

# Church Calendar

## BORDEAUX WORSHIP CENTER

• Services at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays.

## BUFFALO BAPTIST

3699 Hwy. 28 N.  
• Worship service at 11 a.m. Sunday school at 10 a.m. Services can also be viewed on Sundays on the Buffalo Baptist Facebook page at 11 a.m. The Rev. Martin Wiles is pastor.

## FIRST BETHANY BAPTIST

853 Hwy. 378 E., McCormick  
• Sunday school is held at 10 a.m. each Sunday. Church worship is held at 11 a.m. each Sunday. Mask, gloves and hand sanitizer are available. Social distancing is practiced. Services are also available on the church Facebook page and the website. Nursery and children's church are open during Sunday morning service. Wednesday on-line Bible study at 6:30 p.m. Bible study is available on the church Facebook page and the website at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact the Rev. John Alexander at revjohnalexander@gmail.com.

## HOLLOWAY'S THURSDAY HOUR OF POWER

Hardy Foundation Building, Carolina St.  
• Thursdays at 6 p.m. The congregation will be spacing and worshipping. All are welcome. Bring your Bibles. The Rev. Dr. R.C. Holloway is founder and pastor.

## HOLY SPRING BAPTIST

226 Kennedy Rd., P.O. Box 389  
• Regular worship service each Sunday at 10 a.m. COVID-19 precautions will be observed. Please meet at "The Spring" and arrive 15 minutes prior to service. Dr. Linda Murray Tucker is pastor.

## LITTLE MILL BAPTIST

• Little Mill has resumed in-person morning worship at 11 a.m. Wednesday evening Bible study at 6:30 p.m. The Rev. Gregory Allen is pastor.

## McCORMICK FIRST BAPTIST

• Women's Bible study will be held Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. "Trustworthy." "Overcoming our greatest struggles to trust God." Women's Bible study will also be held Mondays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. "Twelve women of the Bible." "Life changing stories for women of today. Call 852-2640 for more information or to sign up.

## MODOC BAPTIST

• Sunday school at 10 a.m. Worship at 11 a.m.

## MT. ZION A.M.E.

185 Mt. Zion Church Rd.  
• Worship begins at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom. Zoom information is <https://zoom>.

us/j/99823046889 or dial 1-301-715-8592 with Meeting ID 998 2304 6889. No in person services until further notice. For more information, call 864-391-2986 or email [mtzionamemcc@wctel.net](mailto:mtzionamemcc@wctel.net). The Rev. Lebbie Ligon is pastor.

## NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST

1680 New Hope Rd.  
• In-person worship services are returning at 10 a.m. on Sundays with limited seating. Masks are required, and social distancing will be observed. Services may still be attended online at <https://www.gotomeet.me/JohnJordan2/newhope-missionary-baptist-church-services> or by phone by dialing 1-872-240-3212 and using Access Code: ID) 331-565-389. Prayer on Conference Call may be attended Wednesdays at 7 p.m. by dialing 1-425-436-6200 and using access code 297139. The Rev. Michael A. Butler is pastor.

## NEW MACEDONIA F.B.H.

209 Deason St.  
• Sunday service with Sunday school at 10 a.m. and worship service at 11 a.m. Wednesday prayer at 6 p.m. The Rev. Ronald Williams is pastor.

## PINE GROVE A.M.E.

317 Pine Grove Church Rd., Plum Branch  
• No more service until further notice. Services will be virtual. The Rev. H.D. Milling Jr. is pastor.

## PLUM BRANCH BAPTIST

106 Church St.  
• All services and classes are meeting except Sunday evening worship. Current sermon series, "Growing in Spiritual Maturity." Masks are no longer required but are welcome for those who feel them to be necessary. Social distancing is still observed, and sanitizing stations are available.

## REPUBLICAN UNITED METHODIST

865 Chamberlain's Ferry Rd.  
• Sunday school 10 a.m. Church Service 11 a.m.

## SPIRIT AND LIFE

615 Hwy. 378 West  
• Sundays: Corporate prayer at 9:30 a.m., Sunday school at 10 a.m., worship experience at 11 a.m.. Communion service every first Sunday.  
• Wednesdays: Telephone Bible study at 6 p.m. Dial in number is 701-802-5425, and the access code is 517164. Guest teachers from South Carolina, Georgia, New York and Pennsylvania.  
• Bishop Donn M. Lee is founder and pastor.

