



WASHINGTON STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



March 16, 2025

Some who were present on that occasion told Jesus about the Galileans whom Pilate had killed while they were offering sacrifices. He replied, "Do you think the suffering of these Galileans proves that they were more sinful than all the other Galileans? No, I tell you, but unless you change your hearts and lives, you will die just as they did. What about those eighteen people who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them? Do you think that they were more guilty of wrongdoing than everyone else who lives in Jerusalem? No, I tell you, but unless you change your hearts and lives, you will die just as they did." Jesus told this parable: "A man owned a fig tree planted in his vineyard. He came looking for fruit on it and found none. He said to his gardener, 'Look, I've come looking for fruit on this fig tree for the past three years, and I've never found any. Cut it down! Why should it continue depleting the soil's nutrients?' The gardener responded, 'Lord, give it one more year, and I will dig around it and give it fertilizer. Maybe it will produce fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.'"

Luke 13:1-9

Order of Worship

2nd Sunday of Lent

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Becky Shirley

RINGING OF THE BELL

CHORAL INTROIT

Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN #581 (UMH) *Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service* BEACH SPRING

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Based on the Sermon on the Mount

*THE GLORIA PATRI #70 (UMH)

MEINEKE

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

UMH page 40

As we celebrate Drew Ruffin's baptism today with her parents, Jaya and Adam Ruffin, and her grandparents, Jane and Tom Wall and Anne & Julian Ruffin, The Rev. Tom Wall and The Rev. Diana Westerkam will assist with the service.

ANTHEM

Lord of the Small

Dan Forrest

Sanctuary Choir with Alma Louise, Rosemary, and Teddy Aravena, trio

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Joel Jones

Following the Children's moments, children will follow an adult into the choir room for a short time of music. Afterwards, children ages 3-5 will be escorted by a Children's Church leader to Children's Church in the 2-3-year-old Sunday school room, where they may be picked up after the worship service. Older children will return to their seats in the congregation.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Lippert

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

Falling in Love with Jesus
Soloist: Walter Dean

Jonathan Butler

*DOXOLOGY #95 (UMH)

OLD 100TH

*HYMN #582 (UMH)

Whom Shall I Send?

DEUS TUORUM MILITUM

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 13:1-9

SERMON

Letting Go of Judgment and Practicing Love

Rev. Shirley

*HYMN #2149 (TFWS)

Living for Jesus

LIVING FOR JESUS

*BENEDICTION & CHORAL RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

NOTES: UMH = Red United Methodist Hymnal; TFWS = The Faith We Sing

* = Please stand as you are able

Easter Hydrangea Sale, March 16 - April 6

Stop by the table outside the Sanctuary today to purchase a hydrangea in honor or memory of a loved one. The hydrangeas will decorate our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday and may be picked up after the service.

Absence of Flowers During the Season of Lent

Throughout Lent, we will not have flowers on the altar during this season of austerity and simple reflection. We hope this absence of flowers will amplify the resurrection message of the Easter flowers when they arrive!

Opportunities to Grow in Faith & Serve in Love

WELCOME! We are glad you are here to worship with us! If you'd like to learn more or get more connected to this community of faith, please fill out tear-off section of this bulletin.

Ministry Events This Week

Thursday, March 20, 2025 WELL Service

Join us and invite family and friends to come with you to participate in this special monthly service. We gather at 11:00 AM for 30-minutes of worship in the Chapel. This service is filled with hymn singing as we hear a brief "Jesus story" and receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. An especially welcoming service for persons living with dementia and their caregivers.

Sunday, March 23rd, 10:00 - 10:45 am in the Chapel

Join the Dawsey Class for a presentation about the history of Lutheran Services Carolinas and their New American Program. This presentation will include an update on status given the government's changes to international funding in recent weeks.

Weekly Devotional Journey - Booklet & Small Group Discussions

If you want to add a devotional reading to your Lenten practice this year, please pick up a copy of the booklet or download a digital copy from the website or using the QR code on the slides. There are also weekly small group discussions opportunities. Mondays 5:30 - 6:30 in John Harper or Wednesdays 1:15 - 2:00 pm in the Wesley room. Please join us if available.

Save The Date For The Following Ministry Events

Monday, March 24, 2025 Movie Discussion - The Six Triple Eight

All are welcome to this discussion of how the characters in this movie overcome perceptions. Meet at the church or join via ZOOM. Email Rev. Alston at aflippert@umcsc.org to register & get info.

Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 5, 2025

Children are invited to come and Easter Eggs. Will be held at Mary Lide's house at 4:00 pm. Email Mary (neaudl@aol.com) for details and directions.

Easter Moring Pot Luck Breakfast - April 20, 2025

Bring your favorite breakfast fruit, danish or casserole dish and join us from 9:45 - 10:40 AM in Threath Hall as we celebrate the gift of Easter Resurrection

Columbia Fireflies Faith & Family Night April 26th

Join us for a Christian concert, a baseball game, and fireworks on Sat. April 26th at Segra Park. The cost is \$10. For more info or to register, email Dave Mill at dmills3218@sbcglobal.net

June 14-21 Salkehatchie Summer Service-2025 Penn Center Camp.

