



THE CONNECTION

August 19, 2018

1401 Washington Street - Columbia, SC - 29201



A Letter from the Pastor *Reverend Patricia J. Parrish*

Periodically my husband will greet me with the countdown that he's heard on our favorite Gamecock radio station, "24 days to football". I have already watched one NFL pre-season game and even though both teams looked sloppy, my team won! People are talking about "Back to School" and we had a great "Back to School Bash" at The Middleton's home on Lake Murray – thanks Evelyn, Scott, Gregg and Lauren! We are surrounded by signs that we are transitioning into a new season. So it seems in the life of the congregation as well.

Our Church Council will gather on August 26th from 4:00-7:00 to engage in focused planning: you are welcome to join us. Please let us know so we can adequately plan for the evening meal. We will begin our Wednesday Night programming on September 12th – with a new name, NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR. We are intentionally planning programs that will benefit our community as well as our congregation. New small group Bible studies will begin soon offering everyone an opportunity to learn and grown in Christ and in discipleship.

As a way to celebrate the transition, and to welcome everyone home from vacations and staycations, we are planning a "Back to Church Sunday". There will be one service of worship as we gather to celebrate "WHAT WE DID THIS SUMMER". We have engaged our children and our community and ventured to Ecuador to serve our neighbors alongside The United Methodist Church of Ecuador. After the service we will have a wonderful meal highlighting soups from Ecuador, salads, breads and EPWORTH ICE CREAM! You will even be able to order some ice cream for yourself. I hope that you will join us and that you will invite your friends to come and share in this wonderful celebration of ministry!

Peace,
Patricia

Sunday School Classes

THE ALDERSGATE CLASS AND THE PAUL HARMON CLASS: Continuing through the summer, these classes will join together and continue their discussion of The Teaching Co. Video by Bart Erhman on the New Testament.

THE DAWSEY CLASS: This Sunday, August 19th, Tom Wall will lead a presentation of the church's trip to Ecuador in July. Other people who went on the trip will likely join him, and he will have slides from the trip. There will be a short presentation on the Methodist Student Network's trip to Malawi; the Dawsey Class supported that trip. On August 26th, social worker Joni Truluck will talk about health care power of attorney. She is a friend of class member Cheryl Evans.

THE GRACE CLASS: This Sunday, August 19th, Cotter Leigh will join the Grace Class to discuss summer mission trips.

THE JOY CLASS: Until Sunday, September 16th, they will study the text, "Fear of the Other, No Fear in Love" by William Willmon.

THE JOHN HARPER CLASS: Using New Testament texts that focus on justice, they explore Paul's teachings on God's justice. The Adult Bible Studies curriculum encourages spiritual development.

THE OPEN DOOR CLASS: They are wrapping up their study of *Parables From the Backside Volume 1: Bible Stories With a Twist*, by J. Ellsworth Kalas. This book offers a new perspective on twelve of Jesus' parables through the eyes of minor character.

Announcements

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE: Want to help children develop skills and enthusiasm for reading? We are gauging volunteer interest to work with students on reading at Alcorn Middle School. Volunteers would need to be available during at least one of the days of their after school program, which meets Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4-6pm. If you are interested and would like to find out more, contact Andrea McAtee and Kathy Handel.

LEARN TO USE THE CHURCH AED DEVICE: The church has an Automated External Defibrillator that is used when a person may be having a heart attack. It is simple to use and may very well save someone's life. M.J. Fox (RN, ACLS Certified) will provide a 15-minute overview of the device and its use on Sunday August 26th. We would like for 1-2 people from every adult Sunday school class to attend, 1-2 from the choir, one person from every committee as well a representative(s) from the 9 AM and 11 AM usher team. We are also interested to identify people who are already trained in the use of an AED. Someone will be reaching out to each group for volunteers and to record those persons already AED certified. For more information, to volunteer, to attend, or to share your certification status, contact Lynn Shirley ([803-422-3368](tel:803-422-3368) or wmlynnsc@gmail.com). This short meeting is not a substitute for taking an AED/CPR class. We would encourage some of you to do that if you are interested.

