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THE CONNECTION

February 4, 2024

Rosenwald Schools

Submitted by Cindy Cox, Chair of Church & Society Ministries

The Rosenwald rural school building program, which began in 1912 was a major effort to improve the quality of public education for African Americans in the early 20th-century South. These schools were built through grants funded by Julius Rosenwald, president of Sears, Roebuck and Company. By 1928, one in every five rural schools for Black students in the South was a Rosenwald school, and these schools housed one third of the region's Black school children. There were nearly 500 Rosenwald schools built in South Carolina in the early 1900s (1917-1932), but due to development, sprawl, and neglect, only 40 remain standing in various states of repair.

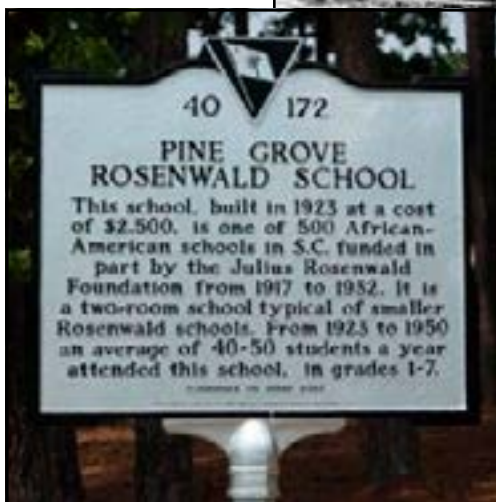
Conservation Voters of South Carolina (CVSC), the WeGOJA Foundation, the African American Heritage Commission, Rosenwald community groups, and other state and local partners have formed a working group to initiate the protection of Rosenwald School sites across the state.

The Pine Grove School, built in 1923, was one of 15 other Rosenwald Schools constructed in Richland County. It is believed to be the only one still standing. Through funding secured from the South Carolina Community Competitive Grant Program, Richland County Conservation Commission, and the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Preservation Fund through the Richland County Recreation Foundation, Richland County has worked to restore the school to its original configuration and successfully created a historic community gathering place. In 2009, the school received its National Register designation and has received a Historic Preservation Award from the Historic Columbia Foundation.

In July 2023, members of WSUMC's Racial Justice Action Team visited the Pine Grove School. During this visit, a former student joined the group and shared her perspective on how important these schools were to the students and the community. Additional information learned during visit:



Pine Grove School



- Communities were given half the funds to build the school and they had to raise the other half. This was not an easy task for poor, rural Black families, but because they felt so strongly about their children's education, they did everything they could to raise the money. They sold quilts and other items, some provided labor and materials, while others even donated family land.

- The total cost to build the Pine Grove School was \$2,500, which was composed of

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contributions from the Rosenwald Fund, \$700, the white community, \$315, the Black community, \$285, and the public contribution was \$1,200.

- After the school was closed, the community raised money — \$20 from each family — to purchase the land from the public school district. They used the building to hold community events and meetings.

- A group called the Big Sisters Club helped to support the school for over 44 years. They were instrumental in getting the school year extended from four months to six months.

- Fathers of the students served as trustees of the school.

Information above is largely from Richland County Recreation Commission

Want to know more?

- richlandcountyrecreation.com/rosenwald-school

- cvsc.org/?s=rosenwald

- Carolina African-American Heritage Commission's "How Did We Get to Now?"

- SCAAHC & SCDAAH teamed up in 2016 to create a comprehensive resource on historically African American schools and school sites, including most known Rosenwald properties

- South Carolina Department of Archives & History Rosenwald Database. This database allows you to search for Rosenwald School records by county.

- Fisk University Rosenwald Fund Archives. Fisk University is a pre-eminent resource for all things Rosenwald. Historical records, school databases, and more can be found here.

Rev. Becky Shirley joins the entire staff and Washington Street Church family in expressing our deepest sympathy and Christian love to the family of Martha Helen Sawyer King on her death, Friday, January 26, 2024.

