



WSUMC SC PRIDE Celebrations



Famously HOT SC PRIDE takes place in Columbia from October 19-21 this year. Here's how Washington Street UMC is participating:

PRIDE Parade:

Join us for the PRIDE Parade on Friday, October 18. We will meet at 5:30 PM at the Woody (1600 block of Main Street) for pre-parade fellowship. All are welcome to walk with our group.

PRIDE Festival:

On Saturday, October 19, Washington Street UMC will have a booth at the PRIDE Festival on Main Street from noon to 6 PM. We'll share information about our church and engage with festival-goers. Volunteers are needed to help at the booth. If you'd like to assist, please email Jim Lane at jlane132@gmail.com.

We hope you'll join us in celebrating SC PRIDE this October!



Saluting Travis!

Travis Luthren has achieved something remarkable with his "Walk This Way" program, which he developed to address his own health concerns and has successfully lost nearly 90 pounds. His efforts have garnered attention, including an invitation to present his program to Special Olympics - North America on August 21. This opportunity is significant as it highlights Travis's impact beyond his local community and underscores the importance of health initiatives within Special Olympics. It's a proud moment for Travis and his supporters!

ADDITIONAL PRIDE EVENTS:

- **Film Screening:** On Wednesday, October 9, the Nickelodeon Theater will screen the documentary *Common as Red Hair*, followed by a Q&A with filmmaker Robbie Robertson. This film examines gender normalization surgery on intersex infants.
- **Pride Worship Service:** On Thursday, October 17, at 6 PM, join us for a Pride worship service at Kathwood Baptist Church. This service, which kicks off SC PRIDE 2024, features a collaboration among ministers from various local churches. All are encouraged to attend.
- **A closing PRIDE mass service on Sunday, October 20, 5pm at St Martin's in the fields Episcopal Church.**



Connections

1401 Washington Street
Columbia, SC 29201
803.256.2417



Connections

wsmethodist.org

September 2024



Don't miss the Fall Festival and trunk-or-treat at WSUMC!

Get ready for a day of fun and festivities at Washington Street!

Date: October 27, 2024

Join us for a celebration filled with autumnal activities, trunk-or-treat, games, food, and community spirit. It's a perfect way to enjoy the season and connect with friends and neighbors.

Mark your calendar and stay tuned for more details!

Six Things to Know About The Rev. Kathy James



**Rev. Kathy James,
Associate Minister of
Discipleship**

1. She wrote her senior thesis in the USC Honors College comparing the literature of Saul Bellow, a Jew; John Updike, a Protestant and Walker Percy, a Catholic.
2. She met her husband Joseph at the Candler School of Theology in Atlanta. They were the only two first-year students from South Carolina living in seminary apartments. Today, he is the lead minister of Trinity UMC in Sumter, where they live. They have three grown sons.
3. One person who had "a tremendous impact" on her life was her high school Sunday school teacher at Union UMC in Irmo. "He made space to let us ask questions about our faith," Kathy said. One series of lessons was called "Jesus: A Rebel or a Reformer?" The teacher never gave them the answer, she said.
4. She is looking forward to helping young professionals at the church form a group. Many who have joined in recent years don't know each other. She hopes a table at the end-of-summer potluck where they sign up will get the process rolling.
5. One of Kathy's hobbies is making greeting cards. Using rubber stamps and ink, colorful paper and other materials, she makes all types of cards. She thought about turning it into a business, but she didn't like the red tape. "I have a job," she told herself. So, now, she just makes the cards for fun and to be creative.
6. She is excited to be at Washington Street because we had already decided who we were going to be in terms of leaving or staying in the United Methodist Church; and, she thought, it is a church her kids might visit.



Get involved in a small group

At Washington Street UMC, we believe that we grow in our relationship with God as we grow in our relationships with each other. Small groups are an important setting for this growth. Whether hiking, sewing, singing, learning or simply sharing a meal with your church family, we believe there's a small group experience for you here!

On August 25, we had a church-wide potluck luncheon. Tables were set up with detailed information about each small group and the opportunity to sign up. If you missed that event, it's not too late to sign up. Please contact Kathy James put her email address.

