



# CONNECTION

October 15, 2023

## The Votes are In... 2024 Charge Conference Results

n Sunday, Oct. 4, Charge Conference was held in Christ Chapel. Officers and committee chairs were elected. The terms of service for new leaders will begin on January 1,

"I want to personally thank each of you for your willingness to serve — those who are willing to continue serving for another year or more and those who will be starting your service on the council in 2024. I look forward to continued ministry with each of you and to seeing the great things God has in store for all of us as we join hearts and hands together in fulfilling our calling to make disciples for the transformation of the world," said Rev. Becky.

The list of those serving in 2024 is as follows:

## **CHURCH COUNCIL 2024**

Chair of Church Council: Lee Haynes (2025) Lay Leader: Kimberly McAlister (2025)

Lay Members of Annual Conference: Licia and Grant Jackson (2024), Sam Waldrep (2025), Debra & Ben Shooler (2025), Sarah-Kate Gravely (2025), Carol Fowler, alternate (2025)

Chair of Trustees: Pete Liggett (2024)

**Chair of Finance Committee:** Joe Epting (2025) Financial Secretary: Robbie Douglas (staff)

Chair of Staff/Pastor Parish Relations: Lee Smith (2024)

Chair of Foundation Trustees: Kelly Epting (2026) **Recording Secretary:** Charlotte Broome (2026) Membership Secretary: Chip Williams (2026)

Church Historian: Mike Broome

Treasurer: Neal Foster

Chair of Communications Team: Lynn Shirley (2025)

CDC Board Chair: Susan Hefelfinger (2025) **Age-Level Coordinator:** Swann Adams (2026) **Community Life Coordinator:** Mary Lide (2024) **Church & Society Coordinator:** Cindy Cox (2025)

Worship Coordinator: Sam Waldrep (2025)

**United Women in Faith Chairperson:** Debra Schooler (2026) Members at Large: Janet Cotter (2026), Jim Apple (2026)

**Senior Pastor:** Becky Shirley **Associate Minister:** Alston Lippert

Ex-Officio Members:

Director of Children & Youth: Sarah-Kate Gravely **Director of Communications:** Jane Peterson

Director of Engagement: TBA Director of Music Ministries: TBA

Ministry and Support **Teams** 

Age-Level Ministries -

(Children's Ministries, Youth Ministries, Adult Small Groups, and Sunday School Classes)

Swann Adams,

Coordinator; Dane Waund; Mary Slade; Marshall Robinson; Debra Schooler

Child Development Center Board — Susan Hefelfinger, Chairperson (2025)

Class of 2025: Erin Oehler, Susan Hefelfinger, Jim Laughlin

Class of 2026: Kathy Wright, Alisa Liggett **CDC Director:** Felicia Yockel

Church Business Administrator: Robbie Douglas

**Senior Pastor:** Becky Shirley

Church Staff Liaison: Sarah-Kate Gravely

Church & Society Ministries - Cindy Cox, Coordinator

(2025)

Active Faith Team — Deborah Rowe, Chairperson

Missions & Advocacy Team — Andrea McAtee, Chairperson

Racial Justice Action Team — Nancy Whittle, Chairperson

**Reconciling Next Team** — Jim Lane, Chairperson

**Soup Cellar Ministry Team** — Robbie Douglas, Chairperson

Welcome Table Team — Lee Haynes, Chairperson

Communications & Technology – Lynn Shirley, Chairperson (2025), Pato Aravena, Grant Jackson, Tracy Powers, Ed McClain, Susan Caskey, Eleanore Langley, Jane Peterson

**Community Life Ministries** — (Funeral Visitation Receptions, Kitchen Hospitality, Day Trippers, Gracious Goodness, Card



Ministry, Family Ministry Events) Mary Lide, Coordinator (2024), Heidi Conte, Debra Rowe, Karen Deas

