



# THE CONNECTION

June 24, 2018

1401 Washington Street - Columbia, SC - 29201

Monday - Friday ■ 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM ■ 803-256-2417

## Annual Conference Report



PICTURED ABOVE (LEFT TO RIGHT): RICK ROWE, DEBORAH ROWE, CAROL FOWLER, MIKE BROOME, (NOT PICTURED: DON FOWLER AND CHARLOTTE BROOME)

The 2018 South Carolina Annual Conference was held in Greenville, South Carolina, from June 3 - 6 with the theme "A More Excellent Way: In Mission from Anywhere to Everywhere." Approximately 2,000 United Methodists attended. The Washington Street delegation included clergy members, Rev. Alston Lippert and Rev. Taylor Pafford, and lay members, Carol Fowler, Don Fowler, Deborah Rowe, Rick Rowe, Mike Broome, and Charlotte Broome. Other clergy, whose Charge Conferences are tied to Washington Street, were also in attendance.

Rev. Alston Lippert was recognized during the report of The Board of Ordained Ministry as a recipient of The T. Dennis Smith Scholarship; former Washington Street Pastor, Rev. Dr. Mike Alexander, provided a message of hope and faith at the Memorial Service; and former Washington Street Pastors, Rev. Dr. Bill Childs and Rev. Dr. Paul Harmon, were recognized during the Retirement Service. Former South Carolina Bishop J. Lawrence McCleskey provided a report on Africa University.

Bishop Holston's excellent leadership was, again, felt throughout the Conference. In his opening sermon he called the Conference "a gathering of people of faith." He stressed that "it doesn't matter what part of South Carolina you are from, whether you are from Wallace or Buckhead....We are built for God's Purpose....When we allow God's Holy Spirit to find its way into our lives, what a time, what a time, what a time!"

In addition to Bishop Holston's sermons, delegates heard presentations by Bishop Mildred Bonnie Hines and Rev. Angela Ford Nelson. Bible Study was provided each day by Dr. Herbert Marbury, Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible at Vanderbilt University.

Attendees lifted up several significant milestones, including the 50th anniversary of the formation of The United Methodist Church and the 40th anniversary of Salkahatchie. Twenty-eight pastors were commissioned or ordained, and 29 men and women were licensed as local pastors. Epworth Children's Home announced a state-wide campaign to raise \$7-\$10 million dollars over a three-year period. Clergy and laity packed thousands of health kits, which the United Methodist Committee on Relief will use to help survivors of hurricanes and other disasters. And, as part of the Bishop's Hulapalooza health initiative, 584 attendees (including Washington Streeters!) broke the Guinness world record for the number of people who can pass through a hula hoop without breaking the human chain.....really!

*Report continued on page 2...*



PICTURED ABOVE: BISHOP L. JONATHAN HOLSTON



PICTURED ABOVE: THE BISHOP'S HULAPALOOZA HEALTH INITIATIVE OF BREAKING THE GUINNESS WORLD RECORD OF A HUMAN HOOLAHOOP CHAIN

S.C. United Methodists re-voted on Constitutional Amendment I, one of five approved by the 2016 General Conference but required ratification by annual conferences before inclusion in The Discipline. The re-vote on this gender justice amendment was needed because the version the denomination voted on last year contained an error in the text.

Thanks to strong investment earnings, clergy and laity covered by South Carolina's health insurance plan will see no increase in premiums next year even though premium costs will rise. The proposed 2019 Conference budget of \$17,008,921.00, a .4% increase, was adopted.

Bishop Holston asked attendees to be in prayer for the South Carolina delegates who will attend the called 2019 Special Session of the General Conference. The Council of Bishops has voted to share the work done by the Commission on a Way Forward on three plans related to the human sexuality issue and to recommend the One Church Plan, which will be placed before this 2019 General Conference for legislative action. (These plans have been described in recent Advocate issues.) The clergy and laity who were elected by the S.C. Conference to attend the 2016 General Conference will comprise our delegation.

