

ORDER OF WORSHIP  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
December 7, 2025 10:00 AM Blue  
GATHERING  
RINGING OF THE HOUR  
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS  
♣LET US GREET OUR WORSHIPPING NEIGHBORS  
PRELUDE: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
INTROIT: Prepare the Way of the Lord  
INVOCATION John Packard  
♣HYMN OF PRAISE: Hail to the Lord’s Anointed UMH #203  
♣CALL TO WORSHIP:  
Leader: Christ, the One who was, and is, and is to come,  
People: welcomes us to this place.  
Leader: As one body, with one voice,  
People: we will honor and glorify the giver of wisdom, counsel,  
knowledge, and joy.  
ALL: Amen, let it be so.  
♣RINGING OF THE TRINITY  
LET US LIGHT THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE  
Mark 1:4 Scott and Susan Willianson  
INVITATION TO THE TABLE/CONFESSION AND PARDON  
A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II UMH PAGE 12  
PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE  
CALL TO PRAYER: O Little Town of Bethlehem  
MORNING PRAYER  
LET US WORSHIP WITH OUR COINS OF CHANGE  
CHILDREN’S TIME: Lindsay Jackson  
LET US WORSHIP WITH OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS  
OFFERTORY: Carol Prelude  
♣DOXOLOGY UMH #95  
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION  
Your word, Gracious God, was written for our instruction. By your  
Holy Spirit open our ears and fill us with the mysteries of your  
ancient love; and fill us with the mysteries of your ancient love;  
through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.  
GOSPEL READING: Matthew 3: 1-12 Charlotte Loiselle  
ANTHEM: Come, Long-Expected Jesus  
SERMON Rev. Paula J Stover  
♣AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles Creed UMH #881  
♣GLORIA PATRI UMH #70  
THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION  
A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II UMH PAGE 13  
THE PRAYER OF THE GREAT THANKSGIVING  
The Lord’s Prayer

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP  
SENDING FORTH  
♣HYMN OF DEDICATION: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light UMH #206  
♣BENEDICTION: Christmas Blessing  
♣POSTLUDE: Christmastide  
♣Congregation Stands [Please stand as you are able in body or in spirit.]



Welcome!

We welcome you to Socastee United Methodist Church!  
Thank you for worshipping 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. The total  
amount is split evenly among them. Thank you for giving to our  
amazing staff members. The last day for giving is Sunday, December 14.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK AT SUMC	
Today:	December 7
10:00 AM	Worship/NS
1 – 4:00PM	Line Dancing/FH
Monday:	December 8
5:00 PM	Cub Scout Pack 891/FH
7:00 PM	Boy Scout Troop 891/FH
Tuesday:	December 9
9:00 AM	Stitchers/John Wesley
5:30 PM	Girl Scouts/FH
Wednesday:	December 10
9:30 AM	TLC - Chapel/NS
11:30 AM	Women of Hope Christmas dinner At Grumpy Munk
5:30 PM	Kidz United/OS
5:45 PM	Adult Bell Choir/Bell Room
6:45 PM	Chancel Choir Practice/FH-109
Thursday:	December 11
10:30 AM	Thursday Bible Study/John Wesley
Friday	December 12
6:00 PM	Boy Scouts Preparation for Eagle Scout/NS
6:00 PM	Line Dancing FH
Saturday	December 13
9:00 AM	Forestbrook HO/ FH
10::00 AM	Eagle Scouts Ceremony/NS
3:30 PM	Martha Strickland Funeral and Reception

SERVING TODAY	
Choir Director:	Lauren Willis
Organist:	Marianne Eaton
Pianist:	Lauren Willis
Ushers	Craig Campbell, Sunny Fry, Susan Willianson, Wayne Rogers
Steward:	Chip Smith

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**

Thank you for choosing angels from the tree to help the children at Plantation Apartments. We ask that you return the gifts to the tree by December 14<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

**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.



**A LOOK AT OUR FAITHFULNESS & ATTENDANCE**

**November 30, 2025**

Sunday School – 21      10:00 AM Service – 110  
Kidz United – 6      Online Views – 53

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

Received this week .....4,308.50  
Received this week online.....379.00  
Received this year .....298,013.49  
Operating expenses thru October 2025.....334,936.22  
Carryover Funds used thru October 2025.....74,277.33

**OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS [11/23/2025]**

Haiti..... 100.00  
Wonderful Wednesday.....142.00  
Poinsettias.....230.00

**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 [11/23/2025] .....215.00  
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.....70.00  
Improvement Fund & Coins of Change Balance [CIF]...18,453.34

**THANK YOU**

We received acknowledgements that for Christmas this year, District Superintendent, the Reverend Steve Brown, and his wife, Karen, gave gifts in honor of our church to:

Epworth Children’s Home  
Salkehatchie Summer Service  
The Wallace Family Life Center.

What a wonderful way to practice generosity and celebrate the important ministry of Socastee UMC and our connectional ministry as United Methodists in the Marion District of the SC Annual Conference.

**ADVENT WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**December 14-** Third Sunday of Advent  
Worship with Children’s Skit      10:00AM  
Happy Birthday Jesus Party

**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



**Second Sunday of Advent**

**Socastee United Methodist Church**

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