support lives and witnesses in Jordan.

YOUTH NEWS: The Youth will have their Christmas gathering immediately following the worship service on today in the gym. Kaitlyn Pless

50+: 50+ will meet on Tuesday, January 5 at 6:30PM. There will be a covered dish meal and discussion on what activities we would like to do in 2016. Please plan to attend and bring some good ideas for the coming year! Hope to see you there!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES: There will be no Wednesday night activities on January 6.

UMMEN: The UMMen will meet on Sunday, January 10, 2016 at 8:00AM in the Gym.

UMW: The UMW will meet on Sunday, January 10, 2016 at 3:00PM in the meeting house.

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. These donations will be received until January 31, 2016.

SIGN-UP FOR ALTAR FLOWERS FOR 2016: The 2016 flower calendar is located outside the church office today. Please select your special date(s) for the coming year. The cost for the altar flowers is around \$65.00 depending on flower selection.

WEBSITE: Our church website, sharonumchurch.com has been re-launched. If you would like to put something on the site, send the information in an email to sharonumwebsite@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!!! Please pray for our preschool!

UPPER ROOMS: The Upper Rooms for January – February 2016 are in the rack in the Gathering Space and the Narthex. Pick up your copy today!

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, January 10, 2016 Lectionary Texts

Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm 29 Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3	9:30AM	Prayer Group
	10:00AM	Sunday School
	11:00AM	Worship
	Noon	Youth Gathering, Gym
MONDAY, JANUARY 4	4:00-6:00PM	God's Pantry
TUESDAY, JANUARY 5	6:30PM	50+, Covered dish
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6		NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES
SUNDAY, JANUARY 10	8:00AM	UMMen, Gym
	3:00PM	UMW, Meeting House

NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: Pat Burgess & Carolyn Genobles
NURSERY WORKERS Jan. 10:

CHILDREN'S CHURCH TODAY: Communion
CHILDREN'S CHURCH Jan. 10:

HEAD USHER: Gerald Snow

Sunday, December 27, 2015

Sunday School:	50
Worship:	97
Offering :	\$5,472.00
Received YTD:	\$315,171.31
Needed YTD:	\$309,959.00
Difference:	+\$5,212.31
Needed Weekly:	\$5,960.75
Cemetery Fund (9/30/15)	\$3,606.66
Capital Imp. Bldg. Fund Received	\$600.00
Capital Imp. Bldg. Fund Balance	\$70,648.47

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