

THE CONNECTION

Digital Edition | March 18, 2021

A Time of Giving Back at WSUMC

Spring seems to have sprung, and there seems to be a light at the end of the tunnel in regards to COVID-19. God is good!

WSUMC members continue to give back to our community. Three groups are soliciting donations to help several different groups who are in need.

The Missions Team is currently asking for donations of healthy snacks for the students and teachers at Alcorn Middle School. Suggested items include granola bars, individual packets of nuts, cereal, fruit, protein shakes, shelf-stable milk, crackers with cheese, and Powerade. These items will be collected through April 30.

We know you've got some of those clothes you outgrew during the pandemic, so now is the time to do some spring cleaning and bring those gently used clothes for the Active Faith PTSA First Year Teachers Closet (to benefit Alcorn Middle School teachers). Both men's and women's clothing are needed. There is a special request for men's pants 30-32; coats 38-40; and shirts (small; 15 or 15 1/2). You may drop your donation off at the Traxler classroom on the 2nd floor of the church. The drive will continue through April 30.



The Sunday Dinner Team is also collecting prepackaged food items for the attendees of the upcoming Sunday "Brunch" on the Grounds. Traditionally known as Sunday Dinner, the March event will be a brunch held to feed those who are experiencing food insecurity in our community. The event will be held from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm on Sunday, March 28 in the parking lot of the church. Two minority-owned businesses will be serving our guests. The Coffee Queen (Denean Ambersley) will bring her food truck and will serve drinks and pastries, and Kiki's Chicken & Waffles will bring their truck and will be serving their signature menu item.

We are also asking for donations of snack items for our guests. We ask that you bring individually wrapped snack items, pop-top prepared foods, and other non-perishable food that does not require cooking to the church no later than March 26. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please visit the website at wsmethodist.org/brunch/



Gender Revolution: A Journey with Katie Couric

An online discussion
March 30, 2021
6:30-7:30 pm | Zoom
email Jim Lane to participate
jlane32@gmail.com
Watch the series online free
on Facebook and YouTube!

Palm Sunday Parade! Attention Parents!

Bring your children to the Outdoor Service this Sunday and take part in the filming of the Palm Parade to be placed in the Palm Sunday digital worship online on the 28th.

Terence Goodwin, Director of Children and Family Ministries will be filming the children with their palms (supplied) immediately following the 3:00 pm service. Questions? Contact tgoodwin@wsmethodist.org



As COVID 19 continues in our lives, we rejoice in our ability to gather and study together online and through conference calls. We hope that very soon we will be able to gather together in our normal classrooms at the church, until then...we'll see you online!

• **The Dawsey Class** is continuing our study of *Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi* by Amy Jill Levine. On March 21, John Evans will be presenting the Preface and the Introduction chapter for our new book, *Faith After Doubt: Why Your Beliefs Stopped Working and What to Do About It*, written by Brian McLaren. The class meets by FreeConferenceCall.com. Class members should call in before 9:30 a.m., but not before 9:15 a.m. The call-in number is (425) 436-6321. The access code is 326159#.

• **The Grace Class:** will continue its discussion of the series *Resurrection Now* by Richard Rohr. Upcoming sessions: 3/21: "Jesus Hermeneutic", 3/28: "Anti-Septic Christianity" The class meets on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am via Zoom. All are welcome, and if interested in joining us, contact Jim Lane at jlane@columbiasc.edu for the link.

• **The Joy Class** is enjoying our weekly virtual gathering where various members lead the lessons. We are focusing on exploring where 2021 is calling us to grow and serve. All are invited and welcome to join us as we support each other on our journeys. If you would like to join us, please contact Lee Haynes at lelandhaynesjr@gmail.com or Sylvia Stevens at sylviasaundersstevens@gmail.com for an invitation.

• **Open Door Class** will study sentences that lead to wisdom. All are welcome to join. For Zoom dial-in information, please reach out to Ann Jessup at jessup.ann@gmail.com.

• **YASS, John Harper, and Paul Harmon Class** will discuss scripture passages that pertain to Lent. All are welcome. For information, or to get a Zoom invitation, email Reverend Alston at aflippert@umcsc.org.

• **WSUMC Youth Class:** will continue to study passages related to Lent. To participate, please email Mackin Wall at mackin@wsmethodist.org.

Lenten Study Roll Down Justice

Sacred Songs & Social Justice
A study of the music of Mark Miller

Wednesdays thru March 31
Noon | Zoom
Email aflippert@umcsc.org to register

This Zoom discussion will be recorded.



