



# THE CONNECTION

January 6, 2019

1401 Washington Street - Columbia, SC - 29201

## SUNDAY DINNER

Sunday, January 27th from 4 - 6 PM

We will host our first Sunday Dinner of the new year on Sunday, January 27th. This is a Family Style Dinner designed to help us engage with those who are experiencing homelessness and/or poverty. Sunday Dinner is modeled after The Welcome Table; a ministry of The Haywood Street United Methodist Mission in Asheville, North Carolina.



Many helping hands were a part of our first Sunday Dinner experience last year, and it wouldn't have been possible without everyone. We want to continue to break down barriers, and extend the family of God to our neighbors as we eat together. A lot of volunteers are needed in order to do so.

Sign up today and let's discover what God will do!

*\* There are various volunteer opportunities available. Further details included in registration.\**

[wsmethodist.org/sundaydinner](http://wsmethodist.org/sundaydinner)



## It Takes a Village

**Question:** What does it take to deck the halls of WSUMC for the holidays?

**Answer:** *A team of volunteers who collectively gave well over 100 hours to make our facilities shine both inside and outside.*



To transform the Chapel, Sanctuary, hallways, Wesley Room and exterior during Advent requires the careful unpacking of decorations, erecting, lighting and decorating two Chrismon trees, hanging wreaths and garland, making bows, unpacking nativity sets, creating visuals for the children's nativity, putting up window and pew candles, and watering poinsettias --- just to name a few of the tasks. In fact, our 90+ live poinsettia plants were moved an average of three to four times each during the season and required weekly watering. Lastly, there was the tedious task of taking down all these decorations and packing them away safely for 2019.



*Many thanks to the following Washington Streeters who helped with these tasks...*

|                   |                 |               |               |                |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| Lane Bowden       | Ansley Jansen   | Jan Merchant  | Deborah Rowe  | Dane Waund     |
| Ron Bowden        | Kel Jansen      | Gwen Murphy   | Lynn Shirley  | Lainey Wood    |
| Marshall Colcord  | Lish Jansen     | Angela Powers | Jerry Sumpter | Kathy Wright   |
| Janet Cotter      | Sierra Jansen   | Davis Powers  | Sarah Threatt | Richard Wright |
| Ann Fishburne     | Jean Kanen      | May Ramsey    | Sam Waldrep   | Alan-Jon Zupan |
| Susan Hefelfinger | Carole McConkey | Kathy Rogers  | Amos Warren   |                |





## Are You Interested?

### *Mission Trip to Ecuador: July 15 - 23, 2019*

After such a successful and meaningful trip to Ecuador last year, our Missions Committee has decided to plan another trip back for the Summer of 2019! If you are interested in learning more about this trip and being a participant, we encourage you to go ahead and save the travel dates on your calendar. We hope you'll prayerfully consider joining our team as they continue to serve as the hands and feet of Christ.

### Questions?

*There will be an interest meeting held on Sunday, January 20th at 9:45 AM in the Wesley Room and further details will be provided.*

For any immediate questions or concerns, please contact Anne Sinclair ([asinclair1@bellsouth.net](mailto:asinclair1@bellsouth.net)) or Pato Aravena ([patricio.aravena@gmail.com](mailto:patricio.aravena@gmail.com)).



## Thank You

*from the Cooperative Ministry  
and Active Faith Small Group*

Due to the congregation's overwhelming generosity of our recent Undie Sundays, the Active Faith Small Group was able to collect close to 1,000 pairs of new underwear to donate to the clothing bank at Cooperative Ministry. Thank you for your faithful support of this campaign and all missions of Washington Street!





# The Gift of Sing-Along Messiah



Sing-Along *Messiah* is a community treasure made possible every year by the congregation of Washington Street. It is a clear demonstration of love for God and neighbor, facilitated through donations from our members and from loyal corporate supporters. We thank you all for your donations and support. We especially thank Lynn Shirley, Beth Matthews, the Grace Class, and Lainey Wood for their significant assistance with production.



Above all, we thank God for Grace that makes Sing-Along *Messiah* such a meaningful Christmas celebration, and for the privilege of our involvement in it. If you have suggestions, please send them to us at [info@singalongmessiah.org](mailto:info@singalongmessiah.org). Check [singalongmessiah.org](http://singalongmessiah.org) for recorded audio and video excerpts from 2018, and for news on Sing-Along *Messiah* 2019, scheduled for December 16th.

