

ORDER OF WORSHIP
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY
December 28, 2025 10:00 AM WHITE
GATHERING

RINGING OF THE HOUR
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
♣**LET US GREET OUR WORSHIPING NEIGHBORS**
PRELUDE: *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

INTROIT
INVOCATION: Gail Collins
♣**HYMN OF PRAISE:** *Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine*
UMH # 606

♣**CALL TO WORSHIP:**
Leader: O God, Searcher of all our hearts, you have formed us as a people and claimed us for your own.
People: As we come to acknowledge your sovereignty and grace, and to enter anew into covenant with you, reveal any reluctance or falsehood within us.
Leader: Let your Spirit impress your truth on our inmost being.
People: and receive us in mercy, for the sake of our Mediator, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
ALL: AMEN
♣**RINGING OF THE TRINITY**

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING
Leader: Let us give thanks for all of God’s mercies. O God, our Covenant Friend, you have been gracious to us through all the yeas of our lives. We thank you for your loving care, which has filled our days and brought us to this time and place.
People: We praise your holy name, O God.

Leader: You have given us life and reason, and set us in a world filled with your glory. You have comforted us with family and friends, and ministered to us thorough the hands of our sisters and brothers.
People: We praise your holy name, O God.

Leader: You have filled our hearts with a hunger after you, and have given us your peace. You have redeemed us, and called us to a high calling in Christ Jesus. You have given us a place in the fellowship of your Spirit and the witness of your Church.
People: We praise your holy name, O God.

Leader: You have been our light in darkness and a rock of strength in adversity and temptation. You have been the very Spirit of joy in our joys and the all-sufficient reward in all our labors.
People: We praise your holy name, O God.

Leader: You remembered us when we forgot you. You followed us even when we tried to flee from you. You met us with forgiveness when we returned to you. For all your patience and overflowing grace.
People: We praise your holy name, O God.

LET US WORSHIP WITH OUR COINS OF CHANGE
CHILDREN’S TIME: Lindsay Jackson
LET US WORSHIP WITH OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: *In a Manger Bed*
♣**DOXOLOGY** UMH #95

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. In the midst of the multitude of words in our daily lives, speak your eternal Word to us, that we may respond to your gracious promises with faithfulness, service and love. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: 2 Kings 23:1-3, Jeremiah 31:31-34, 1 Peter 1:13-25

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25:14-30
ANTHEM: *You’re Here* Mahkynzie, Lauren & Kamron Willis

PROCLAMATION Rev. Paula J. Stover

WESLEY’S COVENANT SERVICE *See Insert*

SENDING FORTH

HYMN OF DEDICATION: *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*
UMH#117

♣**BENEDICTION:** Rev. Paula J. Stover

♣**POSTLUDE:** *Carol Medley I*
Flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God by Mary Lehr, in memory of parents Anna and David Gilliland and Uncle Alvin Gilliland.





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 – 3rd grade in the Fellowship Hall after Children’s Time.

COVENANT KEEPERS
Covenant Keepers will be starting a new study on Sunday, January 4 – “Following Jesus,” a LifeGuide study. The class meets at 8:45 in the John Wesley room, and all are welcome, if you’d like to join us.”

SENIOR SINGLES
The next Senior Singles outing is on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at Judy Boone’s in Murrells Inlet at 5:30 pm. Please let Al Wood or Joanne Ryals know if you will attend so they can make the reservation.

<u>CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK AT SUMC</u>	
Monday:	December 29
Tuesday:	December 30
9:00 AM	Stitchers/John Wesley
Wednesday:	December 31
Thursday:	January 1
	The Office will be closed
	Happy New Year!
Friday	January 2
Saturday	January 3

SERVING TODAY
Choir Director: Lauren Willis
Organist: Mary Campbell
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

OUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT

In Hospital: Lee Marin

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

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.

DONATIONS

Today is the last day to make an offering to be applied to year 2025.

GIVING ENVELOPES

The 2026 Giving Envelopes are on the table at the back of the Sanctuary. Notice, your *Giving Number* may have changed.

NEW DIRECTIONS

On Monday, December 15, we prayed with and served 111 meals to the homeless and very grateful people at the New Directions shelter in Myrtle Beach. We thank the following volunteers who prepared and or served these hot meals: Barbara Gulino, Bruce Bonelli, Ginger Ford, Pastor Paula Stover and Joanne Ryals. We would also like to thank our bakers for providing the yummy desserts that are always a big hit: Julie Faye, Peggy Packard, Marilyn Taylor, Barbara Gulino, Robin McElroy and Joanne Ryals. This rewarding mission is truly a blessing to those who need not only food and shelter, but also the knowledge that someone cares about them. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, contact Katrina Barton at 843-213-7988.

A LOOK AT OUR FAITHFULNESS & ATTENDANCE

December 21, 2025

Sunday School – 12 10:00 AM Service – 110

Kidz United – 0 Online Views – 75

BUDGETING OPERATING FUND [12/21/2025]

Received this week	3,423.00
Received this week online.....	150.00
Received this year	316,853.20
Operating expenses thru November 2025.....	384,593.26
Carryover Funds used thru November 2025.....	89,349.22

BUILDING TOGETHER FOR TODAY & TOMORROW

"I will not offer to God that which cost me nothing"

2 Samuel 24:24

Received for Advent/Christmas.....	60.00
Received for Memorial Fund.....	100.00
Received for Staff Christmas Gifts.....	1,911.00
Received for Martha's Table.....	200.00
Received to complete Fellowship Hall [12/21/2025]	640.00
Loan Balance as of [11/23/2025] on Fellowship Hall...	159,548.41
Balance of Fellowship Hall Campaign Fund.....	1,425.00
YTD contributions for Fellowship Hall Campaign.....	15,125.00

1875 SANCTUARY CONTRIBUTIONS [12/21/2025]

Received for 1875 Sanctuary.....	20.00
Balance of 1875 Sanctuary Fund	6,895.00

IMPROVEMENTS FOR PRESENT BUILDINGS/GROUNDS

[12/21/2025]

Received in Coins of Change for Improvements.....	72.50
Improvement Fund & Coins of Change Balance [CIF]...	18,600.89

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.

*We are a loving
congregation that
shows the love of
Christ to the world.*



Socastee United Methodist Church

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Pastor: Rev. Paula J. Stover

Church Phone: (843) 650-3373

Email: SUMC@SocasteeUMC.org

Web site: www.SocasteeUMC.org

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.