



THE CONNECTION

April 30, 2023

Reconciling Next Plans Big LGBTQIA+ Ally Event! *Finding Courage to Speak & Act:* LGBTQIA+ Activists & Allies' Journey in the UMC

Reconciling Next is hosting "Finding Courage to Speak and Act: LGBTQIA+ Activists & Allies' Journey in the UMC." The special dinner and program will be held Wednesday, May 24, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in Threatt Hall. Our guest speakers are authors Nancy Malcom and AJ Ramirez. Both have published several articles on the topic.

Dr. Nancy Malcom (she/her) is a sociologist at Georgia Southern University whose research and teaching focus on gender, childhood, and sports. Recent publications include "From William's Doll to Jacob's New Dress: The Depiction of Gender Non-Conforming Boys in Children's Books from 1972 to 2014" (Journal of Homosexuality, 2018) and "Negotiating the Funhouse: CrossFit Women and the Looking Glass



Athlete" (Women in Sport and Physical Activity Journal, 2021). Dr. Malcom is an active member of Pittman Park UMC in Statesboro, GA, and attended the 2019 UMC Next conference as part of the delegation from South Georgia.

Dr. AJ Ramirez (she/her) is the coordinator of Women's & Gender Studies and a Sociology faculty member at Valdosta State University. Her academic interests include sexism, LGBTQ issues, and education reform. When not teaching, she also practices as a licensed Professional Counselor in Valdosta, Georgia. Dr. Ramirez is a member and Lay Servant of Centenary UMC in Macon, GA and leads an outreach Reconciling United Methodist Community in Valdosta, GA for displaced United Methodists and others who need an affirming place to worship God.



NANCY MALCOM

Finding Courage to Speak & Act: LGBTQIA+ Activists & Allies' Journey in the UMC

Join us for this special event celebrating
our LGBTQIA+ siblings, friends, and allies with our special
guest speakers, authors Nancy Malcom and AJ Ramirez

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Threatt Hall

Dinner & Program / 6:00-8:00 pm

wsmethodist.org/courage

Hosted by the Reconciling Next Team

Please RSVP to jane@wsmethodist.org or scan the QR code to register online

PROUD MEMBER OF



AJ RAMIREZ



Sunday School Updates

• **The Aldersgate Class:** The Aldersgate Class continues its study of the Old Testament with Sandra L. Richter (Ph.D., Harvard University), Professor of the Old Testament, at Wheaton College. Dr. Richter leads us through a video study and text to show us how Old Testament understanding leads to fresh depths of New Testament faith for everyday life in the real world. Come join us for coffee and a pastry, and listen to this exciting series. Our class meets in the Aldersgate classroom on the 2nd floor at 10:00 am. If you have any questions, please call David A. Anderson at 803-318-8821 or email him at danderson@richardsonplowden.com.

• **The Dawsey Class:** This Sunday, April 30, the class will continue its study of *The Underground Church: Reclaiming the Subversive Way of Jesus* by Robin Meyers. Tom Wall will teach Chapter 2, "The Early Church That Never Was." Next Sunday, May 7, John Evans will lead a discussion of Chapter 3, "Waking Up in Bed with Constantine." The Dawsey class meets on the second floor. Class starts at 10:00 am. Class members who 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:** The class has begun a new study from *The Work of the People* by Rachel Held Evans. This study will continue through May 29. The topic of "A New Family: Opening the Doors of the Church" contains five short videos and study guides that will be used as a basis for discussions. The author, Rachel Held Evans, whose life came to an end way too early, was a voice for progressive thought in her various works. Join us in person on the third floor 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 John Harper Class:** The John Harper class discusses lessons from Adult Bible Studies published by Cokesbury. 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 Joy Class:** The class is currently partnering with Solomon's Porch studying Luke's gospel and spending time with our neighbors. If 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 will complete Adam Hamilton's book on Luke and then pick up where we left off in the Bible Project in May. Our next topic in the Bible Project will be Shema—Listening. Visitors are always welcome! The class meets both in person on the third floor and via Zoom each week. For Zoom link information, contact Ann Jessup at jessup.ann@gmail.com.

