



THE CONNECTION

February 18, 2018

1401 Washington Street - Columbia, SC - 29201

Monday - Friday ■ 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Worship with the
Africa University Choir



Wednesday, February 21st
6:30 PM | Sanctuary

We are thrilled to be one of the few churches to host the Africa University Choir on their 12-day tour!

The Africa University Choir, composed of students from six African countries, will appear in worship with Dr. Jim Salley on *Wednesday, February 21st at 6:30 PM in our Sanctuary.*

Africa University, located at Old Mutare, Zimbabwe, enrolled its first class of 40 students in 1992. Currently, there are just under 1,200 full-time students from 25 African countries enrolled at the university. The university is a United Methodist-related institution and is intended to serve the entire continent of Africa.

The 16-member choir is under the direction of Mr. Tendekai Kuture. The choir will give a lively performance using several African musical traditions. Invite your friends to join us for an inspiring evening of music, which will send you away with a new spirit!

Announcements

SOUP CELLAR VOLUNTEERS: Do you enjoy fellowship while helping those who are in need? Can you spread a sandwich or pour a glass of lemonade? Well, our Soup Cellar is for you. We serve our hungry in Columbia on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Mondays of each month from 11:30 – 12:30. We ask volunteers to come around 10:00 am to spread the sandwiches so that we are ready to serve at 11:30. We enjoy welcoming our hungry who are appreciative of our efforts and the food. We also enjoy laughter that we share and the special bond that is formed with other volunteers. No special skills or training is required – just the spirit of embracing Jesus' call to feed the hungry. If interested in volunteering, please call the church office or call Martha Boynton at 796-0120.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Have you ever wondered about the microphones we use or the level/quality of sound on a Sunday morning? Would you like to be part of the volunteer group that performs this service on a weekly basis? None of us are technical sound experts, but we are available and willing to learn. If you are interested in being trained – or are just curious and would like to shadow one of us on a Sunday morning, reach out and let us know. Speak to Kel Jansen, David Hefelfinger, Grant Jackson or Lynn Shirley. If email/phone/text is simpler, contact Lynn at wmlynnc@gmail.com or 803-422-3368. You'll never know if this is something for you until you try it.

VISITOR RESPONSE TEAM: The Evangelism Committee is searching for assistance with writing personal notes to visitors of Washington Street. This is an easy and impactful way to extend a personal welcome to our visitors as we hope to build relationships with those who are new. If you are willing or interested in being a part of this effort, please contact Lee Haynes, lelandhaynesjr@gmail.com as soon as possible.

MARY'S MAIDENS: Mary's Maidens will meet Sunday, March 11th, at 4:00-5:30 in the Disciple Conference Room. We will be joining the Small Active Faith Group to fill Easter Baskets for children who eat at the Soup Cellar.

VALENTINE'S AND CHOCOLATES SALE: Thank you to everyone who purchased handmade Valentines and fairly-traded chocolates. Mary's Maidens raised \$215.00 for their mission projects.

SAVE THE DATE: The Washington Street Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, March 24th at 4:00pm at the home of the Lides.

Teacher's

CLOTHES CLOSET

The Grace Class and Active Faith Small Group are still collecting donations for their professional clothing drive here at WS, where all donations will go to "The Teacher's Closet." This initiative was established in 2015 to, "help pre-service teachers who need professionally appropriate clothing, but might not have the means to be able to afford it," according to Palmetto State Teacher Association.

If you are ready to purge your closet and have any of the items listed to donate, they can be dropped off in the Traxler Classroom on the 2nd floor of the Education Building. The Grace Class and Active Faith will collect donations through the end of February.

MEN'S CLOTHING: Ties, sport coats/blazers, button-down collared shirts, short-sleeve collared golf shirts, dress pants, khaki pants, sweaters, shoes (loafers, nice "deck" shoes, dress shoes), socks (pref. new), and belts (brown or black).

WOMEN'S CLOTHING: Skirts, dresses, blouses, tops, dress pants, blazers/jackets, sweaters, scarves, belts, and shoes (no sandals or flip-flops).



