



THE CONNECTION

September 16, 2018

1401 Washington Street - Columbia, SC - 29201



Two of Washington Street's Engaging New People core teams along with The Active Faith Small Group are partnering together to host "Sunday Dinner" on October 28th from 4:00-6:00 PM. This is a Family Style Dinner designed to help us engage with the homeless and working poor of our community. Sunday Dinner is modeled after The Welcome Table; a ministry of The Haywood Street United Methodist Mission in Asheville, North Carolina. We need lots of volunteers who are willing to engage in this "ministry with" experience. We want to break down barriers, and extend the family of God to our neighbors as we eat together. Sign up today and let's discover together what God will do!

Opportunities to Serve

- **Set-Up:** Insuring table set-up, table cloths, flowers, and silverware are on the tables (Saturday or Sunday afternoon)
10 volunteers needed
- **Kitchen:** Assist our Chef in the kitchen on Sunday
6 volunteers needed
- **Dessert Donation:** contribute a dessert of any kind for our guests to enjoy (purchased or homemade)
20 volunteers needed / 20 dessert donations needed
- **Greeters:** Greet our guests in the parking lot and inside the building, direct them to the restrooms, etc.
5 volunteers needed
- **Table Companions & Servers:** Sit at a table with our guests and serve them their dinner, making sure they have drinks and desserts - as you would with your family
60 volunteers needed
- **Gift Bags:** Distributed as they exit the building
4 volunteers needed
- **Clean-Up:** All are welcome to assist in putting Threatt Hall and the Kitchen back in a clean and orderly fashion at the end of the evening
10 volunteers needed

Volunteer sign-up can be accessed from wsmethodist.org/sundaydinner OR directly through [Engage Washington](#).

New Piano for Christ Chapel

The next time you enter Christ Chapel, you may notice a beautiful new instrument in the front corner. Sarah Threatt recently donated her baby grand piano. The piano was purchased by Sarah's Husband, Ned, many years ago and has been in their home. The photos that you see chronicle the journey of the piano from the Threatt's house to its new home at Washington Street. The piano has been tuned and will undergo some minor repairs soon. We are thrilled to have this new addition and look forward to it being played for services and concerts in the chapel. We are most grateful to the Threatt family for their kind generosity. The piano was given in loving memory of Ned Threatt.



Music in the Air

Washington Street has always been known for its music ministry. This year we are embracing Columbia's music community by providing space for three local groups to rehearse. On Tuesday Nights, She Sings!, a new women's choral group meets in the Leavitt Choir room. This group is directed by our own, Angela Powers, plus Lillian Quackenbush, Fredna Lee and Paula Wilson. The ladies will present a concert in our sanctuary on Tuesday, October 30th at 7:00 pm.

Also on Tuesday evenings, the Palmetto Mastersingers, practice in Christ Chapel. In a quest to locate their rehearsals in a central, downtown location, director Lillian Quackenbush requested use of our beautiful space. The Mastersingers' roster includes long-time Washington street member, Boyd Saunders and a total of 44 men, ranging in age from 24 to 88. The group was formed in 1981, by the late Dr. Arpad Darazs, to promote the male chorus repertoire beyond the college walls. They have performed at the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, The Dom Cathedral in Cologne Germany, The White House, Carnegie Hall, the National Cathedral in Washington, and St. Peters Basilica in the Vatican, to name a modest few. One of their goals is to increase travel and appearances outside of Columbia and live up to their role as South Carolina's Musical Ambassadors.

On Thursday nights, the Palmetto Chamber Orchestra rehearses in the Leavitt Choir Room, under the direction of maestro Suzanna Pavlovsky. This group is a dedicated group of professional string educators from the larger Columbia area together with high level, proficient high schoolers and community performers. They aim to become the face and the voice of the string education and music community in the Larger Columbia area in South Carolina. Their goal is to contribute to the overall growth and awareness of the importance of instrumental music education through string performance. Washington Street member, Janet Hopkins, recently performed with this orchestra.



THE PALMETTO MASTERSINGERS



THE PALMETTO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA



DIRECTORS OF SHE SINGS!



