



THE CONNECTION

August 18-Sept. 1, 2019

1401 Washington Street | Columbia, SC 29201 | wsmethodist.org | 803-256-2417

Come Together...

In Service



AUGUST 18, 2019 | ALDERSGATE SPECIAL NEEDS SUNDAY

feat. Chris Lee, Percussion



In Fellowship

AUGUST 25, 2019 | COME TOGETHER AS A CONGREGATION

feat. The Dick Goodwin Quintet

CONCLUDING WITH A CHURCH-WIDE POTLUCK PICNIC | SUNDAY, AUG. 25 | 3:00-6:00

SESQUICENTENNIAL STATE PARK | SHELTER 5

August "Come Together" Series Drawing to a Close

For the last two weeks, the congregation at WSUMC has engaged in a series of services based on the theme "Come Together." So much has happened to bring us together in the past few weeks as we strive to live out John Wesley's famous quote:

"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can."

WSUMC has had a very busy and successful summer with our missions. Salkehatchie saw a number of individuals, both young and old, volunteer to help build homes for those in need; we had a very successful VBS with children learning and exploring the Holy Spirit through music and activity; Music Mania brought many together through the beauty of music, and brought media attention to the good we do here at Washington Street. WSUMC's mission to Ecuador provided a health clinic for the children, pastoral visits, painting a classroom, refurbishing the playground equipment, two Vacation Bible Schools, a celebratory worship service on Sunday, some foundation digging, baking, knitting, and sharing in God's work together.

We hosted a very successful Sunday Dinner in July feeding nearly 100 individuals in need, again making local news; our Church council unanimously voted for WSUMC to be a part of the Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN); we have joined together in Holy Communion when we "Came to the Table" and Reaffirmed our Faith when we "Came to the Water". This week, we "Come Together in Service" as we celebrate the success of the Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry and their families. And next week, as we "Come Together in Fellowship" with a lovely reception for Angela Powers as she follows her path to Charleston, and an end-of-the-summer gathering at our church-wide, potluck picnic at Sesquicentennial State Park.

We have been blessed with special guests, Chris Lee who continues to grace us with his talent, and with Dick Goodwin and his Trio, and with the musical gifts of our wonderful choir and instrumentalists.

We hope that we can all continue to "Come Together" and spread the word that "We welcome EVERYONE. No exceptions. No exclusions. ✨



Praying Across Generations

Once again, Washington Street UMC is excited to announce the Praying Across Generations (PAG) Prayer Project. This is an opportunity for adult volunteers to pray for our middle and high school students. Each volunteer will be assigned a youth for the 2019-2020 school year. The adult will commit to pray for the youth daily and remember him/her on holidays, birthdays and other special occasions. The exciting part is that the youth will not know who their adult is

until the "Big Reveal" party in May 2020!

Sign ups for adult volunteers and youth interested in participating in the PAG Prayer Project will be held before and after the 11:00 am worship service on Sunday, August 18.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the PAG Coordinators: Susan Caskey (turnitbluesue@hotmail.com, 803-463-6138) or Beth Matthews (mtthws@msn.com, 803-260-6214). ✨

PRAYGROUND

Encourage your children to take part in "Prayground" in front of the sanctuary during Children's Moments this month where they can enjoy some fun, but quiet activities during the service.



Upcoming Youth Events

August 18:

Ice Cream Social

Baked Bear | 5 Points | 4PM

Save the date to join us at Baked Bear for a fun ice cream social and hang out to welcome our incoming 7th graders. Bring money for your ice cream treat!

August 25:

Church-Wide Potluck Picnic Sesquicentennial Park | 3-6PM

Save the date to join our whole church family at the park for a picnic, fellowship, and fun!

October 6:

Christ & Culture

12PM-1:30PM

Save the date to join Rev. Taylor for lunch and a conversation about what's going on in the world and how it intersects with life as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

November 1-3:

Fall "Staycation" Discipleship Retreat

Save the weekend for a "staycation" style retreat featuring a guest speaker and some good local fun and fellowship!

November 17:

Christ & Culture

12PM-1:30PM

Save the date to join Rev. Taylor for lunch and a conversation about what's going on in the world and how it intersects with life as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

January 17-20:

Winter Ski Retreat at Lake Junaluska

Mark your calendar for a MLK weekend ski retreat!

We don't want you to miss out!

YOUTH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

September 22:

Sunday Dinner Volunteering

3PM-6PM

Save the date to volunteer with our congregation as we serve and eat alongside friends and guests here at WSUMC.

October 20:

Fall Festival Volunteering

Be a part of all of the fun! Help with games and so much more!

October 20:

FALL FUNDRAISER

A fundraiser for the upcoming Winter Retreat at Lake Junaluska (in conjunction with the Fall Festival)

December 15:

Christmas Nativity Volunteering

9AM-12:30PM

Save the morning to assist as directors, stage managers, costumers, and more for the annual Children's nativity!

