# The Connection

## Thanksgiving Issue, November 25, 2021

# **WSUMC Spreads the Warmth**

n 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



Scan Me to Give!

#### 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

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 <a href="marydslade4@gmail.com">marydslade4@gmail.com</a>.
- 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 <a href="mailto:ilane@columbiasc.edu">ilane@columbiasc.edu</a> 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 <a href="lelandhaynesjr@gmail.com">lelandhaynesjr@gmail.com</a> or Sylvia Stevens at <a href="sylviasaundersstevens@gmail.com">sylviasaundersstevens@gmail.com</a> 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 <a href="mailto:jessup.ann@gmail.com">jessup.ann@gmail.com</a>.
- 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 <a href="mailto:tipowers65@gmail.com">tipowers65@gmail.com</a>.
- 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 <a href="mackin@wsmethodist.org">mackin@wsmethodist.org</a>.

# **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

In Memory of Angela Powers

to WSUMC

Given by Medidath 8t

& Julian Ruffin

Given by Merideth & John Strawhorn

In Memory of Helen Fant to the Soup Cellear 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 Hepfer 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



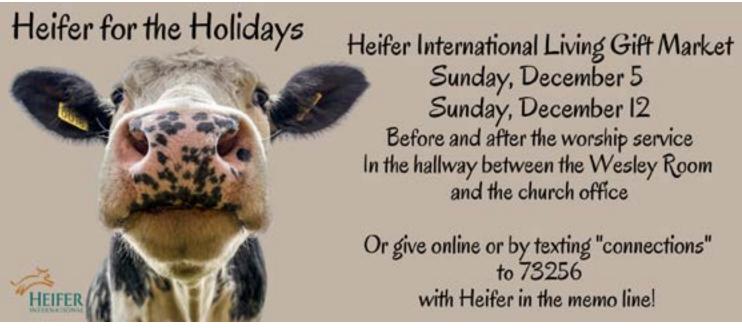
With your support, WSUMC can continue to make Christmas special for the children of Epworth. This year, we are using an Amazon Smile Wish List to not only make shopping and shipping easier for YOU, but WSUMC will benefit when you purchase your gift through AmazonSmile! AmazonSmile donates 0.5% of the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

#### SCAN THE OR 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)







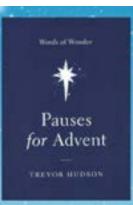
## Wednesday Night Small Group Advent Study

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



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

We don't know why the Grinch hated
Christmas. We just know he did. In this new
Advent study, Matt Bawle 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.



# 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, aweinspiring 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 Iordan 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.



(The Birth of Jesus) 4:00 pm • Sanctuary

**Traditional Christmas Service** 

5:30 pm | Sanctuary

with Communion