• **The Paul Harmon Class:** The class is participating in a study from The Great Courses titled "How Jesus Became God" by Professor Bart D. Ehrman at the University of North Carolina, where he is the James A. Gray Distinguished Professor. Dr. Ehrman is a New Testament scholar who focuses on the origins and history of early Christianity. We are enjoying the lessons and our discussions. All are welcome to join us on the third floor. If you have questions, please contact Suzanne Joye at sjoye@sc.rr.com.

• **Solomon's Porch:** This class is meeting in the Traxler Classroom on the second floor and is led by Christine Taylor. The class is doing a slow read through the Gospel of Luke. Anyone interested is welcome to join! For more information, contact Christine at christine@wsmethodist.org.

• **The Youth Class:** The Youth Sunday School class uses a curriculum by Illustrated Ministry called *Mini Revolutions* that connects to the liturgical calendar. The class is led by Sarah-Kate, Beth Robinson and Susan Caskey, and Jean Leitner. Grades 6-12 are welcome to join in on Sundays at 10:00 am in the Youth Room on the third floor.

SAVE THE DATE!



F.U.E.L.
MAY 7TH
5 - 7PM

FREE!

FAN THE FLAME
FELLOWSHIP | UNITE | EAT | LOVE

DINNER AND
ADULT PROGRAM:
THE HOLY LAND
KIDS PROGRAM:
SIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING LAB

PROUD MEMBER OF



WASHINGTON STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CALLING ALL UPCOMING GRADUATES!



IF YOU ARE GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL,
COLLEGE, OR GRAD SCHOOL

SEND YOUR NAME,
SCHOOL AND GRADUATION DATE

to sarahkate@wsmethodist.org



SUMMER BIBLE BUDDIES



**Sign up for this Summer's
Bible Buddies Program!
For Kids - Nursery to 5th Grade**

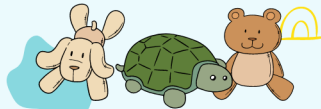
Each child will get to adopt their own "Bible Buddy" stuffed animal, receive a certificate of adoption, and a bible stories book to read to their Bible Buddy throughout the summer.

Adopt Your Buddy: Sun. June 4th

Early Sign Up Required to Receive your Buddy!
Contact Sarah-Kate to sign up!
sarahkate@wsmethodist.org



WASHINGTON
STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Prayer List

Betsy Alexander
David Byrum
Mickey Epting
Pat Griffin
Rev. Paul Harmon
Karen Horne
Lisa Johnson
Debby Joyner
Jean Kanes
Martha Helen King

Paul McClanahan
Sharon McCullough
David Middleton
Rozanna Pfeiffer
Shawn Powers
Genie & Ron Quinn
Rev. Becky Shirley
Nancy Williams
Mary Anne Young
Our homebound

Gifts

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to the Music Ministry
Given by Susan Luthren

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by Jim Lane
& Justin Dagit

IN MEMORY OF JUSTIN COUCH
to WSUMC
Given by Susan Mathews

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by Martha Boynton

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by Lisa
& Robbie Douglas

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by Sally Hiers

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by Susan Mathews

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by Kathy Wright

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to the Foundation
Given by Anne Sinclair
& Julian Ruffin

IN MEMORY OF DOTTIE WEBBER
to the Soup Cellar
Given by Robin
& David Anderson

IN HONOR OF JEAN KANES
to the Soup Cellar
Given by Carole McConkey

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by the
Paul Harmon Class

IN HONOR OF DONNA BRYAN
to the Soup Cellar
Given by Carol Fowler

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by Carol Fowler

IN MEMORY OF DOTTIE WEBBER
to the Soup Cellar
Given by Deborah Rowe

IN MEMORY OF DOTTIE WEBBER
to the Soup Cellar
Given by Norma L. Vega

IN MEMORY OF DOTTIE WEBBER
Given to Soup Cellar
Given by Lynn Shirley

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by Mr. & Mrs.
James Coldwell

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by
Ms. Susan Thompson

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by Ms. Cindy Wilkerson

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by Mr. & Mrs.
Vincent Batten