Getting to Know Brian Murrell

By Fran Zupan

We are all born creative, but at some point someone shoots down an idea and then we begin to filter our creative thoughts in order to conform and be liked.

That's the assessment of Brian Murrell, creative director and partner at the advertising company ADCO and a member of Washington Street.

Brian is responsible for rebranding Richland Library and creating a brand or identity for our church.

He tells the story of a friend who is a kindergarten teacher and how creative children are. She told her class they were going to talk about food groups. "Does anyone know where pork comes from?" she asked. One excited little boy raised his hand.

"Pork comes from pork-upines," he said. The teacher, who thought that was a creative answer, replied, "Pork comes from pigs."

"I've got new shoes from Pig 'N' Pay," a little girl said. "Has anyone had lamb?" the teacher asked. "I just had lama beans," another student said.

"In brainstorming for projects, the creative team wants to build on ideas, rather than discarding them," Brian said. "We let everything have merit initially. Everything is worth hearing and saying. The more perspectives you have, the more solutions you'll have" to sort through.

With the changes in libraries over the past decade, the library wanted to be seen "as not your mother's or

grandmother's library," Brian said. The blue icon could be a book or an iPad or a thought box.

"We wanted people to see different things in it," Brian said. Libraries are more than just books, and they are free, he said, so the tagline became "access freely." The name also was modernized from Richland County Public Library to Richland Library.

The library used the new brand on everything, including library cards, signage and vans. (To see the vans, go to adcoideas.com/portfolio).

Brian also created the "Famously Hot" brand for Columbia.

Brian did the work for the church when he was chairman of the church's Communications Committee. That work was his gift to the church.

Brian wanted the brand icon to have a historic, but fresh appeal

He settled on one of the church's spires inside a quatrefoil. The colors used are found in the church, gold in the large, stained-glass window behind the choir and blue in the ceilings of the choir loft and narthex.

The quatrefoil motif is used on the bell tower, on the pulpit and on the large chairs on either side of the table behind the altar rail.

Brian grew up in North Augusta where his family attended Langley United Methodist Church.

He majored in graphic design at USC, graduating in 1984. He also played in the

drumline of the Carolina band and worked part time for the band during football season for 12 years after he graduated. For four years, he was band manager, followed by eight years as public information director.

"I named the band the Mighty Sound of the Southeast when we joined the Southeastern Conference," he said. Brian worked for a small ad company and did free-lance graphic design until he started ADCO with two partners in 1990.

Brian was attending Shandon Baptist Church. During a sermon, Pastor Dick Lincoln was talking about the uniqueness of each person — "Jesus said, even the hairs on your head are numbered. We are all unique. And that's on purpose. God doesn't make mistakes."

The sermon spoke to Brian. It was then that Brian, who was 34, realized he needed to be true to himself, and to fully accept himself as he was, a normal person who just happened to be gay.

It was painful because he had to give up some friends who would not be accepting, and he also worried about his business. But at the same time, it was freeing and transformative to stop living a life in fear of rejection and just be himself.

Brian met his partner Robert Bowers soon after.

"When we first met for lunch in Five Points, it was life-changing to meet someone just like me," Brian said.

Robert is from Fairfax, South Carolina, and



Washington Street's senior minister the Rev. Dr. Mike Alexander had been a minister in his home town.

After having lunch with Mike, Brian decided that Washington Street fulfilled the United Methodist brand promise: Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors. After he and Robert joined the church in 2001, Brian helped start the Grace Class, as a safe, accepting space for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people.

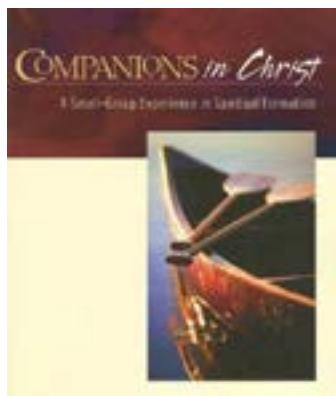
Brian said what he loves about Washington Street is that it is a place where God takes you on a spiritual journey, and no one is less-than because their path doesn't match yours.

"That's our strength and we need to capitalize on that," he said. "People are looking for a faith-based community where they can find their own way, where uniqueness is important, where diversity is important and where social justice is important." ✿

New Study Group Offered!

Were you intrigued by the discernment sessions this summer and being in a group where you could feel the Holy Spirit at work? If so, or if that sounds interesting to you, we would like to invite you to a unique opportunity for experiencing intimacy with God. After all, we all yearn for a deeper relationship with Christ. Reverend Alston Lippert is offering to lead interested individuals in this journey.