Finance Committee — Joe Epting, Chairperson (2025), Robbie Douglas (Financial Secretary), Neal Foster (Treasurer), Kimberly McAlister (Lay Leader), Lee Haynes (Church Council Chair), Lee Smith (Chair of SPPRC), Kelly Epting (Chair of Foundation), Pete Liggett (Trustee Rep), Jamie Gerald (Chair of Good Samaritan Committee), Mike Broome (Member at large)

Foundation Trustees — Kelly Epting, Chairperson (2027),

Class of 2024: Chip Williams, Melinda Gibson Class of 2025: Lanneau Lide, Robert Peeler, Sr. Class of 2026: Harvey Jessup, Ricky Rowe Class of 2027: Kelly Epting, Thorne Barrett **Trustees Chair:** Pete Liggett, Foundation

Treasurer: Ed Fisher

Finance Committee Chair: Joe Epting

Nominations and Leadership and Development

Pastor: Becky Shirley

Lay Leader: Kimberly McAlister

Class of 2025: Ricky Rowe, Lynn Shirley

Class of 2026: Beth Robinson, Susan Luthren, Thom Berry

Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee — Lee Smith,

Chairperson (2024)

Class of 2024: Pam Jenkins, Lee Smith

Class of 2025: Ann Jessup, Hal Hanlin, David Anderson

Lay Leader: Kimberly McAlister Lay Delegate: Carol Fowler

**Trustees** — Pete Liggett, Chairperson (2024)

Class of 2024: Janet Cotter, Mike Conte, Susan Brown, Pete

Liggett

Class of 2025: Sally Mings, Marshall Robinson, Neal Woods

Class of 2026: Charles Garren, Ray Cobb

Worship — Sam Waldrep, Chairperson (2025) Worship Arts — Sam Waldrep, Chairperson Music Ministries — Catherine Nance

Altar Guild — Susan Caskey

Usher Captain — Susan Luthren

Baptism Coordinator — Eleanore Langley Acolyte Coordinator — Susan Brown Children's Moments — Sarah-Kate Gravely

A/V Tech — Lynn Shirley

Communion Stewards — Cathy Hooker, Eleanore Langley,

Wedding Coordinators — Shelley Stafford, Elizabeth

Aravena



## 2023 Fall Festival is Coming!

houls, goblins, and great volunteers should sign up to help out with our upcoming Fall Festival! The Festival and Trunk or Treat will be Sunday, October 29th from 4:00 to 6:00pm. We will have a bounce house, pumpkin carving table, games and prizes, tables and trunks for trunk or treat, plus a few surprises! Here are some ways you can volunteer:

- 1. Decorate your trunk! Arrive at 3:30 p.m. to set up your trunk and help hand out candy in the parking lot.
- 2. Donate candy! We hope to have a big turn out, so extra candy is needed. You can drop off candy donations in the mission garden or in Sarah-Kate's office.
- 3. Help out with the pumpkin and prize tables.
  - 4. Spread the word!

The Fall Festival is a great event for all ages, so be sure to spread the word to neighbors and friends about the event. For questions or to sign up to help, reach out to Sarah-Kate at <a href="mailto:sarahkate@">sarahkate@</a> wsmethodist.org. Thanks to all the great volunteers!

## Washington Street to Participate in Pride Weekend

oin members of WSUMC as we take part in the Pride Festival, October 20-21 in downtown Columbia. As in years past, we will march in the Pride Parade on Friday evening, as well as have a booth at the festival on Saturday from noon to 6:00 p.m. All are welcome to join us on Friday evening for the Pride Parade which will kick off at dusk. We will meet prior to the parade for some food and fellowship at The Woody, located at 1649 Main St., starting at 5:00 p.m.

As part of the celebratory weekend, Ebenezer Lutheran Church and Washington Street United Methodist Church will host an interdenominational "Celebration of Diversity" Service to kick off Pride Weekend. The service will be held on October 19th at 6:00 p.m. in the chapel at Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 1301 Richland Street. Come join us as we celebrate God's diverse creation.

Participating in this event gives WSUMC a wonderful opportunity to inform people about Washington Street UMC, and how we truly stand by the phrase, "Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors."

