



THE CONNECTION

November 19, 2017

1401 Washington Street - Columbia, SC - 29201

Monday - Friday ■ 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

A Church Wide Thank You!

This past Sunday, we acknowledged Consecration Sunday and celebrated the commitment and dedication given to Washington Street for the upcoming year. As we wrapped up Stewardship Season with a Church-Wide Luncheon and gathered for fellowship and thanksgiving, we want to especially thank those who made it such an enjoyable occasion for all.



Thank you to the entire Stewardship Team, led by Jim Lane, for pioneering the stewardship campaign and organizing the brunch and luncheon. Thank you to the FACE team coordinators for their continuous leadership and devotion to the ministries of our church. Thank you to the Middleton Family and Michael's Cafe & Catering for generously catering the luncheon. Thank you to everyone who returned a pledge card, and all who have affirmed their support to Washington Street through prayers, presence and gifts.

If you have not returned your completed pledge card, you can still do so through return mail, bringing it to the Church Office or by pledging online through Engage Washington.

“For where your treasure is, your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:21



*Washington Street's community Christmas celebration will be held in our Sanctuary on
Monday, December 18th at 7:00 PM.*

Sing-Along *Messiah* was founded in 2002, on the principle that everyone in the metropolitan Columbia area, and anyone willing to travel to Columbia, should have the opportunity to sing some part of *Messiah* at least once a year. Sing-Along *Messiah* is a joyous night of worship, instrumental music, and singing! Make plans now to attend.

To learn more about this community favorite event, visit WWW.SINGALONGMESSIAH.ORG



Sing-Along *Messiah* is funded through the community's generosity in donations. Your support is greatly appreciated, and vital to the continuance of this fine tradition.

If you would like to make a personal donation on behalf of you or your business, you can bring or send a check made to WSUMC with "SAM" in the memo line. Please indicate how you would like to be listed in the program and on the website.

Your contributions to Sing Along Messiah can also be made ONLINE through online giving. Visit our website www.wsmethodist.org/giving/ or text the word "Engage" to the number 73256.

Thank you for your continuous generosity!



Christmas

WITH EPWORTH

“Christmas with Epworth” is Epworth Children’s Home’s annual drive for community members to fill the Christmas wishes of children at Epworth. This program provides gifts for the children to open on Christmas morning—gifts that bring smiles and excitement! These are both personal gifts and cottage gifts that the children can enjoy together. Each child at Epworth experiences a bountiful Christmas morning that includes their requested wishes, gift cards and usually a few surprises that have been selected for them. For some residents this will be their first Christmas away from their families, so Epworth goes above and beyond to help make this day special.

The “Wish Tree” is located in the hallway coming in from our parking lot, right next to the TV monitor. If you take a wish tag, make sure to write your name next to the corresponding line on the donor sheet. All unwrapped gift donations and wish tags can be taken to the Traxler Classroom on the 2nd floor. THANK YOU for helping to make a child’s Christmas merry and bright!



Warmth

from the heart of Washington Street

THANK YOU for your support of Active Faith’s Blanket Ministry! All of the blankets donated so far have been distributed to patrons of our Soup Cellar.

The need is growing.

The days and nights are growing colder, and these blankets provide warmth to those who are without. We hope you’ll prayerfully consider continuing to support this mission! There is a basket in *Mission Garden* designated for blanket collection, where you can drop off twin sized blankets. *They can be gently used, and do not have to be new.* Thank you for your support as we work to spread warmth from the heart of Washington Street!

Announcements

SC HISTORICAL SOCIETY: The Records & History Committee of Washington Street United Methodist Church hosted the annual joint meeting of the SC Conference Historical Society and the Commission on Archives & History on Saturday, November 4, 2017. The morning session was held in Christ Chapel while the afternoon meeting became a "working lunch" in Threatt Hall. A main focus of the gathering involved the important role of Newberry's Mt. Bethel Academy in early college preparatory education in our state, the possibility of confirming the original footprint of the campus and of restoring the adjacent cemetery, and the interesting place of WSUMC's Rev. John Harper and his sons in the Mt. Bethel story.

OPERATION BEDROLL SC: Thanks to your continuous support and generosity, we have reached our goal of completing 10 bedrolls for Operation Bedroll of South Carolina! We will no longer be collecting donations of plastic bags, but if you are still interested in the making of plarn, contact Andrea McAtee. The need is still evident in our community, and members of the Missions Committee are still continuing to crochet the plarn with bags already given.

