


ORDER OF WORSHIP  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
GAUDETE SUNDAY  
December 14, 2025 10:00 AM Blue  
GATHERING  
RINGING OF THE HOUR  
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS  
♣LET US GREET OUR WORSHIPPING NEIGHBORS  
PRELUDE: Tidings of Joy  
INTROIT: Prepare the Way of the Lord  
INVOCATION Steve Shuppy  
♣HYMN OF PRAISE: Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates UMH# 213  
♣CALL TO WORSHIP:  
Leader: My soul magnifies the Lord;  
People: My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.  
Leader: The Mighty One has done great things.  
People: Holy is God's name!  
ALL: AMEN  
♣RINGING OF THE TRINITY  
LET US LIGHT THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE  
Isaiah 35:10 Charlotte and Jerry Loiselle  
PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE  
CALL TO PRAYER: O Little Town of Bethlehem  
MORNING PRAYER / The Lord's Prayer  
LET US WORSHIP WITH OUR COINS OF CHANGE  
LET US WORSHIP WITH OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS  
OFFERTORY: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing  
♣DOXOLOGY UMH #95  
CHILDREN'S PROGRAM The Children of SUMC  
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION praying together  
Lord, in this dry and dusty place, pour out the power of your Holy Spirit so that your Word may blossom in our lives; through Jesus Christ, our way in the wilderness. Amen.  
GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:2-11 John Packard  
ANTHEM: Little Drummer Boy /Peace on Earth  
Duet by Jerry Loiselle and Dale Fryer  
AN ADVENT MESSAGE Rev. Paula J Stover  
♣AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles Creed UMH #881  
♣GLORIA PATRI UMH #70  
QUILT DEDICATION  
SENDING FORTH  
♣HYMN OF DEDICATION: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming UMH #216  
♣BENEDICTION: Christmas Blessing  
♣POSTLUDE: Caroling with Bach

♣Congregation Stands [Please stand as you are able in body or in spirit.]

The altar flowers for last Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, were given by Katherine and Harry Mach to the glory of God and wishing a blessed Christmas to the congregation.



# Welcome!

We welcome you to Socastee United Methodist Church!  
Thank you for worshiping with us today. We love our new and returning guests and ask that you please put your name and contact information in one of our red pads found in the pews so we can welcome you and get to know you.

NURSERY & CHILDREN'S CHURCH  
Nursery is available at the rear of the sanctuary. 0-age 4.  
Children's Church is available for ages 4yrs – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in the Fellowship Hall after Children's Time.

COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS  
Coffee and doughnuts will be available in the Fellowship Hall, from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM, every Sunday.

CHRISTMAS DINNER  
SAVE THE DATE:- On December 16, 2025, at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall, SUMC UMM and Women of Hope are sponsoring a Christmas Dinner for all to attend. Please sign up on the sign-up sheets in Narthex and the entrances by the Bell Choir Room.  
PLEASE NOTE we will not have Wonderful Wednesday this month.  
Please plan to attend the church Christmas dinner on December 16.

STAFF LOVE OFFERING  
Please plan on donating to the Christmas love offering for our church employees. You can use the love offering envelope provided or give on Realm. Please write "staff gift" on checks and envelopes. Thank you for giving to our amazing staff members. The last day for giving is today.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK AT SUMC	
Today:	December 14
10:00 AM	Worship/NS
11:00	Happy Birthday Jesus Party FH
Monday:	December 15
5:00 PM	Cub Scout Pack 891/FH
7:00 PM	Boy Scout Troop 891/FH
Tuesday:	December 16
9:00 AM	Stitchers/John Wesley
5:30 PM	Girl Scouts/FH
6:30 PM	SUMC Christmas Dinner FH
Wednesday:	December 17
9:30 AM	TLC - Chapel/NS
5:30 PM	Kidz United/OS
5:45 PM	Adult Bell Choir/Bell Room
6:45 PM	Chancel Choir Practice/FH-109
Thursday:	December 18
10:30 AM	Thursday Bible Study/John Wesley
Friday	December 19
10:30 AM	TLC Christmas Program NS
6:00 PM	Line Dancing FH