In Christ,  
Davis and Angela Powers

## DONORS

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# Save the Summer Dates

## Children and Family Ministries



### MUSIC MANIA DAY CAMP

July 15th - 19th  
 Questions?  
[angela@wsmethodist.org](mailto:angela@wsmethodist.org)



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 24th - 28th  
 Questions?  
[taylor@wsmethodist.org](mailto:taylor@wsmethodist.org)

Mark your calendars and make sure you don't miss out on our fun summer programming!



# YOUTH CORNER

Questions? Concerns? Ask Rev. Taylor!  
[taylor@wsmethodist.org](mailto:taylor@wsmethodist.org)  
[wsmethodist.org/family/youth](http://wsmethodist.org/family/youth)



## REVOLUTION 2019

Join us Friday, Jan. 25th - Sunday Jan 27th for Revolution, a South Carolina Ministries with Young People event hosted at Township Auditorium. Youth from all over the South Carolina United Methodist Conference will join for worship, speakers, and fellowship. This is a great weekend of discipleship and growth!



We will gather on Friday night for opening worship; Saturday all day for morning worship, lunch, fellowship activities, dinner and evening worship; and again on Sunday morning for closing worship. Please note that this is NOT an overnight event so you will need to plan for pick up and drop off each day. WSUMC is a sponsor church this year, so we get a discounted price for our kids to participate! See schedule on the registration form. Register TODAY! [wsmethodist.org/family/youth/reg](http://wsmethodist.org/family/youth/reg)

## METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (MYF)

Beginning this Sunday, January 6th, we will gather for a more regular youth meeting on the first and third Sundays of the month. Activities will either be on-site or nearby and will include things like bowling, movies, game days, service projects, fundraisers, etc. MYF will take place immediately following 11:00 AM worship. These gatherings will happen in addition to weekly Sunday school; not instead of. \*Parents will be asked to sign-up to help provide meals for our on-site events.\*

Register for our next MYF on January 20th by Wednesday, January 16th at 12 PM!

# Conversation MATTERS

Conversation builds relationships and what better way to start the new year? Members and new friends of Washington Street are invited to join Rev. Patricia Parrish for lunch and conversation every Thursday at The Grand on Main Street from 11:45 until 1:15. Come when you can!

## Announcements

**ALDRSGATE CLASS POST-CHRISTMAS PARTY:** The Aldersgate Sunday School Class and their families will gather on Friday, January 25th at 7:00 PM at the home of Wendy and Joe Clark for a post-Christmas celebration. Those wishing to may bring an appetizer or something sweet to this casual gathering. For further details, please contact Wendy Clark. [wendyhiottclark@aol.com](mailto:wendyhiottclark@aol.com)

**COLLEGE STUDENT ADDRESSES:** Please update the status of your college student and their mailing address. The children in the 2's and 3's Sunday School class will begin work on surprises for Washington Street's college students. Send changes or corrections to Mary Lide. [neaudl@aol.com](mailto:neaudl@aol.com)

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN:** Looking for a small group to connect with? Try a circle of United Methodist Women! Circles meet monthly during the school year to study and learn about missions and the Bible. There are daytime and nighttime meetings. Come join us!



Mary's Maidens will meet Sunday, January 13th from 4:00 - 5:30 PM in the Disciple Conference Room. They will be creating Valentines for their February Valentines and Chocolates Sale. They will also decide where to donate the proceeds from the November Spaghetti Dinner. All girls in first through sixth grades are encouraged to attend. Friends are always welcome!

Mark your calendar! Mary's Maidens will be selling Valentines and chocolates on Sundays, February 3rd and 10th. This year the girls have prepared hot chocolate mix using Equal Exchange cocoa to sell!

## Sunday School Classes

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

**THE DAWSEY CLASS:** On January 6th, Carol Krebs will lead the class in a meditation on the Feast of Epiphany, followed by a potluck brunch. On January 13th, the class will begin the book "Sacred Resistance: A Practical Guide to Christian Witness and Dissent" by Ginger Gaines-Cirelli. The Rev. Diana Westerkam from the Grace Class will lead the discussion. Class members should read the first two chapters of the book.

**THE GRACE CLASS:** They will continue a study on the text, "Sacred Resistance," with discussions led by Rev. Diana Westerkam.