Please share the date with friends and neighbors. For more information, contact Jim Lane at <a href="mailto:jlane@columbiasc.edu">jlane@columbiasc.edu</a>.



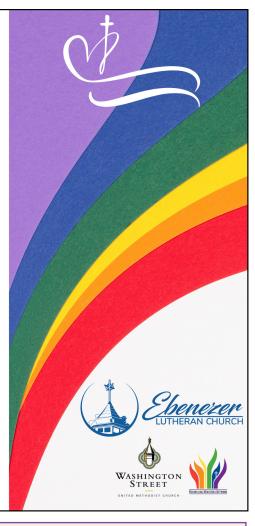
## JOIN US FOR ...

Celebration of Diversity:
An Interdenominational
Service

Ebenezer Lutheran & Washington Street
United Methodist Church are hosting a worship service to kick off
South Carolina's PRIDE Weekend.

All people are invited to gather on Thursday, October 19th 6:00 pm Ebenezer Lutheran Chapel 1301 Richland Street

Come be a part as we celebrate God's diverse creation!





## Sing-Along Messiah Is Back!

Te are very excited to announce that the annual choral production of the *Sing-Along Messiah* will return on Monday, December 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Reservations for the production will open on Nov. 1 through Eventbrite. The link to reserve seats will also be available on the WSUMC website at <a href="https://www.wsmethodist.org/sam">wsmethodist.org/sam</a>.

This is the only sing-along version of Handel's *Messiah* in the Midlands, the event is free and open to the public. Reservations are highly recommended as seating is limited. Reservations will hold a seat; however, *guests must arrive no later than 6:50 p.m. to guarantee a seat*. Seating will be granted to those on any waitlist after 6:50 p.m. Seating is general, and good seats will go quickly, so do arrive early. Parking is available in the Bull Street parking lot as well as in surrounding street and bank parking lots.

The *Sing-Along Messiah* was founded in 2002 by Arletta Raley on the principle that everyone in the metropolitan Columbia area, and anyone willing to travel to Columbia, should have an opportunity to sing some part of Handel's *Messiah* at least once a year. The *Sing-Along Messiah* was also established on the heartfelt belief that no Christmas season is ever truly complete without it. *Messiah* is perhaps the best-known and most popular sacred oratorio ever written. In its entirety, it is comprised of 53 individual selections presented as orchestral symphonies, choruses, recitatives, and arias, divided into three sections. The *Sing-Along Messiah* includes all of Section 1 and "Hallelujah" from Section 2.

Until the Covid breakout in 2020, WSUMC had hosted the *Sing-Along Messiah* each year since 2002. The *Sing-Along Messiah* has become a highly-anticipated holiday tradition in the Midlands. Each year the production has been held, the sanctuary has filled to capacity and the pre-performance buzz of anticipation could be felt by the participants. Many regular participants have said that their Christmas season is not the same without it.

The service lasts approximately an hour. The event will feature an orchestra of talented local musicians through the dedication and hard work of Columbia's own Dick Goodwin. Also featured is a core choir to lead the singing of the choruses. Singers in the core choir have historically represented many local choirs and groups.

We are currently accepting donations to help us keep our event free and open to the public. Our goal this year is \$15,000 and we are nearly there. You may donate to *Sing Along Messiah* by visiting the website at <a href="wmmethodist.org/giving">wmmethodist.org/giving</a> and writing SAM in the memo line. Or you may write a check and send it to the attention of Robbie Douglas at the church. Please write SAM in the memo line there as well.

Nearby parking, with directional signage, will be readily available. Scores are available for loan as you enter the Narthex.

The program will again be led by long-time conductor Dr. Lillian Quackenbush. Featured soloists include Mezzo

Soprano Rachel Calloway; Soprano, Ashley Emerson; Tenor Dominic Armstrong; and Bass-Baritone Craig Price.

