

First United
Methodist Church
200 W. Gay Street
Lancaster, SC 29720
P.O. Box 608
Lancaster, SC 29721
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The Connector

First United Methodist Church Lancaster, SC
www.firstumclancaster.com

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors,
The People of the United Methodist Church



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SAFE SANCTUARY

FUMC provides a Safe Sanctuary for children, youth, and vulnerable adults. We require a background check of all adult volunteers and training on our Safe Sanctuary policy.



HOPE OF LANCASTER

Hope of Lancaster needs the following items:

Grits, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce (plastic containers), canned potatoes, fruit juice (plastic containers), pasta (various shapes)

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Please submit any information to the church office by *noon on Tuesday* for the following Sunday's bulletin. Information for the newsletter is due on the 25th of the month for the following month's newsletter.

HELP US KEEP IN TOUCH!

Please notify the Church Office at 283-8406 or email libby@firstumclancaster.com with any updates to contact information (address, phone numbers, email address).

JULY BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|----|--------------------|
| 3 | Rick Rehrig |
| 5 | Wynona Cox |
| 12 | Amanda Couch |
| 12 | Tom Holland, Jr. |
| 15 | Lisa Pettit |
| 17 | Elizabeth Simpson |
| 19 | Betty Vassey |
| 21 | Margaret Bundy |
| 22 | DeLee Ballard |
| 23 | Joanna Davis |
| 26 | Chris Mobley |
| 27 | Anne Whitesides |
| 27 | Frances Whitesides |
| 28 | Ann Akerman |
| 28 | Rusty Barrentine |
| 29 | Neil Couch |
| 31 | Harriett Myers |

God is our
refuge
and
strength,
a very
present
help in
trouble.
"Be still,
and
know
that I am
God!
Psalms 46:1, 10

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Dear Friends in Christ,

Likely you have heard that our United Methodist Resident Bishop, Bishop Jonathan Holston, announced on May 15, 2020 that United Methodist churches may restart in-person worship June 14, 2020. However, considering the current guidance from reliable federal and state officials, the leadership of First UMC began immediately to consider the path toward restarting in-person worship. Our primary goal in this endeavor is the health, safety and welfare of each member and affiliate of First United Methodist Church. The leadership team is working diligently to chart a path ahead toward restarting in-person worship that is deliberate, comprehensive and sustainable.

During our lengthy online and telephonic meetings over the past few weeks, therefore, we determined that together we would balance excitement with prudence in our plan to reengage in-person worship. Further, we consulted other churches, leaders and Conference officials in charting our unique way forward to ensuring the vitality of the worship life of our church.

With that, First United Methodist Church will not reengage in-person worship until September 13, 2020. I realize that may seem like a long way off, but this plan will allow us further time to discern a sustainable plan for social distancing, sanitizing the worship space, limiting attendee exposure, training volunteer teams, and communicating with every member of FUMC.

Meantime, please let me know if have any questions or concerns, and text or call me at: 843-708-5696 or my email at: caphillips@umcsc.org. Otherwise you can reach me at the church office.

Thank you for your faithfulness to the gospel of Christ and to the people of First UMC. The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Charles

FIRST UNITED METHODIST STAFF

Charles Phillips, Senior Pastor

Hunter Cox, Organist and Director of Music Ministries

Libby Doster, Administrative Assistant

Novice Baker, Director of Preschool

caphillips@umcsc.org

coxjh@appstate.edu

libby@firstumclancaster.com

novice@firstumclancaster.com

Office Hours : 8:30 – 4:30 (Monday–Thursday)

Telephone: 803-283-8406 **Fax**: 803-286-8680

Website: www.firstumclancaster.com

JULY, 2020 SCRIPTURE

5th Sunday after Pentecost July 5, 2020
 First Lesson Romans 7:15-25a
 Second Lesson Psalm 72
 Gospel Lesson Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
 “Weary and Burdened”

6th Sunday after Pentecost July 12, 2020
 First Lesson Romans 8:1-11
 Second Lesson Psalm 25
 Gospel Lesson Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
 “The Main Thing”

7th Sunday after Pentecost July 19, 2020
 First Lesson Romans 8:12-25
 Second Lesson Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
 Gospel Lesson Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
 “Parables of the Kingdom”

8th Sunday after Pentecost July 26, 2020
 First Lesson Romans 8:26-39
 Second Lesson Psalm 105:1-11, 45b
 Gospel Lesson Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
 “Parables of the Kingdom”

IN OUR PRAYERS

Our Members

Vivian Ferguson, Gary Blackham, Erica Crews, Shelly Holder, Sharon Holder, Zeddie Williams, Adrian Pettit, Betty Vassey, Lorraine Harper, Steve Rothrock, DeLee Ballard, Lou Collier, Art Collier, Pam Vaughn, Betsy Sims Gardner, Travis Berry, Bill Bradley, Dixie Roberts

