

THE MESSENGER

ORDER OF SERVICE

Third Sunday of Easter

April 15, 2018 Altar Color: White

We come together greeting each other in the name of Jesus Christ.
We enter reverently as we prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Finlandia Sibelius* David Price, Organist

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *Surely the Presence of the Lord*

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,
I see glory on each face;
surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

*GREETING:

Pastor: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: The risen Christ is with us.

People: Praise the Lord!

***OPENING HYMN** *Fairest Lord Jesus* **189**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Apostles' Creed* **881**

***GLORIA PATRI** **71**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY *On Eagle's Wings – Schrader* **95**

***DOXOLOGY**

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.

SILENT & PASTORAL PRAYER – LORD'S PRAYER

***SONG OF PRAISE** *More Precious Than Silver*

Lord, You are more precious than silver;
Lord, You are more costly than gold.
Lord, You are more beautiful than diamonds,
And nothing I desire compares to You. (Repeat)
(Ending) Nothing I desire . . . nothing I desire, compares to You.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

ANTHEM *The Gift of Love – Hopson* Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE *1 John 3: 1-7 [Pg.990]*

SERMON *"Righteousness and Sin"* Rev. John Jordan

***HYMN OF PARTING** *Crown Him with Many Crowns* **327**

*BENEDICTION

*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

***CLOSING VOLUNTARY** *Azmon – Wesley/Mason* Organ

Sunday, April 15, 2018

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
11:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, April 16, 2018

6:30 p.m. Centering Prayer (CR)
Young Adult Small Group @
The Ashley's Home

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

4:00 p.m. **History Committee Meeting (CR)**

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

7:00 p.m. **No** Jimmy Townsend Handbell Ringers
Chancel Choir

Sunday, April 22, 2018

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
11:00 a.m. Worship
5:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting (S. Sanctuary)

ATTENDANCE:	S. SCHOOL	WORSHIP
4/1	33	93
4/8	27	50

HEALTH MISSION PROJECT

The Missions Committee will continue to collect **FRUIT CUPS** during the month of **APRIL** for the Laurens County Memorial Home. There is a blue box inside the Church Office to place your fruit cups.



BACKPACK MINISTRY

Our next Backpack Ministry is scheduled for **May 4th**. If you would like to donate items for this ministry, please bring your items and place them in the baskets on the shelf under the table outside the church office by **May 1st**. Also, if you would like to give a monetary donation, please mark **"Backpack Ministry"** on your check. If you have any questions, please see Robby Templeton, Gayle Hocker, or Sarah Flynn.

ATTENTION GRADUATES!!

If you will be graduating from high school, college, or graduate school this year, please notify the Church Office as soon as possible. Graduate Recognition Sunday will be held on **Sunday, May 20, 2018** during the worship service.



200th ANNIVERSARY

As you know, First United Methodist Church will be celebrating its 200th Anniversary next year. We would like to invite past members and friends of First UMC. If you know of someone that you would like for us to invite, please email or call (984-7696) Karen with names and addresses.



PAPER DRIVE FOR STRAIGHT STREET YOUTH CENTER



The Methodist Men is collecting paper goods to support Straight Street. We would appreciate your donation of the following items that can be used during the weekend activities at Straight Street:

Paper Towels
Toilet Paper
Paper Plates



Styrofoam Cups
Napkins
Or any other paper goods

You may place items in the marked bins in the hallway outside the Church Office and in the front vestibule of the Sanctuary. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, please make your check to **"First UMC – Methodist Men"** and mark **"paper goods"** on the memo line. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – ACOLYTE MINISTRY

We are looking for people of any age to participate in our Acolyte ministry on Sunday mornings. If you would be interested in bringing in The Light of Christ to the service, assisting with the offering, and taking The Light of Christ out into the world at the end of the service, please let Karen know at the Church Office (984-7696). If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Jordan or Diane Allen.