Active Faith Missions Updates

Submitted by Deborah Rowe

Active Faith has exciting updates on our initiatives! We're committed to continuing our support for the two local home daycare operations and the Koala Closet at Columbia College. Additionally, we'll be contributing to stock the Little Hygiene Pantry in the Soup Cellar as needed and sponsoring our Annual Undie Sunday event in September.

In a recent vote, we decided to donate \$1500 to the Ukrainian Relief Effort (Stringtime Duo concert on March 16), and pledged support to the Circle of Welcome, allocating up to \$2,000 for items needed by a refugee family. Leaders Anne Sinclair, Kay Ayers-Garren, and Andrea McAtee will guide the purchasing decisions for this impactful ministry.

Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry

has inaugurated a new home for disabled men in Irmo. Marsha Ward and Deborah Rowe are actively coordinating a House Warming Party in April and organizing a collection drive for essential supplies for the new home.

Mark your calendars for December as we'll be hosting the Crèches Festival, open to the public this year. Charles Joye, Jean Kanes, and Sam Waldrep are working diligently to finalize the date and plan for this special event, with designated funds set aside.

With a warm welcome to our new members, we've decided to bring back the Washington St umbrellas, long sleeve tee shirts, and short sleeve tee shirts for sale. Jim Lane and Charles Garren will lead this effort.

Stay tuned for more updates and thank you for your continued support!



The Blood Connection
5220 Clemson Avenue, Columbia, SC 29206
For additional details about the program, please visit www.bloodconnection.com 5220 Clemson Avenue
Columbia, SC 29206

02/15/2024 | 02:00 PM–07:00 PM

11033

Scan to make an appointment!
(sponsor code above)



\$25 CHARITABLE DONATION WILL BE MADE PER DONOR PLUS DONORS GET \$25 IN REWARDS!

WIS + DBSC only, rewards + TBC reward points to redeem for adult cards, check social media for promo dates.



thebloodconnection.org

The Blood Connection is a non-profit organization. Blood can be donated every 56 days. Donors must be 15 years or older and over 110 lbs, to donate. Written parental consent required for 15 year olds in SC and GA, 15 AND 17 year olds in NC. Before you donate blood, make sure that you drink plenty of water and eat a healthy meal. TBC Donor ID Card (preferred) or photo ID required to donate. Rewards are non-transferable

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Tech Workshops to Be Offered!

Exciting news from the Communications and Technology Committee! This year, we're thrilled to announce a series of Tech Workshops designed to empower those of you who may find technology management a bit challenging. Whether it's smartphones, tablets, computers, printers, or more, our workshops aim to make tech accessible for everyone.

Tailored to Your Needs:

To ensure our workshops are relevant and beneficial, we're seeking your input on the topics that matter most to you. From basic security practices and the ins and outs of dual authentication

to managing photos and navigating potential email and text scams – we want to cover it all. Your needs and preferences are our priority!

Share Your Thoughts:

Wondering when and how these workshops should take place? We'd love to hear your feedback! Let us know if you prefer shorter sessions (30-40 minutes) on Sundays right after the 11 am church service or if longer daytime sessions (1 hour) during the week suit you better. Your input will help us tailor these workshops to fit seamlessly into your schedule.

Connect with Us:

Have suggestions or want to express your interest? Reach out to any member of the Communications & Technology Committee. You can connect with Lynn Shirley (chair), Grant Jackson, Eleanore Langley, Ed McClain, Tracy Powers, Pato Aravena, or Jane Peterson. Your engagement is key to making these workshops a valuable resource for everyone.

Stay tuned for more details as we embark on this exciting tech journey together!