## SPRINGFIELD A.M.E.

776 Chamberlain Ferry Rd.  
• Back in the church. Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. Church school at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Bible study at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays. Call toll free to listen: 1-760-548-9927. The Rev.

Marilynn Galbreath is pastor.

## ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST

301 Edgefield Rd., Plum Branch  
• Sunday service at 9:45 a.m. Come as you are. Bible study at 9 a.m.

## TROY UNITED METHODIST

127 Church St.  
• Worship service at 11 a.m., in person and livestreamed on Facebook. Sunday school at 10 a.m. in person. United Methodist Women meeting the first Wednesday of each month

at 7 p.m. Masks are recommended. Social distancing is observed, and sanitation supplies are available. The Rev. Barrett Alewine is pastor.

## VILLAGE CHURCH OF CHRIST

• Village Church of Christ meets Sundays at 9 a.m. Contact Michael Kolb at 864-391-4543.

## WILLINGTON PRESBYTERIAN

• Services are held on the first, third and fifth Sundays of the month at 10:45 a.m.

## The love of God personified

By Kitty Craig – Jackson  
From a New Hope Baptist pew

I want you to know that God is not mad at you. He is madly in love with you.

The Rev. Butler preached from John 3:16. His sermon text was "The love of God personified."

John 3:16 is one of the most famous Bible verses, but also perhaps one of the least understood. What is the "love" that John 3:16 talks about? What is God's love for us, and how can we love Him in return? What does the Bible really teach about this amazing and wonderful promise? How does this verse relate to the true gospel and to God's eternal promise?

For many Christians, John 3:16 serves as a thesis statement of their faith: God sacrificed His Son, Jesus, for the sins of humanity, and if you believe in Him, your soul will be saved. We receive God's free gift of eternal life through faith, by believing Jesus is who He says He is — the sinless Son of God who paid for the world's sins — and did what He said He did — died in our place to grant us entrance into eternity with Him.

But to receive that precious gift, we must acknowledge that we need it. That's hard because it pricks against our pride. We often take great satisfaction in our achievements and knowing we've progressed solely through our own merits. But the Holy Spirit helps us realize the futility of our efforts; we cannot earn grace, but we can accept it by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Rev. Butler gave a quick synopsis on why God so loved the world and God sent Christ for one reason only: "So that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life ... When we seek love," the Rev. Butler explained, "earthly love can fail us. When we love imperfect broken people, the love is also imperfect and broken. But when we seek and find love with the Creator of the universe, then we find a perfect selfless love that is eternal. The God that created us is also that God that saved us from all of our sin and pain. And that love is available to us."

Paul stated in Romans 7:24-25, "Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord."

This was the offer Jesus made to Nicodemus one dark night. The offer was free. Nicodemus didn't have to earn it; he simply needed to accept it. To step out of the darkness and into the light, out of death and into life. We don't know how that conversation ended that night. Perhaps Nicodemus' heart leapt with hope and he embraced the grace that Christ offered. Or perhaps he retreated, contemplated and wrestled with his sin and pride before finally finding the courage to surrender. Regardless, we know Christ revealed a beautiful picture of love, of grace and of the freedom of complete absolution. No more guilt. No more shame. Zero condemnation. Only freedom, light and life and all because God so loved this world.

The Rev. Butler explained, "We all need love, everybody needs to feel loved, and we serve a God who loves no matter what we've done ... Some families rarely tell each other, 'I love you,'" he said, "Some people say they love you, but then they hurt and despitefully deceive you. Love is not what it says it is ... Love is what it does!"

We live in a world that is chaotic, messy and, oftentimes, scary. People disappoint us and hurt us, and we find ourselves facing many hardships. This verse guides us to finding peace, comfort and hope. John 3:16 reminds us that there is an eternal glory awaiting us beyond this life of pain and sorrow. It is an important verse because we are reassured of a God who loves us so much that He would sacrifice even His beloved Son so that we could have life. We learn from this verse that belief in Jesus is a choice.

