

THE FIRST WORD

2020-05 First United Methodist Church – 109 West College Street – Winnsboro, SC 2020-05

Dear Congregation,

It will be some time before our country re-opens and we can meet together safely face to face.

We continue to find ourselves in new territory as we adapt and continue to do ministry in the age of COVID-19. I have learned how to navigate live streaming devotions, and attended numerous District and Conference Trainings on Zoom. I have created at home worship experiences for Holy Week, created Christian Education packets for our youth and children which Julie mailed out to the kids before Easter; look for another one soon! I am also working on calling through the directory to check on the entire congregation; this has been time consuming but meaningful. It is good to hear everyone's voices. We have also shared a few robocalls. Wanda, our Choir Director offered a musical devotion video for Good Friday, which can be found on our Facebook page. Esther coordinated a parade to cheer some of our more vulnerable members (see page 6). Steve McDonald, our Lay Leader, has offered meaningful Bible Studies via email and you all should have heard from Sarah McMaster, finance chair about the fiscal report of the church via robocall, email and mail (for the few who do not do email). And of course Julie is keeping the office running, checking mail and keeping up with our financials along with Jenny, our bookkeeper though the office is still closed.

A neighbor asked me if I was busy, and I think I have been MORE busy in this season as we work to adapt and learn new skills for doing effective ministry. What's been the biggest challenge has been communicating in this new physical distancing age. Please check your emails, our Facebook page, the church website...and then check on one another. The work of staying connected is the work of the WHOLE congregation, not just the staff and Lay leadership. The church is not closed, we are merely deployed!

Resources: Church Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/FirstUMCWinnboro/>
Videos, Photos, News, Posts of encouragement

Church Webpage: <https://www.firstumcwinnsboro.com/>
Sunday and Wednesday devotions, church newsletter, church calendar

Stay Safe, Stay home if at all possible, and keep checking on one another.

Pastor Meg



**TO MEMBERS
OF OUR
CHURCH
FAMILY WITH
BIRTHDAYS IN
May**

**If you do not see
your birthday on**

the list, please let us know!

- May 2 Frances Barnett
- May 4 Brent Dorrier
- May 7 Jay Baccomo
- May 9 Marion Robinson
- May 10 Brock Williams
- May 15 Barbara Martin
- May 16 Tony Barfield
- May 16 Brenda McMaster
- May 22 Dean Lee
- May 23 Jay Ayers
- May 24 Anne Lee
- May 29 Reid Johnson

**When you can, remember to send a card, call
or visit:**

Brent Dorrier, NHC Parklane, Room 236,
7601 Parklane
Road, Columbia, SC 29223

Doris Myfelt 3195 Rio Dosa Drive #2103,
Lexington, KY 40509 (859)309-9284

Dot Yon Goodwin House Apt. #401, 3440 S.
Jefferson Street Falls Church, VA 22041

Lisa Lewis Meyer (recently moved. Will get
address asap.)

Mabel Ward 320 Seven Farm Drive, The
Summit Place/Daniel Island, Charleston, SC
29452

*Please, remember in prayer those serving our
country in our armed forces both at home and
overseas.*



Jane Lee-Bonnett Jean Allison,
George Taylor, Mike Taylor, Paul
Dove, Louise Taylor, Sylvie Hinnant,
Susan Fowler-Hindall, Marion Robinson, Lisa Lewis
Meyer, Mitzie Renwick, Marie Wood, Frank Martin,
Brent Dorrier, Kenny Martin, Lynne Moore, Dean
Gaddy.

*People will stay on the prayer list one month. If after
their four weeks you would like the person to stay on
the prayer list, please call the church office.*

**You can listen to our sermons on our
website! The audio version can be found
on our website at
www.firstumcwinnsboro.com
Visit us on Facebook, too!**

Pastor's Contact Information: Email:
1stumcpastor@gmail.com Phone: 828-442-6032
Blog: cultivatefaith.blogspot.com
Pastor's Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, 8:00
am – Noon, Thursday 8:00 am-11:00 am, Tuesday,
out of office for Lectionary meetings.
Visit www.firstumcwinnsboro.com to see the
calendar for the entire year.

Thinking about Paul today.
He spent much of his ministry
"quarantined" in prison or house arrest
and yet his correspondence with
sisters and brothers in Christ yielded
nearly half the New Testament. The
gospel is never bound.





2020



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			1	2	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

ALL CHURCH SERVICES INCLUDING SUNDAY SCHOOL, WORSHIP SERVICE, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, CIRCLE MEETINGS AND ANY OTHER ACTIVITIES ARE CANCELLED THROUGH MAY.

