



# United Methodist Women

## March Circle Meetings

**Mary's Maidens:** Sunday, March 10th | 4:00 - 5:30 PM Disciple Conference Room

*\*For girls 1st - 6th grades, friends are always welcome.\**

**Circle 2:** Thursday, March 7th | 5:30 - 6:30 PM Wesley Room

**Circle 3:** Tuesday, March 12th | 10:30 - 11:30 AM Wesley Room

**Circle 5:** Tuesday, March 5th | 7:00 - 8:00 PM at the Home of Heidi Conte

**Circle 6:** Tuesday, January 8th | 10:00 - 11:00 AM John Harper Classroom

**Circle 9:** TBD

## CALENDAR OF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

### Sunday, March 3

9:00 AM Worship and Communion - Chapel  
9:30 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary  
3:00 PM Girl Scouts Troop #776 - GSR

### Monday, March 4

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC  
5:30 PM Board of Trustees Meeting - JHC

### Tuesday, March 5

8:00 AM Prayer Group - WR  
10:00 AM Circle 6 - JHC  
1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC  
5:00 PM Raggio Report Committee Meeting - WR  
5:00 PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - TH  
5:30 PM She Sings (Columbia Women's Choir) - LCR  
5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR  
6:00 PM Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting - JHC  
6:00 PM Sunday Dinner Planning Meeting - WR  
6:30 PM Domestic Abuse Counseling Services - DCR  
6:30 PM Palmetto Mastersingers - Chapel  
7:00 PM Circle 5 - Home of Heidi Conte

### Wednesday, March 6 - Ash Wednesday

10:45 AM Prayer Group - HPR  
11:45 AM Lenten Lunch - TH  
12:30 PM Lenten Worship (Imposition of Ashes) - Chapel  
1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC  
3:30 PM Hispanic Families Tutoring Class - 2nd Floor Classrooms  
5:30 PM CDC Board Meeting - JHC  
6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR

### Thursday, March 7

9:30 AM CDC Devotions - Chapel  
11:45 AM Conversation Matters - The Grand on Main  
1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC  
5:30 PM Circle 2 - WR  
5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR  
6:00 PM In-Home Small Group - Home of Beth Matthews  
7:00 PM Palmetto Chamber Orchestra - LCR

### Friday, March 8

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC

### Saturday, March 9

10:00 AM Mulch-O-Rama - CDC Playground

### Sunday, March 10

9:00 AM Worship - Chapel  
9:30 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary  
4:00 PM Mary's Maidens - DCR

### Monday, March 11

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC  
2:00 PM Staff Meeting - JHC  
5:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting - JHC  
6:30 PM Report from the General Conference - Chapel

### Tuesday, March 12

8:00 AM Prayer Group - WR  
10:30 AM Circle 3 - WR  
1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC  
4:00 PM FCGV - WR  
5:30 PM AVP - WR  
5:30 PM She Sings (Columbia Women's Choir) - LCR  
5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR  
6:00 PM FACE Leaders Team Meeting - JHC  
6:30 PM Domestic Abuse Counseling Services - DCR  
6:30 PM Palmetto Mastersingers - Chapel

### Wednesday, March 13

11:45 AM Lenten Lunch - TH  
12:30 PM Lenten Worship - Chapel  
1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC  
3:30 PM Hispanic Families Tutoring Class - 2nd Floor  
5:30 PM Neighbor to Neighbor (Fellowship Supper) - TH  
6:30 PM Neighbor to Neighbor (Program) - Chapel  
6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR

### Thursday, March 14

9:30 AM CDC Devotions - Chapel  
11:45 AM Conversation Matters - The Grand on Main  
1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC  
5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR  
6:00 PM In-Home Small Group - Home of Beth Matthews  
7:00 PM Palmetto Chamber Orchestra - LCR

### Friday, March 15

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC

### Saturday, March 16

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

SC - Soup Cellar



# THE CONNECTION

March 3, 2019

1401 Washington Street - Columbia, SC - 29201

## A Letter from the Pastor

Dear members and friends:

I am currently in Charleston for my daughter's wedding and celebrating her marriage. Otherwise I would be with you to share in these moments. These are moments that are painful for many of our members who have labored for the full inclusion of LGBTQIA individuals. I am in pain for the denomination that nurtured me from the waters of baptism through the gift of ordination and has enabled me to serve 37 years in The South Carolina Conference. With the passing of The Traditional Plan at the Called Session of The General Conference, our current Discipline remains unchanged in regards to the "practice of homosexuality" and the performance of same sex marriages by our clergy or on our campuses, and the ordination of homosexually oriented individuals.