Companions in Christ is a spiritual formation group that will provide ways and paths for you to grow closer to God. It is a 28-week journey of five parts that helps participants deepen their relationship with God. The five parts are:



- *Embracing the Journey: The way of Christ*

An exploration of spiritual formation as a journey toward wholeness and holiness, individually and in community, through the grace of God.

- *Feeding on the Word: The mind of Christ*

An introduction to several ways of meditating and praying with scripture.

- *Deepening our Prayer: The heart of Christ*

A guided experience of various classic forms and styles of prayer.

- *Responding to Our Call: The work of Christ*

A presentation of gifts and call, giving ourselves to God in willing obedience, and receiving the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit.

- *Exploring Spiritual Guidance: The Spirit of Christ*

An overview of different ways of giving and receiving spiritual guidance from one-on-one relationships with a spiritual guide, to spiritual growth groups, to guidance in their faith community or congregational life.

If you are interested in participating or would like more information, please email Alston (allippert@umcsc.org) or call her at 960-0700 no later than September 1.

Watch for more study groups to be announced soon!

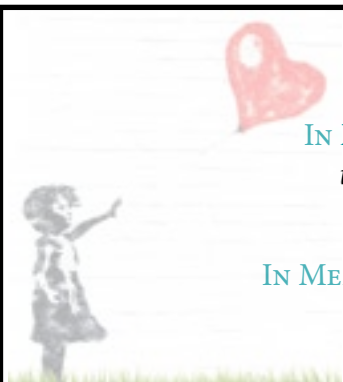


THE DAWSEY CLASS: This Sunday, the Rev. Tom Wall will lead a discussion of Chapter 7, “The Shadow-Bearers,” in *Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others* by Barbara Brown Taylor. On August 25, the Rev. Joe Slade will teach Chapter 8, “Failing Christianity.”

THE PAUL HARMON CLASS: The Paul Harmon Class is a bible study group that has been blessed to have retired Methodist minister Don Britt teaching lessons on the minor prophets. He will continue the study Sept. 8-Oct. 20, then will teach Advent lessons based on the prophet Isaiah during the month of December. Visitors are welcome to join the class to hear this marvelous teacher!

THE OPEN DOOR CLASS is continuing its tour through Old Testament Stories from the Backside. On August 18 and 25, we will be looking at two lesser known stories about king David. Join us to delve into these stories and learn what these messages have for our daily lives.

THE JOY CLASS AND THE GRACE CLASS will continue its 7-session study of *Confronting the Controversies* by Adam Hamilton. The August 18 session will cover abortion; and the final session on August 25 will cover homosexuality. Please feel free to join us for one or more of these weeks. Our goal is to learn how to become better listeners and to learn tools to find common ground on tough issues while showing the love of Christ to all. *Confronting the Controversies* is a group study of “tough issues” based on Adam Hamilton’s sermons on these topics.



Gifts

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT P. KING
to Washington Street UMC
Circle 6

IN MEMORY OF MARY ALICE KINNETT
WSUMC Foundation
Rev. Paul & Jan Harmon



YOU ARE INVITED TO
"COME TOGETHER" FOR A

Church-Wide Potluck Picnic!

AUGUST 25, 2019
3:00-6:00 PM

SESQUICENTENNIAL STATE PARK
9564 TWO NOTCH RD. | SHELTER 5

Bring a meat, side and salad or dessert!
Food | Fun & Games | Fellowship
DRINKS & PAPER GOODS PROVIDED



Prayer Walk

The Faith Formation Team has developed a self-guided prayer walk designed to allow groups or individuals to give thanks and pray for our staff, laity, ministries and worship. We encourage individuals, Sunday School classes, circles, and other groups to take a walk, stop at each sign, meditate on the scriptures, and pray for our church. Guides are located under the monitor outside Christ Chapel and in the Church office.

Everyone is invited to attend!

DAYTRIPPERS

SEPTEMBER 9 | JUNIPER RESTAURANT | 10:45 AM *
RIDGE SPRING, SC | SIGN UP BY SEPT. 5

OCTOBER 14 | GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH | 10:45 AM *
DOWNTOWN | SIGN UP BY OCT. 3

NOVEMBER 11 | WHITEWATER FALLS & THE JUNCTION | 9:00 AM *
GOWANSVILLE, SC | SIGN UP BY NOV. 7

DECEMBER 9: CHRISTMAS LUNCH | 12:00 PM
WASHINGTON STREET UMC | SIGN UP BY DEC. 5

Questions? Contact Rev. Lippert at alipperteumcsc.org

Indicates arrival time at WSUMC to carpool!



ACOLYTE TRAINING

Acolytes bring the light of Christ's spirit into the worship service. Children who are rising 4th through 8th grades are eligible to serve as acolytes. Training for prospective acolytes will be held in the coming weeks through July. Please contact Susan Brown at 803-422-9394 or by email at sbrown13@sc.rr.com if your child would like to serve.



