



THE CONNECTION

January 7, 2018

1401 Washington Street - Columbia, SC - 29201

Monday - Friday ■ 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

PREPARING FOR

Lent

As we near the beginning of the Lent, we hope you'll embrace the upcoming discipleship opportunities in a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter.

Small Group Studies

EASTER EARTHQUAKE is a 6-week study for Lent that explores how Jesus' resurrection shakes up some of our most basic assumptions about our lives, our world, and God. This energizing study will inspire you to live as a more faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. It will be Led by Ann Jessup & Susan Boone, and will meet in the Holroyd Prayer Room.

February 20 - March 27 | Tuesdays from 6:00 - 7:30 PM

To sign up, email Lainey (lainey@wsmethodist) by Feb. 12th

PAUSE FOR EASTER is a 40 Day Journey with Howard Thurman. This book of excerpts of Thurman's writings linked to scripture with questions for contemplation are a perfect way to go deeper in your spiritual journey during Lent. Feel free to bring your lunch and join us.

February 15 - March 29 | Thursdays from 12:30 - 1:15 PM

at *Tapps on Main St.*

If you want us to order you a book please contact us by Feb 9.th Facilitated by Rev. Parrish and Rev. Lippert

Lenten Lunches

Beginning on February 14th, *Ash Wednesday*, our UMW will be hosting Lenten Lunches every Wednesday during the season of Lent.

A soup & sandwich lunch will be served at 12:00 PM in Threath Hall, and the \$5.00 cost will be contributed directly to our Soup Cellar Ministry. Immediately following lunch, a worship service will begin at 12:30 PM in the Christ Chapel. Lunch and worship together will last roughly an hour - making it the perfect lunch break in the midst of a busy day! The worship speaker will vary week to week. Bring a co-worker or two!

LENTEN LUNCH DATES

2/14 | 2/21 | 2/28 | 3/7 | 3/14 | 3/21 | 3/28

Stand Up Sunday

On January 28, 2018 we will join countless others in acknowledging the tragedy of one human being acting violently toward another or others with a gun. Included in this article are the origins of *STAND UP SUNDAY* and facts about guns in the United States of America. You may go to the website of *STAND UP SUNDAY* for additional information about additional ways you can participate. You may also consider joining *The Faith Coalition on Gun Violence* which meets here at Washington Street. Please contact Kathy Handel for further details.

- Rev. Parrish

STAND UP SUNDAY began as a remembrance of the killings that took place at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012. Since then, an annual vigil or parts or even the entire worship service speaks to violence and in particular gun violence. The Faith Coalition on Gun Violence (FCGV) is a local, volunteer, nonpartisan, multi-faith organization that encourages and facilitates faith-based organizations to take actions that reduce gun violence. Examples of such actions include education, reflection, prayer, dialogue, conflict resolution and advocacy. Local religious institutions do not formally affiliate with the FCGV, but collaborate with it to engage their members in reducing gun violence.

Did You Know?

2017 Gun Facts in the US

1. **Mass shootings** (4 or more people shot, regardless of total fatalities) 345 reported/verified mass shootings
2. **Children and gun violence**
 - a. 2017: 733 from ages 0-11 killed or injured by gunfire.
 - b. 2017: 3,228 from ages 12-17 killed or injured
 - c. FBI data: children killed are far more likely to die from guns held by family members and acquaintances than by strangers
3. **Officer involved shootings:** 2017—317 officers were shot or killed; 2,076 reported/verified officer involved incidents where the subject-suspect was shot or killed
4. **2017 Total # of gun incidents:** 2,487 reported/verified home invasions; 2,024 reported/verified defensive use and 2,013 reported/verified unintentional shooting
5. **Stolen guns**
 - a. Gun theft is on the rise; a 68% increase since 2005: one estimate—380,000 guns stolen per year
 - b. 2016: more than 237,000 guns were reported stolen nationwide (many people do not report a stolen gun)
 - i. So many gun owners are not securing their guns and thus they are easy to steal
 - ii. 67% come from unlocked cars; cars and trucks are targeted more than homes
 - iii. Stolen guns are increasingly showing up at crime scenes: Officers seize an illegal gun off the street every 74 minutes
 - c. Less than 10% of stolen firearms are recovered
6. **Ghost guns:** a gun with no serial/registration numbers is modified by the addition of extra parts; these guns are unlicensed and unregistered; criminals can use it to get around government tracking/regulation
7. **Gun purchase laws:**
 - a. Federal law allows people to purchase guns from unlicensed gun dealers
 - b. 40% of all gun sales in the U.S. are made outside of the retail system and without background checks; there are 5,000 gun-shows annually.
 - c. Unlicensed “private” sellers are not required to conduct background checks or maintain records of purchasers.
8. **Rate of daily homicides in U.S. is 36 excluding most suicides;** the 36 die from gun homicides, unintentional shooting, or murder/suicides; declared a public health crisis by the American Medical Association
9. **Racial disparity:** Gun deaths per 100,000---34 black men & 4 black women to 16 white men and 4 white women.