Girl Scout COOKIES

WSUMC Girl Scout Troop 776 will be selling Girl Scout Cookies NEXT SUNDAY (Feb. 25th) & THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY (March 4th) between worship services and the Sunday school hour. Make sure to stop by and grab a box (or 2 or 3) of your favorites! Thank you for your continuous support of these outstanding individuals.

Salkehatchie 40!

Salkehatchie's 40th Anniversary Celebration will be held on Saturday, March 10th from 1-5 PM at Union UMC (Irmo, SC).

Washington Street has sent countless youth and adults on Salkehatchie Summer Service mission trips over the years, and we are very grateful for the opportunity to continue doing so. If you have ever been to Salkehatchie, we hope you'll join the many others for this special occasion! For more information or to RSVP, contact Susan Caskey at 803-463-6138 | turnitbluesue@hotmail.com

Midday Worship for Lent

Our Midday Worship Services for Lent began this past Wednesday, Feb. 14th on Ash Wednesday, and they will continue until March 28th. We hope you'll continue to join us as we begin to immerse ourselves in the Lenten journey to awaken our faith.

DATES



- 2/14 - Ash Wednesday: Contemplative Service with Imposition of Ashes led by WSUMC Clergy
- 2/21 - Service of the Word - Sermon given by Rev. Alston Lippert
- 2/28 - Service of Prayer and Song
- 3/7 - Service of the Word - Sermon given by Bishop Kenneth L. Carder
- 3/14 - Service of the Word - Sermon given by Rev. Gary Phillips
- 3/21 - Service of Music
- 3/28 - Stations of the Cross

Prior to each worship service, our UMW will be hosting a soup and sandwich lunch beginning at 12:00 PM in Threatt Hall. Lunch is \$5 each week, and all proceeds go to our Soup Cellar.

Prayer Group

During the season of Lent, our Wednesday Prayer Group will meet from 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM in the Wesley Room. We encourage you to take this opportunity and join them for a time of prayer and reflection each week.

Prayer Cross

A prayer cross is located outside Christ Chapel during Lent. Write your prayer/s on a slip of paper provided beside the cross and attach to the cross with a pin. Prayers pinned to the cross will remain confidential. Please complete a prayer request card and place it in the offering plate for those requests that should be forwarded to a prayer group or a minister.

YOUTH CORNER

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

A WRINKLE IN TIME: MOVIE NIGHT - *Deadline Approaching!*

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!



Church Life Highlights



SOUP CELLAR VOLUNTEERS

What a joy and honor it was to have the spouses of various cabinet members of the SC United Methodist Conference volunteer to serve in our Soup Cellar on Monday, February 12th.



THE YOUTH ESCAPED!

Our youth proved to be master escape artists as they broke out of Escape Plan Columbia last Sunday, February 11th. A huge thank you to our parent volunteers and Rev. Taylor Pafford for making this such a fun afternoon where our youth were able to fellowship with each other.



ARTS ADVOCACY DAY

A crowd of over 300 voices filled our Sanctuary on February 6th, as we hosted middle & high school choral students of Richland District 2 for Arts Advocacy Day.

Our church halls were filled with the most joyful noise as these exceedingly talented students all came together as one.

Thank you to our Director of Music, Angela Powers, for opening our doors and welcoming these young ones for this occasion.

STUDENTS PICTURED FROM:

- Blythewood Middle School
- Dent Middle School
- E.L. Wright Middle School
- Kelly Mill Middle School
- Long Leaf Middle School
- Muller Road Middle School
- Summit Parkway Middle School
- Blythewood High School
- Richland Northeast High School
- Ridge View High School
- Spring Valley High School
- Westwood High School



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 & Deborah Rowe*

The Active Faith Small Group started after a couple of Sunday school lessons Deborah Rowe taught in the Aldersgate Class. One was on John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, and the other was on Dorcas, a woman in Acts who was devoted to good works and acts of charity.