When the 2016 General Conference called for the Bishops to develop a plan for a Way Forward, I had many hopes. I hoped that we would find a way forward in unity. I hoped that our denomination would engage in Holy Conferencing. Instead, it appeared we were trapped in a legislative process that was harmful to everyone and ultimately did not serve Christ well.

I had hoped that our denomination would learn to live beyond the ink. Like all United Methodists, I hold that the scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the sufficient rule for faith and practice. I honor, revere, and hold scripture to be the living word of God through which God continues to speak to God's people. God has spoken through scripture to all of us in every generation, but it's power is not in the ink on the page but in the Holy Spirit who gives it life and the Word of God who was with God in the beginning, creating all that exists and who is still making us and all creation new.

I had hoped that our denomination would decide to live beyond the ink. I think that within our congregation, we have decided to honor and value everyone's interpretation of Scripture, even if it is different from our own. I certainly want to learn how different people think and interpret scripture because I believe that God is still speaking to us today. I believe that God is still teaching us how to love one another as Christ has loved us and that God is still speaking to us about how to be followers of Jesus Christ in the context of our 21st century culture. I know that I am still learning and growing as a disciple of Jesus Christ. I think that here within our congregation, we are learning what it means to live beyond the ink and to embody the teachings of Jesus. Our **Core Values** are a significant reflection of who we are and who we are striving to be:

- a strong faith demonstrated by mission and service;
- our love for one another and a deep sense of church community;
- meaningful sermons and an inspirational ministry of sacred music;
- an historic connection with the local community;
- faith, power, and wisdom emerging from theological study; and
- an openness to diversity and inclusion as expressed in United Methodism's "open hearts, open doors, open minds" credo.

Our **Identity Statement** confirms that we have learned to live beyond the ink on the pages of *The Book of Discipline*. While no one has violated *The Book of Discipline*, we have decided to be inclusive of all people and to welcome every child of God's creation into the Body of Christ created by the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost: *The congregation of WSUMC praises and serves God from the heart of the city in ways which reach our neighbors near and far. We welcome all who seek the love and mercy of Christ regardless of race, creed, age, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic status. We honor traditions as rooted in our history, our expression of worship, and our respect for theological curiosity. We nonetheless see vital change and ongoing renewal as essential for spiritual growth.*

One dear member emailed the clergy after the General Conference passed the Traditional Plan. She asked, "What do we do now to stay true to our beliefs and to ease the pain caused to our brothers and sisters in Christ?" I think that is the question on many hearts.

My first response is to say that we continue to live beyond the ink. We remember who we are. We are the unique children of God whose faith is grounded in Jesus Christ; who live in hope and expectation for the coming Reign of God; we seek to love one another as Christ has loved us - with mercy, grace, compassion and forgiveness; and we continue in our mission: *With hearts full of love the mission of Washington Street UMC is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world from the heart of the city throughout the world.*

On March 11th at 6:30 PM, our congregation will come together to receive a report on the action of The General Conference. What I hope is that I can provide the final version of the Traditional Plan that passed. Then we will break into small groups so that we can share in Holy Conferencing, love one another, encourage one another, and learn from one another. Until then, please know that your pastors are available to speak with you about this and all matters of faith. I love who we are and where we are in this journey of faith: We are Washington Street - we live beyond the ink!

In God's grace and love,  
Pastor Patricia

# EASTER

## AT WASHINGTON STREET

Join us in worship and fellowship as we prepare our hearts and minds this Lenten and Easter season.

### Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 6th  
Imposition of the Ashes  
12:30 PM (Christ Chapel)

### Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 14th  
Traditional Worship  
9:00 and 11:00 AM (Sanctuary)

### Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 18th  
Service of Communion  
7:00 PM (Christ Chapel)

### Good Friday

Friday, April 19th  
Chapel and courtyard open for prayerful reflection from 12:00 - 3:00 PM

## EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 21st - Traditional Worship 9:00 and 11:00 AM (Sanctuary)



# LENTEN

## WORSHIP AND LUNCH

- March 6th (Ash Wednesday): Imposition of Ashes
- March 13th: Service of the Word, Rev. Robin Deas
- March 20th: Service of Sacred Music  
*Madeline Beitel and Latoya Adams (concert)*
- March 27th: Service of Scripture, Silence, and Song
- April 3rd: Service of Scripture, Silence, and Song
- April 10th: Service of the Word, Rev. Ken Nelson
- April 17th: Service of the Word, Rev. Melanie Dobson

*Join us in worship and fellowship as we prepare our hearts and minds this Lenten season.*

Our United Methodist Women will host a \$5 soup and sandwich lunch every Wednesday during Lent beginning at 11:45 AM in Threath Hall. No reservations necessary; come when you are able!

*All proceeds will go towards our Soup Cellar.*

At 12:30 PM, we will gather in Christ Chapel for worship experiences including preaching, reflection, and music.

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

### *Bob Peeler*

Bob Peeler believes that the classmates on his hall at Clemson would have thought that he was the least likely person to become lieutenant governor of South Carolina and a member of the Clemson Board of Trustees.

But over the course of his life, he became both.

Bob sings bass in the Washington Street Sanctuary Choir. He was initially drawn to the church because of the music he heard when he attended Jim Hodges' inaugural prayer service here in 1999, before Hodges' inauguration as governor and Bob's swearing-in for a second term as lieutenant governor.

Bob joined our church in 2001. In 2002, he lost a race for governor in the GOP runoff against Mark Sanford, who subsequently was elected governor.

After losing the gubernatorial bid, Bob joined the choir. He has a strong emotional connection to music, he said.

"I'll tear up listening to a Vince Gill song on the radio," he said. "The Majesty and Glory of Your name," a choir anthem, "I can't get through it."

Bob grew up in Gaffney. His grandfather was a dairy farmer and his father started Peelers Dairy, which bought raw milk from dairy farmers in upstate South Carolina, western North Carolina and northeastern Georgia.

Peelers Dairy bottled whole, low-fat and skim milk, chocolate milk and buttermilk.

"I was 15 before I knew you could eat something sweet without a glass of milk," Bob said. "I drink milk every day."

During the 1980s, Bob and his fraternal twin Bill did television commercials for Peelers Dairy, which were an imitation of the Bartles & Jaymes wine cooler ads, where Bartles does all the talking and Jaymes doesn't say a word. In the Peelers ads, Bob was the talking brother.

In 1986, when his daughter Caroline started kindergarten, Bob ran for the Cherokee County school board and won. After serving for four-and-a-half years, the legislators in his judicial circuit appointed him to the state Board of Education.

In 1994, Bob was elected lieutenant governor, the first non-legislator elected since the 1950s. He ran on a platform of bringing common sense and business sense to state government. He also pledged to do away with the lieutenant governor's security detail.

One of his major proposals was to have the first ever independent performance audit of state government. Appointed chairman of the Independent Audit of State Government by Governor David Beasley, Bob could pick two people to work on the project. One of them was a freshman county councilman from Charleston, Tim Scott, now a U.S. senator.

A surprising thing the audit found was that the Department of Mental Health had purchased, but never used, "13 years of pantyhose," Bob said. "That was a symptom of the problem."

When Bob ran for governor, he used a 14-foot fiberglass cow that had belonged to Peelers Dairy, as an attention-getting device. The cow had its own schedule.

"Someone called and wanted the cow, but the cow was already booked," Bob said. "They said, 'Well, just send Bob.'"

Bob married his second wife Donna on December 21, 2014. Pastor Bill Childs officiated at the wedding in the Washington Street chapel. Only the three of them were at the mid-afternoon ceremony. Bob calls Donna "my angel. In many ways she has been my rock."

Three years ago, they adopted Hunter, who is now 10 and calls Bob "Pappy."

Bob has been working for Waste Management for 12 years. As senior manager for community relations and government affairs in the South Atlantic Area, he works mainly with local governments.

In 2013, the General Assembly appointed Bob to the Clemson Board of Trustees, which approves the funding and policies for the university. He attends many of the school's athletic events.