USHERS NEEDED

If you would like to help as an usher in our worship service once a month, we would love to have you. Ushers hand out bulletins as people enter the Sanctuary, take up the offering and help direct people on Communion Sundays. If you would like to help out, please let Karen know at the Church Office (984-7696). If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Jordan or John Young.

ALTAR GUILD TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED

Our Altar Guild would like to have 1-2 more 2-person teams to assist with our worship services. The teams make sure the Altar candles are not too short, help prepare for communion on Communion Sundays, and change the paraments (cloths on the Altar) when needed. If you would like to help out, please let Karen know at the Church Office (984-7696). If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Jordan or Gayle Hocker.



MEMORIALS

In Memory of: **Emma Allen** **Given by:** Jane Stroud
In Memory of: **Dorothy Hazle "Dot" Gray** **Given by:** Mary Townsend
Memory of: **Keith Hinton** **Given by:** Jane Stroud; Mary Townsend
In Memory of: **Conie Patterson Prince** **Given by:** Mary Townsend
In Memory of: **Melissa Sizemore** **Given by:** Jane Stroud
In Memory of: **Mary Harbor Watson** **Given by:** Jane Compton

SERVING THIS MORNING: Sunday, April 15, 2018

Worship Greeters: Linda Brown, Joanne Thomason

Ushers: Mike Hocker, Diane Allen, Jon Allen

Lay Liturgist: Don Hocker

Nursery: Susan & Sarah Roberts

Sunday Driver: Allen Prince

Rose on the Altar: The rose placed on the Altar is given in honor of the birth of **Merritt Grace Peters**.

Flowers: The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are placed by David & Beth Patterson given in loving memory of Horace & Betty Patterson and Bill Patterson.

Welcome Guests

We bid you a warm welcome and pray that you will know God's presence in worship with us.

Prayer Concerns



David Price – outpatient surgery at Greenville Memorial on Thurs. (4/19)

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the following:

- Paula & Gil Moss & Family on the death of Paula's mother, **Emma Allen**, who passed away on April 5, 2018.

Please continue to remember those who are homebound, in nursing facilities, and with on-going health issues:

Susan Belk	Doris McDowell	Bruce Sumerel
Thomas Gallman	Louise Rambo	Rosalind Sweat
Verna Jenkins	Nannie Roberts	Dot Wilson

** If you know of someone that you would like to add to the list above, please call Karen in the Church Office at 984-7696.

MINISTRY OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Bruce Sumerel, M.D. – 788 W. Main St., Laurens, SC 29360

Rosalind Sweat – 112 W. Farley Ave., Laurens, SC 29360

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Heather & Barry Peters on the birth of their daughter, **Merritt Grace Peters**, born on Wednesday, April 4, 2018. Her big brother is Ben and big sister is Abey. She is the granddaughter of Dan & Hope Deason.

A rose will be placed on the Altar this Sunday (April 15th) in her honor.

UPCOMING MEETINGS!!

HISTORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, April 17th at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Sunday, April 22nd at 5:30 p.m. in the Small Sanctuary

FOUNDATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, April 24th at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room



By God's grace we are:

Becoming – being transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit through worship, study, reflection, and service.

Obedient – honoring God's Word; responding to God's call; yielding to God's will

Loving – loving God with our whole being and loving our neighbor as our self

Disciples – following the example and teaching of Jesus On our Christian journey



COOKOUT FOR KIDS

Saturday, April 14, 2018

11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

at Epworth Children's Home
2900 Millwood Ave., Columbia



BBQ Fundraiser Featuring:

** All proceeds go to Epworth. **

- Award-winning cooks
- Music by Jellyroll & Delicious Dish
- Kids Entertainment by Signal Coplay (Superhero Fun)
- Palmetto A's

Menu: BBQ Chicken or Pork Plates (\$10 each)
Boston Butts (\$30 each)
Kid's Plates (\$5 each)

Plates can be purchased at the event but pre-orders are preferred. For more information and to pre-order email: epworthalumiassociation@gmail.com



5th SUNDAY LUNCH

Sunday, April 29



In the Fellowship Hall immediately following the worship service

Menu: Potato Bar, Salad, and Dessert

Join us for lunch and a time of fellowship together!!