PLEASE FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK, <https://www.facebook.com/FirstUMCWinnboro/>
THE CHURCH WEBPAGE <https://www.firstumcwinnboro.com/>

CHECK YOUR EMAILS, SIGN UP FOR ZOOM BIBLE STUDY AND LISTEN FOR ROBOCALLS. WE WILL STAY IN TOUCH! PLEASE CONTINUE TO MAIL IN YOUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS, GIVE ON-LINE OR STOP BY THE MAIL DROP LOCATED ON THE COLLEGE STREET SIDE OF THE CHURCH NEXT TO THE BACK DOOR.

Check on your friends and neighbors. Pray for them. Pick up the phone and check on loved ones.



In an effort to keep costs down, we will not be mailing out newsletters beginning in June. Please make sure we have your correct email as we will continue to email the newsletter. We also post the newsletter on our website. If you would like to receive a

paper copy, please stop in the back door of the church (there will be a limited number on the table next to the elevator). Help keep the communication lines going...check your email!

Office telephone 803 635 4087 or 1stunitedoffice@gmail.com.



South Carolina United Methodists continue to fulfill our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world in remarkable and groundbreaking ways in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

You are maintaining and spreading hope in spite of unprecedented restrictions on established ways of doing ministry.

You are standing steadfast in spite of this extended period of isolation we are all living through.

You are creatively staying connected with your communities, even as we continue to observe social distancing and other safety advice from health experts.

In consultation with The Cabinet, and in compliance with the most recent information shared by public health officials, I am strongly recommending that leaders of each local church continue to suspend in-person worship services – and all gatherings, meetings and events – through May 20, 2020. Conference leaders will continue monitoring developments in the pandemic, and we will share our recommendations about events planned beyond May 20 in the coming weeks.

My friends, we serve a loving God whose word is a light that brightens our path even when it is difficult for us to see. The time will come when we will be together again physically. Together in worship. Together in service. Together in fellowship. We will pass the peace again. We will stand shoulder-to-shoulder again, praising our Savior in word and song.

In the meantime, I know that you will remain persistent in finding ways to be in community with your sisters and brothers in Christ. Our regularly updated collection of resources to help local churches through this unprecedented time can be found at umcsc.org/coronavirus.

And please meet me each morning – on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and at umcsc.org – as we continue to pray for those affected by the coronavirus, for those experiencing stress and anxiety and financial uncertainty, for medical professionals treating and caring for patients, and for those working to ensure a healthier future for all of us.

Grace and peace,

L. Jonathan Holston
Resident Bishop



EPWORTH IS OUR MINISTRY! Did you know that in the last year Epworth Children's Home gave 196 children a safe and loving place to call home? Each of these children had this opportunity because of United Methodist churches in South Carolina who embrace and provide for this ministry in support of the children and families in our state. Normally we would give to Epworth on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10th, 2020, to benefit the children who call Epworth home. We will not be together this year on Mother's Day, so please be in prayerful consideration of what God is calling you to give to this valuable and life changing ministry. If you would like to donate to Epworth, please make your check payable to Epworth Children's Home and we will send it to Epworth for you. For more information about Epworth Children's Home, visit them online at www.epworthchildrenshome.org.

FUMC Board of Trustees:

Even though we're practicing "social distancing" and not congregating normally, our work continues. A big thank you to the congregation, that has donated beyond their tithes, an amount of \$42,950 to the roof repairs at this time. So, combined with the sale of some stocks, we have raised \$90,753 of the \$96,500 cost. In order to complete this important repair, we borrowed the balance from ourselves to complete the payment. Thanks to all, we're almost there!

The Trustees have formed a Parsonage Committee to address the upcoming change of Pastors in June. This committee will work closely with the PPRC in order to ensure that all requirements are met and that the new Pastor, Rev. Steve Elkins and his wife, Stephanie have a smooth transition into our parsonage. Again, due to the pandemic, we are not able to meet nor are we able to physically address the issues at the parsonage. However, we are preparing as much as possible now so that when the time comes, we will be ready to get the job done.

Let's Get Together!

If you are interested in participating "face to face" in a Bible Study through Zoom, please let us know.

