



# THE CONNECTION

January 7, 2018

1401 Washington Street - Columbia, SC - 29201

Monday - Friday ■ 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

*Happy New Year!*

## A Message from our Minister

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Regardless of how we celebrated the incoming of a New Year, the New Year has begun. Most of us spend a little time looking back; it's the thing to do. We have seen our congregation fully embrace Renewal 2020 as our FACE Teams, and Committees gave superb leadership in our new program structure. I sense a renewed excitement among our members as we engage in new ministries and missions and take new risks for extending the Gospel into our community.

We began the New Year in worship (December 31) with a message from our Associate Minister for Nurture and Disciple Development, Alston Lippert. She challenged us to be "intentionally faithful" in the New Year. In almost the first paragraph she captured my imagination with the description of some of us putting our relationship with God on "auto pilot". I thought of all the ways I have let that happen over the years. Can you think of ways you have let that happen? The practices that are habitual and easy to fulfill are accomplished, but is there a hunger to go deeper with God? Is there a desire to ponder anew the gift of God's abundant life?

As the Renewal 2020 Team met (before I arrived) they were intentional in discussing renewal not as simply growing in numbers, but in deepening our faith and our walk with God. I am in agreement with that Team that our relationship with God, our discipleship, is the foundation for our renewal as individuals and as a congregation. I do not want WSUMC to do more in order to be busy. Business does not make or nurture disciples. I want us to be intentional about deepening our relationship with God so that sharing the joy of knowing God through Jesus becomes a natural expression of who we are.

As we move into 2018, I encourage you to begin making some intentional commitments. We are launching new small groups this January. A study of the book by Howard Thurman, Jesus and the Disinherited, will begin on Tuesday, January 16th at noon. Reverend Lippert will lead that discussion. Beth Matthews will lead a discussion of Reuben Job's book, Three Simple Questions, on Thursday evenings at 5:30, beginning January 18th. Maybe this is an intentional step that you could take. Or maybe you need to re-engage with Sunday School. Or, you would like to serve on a ministry team. We can always add new members to ministry teams; is God calling you to deepen your commitment to serving as a leader in the congregation? Or maybe God is challenging you to be more regular in worship or to practice generosity in new ways: teaching or singing in the choir. We will be Previewing our service PAUSE: TO REFLECT, TO RENEW, TO CONNECT January 25th at 12:15 at the Tapp's Fountain Room. How about committing to helping launch this new service for our downtown community? As we enter into the season of Lent on February 14th, new small group studies will launch, and our Wednesday Lenten services and luncheons will begin. All of these are opportunities for you to deepen your relationship with God, *INTENTIONALLY*.

It's a new Year and a new opportunity to encounter and to be encountered by the God who is making all things new.

Peace,  
Patricia

# Servant's Heart Award



With grateful hearts, our Washington St. Soup Cellar & management team accepted the *Servant's Heart Award* at the end of December from the Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless, "In recognition of a commitment to the individuals experiencing homelessness, while maintaining a spirit of humility." Thank you to Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless and United Way of the Midlands for their continuous support and dedication to our Soup Cellar, and the entire community.

This mission would be impossible without the many local churches, organizations and groups that give of their time and resources to ensure that our Soup Cellar continues to provide encouragement, warmth, and care to those who need it. With their help, we served over 52,000 meals to the homeless and working poor in 2017.

To learn more about the various ways you can support the Soup Cellar and its ministry, visit our website. [www.wsmethodist.org](http://www.wsmethodist.org)



## Announcements

**THANK YOU:** Thank you to everyone who contributed items for the Soup Cellar Gift Bags. Over 300 bags were distributed!

**MARY'S MAIDENS:** Mary's Maidens will meet next on Sunday, Jan. 14th from 4:00 - 5:30 PM in the Disciple Conference Room. They will be making Valentines for their Valentines & Chocolate Sale in February! All girls in first through sixth grades are invited to join them for this fun time of service to others. Friends are always welcome!

**PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE:** Our Boy Scouts are very thankful for your generosity and support of the Peanut Butter Drive for our Soup Cellar! They will continue to collect peanut butter outside of the Church Office until Sunday, January 14th.

**SHEPHERD'S CENTER:** Attention seniors! The Shepherd's Center of Columbia starts it's winter session on January 10, 2018. For information, go to their web site at [shepherdscentercolumbia.org](http://shepherdscentercolumbia.org). Notice that the address is slightly changed; it now has an s after shepherd.