"Brunch" on the Grounds Announced

The Sunday Dinner Mission team of Washington Street United Methodist Church (WSUMC) will hold a socially-distanced, Sunday "Brunch" on the Grounds on Sunday, March 28 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in the parking lot of the church. A pre-prepared, pre-packed take-away (or sit-down) brunch will be served to any in need in our community. Two popular, minority-owned businesses will bring their food trucks to the church and will be serving the meal. The Coffee Queen (Denean Ambersley), and Kiki's Chicken & Waffles have partnered with WSUMC in this endeavor.

Volunteers from WSUMC, Heyward Street UMC, along with several community volunteers will help distribute the meals in a responsible, socially-distanced manner. Tables will be set up for those who wish to sit and eat, and these tables will be distanced at least 6 ft apart. Masks and social distancing will be required by all in attendance. CAN Community Health, a nonprofit agency that provides HIV and Hepatitis C prevention and treatment to under-served populations will be on hand to provide testing and blood pressure screening.

This mission, normally known in the community as the

Sunday Dinner, is an outreach of the Sunday Dinner Mission Team of WSUMC. The outbreak of COVID-19 has caused the team to look

at a different way of focusing on the needs of those experiencing hard times and homelessness. Normally, all participants, volunteers, and guests, would come together for a meal served family-style at tables in the church's Threatt Hall. With COVID-19 still a threat to our community, the team recognized the need to rethink its structure to safely continue its mission. Thanks to a discretionary grant from Richland County, WSUMC will be able to continue its mission throughout 2021. WSUMC hopes that in the near future they can return to their original, in-person Sunday Dinners. The team plans to hold several other "Dinners" in 2021. To volunteer, please visit the website at: wsmethodist.org/brunch/



Easter Hydrangea Orders!

This year we will sell a limited number of hydrangeas for use with our virtual and outside Easter services. The plants are \$30 and can be purchased by completing the form below and mailing it along with payment to:

Hydrangeas
1401 Washington St.
Columbia, SC 29201

The plants will be available for pick-up immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service. (Or, you can donate your hydrangea to the church to complete our Marion Street plantings.) Once we reach our limit of 30 plants, we will announce the suspension of sales.

TO ORDER IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF

Complete the form, and check the correct box below in regards to your payment method.

Check is enclosed Please charge my Credit Card @ (\$30 each)

CC#: _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVV (3-digit code) _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Given By: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

I will pickup this plant after the Outdoor Easter service on April 4 at 11:00 am in the parking lot of the church. OR

I donate this plant to the Church.

TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION IN HONOR OR MEMORY

In lieu of a hydrangea, I would like to make the following memorial/honorarium at a suggested amount of \$10 each. (These will be printed in *The Connection* along with the hydrangea donations.)

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Please submit form no later than Friday, March 26, 2021

Gifts



IN MEMORY OF DON FOWLER
to WSUMC

Given by Bob & Joan Beamer

IN HONOR OF LYNN SHIRLEY
to WSUMC

Susan James

IN MEMORY OF MR. HERB ALLEN
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Kay Jordan

IN MEMORY OF MR. TED WALTER, JR.
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Kay Jordan

IN MEMORY OF MRS. MARY FRANCES BARBER
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Kay Jordan

IN MEMORY OF MRS. ANNE WHITTLE
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Kay Jordan

IN MEMORY OF MRS. LOU BAUGHMAN
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Kay Jordan

IN MEMORY OF MRS. CAROLYN REDD
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Kay Jordan

Prayer List

Pete Bailey	Lisa Johnson
Martha Brooker	Rev. Judy King
Emily Caskey	Beverly McClanahan
Sally Christian	Angela Powers
Mickey Epting	Rick Rowe
Charles Garren	Boyd Saunders
Bud Harrelson	Nan Self
Karen Horne	Sarah Threatt
Geneva Hutchinson	Our homebound

WSUMC Online Views/FB Reach & Outdoor Attendance & Outdoor Service Attendance

as of 3/14/21

*Numbers in parenthesis reflect last reported number

Date	Digital Service	Children's Moments*	K-5 Sunday School*
2/7	109 (104)	80 (75)	92 (86)
2/14	146 (137)	96	134 (121)
2/17 (Ash Wednesday)	30		
2/21	84	80 (75)	14
2/28	82	92 (86)	22
3/7	91 (76)	84	105
3/14	79	76	18

*now includes Facebook watches

DIGITAL SERVICES FACEBOOK REACH (Seen by)

2/7: 67; 2/14: 70; 2/21: 55; 2/28: 19; 3/7: 45; 3/14: 49

OUTDOOR ATTENDANCE (since 01/01/21)

1/10: 41; 1/24: 40; 2/7: 46; 2/21: 44; 3/7: 50

OUTDOOR SERVICES ONLINE VIEWS (since 01/01/21)

1/10: 67 (65); 1/24: 33 (28); 2/7: 16 (17); 2/21: 19; 3/7: 76

INCOME TO DATE (3/3/21)

Church \$11,723 Soup Cellar \$245 Foundation \$1000