

THE CONNECTION

Sunday, November 13, 2022

In a complex world, we can all be grateful for John Wesley's General Rules as paraphrased by author Reuben Job in his book *Three Simple Rules: A Wesleyan Way of Living*: Do no harm, do good, and stay in love with God.

These rules may be simple and easy to remember, but living by them can be hard. Fortunately, as a friend or member of Washington Street United Methodist Church, you are part of a supportive community committed to helping you live out your faith.

Our Stewardship Campaign for 2023 runs through Nov. 20 and focuses on the theme "Living Faith" and highlights the ways that God is calling us to live out our faith as thoughtful stewards of our time, talents, and financial resources.

You should have received a letter from us with the pledge form as part of the letter. However, for your convenience, you may use the form below to make the financial tithe and offering you plan to give in support of WSUMC's ministries in 2023.

This year we are also asking you to take some time to prayerfully review the church's many volunteer ministry opportunities. The "Ministry Menu," available at the church, as well as online at wsmethodist.org/stewardship, lists a variety of ways you can live out your faith by volunteering your time and talent. There is space for two individual adults/youth to indicate their interests. Ministry Menus specifically designed for children ages 4 through 5th grade are also available at the church and will be given to our youngest disciples in Sunday school.



As part of the service of worship on November 20th, as we celebrate Christ the King Sunday, we will include a special time of prayer and reaffirmation of our faith. During this portion of the service, we will invite everyone to bring their completed financial gift pledges and Ministry Menus to the altar for consecration. If you prefer, you may also return your completed forms in the offering plate or deliver them to the church business office at any time. Please contact the Main Office if you need additional forms.

Thank you for living faithfully as a good steward of God's grace and blessings, and thank you for your generosity and commitment to Washington Street United Methodist Church.

Christine Hait, Stewardship Chair
Becky Shirley, Senior Minister

LIVING FAITH Stewardship 2023

I am committed to living faith in response to God's call on my heart to support the Church in all the ways I can, including through financial giving. I know that through my pledge I join my fellow church members in providing Washington Street United Methodist Church the loving and faithful stewardship needed to sustain it through this year and years to come.

My commitment to Washington Street UMC for the 2023 year is: \$ _____ (per week) (per month) (per year) **[circle one]**

I plan to continue my Faith Journey with a commitment to:

☐ Prayer ☐ Bible Reading and Study ☐ Witness ☐ Service ☐ Worship ☐ Financial Giving

I make this commitment in good faith, knowing that should my financial situation change, I can increase or decrease this amount by contacting the Business Administrator of the Church.

_____ (please print name) _____ (date)

YOU MAY ALSO PLEDGE ONLINE AT WSMETHODIST.ORG/STEWARDSHIP

Getting to Know ... Christine Hait

By Fran Zupan

Community is important to Christine Hait. She reflects on the community at Columbia College, where she retired last year after 29 years of teaching English.

She found a new community in the League of Women Voters when she joined last year and agreed to be director of voter participation during a busy election year.

And she thinks the most meaningful thing about Washington Street is its community.

"Being part of a church that is open and inclusive just gives me a positive feeling," Christine said, adding that when she is at church she feels a sense of belonging.

Christine is the stewardship chair, a member of the Grace class where she sometimes teaches, and a member of the Raggio Report committee and records and history committee, where she has been involved in developing the church's museum on the third floor.

"The more involved I have become, the more my faith has grown," she said.

Christine was born in Texas City, Texas, across the bay from Galveston. Her dad was a chemical engineer, and when she was 12, the family moved to San Marino, California, for a year. When they moved back to Texas, they settled in Alvin, which is south of Houston.

Christine's dad had graduated from Texas A&M University, and she had a sister there, so it was only natural that she would go there, too. Christine earned a bachelor's and a master's degree in English from A&M.

Christine became involved in film programming and was president of the Aggie Cinema her senior year.