When Clemson won the national championship in 2017, Bob took Hunter to the Clemson-Alabama game in Tampa. When the confetti rained down after the victory, he told his son, "Look, you'll always remember this."

Bob did not go to the national championship game in California this year because he had to swear in his older brother Harvey as Senate president the next day.

"But, when I swore him in, the Clemson flag was flying over the State House," he said.

Bob likes to play golf and read. He said one of the best books he's read is "The Measure of Our Success: A Letter to My Children and Yours" by Marian Wright Edelman, president and founder of the Children's Defense Fund.

Currently, Bob is reading "Top of the Hill: Dabo Swinny and Clemson's Rise to College Football Greatness" by Manie Robinson and Tajh Boyd.

"Even if you don't like football, you'll like that book," Bob said

*Article Written by Fran Zupan*

## Gifts

### IN MEMORY OF

#### MARY ALICE KINNETT

*to the Foundation*

by Frances & Will Brown

#### GERALD FLOYD

*to the Foundation*

by David & Robin Anderson

*to Music Ministries*

by Jim Lane & Justin Dagit

by Nickie Dickson, Shufy Rowe,

and Jean Rowe

by Joseph & Nancy Epting

by Dee Gullede

by Robert Neese, Jr.

by Richard & Charlotte Owen

by Whitney Vance

*to the Soup Cellar*

by David Byrum

by Jane H. Cauthen

by Laura Cowen

by Dee Gullede

by Happy Henry

by Ila Louise McCoy

by Christina Murphy

*to WSUMC*

by Kevin & Carol Duggan

### IN HONOR OF

#### SUZANNE JOYE & THE PAUL HARMON CLASS

*to WSUMC*

by Kevin & Carol Duggan

#### KATHY WRIGHT

*to Mary's Maidens*

by Gwen Harmon

*to WSUMC*

by Kevin & Carol Duggan

#### JANELLE RIVERS

*to WSUMC*

by Sam Waldrep

# TUESDAY, MARCH 5TH

## SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER



Once again, you have the opportunity to support Active Faith and Mary's Maidens AND feed your family! They will be serving pancakes, bacon, turkey sausage, and hot beverages. They ask for a minimum donation of \$5/adults and \$3/children (up to age 12) with no cost for children under age 2. The proceeds will be used to fund local missions, as neither group asks for funds from the annual church budget.

Tickets will be on sale again this Sunday, March 3rd, before and after worship services. You can also reserve your tickets by emailing Lainey, [lainey@wsmethodist.org](mailto:lainey@wsmethodist.org).

# 5 - 7 PM IN THREATT HALL

## MULCH -O- RAMA



Saturday, March 9th from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Every year, we reassess our CDC playground and take a day to spruce it up and make sure its safe and presentable for our children. The CDC Parent Action Council leads the effort, but they are looking for additional volunteers to help! If you're able and willing to pitch in and help on Saturday, March 9th, please let Rev. Taylor know as soon as possible. [taylor@wsmethodist.org](mailto:taylor@wsmethodist.org)

If you're unable to help on the day-of, the CDC is looking for several items to borrow including wheelbarrows, shovels, rakes, and hedge trimmers that will be returned to you immediately afterwards. If you have any of these items that can be loaned for temporary use, please let Rev. Taylor know as well! **Thank you for your support!**

## Used Backpacks Can Find a Home

As part of our changes in the Soup Cellar, backpacks are now being checked at the door for our patrons' safety. Robbie Douglas and Jerry Sumpter have been leading the effort and in the midst of it, they have noticed that many of our patrons have worn, ragged backpacks and many more carry what few possessions they have in plastic bags.

Active Faith is working to acquire new or gently used backpacks to be discretely distributed as needed. If you have any backpacks that you may no longer be using, we hope you'll consider donating them to this cause. There is a collection bin marked in the Mission Garden where donations can be dropped off.

*\*Please no juvenile themed backpacks\**

**Unable to bring backpacks to donate?** Active Faith will also gladly accept a monetary donation and will purchase backpacks with the funds given. Online Giving is available for this mission effort! To give, visit [wsmethodist.org/giving/](http://wsmethodist.org/giving/) and select the "Active Faith (Backpacks)" fund.



