

# THE CONNECTION

*Sunday, May 1, 2022*

## New Easter Celebrations Held at WSUMC

Easter festivities at Washington Street were varied, and well attended after a long period of absence from celebrating the Easter holidays in person.

Maundy Thursday's *In the Upper Room*, featured 12 volunteer disciples, and Jesus from WSUMC and the community was well attended with around 60 people watching the presentation that featured Becky Shirley, Cody Lidge, and Pete Ligget as the narrators; local actor, Kashaad Kraus as Jesus; and a host of wonderful disciples including Jay Parmley, Alan-Jon Zupan, Tommy Betenbaugh, Joe Graham, Chris Peterson, Mackin Wall, Alston Lippert, Charles Garren, Richard Shirley, Chip Williams, Sam Waldrep, and Lee Smith. The production was directed by Jane Peterson. Louis Shierer accompanied Cody Lidge as soloist during the ceremony prior to the dramatic

presentation. Susan Caskey acted as stage manager as well as heading up the costume search with Sam Waldrep. Lynn Shirley lent his talents for sound, and last, but certainly not least, our Jerry Sumpter did all the heavy lifting getting our set ready for the performance.

On Good Friday, Reverend Becky and Reverend Alston, with the help of Nicholas Todd Shumate, Director of Music, presented a dramatic service in the chapel. "The Stations of the Cross" was a dark, reflective production about the different "stations" Jesus went through on his journey to his crucifixion on the cross. Various chorus members, along with soloists Bob Evans, and Maria Beery performed the music for the evening.

We hope you enjoy looking at some of the images captured during these performances.





## Don't Forget Your Mothers or Epworth Children's Home Next Sunday!

**N**ext week is Mother's Day. We will buy flowers, call the mothers in our lives, and remember those mothers who have impacted our lives in the past. Most of the children served by Epworth Children's Home will not be celebrating Mother's Day with their birth mothers. Instead, they will be surrounded by loving staff, and foster parents who walk with them daily to provide spiritual, educational, emotional, and physical support. Consider what God is calling you to give to support our church's ministry to the children in South Carolina. Your generous contribution to our church's ministry enables transformation to happen for the children who call Epworth home. Epworth does not receive apportionments from the United Methodist Conference. This offering is our opportunity to support this vital ministry. For more information about Epworth Children's Home, visit them online at [www.epworthchildrenshome.org](http://www.epworthchildrenshome.org). You may also donate through your Realm Connect account, or online at [wsmethodist.org/giving](http://wsmethodist.org/giving).

## There is Still Time to Join Us for These Small Groups...

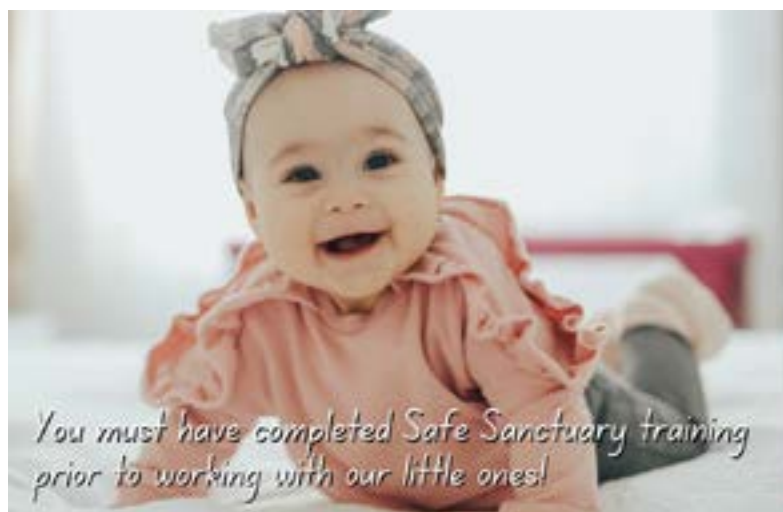
- **Connecting Traditional Spiritual Practices and Anti-Racism** is a 6-week online small group led by Rev. Becky and Rev. Mary Johnson. It will be held Wednesdays from 12:00 – 1:00 pm beginning April 27 and ending June 1. To sign up and get the Zoom link, please email [jane@wsmethodist.org](mailto:jane@wsmethodist.org).
- **Wednesday evening online small group** led by Ann Jessup. The 6-week study is based on Adam Hamilton's *The Lord's Prayer*. It meets from 7:00–8:00 pm via Zoom, and begins on April 27. To sign up and get the Zoom link, email [jessup.ann@gmail.com](mailto:jessup.ann@gmail.com).