[1]AFT, [2]Brady Center, [3]CDC, [4]Everytown using CDC data, [5]Gun Violence Archives, [6]Center for American Progress, [7]FBI, [8]Harvard, [9]NVSS, NEISS



Final Report

167 pledges

\$683,054 pledged

Thank you to those who pledged towards 2018 at Washington Street UMC! Your faithful generosity allows us to move forward in our mission and ministry.

The Finance Committee will soon begin a series of communications pertaining to the church's financial details. Stay tuned in to our various communication methods to learn more about how your gifts support this church.

If you haven't had the opportunity to submit your pledge yet, it's not too late! You are welcome to speak to our Business Administrator, Robbie Douglas, or pick up a pledge card from the Church Office. You can also pledge through your Engage Washing account in 5 easy steps. [Questions? lainey@wsmethodist.org](mailto:lainey@wsmethodist.org)

Sunday School Classes

What are they studying?

Several of our adult Sunday School classes just started new studies, and others are wrapping up previous ones. Looking for place to go this Sunday morning? New friends are always welcome!

THE ALDERSGATE CLASS: They're continuing a 6 week program of study based upon Joel Osteen's #1 Bestselling Book, *Your Best Life Now*, this Sunday, January 21 st. David Anderson will continue to lead discussion through February 11th.

THE GRACE CLASS: They're kicking off 2018 with lessons from the series, "Living the Questions."

THE JOHN HARPER CLASS: Their focus for the winter quarter is "Faith in Action," with a hands-on reading approach of interpreting the bible with rotating teachers.

THE OPEN DOOR CLASS: Belief leads to action and trials lead to growth. They will continue studying the practical messages in the book of James and experiencing a new energy toward acting out one's faith.



If you are a high school graduate, 20-something, or in your early 30's, join our newest Sunday School class at Washington Street! We'll tackle the big questions together as we learn what it means to be a Christian in a changing world. Do you struggle to reconcile questions of inequality, an image driven culture, and consumerism with your faith? The class will begin meeting on Sunday, February 4th at 10:00 AM in the Holroyd Prayer Room.

Coffee and snacks will be provided!

Announcements

MARY'S MAIDENS: All girls in first through sixth grades are invited to join us for the next meeting of Mary's Maidens, Sunday February 11. We will meet in the Disciple Conference Room from 4:00-5:30 PM. Friends are always welcome!

VALENTINES AND CHOCOLATES SALE: You have the opportunity to purchase one of a kind, hand-made Valentines and fairly traded, organic chocolates on Sunday, February 4 and Sunday, February 11. The girls in Mary's Maidens worked hard to create special cards for you to give to your Valentine. The fairly traded chocolates are purchased from Equal Exchange through small farmer co-ops in South America. All profits from Mary's Maiden's sale will be used to support service projects at home and abroad.



GIRL SCOUT COOKIES: It's Girl Scout Cookie Time! WSUMC Girl Scout Troop 776 is taking advance orders for Girl Scout Cookie sales, (\$4.00 per box). Please see one of the following Scouts to help them reach their Troop Sales Goal of 1000 boxes: Jude Langley, Emmi-Elizabeth Lee, Addy Lee, Lydia Conte, or Ella Blalock. Cookies will be delivered mid-February. The Girls will also conduct direct sales at church following both services on Sunday, February 25th and Sunday, March 4th. Your cookie purchase not only supports girls' success, but helps them find the G.I.R.L., (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader), within to do amazing things for themselves and for their communities. Thank You WSUMC for your continued support of these outstanding individuals!

BLANKET MINISTRY CONTINUES: Thanks to the generosity of Washington Streeters, we have collected and distributed 72 blankets/throws, 12 pairs of gloves, 9 scarves and 28 caps to our Soup Cellar patrons over the last two months. This outpouring of support has met a great need during the recent cold snap. The Active Faith Small Group will continue to collect these items over the next six weeks. Donations can be placed in the basket in the hallway.