After Christine earned her master's in 1983, she went to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to work on her Ph.D. As a teaching assistant at UNC, Christine taught freshman composition and an introductory film criticism course.

After she was hired by Columbia College in 1992, in addition to teaching literature and first-year writing, Christine taught an honors seminar on Paris in film and literature. Over the years, she led two trips to Paris with honors students.

For several years, Christine has been a member of a committee, consisting of Columbia College and University of South Carolina faculty, which produces The Tournées French Film Festival, each year.

The festival has ordinarily been held in November, but during COVID, it was held online and it will return to in-person viewing next spring. Funded by a grant from the French consulate, it will consist of one film a week for six weeks. It is open to the public, and information will be available from the French department at USC closer to the time of the festival.

Christine met her husband Stephen Hait in Chapel Hill. She was newly divorced and living with roommates. One

of those roommates introduced Christine to Steve who was one of the roommate's colleagues.

They married in 1993 at Peachtree Rock State Park in Lexington County in a small ceremony, with their parents present.

Christine describes Steve, a retired computer consultant, as "a wonderful person, sociable, interesting, and someone who loves to learn." Over the years, Steve has played many musical instruments and for several years now has been taking ukulele lessons, she said.

In 2002, the couple adopted Ana Sofia from Guatemala when she was only 4 months old. Today Ana Sofia is a junior at USC, majoring in English with an art history minor.

Ana Sofia came to them with her name, and "we thought it was a most beautiful name," Christine said. Ana Sofia has fond memories of her years as a member of Mary's Maidens at Washington Street.

Christine's literary specialty is American modernist women writers. The modernist period represented a radical break from Victorian tradition and focused on the years between the two world wars.

Christine wrote her dissertation on Katherine Anne Porter, the Texas author who wrote the novel "Ship of Fools" and many highly acclaimed short stories. In her dissertation, Christine argued that the key to appreciating Porter's artistry is understanding the intersection between gender and creativity in her fiction.

In addition to writing about Porter, Christine has published a number of articles on the work of American modernist author Kay Boyle.

Christine said a big influence in her life has been her experience at Columbia College.

"All the people I worked with and learned from," she continued. "Being able to have my career within a community that is still important to me today, that shaped me into the person I am today."

Christine said that many of her friends now are people she worked with at the college, and social media gives her an ongoing connection with former students.

As stewardship chair at Washington Street, Christine said she learned how important it is for people to think about all the ways they give – their time, their talents, their treasure,

"It's so easy to look around Washington Street and see all the ways people are doing that," she said.

Christine said she hopes people will look through the



volunteer opportunities listed in the Ministry Menu 2023 pamphlet sent in the mail as part of the stewardship campaign.

"We might start doing some new things here because we find someone who can do them," she said.

Between her work with the church and the League of Women Voters, Christine has been busy this fall. During the month before the election, she staffed two or three events for the league each week.

"My husband thinks it has become my new job," she quipped.

In addition to reading and watching "tons of films," Christine likes to have lunch with her daughter and take walks around her Hollywood-Rose Hill neighborhood.

"I'm never bored because there's always someone to be with, a good book to read, or a movie to watch," she said.

Christmas with Epworth



It's hard to believe it's that time again! Christmas with Epworth is a special time of the year when WSUMC members, along with other Methodist churches, help the children and families of Epworth by purchasing Christmas presents to help brighten their holiday.

Each Christmas, WSUMC

members will take a tag off the tree located in the back hallway of the church, and purchase the corresponding gift for the child (or children). You may purchase your item(s) from any store, but remember, if you give through AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com) and choose Washington Street UMC as your charity, we will receive a portion of the sale price at no extra cost to you.

Do NOT wrap your gift. All gifts should be unwrapped and unbagged. Please tag your gift with your name so we may match it up to the list. If you are giving a gift card, cash, or check, it must be placed in a sealed envelope with the amount of the gift written on the front, along with your name and the number of gift cards inside (if applicable) Remember to scratch off the code on the back of any gift card.

