



# THE CONNECTION

May 28, 2023

## Rethinking Small Groups—A Resurrection’s ShareChurch Ministry

Church of the Resurrection (Adam Hamilton's church) is hosting an online workshop for "rethinking small groups." We at WSUMC are excited for what this workshop can teach us!

We have registered our church to host a "watch party"—which means we'll have folks gather at church and tune-in for this online training workshop. The online training takes place on June 22nd from 8:00 am-11:00 am EST. There will be three scheduled sessions with short breaks in between. We'll gather in the Traxler Room for this watch party!

Resurrection’s Adult Discipleship team will be sharing the fruit of two years of research, experimentation, and practice in a new take on small group ministry that seeks to rethink the experience of small groups and refocus the life of the church on this critical component of Christian faith. Informed by psychology, theology, and sociology, this new (and highly doable) approach will enhance our efforts to put an effective and relevant model for small group ministry into practice.

If you would like to take advantage of this great opportunity, contact Christine Taylor at [christine@wsmethodist.org](mailto:christine@wsmethodist.org) to join our group.

## WSUMC Welcomes Five Confirmands to Church Family

Washington Street was blessed to have five young people confirmed on Sunday, May 21st. The Confirmands and their mentors are Ellis Rowe & mentor Robbie Douglas, Liam Roberts & mentor Jim Lane, Elijah Hughes & mentor Marshall Robinson, Will McCook & mentor Joe Epting, and Madelyn Geddes & mentor Ann Jessup. The Confirmands and their mentors met weekly for four weeks learning about the life of the church and what it means to be a church member. Following their individual learning Pastor Becky and Sarah-Kate led the group in a Confirmation Retreat at

Mount Shepherd Camp and Retreat Center in Asheboro, NC. They spent time learning about our faith and asking questions about what it means to be a Christian. The group participated in a team building course where they learned what it means to trust one another and lean on our faith community. Pastor Becky performed a special baptism service for Ellis Rowe in the



lake there at the camp. Following Confirmation Sunday, each young person came to youth group later that night. They continue to check in with one another and are thankful for the prayers and gifts from their Washington Street family.

Photos: Left: Rev. Becky Shirley, Elijah Hughes, Marshall Robinson, Ann Jessup, Maddy Geddes, Jim Lane, Liam Roberts, Joe Epting, Will McCook, Robbie Douglas, Ellis Rowe, Sarah-Kate Gravely. Above: Ellis Rowe, Maddy Geddes, Liam Roberts, Elijah Hughes, Will McCook.

# Summer Happenings...Small Group Book and Movie Discussions!

WSUMC's Reconciling Next Team is hosting a hybrid summer study series entitled Summer Pride. Two of the discussions will take place here at Washington Street, the third will take place at Reformation Lutheran Church. The Reconciling Next Team consists of members from Washington Street UMC, Reformation Lutheran, and St. Mark UMC.

Our vision and mission for this summer ministry is to fully include LGBTQIA+ persons within our congregation and community. We hope to inspire and engage our congregation and those in our community to challenge and transform unjust systems that discriminate against or lessen the opportunities of LGBTQIA+ persons. Reconciling Next hopes you will join them for the Summer Pride Studies. To take part in any of these studies listed below, please email Jim Lane at [jlane@columbiasc.edu](mailto:jlane@columbiasc.edu).

**SUNDAY, JUNE 25th**

**3:30-5:30 pm**

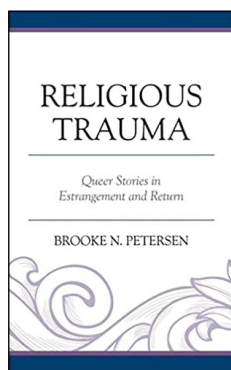
**WSUMC Wesley Room & Zoom**

*Religious Trauma: Queer Stories in Estrangement and Return\**

by Brooke N. Petersen

Facilitator: Jim Lane

Small panel format with breakout discussion groups. This book is fairly expensive. Do not feel you must purchase the book to attend. Jim Lane will be reading and reviewing the text for our discussion.