The Report of the Committee on Resolutions and Appeals initiated the greatest amount of discussion. Included were three resolutions which passed, a Resolution in Support of Just and Inclusive Policy for Lay Volunteers and Lay Staff in Local Church Ministry (amended), a Resolution to Ensure that Every Child in State Care Receives the Best Possible Care (amended), and a Resolution Designating Old Bethel United Methodist Church, Charleston, a United Methodist Historic Site; two resolutions which were ruled out of order, a Resolution for Gracious Accommodation South Carolina Annual Conference and a Resolution to Support Equal Rights for Israelis and Palestinians in what We Call The Holy Land – From the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea; and one resolution which was referred to the S.C. Delegation to the called 2019 General Conference, a Resolution Affirming Current Language in the Book of Discipline Regarding Human Sexuality.

All Conference reports (Conference Homes; Conference Colleges, Universities, and Wesley Fellowships; Archives and History; the Advocate; UMM; UMW; Lake Junaluska; Theological Seminaries; other committees and boards; etc.) can be found on the S.C. Conference website ([www.umcsc.org](http://www.umcsc.org)).

Bishop Holston provided a very meaningful and moving closing service which included the "fixing of appointments." Rev. Patricia J. Parrish was re-appointed to Washington Street as Senior Minister, Rev. Alston F. Lippert was appointed Associate for Nurture and Discipleship Development, and Rev. Taylor Driskill Pafford was appointed Associate Minister of Children and Family Ministries.

The 2019 Annual Conference will be held June 2 – 6 in Greenville at the TD Convention Center. The Committee on Future Sites proposed that the Annual Conference be moved back to Florence in 2020 for a three-year rotation at the Florence Center.

*Written by Charlotte Broome,  
Lay Member to the 2018 S.C. Annual Conference*



**T. DENNIS SMITH SCHOLARSHIP  
CONGRATULATIONS, REVEREND LIPPERT!**

PICTURED ABOVE (LEFT TO RIGHT): BISHOP L. JONATHAN HOLSTON, REV. LIPPERT, AND JEFFREY SALLEY (BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY)



## Gifts

In Memory Of

NORMA GALLOWAY BARR  
*to the Soup Cellar*  
by John and Lynda Galloway

LUKE NANCE  
*to Music Ministries*  
by the John Harper Class  
by Godshall Colgate, LLC  
by Matthew Perry  
by Rick and Deborah Rowe

LUKE NANCE  
*to WSUMC*  
by Ramona & Rusty Poole

DORIS HARLEY SALLEY  
*to the Stained Glass Widow Fund*  
by John and Lynda Galloway

ROY SUTHERLAND  
*to WSUMC*  
by Homer & Linda  
Fesperman

LARRY M. STEPHENS  
*to Music Ministries*  
by Chip Williams

## Announcements

WI-FI NETWORK PASSWORD: Beginning Monday, July 2nd, our “WSUMC Guest” Wi-Fi network will be password protected to avoid unintentional usage slowing down it’s efficiency. *We don’t want this to prevent you from using the Wi-Fi as you’d like!* We have made this change to enhance it’s speed and performance for members and visitors of Washington Street. We encourage you to share this information with others who would like to use the network while here as well. *The new password will be “engage” (all lowercase).*

SUMMER CHOIR: Our Sanctuary Choir has moved to their Summer schedule! That means the choir will only practice on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM and then sing for worship at 11:00 AM. WE NEED YOU! This is vacation season and summer break for many of our members. Please help us to continue to lead worship in a meaningful way. You are welcome to just show up on a Sunday morning when you’re available, or you can contact our Director of Music, Angela Powers, to reserve your music, robe, and seat. (angela@wsmethodist.org or 803-622-0308)

CHRISTMAS IN JULY SOUP CELLAR GIFT BAGS AND ECUADOR HEALTH KITS: Thank you to everyone who has contributed items for the Soup Cellar gift bags and the health kits for Ecuador. Mary’s Maidens and the Ecuador mission team need more items to fill the bags. Monetary donations are welcome! *Items needed:* Toiletries (travel size soap, shampoo, lotion), toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, deodorant, washcloths, sunscreen, granola bars and snack crackers, vienna sausages, and flip flops

