

# NEWSLetter December 2023

# **Moncks Corner United Methodist Church**

Proclaiming that Jesus Christ is Lord to our community and to the world through worship, mission, discipleship, and service to others.

# Message from the PASTOR

I found this in the devotion book I read every morning before I begin my work. I want to share this with you in this time of preparing for Christmas.

To live as Christians is to live in a dream state.

The best dreams are those from which we do not want to awaken. In them we enjoy unabandoned play, or everything suddenly makes sense, or we relish the embrace of a lover. And when the alarm buzzes in the darkness of a cold winter morning and another day of duties begins to make demands on us, we shut our eyes and try to extend the dream, the wonderful dream. But duties press upon us, and we put our feet on the cold floor and hobble down to the bathroom. In minutes the dream is forgotten, and reality envelopes us with its demands, worries, and responsibilities.

To live as Christians, however, is to continue to live the best of the best dreams: the dream of unending Sabbath rest, when we can cease from our labors; the dream of a life that makes sense, and where it doesn't make sense, the peace and trust to live in the mystery; the dream of a life lived in the constant embrace of Love So important is this "dream" that we must strive weekly – in worship, in prayer, in scripture reading - to remember it. That's what all the means of grace are about: exercises to help us remember that the "reality" of burdensome responsibility is not as real as the dream. And then we can laugh-partly because the dream is such a joy, partly at ourselves for our silliness in so quickly forgetting the dream. And mostly because we are reminded once more how when God gets hold of us, everything gets turned upside down and inside out.

PRAYER: Lord, fix in my mind the dream, and fix in my heart the joy of knowing its reality.

Amen.

Peace and blessings for this holiday season of dreams,

Rev. Randall Haase, Pastor

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

United Methodist MEN (UMM)

December 10th at 9am.

**WOMEN in Mission (WIM)** 

First Wednesday every month 5:45pm

Young at Heart - GAME Time

December 20th at 4pm - Fellowship Hall

**FEED Berkeley** 

December 15th at noon & 16th at 8:30am

Music Pineville SINGERS

December 4th at 7pm

Church Council (always OPEN to ALL)

December 5 at 6pm

**Christmas EVE Service** 

December 24 at 5pm

CHILDREN'S Choir Performance

December 24

**BIBLE Study** 

Wednesdays at 6pm



#### MCUMC Staff:

Rev. Randall Haase Zach Dietz Sue Hagen Molly Purvis Bubba High Mary Miller Lori Glover Mike Holtzclaw Bobby Rozier

**Vacant Position** 

Senior Pastor
Ministry Associate
Secretary
Children's Ministries
Director of Music
Custodian
Financial Secretary
Maintenance
Grounds Maintenance
Nursery

### **POINSETTIAS**

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for display in the Sanctuary during the Advent season, please contact the church office or pick up a donation envelope in the pew racks to place in the offering plate. Donations (\$25 per poinsettia per plant, or you may donate without taking a plant) support the missions projects of the Women in Missions.

# **YOUTH & College News**

Hey youth, the holiday season is flying by! We have celebrated holidays such as Halloween and Thanksgiving but one of my favorite holidays is coming up. We are so close to celebrating Christmas! Before we get to Christmas though we have to step back and look at one of my favorite seasons on the church calendar, Advent. Advent is a time where we step back and think about the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. We think about how God came into the world and took on flesh to walk with us. God truly is Emmanuel, God with us, and we have a Savior that knows our every struggle as people. By His life, death, and resurrection we are made new and that all starts with God becoming fully man and God through His incarnation. Another thing that I love about Advent is that it is a time for us to wait on the second coming of Jesus. Just as many waited for Jesus the Messiah to come to the world, we wait for Him to return and restore all of creation. So let us sit and think about the marvelous things that Jesus has, is, and will be doing for us. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!

An upcoming event that we have planned is that we are planning to go to Revolution 2024. This will be happening in Columbia, SC between the dates of January 26-28.

Thank you and God bless ~ Zach Dietz



#### **PRAYER List:**

Bill Bergmann, Will Tindal, Kayla Haase, Sallie Rogers, Shirley Durden, Radford & Barbara Bates, Susan Polk's Aunt Julia and Uncle Dwight, Bart Brock, Jim Edwards, Betty Lou Hanna, Betty Jean Harvey, Bubba High, Senetta Hubbard, Karen Kimberly, Tim Leonard, Chris and Danny McLaurin, Penny Metts, Marvis Solley, Miriam Talley, Our Service Personnel.



### **CHILDREN'S Ministries:**

As we trim the tree and wrap the presents throughout the month of December, I would encourage you to also wrap-up this year thinking back on all the great things the church community has accomplished! The children's ministry enjoyed several successful events throughout the year. We had a fun-filled movie night, we celebrated our first responders with a Thank-You Drop-In, as well as our Fall Festival. We also gave back to our community by helping fill the Thanksgiving Boxes. These are just a few highlights from this year. We look forward to our Christmas Eve service where our children will sing a joyful noise for the birth of Jesus Christ.

2024 looks to be an exciting year filled with growth,
friendship and deepening of our relationship with Christ.

Merry Christmas, - Molly Purvis

## NOVEMBER Memorials/Honoraria Received:

In memory of Tom Langley: Mikky Caison, Ann & Rick Burnette, Jim & Elaine Peterson, Frank "Jerry" Gwin, Sue Hagan, Terry & Susan Blackwell, Robert & Maxine Tanner, Robin & Julie Rogers, Andrew & Josephine Lewis, MaryLee Greene, Gloria Greene, Joan & Bob Feckal, Calvin & Sylvia Green, Genie Sullivan, Linda & Sammie Harrelson, Ralph & Shirley Moore

In memory of John Mark McQuown: Mikky Caison, Ann & Rick Burnette, Sue Hagan, Robert & Maxine Tanner, Robin & Julie Rogers, Ralph & Shirley Moore

In memory of Jackie Oltmann: Kathy Rozier, Ann & Rick Burnette

In memory of Charlie Glover: Ann & Rick Burnette, Robert & Maxine Tanner

**In memory of Floyd Hennessee:** Ann & Rick Burnette, Sue Hagan, Bobby & Vera Helmly, Tom & Betty Curtis, Ralph & Shirley Moore

In memory of Dot Denaro: Ann & Rick Burnette, Jim & Elaine Peterson, Sue Hagan, Terry & Susan Blackwell, Robert & Maxine Tanner, Ralph & Shirley Moore

In memory of Mary Dangerfield: Ann & Rick Burnette, Sue Hagan, Terry & Susan Blackwell, Robert & Maxine Tanner, Ralph & Shirley Moore

**In memory of Barbara Bennett:** Sue Hagan, Terry & Susan Blackwell, Robert & Maxine Tanner, Linda & Sammie Harrelson, Ralph & Shirley Moore

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Visit our website: MoncksCornerUMC.org Email: <a href="mailto:office@MoncksCornerUMC.org">office@MoncksCornerUMC.org</a>

To be added or removed from this mailing, please contact the church office.

Moncks Corner United Methodist Church Non-Profit Organization

Permit # 14

Moncks Corner, SC 29461

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