Upcoming Sunday Lent Series: Questions We Ask God

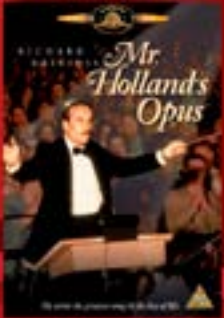
Who is God? Why do bad things happen to good people? How can I face the future? Asking questions is a normal part of human life. Having doubts is part of the human experience. We do not have to be ashamed of our doubts or hide our questions before God. In fact, God fully welcomes them and welcomes us. This Lent, we will practice bringing some of our biggest questions and doubts to God. We will practice embracing this deeply human part of ourselves as we move together toward the great and joyous mystery of Easter resurrection.

LENT SERIES SCHEDULE

Feb. 14 (Ash Wednesday)	Living with Questions Doubts Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 6:1-6
Feb. 18	Who is God? 1 John 4:7-19
Feb. 25	Is the Bible Reliable? Hebrews 4:12-14
March 3	Why Should I Go to Church? Psalm 100
March 10	Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People? Psalm 137
March 17	How and Why Do I Forgive? Matthew 6:9-15
March 24 (Palm/Passion Sunday):	Why is Jesus Special? Mark 11:1-11

Special services – Maundy Thursday (6:00-7:00 pm | Chapel)

Good Friday (6:00-7:00 pm | Chapel)



WASHINGTON ST. UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Winter/Spring

Using Our Gifts & Talents

Featured Film:
Mr. Holland's Opus





Sign up on Realm by scanning the QR code or email
aflippert@umcsc.org

If you have previously attended a movie discussion, you do not need to sign up.



Focusing on Love During Lent

Submitted by Rev. Becky Shirley

As we try to make sense of the world and how the world works, one thing is certain, our world needs love during these desperate days of radical polarization and division. With another General Conference for our United Methodist denomination scheduled to take place April 23-May 3, we find ourselves yearning to embrace love more completely because God first loved us. Thus, knowing that this year Ash Wednesday is the same day as St. Valentine's Day (February 14), it a perfect day for us to start our Lenten season thinking about and having discussions about what love means.

Many Christians choose to celebrate a fast throughout the season of Lent, but the focus of Lent is not on depriving ourselves of something as much as it is on recognizing God's sacrificial love, devoting ourselves to God and our purposes in the world. So, as we begin this Holy Season of spiritual renewal and preparation for Easter, let's set aside time to ponder and expand our understanding of God's great love and deepen our relationship with God.

One of the ways we can do this is through our commitment to spend time in worship together.

This year, in addition to our 11:00 am Sunday Morning services, we will once again hold 30-minute services in Christ Chapel on Wednesdays. The series of Wednesday services will begin with a special Ash Wednesday service where we will be marked with ash, be reminded of our mortality, and of God's purpose for our lives on this side of heaven. On Ash Wednesday we will also hold a 30-minute evening service at 6:00 pm in the Chapel that will include leadership from some of our youth and is designed to allow students and persons who are not able to come to the 12:30 service an opportunity to participate in this special service of devotion.

Each Wednesday during Lent, we will continue the WSUMC tradition of offering a light lunch in Threatt Hall starting at 11:45 am followed by a special-30 minute service in the chapel. These services are designed for us not only worship together midweek, but also as an opportunity for us to invite others in the community to take time out of their week to pause, find refreshment, and be reminded of God's love and our purpose in this world. This year, in these services, in addition to beautiful music, a different member of WSUMC's drama ministry will present a dramatic monologue from the perspective of a biblical character who participated in the Passion of our Lord.

**SOUPER BOWL
OF CARING
CONFERENCE COMPETITION!**

ACC
VS.
SEC

**WHICH
CONFERENCE
IS BETTER?**

**VOTE FOR THE BEST CONFERENCE BY
DONATING MONEY IN OUR SOUP POTS ON
SUNDAY FEB. 4TH & 11TH
THEN STICK AROUND SUNDAY, FEB 11TH FOR SOME
DELICIOUS SOUP FOLLOWING WORSHIP IN THREATT HALL**

**SOUPER BOWL LUNCH!
SUNDAY, FEB. 11TH
AT NOON**

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING
jackiebunger.org

WASHINGTON STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**ALL DONATIONS GO TOWARD
WASHINGTON STREET SOUP CELLAR!**

Two services available!