**YARD SALE:** As you are doing your winter cleaning, please set aside your donations to bring to the church in several months! The Active Faith Small Group will sponsor a church-wide yard sale in the early Spring. \*A date will be announced later this month.\* Proceeds from the sale will benefit the group's missions and special projects. Donations will be accepted of household items, jewelry, toys, books and media items, and seasonal items. Large furniture and clothing will not be accepted. The church will NOT be able to pick up items nor can they be stored until a week or so before the sale. Have any questions? Reach out to any member of the Active Faith Small Group!

# FIRM IT UP



Is one of your New Year's resolutions to lose some weight and become healthier? Consider taking advantage of a resource at WSUMC to meet that goal and have fun with others at the same time! Firm IT Up is an hour exercise class on Tues and Thurs at 5:30 PM in the 3rd floor Youth Room. The class covers cardio, strengthening and balance. The intensity of the program can be varied to cover where each individual may be on the fitness spectrum.

Classes are \$4.00. Come try a session for free! For more info, contact Lynn Shirley at [wmlynnsc@gmail.com](mailto:wmlynnsc@gmail.com) or Sam Waldrep at [swaldrep@sc.rr.com](mailto:swaldrep@sc.rr.com).

## Engage with Washington Street

There are so many new ways to keep up with the growing life of our church, and we want you to be a part of them. No matter where you are or what you're doing, you can still stay engaged with Washington Street!



### Engage Washington

#### *Membership Communication Program*

If you're a Washington St. member, you have full access to our online membership communication program. Take advantage of tools such as...

- Pictorial Directories (Individual & Family)
- Church Calendar
- Small Groups (UMW Circles, Committees, Sunday School, etc.)
- Outreach & Volunteer Opportunities
- Online Giving & Pledging
- Your Giving History
- Event Registration & Payment

Sign up TODAY and have all of these opportunities at your fingertips!

Go to [www.wsmethodist.org](http://www.wsmethodist.org) and click "LOGIN" to join.

Questions or concerns? [lainey@wsmethodist.org](mailto:lainey@wsmethodist.org)

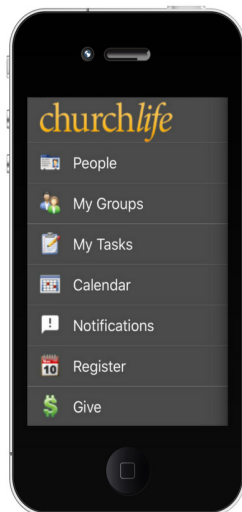
Engage Washington is open to only professing members to ensure information security. Members MUST create a password protected account to sign up.

### Church Life App

#### *Engage Washington On-The-Go*

Once you've joined Engage Washington, download the "ACS Church Life" app on your smart phone or tablet. This app gives you convenient access to our entire Engage Washington program wherever you are! It is available for download \*free of charge\* on both Apple and Android devices.

Login information is the same as Engage Washington.



# Join a Sunday School Class

Sunday school classes offer a sense of community, encouragement, accountability, and spiritual growth. Children, youth, and adults; there is a place for you at Washington Street!



Several of our adult Sunday School classes just started new studies, and others are wrapping up previous ones. Looking for a place to go this Sunday morning? New friends are always welcome!

**THE ALDERSGATE CLASS:** They're beginning a 6 week program of study based upon Joel Osteen's #1 Bestselling Book, *Your Best Life Now*; this Sunday, January 7th.

**THE GRACE CLASS:** They're kicking off 2018 with lessons from the series, "Living the Questions."

**THE JOHN HARPER CLASS:** Their focus for the winter quarter is "Faith in Action," with a hands-on reading approach of interpreting the bible with rotating teachers.

**THE OPEN DOOR CLASS:** Belief leads to action and trials lead to growth. For the next few weeks, they will be studying the practical messages in the book of James and experiencing a new energy toward acting out one's faith.

*"Through the bond of Christian relationship that develops, Christians strengthen one another so that they are able to carry their experience of God's presence and love into the activities of their everyday lives."*

At Washington Street, children are guided to grow in their faith and become genuine followers of Jesus Christ. Our mission is to partner with families for the spiritual formation of their children. There are Sunday School classes available for infants through graduating high-school seniors, along with active Children & Youth Ministries.



Are you new to Washington Street, or do you know a family looking for a church home?

*No matter the age, Washington Street is a place where you and your family will find community.*



DEADLINE  
EXTENDED



## YOUTH CORNER

## ROUND TABLE



A weekend of worship bands, speakers, and FUN with thousands of youth from across the state! Think you might be interested? Let Rev. Taylor know and she'll send you the registration info. Registration will close on January 21st.