THE RECORDS & HISTORY COMMITTEE: You might have heard that the WSUMC Records & History Committee is working to revamp our museum with a remodeled museum area, specific points of focus for the rich history of Washington Street Church, and professional display facilities. As this process has moved forward, we’ve identified a pressing need for more artifacts, documents, photographs--anything that YOU think might help us tell our important story. We encourage you to donate items related to the church, or, if you would be more comfortable to lend items to the R & H Committee, we promise to record carefully the proper ownership and to take good care of your possessions. Please contact a member of the R & H Committee if you wish to donate an item: Bob Beamer, Christine Hait, Richard Owen, Rozanna Pfeiffer, John Radford, Shelley Stafford, and Mike Broome. Thank you!

## Sunday School Classes

THE ALDERSGATE CLASS AND THE PAUL HARMON CLASS: Beginning on Sunday, June 24th and 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: Beginning on Sunday, June 24th the Rev. Joe Slade will lead the class in a three-week discussion of “Spiritual Resources and Art.” The class will explore some of theological aspects of artistic expression, as well as, the theology that is art.

THE GRACE CLASS AND THE JOY CLASS: These classes will join together for six weeks beginning Sunday, June 24th and discuss the text, *John: Gospel of Light and Life*, by Adam Hamilton.

THE JOHN HARPER CLASS: Using New Testament texts that focus on justice, they explore Jesus’ teachings on God’s justice in Matthew and Luke.

THE OPEN DOOR CLASS: This summer, the Open Door Class will study *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.



College students often find themselves too young for adult Sunday school classes, but have outgrown the Youth Ministry. Young adults 1-2 years out of college graduation are in a place where they’re too old for college ministries, yet some ironically find themselves not “old enough” for the typical young adult ministry. So where do they go?

Washington Street’s Young Adult Sunday School Class works to combine all of the uncertainties together, and create a community where age isn’t the guideline, but it’s the desire to engage in conversation and relationships with others. College students, recent college graduates, mid twenties - early thirties are ALL welcome and encouraged to join us for this new journey of growth and discipleship. Plus: coffee and snacks are always provided! This group continues to meet at 10 AM in the Holroyd Prayer Room.

# pause

to reflect. to renew. to connect.

Are you often out of town on summer weekends? Unable to join us for worship on Sunday mornings? Our **PAUSE** gatherings will meet weekly this Summer in an effort to provide an opportunity to step back from the rush of daily life and gather with the hope that in the **practice of mindful Christianity**, we can connect with God and one another in fresh ways. Together we will pray, read, reflect, journal, listen and use the arts as we seek to be wholly engaged with God. *Join us on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 PM in the Wesley Room (with the exception of July 3rd) for this new opportunity of **mindful Christian practice**.*

To learn more about **PAUSE**, visit [www.wsmethodist.org/pause/](http://www.wsmethodist.org/pause/)

## CALENDAR OF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

### Sunday, June 24

9:00 AM Worship - Christ Chapel  
 9:30 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 11:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary

### Monday, June 25

8:45 AM VBS - Church Campus  
 1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC

### Tuesday, June 26

8:00 AM Prayer Group - WR  
 8:45 AM VBS - Church Campus  
 1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC  
 6:00 PM PAUSE - WR  
 6:30 PM Domestic Abuse Counseling Services - DCR

### Wednesday, June 27

8:45 AM VBS - Church Campus  
 10:45 AM Prayer Group - HPR  
 1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC  
 6:00 PM Summer Book Discussion - WR

### Thursday, June 28

8:45 AM VBS - Church Campus  
 1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC  
 6:00 PM UMM - WR

### Friday, June 28

8:45 AM VBS - Church Campus  
 1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC

### Saturday, June 30

No Activities Scheduled

### Sunday, July 1

9:00 AM Worship and Communion - Christ Chapel  
 9:30 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 11:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary

### Monday, July 2

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC  
 2:00 PM Staff Meeting - JHC

### Tuesday, July 3

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

### Wednesday, July 4

Church Office/Soup Cellar/CDC - CLOSED

### Thursday, July 5

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

### Friday, July 6

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC

### Saturday, July 7

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