Dr. Lillian Quackenbush is a retired professor and chair of the Department of Music at Columbia College. Her experience includes numerous performances of *Messiah* as

a chorus member, soloist, and conductor. She has had an extensive career as a vocal performer in musical theater, opera, and oratorio and as a choral director in community and church positions. In 2012, Dr. Quackenbush was awarded the Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Lifetime Achievement Award from the South Carolina Arts Commission, recognizing her outstanding service and achievement in the arts. Dr. Quackenbush was the founder



Lillian Quackenbush

and artistic director of the Sandlapper Singers, a post from which she is now retired. She has also served as interim artistic director of the Palmetto Mastersingers, a men's chorus based out of Columbia. For more information about *Sing-Along Messiah*, visit the website at <a href="wsmethodist.org/sam">wsmethodist.org/sam</a> or contact Catherine Nance at <a href="catherine@wsmethodist.org">catherine@wsmethodist.org</a>.



## Sunday School Updates

- The Aldersgate Class: The Aldersgate Class will be embarking on a study of the 12 apostles based upon the book, The First to Follow, the Apostles of Jesus by John R. Claypool. One of the first things that Jesus did in his ministry was to reach out to 12 individuals and draw them into a circle of close companionship with him. This series is about those 12 apostles, their relationships with Jesus and with each other, and what the dynamics of that community can teach us. Jesus did not wait for people to be perfect in order to call them into the circle of God's love. As we look at those who Jesus called, and consider ourselves as part of that ever-enlarging circle, we gain not only a deeper sense of our own reality but also a deeper sense of how Christ wants to work with us. Come join us for a lively discussion, a cup of coffee, and a pastry. All are welcome! 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, October 15, we will continue our discussion of Why I Left, Why I Stayed: Conversations between an Evangelical Father and His Humanist Son by Tony Compolo and Bart Compolo. Grant Jackson will lead a discussion of Bart: Godless Goodness: The Foundations of a Secular Morality" and Tony: "And Then What? Why Secularists Can't Face Death." Next Sunday, October 23, Mary Edmonds will teach Bart: "Part of the Bargain: Facing Death the Secular Humanist Way" and Tony: "Not from Nowhere: Why Transcendent Experiences Point to God." Class members who join from home will use FreeConferenceCall and should call in between 9:50 and 10:00 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 Caroline Seigler at caroline. seigler@gmail.com.
- The Grace Class: On Sunday,
  October 15, Vickie and Lisa Voegeli
  will continue to lead a book discussion
  of It's Not Supposed to Be This Way by
  Lysa Terkeurst, president of Proverbs
  31 Ministries and New York Times
  bestselling author. This study ends
  Oct. 29. Join us in person on the third
  floor, or contact Jim Lane at jlane@
  columbiasc.edu for the Zoom link. We
  gather Sunday mornings at 9:45 am for
  fellowship, and at 10:00 am for spiritual
  reflection.

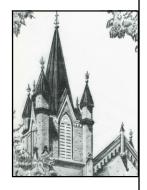
- The John Harper Class: The John Harper class discusses lessons from *Adult Bible Studies* published by Cokesbury. For more information, contact Tracy Powers at tjpowers65@gmail.com or meet with us in the classroom on the first floor by the elevator.
- The Joy Class: The Joy Class is continuing to partner with Solomon's Porch in a study of Psalms. If interested, please contact Lee Haynes at <a href="mailto:lelandhaynesjr@gmail.com">lelandhaynesjr@gmail.com</a> or Sylvia Stevens at <a href="mailto:sylviasaudersstevens@gmail.com">sylviasaudersstevens@gmail.com</a>.
- The Open Door Class: The Open Door is continuing its study of the *Bible Project's Torah Series*. We will finish Exodus and begin Leviticus over the next two weeks Visitors are always welcome! The class meets in person on the third floor and via Zoom each week. For Zoom link information, contact Ann Jessup at <a href="mailto:jessup.ann@gmail.com">jessup.ann@gmail.com</a>.
- The Paul Harmon Class: John Adams will be leading our class this month in a discussion of the minor prophets. 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: The class is studying of the book of Psalms. Anyone interested is welcome to join in. The class meets on the second floor and is led by Rev. Adrienne Fink. For more information, contact Adrienne at ajhamm@umcsc.org.