**Ash
Wednesday**

**12:30-1:00 pm
Christ Chapel**

**6:00-6:30 pm
Christ Chapel
(youth led)**



Gifts

(as of 2-1-24)

IN MEMORY OF DAVID BYRUM
to the Soup Cellar
Given by Wendy & Joe Clark

IN MEMORY OF DAVID BYRUM
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Gwen, Mike & Sim Harmon

IN MEMORY OF DAVID BYRUM
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Susan & Van Mullis

IN MEMORY OF DAVID BYRUM
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Rosemary & Jim Belger

IN MEMORY OF RON QUINN
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Kathy Rogers

IN MEMORY OF DAVID BYRUM
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Kathy Rogers

IN MEMORY OF DAVID BYRUM
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Rufus Rogers

IN MEMORY OF DAVID BYRUM
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Fran & Alan-Jon Zupan

IN MEMORY OF DAVID BYRUM
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Lane & Ron Bowden

IN MEMORY OF RON QUINN
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Lane & Ron Bowden

IN MEMORY OF RON QUINN
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Betty Shaw

IN MEMORY OF RON QUINN
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Clark A. Williams

IN MEMORY OF RON QUINN
to the Soup Cellar

Given by Lynn Shirley

IN MEMORY OF DAVID BYRUM
to the Soup Cellar

Given by the Began Family

IN MEMORY OF DAVID BYRUM
to the Soup Cellar

Given by the Weir Family

IN MEMORY OF RON QUINN
to the Foundation

Given by Robin & David Anderson

Sunday School Updates

• **The Aldersgate Class:** The Aldersgate Class is continuing its lessons using the PBS series "How Jesus Became Christ." This thought-provoking series includes video segments from the series, and later discussions led by Dr. Charles Bryan. Come join us for a cup of coffee, pastry, and lively discussions. This series will run through February 11. 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, February 4, we will conclude our look at excerpts from Chapter 7 of *Black Liturgies: Prayers, Poems, and Meditations for Staying Human* by poet Cole Arthur Riley. Next Sunday, February 11, we will begin a discussion of *The Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory: American Evangelicals in an Age of Extremism* by Tim Alberta. Alberta, a practicing Christian and the son of an evangelical pastor, provides a portrait of evangelical Christians through the eyes of both pastors and followers. Alberta is an award-winning journalist and writer for *The Atlantic*. For more information about the class, contact the class president Caroline Seigler at caroline.seigler@gmail.com.

• **The Grace Class:** The class will be listening to, and discussing a lecture on "Patriarchy and Hierarchy" led by Simran Jeet Singh on February 4 and 11. Join us in person on the third floor, or contact Jim Lane at jlane@columbiasec.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. If interested, please get in touch with Lee Haynes at lelandhaynesjr@gmail.com or Sylvia Stevens at sylviasaudersstevens@gmail.com.

• **The Open Door Class:** Over the next two Sundays, the Open Door Class will finish the study "Never Quit," which covers principles of prayer paralleled with the parable of the persistent widow from Luke, Chapter 8. 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 jessup.ann@gmail.com.

• **The Paul Harmon Class:** The Paul Harmon Class will be reading and discussing *The First Christmas, What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus' Birth*, by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. The book delves into how Jesus' birth stories "touch the deepest of human yearnings: for light in the darkness, for the fulfillment of our hopes, for a different kind of world." Visitors are always welcome to the class. If you have questions, please contact Suzanne Joye at sjoye@sc.rr.com.

• **Solomon's Porch:** Solomon's Porch is doing an in-depth study of the Book of Genesis. In February, we'll look at stories about Cain and Abel, Noah, and Abraham and Sarah. 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.