You may drop off your item at the church in the Volunteer Office between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm during the week, and before or after the service on Sunday. All gifts must be received

no later than December 7. Should you have any questions about the procedure, please contact Beth Robinson at brobinson@epworthsc.org or by phone at 803-681-0304.

United Women in Faith

BAKE SALE

**SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 20**

**9:30 am-12:30 pm
Wesley Room**

A portion of the proceeds from this sale will be given to the Methodist Church in Píjail, Ecuador to continue the MicroLoan program.

A "Friends Thanksgiving" event for young adults has been planned for November 17th from 6:00-8:00 pm in the Traxler Room. Meat provided. Bring a side or dessert to share.

To sign up or for more information contact Christine Taylor at christine@wsmethodist.org

Sunday School Updates

• **The Aldersgate Class:** On Oct. 30, we began two Advent Series studies. The first is a 4-week study by Rev. Adam Hamilton on "Prepare the Way for the Lord," a study on John the Baptist announcing the arrival of Jesus which concludes this weekend. Then we will move to another 4-week series based on a message from Max Lucado, *Because of Bethlehem: Love is Born, Hope is Here*, which will bring us to the end of this year. We welcome anyone who would like to join us in a short video and lively discussion. Our class meets in the Aldersgate Class at 10:00 am with coffee and a pastry. If you have any questions, please call David A. Anderson at 803-318-8821 or email him at DAAnderson@richardsonplowden.com.

• **The Dawsey Class:** This Sunday, November 13, we will continue our study of *Signs and Wonders: A Beginner's Guide to the Miracles of Jesus* by Amy-Jill Levine. John Evans will teach Chapter 5: A Two-Stage Miracle: Seeing Again (Mark 8: 22-26). Next Sunday, November 20, Tom Summers will lead a discussion of Chapter 6: The Raising of Lazarus: Taking Death Seriously (John 11:1-44) and Conclusion: Being Saved. The class meets in the Dawsey Classroom on the 2nd floor. Class members who desire to join from home use FreeConferenceCall. Class members should call in between 9:50 and 10:00 am. 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.

• **The Grace Class:** Christine Hait will lead the class on Nov. 13, and Nov. 20. The title of the lesson is: "Church and State: Christian Nationalism and Beyond." This is an expansion of the small group study she lead with Christine Taylor, *White Christian Nationalism* from the Diana Butler Bass articles. You can watch it here. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oGpB8bEkaCQ>. 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.

• **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 or Sylvia Stevens at sylviasaundersstevens@gmail.com for more information.

• **The Open Door Class:** The class began a 3-week study last week based on the video "The Bible Project." The subject is the character of God. Please note that there will be no class on Dec. 25, or Jan. 1. 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.

• **The Paul Harmon Class:** On November 13, Reverend Alston Lippert will lead a study on Mary Magdalene. On November 20, Dr. Charles Bryan and Randy Elswick will lead our discussion of Chapter 3 in *Parables from the Back Side* by Kalas. We are enjoying this study. All are welcome. If you have questions, please contact Suzanne Joye at sjoye@sc.rr.com.

• **The John Harper Class:** The class discusses lessons from *Adult Bible Studies* published by Cokesbury. In November, the theme is "Faithful Conversions." Lessons focus on "Showing Respect for Other Faith Traditions" from Acts, "Working for Abiding Peace" from Kings, "Lessons from Other Faith Traditions" from Exodus and "Sensitivity Training" from Romans. For more information, contact Tracy Powers at tjpowers65@gmail.com or meet with us in the classroom on the first floor by the elevator.

• **The WSUMC Youth Class:** The youth are continuing reading and analyzing the book *Walk With Jesus* by Henri Nouwen. We will be going through "Stations of the Cross" to discover how Jesus lived his life and remained hopeful through His suffering. The class will be led by Beth Robinson (bethcaskey@gmail.com).