**THE JOHN HARPER CLASS:** They will begin a new unit, "Our Love for God."

**THE JOY CLASS:** They will continue their series, "The Gospel of It's A Wonderful Life Bible Study" by Stephen Skelton.

**THE OPEN DOOR CLASS:** They will continue their study of, "The Rock, The Road, and The Rabbi."

**THE PAUL HARMON CLASS:** On January 13th, they will begin a study of Genesis.



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 *Ed McClain*

The Raggio Report provides an ongoing record of Washington Street shortly after the programs and activities it describes happen, according to Ed McClain, chairman of the Raggio Report Committee.

“Rather than waiting for someone to write the next history book about Washington Street, we write a new chapter every two years,” Ed said. That makes the history more accurate, he said.

Mary Raggio was a longtime member of Washington Street, whose backyard neighbor was Al Moses, another church member and her attorney.

When Al prepared Mary's will, she told him she wanted to leave something special to Washington Street. Al remembered a presentation from about 20 years before, using slides and tape narration. It was called the “The Hands of Washington Street” and it became the kernel for the Raggio Report.

Mary Raggio died in 2003, leaving a large bequest to the church to produce the report. It was first shown at the annual Foundation Dinner in 2005 using video and a scripted narration. After the foundation stopped holding those dinners, the report was shown, using two screens, on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary.

Originally, the Raggio Report was produced once a year. Starting in 2009, the committee began an every-two-years schedule, allowing more time to gather material and put it together. The next one will be shown this spring.

“We accept videos and photographs from all church members, with the caveat that we may not be able to use them,” Ed said. The committee also has access to all of the material produced by communication specialist Lainey Wood.

Ed has been a member of the committee from its inception. Al Moses was the first chairman. Current members of the committee are Christine Hait, Elaine Moses, Linda Reardon, Kristie Rowe, Eleanore Vaughan and the Rev. Patricia Parrish.

Segments in this year's Raggio Report will include the mission trip to Ecuador; the “retiring” of the Traxler Class, the formation of the Open Door Class, church life outside the church's walls and the opening of the church to outside groups.

Ed said there has been conversation about posting the report on the Washington Street website.

“We know there are people who (don't see it in church),” he said, “and church members who want to share it with other family and friends.”

Ed grew up in rural Ohio, on a farm his family bought when he was in the eighth grade. His family attended an Evangelical United Brethren church which had fewer than 100 members. His high school class of 26 was the last one before consolidation.

Ed graduated from Ohio State in 1967 with a degree in elementary education. He never worked in education, though. His first jobs were for nonprofits – a caseworker for the Cleveland House of Correction, employment with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, where he worked with a team to start the first residential camp – that he knows of – for kids with cystic fibrosis. In the early 1970s, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation brought him to Columbia to do education and fund-raising.

Ed also worked for the American Heart Association in Columbia, where he ended up being the office manager. Later, he worked for National Society to Prevent Blindness and the Alston Wilkes Society.

In 1989, Ed went to work for Colonial Life & Accident Insurance, training employees to work with enrollment software and training the help desk to respond to independent agents. He retired in 2014.

Ed joined Washington Street on Christmas Day in 1977. Along with Jane Wall, Joe Clark and Carol Benfield, he taught the fifth- and sixth-grade Sunday school class for many years.

He was recruited by Choir Director Arletta Raley to produce many artistic and musical programs, including the church's bicentennial drama.

Ed has two adult children, Courtney who lives on St. Simons Island, Georgia, and Johnathan who lives in Los Angeles. Both grew up at Washington Street. He also has a 10-year-old granddaughter, who lives on St. Simons.

Ed married his partner Jim Blanton almost two years ago. They split their time between Jim's house in Columbia and a house Ed bought in the North Carolina mountains. The closest town is West Jefferson, 30 minutes away. They have made friends there in the arts community and at the farmer's market. Ed hasn't looked for a church there, but he listens to the audio stream of the Washington Street service

Ed said the most meaningful thing to him about Washington Street is the Vision 2020 Identity Statement on the front of the bulletin.

Several years ago a transgender woman asked to hold a Transgender Day of Remembrance service in the chapel. She brought it before our Board of Trustees, and they approved it unanimously.

“We continue to put actions to the words that we say about this church,” Ed said.