A little later, Deborah, her husband Rick and Sam Waldrep were talking about their desire to take "the gifts God gave us and use those gifts in service to others" as Wesley and Dorcas had done, Deborah said. They wanted to do more than just sit and listen. "We wanted to do things."

Then, Deborah asked the Rev. Patricia Parrish, Washington Street's senior minister, how to bring about what the three had discussed. Patricia suggested that they form a small group.

The Rowes set the first meeting for a Sunday afternoon at their Vista condominium, but as the date drew near, Deborah became a little anxious.

"I was praying, 'What are we going to do? What are we going to do?'" she said. But at that first meeting in mid-June of 2017, the ideas started flowing from the group of seven.

Their first project was Hand y Mano, a two-week Vacation Bible School for refugee children held at Virginia Wingard UMC, in cooperation with Lutheran Family Services. Next, they had water bottles made for the Soup Cellar clients, and they placed a water station outside the church office.

Then, there was a blanket ministry, an umbrella ministry and Christmas gift bags for the children of Soup Cellar clients. The group took flower arrangements to hospitalized evacuees from Puerto Rico and recently planted a greenery garden to provide foliage for future flower arrangements.

Future projects include Easter baskets for the children of Soup Cellar clients, to be created with Mary's Maidens, and a yard sale, scheduled for April 14th, to raise money to pay for Active Faith Small Group projects.

Members of the Active Faith Small Group include the original seven, founders Rick, Deborah and Sam; and Martha Boynton, Kay Ayers-Garren, Charles Garren and Beverly McClanahan. Carol Fowler, Jim Lane and Kathy Wright joined the group later.

"We've done neat stuff. We have fun. We hope others will join us," Deborah said.

Rick and Deborah Rowe do many things together. They attend and occasionally teach in the same Sunday school class, first the Aldersgate Class and now the Grace Class. Both volunteer in the Soup Cellar. Both are delegates to Annual Conference.

"We're kinda a team," Deborah said. "We stay kinda busy."

Deborah grew up near Waltherboro, and Rick grew up on a dairy farm in east Tennessee.

They both married others. She had two daughters, and he had a son, Ricky, who is a member of Washington Street. But, they refer to their children and grandchildren as "our children" and "our grandchildren." They joined Washington Street in 2007 to be with Ricky and his family.

Deborah and Rick met when they worked at the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control. They married in 1984. In 1989, they moved to Raleigh, N.C., where he was the director of the Division of Environmental Health within the N.C. Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources, and she was director of the North Carolina Public Health Association.

Of course, the Rowes haven't worked together in everything they do at Washington Street. They also have individual interests outside of church. They entertain frequently, and Deborah especially likes planning the meals and "having people over, where you're not fighting the noise of a restaurant and can laugh and talk and share things."

Rick likes to read history and historical fiction. He is reading "The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey" and finishing a series on Hitler.

But their favorite activity outside of church is travel. They plan their trips a year in advance. Trips scheduled for the rest of this year include Panama City, Fla. in March; Portland and Bend, Ore. in August; the Utah national parks in September and Hilton Head in September and November.

They have had a timeshare 20 miles from Honolulu, Hawaii, for 16 years and a timeshare at Hilton Head since 2000.

Article by Fran Zupan

Gifts

IN MEMORY OF

ROBERT COLLINGWOOD, JR.

to WSUMC

by Thurl M. Amick

by Lamar & Joan Brown

by Mary P. Dyson

by Rose N. Graham

by Marvadean Hyman, Scott & Karen

by Hugh E. White/Carolina Surveyors Inc.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN GIBSON