## Prayer List

Betsy Alexander Karen Basso David Byrum Mickey Epting Pat Griffin Betsv Halloran Rev. Paul Harmon Karen Horne Lisa Johnson Jean Kanes Martha Helen King Lin Fesperman Lord Beverly McClanahan Paul McClanahan Sharon McCullough David Middleton Shawn Powers Genie & Ron Quinn Peggy Ward Nancy Williams Our homebound

# Request from the Records and History Committee

he Records and History Committee always appreciates the assistance of members of the congregation



who donate materials to the ministry of history at WSUMC. These items might include church-related documents, committee agendas and minutes, photographs, past bulletins and newsletters, books, newspaper articles, art work, special program announcements, artifacts and furnishings of relevance to our church, SC United Methodist Conference publications, and any other artifact with a tie to our church. The church historian and Records and History Committee will reserve the right to assess any donations for retention in our archives and/or for display in our museum and exhibit areas.

This past June our Church Council approved an acquisition and relocation policy designed to establish a more effective management plan for the work of the Records and History Committee. Forms are available in the church office and on the WSUMC website for a congregant's use in arranging a donation or wishing to relocate an existing furnishing. These forms may be accessed from the following:

https://wsmethodist.org/facility/museum-and-archives/

https://wsmethodist.org/facility/ forms-and-policies/

Your support of the ministry of history is much appreciated.

Michael Broome Church Historian



## STEWARDSHIP 2024 LUNCHEON

Join us as we "release our blessings"
at a potluck luncheon
Sunday, Oct. 22nd
12:00 pm | Threatt Hall
Meat and drinks provided
Bring a side or a dessert

BE SURE TO PICK UP A "BALLOON" IN THE NARTHEX & WRITE DOWN YOUR BLESSING!

## College Student Addresses Needed

he children in the 2-year old through 5-year old Sunday school classes will be preparing surprises for Washington St. college students, undergraduate and graduate students.

If you are the parent or grandparent of a college student, please share your student's mailing address with Mary Lide at neaudl@aol.com.

## OCTOBER IS MINISTER APPRECIATION MONTH!

A basket has been placed on the table outside of the Church Office in which you can place notes or cards of thanks to our ministers. This is an opportunity for all who attend worship to express their appreciation as we observe Minister Appreciation Month.

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT As of 10-12-23

## General Budget: \$866,231

Church \$506,039 Soup Cellar \$49,763 Foundation \$14,569

## ATTENDANCE (as of 10-12-23)

Oct. 8: 133 (in person); n/a (online); due to a technical difficulty there is no online version this week.

Oct. 1: 155 (in person); 187 (online) = 343 Sept. 24: 151 (in person); 347 (online) = 498 Sept. 17: 168 (in person); 199 (online) = 367



# The WELCOME Table

A WASHINGTON STREET UMC MISSION FOR THE FOOD INSECURE

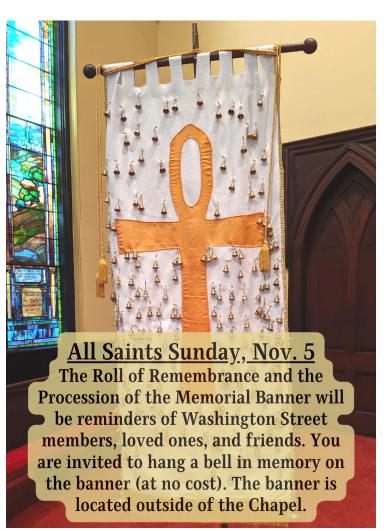
## **SEEKING VOLUNTEERS!**

to help serve, greet, and welcome our guests Monday, Nov. 6th

11:00 am to 1:00 pm | Threatt Hall

the event is from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Scan QR code or contact Jane at jane@wsmethodist.org





Wednesday, December 6th | 11:00 a.m.

Tour of the Washington Street stained glass windows led by Pete Liggett

Washington Street Sanctuary

Lunch afterwards in the Wesley Room

Contact Mary Lide, <a href="mailto:neaudl@aol.com">neaudl@aol.com</a> to sign up for the tour, lunch, or both.