*Article Written by Fran Zupan*

## Gifts

### IN MEMORY OF

SKOTTOWE BELLINGER FISHBURNE

*to the Foundation*

by Mrs. Ann L. Fishburne

BILLIE GOODALL

*to the Foundation*

by Christian and Katherine Crosthwaite  
by Sojourner, Caughman & Thomas LLC

CRAIG OREN HAMPTON

*to WSUMC*

by John & Mary Lue Finch

BILLY MCALISTER

*to Sing-Along Messiah*

by Anne Cherry Stone

MRS. NANCY MILLS

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Windsor UMC Soup Cellar Volunteers

LUKE NANCE

*to Sing-Along Messiah*

by Anne Cherry Stone

MRS. DORIS RICHARD

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Windsor UMC Soup Cellar Volunteers

CALVIN LEO ROSS

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Kevin & Carol Duggan

VALERIE ROWE-JACKSON

*to Sing-Along Messiah*

by Virginia Vaughan

### IN HONOR OF

MR. & MRS. DON BARTON

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Janet Cotter

GARRISON BATCHELOR

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Robbie & Lisa Douglas

MARY LIDE

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Robbie & Lisa Douglas

REV. PARRISH & THE  
WASHINGTON STREET STAFF

*to WSUMC*

by Mike & Charlotte Broome

MR. & MRS. RUFUS ROGERS

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Janet Cotter

MRS. EARL STRADTMAN

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Janet Cotter

SARAH THREATT

*to the Soup Cellar*

by the WSUMC Soup Cellar Committee

TONI WHITE

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Ann White



# United Methodist Women

## January Circle Meetings

- Mary's Maidens:** Sunday, January 13th | 4:00 - 5:30 PM *Disciple Conference Room*  
**Circle 2:** Thursday, January 3rd | 5:30 - 6:30 PM *Wesley Room*  
**Circle 3:** Tuesday, January 8th | 10:30 - 11:30 AM *Wesley Room*  
**Circle 5:** Tuesday, January 8th | 7:00 - 8:00 PM *at the Home of Beverly McClanahan*  
**Circle 6:** Tuesday, January 8th | 10:00 - 11:00 AM *John Harper Classroom*  
**Circle 9:** TBD

## CALENDAR OF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

### *Sunday, January 6*

- 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, January 7*

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

### *Tuesday, January 8*

- 8:00 AM Prayer Group - WR
- 10:00 AM Circle 6 - JHC
- 10:30 AM Circle 3 - WR
- 1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
- 2:00 PM Staff Meeting - JHC
- 2:00 PM Reconciling Ministries of SC - WR
- 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 Sunday Dinner Planning Meeting - JHC
- 6:30 PM Domestic Abuse Counseling Services - DCR
- 6:30 PM Palmetto Mastersingers - Chapel
- 7:00 PM Circle 5 - Home of Beverly McClanahan

### *Wednesday, January 9*

- 10:45 AM Prayer Group - HPR
- 1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
- 3:30 PM Hispanic Families Tutoring Class - 2nd Floor Classrooms
- 6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR

### *Thursday, January 10*

- 9:30 AM CDC Devotions - Christ Chapel
- 11:45 AM Conversation Matters - The Grand on Main
- 1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
- 5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
- 7:00 PM Palmetto Chamber Orchestra - LCR

### *Friday, January 11*

- 1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC

### *Saturday, January 12*

- No Activities Scheduled

### *Sunday, January 13*

- 9:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:30 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary
- 2:00 PM Columbia District Leadership Training
- 4:00 PM Mary's Maidens - DCR

### *Monday, January 14*

- 1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
- 5:30 PM Faith Formation Team Meeting - JHC

### *Tuesday, January 15*

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

### *Wednesday, January 16*

- 1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
- 3:30 PM Hispanic Families Tutoring Class - 2nd Floor
- 6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR

### *Thursday, January 17*

- 9:30 AM CDC Devotions - Chapel
- 11:45 AM Conversation Matters - The Grand on Main
- 1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
- 4:00 PM Killingsworth Board Meeting - JHC
- 5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
- 5:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting - WR
- 7:00 PM Palmetto Chamber Orchestra - LCR

### *Friday, January 18*

- 1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC

### *Saturday, January 19*

- No Activities Scheduled

JHC - John Harper Classroom

TH - Threatt Hall

YR - Youth Room

LCR - Leavitt Choir Room

DCR - Disciple Conference Room

WR - Wesley Room

HPR - Holroyd Prayer Room

SC - Soup Cellar