Warmth
from the heart of
Washington Street

YOUTH CORNER

You can find registration links for both activities on our website. Have any questions? Ask Rev. Taylor! | taylor@wsmethodist.org |

ESCAPE ROOM!

Sunday, Feb 11th

Immediately following church on Sunday, Feb 11-- all youth are invited to join us for an Escape Room experience at Escape Plan Columbia (in Lexington). We will enjoy a quick lunch together and then get locked into a room where we have to solve clues within an hour to escape! Don't worry, if we don't solve the clues in time, they will still let us out. Let's have some fun team building and working together! Cost for this event is \$30 per youth, plus lunch money. Please note that the deadline to register for this event is Feb 1st so that we know how many Escape Rooms we need.

A WRINKLE IN TIME: MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, March 10th

Youth are invited to join us for a viewing of A Wrinkle in Time on Saturday, March 10th-- in the evening. Time and Theater location TBA. The themes in this movie are the battle between light and darkness and good versus evil. Cost for this event is \$12 per youth, plus additional snack money if needed. Please note that the deadline to register for this event is March 1st so we can purchase enough tickets!

Very often you hear the names of our growing staff and dedicated volunteers, but there's always an opportunity to get to know them better!

Getting to Know *Rick Frierson*

When Rick Frierson joined Washington Street in 1993, he took seriously the pledge to faithfully participate in the church's ministries. Two years later, when music director, Arletta Raley, asked if he would play the piano for Sunday worship, he took on the volunteer job and has been doing it ever since.

"It was a pledge of service," Rick said, and it also gave him an outlet for his musical training. "And, I like the choir members. It's rewarding to be able to work with such talented people." Rick said that after he started playing the piano at Washington Street, it was the first time the organ and piano were played at the same time.

Rick is a lifelong Methodist, who grew up in Trinity United Methodist Church, a big, downtown church in Sumter.

Rick started playing the piano in the third grade and played as a teenager for the annual youth musical at Trinity. He also played for a Baptist church in Sumter while he was in college, in order to earn spending money.

Rick played the clarinet, too, and was chosen for the National High School Honors Band. That group played an all-classical concert in Chicago after a week of rehearsals.

Rick earned a Bachelor of Music degree in piano from the University of South Carolina. But he also took pre-med courses, so he could become a doctor.

"I realized in high school it was going to be hard making a living in music," he said.

At a six-week summer program, sponsored by the Governor's School, Rick observed an autopsy.

"I thought it was fascinating to see how they determined how someone died," he said.

In college, Rick had to attend summer school to earn all the credits he needed for both majors. "They didn't overlap very much," he said wryly.

Rick graduated from the USC School of Medicine. He completed a four-year residency in psychiatry and a one-year fellowship in forensic psychiatry at the William S. Hall Psychiatric Institute. Forensic psychiatry is a field that deals with the interface between psychiatry and the legal system.

Among the tasks undertaken by forensic psychiatrists are evaluating the mental health of people charged with a crime and testifying in court, evaluating doctors and nurses to see if they still meet the qualifications to practice, evaluating patients to see if they are eligible for disability insurance and serving as an expert witness in malpractice cases.

But, Rick said, he spends most of his time teaching. Following his medical training, he worked for the state Department of Mental Health as a forensic psychiatrist, and in 2004 he was hired by the USC School of Medicine where he holds an endowed professorship and is vice chair for education in the Department of Neuropsychiatry and Behavioral Science.

Rick also directs of the Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship, the one-year program he completed as a student.

"I have two trainees a year," Rick said. "I teach them everything – lectures and supervision. A lot of different things. It's a very broad specialty."

Rick recently finished co-editing a "Textbook of Forensic Psychiatry," published by the American Psychiatric Association. Forty-five authors wrote 33 chapters, including one Rick wrote on "Psychiatry and the Death Penalty."

In 2016, Rick received the Seymour Pollack Award for distinguished contributions in education in forensic psychiatry. The award was given by the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law.

Rick likes to play tennis "when it's warm." In the past, he played league tennis, but now, he plays for fun.

"I don't want all the pressure of having to win every match," he said.

Rick has an older brother, Robert, who is an engineer, living in northeast Columbia. Susan Luthren, a member of Washington Street, is his significant other.

Asked to describe himself, Rick said he is hard-working, dedicated and has a sense of humor.

"I like to think I'm funny," he said. "Here, in the clinic, somebody says something that reminds me of a song, and I'll start singing it, and people start laughing."

