

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 21, 2024

Gathering
Welcome and Announcements
Chiming of the Trinity
Prelude *The Church's One Foundation – arr. Robert Hughes* Emily Wallace

***Call to Worship**
The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.
He lays down his life for his sheep.
The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.
He knows us, and we belong to him.
The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.
He speaks, and we listen for his voice.

Opening Prayer

***Opening Hymn** *He is Lord, He is Lord* **UMH #177**

***Passing of the Peace**

***Hymn of Worship** *My Hope is Built* **UMH #368**

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer **Ford Hocker**

Offering

Offertory *The Lord's My Shepherd – arr. Lani Smith* Emily Wallace

***Doxology** **UMH #95**

***Affirmation of Faith** **UMH #884**

***Gloria Patri** **UMH #70**

***Psalter** Psalm 23 **UMH #754**

Old Testament Reading **Isaiah 26: 19**

New Testament Reading **1 Corinthians 15: 42-44**

Sermon *There is a Change-a-Comin'* **Don Hocker**

***Discipleship Hymn** *We've a Story to Tell to the Nations* **UMH #569**

***Benediction**

***Congregational Response** *He Lives* **(Refrain) UMH #310**

He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

***Postlude** *How Firm a Foundation – arr. Charity Putnam* Emily Wallace

*Please stand if you are able.

Prayer Concerns



Please pray for the world, the church, the UMC, First UMC, all who hold leadership positions, and the following persons:

Bruce Sumerel	Rosalind Sweat
Jane Rogers	Betty Lindler
Dot Wilson	Betty & Ron Burnside
Nedra Walker	Sam Lowry
Marilyn Mack	Gayle Hocker
Frances Steinacker	Calvin Culbertson
Jane Stroud	Joel Jacks
Betty Jo Templeton	April Walker Family
Patsy Braswell	Claudette Holliday

MINISTRY OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Betty McLees – 1 Martha Franks Dr., Laurens – (mother of Betsy Ross)
Jane Rogers – 109 Wedgewood Dr., Laurens, SC 29360

MEMORIALS

In Memory of: **Harold Glenn Blocker** Given by: Jane Stroud

In Memory of: **Miriam June Templeton** Given by: Doris Bolt; Jane Stroud

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Hope Spencer and Barry Smith on birth of their son, **Riggs Bennett Smith**, born on April 12, 2024 at 9:25am, weighing 8 lbs. 9 oz., 20" long. His big brother is Ryker, and his very proud grandparents are Ron and Noel Spencer. A rose will be placed on the Altar this Sunday in his honor.

DON HOCKER, CLS TO PREACH

A special "Thank You" to our own Certified Lay Speaker, **Don Hocker**, who will be preaching this Sunday for Pastor Gray. Also, to **Ford Hocker** who will be leading The Lord's Prayer.

Staff Members

Emails: @firstmethodistlaurens.org

Pastor: Gray Stallworth pastor@
Secretary: Karen Reeder contact@
Financial Secretary: Lucy Crowder finance@
Accompanist: Emily Wallace pedalstomper1685@gmail.com
Custodian: Lillie Philson
Ministers: Congregation
Lay Liturgist: Randy Hillmann
Ushers: Sam Howell, Robby Templeton
Nursery Helpers: Sissy Taylor, Merry Young
A Rose on the Altar is given in honor of the birth of **Riggs Bennett Smith**.

DWELLING IN THE WORD

How are you doing with your daily personal Bible Study? Are you following one of our plans? Remember, it takes discipline to meditate on God's Word, but this treasure map He's given to us is worth every minute we spend in the Holy Bible. I am studying the Psalms this year. I have several companion books I am using along with the Amplified Bible as my second translation. I am picking out one verse in each Psalm that is significant. It's amazing how the Psalms point to the Messiah so much! Stay focused! Train daily for Godliness.



FOOD BANK

Tues. & Thurs. Noon-2PM
Please Consider Supporting by
Marking Your Donation "Food Bank"



FOOD BANK NEED

Just a reminder that everyone is asked to bring canned goods to the Altar during Communion on the 1st Sunday of each month.

FRI. LUNCH BUNCH

Meet at the church at 11am to Carpool

** Meet at church at 11:30am to carpool,
except for Blue Ocean (4/26) meet at 12:30pm

April 19 - Wilson's Curb Market, Clinton

April 26 - Blue Ocean, Clinton (Meet at the church at 12:30pm to carpool)



Offering Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings

Place in offering plates as they come by,
Mail to P.O. Box 203, Laurens, SC 29360
Online at firstmethodistlaurens.org, click "Give",
Or Text "BOLD" to 73256

CONNECT WITH US

Worship: Sundays at 10:30am
Office Hrs.: M-Th. 8:30am-3pm
Phone #: 864-984-7696

ONLINE

firstmethodistlaurens.org
[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)
[Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)

Pastoral Emergency Phone #:

** (After Hours and on Weekends) ** **864-334-8561**

First United Methodist Church

West Main Street
Laurens, South Carolina

Sunday, April 21, 2024



Welcome!

At First United Methodist Church
we challenge each other to be BOLD,
to step out in faith as disciples of Jesus Christ.

BOLD
BECOMING • OBEDIENT • LOVING • DISCIPLES

Rev. Gray Stallworth
Pastor

Announcements

CHURCH RECIPE BOOK

If you have not turned in your favorite recipe, the deadline of **April 30th** is getting near!! The Kingdom Krafters are working on a new church recipe book for a fundraiser. Please email or bring to Karen Reeder or Susan Roberts.



Join us for a Couple's Baby Shower

Celebrating

Mollie & Caleb Berry

*Saturday, May 4, 2024
at 2:00 p.m.*

*First United Methodist Church – Fellowship Hall
244 West Main Street
Laurens, SC 29360*

Hosted by:

Patrice Bodie, Tammy Anderson, & Zac Elwood

Please RSVP to 864 872 0547 by April 27th.

The couple is registered at Babylist.com (Mollie Berry)



SPRING FLING

for the Laurens Police Department

As part of Pastor Gray's ministry as Chaplain for the LPD, we are sponsoring a SPRING FLING on **May 4 from 1-5pm**. The event will be held at the city owned Ceram Tec Park. There is a sign-up list on the bulletin board.



EPWORTH CHILDREN'S HOME MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING

Last year Epworth Children's Home served over 1,400 children and families through their statewide programs. Each of these children had this opportunity because of churches in South Carolina who embrace and provide for this ministry. On **Sunday, May 12, 2024**, we will participate in the annual Mother's Day Offering to benefit the children who call Epworth home, as well as each child and family touched by Epworth's ministries. Please be in prayerful consideration of what God is calling you to give to this valuable and life changing ministry. For more information about Epworth Children's Home, visit online at www.epworthchildrenshome.org.