[taylor@wsmethodist.org](mailto:taylor@wsmethodist.org)

**BRING A FRIEND!**

Join Rev. Taylor THIS SUNDAY, Jan. 7th at 9:45 AM in the Youth Room for Sunday school and discussion and brainstorming! Bring your ideas to the table for youth group activities and programs.

No idea is too big or too crazy! A light breakfast will be provided and one lucky youth will win a \$20 Fandango Movie gift card!

Questions? Ask Rev. Taylor! [taylor@wsmethodist.org](mailto:taylor@wsmethodist.org)

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 *Jerry Sumpter*

"Working at Washington Street has helped him grow spiritually," property/maintenance supervisor Jerry Sumpter said.

It was the church's "friendly Christian spirit" that made him fall in love with it, Jerry said. He especially enjoyed talking with members of the congregation, including Bill Brumbach, Dunbar Godbold, Jenny Curtis and Esther Lanier and others in the "old Soup Cellar crew."

Jerry has worked here more than 25 years. He was hired to work part time, stripping and waxing the first floor and cleaning the sanctuary. After working at Washington Street in the morning, he went to his full-time job, night-time supervisor at John P. Thomas Elementary School in Richland District One.

When Joe Garris, the church's building superintendent, resigned, Jerry asked Dr. John Stapleton, the senior minister, for the job, and he got it.

Today, he oversees the work of outside contractors, supervises custodians and helps staff and members with whatever they ask him to do.

"I walk around and make sure the property is well-kept," Jerry said, and when a contractor completes a job, he and business manager, Robbie Douglas, inspect the job to make sure it was done correctly.

Jerry grew up in Orangeburg and went to Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School. The year he was a senior he was the point guard on the basketball team that won the state championship.

He met his wife, Sonya Green-Sumpter, when she was working in the church's Child Development Center after she left public-school teaching. But it wasn't until after she left the CDC that they connected at Saint Luke's Baptist Church on Farrow Road and started dating.

They were married in 2001 in the Washington Street sanctuary. The Rev. Dr. Mike Alexander, Washington Street's senior minister, and the Rev. Gerald Tucker, from Saint Luke's Baptist, officiated, and people from both congregations attended.

Today Jerry and Sonya, who is a senior analyst in SCE&G's Transmission Department, have two children: 9-year-old Justus, whose main interest is soccer, and Sierra, a freshman at Ridge View High School, where she plays basketball and runs track. Sierra also plays violin in the school orchestra and in their church, First Northeast Baptist. Jerry also has an older son, Jeremy Sumpter, from a previous relationship. Jerry has four season tickets to the Gamecock Women's basketball games. They take the kids to the weekend games, and sometimes, he and his wife go during the week. He also has taken his son's soccer team to see the Gamecock Women's soccer team play. Jerry has coached youth recreational sports – soccer and basketball – for about 15 years. He also has coached basketball for his church's team.

"I fit it all in," he said. "I believe in being there for whatever my kids like to do." Asked if he has felt the spirit of any Washington Street saints who have gone on to the next world, Jerry said he isn't sure.

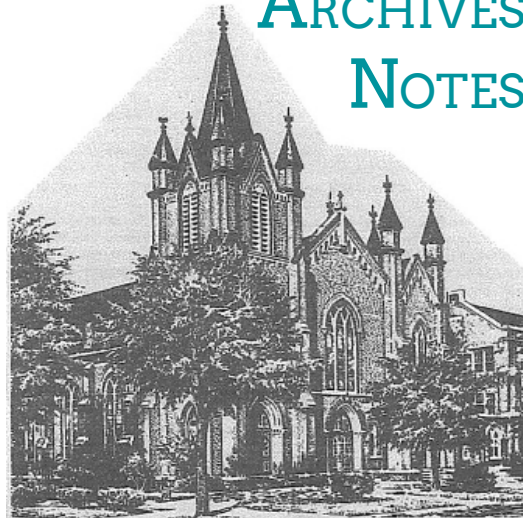
"If I hear a door closing or see something out of the corner of my eye, I tell myself that that's just Sophie checking on everybody to see if they're doing what they ought to be doing," he said. Sophie is the woman who is buried under the church. According to the story, her husband put a glass faceplate on the casket so he could continue to see her beauty.

To get to her grave, you must go down a little scuttle hole in the janitor's closet, located next to the 2s and 3s Sunday School room. Then, you crawl through a lighted passage that leads to the grave, which is located between Patricia's and Joe's offices.