**DONATIONS OF
SANDWICH MEATS ARE
NEEDED IN THE SOUP
CELLAR. PLEASE STOP
BY THE CHURCH OFFICE
BETWEEN 9 AM AND 2
PM TO DROP OFF YOUR
DONATION, OR BRING
IT TO THE SOUP CELLAR
FROM
11:00 AM TO 12:30 PM**

Prayer List

Betsy Alexander
Karen Basso
Ann Bell
Mickey Bell
Ron Bowden
Mickey Epting
Nancy Epting
Carl Evans
Pat Griffin
Betsy Halloren
Rev. Paul Harmon
Karen Horne
Lisa Johnson
Jean Kanes
Beverly McClanahan
Paul McClanahan
Sharon McCullough
Ellen Parker
Shawn Powers
Genie Quinn
Tara Spire
Nancy Williams
Our homebound

WSUMC Meetings & Events

Subject to change

*denotes non-member event; blue type indicates WSUMC events or meetings. Child Dev. Ctr. events are in bold italic.

Monday, Feb. 5

11:30 am-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar

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

Tuesday, Feb. 6

10:00-11:00 am Circle 6 | John Harper Classroom

10:00-11:00 am | Program Staff Meeting | Becky's Office

11:30 am-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar

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

6:00-9:00 pm | Palmetto Master Singers | Choir Room*

Wednesday, Feb. 7

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

Thursday, Feb. 8

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 | Circle 2 | Wesley Room

6:15-9:00 pm | Palmetto Chamber Orchestra | Choir Room*

Friday, Feb. 9

11:30 am-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar

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

Sunday, Feb. 11

9:30-10:30 am | Choir Rehearsal | Sanctuary

9:30 am-12:30 pm | Mary's Maidens Valentines & Chocolate Sale | Office Hallway

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

12:00-1:00 pm | Souper Bowl of Caring Fundraiser & Take-out Soup Lunch | Narthex & Threatt Hall

4:30-6:00 pm | Youth Group | Youth Room

5:15-7:30 pm | Disciple Group | John Harper Classroom

Monday, Feb. 12

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 | Circle 9 | Open Door Classroom

Tuesday, Feb. 13

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 | Shrove Pancake Supper | Threatt Hall

6:00-9:00 pm | Palmetto Master Singers | Choir Room*

Wednesday, Feb. 14

11:45 am-12:25 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar

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

11:45 am-12:30 pm | Lenten Lunch | Threatt Hall

12:00-1:00 pm | Ash Wednesday Service | Chapel

6:00-7:00 pm | Ash Wednesday Evening | Chapel

6:30-7:30 pm | Choir Rehearsal | Choir Room

Thursday, Feb. 15

11:30 am-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar

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

11:00 am-12:00 pm | The WELL Worship Service | Chapel

6:15-9:00 pm | Palmetto Chamber Orchestra | Choir Room*

Friday, Feb. 16

11:30 am-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar

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

Saturday, Feb. 17

10:00 am-3:00 pm | Stephen Ministry Training | John Harper Classroom

Sunday, Feb. 18

9:30-10:30 am | Choir Rehearsal | Sanctuary

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

4:30-6:00 pm | Youth Group | Youth Room

5:15-7:30 pm | Disciple Group | John Harper Classroom

Monday, Feb. 19

11:30 am-12:30 pm | Soup Cellar Serving | Soup Cellar

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

The Wednesday night study group will begin a new Lenten study on Wednesday, February 21 at 7:00 pm on Zoom. The group will focus on Tom Berlin's *The Third Day, Living the Resurrection*. This six-week study is a fresh look at Lent that uses storytelling and scripture to focus on new life, redemption and transformation through the experiences of the individuals around Jesus in his final days.



SHROVE PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday, February 13
6:00 pm

Threatt Hall

Sponsored by the
WSUMC Youth



WASHINGTON STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