Steve McDonald plans on having Bible Study using Zoom beginning in May. If you need help after you download the application, please let us know and we will try to answer your questions! Zoom also offers the option to call in if you are not ready to video chat. This is our new normal for awhile and we hope you will participate in bible study using this method. If you are interested, please leave a message at the church office so we can get you the details. 803 635 4087,



To download the app, go to the following:

For your PC

<https://zoom.us/support/download>

For your iPhone or iPad

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/id546505307>

For Androids

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=us.zoom.videomeetings>

The Parade



What started off as an idea by Bobbie Dove in the choir loft at First United Methodist Church turned into a wonderful afternoon yesterday for choir & church members. We were trying (at what turned out to be our last choir practice together for awhile) to think of creative ways of welcoming our Pastor Emeritus, Rev. Bundy Bynum, back from a hospitalization of a week for a staph infection. The suggestion was made - what about a car caravan of folks - to drive by - like we had seen on TV in Columbia. In talking with Pastor Meg and others, the list started growing of other members that should be included - and then why just our fantastic choir, why not anyone in the congregation that might want to go. Took a little planning - the list of folks to be visited were not all in one area - but we got all the homes mapped out, set the date & time for folks to meet at the church, Thursday, April 2nd, at 5:00 p.m. (with strict instructions to stay in their cars or if they had to get out, stay minimum 6 feet apart), route had been emailed to everyone and it worked. Twenty families showed up (some with children who kept popping out of sunroofs with signs) - all the shut ins were waiting on us and it was great seeing each others faces - and waving - and blowing horns - and being together (although separately)!!! Ten members were visited, 20 families participating and do believe the Participants really got more out of it than the Recipients - felt good to be together even though we were apart and God Bless Steve McDonald for bringing up the rear and giving us instructions of where to hold up, & holding traffic at intersections. Earlier in the day, our local \$Tree blew up 12 Red Heart shaped Balloons for us, Julie Barfield, our Church Secretary made peel off stickers of picture of the church that were put on the balloons. Jim Baughman & I ran the route about 3:00 p.m. and delivered the balloons to each family - 10 we were going by on the route and 2 whose driveways & distance wouldn't let a car caravan maneuver - We wanted them to have something TODAY to help them remember - they are not forgotten, and we are all in this together. Stay tuned for First Methodist - that's a bunch of creative folks - no telling what will come up next the longer this isolation continues!!!! We Do Care About Each Other -

Love,

Esther





In Memory of

Win McMaster

Jane and Milton Hinnant
Mary Jim and Don Gunter
Sarah and Bob McMaster
Brent Dorrier
Esther and Jim Baughman
Eric and Jena Johnson
Nancy and Larry Stevenson
William G. and Betsy Stevenson
Peggy Ayers

Waymon Morris

Esther and Jim Baughman
Mary Jim and Don Gunter

Essie Swearingen

Martha and Jackie Wilkes

Mitzie Renwick

Bob and Tricia Drake

Evon Estes

Sallie Kate and Eddie Watford
Larry and Nancy Stevenson
Peggy Ayers
Lynn Sheffield
John and Alice Glass
David and Elizabeth Lever
Lucy Coleman

Oliver Johnson

Martha and Jackie Wilkes
Mary Jim and Don Gunter

Betty Coleman

Mary Jim and Don Gunter

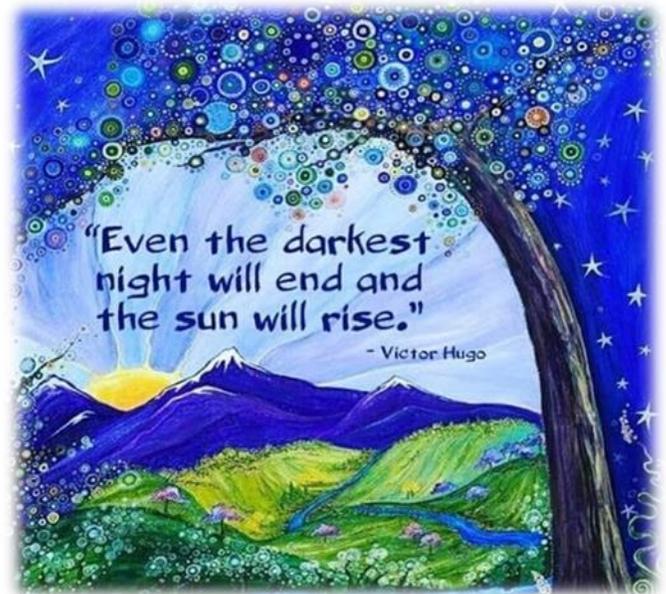
Sherry Speagle

Mary Jim and Don Gunter

In Honor of

Colonel Bob and Becky McMaster

Brian and Kathleen McMaster



THE FIRST WORD

May 2020

First United Methodist Church of Winnsboro, South Carolina
Church Office 635-4087

