



THE CONNECTION

May 28, 2023

Rethinking Small Groups—A Resurrection's **ShareChurch Ministry**

hurch 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 to join our group.

WSUMC Welcomes Five Confirmands to Church Family

ashington 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

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.

Becky performed a special baptism service for Ellis Rowe in the

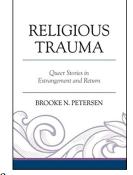
Summer Happenings...Small Group Book and Movie Discussions!

SUMC'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.

SUNDAY, JUNE 25th 3:30-5:30 pm WSUMC Wesley Room & Zoom

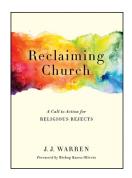
Religious Trauma: Queer Stories in
Estrangement and Return*
by Brooke N. Petersen
Facilitator: Jim Lane
Small panel format with breakout
discussion groups. This book is fairly
expensive. Do not feel you must
purchase the book to attend. Jim Lane



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

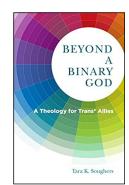
Trans' Allies

by Tara K. Soughers

Facilitators: Gary Parish & Jim Lane

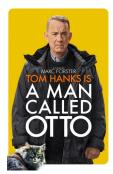
Group discussion of the book.

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. 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 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.
- 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 marydslade4@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 lane@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 tipowers65@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: 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.
- 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 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.



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 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

o the Grace Glass

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 Eleaner & 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

Summer Pause on F.UE.L.

hank 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.

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



June Birthdays June 2 June 8 June 17 <u>June 25</u> R. Austin Hanlin Judith Bledsoe Cathy Hooker Ben Epting Jean Leitner Ellen Carruth **Joyce Pruett** John Epting **Payton Horton** June 18 June 3 June 26 **Emily McCook** Karen Carr June 9 James Carter Sam Mathews **Nancy Epting** June 20 June 27 Kirby Leitner **Eddie Sullivan** Blake Buchanan June 12 June 5 Suzanne Hurley June 22 Jerry Watson Susan Luthren Kristie Rowe Deborah Rowe June 28 **Boyd Saunders** Ron Osborne June 7 June 23 Vickie Voegeli Emmi-Elizabeth Lee June 28 June 14 **Dotsy Helms** Sue Connolly-Nelson June 24 **Andrew Ruffin** June 16 June 30 Cal Franklin Edee Vaughan Ron Bowden Nancy Whittle

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.

MONDAY | MAY 29--WSUMC OFFICE/CDC & SOUP CELLAR CLOSED

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

5:45-8:45 pm | Columbia Choral Society Rehearsal | Choir Room*

TUESDAY | MAY 30

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

3:30-5:00 pm | Cinnamon Roll Tuesday | Youth Room 6:30-8:00 pm | Private Group Meeting | Disciple Conference

Room*

WEDNESDAY | MAY 31

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 (registration required |

John Harper Classroom & Zoom

THURSDAY | JUNE 1

11:30 am-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30-2:30 pm | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar

FRIDAY | JUNE 2

11:30 am-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar

SUNDAY | JUNE 4

11:00 am-12:00 pm | Worship Service | Sanctuary & livestream 12:00-1:00 pm | Safe Sanctuary Training | John Harper Classroom 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm | Parents' Night Out/Bible Buddy Movie Night | 2nd Floor

MONDAY | JUNE 5

SC Annual Conference begins in Florence, SC (June 5-7) 11:30 am-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar

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

5:30-6:30 pm | Trustee Meeting | Wesley Room 5:45-8:45 pm | Columbia Choral Society Rehearsal | Choir Room*

TUESDAY | JUNE 6

10:00-11:00 am | Circle 6 | John Harper Classroom 11:30 am-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30-2:30 pm | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar* 6:00-7:00 pm | Reconciling Next Meeting | Zoom 6:30-8:00 pm | Private Group Meeting | Room varies*

WEDNESDAY | JUNE 7

11:30 am-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar

THURSDAY | JUNE 8

11:30 am-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30-2:30 pm | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar

FRIDAY | JUNE 9

11:30 am-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30-2:30 pm | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar

SUNDAY | JUNE 11

11:00 am-12:00 pm | Worship Service | Sanctuary & livestream



Join us in prayers as the SC Annual Conference meets
June 5-7 in Florence.

WSUMC Delegates: Rev. Becky Shirley & Rev. Alston Lippert

Laity:
Sam Waldrep, Debra & Ben
Schooler &
Sarah-Kate Gravely



Mary's Maidens collected and made 53 birthday bags for Harvest Hope Food Bank. Thank you, Washington Street for your generosity!

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

As of 5-25-23

Church Budget: \$866,231

Church Actual \$261,092 Soup Cellar \$33,959 Foundation \$900

ATTENDANCE

May 21: 178 (in-person); 99 (online) = 277 May 14: 152 (in-person); 136 (online) = 288 May 7: 144 (in-person); 127 (online) = 271 April 30: 157 (in-person); 247 (online) = 404



SUNDAY, JUNE 4 IS WEAR ORANGE SUNDAY!

We wear orange for a future free from gun violence. This year, we once again unite in our call to end gun violence. As we come together for WEAR ORANGE, we honor the communities shattered by gun violence alongside the 120 people who are shot and killed, and hundreds more who are wounded every day in our country. Together, we call for meaningful action to save lives.

We should not have to live in fear that gunfire can ring out at any moment, whether it's at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas; while grocery shopping at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York; a party in San Bernardino; or at graduations across the country. We deserve more.

Raise awareness by participating in Wear Orange in your community,

and here at Washington Street!

WEAR ORANGE ON JUNE 4th!