In years past, youths in the church, who wanted to see Sophie, would make the trip. And every once in a while, Jerry gets a phone call from "someone who wants to go down and see her, and they do," Jerry said. But he never went down to see her himself. "I've been told the glass has a nice little crack in it, and you really can't see her like you used to," he said.

*Article by Fran Zupan*

## ARCHIVES NOTES



### 25 YEARS AGO

In early January 1993 the church's soup cellar relocated to Sydney Park C.M.E. Church on Assembly Street. This move was necessitated by renovation work on the "1990 Building" (in the rear of the Sanctuary) which lasted most of the year.

### 75 YEARS AGO

On January 17, 1943 our church observed Wofford College Day. The following entry appeared in the January 10th bulletin: "A grave crisis confronts the smaller colleges due to the lowering of the draft age [during World War II] to include students 18 & 19 years of age. This will take approximately 75% of the Wofford Student Body... We will not let this grand old institution down during this emergency."

## Gifts

### IN MEMORY OF LOIS MCBRIDE BAKER

*to the Umbrella Ministry*

by Judith Tarleton

*to WSUMC*

by Mary & Lanneau Lide

PAT BRODIE

*to WSUMC*

by Mary & Lanneau Lide

JESS COOK

*to Sing-Along Messiah*

by Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Epting

*to WSUMC*

by Mary & Lanneau Lide

L. ARLEN COTTER

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Mrs. Earl Stradtman

*Gifts continued on page 6...*

# Meet our Staff

## SENIOR MINISTER

Reverend Patricia Parrish  
[pjparrish@umcsc.org](mailto:pjparrish@umcsc.org)

## ASSOCIATE MINISTER FOR NURTURE AND DISCIPLESHIP DEVELOPMENT

Reverend Alston Lippert  
[aflippert@umcsc.org](mailto:aflippert@umcsc.org)

## ASSOCIATE MINISTER OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Reverend Taylor Pafford  
[taylor@wsmethodist.org](mailto: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](http://www.wsmethodist.org)



### KATHY DELEON

*to the Foundation*

by Happy Henry

### HATTIE & MOODY HENRY

*to WSUMC*

by Mary & Lanneau Lide

### BARBARA HORNE

*to the Music Ministry*

by Mary & Lanneau Lide

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Marilyn L. Schroder

### VIRGINIA JESSUP

*to the Music Ministry*

by Mary & Lanneau Lide

### ED & JEANETTE KIMBROUGH

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Rowena Nylund

### ELIZABETH MASZK

*to WSUMC*

by Mary & Lanneau Lide

### MIMI MEETZE

*to WSUMC*

by Beverly McClanahan

### THE PARENTS OF PAT PANTSARI

*to WSUMC*

by Pat Pantsari

### LELLA PFIEFFER

*to the Music Ministry*

by Mary & Lanneau Lide

### JOAN SAMMONS

*to the Music Ministry*

by Mary & Lanneau Lide

*to the Soup Cellar*

by David Byrum

*to the Stain Glass Window Fund*

by Ned Self

*to the Umbrella Ministry*

by Jim Lane

*to WSUMC*

by Dr. & Mrs. William R. Childs

by Rufus & Kathy Rogers

by Virginia B. Vaughan

### ARLENE SHULER

*to the Foundation*

by Happy Henry

*to the Music Ministry*

by Robert & Joan Beamer

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Circle 6

by Nancy Boykin

by Donna Bryan

by Davis & Brenda Hook

by Jean S. Hook

by Hope Ferry Home Group/

Riverbend Community

by Rufus & Kathy Rogers

by Peggy Weston

by Ann White

*to WSUMC*

by Mike & Charlotte Broome

by Mary & Lanneau Lide

by Virginia B. Vaughan

### ROY SUTHERLAND

*to the Music Ministry*

by Mary & Lanneau Lide

### H. DAVE WHITENER, JR.

*to WSUMC*

by Tricia Wharton Whitener

## IN HONOR OF

### MR. AND MRS. DONALD BARTON

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Mrs. L. Arlen Cotter

### JANET A. COTTER

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Mrs. Earl Stradtman

### MR. AND MRS. JERRY FRANK CREWS

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Mrs. L. Arlen Cotter

### THE FAITH COALITION ON GUN VIOLENCE

*to the Music Ministry*

by Kathy Handel

### MR. AND MRS. FLYNN HARRELL

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Mrs. L. Arlen Cotter

### THE OPEN DOOR CLASS

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Harvey & Ann Jessup

### HOLLY & DONALD SCOFIELD

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Gerald Floyd

### MRS. EARL STRADTMAN

*to the Soup Cellar*

by Mrs. L. Arlen Cotter

### TOM WALL

*to Missions*

by Jim & Gloria Apple

(continued)