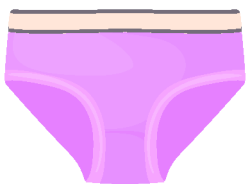


- Adult Choir
- Handbells
- Children's Music
- Food With Friends
- Sole Mates
- Tabitha's Table
- Active Faith
- Book Discussions
- Movie Discussions
- Christian Caregiving
- Family and Faith
- Young Professionals
- Wednesday night Bible Study
- Washington Street Players
- MSN Partnerships
- Youth Group
- Disciple Bible Study
- Disciple 2 Bible Study
- Women in Faith Circles

Get Ready for Undie Sunday Extravaganza!

Mark your calendars for September 15 & 22 because it's time to make a BIG impact with a SMALL but mighty item—UNDERWEAR!

We're on a mission to collect NEW underwear in all sizes, from children to adults, for those who could use a bit of extra support. Your help is crucial in spreading comfort and cheer.



These essential items will be distributed by Cooperative Ministry to brighten the lives to those in our community.



Let's come together to make a difference, one pair at a time!

Let's make this Undie Sunday unforgettable—because everyone deserves to feel cozy and cared for!

- Sunday, September 15th and 22nd

Drop off your donations of new undies in the clothes basket that will be located outside of the church office.



Feel the Spiritual Connection. Embrace the New Testament's call to sing praises with hymns and spiritual songs (*Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16*).

Connect with fellow Christians and enjoy the uplifting power of music and fellowship.

Rehearsal Schedule:
Wednesdays: 6:30-7:30pm
Sundays: 9:30-10:30am
Location: Choir Room

Whether you're a seasoned singer or a beginner, we invite you to be part of something special. Come for the music, stay for the fellowship, and experience the joy of singing together!

For more information, contact Catherine at catherine@wsmethodist.org

Sunday School Updates

Aldersgate Class:

We are completing a series by Adam Hamilton on the Lord's Prayer. David A. Anderson and Hal Hanlin will lead the class on various topics for the month of September. Several of the lessons will be from Dr. Donald W. Haynes, a retired United Methodist Clergy from NC. Come join us for fellowship, coffee, donuts and meaningful discussions. If you have any questions, contact David A. Anderson at 803-318-8821 or danderson@richardsonplowden.com.

Grace Class:

The class will be discussing the book *The False White Gospel: Rejecting Christian Nationalism, Reclaiming True Faith, and Refounding Democracy* by Jim Wallis. "Wallis turns our attention to six iconic texts at the heart of what genuine biblical faith means and what Jesus, in the Gospels, has called us to do." We are living in a time when we see "a civic promotion of fear, hate and violence, we need a civic faith of love, healing and hope to heal it."

Dawsey Class:

We will have our annual potluck brunch on September 8. On September 15, we will start our new book. "Unafraid: Living with Courage and Faith in Uncertain Times" by Adam Hamilton. On September 15, Anne Sinclair will lead a discussion of Chapter One, Understanding and Countering Fear. On September 22, Grant Jackson will lead a discussion of Chapter Two, Crime, Race, Terrorism and Politics. On September 29, Demi Garvin will lead a discussion of Chapter Three, Failure, Disappointing Others, Insignificance and Loneliness. Demi also will organize the discussion leaders for this book. If you have questions, reach out to her at demetra.garvin@forensicsciencenetwork.com. the class is located on the second floor, near the Children's Library. Class members who join from home should call (701) 802-5115 between 9:50 and 10 a.m.

Open Door Class:

We will begin a new September study "Everywhere is Jerusalem: Experiencing the Holy Then and Now" by Rev. James C. Howe, pastor of Myers Park United Methodist Church in Charlotte, NC. From Amazon: Part travelogue, part Bible study, this book will take you on a spiritual journey to the places that are most important in our faith, and you'll discover that the most important place of all is the place where you are, right now. Our class meets on the third floor or via zoom and welcomes anyone to join at any time. Contact Jessup.ann@gmail.com for any questions.

Paul Harmon Class:

We will be discussing the threats white Christian nationalism poses to American democracy, mainstream Protestant denominations and Homo sapiens. Dr. Charles Bryan will lead the discussion. Visitors are welcome. For more information please contact sallymings@gmail.com.



First-Year Teacher's Closet

Active Faith is hosting the First-Year Teacher's Closet from August to November. We kindly invite you to donate clean, gently used clothing and shoes for our education graduates to use for job interviews and new positions. Please bring clothing donations to the Joy Classroom on the 3rd floor.



Attention Youth

Youth Group will begin again on Sunday, September 8 with games and pizza. Bring a friend and come to the youth room at 4:30pm ready to have fun! Rising 6th through 12th graders are welcome! Contact Rev. Kathy James at kljames@umcsc.org for more information.