

THE CONNECTION

Thanksgiving Issue, November 25, 2021

WSUMC Spreads the Warmth

On Sunday, November 14 the Sunday Dinner Team along with numerous volunteers from WSUMC and other churches, gathered to serve those in need during its most recent Sunday Dinner held in the parking lot of the church. During the weeks prior, WSUMC Youth held a clothing drive focusing on warm clothing and accessories as well as blankets.

Terrence Goodwin served up delicious chili, baked potatoes, and cornbread. Cookies and brownies were donated by the congregation and Mary's Maidens met earlier in the afternoon to prepackage all

of them for distribution during the dinner. Thank you to all of our volunteers both behind the scenes and those who served during the day including Tommy Betenbaugh, Heidi Conte, Lydia Conte, Sue Dillon, Carol Fowler, Lee Haynes, Mary Lide, Susan Mathews, Mackin Wall, Rev. Becky Shirley, Rev. Alston Lippert, Beverly McClanahan, Kelly McCook, Jane Peterson, Lee Smith, Erica Staley, Nancy Whittle, MJ Fox, Anne Sinclair, Cathy Hooker, Diana Westerkam, Elaine Ferraro, Melanie Dobson, Elijah Hughes, Janelle Rivers, Mary Lide, Mary Slade, and Susan Mathews.



WSUMC Youth just completed their most recent project—making warm shelters for our four feral kitties who live at our church. With the help of Dane Waund, Mackin Wall and several of our youth—Darby Waund, Leila and Ava Jackson, and Sam Schatz created insulated cat houses out of donated coolers. The coolers were outfitted with warm bedding and a doorway for easy access. Hopefully, our kitties will stay warm and dry in their new little houses. Thank you to Mackin and our youth for this wonderful contribution.

ATTENDANCE:

November 7: 89
November 14: 98
November 21: 98

GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE (as of 11-11-21):

Church:
Budget: \$471,497.25
Actual: \$633,484
Soup Cellar: \$72,472
Foundation Gifts: \$31,761



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to Give!

Give online today
wsmethodistorg/giving



Sunday School

• **The Aldersgate Sunday School Class:** began a study on Nov. 21 based on a 2016 book by former UMC bishop and current Duke Divinity School professor William H. Willimon, *Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love*. This thought provoking study examines 1 John 4:18 - 21, which begins, "[t]here is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear expects punishment." (CEB) All are welcome for this interesting study! All are welcome. For more information contact David Anderson at danderson@richardsonplowden.com.

• **The Dawsey Class:** This Sunday, November 28, we will continue our study of *Julian of Norwich: Wisdom in a Time of Pandemic -- and Beyond* by Matthew Fox. Jim and Caroline Seigler will lead a discussion of Chapter 3, "Nature and God are One." On December 5, Sue Dillon will teach Chapter 4, "The Divine Feminine and the Motherhood of God." The class will meet by FreeConferenceCall. Class members should call in before 9:15 a.m., but not before 9:05 a.m. The call-in number is (701) 802-5115. The access code is 7252934. For more information about the class, contact the class president Mary Slade at maryslade4@gmail.com.

• **The Grace Class:** For Advent, the Grace class is doing a 5-week film series from "The Work of The People, Magnifying the Light". On Nov. 28—"A Cup of Loving"; On Dec. 5—"Step Back and Step In". Join in person or contact Jim Lane at jlane@columbiasc.edu for the Zoom link to gather Sunday mornings at 9:45 am for fellowship, and at 10:00 am for spiritual reflection. All are welcome to join!

• **The Joy Class** is embracing the Advent season with a series of Advent themed lessons led by various members. All are welcome to join us as we learn and grow together to prepare for the season. If you are interested, please contact Lee Haynes at lelandhaynesjr@gmail.com or Sylvia Stevens at sylviasaundersstevens@gmail.com for more information.

• **Open Door Class:** During Advent, the Open Door Class will study Adam Hamilton's *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significant of Christmas* beginning on November 28. The class meets both in person and via zoom each week. For Zoom link information, contact Ann Jessup at jessup.ann@gmail.com.

• **The Paul Harmon Class:** We will not meet on November 28. On December 5 we will begin our Advent study. Dr. Lois Whitaker will lead the study on December 5 and 12. Suzanne Joye will lead the study on December 19. All are welcome. If you have questions, please contact Suzanne Joye at sjoye@sc.true.com.