Although Jesus came to save the whole world, it is each person's choice to place their belief in Him. Believing in Jesus is a daily choice to dedicate our lives to Him and to seek His Kingdom rather than indulge ourselves. Believing in Jesus means to trust Him daily and to have a relationship with God that leads to strong faith.

The Good News is that we do not have to work to save ourselves. We do not have to try and pay the debt of our sin that is owed. Rather, Jesus was sent to save the whole world. Jesus paid our debt on the cross. Salvation is available to anyone who puts their belief in Jesus. God loves each of us as if there was only one of us to love. Love is not a "what"; love is a "Who." Therefore, it is not love we are to be "bettering," but Christ we need to be beholding, for the Word of God sets forth that as we behold Him, we are transformed into His image (2 Corinthians 3:18).

The Rev. Butler teaches, "Love is not what it says it is ... Love is what it does!" And he asked, "What have you done for God lately?"



The first 2022 America's Boating Course class ended on Feb. 7. Pictured here is Commander and Instructor Bill O'Neill demonstrating how to tie a knot.

## America's Boating Club – Thurmond Lake is on the run

America's Boating Club – Thurmond Lake hosted a full house at the Tara River Grille on Thursday evening, Feb. 17. Chef Mackie outdid themselves with a delicious salad and a choice of baked chicken with dried red tomatoes and spices or broiled salmon. The guest speaker for the night was Wesley Millar, chief ranger for recreation at the J. Strom Thurmond Dam. Millar presented the history of the dam and the different types of recreation around Lake Thurmond that has increased the number of visitors up to two million to the area since the pandemic began.

The first 2022 America's Boating Course was completed on Feb. 10, and the next one will be March 12, 15 and 17. A seven-session course on Understanding and Predicting the Weather is being offered starting March 9 every Wednesday from 9 a.m. till noon at the SLV Recreation Center. Costs are \$62 for members and \$72 for non-members. Spouse costs are \$10 and \$20 respectively. Contact Sandy Gresham at [sands@wctel.net](mailto:sands@wctel.net) or 864 391-4032 to register.



The Feb. 17 dinner at the River Grille was a full house.



Chief Ranger for Recreation Jeffrey Millar tells the history of recreation on Thurmond Lake and the J Strom Thurmond Dam.

### "Put your feet up"

God used footstools to remind us to stay at rest. When we face difficulties, things we don't see coming, things we don't understand, the first thing we should do is put up our feet. We have to come back to that place of peace, and we have to do it by faith. What may have been meant for harm becomes your footstool. Instead of being a stumbling block, it's going to be a stepping stone to take you to the next level.

2 Chronicles 7:14  
Matthew Ch. 24  
2 Timothy Ch. 3

-The Modern Day Noah  
Submitted by Evangelist Brenda Moore

## RED ROOSTER EMPORIUM

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118 South Main Street McCormick

864-852-9244

Monday - Saturday  
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## Lutheran Church By The Lake

We invite you to worship with us.

SUNDAY MORNING 9:00 & 10:30 A.M.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS  
WITH GOD AND NEIGHBORS



Highway 378 & Twelve Oaks Drive • McCormick  
LCBTL.org • 864-391-3000

### McCormick First Baptist Church

Chris Gulleddge, Pastor  
Stacey Gulleddge, Director of Children & Youth

108 S. Oak Street, POB 416, McCormick, SC 29835  
[www.mccormickfbc.org](http://www.mccormickfbc.org) • 864-852-2640

Sunday:	Sunday School	9:45 AM	
	Morning Worship	11:00 AM	
Wednesday:	Study/Prayer	6:00 PM	

### McCormick United Methodist Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

We Welcome You to Join Us  
in Worship this Week

Sundays at 10AM

Rev. C. Nels Ledwell.....Pastor

200 Gold Street    [mccormickumc.org](http://mccormickumc.org)    (864) 852-2394

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Wednesday and Friday at 9 a.m.

Confessions: Saturday 3 - 3:45 p.m.  
Wednesday and Friday 8:15 - 8:45 a.m.  
First Friday Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction 9-10 a.m.  
1401 Greenwood Hwy., McCormick  
Father JP Narichetti  
For additional information call 852-4722