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Please take a moment to welcome our new WSUMC members when you see them on Sundays



JETTIE HUNT



CHRIS KIRBY



ELLEN PARKER



JOE PLOUGH



DEBRA & BEN SCHOOLER



DAVID WARDEN



SARAH JONES

WSUMC is looking for volunteer choir members!

**Love to sing? Please join us!
Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings, and Sunday mornings.**

**Questions?
Contact Nicholas Todd Shumate
nicholas@wsmethodist.org**

Gifts



IN MEMORY OF MARION EDMONDS
to WSUMC

Given by Jo Cal and Susana Watson

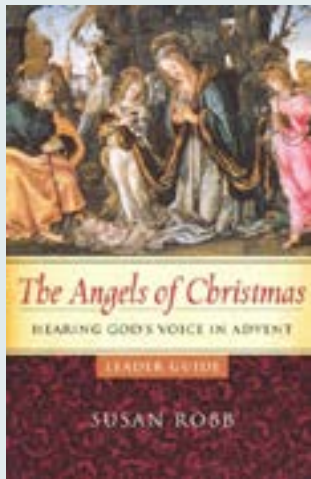
IN MEMORY OF JOAN BEAMER
to the Music Ministry
Given by Happy Henry

IN MEMORY OF JOAN BEAMER
to the Music Ministry
Given by Ms. Edith "Edee" Vaughan

IN HONOR OF REV. DIANA & BILL WESTERKAM
to WSUMC

Given by Ms. Edith "Edee" Vaughan

IN MEMORY OF MARSHALL RAMSEY
to WSUMC
Given by Mr. Lee Yarborough



**Wednesday Night
Small Group
Advent Study
The Angels of
Christmas**
by Susan Robb
with Ann Jessup

Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 & 21

7:00 pm via Zoom

Email jessup.ann@gmail.com
to sign up and receive Zoom link

Crèche Display & Special Children's Moments Planned for December 11

Active Faith is planning a Crèche Display before and after the 11:00 am service on Sunday, Dec. 11. Take a stroll through Christ Chapel to see some of WSUMC member's collections of nativity scenes. A reception will follow the service as our guests enjoy the display. Light refreshments will be served.

Be sure to join us for the 11:00 am service that day as we will have a special Children's Moments featuring our youngest members in a special Live Nativity.

Prayer List

*The prayer team wants you to know that you can email us with any prayer concerns, any time.
Please email wsumcprayers@gmail.com*

Betsy Alexander
Martha Boynton
David Byrum
Laura Collins
Dr. Walter Dean
Mickey Epting
Pat Griffin
Rev. Paul Harmon
Karen Horne
Lisa Johnson
Debby Joyner
Rev. Judy King
Martha Helen King

Mike LeFever
Paul McClanahan
David Middleton
Shawn Powers
Genie & Ron Quinn
Rick Rowe
Boyd Saunders
Stephanie Saunders
Sarah Threatt
Edee Vaughan
Paula Walters
Nancy Williams
Our homebound



Nov. 27
5:00-6:30 pm
Threatt Hall

**Advent
Celebration**

Crafts for children, youth, and adults including making Advent Wreaths*
Fellowship, fun, and singing
Christmas carols
***\$10 cost per Advent Wreath kit**

Pick up a signup form in the office
or email Mary Lide at neaudleaol.com
(Checks may be mailed to the church. Please write Advent in the memo field and the number of kits and/or meals wanted). You may also pay at the door.

Dinner Available
\$5/adult and \$2.50/child (3-11 years)
Baked potatoes, grilled cheese sandwiches, salad, cookies, and a drink

Greenery Donations Needed:
Drop off your "greenery" donations in Threatt Hall on Nov. 27.

WARM CLOTHING NEEDED FOR OUR SOUP CELLAR PATRONS!