Wednesday, January 17th | 5:30 PM | Threatt Hall

Bring your family and invite a neighbor to join us for dinner and fellowship with each other. Tickets will be on sale this Sunday and next (1/7 & 1/14). Unable to stop by the ticket table? Email Lainey and let her know how many you'd like to reserve. [lainey@wsmethodist.org](mailto:lainey@wsmethodist.org)  
*This F3 will be a GAME NIGHT! After dinner, we'll break out fun games for all ages. We'll have several family favorite board games and activities, but you are also welcome to bring some of YOUR favorites to share!*

### The Gift of Sing-Along Messiah

Sing-Along Messiah is a wonderful gift to very many people, given by the congregation of Washington Street out of love for God, community, and music. It is a gift that resonates for weeks, and we count it as a tremendous blessing. We thank God for the generosity of Washington Street people, and thank all of you who contributed to it. In addition to donors, we recognize and thank the Grace Class, Lainey Wood, Lynn Shirley, and Patricio Aravena for their assistance with production.

We welcome participation and input from everyone. If you have suggestions, please send them to us at [info@singalongmessiah.org](mailto:info@singalongmessiah.org). Check [singalongmessiah.org](http://singalongmessiah.org) for excerpts from 2017, and for news on Sing-Along Messiah 2018, scheduled for December 17.

Blessings to all.  
 Davis and Angela Powers



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# United Methodist Women

## January Circle Meetings

Mary's Maidens - Sunday, January 14th at 4:00 PM | *Disciple Conference Room*

Circle 2 - Thursday, January 4th at 5:30 PM | *Wesley Room*

Circle 3 - Tuesday, January 9th at 10:30 AM | *Wesley Room*

Circle 5 - Tuesday, January 9th at 7:00 PM | *Home of Gwen Murphy*

Circle 6 - Tuesday, January 9th at 10:00 AM | *John Harper Classroom*

Circle 9 - Monday, January 8th at 5:45 PM | *Holroyd Prayer Room*

## CALENDAR OF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

### Sunday, January 7

- 9:00 AM Worship & Communion - Christ Chapel
- 9:45 Youth Round Table - YR
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 10:00 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR
- 11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary
- 2:00 PM Records & History Meeting - Museum/Archives

### Monday, January 8

- 5:30 PM Evangelism Team Meeting - WR
- 5:45 PM Circle 9 - HPR
- 6:30 PM Board of Trustees Meeting - JHC

### Tuesday, January 9

- 8:00 AM Prayer Group - WR
- 10:00 AM Circle 6 - JHC
- 10:30 AM Circle 3 - WR
- 4:00 PM FCGV - WR
- 5:30 PM AVP - WR
- 5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
- 5:30 PM Disciple 1 Study - JHC
- 6:30 PM Domestic Abuse Counseling Services - DCR
- 7:00 PM Circle 5 - Home of Gwen Murphy

### Wednesday, January 10

- 10:45 AM Prayer Group - HPR
- 2:00 PM Staff Meeting - JHC
- 3:00 PM Hispanic Family Tutoring Class - DCR
- 5:30 PM Handbells Practice - 3rd Floor Choir Room
- 6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR

### Thursday, January 11

- 9:30 AM CDC Devotions
- 5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
- 7:00 PM Palmetto Chamber Orchestra - LCR

### Friday, January 12 | Saturday, January 13

No Activities Scheduled

### Sunday, January 14

- 9:00 AM Worship - Christ 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, January 15

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Church Office/CDC/Soup Cellar - CLOSED

### Tuesday, January 16

- 8:00 AM Prayer Group - WR
- 5:30 PM Disciple 1 Study - JHC
- 5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
- 6:30 PM Domestic Abuse Counseling Services - DCR

### Wednesday, January 17

- 10:45 AM Prayer Group - HPR
- 3:00 PM Hispanic Family Tutoring Class - DCR
- 5:30 PM F3 Fellowship Supper - TH
- 5:30 PM Handbells Practice - 3rd Floor Choir Room
- 6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR

### Thursday, January 18

- 9:30 AM CDC Devotions - Christ Chapel
- 12:00 PM Lunch Bunch - TH
- 5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
- 7:00 PM Palmetto Chamber Orchestra - LCR

### Friday, January 19

No Activities Scheduled

### Saturday, January 20

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

GSR- Girl Scout Room