Our Community

Forrest Sellars, brother of Nancy Fleming
 Glenn Garner, brother of George Garner
 George Gottier, brother-in-law of Beverly and Bill Bradley
 Louise Hayes, aunt of Debra Rowell
 Eric Hough, friend of Kay Stewart
 Ashley Thomasson, niece of Sis and Bob Yoder
 Hal Plyler, son of Carolyn Plyler
 Marvin Baker, father of Mica Edwards
 Shannon Threatt, daughter of Roberta Whitaker
 Joan Fleming, mother of Steve Fleming

Our Sympathy

The Sympathy of the pastor and congregation is extended to the following families:
 Mary Gayle Henderson on the death of her brother Henry Wilson.
 The Palmer Family on the death of Anita Palmer.
 Wynona Cox and family on the death of her sister Lou Wilden Carnes Bundy.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The Church Office is closed until we are able to safely resume. If you require assistance, or in need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Charles by phone and text at: 843-708-5696 or by email at: caphillips@umcsc.org

COMMUNITY MEAL

Currently, the community meal sign-up is on hold until we are safe to resume this ministry. Thank you for your patience and for your willingness to serve.

THE FOLLOWING WILL NOT MEET THE MONTH OF JULY AND AUGUST

The Lunch Bunch
 The Hannah/Mary Circle
 The Elizabeth Circle
 The Stitch and Pray
 The Girls Scouts
 The Jubilant Ringers
 The Chancel Choir
 The UMM Breakfast

EPWORTH MOTHER’S DAY OFFERING

We will observe the Epworth Children’s Home offering when we resume in-person worship.

FAITHFUL GIVING

Please continue to be faithful in your giving toward the ministries of First UMC by mailing your tithes and contributions to the church address. If you prefer to make your contributions online, full information complete with a link is on our church website at www.firstumclancaster.com If you have any questions about the VANCO online giving procedures, please contact Pastor Charles or Cynthia Craig for details.

SUNDAYS: WORSHIP LIVE ON FACEBOOK

We hope you will join our friends on Facebook Live each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. EST to worship together on our First United Methodist Church Group Facebook Page as we broadcast Live. If you are unable to join us live, but you are able to worship at a later time, you may enjoy the worship service video at any time on our church website at: FirstUMCLancaster.com. Simply follow the link under the tab “Video Messages.”

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Charles by phone or text at: 843-708-5696 or by email at: caphillips@umcsc.org.

Until then, the LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Keep the faith, Pastor Charles

NEWS FROM SHELLY

To my dear FUMC Family,
 I will be continuing my rehab in Tyler, Texas at my sister's home as I still have a long road of recovery ahead of me. I have much transition ahead of me being in a new location with many adjustments in my routine. I look forward to being reunited with my mom and my dog, Bella, as well as with my sister, Shelby and her family. I cannot even begin to express my gratitude for the countless ways you have loved on me and supported me with your cards and gifts, thoughts and prayers as I have been on this journey. I know things are certainly unusual these days. In the meantime, I covet your continued prayers.
 Grace and Peace, Shelly

The new address is...
 Shelly Holder
 15165 Northwood Drive
 Tyler, Texas 75703

A NOTE FROM THE TRUSTEES

Please report any needed church repairs to a member of the Trustees Committee. Members are: Jane Michels, Joyce Morin, Alan Blankenship, Neil Couch, Mike Lindsay, Frank Robertson, Eric Sullivan. You may call Neil Couch at 803-320-0800 or email him at neilc@hoopaughgrading.com. We also have forms in the Trustees box outside the church office that you may fill out and leave in the Trustees box.

FUMC PRESCHOOL

Registration is open for the 2-yr. old, 3-yr. old, and 4-yr. old classes. Applications are available in the church office or contact Novice Baker at 283-8406 if you have any questions.

ADDRESS CHANGE

Vivian Ferguson
 White Oak Manor
 253 Craig Manor Rd.
 Lancaster, SC 29720

GIFTS IN MEMORY

Anita Palmer

Carolyn Plyler
 Mary Lou and Bob Rose
 Peggy and Charles Johnson
 Margaret and Charlie Bundy
 Amelia and Ken Davis
 Mary Ann and Barry Hedges
 Kay Blalock
 Hazel McIntyre
 Anita and Cane Thomason

Al Palmer

Anita and Cane Thomason

Charlaine Simpson

Mary Lou and Bob Rose

Larry Baskins

Mary Lou and Bob Rose

Paul Van Riper

Mary Lou and Bob Rose

Robert Sullivan

Andrew Kendrot, II

**GIFT IN HONOR
 Anita Palmer’s Family**

Anita and Cane Thomason

THANK YOU

From HOPE in Lancaster
 Thank you so much for the gift of food.
 Date of contribution April 2nd, 2020, contribution
 Amount: 20.5 lbs.