Hispanic Families Tutoring Program

Washington Street will again participate in Mano a Mano, a Richland Library program that helps Spanish-speaking students ages 5 and up improve their academic skills. The library began the program after receiving requests for tutors from the Midlands' increasing immigrant population. Its goal is not only to help the children, but to increase parents' literacy skills so they can support their children's learning.

Volunteer tutors must be age 18 or older. It is not necessary to speak Spanish. The group meets here at Washington Street UMC from 3:30 - 4:30 PM every Wednesday beginning September 26th. Mandatory training for tutors will be from 3:30 - 5:00 PM on Wednesday, September 19th, at the main Richland Library, 1431 Assembly Street. Training and evaluations for the program are provided by a grant from the Sisters of Charity Foundation of S.C.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Mayte Velasco Nicolas at 803-983-0368 or mnicolas@richlandlibrary.com.

Back to Church Sunday

Celebrating our Summer



Sunday, September 9th

As summer comes to a close with children zipping up their backpacks and vacations becoming dreams of the past, we can't help but be excited to worship and fellowship with YOU!

We welcome you to join us as we celebrate how God continued to build community within our walls and all over the world, featuring reflections from Vacation Bible School, Music Mania Day Camp, Salkehatchie, and our Ecuador Mission Team.

Worship With Us

We will have ONE joint Worship Service on Sunday, September 9th at 11:00 AM.

There will NOT be a 9:00 AM Worship Service on this particular Sunday.

Fellowship With Us

A fellowship lunch will be provided immediately following Worship.

Ecuadorian food will be served!

Fruit of our Labor Day

How You Can Help



On Sunday, September 2nd, our elementary aged Sunday school classes will be participating in “Fruit of our Labor Day” through a service project for The Nurturing Center of Columbia, SC.

The Nurturing Center provides, “comprehensive, family-focused service to prevent and treat child neglect and abuse.” Our children will be packaging fruit related items to deliver to The Nurturing Center.

Here’s how you can help: our children are collecting **fruit juices, fruit snacks, and fruit cereal bars.**

Your help in contributing these items is greatly appreciated! There will be a bin in the Mission Garden where all items can be dropped off before 9:00 AM on Sunday, September 2nd.

Praying ACROSS GENERATIONS

Have you been searching for a way to put your faith into practice and help others? We have the perfect opportunity for you: **Praying Across Generations.** This group will pair an adult with a middle school or high school student with a promise to pray for that youth DAILY. The adults will also send anonymous notes of encouragement to the youth a few times during the school year on holidays, birthdays, and during exams--**don’t worry, we will supply you with that information!** In May we will have an Ice Cream Social where the youth will get to meet the adult who has been praying for them. Participating in this group is a great way to nurture and build up the next generation. To sign up or if you have questions, contact Susan Caskey (turnitbluesue@hotmail.com) or Beth Matthews (mtthws@msn.com).

Thank You!

A huge thank you to the Middleton family for hosting a day full of lake fun and fellowship at our annual Back to School Bash! It was the perfect way to end the summer and make one last splash before heading back to school.



Cooperative Ministry Annual Book Festival

Held at Washington Street UMC



The Cooperative Ministry's annual Book Festival will be held here at Washington Street UMC on Saturday, August 25th, from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Books in all price ranges, including books for collectors, will be available. Proceeds from the Book Festival benefit The Cooperative Ministry's mission to serve the Midlands working poor through short-term crisis assistance leading to long-term stability. Services include financial aid, counseling, food vouchers, clothing and furniture, insurance premium assistance, financial literacy workshops, free tax return preparation, and automobiles donated through the Autos for Opportunities program.

August Worship Series



Thoughts of August might conjure strong emotional sentiments for some of us, but is "love" the first thing you think of in this fleeting month of summer? August is the month when we think about back-to-school prep, squeezing in one last weekend get-away, and go about the business (or busyness) of getting ourselves ready for a new season. Love is not on my calendar for August – that's scheduled for February, right?