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by Kathy Rogers

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by Revs. Scott
& Evelyn Middleton

IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE
to Active Faith
Given by Rufus Rogers

**DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN GIVE A
MEMORIAL OR HONORARIUM ONLINE?
GO TO WSMETHODIST.ORG/GIVING
AND WRITE THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
IN THE MEMO LINE.**

WSUMC Committee & Team Reports

Church Council

Highlights from Church Council included the approval of an updated Safe Sanctuary Policy. Sarah-Kate Gravely and Rev. Alston Lippert revised this policy to better reflect WSUMC's values, building restrictions and safety procedures. Council reviewed and approved the updated policy. You can read a copy of it on our website at wsmethodist.org/facility/forms-and-policies/.

The WSUMC Bull Street Sign Committee has been reconstituted with representation from key church committees. The hope is that this new sub-committee, consisting of representation from key constituents and areas of interest with decision-making powers, can compile and formulate a comprehensive recommendation that can be brought to the Church Council for consideration.

This five-person sub-committee of the Church Council includes the following:

Ray Cobb - rep from Trustees (Chair)

Joe Epting - rep from Finance

Jane Peterson - rep from Communications/Tech

Ed McClain - rep from History & Archives

Kimberly McAllister - rep from the congregation as Lay Leader

Christine Hait will serve as an alternate.

The committee is charged with taking the information and findings already gathered, completing any further required research, and bringing back to the Church Council an actionable recommendation for consideration and vote. The actionable recommendation should be comprehensive (design, location, cost, tech, approvals, other related considerations, etc.) and in a state ready for execution if approved. The Trustees will be responsible for the execution of any such Council-approved recommendation.

There is no defined timeline or target date for a recommendation. Council will take direction on this from the committee. However, until a recommendation is brought to the Church Council, the committee will be prepared to provide a brief written report to the Church Council at each of their regularly scheduled meetings.

Worship Team

The Worship Team reported a successful Lenten season of worship at WSUMC. The worship opportunities were well-planned, executed, and attended thanks to the hard work from our ministers, staff, and other Worship Team volunteers. Highlights are as follows:

Mid-week Wednesday Lenten Services were held starting with Ash Wednesday, February 22 through March 29. Attendance averaged around 35 for these services. A well-rounded program of music, drama, and messages was offered. Mary Lide and her team of volunteers provided excellent noonday meals of homemade soup, sandwiches, and desserts. Proceeds benefited the Soup Cellar.

Palm Sunday, April 2, featured a processional by our choir

and children. The sanctuary was adorned with eight palms and a "Via Dolorosa" display in the narthex. Holy Communion was also observed on this special Sunday.

Maundy Thursday, April 6, was observed in Christ Chapel with Holy Communion, stripping of the altar, and special music from our choir.

Good Friday, April 7, was certainly one of the highlights during Lent. A traditional Tenebrae service featuring our ministers and five members—Thom Berry, Susan Caskey, Lee Haynes, Jim Tuell, and Ute Wachsmann-Linnan—was a deeply moving, somber, and spiritual experience.

Easter Sunday, April 9, was inspiring in so many ways—from Rev. Shirley's message, to the beautiful music, to the amazing 70+ hydrangeas adorning our sanctuary, not to mention the 300+ persons in attendance (and 300+ online)! The Easter brunch in Threath Hall was a huge success, along with the photo booth thanks to the efforts of McKenzie Powers and Sarah-Kate Gravely, our Director of Children & Youth Ministries.

A new sermon series started on April 16 and will continue through May 21. It focuses on the different ways we know Jesus. It is loosely based on a book by Diana Butler Bass, *Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence*. Coming up, we will have several special services—Mother's Day (May 14), and Ascension Sunday with Confirmation for our five confirmands on May 21. Then on May 28 we will celebrate our graduates. On June 4 we will send off our Salkehatchi team who depart on Saturday, June 10.

The team is also seeking a professional consultation about our sound system and equipment. There is no clear date for the installation of the projection system in the sanctuary; however, we anticipate that it will be soon.