STAFF MEMBERS

Pastor	John Jordan
Music Director / Organist	David Price
Financial Secretary	Lucy Crowder
Church Secretary	Karen Reeder
Ministers	Entire Congregation

Church Phone Numbers

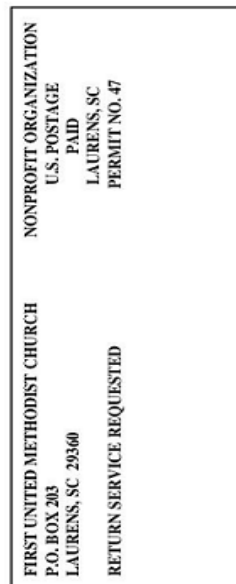
984-7696 or 984-2969

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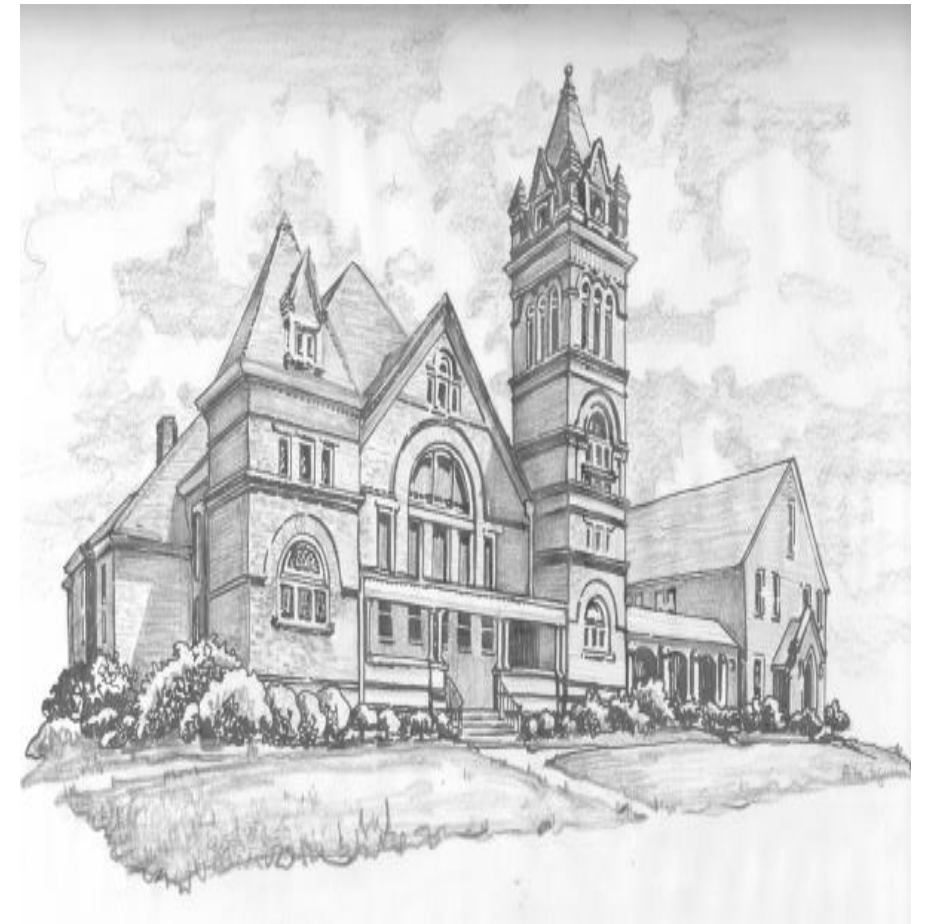


The First United Methodist Church
244 West Main Street
Laurens, South Carolina

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No. 15



Rev. John Jordan
Minister