Mom said we need to bring undies to Church!



PLACE YOUR DONATION IN THE LAUNDRY BASKET THROUGH OCT. 22ND!

Collecting new underwear for both children & adults!

THE COOPERATIVE MINISTRY



MARY'S MAIDENS IS COLLECTING FOR

unicef unite for children

R TRICK OR TREAT FOR UNICEF!
START SAVING YOUR COINS! MARY'S MAIDENS WILL BE
COLLECTING DONATIONS ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29TH.
WE WILL GLADLY ACCEPT BILLS, TOO! THANK YOU FOR HELPING
US HELP CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD.

## **WSUMC Meeting & Event Dates**

Subject to change

\*denotes non-member event; blue type indicates WSUMC events or meetings

#### MONDAY, OCT. 16

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30-2:30 p.m. | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar\*

#### TUESDAY, OCT. 17

10:00-11:00 a.m. | Programming Staff Meeting | Holroyd Classroom

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30-2:30 p.m. | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar\* 6:00-9:00 p.m. | Palmetto Mastersingers | Choir Room\*

6:30-8:00 p.m. | Private Meeting | Room varies\*

#### WEDNESDAY, OCT. 18

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30-2:30 p.m. | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar\* 6:30-7:30 p.m. | Choir Practice | Choir Room

#### THURSDAY, OCT. 19

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30-2:30 p.m. | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar\*

#### FRIDAY, OCT. 20

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30-2:30 p.m. | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar\*

### SATURDAY, OCT. 21

8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | Trustee Task Force Meeting | Library

#### SUNDAY, OCT. 22

9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. | Sunday School | Church-wide

11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | Worship Service | Sanctuary & livestream

12:00-1:30 p.m. | Potluck Stewardship Luncheon | Threatt Hall

4:30-5:00 p.m. | Youth Bible Study | Youth Room

5:00-5:30 p.m. | Dinner for Youth/Kids | Youth Room

5:15-6:15 p.m. | Disciple Group | Zoom 5:30-6:30 p.m. | Kids Choir | Kids Choir Room

## MONDAY, OCT. 23

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30-2:30 p.m. | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar\* 6:30-7:30 p.m. | Circle 9 | Open Door Classroom

7:00-8:00 p.m. | Movie Discussion | Wesley Room & Zoom

#### TUESDAY, OCT. 24

10:00-11:00 a.m. | Staff Meeting | Wesley

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30-2:30 p.m. | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar\* 6:00-7:00 p.m. | Church Council Meeting | Zoom

6:00-9:00 p.m. | Palmetto Mastersingers | Choir Room\*

6:30-8:00 p.m. | Private Meeting | Room varies\*

#### WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30-2:30 p.m. | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar\* 5:00-6:00 p.m. | RJAT Meeting | Zoom 6:30-7:30 p.m. | Choir Practice | Choir Room

#### THURSDAY, OCT. 26

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30-2:30 p.m. | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar\*

### FRIDAY, OCT. 27

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar 1:30-2:30 p.m. | NA Meeting | Soup Cellar\*

#### SATURDAY, OCT. 28

7:30-9:00 a.m. | MSN Breakfast for Food Insecure | Parking lot

## SUNDAY, OCT. 29

9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. | Sunday School | Church-wide

11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | Worship Service | Sanctuary & live stream12:00-1:00 p.m. | Trick or Treat for Unicef/Mary's Maidens | Narthex & Hallways

12:00-1:00 p.m. | Drama Group Meeting | Grace Classroom

4:00-6:00 p.m. | Fall Festival | Parking lot 5:15-6:15 p.m. | Disciple Group | Wesley Room





The DayTrippers' tour of the Anne Frank
Center will need to be rescheduled.
The Center double-booked tours on
Friday, October 20 and we were the
second tour booked.

Watch for news of a rescheduled tour.





To set up a meeting, please contacct Jammie Watters at jammie@wsmethodist.org. For events, please fill out the event form available online at wsmethodist.org/facilities