**WEDNESDAY, JULY 26th**

**6:00-7:00 pm**

**WSUMC Wesley Room & Zoom**

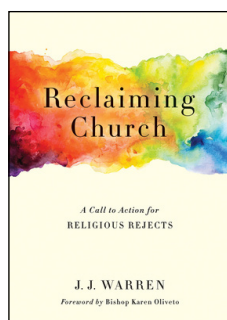
*Reclaiming Church: A Call to Action for Religious Rejects*

by J.J. Warren

Facilitator: Jim Lane

Group discussion of the book.

*Available on Amazon and other outlets.*



**WEDNESDAY, AUG. 23rd**

**6:00-7:00 pm**

**Reformation Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall & Zoom**

1118 Union St., Columbia

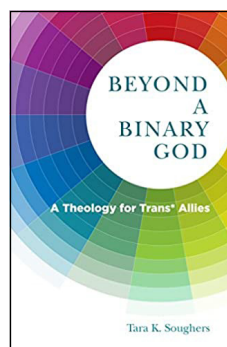
*Beyond a Binary God: A Theology for Trans' Allies*

by Tara K. Soughers

Facilitators: Gary Parish & Jim Lane

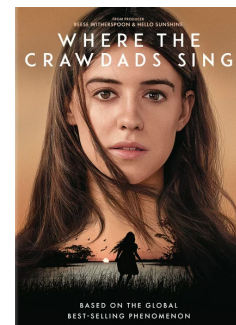
Group discussion of the book.

*Available on Amazon and other outlets.*



## *Who Is My Neighbor?* A Summer Movie Discussion

Christine Taylor will be hosting a Summer Movie Discussion Series where we dive into the question "who is my neighbor?" Participants are invited to watch the movie beforehand, then come ready to discuss. All in-person sessions will be held in the Wesley Room and on Zoom from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.



**MONDAY, JUNE 26th**

*A Man Called Otto* (2022)

**MONDAY, JULY 24th**

*Won't You Be My Neighbor* (2018)

**MONDAY, AUG. 28th**

*Where the Crawdads Sing* (2022).

All movies are available on Netflix or other streaming services. Sign up on Realm by scanning the QR code below, or email Christine at [christine@wsumc.org](mailto:christine@wsumc.org). Participants can join the discussion at the church, or on Zoom.



*Psalms in the Summer*

**June 22nd, 29th, and July 6th**

**7:00-8:00 pm | Zoom**

Join Christine and Isaac Taylor for three weeks of Psalms in the summer! Each week we will do a deep dive into a different Psalm. Please have a Bible handy and come ready to learn! This Bible study will meet on Zoom. Email Christine at [christine@wsmethodist.org](mailto:christine@wsmethodist.org) to participate, or sign up on Realm by scanning the QR code to your right.



# Sunday School Updates

• **The Aldersgate Class:** Please come and join the Aldersgate Class as we embark on a 6-week study of the book of *Luke* by best-selling author and pastor, Adam Hamilton. In *Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws*, Hamilton explores the life of Jesus as told in the Gospel of Luke. Through Luke's stories we find Jesus's care and compassion for all as he welcomes sinners and outcasts. As we study Luke and see Jesus's concern for those who were considered unimportant, we hear a hopeful and inspiring word for our lives today. This lesson series will be led by Hal Hanlin and David Anderson. Please join us in the Aldersgate classroom for a donut, coffee, and excellent fellowship as we dive into the Gospel of Luke. 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](mailto:danderson@richardsonplowden.com).

• **The Dawsey Class:** This Sunday, May 28, Grant Jackson will teach Chapter 6, "Renewing the Church Through Shared Mission" in *The Underground Church: Reclaiming the Subversive Way of Jesus* by Robin Meyers. Next Sunday, June 4, Hunter Rentz will lead a discussion of Chapter 7, "Leavening the Imperial Loaf." 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 [maryslade4@gmail.com](mailto:maryslade4@gmail.com).