Communications/Technology Team

At the request of the chair of Trustees (Pete Liggett), an inventory of technology currently in the church and available for general use (i.e., not tied to a particular pastor or staff member's needs) was prepared. This report included televisions, cameras, DVR/BluRay players, computers, and projectors. Based on this inventory, a request for additional and updated technology for use in worship settings, classrooms, and meeting spaces was submitted.

The UMC motto "Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors" was placed on the vacant side of the parking lot sign until a determination as to the future of this sign is made.

The team continues to encourage the congregation to use Realm and sign up for available training.

Director of Engagement Report

Christine Taylor reported some very encouraging participation numbers for our FUEL events. There have been an average of 75 participants and 7-10 volunteers at our monthly FUEL events.

She also reported an average of 15 participants in the new Sunday School class named Solomon's Porch. Fourteen people registered for the in-person Lenten Book Study and 15 registered for the online group. Over 120 attended Easter Sunday breakfast!

A new small group led by Christine Hait follows the new sermon series, "The Jesus I Have Known" (April 19-May 24). The small group is being held as a hybrid on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in the John Harper Classroom and via Zoom. To sign up, contact Christine Hait at chrishait@columbiasc.edu or [register online in Realm](#).

This summer, the YMCA is partnering with WSUMC for kids' camps (June 5- July 28). And plans are in the works for a summer VBS for adults (July 10-14). WSUMC's card ministry, greeter program, and monthly FUEL events will continue!

Child Development Center (CDC) Report

The Washington Street Child Development Center (CDC) has been getting back to normal since COVID-19. We have 49 students enrolled at this time and will have 50 students by May 1, 2023. Even though this is below our enrollment before COVID-19, it has grown from the 35 students enrolled for the last two years. We have 12 full-time staff, one part-time staff, and we will have a seasonal teacher this summer. Many of the programs that we were unable to provide due to COVID-19 have been reinstated this year.

Due to many grants, we have been able to supplement the loss of tuition/income and help offset our expenses. Our revenue and expenses look very good for January-April as they show a surplus. This surplus will help us finish out the year when the grant money is depleted. We are hoping to have a good surplus at the end of the year to put in the CDC Reserve for a rainy day.

Here is a list of the many programs and events that are happening at the CDC and where some of the other grant money was used.

- In-Person Parent/Teacher Conferences
- In-Person Staff Trainings

- Spring Fling
- Thanksgiving Feast
- Mulch-O-Rama/Playground Spruce-Up
- Adult/Child Easter Egg Hunts
- Teacher Appreciation
- Grant money for teacher bonuses
- Grant money for new computers, the church's and CDC's security system upgrade
- Grant money to pay all electric bills for 2022
- Grant money for new floors in CDC
- Trustees renovated bathrooms and put in new windows

Church & Society

Welcome Table Team

The Welcome Table team is continuing to support persons experiencing food insecurity in our community by providing wellness/care services and warm food through multiple avenues. The team supported monthly breakfasts on select Saturdays. These were hosted and staffed by USC's MSN Network, averaging about 75 guests each time. The last Welcome Table/Soup Cellar joint meal was held on Easter Monday, April 10th with 150 guests served at this event. A Richland County Discretionary Fund grant is managed and distributed to support the team's service to this vulnerable community. Depending on a quarterly audit in April of remaining funds, the Welcome Table Team hopes to sponsor a breakfast event in June.

Racial Justice Action Team

On March 21, Dr Willie James Jennings spoke at Lutheran Theological Southern seminary. The title of his lecture was "Overcoming Racial Faith, What Acts Teaches Us About God." As a prelude to the lecture, several members of WSUMC met with Dr. Melanie Dobson for a small group discussion of Dr. Jennings' writings.

In our ongoing efforts to combat gun violence, members of the RJAT were provided with a great resource from United Methodist Communications - "Ways United Methodist Can



WASHINGTON STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WSUMC/RJAT Hosts

SC63:

**Our Story Matters
Civil Rights Walking Tour**

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

4:30-5:30 PM

Scan the QR code, or email Nancy Whittle at ncwhittle@aol.com to reserve your spot!

