

ORDER OF SERVICE
Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 11, 2018 Altar Color: Purple

*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 *All That Thrills My Soul – Harris* David Price, Organ

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *Spirit of the Living God* **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.

INVOCATION

***OPENING HYMN** *To God Be the Glory* **98**

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

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Holy Spirit – Sorenson* Piano **95**

***DOXOLOGY** **95**

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 *Majesty, Worship His Majesty* **176**

Majesty, worship his majesty; unto Jesus be all glory, honor, and praise.
 Majesty, kingdom authority, flow from his throne unto his own;
 his anthem raise.
 So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus.
 Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King.
 Majesty, worship his majesty, Jesus who died,
 now glorified, King of all kings.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

ANTHEM *Seek Ye First – Wilson* Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE *John 3: 14-21 [Pg.864]*

SERMON *“The Light that Exposes”* Rev. John Jordan

***HYMN OF PARTING** *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* **381**

[During the singing of the hymn you are invited to come to the Altar to pray as you are so led.]

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *Grace, love and Fellowship*

May the grace of Christ, our Savior, and the love of God, our Father,
 and the fellowship of the Spirit be with us. *Repeat*
 . . . forever and ever, forever more. Amen

***CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

***CLOSING VOLUNTARY** *Then Sings My Soul Chorus* Organ

THE MESSENGER

Sunday, March 11, 2018

9:45 a.m.
 10:30 a.m.
 11:00 a.m.

4th SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday School
 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 Worship

Monday, March 12, 2018

6:30 p.m.
 7:00 p.m.

Centering Prayer (CR)
 Young Adult Small Group @
 Tom & Shannon Ashley’s Home

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

12:00 p.m.
 6:00 p.m.
 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Luncheon @ 1st Presby. Church
 Jimmy Townsend Handbell Ringers
 Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 15, 2018

4:00 p.m.

Hanson Circle Vespers

Saturday, March 17, 2018

10:00 a.m.

**District Packing Party @
 Lowe’s in Greenwood**

Sunday, March 18, 2018

9:45 a.m.
 10:30 a.m.
 11:00 a.m.
2:00 p.m.

5th SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday School
 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 Worship
**Greenwood District Lay Servant Ministry
 School at Leesville UMC**

ATTENDANCE:
 3/4

S. SCHOOL
 25

WORSHIP
 63

HEALTH MISSION PROJECT

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



HANSON CIRCLE VESPERS

First UMC will be responsible for meals and devotions every Thursday during the month of **March** at Hanson Circle. The last three meetings begin at **5:00p.m.**

Below is the list of groups that are responsible for the meals.

March 15th – Library Class

March 29th – Hospitality Committee

March 22nd – Searchers’ Class



FOOD PANTRY RECIPE BOOK

We have several of the food pantry recipe books that were compiled by Sarah Roberts. They are available in the Church Office. Donations will be accepted.



**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 vestibule. 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.

DISTRICT PACKING PARTY

The Greenwood District will be having a **District Packing Party** on **Saturday, March 17th at 10 a.m.** in the Lowe’s parking lot on the 72 Bypass in Greenwood.



The response from the Greenwood District churches to help after the heavy rains and floods was amazing. They will be packing 100 flood / cleaning buckets on **March 17th**. The plan had been to pack these buckets sooner but Lowe’s had difficulty securing all the supplies due to the floods.

They will also be accepting contributions to help fund an ERT trip to Puerto Rico in the fall.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the district office or Rev. Mike Evans at meevans@umcsc.org who is the Greenwood District Disaster Response Coordinator.



MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Thursday, March 29 at 7:00 p.m.
 in the Sanctuary of First UMC, Laurens

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.



MEMORIALS

In Memory of: **Nancy Carolyn Curtis Babb** **Given by:** Jane Stroud

In Memory of: **Libby Boone** **Given by:** Joanne Thomason

In Memory of: **Dorothy Hazle “Dot” Gray**
Given by: George & Lovelace Compton; Jim & Diane Moore;
 Leon & Barbara Patterson; Claire & Sissy Taylor;
 Drummond & Rosalind Taylor

In Memory of: **James R. “Jim” Stroud** **Given by:** Joanne Thomason

In Memory of: **Beulah Tinsley** **Given by:** Jim & Diane Moore

SERVING THIS MORNING: Sunday, March 11, 2018

Worship Greeters: Don & Gayle Hocker

Ushers: Tom Ashley, Calvin Culbertson, Allen Prince,
Susan Prince, Ron Spencer

Lay Liturgist: Allen Prince

Nursery: Melissa Tilden

Sunday Driver: Smith Patterson

Flowers: The flowers are by Frank & Linda Brown given in honor of their church family.

Welcome Guests

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

Prayer Concerns



Please 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

MINISTRY OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Susan J. Belk – P.O. Box 1244, Laurens, SC 29360

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

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Continued prayers for **Betty Jo Templeton** (along with 9 others) as they travel home on March 10th from their mission trip in Baldwin, Louisiana at the UMCOR/ Sager/ Brown warehouse.
- Prayers for Mike Hocker as he is on the Men's Walk to Emmaus this weekend (March 8-11).

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the following:

- Nancy Cheek (Sam), Judith McCoy (George), Susan Shriner (Fred), Janice Downtin, and Dr. Robert Babb (Patricia) on the death of their aunt, **Nancy Carolyn Curtis Babb**, who passed away on Friday, March 2, 2018.

In Memoriam

Nancy Carolyn Curtis Babb

June 1, 1922 – March 2, 2018

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

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



CHICKEN STEW SALE



Saturday, March 10th Cost: \$8.00 per quart

All proceeds of this stew will go toward the Salkehatchie Summer Service – Laurens Camp.

Stew will be ready for pick-up at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

**** HELP NEEDED **** We are still in need of helpers to make stew (shred chicken and peeling potatoes) . Please be at the church at **6:30 a.m.** this Saturday (March 10th) if you can help! Thanks in advance!!

TIME CHANGE!!

Don't forget to move your clocks up an hour (SPRING FORWARD) before going to bed this **Saturday, March 10th.**



Wed., March 14
Wed., March 21

LENTEN LUNCHEON SCHEDULE

Each Wednesday during Lent at 12 Noon.
Cost for lunch is \$5.00.

First Presbyterian Church
First Presbyterian Church

STAFF MEMBERS

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

Church Phone Numbers

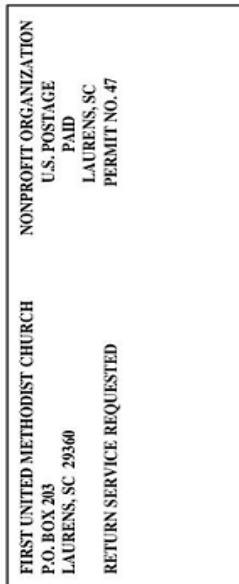
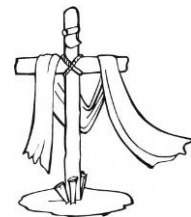
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The First United Methodist Church
244 West Main Street
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Rev. John Jordan
Minister