So, why are we talking about love in August? Because August is a prelude to a new season. It's a time to reflect and refresh as we pack up summer and think about the fall days ahead. More to the point of worship, it's a time to reflect on our church family and community and to focus intentionally on how we love one another as Christ commanded us to do.

- How do we love one another to build up and unify this great community of faith?
- How do we live out the love of Christ in our daily lives in the boardroom, in the ER, in the classroom, in the drive through line, or in the passing lane?
- How do we return love to God as thanks for all of his amazing gifts?
- How do we equip ourselves with love to go out into our greater community to do the work of Christ?

This August, our worship will focus on love in each of these aspects. As we reflect on love through our worship times and in our personal devotions, we will start to see how love is the foundation of our community of faith. We are a beautiful collage of souls. We are one faith. We serve one God. Come to worship. Be open. You'll love August.

See you on Sunday,
Jan Baker, *Worship Design Team*

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 *Jordan Harper*

Jordan Harper fills her life with music

A second soprano in the Washington Street Sanctuary Choir; she also teaches music at Cayce Elementary School.

Washington Street's music director Angela Powers "poached" her when she was in music school at USC. Angela attended a house concert where Jordan sang and asked Jordan if she was singing in a church choir.

Jordan was a choir member at St. John's Episcopal Church, but that choir wasn't singing during the summer. So she agreed to come to Washington Street for the summer and then returned to St. John's.

But, she missed the music and the liturgy at Washington Street, so she joined our Sanctuary Choir permanently in the summer of 2013 and transferred her church membership.

Jordan grew up in Spartanburg. Her parents were not musical, but her maternal grandparents met when her grandmother played the piano for her grandfather's college glee club.

She played hand bells at Central United Methodist Church in Spartanburg and played violin in the orchestra at Spartanburg High School. She took private voice lessons from the time she was in seventh grade, and her teacher told her to consider USC.

She intended to major in vocal performance, but she had to take some education courses, and she realized she "just loved it." She changed her major to music education and got a certificate in vocal performance. She also earned a master's degree in music education from Carolina.

Jordan didn't want to pursue a career on Broadway, she said.

"I didn't want to live out of a suitcase," she said. "I didn't think it would be as fun."

Since Cayce Elementary let out in early June, Jordan has had something every week until July 30. She was music director for the children's musical "Shrek The Musical JR." at Workshop Theatre. She handled the music for Vacation Bible School. She was the director's "right hand" at the university's Opera Camp.

In addition, Angela and Jordan planned the Music Mania day camp at Washington Street, and Jordan was in charge of the choir there.

Some may remember Jordan belting out "Go Tell It on the Mountain" in the youth-written Christmas play "There's No Place Like Bethlehem" in 2016. She also heads the committee that plans the PAUSE weekday service to reflect, renew and connect.

Jordan also is active in community theater. She will play Turtle in "A Year with Frog and Toad" and will be Shulie in "School House Rock Live," both in September at Columbia Children's Theatre. "School House Rock Live" will have an additional performance at Harbison Theatre at Midlands Tech.

Past performances of note include Ursula in "The Little Mermaid" at Town Theatre," where through the use of a harness and wires, Jordan got to fly; and "Beehive" at Workshop, a jukebox musical, where she sang the parts of Janis Joplin ("Me and Bobby McGee"), Lulu ("To Sir with Love") and Janis Ian (Society's Child"), among others.

Jordan also is in charge of Workshop's performing arts school, scheduling classes, finding teachers and handling the payroll. She teaches about 10 voice lessons there each week.

Jordan's range is about 2½ octaves; she even can sing alto if Angela needs her to. But she doesn't sing the descant, the soprano solo above the melody.

"I don't sing first soprano because there are enough singers on that part," she said. When there is a descant, she usually sings the melody.

Although Jordan plays the piano "poorly" and doesn't even have one in her classroom, in 2013 she inherited a baby grand from her grandfather. When she bought a house in 2014, she rejected a lot of places because they didn't have space for the piano. She finally found one off Garners Ferry Road, almost to Hopkins.

When she has time, Jordan likes to read historical fiction, murder mysteries and memoirs. Her first free week this summer, she read four books.