Take A Stand Against Gun Violence." You can view this resource on the WSUMC website and via our social media platforms.

This Sunday, April 30, the team is partnering with the USC Center of Civil Rights History and Research to provide a guided tour of Main Street as part of the SC63: Our Story Matters initiative, uncovering and celebrating pieces of Columbia's Civil Rights story. The tour starts at the African American monument at the SC State House. Following the tour, the group will meet at Boyd Plaza for refreshments and a discussion. This tour is a follow-up to the November 2022 event at WSUMC which focused on numerous unsung heroes of the Civil Rights movement in Columbia.

Reconciling Next Team

The team reviewed and provided input on the recently released Washington Street statement on remaining part of the United Methodist Church. The input from the team is reflected in the final statement. This can be viewed on the WSUMC website at wsmethodist.org.

On March 17, a successful initial hybrid (in person and Zoom) Friday Unwind at Indah Coffee was held. This event is hosted by Reformation Lutheran, and WSUMC, and St. Mark UMC are co-hosts. Roughly 17 individuals (both LGBTQIA+ and allies) attended in person. One individual joined remotely. These events have been held virtually for several years, and attendance has been 2-4 individuals, so the March event was considered a great success! Friday Unwinds are held on the 3rd Friday of each month at Indah Coffee in downtown Columbia.

The Celebrating our Allies Event is scheduled for May 24 at WSUMC. The event will feature speakers Nancy Malcom and AJ Ramirez, sociologists, professors, and authors who have researched the topic of LGBTQIA+ and the Methodist church. There will be dinner and a program (see more on the front page). Make plans to reserve a space today!

Several educational topics will be discussed in small groups

with members of St. Mark UMC, as well as Reformation Lutheran, starting in June. Details to come.

Missions

The missions team partnered with Active Faith to provide bags for Richland County Dept. of Social Services Foster Care program. In addition to purchasing bags for children, a community Drive 'n Drop was held on April 28 and April 29 to collect needed supplies.

The team voted to expand support for Cooperative Ministry to include an annual financial contribution of \$1000. The team will continue to purchase shelf-stable milk for Cooperative Ministry's food pantry.

Members of the team celebrated the support they have provided over the past 12 months to a local refugee family. This ministry, known as the Circle of Welcome, was accomplished in partnership with Lutheran Family Services. The missions team members are currently assessing the possibility of future partnerships like this.

Active Faith

The team recently completed a successful clothing drive for the First Year Teacher Closet and the clothing closet at Columbia College. It also partnered with Missions to provide the bags for the Richland County Dept. of Social Services Foster Care program.

Active Faith is actively working on the May 6 concert, a Musical Voyage with the String Time Duo. This is a fundraising event for the people of Ukraine (proceeds will be divided between UMCOR and Charlotte for Ukraine.) Sponsorships from Sunday School classes, individuals, etc. are being secured. The event is free to attend but donations and love offerings are encouraged. A communications plan is in process to reach the community outside of WSUMC. One such action is a billboard on Main and Elmwood which features the concert on its rotation.

"Jesus...said,
'I am the light
of the world.'"
(John 8:12)

VBS: July 10-14, 2023

STELLAR
SHINE JESUS' LIGHT

Washington Street UMC | Threatt Hall
9 AM to 12 PM

Register at:
vbspro.events/p/ea8a44

WASHINGTON STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

*Subject to change. *Denotes non-member event; blue type indicates WSUMC events. Please contact Jammie Watters at jammie@wsmethodist.org to schedule an event.*

SUNDAY | APRIL 30

All day | CDC Program Setup for Spring Fling | Threatt Hall
11:00 am-12:00 pm | [Worship Service](#) | [Sanctuary & livestream](#)
4:30-5:30 pm | [SC: 63: Civil Rights Walking Tour-Downtown Columbia](#) | [State House Grounds & Main St.](#)
4:30-6:00 pm | [Youth Group](#) | [Youth Room](#)