**Save the date!**

**Sunday, June 5, 2022**  
**12:00 pm | Threatt Hall**  
**A Covered Dish Graduate Celebration**

*Do you have a high school or college graduate that you would like to acknowledge? Send their name, school, degree or future plans, along with seven photos of their life journey (baby to grad) to [jane@wsmethodist.org](mailto:jane@wsmethodist.org) no later than Friday, May 27.*

**REGISTER NOW FOR SALKEHATCHIE! SPACE IS LIMITED SO REGISTER SOON!**  
[www.umcsc.org/salkehatchie/](http://www.umcsc.org/salkehatchie/)



## Children's Church & Nursery Volunteers Needed!

*"If you are interested in helping out with our young children during Sunday School and/or church in the nursery or 2-3-year-old room, please contact Mackin Wall [mackin@wsmethodist.org](mailto:mackin@wsmethodist.org)"*





## Sunday School Updates

• **The Aldersgate Class:** The class has embarked on a new study series by Reverend Chris Hodges. In this five-session video Bible study, bestselling author and pastor Chris Hodges explores the story of the prophet Elijah to reveal how everyone is susceptible to depression. Even when we're walking closely with God, we can still stumble and get lost in the wilderness of tangled emotions. But Elijah's story reveals that we don't have to stay there! We serve a God who meets us in the darkness. Drawing on his trademark blend of Bible-based wisdom, practical application, and personal vulnerability, Pastor Hodges will help you examine the causes of depression, the factors contribute to it, and will offer you a Biblical approach to wellness—mind, body, and soul. Class begins shortly after 10:00 am before the 11:00 am worship service on the second floor of the church building. Should you have any questions, please call David A. Anderson (mobile 803-318-8821) or [danderson@richardsonplowden.com](mailto:danderson@richardsonplowden.com).

• **The Dawsey Class:** This Sunday, May 1, we will continue our study of *Freeing Jesus* by Diana Butler Bass. Tom Summers will lead a discussion of Chapter 3, Savior. Next Sunday, May 8, Grant Jackson will teach Chapter 4, Lord. 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 [marydslade4@gmail.com](mailto:marydslade4@gmail.com).

• **The Grace Class:** on May 1, Lynn Shirley will lead a listening session of a Jim Wallis presentation to the Anderson Forum of Progressive Theology with group discussion following. On May 8, Jeffrey and Mandy Collins will lead the group on getting to know them, and their reflections on faith journeys. For future class information check the website at [wsmethodist.org/sunday-school](http://wsmethodist.org/sunday-school). Join in person or contact Jim Lane at [jlane@columbiasec.edu](mailto:jlane@columbiasec.edu) for the Zoom link to gather Sunday mornings at 9:45 am for fellowship and at 10:00 am for spiritual reflection.

• **The Joy Class:** The lessons are being led by various members and focused on how we can use this season to further our faith journey. Everyone is welcome to join us as we learn together. If you are interested, please contact Lee Haynes at [lelandhaynesjr@gmail.com](mailto:lelandhaynesjr@gmail.com) or Sylvia Stevens at [sylviasaundersstevens@gmail.com](mailto:sylviasaundersstevens@gmail.com) for more information.

• **Open Door Class:** will be studying the seven "I Am" statements Jesus made in the book of John over the next several weeks. Visitors are always welcome. The class meets both in-person and via Zoom each week. For Zoom link information, contact Ann Jessup at [jessup.ann@gmail.com](mailto:jessup.ann@gmail.com).