• **The Grace Class:** The class is studying *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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:lelandhaynesjr@gmail.com) or Sylvia Stevens at [sylviasaundersstevens@gmail.com](mailto:sylviasaundersstevens@gmail.com) for more information.

• **The Open Door Class:** Over the next two weeks, the Open Door Class will complete its word study on the Old Testament Hebrew Shema prayer using *The Bible Project* as our guide. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:christine@wsmethodist.org).

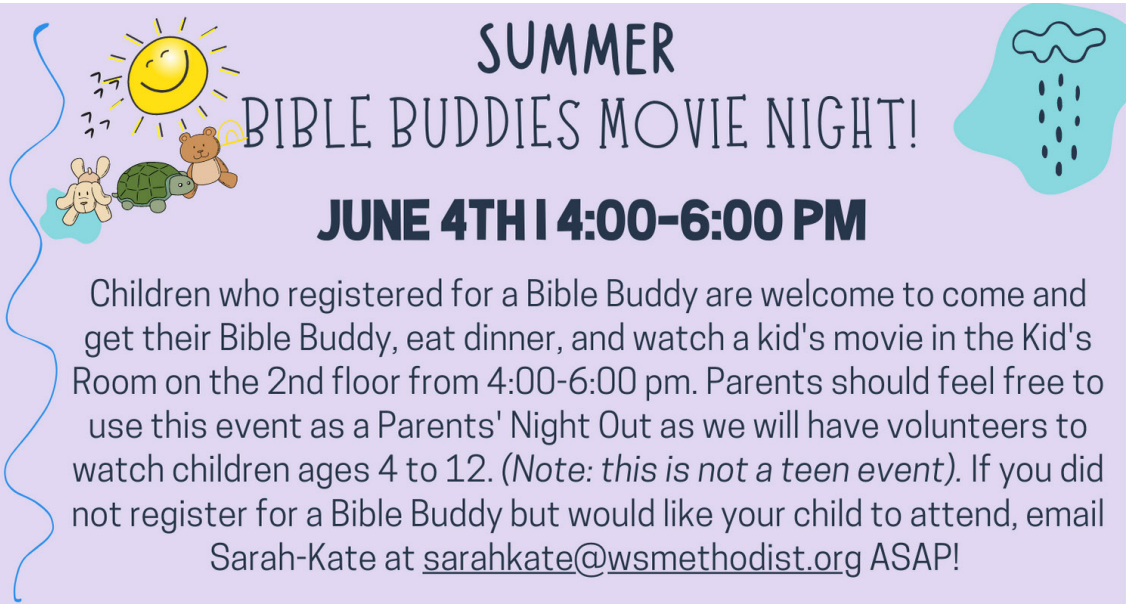
• **The Youth Class:** The Youth Sunday School will continue with the curriculum by Illustrated Ministry called *Mini Revolutions* that connects to the liturgical calendar. Grades 6-12 are welcome to join in on Sundays at 10:00 am in the Youth Room on the third floor.



**MOVIE NIGHT**

**PARENTS' NIGHT OUT!**

WASHINGTON STREET  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



**SUMMER BIBLE BUDDIES MOVIE NIGHT!**

**JUNE 4TH | 4:00-6:00 PM**

Children who registered for a Bible Buddy are welcome to come and get their Bible Buddy, eat dinner, and watch a kid's movie in the Kid's Room on the 2nd floor from 4:00-6:00 pm. Parents should feel free to use this event as a Parents' Night Out as we will have volunteers to watch children ages 4 to 12. (Note: this is not a teen event). If you did not register for a Bible Buddy but would like your child to attend, email Sarah-Kate at [sarahkate@wsmethodist.org](mailto:sarahkate@wsmethodist.org) ASAP!