Small Group Studies

COMPANIONS IN CHRIST

SEPT. 23RD - MAY 5TH, SUNDAY EVENINGS FROM 5:00 - 7:00 PM
HELD IN THE HOLROYD PRAYER ROOM | LED BY REV. LIPPERT

This is a 28-week study that uses daily reading and reflections from your Participant's Book and a weekly 2-hour meeting with fellow companions to create the space needed for you to grow closer to God. It teaches you to use the spiritual disciplines in order to experience intimacy with God, go deeper in your relationship with Christ, and listen for the movement of the Holy Spirit. **DEADLINE TO SIGN-UP: TUESDAY, SEPT. 18TH AT 5:00 PM**

*To participate, contact the group leader or sign-up online: wsmethodist.org/connect/smallgroups

*If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Lippert, aflippert@umcsc.org

UNAFRAID

SEPT. 26TH - OCT. 23RD, WEDNESDAY EVENINGS FROM 6:00 - 7:30 PM
HELD IN THE DISCIPLE CONF. ROOM | LED BY KIMBERLY MCALISTER & EVA NANCE

This 5 week study will focus on an issue that is pervasive in our culture: fear...from existential questions of death and illness to social anxieties to major political and social upheavals. In the text, *Unafraid: Living with Hope & Courage in Uncertain Times*, Rev. Adam Hamilton examines how believer and nonbeliever alike can develop sustaining spiritual practices and embrace Jesus' recurring counsel: "Do not be afraid." Please acquire the text and read chapters 1-4 prior to the first gathering. It's available at the Richland County Public Library, or can be purchased from Amazon.

*To participate, contact the group leader or sign-up online: wsmethodist.org/connect/smallgroups

*If you have any questions, please contact Kimberly McAlister (mcalist_kimberly@yahoo.com)

WHAT'S STEALING YOUR JOY?

OCT. 9TH - NOV. 13TH, TUESDAY EVENINGS FROM 6:30 - 8:00 PM
HOSTED IN A HOME IN FOREST ACRES | LED BY BETH MATTHEWS

Perhaps its worry, bitterness, busyness, or negativity. In October, we will begin a 6-week in-home small group based on Rob Renfroe's book, *The Joy Stealers: Overcoming Obstacles to Hope and Happiness*. Please acquire the text and read the first chapter prior to the first gathering.

*To participate, contact the group leader or sign-up online: wsmethodist.org/connect/smallgroups

*If you have any questions, please contact Beth Matthews (mtthws@msn.com)

QUESTIONS?

Contact Rev. Lippert, aflippert@umcsc.org

SIGN-UP ONLINE: WSMETHODIST.ORG/SMALLGROUPS

Sunday School Classes

THE ALDERSGATE CLASS: Beginning September 16th, Aldersgate class members will begin a series by Professor Bart Ehrman (on DVD) titled *From Jesus to Constantine*. Everyone who may be interested is invited to attend.

The Aldersgate incoming officers for the fall season are:

- President: David Anderson
- Program Chair: Al Moses
- Social Chair: Susan Luthren
- Membership Chair: Susan Brown
- Marketing Chair: Hal Hanlin

THE DAWSEY CLASS: This Sunday, September 16th, the Rev. Tom Summers will lead a discussion entitled "As a United Methodist, How Do You Develop Your Theology?" On September 23rd, the class will attend the presentation in the chapel on the report from The Commission on a Way Forward.

THE GRACE CLASS: They will continue a study on the text, *Sacred Resistance*.

THE JOY CLASS: This Sunday, September 16th, they will conclude their study of the text, *Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love*, by William Willmon.

THE JOHN HARPER CLASS: Come visit to see if our approach to Bible study is a good fit for you as the class starts a new three year cycle with a study of the creation of God's world and God's people.

THE OPEN DOOR CLASS: They are in the midst of a short study on C.S. Lewis' *Mere Christianity*. They will discuss three theological virtues from his writings - Faith, Hope and Charity.

THE PAUL HARMON CLASS: Beginning this Sunday, September 16th, Rev. Don Britt will begin leading them through the book of Galatians.

Announcements

SNAIL MAIL ADDRESSES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS: The 2's and 3's Sunday School Class will be working on surprises for all Washington Street college students throughout this school year. If your child or grandchild is attending college, please send their mailing address to Mary Lide, neaudl@aol.com.

CHURCH-WIDE THANK YOU: Thank you to everyone who helped prepare and serve the meal after our Back to Church Sunday and clean up afterwards: Elizabeth Akre, Martha Boynton, Charlotte Broome, Ellen Carruth, Sally Christian, Wendy Clark, Heidi Conte, Kathy Handle, Penny Horton, Bart Lehman, Betsy Lehman, Beverly McClanahan, Carole McConkey, Kathy Rogers, Deborah Rowe, Rick Rowe, Julian Ruffin, Anne Sinclair, Sarah Threath, James Wright, and Kathy Wright.

MARY'S MAIDENS: Mary Maidens is a United Methodist Circle for girls in 1st through 7th grades. This year the program has been extended to include interested 7th graders! Our regular meeting time is the second Sunday of the month from 4:00-5:30 PM in the Disciple Conference Room. Our next meeting is Sunday, October 14th.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN: In an effort to help meet the needs of Killingsworth Home, UMW members are seeking donations of the following items.