• **The Paul Harmon Class:** The class will meet in the Traxler room. Rev. Alston will be "leading a discussion of the Psalms for the next few weeks. If you have questions, please contact Suzanne Joye at [sjoye@sc.rr.com](mailto:sjoye@sc.rr.com)." • **John Harper Class:** is studying the Gospels using Cokesbury Adult Sunday School materials. All are welcome. Contact Tracy Powers at [tjpowers65@gmail.com](mailto:tjpowers65@gmail.com).

• **WSUMC Youth Class:** For the month of May, the youth will be reading and discussing chapters from *The Irresistible Revolution* by Shane Claiborne and how it relates to scripture and our lives today. For more information, contact Mackin Wall at [mackin@wsmethodist.org](mailto:mackin@wsmethodist.org).

## Pot Luck Lunch is Back for Graduate Sunday!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 5 as we gather together for the first time since 2020 in Threath Hall for a pot-luck lunch while we celebrate our 2022 graduates!

We are asking for images of your grad to include in a presentation, as well as in an upcoming issue of The Connection. Please send in seven images of your grad as a baby through high school and/or college for us to use.

Please email the images to [jane@wsmethodist.org](mailto:jane@wsmethodist.org), or you may drop a photo by the office. Make sure your name is on the photo so we can return it to you once it is scanned!

Watch The Connection, and your Eblasts for more information on this upcoming celebration!

**THE SOUP CELLAR NEEDS SNACKS!**  
PLEASE CONSIDER GIVING THE GIFT OF FOOD  
ORDER ONLINE THROUGH AMAZON SMILE\*  
OR FROM YOUR LOCAL STORE

\*PURCHASE THROUGH AMAZONSMILE AND WS EARN A PORTION. SHIP DIRECTLY TO THE CHURCH. SCAN THE QR CODE TO VISIT THE AMAZON WISH LIST!

**Christian Sympathy:**

Rev. Becky Shirley, the church staff, and the WSUMC family extend our deepest sympathy and Christian love to the family of  
**Ingrid Williams.**  
September 10, 1929-April 24, 2022

**PRAYER LIST**

*The Prayer Team wants you to know that you can email us with any prayer concerns any time. Please email [wsuncprayers@gmail.com](mailto:wsuncprayers@gmail.com).*

Thom Berry  
Martha Boynton  
David Byrum  
Heidi Conte  
Walter Dean  
Mickey Epting  
Michelle Graham  
Rev. Paul Harmon  
Bud Harrelson  
Karen Horne  
Geneva Hutchinson  
Lisa Johnson  
Debby Joyner  
Rev. Judy King

Martha Helen King  
Mike LeFever  
Paul McClanahan  
David Middleton  
Genie & Ron Quinn  
Rufus Rogers  
Rick Rowe  
Boyd Saunders  
Stephanie Saunders  
Sarah Threath  
Edee Vaughan  
Kelly Wright  
Our homebound





## Legacy Bricks Available for Order



Engraved bricks for Christ Chapel Courtyard are now available. This is a beautiful and lasting way to honor or remember a person or persons. A named brick creates a legacy record when laid in the walkway in the Courtyard of this historic

church. Order forms are available in the church office, or online at <https://wsmethodist.org/facility/forms-and-policies>.

This opportunity is open until May 30. For more information, contact Janet Cotter at 803-782-0752.

### ATTENDANCE (as of 4-27-22):

April 24: 88 (in-person); 92 (online)=180  
 April 17: 236 (in-person); 168 (online) = 404  
 April 10: 113 (in-person); 82 (online) = 195  
 April 3: 100 (in-person); 94 (online) = 194

**SCAN TO GIVE**

### GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE

(as of 4-13-22):

**Church Budget: TBD**  
 Church Actual: \$174,605  
 Soup Cellar: \$21,354  
 Foundation Gifts: \$250



## SATURDAY, APRIL 30!



As we continue our journey of repentance and healing, we invite you to join Rev. Dr. Melanie Dobson and Rev. Alston Lippert on a tour of the *Modjeska Simkins House* in Columbia on **Saturday, April 30 at 10:00 am.**

This will be an experience of pilgrimage, of prayer, and a journey through the life of Modjeska Simkins, a civil rights icon in SC. After the tour, there will be a time for discussion and reflection.



*WSUMC's Active Faith donated water bottles to Columbia College Students.*