to the Soup Cellar

by Donna H. Bryan

JUNE RAINES

to the Archives

by Bob & Joan Beamer

to Music Ministries

by John & MaryLue Finch

to WSUMC

by Andrew & Lois Duke Whitaker

JOAN SAMMONS

to the Archives

by Bob & Joan Beamer

to Music Ministries

by John & MaryLue Finch

ARLENE SHULER

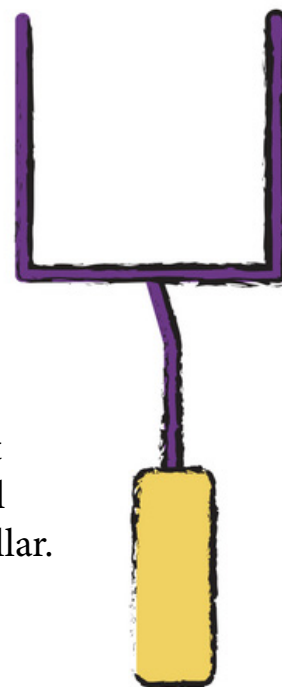
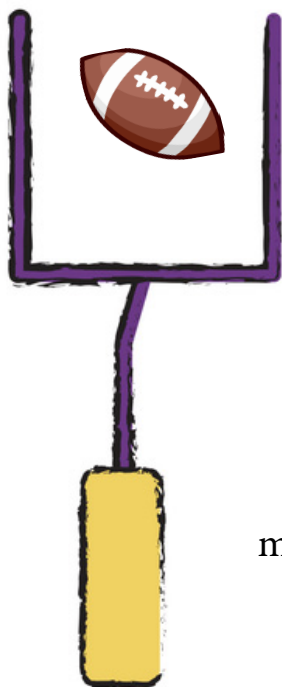
to Music Ministries

by John & MaryLue Finch

to WSUMC

by Martha S. King

\$804



With your help, our youth were able to raise over eight hundred dollars on Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday! All money collected has been given to our very own Soup Cellar.

THANK YOU for helping our youth tackle hunger!

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: Beginning Feb 18th through March 25th, David Anderson will lead discussions on Adam Hamilton's *The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus*. The first lesson is on Baptism and Temptation.

THE DAWSEY CLASS: They are studying the text, *Grounded: Finding God in the world, a Spiritual Revolution*, by Diana Butler Bass. They will continue this study until the end of March.

THE GRACE CLASS: For a Lenten Study, they'll be going through the text, *Hanging By a Thread: The Questions of the Cross*. Reverend Diana Westerkam will continue to lead the first few weeks.

THE JOHN HARPER CLASS: Using Bible passages, their focus during March is on following God's guidance. Join them for a spirited discussion.

THE JOY CLASS: They are in the midst of studying the text, *Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet*, by Adam Hamilton.

THE OPEN DOOR CLASS: They will study, *Embracing the Uncertain*, by Magrey deVega during Lent. This book engages the readers to face life's uncertainties, not ignore them. The first six chapters focus on six post-Transfiguration, pre-Passion stories in the Gospels, pointing us forward to a cross that can show us how to follow Jesus with courage, hope, and obedience.

CONTINUING THIS SUNDAY...

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 at 10:00 AM in the Holroyd Prayer Room.

Coffee and snacks will be provided!



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

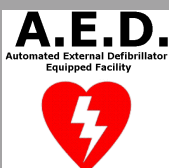
Michael Hutto

SOCIAL WORK INTERN

Meredith Transou

To learn more, visit our website.

www.wsmethodist.org



Join us on Wednesday, February 21st for our next F3 Fellowship Supper! Dinner begins at 5:30 PM followed by worship with the Africa University Choir.

If you purchased tickets for the January F3 dinner that was cancelled due to weather, those ticket purchases will apply to this month.

Tickets will be on sale **THIS SUNDAY, Feb. 18th.**

You can also email Lainey to reserve your tickets at lainey@wsmethodist.org.



Jesus called for them and said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs." Luke 18:16

Jesus taught that children are a valued and vital part of our community of faith. As Christians, we are called to care for our children and youth and nurture them in the faith. The church is where our kids find and feel the unconditional love of God, and it is through us that they will grow in this love. We are responsible for making sure that our children, youth, and vulnerable adults are in a safe environment when they are here at Washington Street UMC.