Article by Fran Zupan

Gifts

IN MEMORY OF

RALPH BARRETT

to the Music Ministry
by Nelle E. Peterson

PRATT WILLIAM ELLINGTON

to WSUMC
by William & Debra Walsh

LYNN HENDRICKS

to WSUMC
by Frances T. Robertson

LELLA PFEIFFER

to WSUMC
by Susan C. Parker

JOAN SAMMONS

to the Music Ministry
by Rev. Parrish
to WSUMC
by Myrtella M. Cook

ARLENE SHULER

to the Soup Cellar
by David & Robin Anderson
by David Byrum
by Betty J. Martin
by John & Janet Tarrant
by Sarah B. Threath

IN HONOR OF

REV. PATRICIA PARRISH

to Minister's Discretionary Fund
by Nelle E. Peterson

SARA & ED FISHER

to the Foundation
by Nelle E. Peterson

THE MANY WAYS OF GIVING

“The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9: 6-7

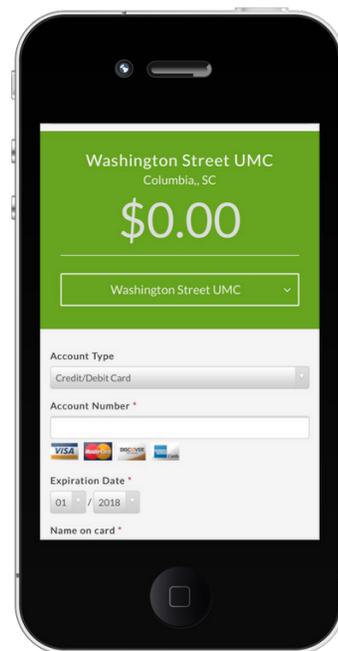
As members of the church, we are encouraged to give with cheerful hearts out of love and hope for the future, as we work to spread the word of God. While Sunday mornings during worship hours are the most common opportunities of returning the blessings given to you, we have also established several other ways of giving that are easily accessible, yet still maintain a sense of personal significance. Gifts can be made to Washington Street’s Operating Budget, which allows us to carry forth our mission daily, or to a specific mission/ministry at any time.

Online Giving

Available for members & guests, online giving can be accessed ANYWHERE at ANYTIME. Simply go to www.wsmethodist.org/giving/ to complete your gift in a matter of seconds. It’s available on desktop computers, tablets and smart phones. Members can also give through Engage Washington.

Text Giving

Are you on-the-go alot? Do you travel often over the weekends? Text Giving allows you the chance to give a gift by sending one simple text message. To give via text, send the word “Engage” to the number 732-56, and follow the steps sent back through the reply.



Automatic Bank Draft

Another way to establish reoccurring gifts without having to bring your check book is through Automatic Bank Draft! Automatic Bank Draft comes with a sense of simplicity, security, minimal distractions, and consistency. To download the form with further instructions, visit www.wsmethodist.org/giving/

Worship Offertory

Many people find it fulfilling to personally place their gift in the offertory plate on Sunday mornings. All of our worship opportunities are accompanied by the opportunity to give. Our traditional worship services are held every Sunday morning at both 9:00 & 11:00 AM.

Meet our Staff

SENIOR MINISTER

Reverend Patricia Parrish
pjparrish@umcsc.org

ASSOCIATE MINISTER FOR NURTURE AND DISCIPLESHIP DEVELOPMENT

Reverend Alston Lippert
aflippert@umcsc.org

ASSOCIATE MINISTER OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Reverend Taylor Pafford
taylor@wsmethodist.org

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Robbie Douglas

CDC DIRECTOR

Felicia Yockel

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Angela Powers

ORGANIST

Louis Shirer

PIANIST

Dr. Rick Frierson

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Abbie McKenzie

COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST

Lainey Wood

PROPERTY/MAINTENANCE

SUPERVISOR

Jerry Sumpter

SOUP CELLAR MANAGER

Sandy Endicott

SOUP CELLAR ASSISTANT

Eric Williams

CUSTODIAN

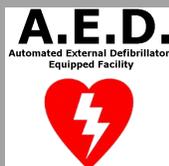
Michael Hutto

SOCIAL WORK INTERN

Meredith Transou

To learn more, visit our website.

www.wsmethodist.org



Christ Chapel Courtyard Engraved Bricks - 2017

The recently purchased engraved bricks were laid in the Christ Chapel Courtyard in December. They are always a special way to honor a graduate, friend, relative, or special occasion. It is also a beautiful and lasting remembrance of a loved one. We hope you'll visit the CC Courtyard soon to see all of the bricks given over the years, and especially the recent ones listed below.