SOCKS • BLANKETS • COATS/JACKETS
• GLOVES • SCARVES

Please drop them off in the Mission Garden

Fall Festival Draws Big Crowd Again this Year

Nearly 350 individuals graced our grounds on Saturday, Oct. 30 for our Fall Festival. Organized by Mackin Wall, the Festival was mainly hosted by our youth this year. A number of youth showed up to man the booths helping with games and crafts, popcorn and cotton candy, and the dunking booth. We had a "treat" walk in our Christ Chapel Courtyard, a costume contests for the children in Threath Hall, and a giant slide in the parking lot. Trunk or Treat was held in the side parking lot with a lot of wonderful

participants who went all out decorating and handing out loads of candy. Our winners were (in order); Jennifer and Grant Jackson (I Spy), Karen Carr (Noah's Ark), and Kathy Wright & Marsha Ward (The Frog). Thank you to all of our participants, and to everyone who donated candy for our event!

Moms Demand Action and Vote411.org were both on hand to talk to participants about some important issues in our community, as well as nationwide.





Welcome Jammie Watters!

We would like to welcome Jammie Watters to the WSUMC staff as the new administrative assistant. She comes to us from College Place UMC where she served as the church's administrative assistant whose position included secretarial, financial and communications duties. College Place UMC closed it's doors at the end of June this year. She comes highly recommended by The Rev Mary Johnson who served as pastor of College Place UMC for many years.



Please stop by the Church Office, Mondays-Fridays from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm to welcome Jammie to Washington Street!



**WE NEED YOUR PHOTOS FOR OUR
ONLINE DIRECTORY!**

**EMAIL YOUR PHOTO TO
JANE@WSMETHODIST.ORG OR**



Christmas Poinsettias

Order your Christmas poinsettias now to enhance our worship during Advent and Christmas.

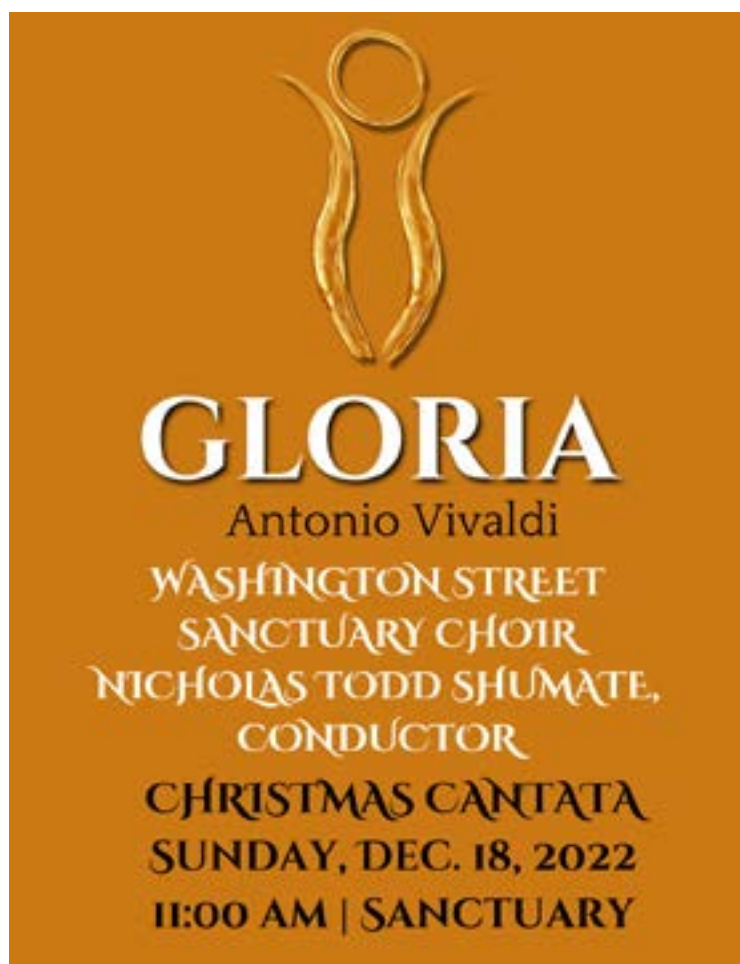
LIMITED QUANTITY AVAILABLE! ORDER NOW!