COLLECTING PRESCRIPTION GLASSES: Prescription glasses and over the counter reading glasses are being collected by the Toni White Circle for missions performed by USC Methodist Students led by Tom Wall. The group does vision screenings, and then glasses that have been cleaned and labeled are given free of charge. If you have any prescription glasses or reading glasses that you no longer use and are willing to donate, they are being collected in the Misson Garden area. Thank you for your support!

MARY'S MAIDENS: You may purchase our baking efforts this Sunday at the UMW Bake Sale! We think our cookies and muffins were quite tasty. At the December meeting of Mary's Maidens we will be filling the Christmas gift bags for the Soup Cellar clientele. We will keep you posted on the day and time for this event. All girls in first through sixth grades are invited to join us for this fun time of service to others. Friends are always welcome!

SOUP CELLAR CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS: It's coming - and faster than we think! If you would like to contribute to the Christmas gift bags for the Soup Cellar, we still need deodorant, toothbrushes, and toothpaste to fill the bags. Snack crackers and granola bars are also needed. Monetary donations are welcome. Make your check to WSUMC for soup cellar gift bags. Please leave your items in the Christmas box in the Missions Garden. Thank you for helping Mary's Maidens with this project.

TRICK-OR-TREAT FOR UNICEF UPDATE: Thank you, again, for helping the girl's in Mary's Maidens raise \$310.62 for UNICEF. The needs of children around the world are great and this will go far to help with nutrituion, clean water, health care, and education.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS TREE ORNAMENTS: It's time to smile for the camera! All children in nursery through sixth grade will have their pictures taken for an ornament for the Children's Christmas Tree. Pictures will be taken during Sunday school on all Sundays in November. If you miss Sunday School, see Mary Lide or Eleanore Langley in the 2's and 3's Sunday School room.

CHARLES PFEIFFER CIRCLE: The Charles Pfeiffer Circle will meet on Tuesday, December 5 at 7:00pm at the home of Pam Jenkins. We will continue our study of *The Book of Joy - Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu with Douglas Abrams. Visitors are welcome to join us.

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL LIVING GIFT MARKET: On Sundays December 3rd and December 10th, Washington Street and the Missions Committee will host a Living Gift Market for Heifer International. This holiday season, give a life-changing gift to Heifer International in honor of a friend or loved one. It's a gift that brings promise to hungry families and the opportunity for better lives. Giving a Heifer gift takes the stress out of holiday shopping while putting the meaning back into giving. You may purchase your gifts before and after Sunday School and after the 11:00 service with cash, check, or credit card. Mooey Christmas!!!

HAVE YOU HEARD? Our Sunday School classes are moving towards several neat studies and texts during the season of Advent. Read more below and consider joining them one Sunday! Visit our website to learn more about our various Sunday School classes.

ALDERSGATE CLASS: *Underdogs & Outsiders*, by Tom Fuerst

JOY, GRACE, & PAUL HARMON CLASSES: *Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph*, by Adam Hamilton

OPEN DOOR CLASS: *When God Comes Down*, by James A. Harnish

Thank You

Dear Reverend Parrish,

I want to thank you and all involved in preparing the delightful reception celebrating my upcoming birthday. My association with the people of Washington Street has always been one of the great joys of my life. I am blessed.

With deep appreciation,
Nan Self

The next issue of the *Connecction* will run on Sunday, December 3rd. All announcements specifically pertaining to Christmas and Advent should be emailed to lainey@wsmethodist.org by Noon on Monday, November 27th.

MISSION TRIP TO

Ecuador

INTEREST MEETINGS

The Missions Committee, in collaboration with the Methodist Student Network of USC, is planning a 10-day mission trip to Ecuador this coming summer. The dates will be July 9th - 19th, 2018.

Are you interested in learning more?

The team will host an interest meeting on Sunday, November 26th and again on Sunday, December 3rd in the Wesley Room, beginning at 9:45 AM. The purpose is to share the basic information so those interested can consider whether or not they want to participate. The meeting will cover topics such as expenses, deadlines, and a general description of what the trip will entail.

The team is NOT asking for firm commitments at this point, but they hope to get people thinking about it and allow enough time to get passports, vaccinations, etc.

Questions? Contact Anne Sinclair or Pato Aravena

HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK

This past Tuesday, we were honored to host the Annual Prayer Breakfast sponsored by Midlands Area Consortium of the Homeless during Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week (November 11th-19th). Through our Soup Cellar ministry, everyday we strive to provide warmth and nourishment to those who are without. It was a joy to be able to partner with United Way of the Midlands and Transitions Homeless Center for this occasion.