In Honor Of
Maxine Sullivan
by Gloria & Jim Apple

In Memory Of
T. Burney Kinard Jr.
by Jean Kleitner

In Honor Of
Kirby Hunter Leitner Jr.
by Jean Kleitner

In Honor Of
Leslie Ann Leitner
by Jean Kleitner

In Honor Of
KH & JK Leitner
April 3, 1993
by Jean Kleitner

In Memory Of
Craig B. Thompson
by Elaine G. Moses

In Memory Of
Betty S. Moses
by Elaine G. Moses

In Memory Of
Dr. John E and Wilhelmina Holler
by Georgia Carnes

In Honor Of
Rev. William R. Childs
2010-2016

by the Washington Street Congregation

In Memory Of
R. Stafford Rivers
by Janelle Rivers

In Memory Of
Arthur B. Rivers
Ida Maie S. Rivers
by Janelle Rivers

In Memory Of
John McElyea
by Elaine Z. McElyea

Confirmation of
Ansley Jansen 2017
by Eric Belusko

In Honor Of
Tony Victoria Pantsari
by Pat Pantsari

In Honor Of
Alex Pantsari
09/13/2016
by Pat Pantsari

To Jim Mooney 1948
Thanks Always, Jan
by Jan Merchant

In Honor Of
William Lynn Shirley
by William Lynn Shirley





United Methodist Women

February Circle Meetings

- Mary's Maidens - Sunday, February 11th at 4:00 PM | Disciple Conference Room
- Circle 2 - Thursday, February 2nd at 5:30 PM | Wesley Room
- Circle 3 - Tuesday, February 13th at 10:30 AM | Wesley Room
- Circle 5 - Tuesday, February 6th at 7:00 PM | Home of Beverly McClanahan
- Circle 6 - Tuesday, February 6th at 10:00 AM | John Harper Classroom
- Circle 9 - Monday, February 5th at 5:45 PM | Holroyd Prayer Room

CALENDAR OF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday, January 21

- 9:00 AM Worship - Christ Chapel
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 10:00 AM Records & History Meeting - WR
- 10:00 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR
- 11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary
- 3:00 PM Girl Scouts - GSR
- 5:00 PM Active Faith Small Group - WR

Monday, January 22

- 5:30 PM Faith Formation Team Meeting - WR

Tuesday, January 23

- 7:00 AM BC BS Annual Meicaid Meeting - TH
- 8:00 AM Prayer Group - WR
- 12:00 PM Small Group (Lippert) - HPR
- 2:00 PM Staff Meeting - JHC
- 5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
- 5:30 PM Disciple 1 Study - JHC
- 6:30 PM Domestic Abuse Counseling Services - DCR

Wednesday, January 24

- 10:45 AM Prayer Group - HPR
- 3:00 PM Hispanic Family Tutoring Class - DCR
- 5:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting - JHC
- 5:30 PM Handbells Practice - 3rd Floor Choir Room
- 6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR

Thursday, January 25

- 9:30 AM CDC Devotions
- 12:30 PM PAUSE Preview Service - Tapp's Art Center
- 5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
- 5:30 PM Small Group (Matthews) - HPR
- 7:00 PM Palmetto Chamber Orchestra - LCR

Friday, January 26 | Saturday, January 27

- YOUTH at Revolution

Sunday, January 28

- YOUTH at Revolution
- 9:00 AM Worship - Christ Chapel
- 9:30 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary

Monday, January 29

- 6:00 PM Church Council - WR

Tuesday, January 30

- 8:00 AM Prayer Group - WR
- 12:00 PM Small Group (Lippert) - HPR
- 5:30 PM Disciple 1 Study - JHC
- 5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
- 6:30 PM Domestic Abuse Counseling Services - DCR

Wednesday, January 31

- 10:45 AM Prayer Group - HPR
- 3:00 PM Hispanic Family Tutoring Class - DC
- 5:30 PM Handbells Practice - 3rd Floor Choir Room
- 6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR

Thursday, February 1

- 9:30 AM CDC Devotions - Christ Chapel
- 5:30 PM Circle 2 - WR
- 5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
- 5:30 PM Small Group (Matthews) - TBD
- 7:00 PM Palmetto Chamber Orchestra - LCR

Friday, February 2

- No Activities Scheduled

Saturday, February 3

- No Activities Scheduled

JHC - John Harper Classroom

TH - Threath Hall

YR - Youth Room

LCR - Leavitt Choir Room

DCR - Disciple Conference Room

WR - Wesley Room

HPR - Holroyd Prayer Room

GSR - Girl Scout Room