Completed order forms and payments are due by NOON on **Monday, Nov. 21st.**

You may pick up a form now, then send the completed forms and attached payment to the Church Office, or drop them off in the Narthex with your payment on Sundays through Nov. 20th. You may pay online at wsmethodist.org/giving. Please note "poinsettia" in the memo line.

Poinsettias are \$25 each

Plants may be picked up after the evening Christmas Eve service.



Mary's Maidens UNICEF

Thank you to everyone who "treated" when the girls in Mary's Maidens Trick-or-Treated for UNICEF. A total of \$280.55 was donated. Children around the world will benefit from your generosity.

Church Kitchen

With more opportunities to fellowship at church, the kitchen is in being used more.

Please remember to not only wash any dishes you used but to put the clean dishes away. There are labels on all the drawers and cabinets to help you find the dishes/cooking implements you need.

Please LABEL with your name all items placed in the refrigerator. The date the item(s) will be used should be included.

A notebook containing instructions on using the appliances is located in the second drawer of the serving counter. If you have questions about the kitchen, contact Mary Lide (neaudl@aol.com or Deborah Rowe at rkrdrtr@bellsouth.net).

ATTENDANCE (as of 11-10-22):

Nov. 6: 164 (in-person); 88 (online) = 252
Oct. 30: 214 (in-person); 167 (online) = 381
Oct. 23: 138 (in-person); 80 (online) = 218
Oct. 16: 122 (in-person); 114 (online) = 236

GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE (as of 11-10-22):

Church Budget	\$865,000
Church Actual	\$496,085
Soup Cellar	\$59,497
Foundation	\$23,810



UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

Subject to change. Events in *blue* are WS events and are open to all. Events marked with * are non-WS events.

Monday, Nov. 14

11:30-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar
1:30-2:30 pm | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar*
5:45-8:45 pm | Columbia Choral Society | Choir Room*

Tuesday, Nov. 15

11:30-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar serving | Soup Cellar
6:00-8:00 pm | Palmetto Mastersingers | Choir Room*
6:30-8:00 pm | Private Meeting | Disciple Conference Room*

Wednesday, Nov. 16

10:00-11:00 am | Staff Meeting | Wesley Room
11:00 am-12:00 pm | *Three Simple Rules Small Group* | John Harper Classroom
11:30-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar serving | Soup Cellar
1:30-2:30 pm | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar
5:00-6:30 pm | CDC Board Meeting | Wesley Room
7:00-8:00 pm | *Three Simple Rules Small Group* | Zoom

Thursday, Nov. 17

11:30-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar serving | Soup Cellar
6:00-8:00 pm | *Friendsgiving for Young Adults*
7:00-9:00 pm | Palmetto Chamber Orchestra | Choir Room*

Friday, Nov. 18

11:30-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar serving | Soup Cellar

1:30-2:30 pm | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar*

Saturday, Nov. 19

9:30-12:30 pm | Setup for UWIF Bake Sale | Wesley Room
3:00-6:00 pm | Private party | Threatt Hall/ Kitchen

Sunday, Nov. 20

9:30 am-12:30 pm | *United Women in Faith Bake Sale* | Wesley Room
11:00 am-12:00 pm | *Worship Services* | Sanctuary & Livestream

Monday, Nov. 21

11:30-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar serving | Soup Cellar
1:30-2:30 pm | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar*
5:00-6:00 pm | CDC Thanksgiving Program | Threatt Hall
5:45-8:45 pm | Columbia Choral Society | Choir Room*

Tuesday, Nov. 22

11:30-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar serving | Soup Cellar
6:00-8:00 p | Palmetto Mastersingers | Choir Room*

Wednesday, Nov. 23

11:30-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar serving | Soup Cellar
1:30-2:30 pm | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar*

**WSUMC & CDC CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING
NOV. 24-25**