• **John Harper Class:** is currently studying the Gospels using Cokesbury Adult Sunday School materials. The class is led by Tracy Powers. All are welcome. Contact Tracy for more information at tjpowers65@gmail.com.

• **WSUMC Youth Class:** The youth will be studying *The Teachings of Jesus* with the guidance of "The Fathom Series" student journal. To participate, please email Mackin Wall at mackin@wsmethodist.org.

Gifts



IN MEMORY OF PAUL BROWN
to the Soup Cellar
Given by Wendy & Joe Clark

IN HONOR OF LOUIS SHIRER
to the Organ Fund
Given by Lane & Ron Bowden

IN MEMORY OF PAUL BROWN
to the Soup Cellar
Given by Lane & Ron Bowden

IN MEMORY OF FRANCES GRIMES
to the Soup Cellar
Given by Lane & Ron Bowden

IN MEMORY OF PAUL BROWN
to the Soup Cellar
Given by Catherine Pitts

IN MEMORY OF PAUL BROWN
to WSUMC
Given by Susan Luthren

IN MEMORY OF NANCY SELF
to WSUMC
Given by Peggy Weston

IN MEMORY OF FRANCES GRIMES
to the Soup Cellar
Given by Ned Self

IN MEMORY OF PAUL BROWN
to Missions
Given by Kathy Rogers

IN MEMORY OF FRANCES GRIMES
to the Soup Cellar
Given by Peggy Weston

IN MEMORY OF HELEN FANT
to WSUMC
Given by Peggy Weston

IN MEMORY OF FRANKIE GARRETT
to WSUMC
Given by Peggy Weston

IN MEMORY OF PAUL BROWN
to the Soup Cellar
Given by Anne Sinclair & Julian Ruffin

IN MEMORY OF FRANCES GRIMES
to the Soup Cellar
Given by Anne Sinclair & Julian Ruffin

IN MEMORY OF ANGELA POWERS
to WSUMC
Given by Merideth & John Strawhorn

IN MEMORY OF HELEN FANT
to the Soup Cellar
Given by David Byrum

IN MEMORY OF FRANCES GRIMES
to the Soup Cellar
Given by David Byrum

IN MEMORY OF PAUL BROWN
to the Soup Cellar
Given by David Byrum

IN MEMORY OF RICK HEPPER
to WSUMC
Given by Beverly & Paul McClanahan

IN MEMORY OF THE ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF DON FOWLER'S DEATH
to the Foundation
Given by Wendy & Joe Clark

Christmas With Epworth

Epworth
Children's Home

Gifts being brought to the church should be here no later than Dec. 5, so don't delay!

With your support, WSUMC can continue to make Christmas special for the children of Epworth. This year, we are using an Amazon Smile Wish List to not only make shopping and shipping easier for YOU, but WSUMC will benefit when you purchase your gift through AmazonSmile! AmazonSmile donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to WSUMC when you shop!

➡ **SCAN THE QR CODE TO SHOP THE LIST!**

Need help selecting a gift, or navigating the site? Contact Beth Robinson at 803-665-4889 or Jane Peterson at WSUMC (jane@wsmethodist.org)

Heifer for the Holidays



Heifer International Living Gift Market
Sunday, December 5
Sunday, December 12

Before and after the worship service
In the hallway between the Wesley Room
and the church office

Or give online or by texting "connections"
to 73256
with Heifer in the memo line!

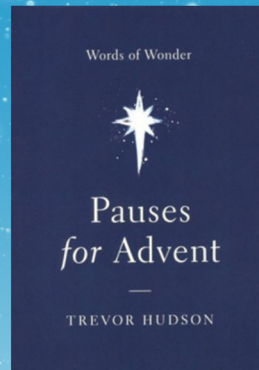
Wednesday Night Small Group Advent Study

Wednesday evenings, 7-8:00 pm | Zoom | Dec. 1, 8, 15
Rediscover the gift of Advent that comes without packages,
ribbons, and bows.



We don't know why the Grinch hated Christmas. We just know he did. In this new Advent study, Matt Rawle explores the faith themes in the Christmas classic, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* including, how did the Grinch's heart grow three sizes come Christmas morning? How did Christmas save the Grinch? Could it be that the very thing we think we hate is the one thing that changes our lives? This Advent and Christmas season, look at a familiar classic through the lens of faith and see how Christ speaks to us through our culture.