Dear Congregation,

Within the next few weeks, Davis and I will be moving to the Charleston area. I will begin serving as Associate Director of Music at John Wesley UMC in September. The primary reason for our move is to be close to our son and his young family. With five children, extra hands are always needed and appreciated. We are excited to begin this new chapter as active grandparents. However, we are truly grateful for our time as part of the Washington Street family. Being Director of Music has been a joy and privilege for me. I have great affection for the church, its staff and members. I will miss everything that makes WSUMC an inspiring place to be. Traditional music and worship are highly valued here and that is something very special. The congregation also takes seriously the call to share God's love within our congregation, our community and beyond. You are a beacon of hope for the homeless and a welcoming space for musicians and musical ensembles. Your hospitality is appreciated by many. I am especially grateful for our fine musicians; Louis, Rick, the choir members, children and instrumentalists who have become dear friends and family. I treasure my time in leading them. These musicians are talented, exceptional people and a blessing each and every week. The tradition of fine music at Washington Street was established before my tenure. Since 2011, I was privileged to strive to build upon the legacy of excellence. I am praying that God has the perfect plan and just the right person to lead the Music Ministry into the future. May God richly bless Washington Street United Methodist Church and all of its endeavors.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Angela Powers, Director of Music

Our Leadership

The Reverend Patricia Parrish,
Senior Pastor

The Reverend Alston Lippert,
Associate Minister for Nurture
and Discipleship Development

The Reverend Taylor Pafford,
Associate Minister for Children
and Family Ministries

Angela Powers, Director of Music

Louis Shirer, Organist

Dr. Richard Frierson, Pianist

Robbie Douglas, Church Business
Administrator

Abbie McKenzie, Church Secretary/
Administrative Assistant

Jerry Sumpter, Property/
Maintenance Supervisor

Felicia Yockel, Director of Child
Development Center

Jane Peterson, Communications
Specialist

Terrence Chisholm, Soup Cellar
Manager

Coming Up at Washington Street

Sunday, August 18 (NO 9:00 AM SERVICE)

Aldersgate Special Needs Sunday

9:45 am	Sunday School	Campus-wide
11:00 am	"Come Together" <i>Come in Service</i>	Sanctuary
12:00 pm	Private Luncheon hosted by Active Faith	Threatt Hall
4:00 pm	Youth Ice Cream Social	Baked Bear, 5 Points

Monday, August 19

1:30	NA Meeting	Soup Cellar
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Tuesday, August 20

8:00 am	Prayer Group	Wesley Room
1:30 pm	NA Meeting	Soup Cellar
5:30 pm	Firm It Up	Youth Room
6:00 pm	POMC	Grace Class
6:30 pm	DACS	Conference Room

Wednesday, August 21

10:45 am	Prayer Group	Holroyd Room
1:30 pm	NA Meeting	Soup Cellar

Thursday, August 22

9:30 am	CDC Devotions	Chapel
1:30 pm	NA Meeting	Soup Cellar

Friday, August 23

1:30 pm	NA Meeting	Soup Cellar
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Saturday, August 24

3:00 pm	Organ Practice	Sanctuary/Choir Room
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Sunday, August 25 (NO 9:00 AM SERVICE)

9:45 am	Sunday School	Campus-wide
11:00 am	"Come Together" <i>Come In Fellowship</i>	Sanctuary
12:00	Reception for Angela Powers	Wesley Room
3:00 pm	Potluck Picnic	Sesquicentennial State Park

Monday, August 26

1:30 pm	NA Meeting	Soup Cellar
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Tuesday, August 27

1:30 pm	NA Meeting	Soup Cellar
5:30 pm	Firm It Up	Youth Room
6:30 pm	DACS	Conference Room

Wednesday, August 28

10:45 am	Prayer Group	Holroyd Room
10:45 am	Prayer Team Meeting	Wesley Room
1:30 pm	NA Meeting	Soup Cellar

Thursday, August 29

9:30 am	CDC Devotions	Chapel
1:30 pm	NA Meeting	Soup Cellar

Friday, August 30

1:30 pm	NA Meeting	Soup Cellar
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Saturday, August 31

3:00 pm	Organ Practice	Sanctuary/Choir Room
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SAVE THE DATES!

Monday, September 2 | Labor Day | Church Office/CDC/Soup Cellar Closed

Charles Pfeiffer Circle, Circle #5 | Tuesday, Sept. 3 | 7:00 pm | Home of Mary Lide

Mary's Maidens | Sunday, Sept. 8 | 4:00-5:30 pm | Disciple Conference Room

All girls in first-sixth grades are invited to join us as we help others.