Article Written by Fran Zupan

Gifts

IN MEMORY OF

GEORGE FANT

to the Stained Glass Window Fund

by Mrs. L. Arlen Cotter

IN HONOR OF

ANALEE BURCH

to WSUMC

by Marie R. Volk

TRAVIS LUTHREN

to Aldersgate Special

Needs Ministry

by Sam Waldrep



A Series of Cultural and Interfaith Dialogues

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

SEPTEMBER 12TH [Columbia 63: Our Story Matters](#)

Representatives from "Columbia 63: Our Story Matters" will join us for a presentation on Columbia's role in the Civil Rights Movement.

**Catered meat & 3 dinner*

OCTOBER 10TH [Holocaust Remembered](#)

Take a walk through an exhibit that honors the survivors and victims of the Holocaust, followed by a panel comprised of representatives from the Columbia Holocaust Education Commission.

**Catered Mediterranean dinner*

NOVEMBER 7TH [Global Connections: Abrahamic Faiths](#)

Rev. Carl Evans, Rabbi Jonathan Case, and Imam Omar Shaheed will sit on a panel together and discuss similarities & differences of the three Abrahamic faiths: Islam, Judaism, and Christianity.

**Salad & baked potato bar dinner*

Programming will begin at 6:30 PM each week.

Fellowship With Us

Prior to each program, we hope you'll join us for a fellowship supper at 5:30 PM in Threath Hall. Each week will offer a different menu, but will require pre-registration. **Beginning August 26th**, online registration will be available for all three gatherings. You can register for one evening at a time (\$10 Adults / \$5 Kids) or you can sign up for all three at once (\$25 Adults / \$12 Kids).

For registration, visit wsmethodist.org/neighbortoneighbor

Save the Date

Epworth Ice Cream will be for sale during our “Back to Church Sunday” fellowship luncheon on **Sunday, September 9th**.

If you haven't tried their famous ice cream yet, we will have samples there for you to taste before placing an order. We promise you won't regret it!

An Epworth representative will be there to collect preorders, and they will accept cash or checks. You can buy all four pints for \$25. Orders will be ready for pick up no later than Sunday, September 23rd.



OF ALL PROFITS BENEFIT
EPWORTH CHILDREN'S HOME

CALENDAR OF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday, August 19

9:00 AM Worship - Chapel
9:45 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR
11:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary

Monday, August 20

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
5:30 PM Faith Formation Team - JHC
6:00 PM Welcome Table Team Meeting - WR

Tuesday, August 21

8:00 AM Prayer Group - WR
1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
2:00 PM Staff Meeting - JHC
6:00 PM Parents of Murdered Children - Grace Class
6:30 PM Domestic Abuse Counseling Services - DCR

Wednesday, August 22

10:45 AM Prayer Group - HPR
1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
5:30 PM CDC Board Meeting - JHC

Thursday, August 23

9:00 AM CDC Devotions - Christ Chapel
1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
5:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting - JHC
6:00 PM United Methodist Men - WR

Friday, August 24

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC

Saturday, August 25

9:00 AM Cooperative Ministry Annual Book Fair - TH
1:00 PM Records & History Committee Meeting - Archives

Sunday, August 26

9:00 AM Worship - Chapel
9:45 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM AED Training - Traxler Classroom
10:00 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR
11:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary
4:00 PM Leadership Team Meeting - 3rd Floor

Monday, August 27

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC

Tuesday, August 28

8:00 AM Prayer Group - WR
1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
6:30 PM Domestic Abuse Counseling Services - DCR
6:30 PM Palmetto Mastersingers - Chapel

Wednesday, August 29

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
5:30 PM Evangelism Meeting - WR
6:00 PM Nominations & Leadership Development - JHC

Thursday, August 30

9:00 AM CDC Devotions - Chapel
1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC

Friday, August 31

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC

Saturday, September 1

No Activities Scheduled

JHC - John Harper Classroom

DCR - Disciple Conference Room

TH - Threatt Hall

WR - Wesley Room

YR - Youth Room

HPR - Holroyd Prayer Room

LCR - Leavitt Choir Room

SC - Soup Cellar