- First class postage stamps
- Ziplock quart-size and gallon-size FREEZER storage bags
- Heavy duty aluminum foil
- Plastic food wrap
- Cream for coffee
- Sugar
- Ground coffee (with caffeine)
- Laundry detergent for sensitive skin
- Dish detergent for hand-washing dishes
- 13-gallon tall kitchen trash bags
- 30-50 gallon heavy duty garbage bags
- LED bulbs 40W and 60W equivalency in standard intermediate
- "Sharpies" permanent markers
- Black/blue ink pens that really write
- Bath soaps/facial soaps for sensitive skin: Dove, Olay, etc.
- Skin and hair care products specifically for African American women
- Tampons - no pads
- Dental floss
- Lysol or similar disinfectant spray
- Walmart, Lowe's, and Office Depot gift cards
- Food Lion gift cards
- AA or AAA batteries
- candelabra bases



Faith Partner of the Year

With great joy and gratitude, Washington Street UMC was presented with the “Faith Partner of the Year Award” during the Transitions Annual Luncheon on Tuesday, September 11th. Reverend Parrish accepted the award on behalf of our congregation.

Our United Methodist Men in particular were recognized as being faithful supporters of Transitions Homeless Center through their giving of time and resources. Special thanks to Rick Rowe, Sam Waldrep, our staff, and dedicated volunteers for coordinating this luncheon as the community came together to celebrate the mission and success of Transitions.

YOUTH CORNER

Registration for all events can be done online.

wsmethodist.org/family/youth/reg

Members can also register through Engage Washington accounts. Questions? Ask Rev. Taylor!
taylor@wsmethodist.org

Everyone had a BLAST at our Fall Kick-Off “CityQuest” scavenger hunt! Huge thanks to our parent chaperones for toughing out the heat and jumping into all of the fun with our youth.



Christ&Culture

Sunday, September 30th

Deadline to register is Saturday, September 29th.

Immediately following 11:00 AM worship... Meeting at the church before walking downtown to East Bay Deli for lunch and a discussion on something going on in the world and how it relates to our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. Friends are always welcome, but must be registered. Pick back up WSUMC.



Fall Retreat



Fall Retreat

Friday, October 12th – Sunday, October 14th

Deadline to register is Friday, October 5th.

All youth are invited to join us for a weekend of faith and fellowship at Asbury Hills Camp! Friends are always welcome, but must be registered. We will depart on Friday and return home on Sunday. Cost of the retreat is \$130, and can either be paid online during registration or in person before Friday, October 5th. The cost covers travel and lodging for the weekend, along with all activities and 4 meals.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sat. Sept. 29th
10 AM - 12 PM
Agape Courtyard
1614 Main St.



All animals welcome, but **MUST**
be on a leash or in a crate/carrier.

Join us for a catered fellowship supper
prior to each program at 5:30 PM.

Registration for both upcoming
fellowship suppers is open!

Programming will begin at 6:30 PM
each week - registration not required.



A Series of Cultural and Interfaith Dialogues

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

OCTOBER 10TH Holocaust Remembered

Take a walk through an exhibit that honors the survivors and victims of the Holocaust followed by a panel comprised of representatives from the Columbia Holocaust Education Commission.

NOVEMBER 7TH Global Connections: Abrahamic Faiths

Rev. Carl Evans, Rabbi Jonathan Case, and Imam Omar Shaheed will sit on a panel together and discuss similarities & differences of the three Abrahamic faiths: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam.

WSMETHODIST.ORG/NEIGHBORTONEIGHBOR

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 *Nancy Whittle*

Nancy Whittle remembers her mother making fried chicken and potato salad to take to neighbors in need. That example of living out her faith, inspired Nancy to become a social worker.

And the social work skills she learned in her jobs at the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control enabled her to facilitate groups at Washington Street in 2014 and 2015 as co-coordinator of Renewal 2020, a process to discern and develop a strong set of recommendations for the next five years in the life of our church.

Nancy grew up in Valdosta, Ga. She graduated from USC in 1971 with a degree in psychology and then earned a master's degree in social work in 1979.

Nancy describes social work as a calling. She worked for DHEC for 37 years and had many different jobs. She was a home health services social worker, worked in a maternal and child health clinic and oversaw a program to counsel and develop support groups for persons living with AIDS statewide.

She trained AIDS care teams at churches, including a team at Washington Street.

Nancy became DHEC's first director of community development and then the environmental quality control community liaison.

"That job was really tough," she said. "I addressed citizen's complaints and facilitated large public meetings around the state with people who were very angry."

For example, people, in an African-American community, didn't know what they were breathing, just that something smelled bad from a neighboring plant. Nancy and her staff gathered representatives from communities, local government, business and industry to work out a solution.

"It was the highlight of my career," she said. "Being able to work with communities impacts a lot more people." Nancy also helped the employees to talk in plain, rather than scientific, language and to respect and value the opinions of citizens.

For the work, DHEC received the first Environmental Justice Achievement Award given to a state agency by Region 4 of the Environmental Protection Agency.