# Gifts (as of 5-25-23)

**IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE**  
to the Soup Cellar  
Given by Chip Williams

**IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE**  
to Active Faith  
Given by Mark Millazzo

**IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE**  
to WSUMC  
Given by Natalie J. O'Bradovich

**IN MEMORY OF DOTTIE WEBBER**  
to the Soup Cellar  
Given by Chip Williams

**IN MEMORY OF DOTTIE WEBBER**  
to WSUMC  
Given by Kathy Rogers

**IN MEMORY OF JIMMY DAWKINS**  
to the Soup Cellar  
Given by Chip Williams

**IN MEMORY OF JIMMY DAWKINS**  
to WSUMC  
Given by Kathy Rogers

**IN MEMORY OF JIMMY DAWKINS**  
to WSUMC  
Given by Rufus Rogers

**IN MEMORY OF DEBBY JOYNER**  
to WSUMC  
Given by Paula Walters

**IN MEMORY OF JUSTIN COUCH**  
to the Grace Class  
Given by Sam Waldrep

**IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE**  
to WSUMC  
Given by Janice & Paul Harmon

**IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE**  
to Active Faith  
Given by Eleanor & Jack Carpenter

**IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE**  
to Active Faith  
Given by Susan & Jimmy Plunkett, Jr.

**IN MEMORY OF DOTTIE WEBBER**  
to WSUMC  
Given by Evelyn & Scott Middleton

**IN MEMORY OF DEBBY JOYNER**  
to the Minister's Discretion Fund  
Given by the Grace Sunday School Class

**IN MEMORY OF DEBBY JOYNER**  
to WSUMC  
Given by Evelyn & Scott Middleton

**IN MEMORY OF JIMMY DAWKINS**  
to WSUMC  
Given by Evelyn & Scott Middleton

**IN MEMORY OF JIMMY DAWKINS**  
to the Soup Cellar  
Given by Karen Carr

**IN MEMORY OF JIMMY DAWKINS**  
to the Soup Cellar  
Given by Flora Kennedy

**IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE**  
to Active Faith  
Given by Jenny Dalrymple & Jan Baker

**IN MEMORY OF DOTTIE WEBBER**  
to the Soup Cellar  
Given by Jenny Dalrymple & Jan Baker

**IN MEMORY OF NELLE MURRELL**  
to the Grace Class  
Given by Rev. Carl & Cheryl Evans

**IN MEMORY OF ANDREW MARTIN**  
to WSUMC  
Given by Ed McClain & Jim Blanton

**IN MEMORY OF JIMMY DAWKINS**  
to Active Faith  
Given by Jenny Dalrymple & Jan Baker

**IN MEMORY OF RICK ROWE**  
to the Soup Cellar  
Given by Ute Wachsmann-Linnan

**IN MEMORY OF DEBBY JOYNER**  
to WSUMC  
Given by Ute Wachsmann-Linnan

**IN MEMORY OF JIMMY DAWKINS**  
to the Soup Cellar  
Given by Gwen & Mike Harmon

**IN MEMORY OF DOTTIE WEBBER**  
to the Soup Cellar  
Given by Fran & Alan-Jon Zupan

## Prayer List

Betsy Alexander  
Karen Basso  
Martha Boynton  
David Byrum  
Mickey Epting  
Pat Griffin  
Rev. Paul Harmon  
Karen Horne  
Lisa Johnson

Jean Kanes  
Martha Helen King  
Paul McClanahan  
Sharon McCullough  
David Middleton  
Shawn Powers  
Genie & Ron Quinn  
Nancy Williams  
Our homebound

## Summer Pause on F.U.E.L.

Thank you so much for your dedication to fellowship at WSUMC. We will be taking a break from F.U.E.L. for the summer! We have decided to not hold F.U.E.L. during June, July, or August due to the many summer travel plans most have this summer.

We will update you near the end of the summer about plans for F.U.E.L. and scheduling volunteers for fall events! Please go ahead and mark your calendar for **September 3rd, October 1st, and November 5th!** We look forward to the coming year and all of the fellowship opportunities it will bring. Should you have any questions, please contact Christine at [christine@wsmethodist.org](mailto:christine@wsmethodist.org).

**Sing-Along Messiah**

**Monday, December 11, 2023**  
**7:00 pm**  
**Sanctuary**

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF  
**DR. LILLIAN QUACKENBUSH**

[wsmethodist.org/sam](http://wsmethodist.org/sam)  
**NOW SEEKING DONATIONS!**