SERVING TODAY  
Choir Director: Lauren Willis  
Organist: Marianne Eaton  
Pianist: Lauren Willis  
Ushers: Craig Campbell, Sunny Fry, Susan Williamson, Wayne Rogers  
Steward: George Grzeszkowiak

ALTAR FLOWERS  
The flower chart for 2026 is now up in the Narthex. Flowers can again be ordered from Ginger Ford at 919-812-7441 or from any venue you choose (grocery store, florist etc.) The price for flowers provided by Ginger Ford for 2 flower arrangements has increased to \$45. Please also notify the church office by email of your tribute for the bulletin: [sumc@socasteeumc.org](mailto:sumc@socasteeumc.org)

**OUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT**

**In Hospital:** No one at this time.  
**In Rehabilitation:** No one at this time.  
**In Home Visitations:** Kate Eley, Charlotte Minnick, & Emily Michael  
**In Hospice:** No one at this time.

**REMEMBER OUR MILITARY MEMBERS IN PRAYER**

The addresses of all our military family members will be held in the office and can be made available to anyone who would like them.

♣Major Jon-Michael Farino (USAF)	♣CT4 Halle Rae Anderson
♣Captains Jennifer and Marc Melfi	♣SSgt. Warren Scoggin
♣Airman First Class Cassie Edwards	♣CM Sgt. Jessica Heilman
♣Captain Melisa Hedges	♣M/Sgt. Nicolas McLaughlin
♣Specialist Isaac Hedges	♣Airman William Rogers

**ANGEL TREE 2025**

All Angel Tree gifts are due today. Please place your Angel Tree gifts under the Angel Tree. Thanks for your loving support of this sweet mission.

**BLESSING BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS**

The Women of Hope have partnered with Dale Willoughby to ensure that we have adequate food to be placed in The Blessing Box. Food Lion has donated reusable grocery bags which can be picked up in the narthex. For your convenience a list of appropriate items is attached to each bag. You may return your bag/s to the narthex on the first Sunday of each month, or you may drop them off at the church office, Monday-Thursday, between 8:30AM and 3:30PM.

**MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITY**

We will receive new members on Sunday, January 25, 2026. If you have questions about joining the church, please contact Pastor Paula by calling the church office at (843) 650-3373.

**UNITED METHODIST ADVOCATE**

If you are a new member of SUMC, you are entitled to a FREE one-year subscription to “The United Methodist Advocate,” the monthly Methodist newspaper found in South Carolina. If you are interested, please contact the church office at (843) 650-3373.

**ADVENT WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**December 21** - Worship- A Service of Lessons and Carols 10:00AM  
The Longest Night (Blue Christmas) Service 4:00PM  
**Christmas Eve**- Worship Services 10:00AM and 6:00PM

**A LOOK AT OUR FAITHFULNESS & ATTENDANCE**

**December 14, 2025**

Sunday School – 12 10:00 AM Service – 93  
Kidz United – 6 Online Views – 79

**BUDGETING OPERATING FUND [11/23/2025]**

Received this week .....6,190.50  
Received this week online.....220.00  
Received this year .....304,203.90  
Operating expenses thru October 2025.....334,936.22  
Carryover Funds used thru October 2025.....74,277.33

**BUILDING TOGETHER FOR TODAY & TOMORROW**

*“I will not offer to God that which cost me nothing”*

*2 Samuel 24:24*

Received to complete Fellowship Hall **[12/7/2025]** .....540.00  
Loan Balance as of **[10/26/2024]** on Fellowship Hall...162,038.79  
Balance of Fellowship Hall Campaign Fund.....2,365.00  
YTD contributions for Fellowship Hall Campaign.....13,035.00

**1875 SANCTUARY CONTRIBUTIONS [11/23/2025]**

Received for 1875 Sanctuary.....0.00  
Balance of 1875 Sanctuary Fund .....6,875.00

**IMPROVEMENTS FOR PRESENT BUILDINGS/GROUNDS**

**[11/23/2025]**

Received in Coins of Change for Improvements.....49.50  
Improvement Fund & Coins of Change Balance [CIF]...18,453.34

**GIVING QR CODE**



To make it easier for regular attenders and visitors to give online, we have included a QR code on the bulletin. Simply scan the code with your smart phone and the link will take you directly to our secure online giving site in Realm.



**Third Sunday of Advent**

**Socastee United Methodist Church**

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