## Girl Scout Cookies

Thin Mints? Peanut Butter Patties? Thanks-A-Lots? Caramel Delites?  
Which ones are YOUR favorite?

WSUMC Troop 776 will be selling cookies for \$4.00 per box at Washington Street this Sunday, March 3rd, and again next Sunday, March 10th from 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM. The Girls truly appreciate everyone's support. They are raising money for a large scale travel adventure in the summer of 2020, all funded on their own. Their goal for this cookie season is to sell 1500 boxes of cookies!

## Sunday School Classes

**THE ALDERSGATE CLASS:** They will continue a series by Professor Bart Ehrman titled, "From Jesus to Constantine."

**THE DAWSEY CLASS:** This Sunday, March 3rd, the Rev. Tom Summers will lead a discussion of "As United Methodists, How Do We Develop Our Theology?" On March 10th, the Rev. John Evans will give a presentation of January Adventure, along with others who attended: Kay Garren, Sue Dillon and Lynn Shirley.

**THE GRACE CLASS:** They continuing their study on the text, *Uncovering the Life, Teachings and Relevance of a Religious Revolutionary*, with discussions led by Dawsey Class leaders.

**THE JOHN HARPER CLASS:** They are reading Psalms - love songs that glorify God.

**THE JOY CLASS:** They recently started a new lesson series on the text, *Simon Peter: Flawed by Faithful Disciple*, by Adam Hamilton.

**THE OPEN DOOR CLASS:** They will begin studying Adam Hamilton's *Final Words from the Cross* during Lent.

**THE PAUL HARMON CLASS:** They are in the midst of a study of Genesis.

# Continuing the Journey

TUESDAY, MARCH 19TH AT 7:30 PM  
WASHINGTON STREET UMC



## Songs of Faith, Love, and Hope

*Created to meet the specific interests of women who make singing a part of their life's journey, She Sings is the first community group of its kind in our area.*

*The all-volunteer choir of 45 voices began rehearsing in September of 2018 under the direction of four well-known choral directors with Lucinda Shields, accompanist.*



Choral Directors  
Angela Powers, Lillian Quackenbush  
Fredna Lee, Paula Wilson



## She Sings

**FREE ADMISSION**

DONATIONS COLLECTED  
TO BENEFIT TOBY'S PLACE

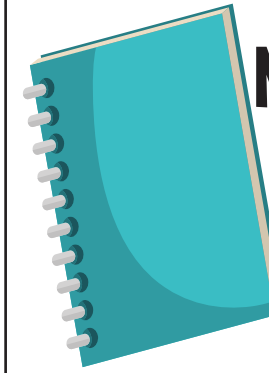
## Annual Easter Egg Hunt

*Hop on over to the Lide's!*

Saturday, April 6th at 4:00 PM  
1400 Sherwood Road

All Washington Street children and grandchildren (nursery through sixth grade) are invited to join in the fun. Bring your own basket, a lawn chair or blanket, and a snack to share. Lemonade and water will be provided. Friends are welcome!

In case of rain, contact Mary Lide, (803)782-6035.



## NOTEBOOK COLLECTION

*for Alcorn Middle School*

Our Missions Committee was recently made aware of the need for spiral bound notebooks for students at Alcorn Middle School. All donated notebooks will be distributed by the school when needed, as this is a common request for students at the halfway point of the school year.

As we continue to cultivate relationships with this school and its students, we hope to meet this need quickly. All donations are appreciated!

Notebooks can be dropped off in the designated collection bin located in our Mission Garden. Thank you for your continuous support as we seek to share the love of Jesus Christ with those in our community!



## NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

**MARCH 13TH** Foster Care and Adoption

A panel discussion will take place regarding the topics of foster care and adoption with personal testimonies sharing both the joys and struggles, and highlighting the importance of taking care of and welcoming in children who need homes. The panel will be comprised of Carl and Mary Brown, Emily and Ashley Brown, and Lisa Franklin.

**APRIL 10TH** Homelessness

Melani Miller from the Salvation Army will join us to discuss her personal experience with homelessness.

## FELLOWSHIP SUPPERS

Pre-registration is required for the fellowship suppers beginning at 5:30 PM and childcare beginning at 6:30 PM. For further details and registrations, visit [wsmethodist.org/neighbor](http://wsmethodist.org/neighbor)