Gifts

IN MEMORY OF BARBARA HORNE

to the Foundation

by the Aldersgate Class

by Wendy, Joe, Bradley and Lucas Clark

to the Soup Cellar

by Suzanne H. Stroman

IN MEMORY OF CORY JANSEN

to the Soup Cellar

by Harvey and Ann Jessup

IN MEMORY OF ANNE MACALUSO

to WSUMC

by John Macaluso

by Carolyn & Bruce Moskowitz

IN MEMORY OF NORAH ROSS

to the Foundation

by the Aldersgate Class

to Music Ministries

by Wendy and Joe Clark

IN MEMORY OF EVELYN G. SUMPTER

to the Foundation

by Wendy and Joe Clark

This gift is given in Thanksgiving for her life.

IN MEMORY OF ROY SUTHERLAND

to the Foundation

by Wendy, Joe, Bradley & Lucas Clark

This gift is given in Thanksgiving for his life.

IN HONOR OF MARY LIDE & DEBORAH

ROWE

to Gracious Goodness

by Kathy Wright

IN HONOR OF JANET COTTER, KATHY ROGERS, & SAM WALDREP

to the Flower Fund

by Kathy Wright

IN HONOR OF THE WASHINGTON STREET UMW

to UMW Missions Fund

by Kathy Wright

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 *Beth Matthews*

When Beth Matthews and her husband Gene moved back to South Carolina in 1999, they visited several Columbia-area Methodist churches and picked Washington Street.

"I wanted to be at a place where we could immediately get involved, that everything wasn't in place," Beth said. She said she wanted to be very involved, and she has been. The Sunday they joined the church, the Rev. Mike Alexander asked if they would head up the stewardship campaign. Since then, she has done many things – taught a variety of adult Sunday school classes and the youth class, taught Vacation Bible School and founded Mary's Maidens – along with Mary Lide – a circle for girls in the first through sixth grades.

Today, she is coordinator of Faith Formation, the F. in F.A.C.E., the methodology to implement Renewal 2020. Faith Formation includes the Worship, Education and Caring teams. Beth grew up on a dairy farm in Orangeburg County. Her family attended a small Methodist church in nearby Dorchester County. The farm had been in her father's family for generations, and her parents lived next to her paternal grandparents. That grandmother was a strong influence in Beth's spiritual life. "She always had a kind word to say about other people," Beth said, and if anyone needed food, she was there. "She was a very humble lady who lived her faith." Beth spent part of every day with this grandmother, and when she was an undergraduate at Columbia College, she checked in by phone every Wednesday night.

Beth majored in religion at Columbia College, where Chuck Pfeiffer, who attended Washington Street, was one of her professors. Pfeiffer, also an expert on the author Zane Grey, took students on trips out West over spring break and after the spring term in May. Beth remembers a 10-day trip, where the Grand Canyon was the ultimate destination. She and two other students slept in a tent, and Pfeiffer slept in a Volkswagen van that he drove. "It is a fun, sweet memory," she said.

After Beth graduated from Columbia College in 1987, she went to Yale Divinity School. During her first year, she had two strokes and had to return to South Carolina for physical and occupational therapy in order to learn to walk again and strengthen her weak side. She returned to Yale in the fall of 1989 and graduated in 1991. She was ordained a deacon in the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Gene was from Sumter, but they met at Yale through mutual friends and married in 1992. They lived in Charlottesville, Va., where Gene earned a law degree at the University of Virginia and Beth completed a yearlong clinical pastoral education program and worked for volunteer services at the UVA Medical Center.

Beth's ordination required her to work for two years in the South Carolina conference, and she had two preschool children when they returned to the Palmetto State, so she decided to rescind her ordination credentials. Beth said she has had some hard knocks in life, but that through those, "my faith has had a chance to grow."

During her second year at Yale, her 25-year-old brother, Hamp, was killed in a car accident. About 10 years ago, she had her thyroid removed after it was found to be malignant. But the 18 months after the strokes, when she was back in South Carolina, was "a very dark time." She was no longer with people her own age, she couldn't drive and she got exhausted taking a shower.

"I was feeling very isolated from God," she said. But Beth has kept a prayer journal since college, and "as I went back and reread what I had written, the realization of how God had been with me the whole time became clear," she said.

Today, Beth sees both her family and a renewed energy at the church as blessings. Gene is in private practice and in the Naval Reserves. He was deployed to Baghdad in 2010-2011. Elizabeth Anne is a senior in the USC Honors College, majoring in English. Hamilton is a junior and business major at The Citadel, and Madison is a senior at Ben Lippen School.

At Washington Street, Beth sees a new openness to diversity, a new search for the Spirit at work, a new "looking beyond ourselves. ... We may not be on the same political spectrum, but we share our faith. We can look at the world and see the world is so divided, but we don't need to reflect the world. We need to reflect Christ."