Safe Sanctuaries is the United Methodist guiding policy to help us ensure that we are providing this safe environment. We invite and encourage all of our congregants to come to one of our upcoming Safe Sanctuaries sessions, where you can learn how to support us and participate with us in making WSUMC welcoming for all children, youth, and vulnerable adults. If you plan to work directly with our children, youth, or vulnerable adults through any of our ministries and programs, it is imperative that you attend one of these upcoming sessions.

Monday, February 19th at 6:30 PM in Threatt Hall with Rev. Alston Lippert

Sunday, March 18th at 9:00 AM in the Traxler Classroom with Rev. Taylor Pafford

Thank you for helping us provide a safe and loving space for all to know the love of God. If you have any questions about Safe Sanctuaries Training Sessions, please contact Rev. Lippert or Rev. Pafford.



United Methodist Women

March Circle Meetings

Mary's Maidens - Sunday, March 11th at 4:00 PM | Disciple Conference Room

Circle 2 - Thursday, March 1st at 5:30 PM | Wesley Room

Circle 3 - Tuesday, March 13th at 10:30 AM | Wesley Room

Circle 5 - Tuesday, March 6th at 7:00 PM | TBD

Circle 6 - Tuesday, March 6th at 10:00 AM | John Harper Classroom

Circle 9 - Monday, March 12th at 5:45 PM | Holroyd Prayer Room

CALENDAR OF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday, February 18

9:00 AM Worship - Christ Chapel
9:30 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR
9:45 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary
3:00 PM Girl Scouts - GSR
5:00 PM Active Faith Small Group - DCR

Monday, February 19

8:00 AM CDC PAC Meeting - CC Foyer
5:30 PM Age Level & Family Ministries Mtg. - JHC
6:30 PM Safe Sanctuaries Session - TH

Tuesday, February 20

8:00 AM Prayer Group - WR
2:00 PM Staff Meeting - JHC
5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
5:30 PM Disciple 1 Study - JHC
5:30 PM Handbells Practice - 3rd Floor Choir Room
6:00 PM Easter Earthquake - HPR
6:00 PM Engaging New People Mtg. - WR
6:30 PM Domestic Abuse Counseling Services - DCR
6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR

Wednesday, February 21

11:30 AM Prayer Group - WR
11:30 AM CDC Training - JHC
12:00 PM Lenten Fellowship Lunch - TH
12:30 PM Lenten Worship Service - Christ Chapel
3:00 PM Hispanic Family Tutoring Class - DCR
5:30 PM F3 Fellowship Supper - TH
6:30 PM Worship with the Africa University Choir - Sanctuary

Thursday, February 22

9:30 AM CDC Devotions - Christ Chapel
12:30 PM PAUSE for Easter - Tapp's Art Center
5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
5:30 PM Foundation Board Meeting - JHC
7:00 PM Palmetto Chamber Orchestra - LCR

Friday, February 23

No Activities Scheduled

Saturday, February 24

1:00 PM Records & History Meeting - Museum & Archives

Sunday, February 25

9:00 AM Worship - Christ Chapel
9:30 AM Girl Scout Cookies Sale
9:30 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR
9:45 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary
3:00 PM Conference UMVIM Training - JHC

Monday, February 26

No Activities Scheduled

Tuesday, February 27

8:00 AM Prayer Group - WR
5:30 PM Disciple 1 Study - JHC
5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
6:00 PM Easter Earthquake - HPR
6:00 PM PAUSE Preview Service - Tapp's Art Center
6:30 PM Domestic Abuse Counseling Services - DCR

Wednesday, February 28

11:30 AM Prayer Group - WR
11:30 AM CDC Training - JHC
12:00 PM Lenten Fellowship Lunch - TH
12:30 PM Lenten Worship Service - Christ Chapel
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, March 1

9:30 AM CDC Devotions - Christ Chapel
12:30 PM PAUSE for Easter - Tapp's Art Center
5:30 PM Circle 2 - WR
5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
7:00 PM Palmetto Chamber Orchestra - LCR

Friday, March 2

12:00 PM Lay Servant Training School

Saturday, March 3

7:30 AM Lay Servant Training School

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