Volunteers 14 years of age and older are welcome! Questions? Please contact Susan Caskey turnitbluesue17@gmail.com.

In Our Prayers

Ann Bell
Ron Bowden
Mickey Epting
Nancy Epting

Carl Evans
Pat Griffin
Karen Horne
Lisa Johnson

Robin Johnson
Sam Mathews
Paul McClanahan
Patrick McClanahan

Sharon McCullough
Ellen Parker
Joe Plough
Our Homebound

Making Disciples of Jesus for the Transformation of the World

The congregation of Washington Street UMC praises and serves God from the heart of the city in ways that reach neighbors near and far. We welcome and affirm all who seek the love and mercy of Christ, regardless of race, creed, age, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic status. We honor traditions as rooted in our history, our expression of worship and our respect for theological curiosity. We nonetheless see vital change and ongoing renewal as essential for spiritual growth.

Thank you for your Financial Support

Your Gifts help make ministry happen every day!

You may give by texting CONNECTIONS to 73256
Your gift to 1401 Washington Street, Columbia, 29201
by scanning the QR you see here.



Today's Volunteer Team

Acolyte: Alma Louise Aravena
Children's Church: Hayden Rowe
McCullough Adams
Greeter: Jim Lane
James Tuell
Sound/Video/Projection: Steven Spencer
John Pannell
Ushers: Robbie Douglas
Charles Garren

Contact Information

Website: wsmethodist.org
Address: 1401 Washington Street
Columbia, SC 29201
Phone: 803-256-2417
Email: info@wsmethodist.org
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday
9:00 am-4:00 pm
& Fridays 9:00-am- 2:00 pm

Stewardship Report

Attendance on 03/09: 294 (153 in person + 138 online as of 03/12)

YTD Offerings Received: \$143,437 YTD Soup Cellar Gifts: \$9,146

YTD Expenses: \$190,171 YTD Soup Cellar Expenses: \$16,746

YTD Gifts to WSUMC Foundation: \$0

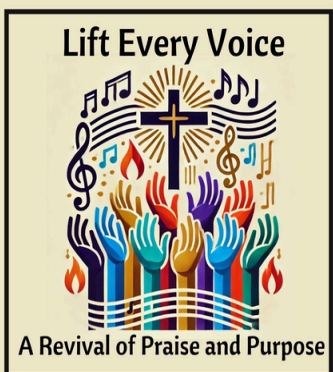
Worship Leadership Team

Senior Pastor: Rev. Becky Shirley rjshirley@umcsc.org
Associate Pastor for Nurture: Rev. Alston Lippert aflippert@umcsc.org
Director of Music Ministries: Dr. Catherine Nance catherine@wsmethodist.org
Organist: David Turner david@wsmethodist.org
Pianist: Dr. Rick Frierson (volunteer)

Anthem Text

***Lord of the Small* by Dan Forrest**

Praise to the Lord of the small broken things, who sees the poor sparrow that cannot take wing; who loves the lame child and the wretch in the street; who comforts their sorrows and washes their feet. Praise to the Lord of the faint and afraid; who girds them with courage and lends them His aid; he pours out his spirit on vessels so weak that the timid can serve and the silent can speak. Praise to the Lord of the frail and the ill, who heals their afflictions or carries them till they leave this tired frame and to paradise fly; to never be sick and never to die. O praise Him all ye who live, who've been given so much and can so little give our frail lisping praise God will never despise; he sees His dear children through mercy-filled eyes.



March 27th, 6:00pm

**Francis Burns United Methodist Church
5616 Farrow Rd Columbia, SC 29203**

*Hosted by the Columbia District
United Methodist Churches*

WSUMC's Circle of Welcome is excited to report that our family of four from Venezuela (via Colombia) is thriving. Thanks to the congregation's generosity, the family is comfortably settled in their apartment. The father is working, and the second grader was thrilled to start school. The mother receives English tutoring from COW members several times a week.

Because of actions at the federal level, refugees are no longer receiving the critical financial support that they relied on during their first few months in America. Because of the great current need, our Circle of Welcome has decided to come alongside another family. We have been matched with a family of four who arrived from Eritrea in January. There is a mom, a dad (who is blind), a five-year-old son, and a two-year-old daughter. Please keep both of these families, as well as all refugees, in your prayers.

3 Ways You Can Help Refugees

1. If you have time to work directly with refugees, consider joining our Circle of Welcome team! We have an upcoming mandatory training on March 18th at 5:30 pm. Please contact Andrea McAtee if you are interested in learning more (803-727-9518 or acmcaatee21@gmail.com).
2. Donate money to help our families with their immediate needs. You can do this by donating to the church through your regular giving method and designating the funds for COW.
3. Buy Food Lion (in any amount) or Walmart (suggested amount of \$70 to help provide work clothing, but any amount is appreciated) gift cards to be given to Lutheran Services Carolinas to help other families who do not have the support of a Circle of Welcome. You can drop these off in the church office at your convenience.

The refugee families we support and Lutheran Services Carolinas are grateful for our congregation and its generosity. Thank you for continuing to welcome these families into our community.