MONDAY | MAY 1

All day | CDC Program Setup for Spring Fling | Threatt Hall
11:30 am-12:30 pm | [Soup Cellar Serving](#) | [Soup Cellar](#)
1:30-2:30 pm | [NA Meeting](#) | [Soup Cellar*](#)
5:00-6:00 pm | [Christ Chapel Courtyard Committee Meeting](#) | [Wesley Room](#)
5:45-8:45 pm | [Columbia Choral Society Rehearsal](#) | [Choir Room*](#)

TUESDAY | MAY 2

10:00-11:00 am | [Circle 6](#) | [John Harper Classroom](#)
11:30 am-12:30 pm | [Soup Cellar Serving](#) | [Soup Cellar](#)
5:30-6:30 pm | [Foundation Meeting](#) | [Zoom](#)
6:00-7:00 pm | [Reconciling Next Meeting](#) | [Zoom](#)
6:00-8:00 pm | [Palmetto Mastersingers](#) | [Choir Room*](#)
6:30-8:00 pm | [Private Group Meeting](#) | [Room varies*](#)

WEDNESDAY | MAY 3

11:30 am-12:30 pm | [Soup Cellar Serving](#) | [Soup Cellar](#)
1:30-2:30 pm | [NA Meeting](#) | [Soup Cellar*](#)
6:30-7:30 pm | [Choir Practice](#) | [Choir Room](#)
7:00-8:00 pm | ["Freeing Jesus" Small Group](#) | [John Harper Classroom & Zoom](#)

THURSDAY | MAY 4

11:30 am-12:30 pm | [Soup Cellar Serving](#) | [Soup Cellar](#)
7:00-9:00 pm | [Palmetto Chamber Orchestra](#) | [Choir Room*](#)

FRIDAY | MAY 5

11:30 am-12:30 pm | [Soup Cellar Serving](#) | [Soup Cellar](#)
1:30-2:30 pm | [NA Meeting](#) | [Soup Cellar*](#)

SATURDAY | MAY 6

7:30-8:30 pm | [String Time Duo—Relief for Ukraine Concert](#) | [Christ Chapel](#)

SUNDAY | MAY 7

11:00 am-12:00 pm | [Worship Service](#) | [Sanctuary & livestream](#)
5:00-7:00 pm | [F.U.E.L.](#) | [Threatt Hall](#)

MONDAY | MAY 8

11:30 am-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 Rehearsal](#) | [Choir Room*](#)

TUESDAY | MAY 9

11:30 am-12:30 pm | [Soup Cellar Serving](#) | [Soup Cellar](#)
6:00-8:00 pm | [Palmetto Mastersingers](#) | [Choir Room*](#)
6:30-8:00 pm | [Private Group Meeting](#) | [Room varies*](#)

WEDNESDAY | MAY 10

11:30 am-12:30 pm | [Soup Cellar Serving](#) | [Soup Cellar](#)
1:30-2:30 pm | [NA Meeting](#) | [Soup Cellar*](#)
6:30-7:30 pm | [Choir Practice](#) | [Choir Room](#)
7:00-8:00 pm | [Freeing Jesus Small Group](#) | [John Harper Classroom & Zoom](#)

THURSDAY | MAY 11

11:30 am-12:30 pm | [Soup Cellar Serving](#) | [Soup Cellar](#)
7:00-9:00 pm | [Palmetto Chamber Orchestra](#) | [Choir Room*](#)

FRIDAY | MAY 12

11:30 am-12:30 pm | [Soup Cellar Serving](#) | [Soup Cellar](#)
1:30-2:30 pm | [NA Meeting](#) | [Soup Cellar*](#)

SUNDAY | MAY 14

11:00 am-12:00 pm | [Worship Service](#) | [Sanctuary & livestream](#)

MONDAY | MAY 15

11:30 am-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 Rehearsal](#) | [Choir Room*](#)

TUESDAY | MAY 16

11:30 am-12:30 pm | [Soup Cellar Serving](#) | [Soup Cellar](#)
6:00-8:00 pm | [Palmetto Mastersingers](#) | [Choir Room*](#)
6:30-8:00 pm | [Private Group Meeting](#) | [Room varies*](#)