Article by Fran Zupan

Meet our Staff

SENIOR MINISTER

Reverend Patricia Parrish
pjparrish@umcsc.org

ASSOCIATE MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND MISSIONS

Reverend Joe Wilson
[jwilsonii@umcsc.org](mailto:jawilsonii@umcsc.org)

ASSOCIATE MINISTER FOR NURTURE AND DISCIPLESHIP DEVELOPMENT

Reverend Alston Lippert
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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



Hispanic Families Tutoring Class

Nearly four years ago, the Richland Library Outreach staff identified a significant gap in services to Spanish-speaking families as the number of immigrant families continued to increase in our community. Parents continually requested literacy tutors for their school-age children struggling in school and their frustration in not being able to help them complete homework assignments. The goal of the program is to provide a holistic approach to learning to enhance academic achievement, and to increase parental literacy skills to support their children's learning.

This groups meets here at Washington Street in the Disciple Conference Room every Wednesday from 3:00 - 4:00 PM. They are in need of volunteers! The volunteer will guide the child to read or help him/her with homework. It is not necessary for you to speak spanish to be a volunteer.

Would you consider giving your time?

For more information, or to volunteer, please contact
Mayte Velasco Nicolas at 803-983-0368.

Advent

Small Group Studies

We have several different Advent study offerings this year, and we hope you'll be able to join us for one or more of them! Study #2 is still awaiting a definite time, date and location, but those details will be coming soon.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Reverend Lippert or Beth Matthews.

#1

"Christmas is Not Your Birthday" by Mike Slaughter

Led by Reverend Joe Wilson and Beth Matthews

Tuesdays from 5-6 PM in the Holroyd Prayer Room

Beginning November 28th - Ending December 19th

#2

"A Thrill of Hope: The Christmas Story in Word and Art"

Led by Reverend Taylor Pafford

Date/Time/Location TBA

This is a study based on the nativity stories as depicted in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke alongside the colorful and lively paintings of John August Swanson. The study will offer an opportunity to explore the nativity narrative from a creative and engaging perspective.

#3

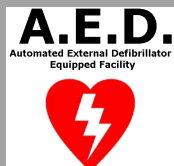
"The Uncluttered Heart: Making Room for God during Advent and Christmas"

by Beth Richardson

Led by Reverend Patricia Parrish and Reverend Alston Lippert

Thursdays at 12:30 PM at GRAPES AND GALLERY (1113 Taylor Street, Cola., SC 29201)

Beginning November 30th - Ending December 21st. Bring a co-worker or two!





Sunday, December 3rd 5:00 pm - Threat Hall

Advent wreaths,
family crafts,
carol singing
and Christian fellowship!

ADVENT WREATHS ARE \$10.00.

LIVE GREENS AND CANDLES WILL BE SUPPLIED.

Registration forms are available online and in the Church Office. They are due by Wed., 11/29.

Invite your neighbors and bring your families! A grilled cheese sandwich supper will be served.

CALENDAR OF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday, November 19

- 9:00 AM Worship - Christ Chapel
- 9:45 UMW Bake Sale - WR
- 9:30 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary
- 7:00 PM Day of Transgender Remembrance - Sanctuary

Monday, November 20

- 12:30 PM Soup Cellar Volunteer Captains Mtg. - Chapel
- 5:30 PM New Worship Team Meeting- JHC
- 6:00 PM Records & History Committee Meeting - WR

Tuesday, November 21

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

Wednesday, November 22

- 10:45 AM Prayer Group - HPR
- 3:00 PM Hispanic Family Tutoring Class - DCR

Thursday, November 23

Church Office, CDC & Soup Cellar - CLOSED

Friday, November 24

Church Office, CDC & Soup Cellar - CLOSED

Saturday, November 25

No Activities Scheduled

Sunday, November 26

United Methodist Student Day

- 9:00 AM Worship - Christ Chapel
- 9:30 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR
- 9:45 AM Ecuador Mission Trip Interest Mtg. - WR
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary

Monday, November 27

- 5:30 PM Education Team Meeting - JHC

Tuesday, November 28

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

Wednesday, November 29

- 10:45 AM Prayer Group - HPR
- 3:00 PM Hispanic Family Tutoring Class - DCR
- 5:30 PM Conversations on Discipleship - WR
- 5:30 PM Handbells Practice - 3rd Floor Choir Room
- 6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR

Thursday, November 30

- 9:30 AM CDC Devotions - Christ Chapel
- 5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
- 6:00 PM USC Student Recital - Christ Chapel
- 7:00 PM Palmetto Chamber Orchestra - LCR

Friday, December 1 | Saturday, December 2

No Activities Scheduled

LOCATION KEY

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