To participate, email
Ann Jessup at
jessup.ann@gmail.com



Advent Small Group Study

Mondays | 11 am-12 pm
Wesley Room & Zoom
Nov. 29-Dec. 20

In our time together, the group will discuss what we have gleaned from the daily readings and the practices suggested by Hudson. It will help us embrace Advent—a time of anticipation—so that we can more fully celebrate the birth of Jesus. Please email Alston before your purchase the book as she has several available copies.

So many of us long for a more meaningful, awe-inspiring Christmas. The four weeks of Advent offer us time to experience the joy, hope, and peace of this holy season. Pausing for just a few minutes each day readies our hearts to receive the most wondrous gift of all--the Christ who is alive and present with us today and every day.

The last interest meeting for the 2022 Ecuador Mission Trip will take place on Sunday, December 12th at 9:00 am in the Wesley room.

Prayer List

Thom Berry
Martha Boynton
Martha Brooker
Sally Christian
Heidi Conte
Mickey Epting

Bud Harrelson
Karen Horne
Geneva Hutchinson
Lisa Johnson
Rev. Judy King
Mike LeFever

Beverly McClanahan
David Middleton
Lauren, Greg, and Nora Blair
Middleton and family
Rick Rowe
Boyd Saunders

Stephanie Saunders
Sarah Threatt
Marjorie Tuell
Tom Wall
Our homebound

December Birthdays

December 1

Donnie Fowler
Charlie Peterson

December 2

John Edwards
Ann Middleton
Sloan Ware

December 4

Karen Scurry

December 5

Cole Gaston
Melissa Ostmeyer
Sarah Threatt

December 6

Eli Latham
Graham Latham
Kaitlyn Rutter

December 7

Tatiana Adams
Carlton Andrews
William Bonney
Hudson Harper

Janet Keith

Meredith Miramonti

Justin Workman

December 8

Thorne Barrett

December 9

Glenn Hepfer
Kelly Steinhilper
Lisa Voegeli

December 10

Bessie Bagwell
Rachel Saunders

December 11

David Anderson
Mary Grattan

Barbara Rose

December 12

Laura Matthews

Chip Williams

December 13

Joseph Clark, Jr.
Ann Jessup

Lauren Presley

December 14

Blake Burnside
Maureen Devenger

Susan Hefelfinger

Charlotte Murphy

Mark Singleton

Laura Windham

December 15

April Lucas-Stucker

December 16

Jim Apple
Licia Jackson
William Torres

Sarah Waldrop

December 17

Grant N. Jackson

Dan Tran

Mark Ward

December 18

Pattie Beerman

Erin Frazee

December 19

Kay Ayers-Garren

Susan Baldwin

Jessica Marze

Ellie Person

Marshall Robinson

Spencer Stevens

Clyde Tague

December 20

Jordan Brown

December 21

Martha Brim

Craig Buffkin

Diane Post

December 22

Helen Matthews
Sally Mings

Jason Strickland

December 23

Matt Rozier

December 24

Sean Foley

December 25

Mike Conte

Katherine Epting

Donna Moore

December 26

Ricky Rowe

December 27

Joey Davis

Steve Eaddy

Bill Stalnaker

December 28

Joy Hawk DeGraaf

December 29

Margaret Finch

Amelia Hendricks

Linda Mobley

December 30

Joe Hopkins

Carol Krasowski

Andrew Pender

December 31

Janet Cotter

Advent Celebration!

Nov. 28 | 4-5:30 pm

Threatt Hall

THIS SUNDAY!

Make Your Own Advent Wreath!

(Wreath Kits—\$10 each)

Register & pay online in Realm® Connect

or email Mary Lide at neaudl@aol.com

(Checks may be mailed to the church.)

Please write Advent in the memo field)

Take-out dinner available:

\$5/adult and \$2.50/child (3-11 years)

*Baked potatoes, grilled cheese sandwiches, salad,
and cookies and a drink*

Greenery Donations Needed:

Drop off your "greenery" donations for the event
in Threatt Hall on Nov. 28.



Christmas Eve
at Washington St.

A Line in Time
(The Birth of Jesus)
4:00 pm • Sanctuary

Traditional Christmas Service
5:30 pm | Sanctuary
with Communion