WEDNESDAY | MAY 17

11:30 am-12:30 pm | [Soup Cellar Serving](#) | [Soup Cellar](#)
1:30-2:30 pm | [NA Meeting](#) | [Soup Cellar*](#)
6:30-7:30 pm | [Choir Practice](#) | [Choir Room](#)
7:00-8:00 pm | ["Freeing Jesus" Small Group](#) | [John Harper Classroom & Zoom](#)

THURSDAY | MAY 18

11:30 am-12:30 pm | [Soup Cellar Serving](#) | [Soup Cellar](#)
7:00-9:00 pm | [Palmetto Chamber Orchestra](#) | [Choir Room*](#)

FRIDAY | MAY 19

11:30 am-12:30 pm | [Soup Cellar Serving](#) | [Soup Cellar](#)
1:30-2:30 pm | [NA Meeting](#) | [Soup Cellar*](#)
4:00 pm-May 20 @ 5:00 pm | [Confirmation Retreat](#) | [Location TBD](#)

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

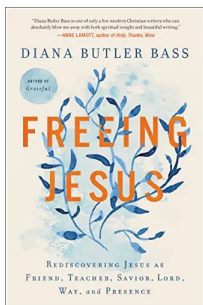
As of 4-25-23

Church Budget: TBD

Church Actual	not available
Soup Cellar	
Foundation	

ATTENDANCE

April 23: 147 (in-person) 114 (online) = 261;
April 16: 132 (in-person); 185 (online) = 317;
April 9: 299 (in-person); 315 (online) = 614;
April 2: 198 (in-person); 141 (online) = 339



It's not too late to join in!

Christine Hait is leading this new small group discussing the current sermon series inspired by the Diana Butler Bass book, *Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence*. This group will read the book, and then dive deeper into each previous week's sermon topic. It is a hybrid small group that meets Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm, from April 19 through June 7. The group will meet in the John Harper Classroom and through Zoom. To register, scan the QR code, or email Christine Hait at chrishait@columbiasc.edu.



Marina Alexandra

Angelina Reed

RESERVE YOUR SEAT NOW ON EVENTBRITE!

WASHINGTON STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Musical Voyage with the String Time Duo

A FUNDRAISER BENEFITTING CHARLOTTE FOR UKRAINE & UMCOR
EACH ORGANIZATION DISTRIBUTES 100% OF ACCUMULATED DONATIONS DIRECTLY TO PEOPLE IN UKRAINE.

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023
7:30 PM | WASHINGTON STREET UMC
1401 Washington St, Columbia, 29201
wsmethodist.org/ukraine | [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)
803-256-2417

SEATING IS LIMITED. RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED
FIRST COME-FIRST SERVED
FREE CONCERT | LOVE OFFERINGS & DONATIONS ENCOURAGED

May Birthdays

May 1
Graham Reich

May 2
Lane Bowden
Christine Hait

May 3
Fran Zupan
Kathleen Lee

May 4
Ann Fishburne
May Ramsey

May 5
Laurel Sharp
Ken Hooker

May 6
Joe Shampine

May 7
Lanneau Lide
Ron Quinn

May 8
Ute Wachsmann-Linnan

May 12
Jack Culclasure

May 14
Mary Anne Young

May 15
James Farr

May 18
Stephanie Saunders

May 20
Aretta Raley

May 22
Ed Geddes

May 23
Tim Franklin
Malissa Burnette

May 24
Susanne Reich

May 25
Carol Duggan

May 26
Jane Wall

May 30
Martha Helen King

May 31
Hayden Rowe

WHERE IS MY CHURCH DIRECTORY?

Did you know you can use the Realm website on a computer/tablet or the Realm app on a smartphone to access the church directory for addresses, phone numbers, email, etc?

If you need help with that, members of the Communications and Technology team may be able to help you. Members include: Pato Arevena, Tracy Powers, Eleanore Langley, Grant Jackson, Lynn Shirley, Jane Peterson, Christine Taylor, Ed McClain, and Susan Caskey.

If you need help setting up Realm, contact Lynn Shirley at 803-422-3368. Or Jane Peterson (jane@wsmethodist.org), or Robbie Douglas (rdouglas@wsmethodist.org).