When Nancy visited Washington Street in 2012, she found many people she already knew. Former colleagues at DHEC Thom and Shannon Berry invited her to the Grace class. As a gay woman, she felt at home and joined the church within a month.

Nancy met her partner, Sandra Howell, in graduate school.

Nancy and Sandra were good friends for about a year. Then one night, during an evening class, they took a supper break with another classmate. After supper, the other woman didn't come upstairs and was found in the downstairs bathroom, where she had suffered a cerebral hemorrhage.

The whole class went to the hospital, where the doctor came out and told them that the hemorrhage was too severe and nothing could be done to save the woman's life.

"Sandra and I grew very close after that," Nancy said. "After seeing a friend die so young and suddenly, I think we realized how short life is and realized how much we loved one another."

Nancy said meeting Sandra was one of the highlights of her life. They married in 2016 at their Forest Acres home with Harriet Hancock, the founder of the Columbia chapter of PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), officiating.

"I never thought I'd see the day when gay marriage would be legalized," Nancy said. "The state defined who my family was. My faith journey and relationship with God are also important highlights, and Sandra and I have been blessed with 40 years together."

Nancy likes to plant flowers and read historical novels about 1500s and 1600s England. She likes to get together with friends to play Scrabble and cards and to spend time with family, especially nieces and nephews. And, she said, "I'm a political junkie."

Article Written by Fran Zupan

Gifts
IN MEMORY OF

PHILIP
WHITTLESEY BAIRD
to Epworth
by Dee Gulledge

Commission on a Way Forward Presentations

During February 23rd - 26th of 2019, there will be a called General Conference to receive the report from the Commission on a Way Forward, which addresses our denomination's ongoing struggles around issues of human sexuality. The Commission has developed three plans for presentation.

Washington St. UMC is offering two opportunities to review these plans and an additional opportunity for further questions: **Wednesday, Sept. 19th at 5:30 PM AND Sunday, Sept. 23rd at 10:00 AM.** Both presentations will be held in Christ Chapel. Because the Sunday morning presentation will have time constraints, we will meet again on **Sunday, Sept. 30th at 10:00 AM** to discuss any questions that the presentations may have brought to mind.

These informative sessions will present in detail the 3 proposed plans. The intent of these presentations given by our clergy are to be transparent with the three proposed plans, and what each could potentially entail. At this time, there are no decisions to be made by any annual conferences or local churches. The General Conference delegates elected in 2016 are now prayerfully discerning the guidance of the Holy Spirit as they prepare to vote on these plans at the called General Conference in February of 2019.

We hope you will consider joining us for one of these presentations as we look towards the future of the United Methodist Church with hope.

CALENDAR OF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday, September 16

9:00 AM Worship - Chapel
9:30 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR
9:30 AM Junior Choir - 2nd Floor Jr. Choir Room
9:45 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary
4:00 PM Active Faith Small Group - DCR

Monday, September 17

6:00 PM Church Council - WR

Tuesday, September 18

7:30 AM CDC Picture Day - TH
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 Parents of Murdered Children
6:00 PM Sunday Dinner Planning Meeting - WR
6:30 PM Palmetto Mastersingers - Chapel
6:30 PM Domestic Abuse Counseling Services - DCR

Wednesday, September 19

10:45 AM Prayer Group - HPR
1:00 PM Soup Cellar Committee Meeting - JHC
1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
5:30 PM Commission on a Way Forward Presentation - Chapel
6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR

Thursday, September 20

9:30 AM CDC Devotions - Christ Chapel
1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
4:00 PM Killingsworth Board Meeting - JHC
5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
7:00 PM Palmetto Chamber Orchestra - LCR

Friday, September 21

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC

Saturday, September 22

No Activities Scheduled

Sunday, September 23

9:00 AM Worship - Chapel
9:30 AM Junior Choir - 2nd Floor Jr. Choir Room
9:30 AM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR
9:45 AM Promotion Sunday / Sunday School
10:00 AM Commission on a Way Forward Presentation - Chapel
11:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary
5:00 PM "Companions in Christ" Small Group - HPR

Monday, September 24

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC

Tuesday, September 25

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
6:30 PM Domestic Abuse Counseling Services - DCR
6:30 PM Palmetto Mastersingers - Chapel

Wednesday, September 26

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
3:30 PM Hispanic Families Tutoring Class - 2nd Floor
6:00 PM "Unafraid" Small Group - DCR
6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Practice - LCR

Thursday, September 27

9:00 AM CDC Devotions - Chapel
1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC
5:30 PM Firm It Up - YR
6:00 PM United Methodist Men - WR
7:00 PM Palmetto Chamber Orchestra - LCR

Friday, September 14

1:30 PM NA Meeting - SC

Saturday, September 15

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