



# WASHINGTON STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



**May 4, 2025**

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a Jewish leader. He came to Jesus at night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one could do these miraculous signs that you do unless God is with him.”

Jesus answered, “I assure you, unless someone is born anew, it’s not possible to see God’s kingdom.”

Nicodemus asked, “How is it possible for an adult to be born? It’s impossible to enter the mother’s womb for a second time and be born, isn’t it?”

Jesus answered, “I assure you, unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, it’s not possible to enter God’s kingdom.

Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. Don’t be surprised that I said to you, ‘You must be born anew.’ God’s Spirit blows wherever it wishes. You hear its sound, but you don’t know where it comes from or where it is going. It’s the same with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

Nicodemus said, “How are these things possible?”

**John 3: 1-9**

# Order of Worship

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

RINGING OF THE BELL

CHORAL INTROIT

*Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

\*HYMN #398 (UMH)

*Jesus Calls Us*

GALILEE

RECOGNITION OF OUR GRADUATES

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

McCullough Adams and Lilly Wilson

*Following the Children's moments, 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.*

OFFERTORY

*Hallelujah from The Mount of Olives*

Beethoven

\*DOXOLOGY #94 (UMH)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

\*HYMN #420 (UMH)

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

TRENTHAM

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 3:1-9

HOMILY

Why am I here?

Rev. Becky Shirley

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (UMH page 12)

Invitation

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance of Pardon

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Receiving The Bread and The Cup

COMMUNION ANTHEMS

*Here I Am, Lord*

arr. Craig Courtney

Soloist: Anthony Porter

*Christ, We Do All Adore Thee*

Theodore Dubois

\*HYMN #2196 (TFWS)

*We Walk by Faith*

\*BENEDICTION & CHORAL RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE

MARTYRDOM

Following the service, everyone is invited to meet and congratulate our  
Graduates during a cupcake reception in the Wesley Room.

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

\* = Please stand as you are able

### Altar Flowers

The sanctuary flowers are given to the honor and glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Jan Baker's and Jenny Dalrymple's Godson, Oliver Ellis, to Hannah McGee.

## 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 the tear-off section of this bulletin.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

As we recognize the hard work and accomplishments of our graduates, we pray for them to feel God's guiding hand throughout the new adventures that await them as they commence on a new chapter in their life story.

**High School:** McCullough Adams - Layne Powers - Hayden Rowe

**College:** Heidi Conte - Bauer Haynes - Avivette Jones

**Following the service today, please join us in the Wesley Room for refreshments and a time to meet and congratulate these graduates!**

### CONFIRMATION SUNDAY IS MAY 18TH

Our candidates for confirmation this year are Jacob Schatz and Lilly Wilson. They have been working hard over the last few months with their mentors and will be confirmed during the worship service on May 18<sup>th</sup>. To encourage their continued growth in faith, the Open Door Class invites you to place cards and gifts of love in the bins located outside the church office.

**Thank you!** To everyone so kind as to donate individually wrapped snacks for the Soup Cellar.

## Ministry Events This Week

### Today - QueerFish Art Exhibition: "Re-imagining the Church"

The art exhibition is on the main floor of WSUMC outside the Chapel. Open until 1 PM today. We appreciate the local LGBTQ+ artists who have shared their creations to cultivate hope and understanding and to foster an environment that embraces diversity and promotes unity.

## Save The Date For The Following Ministry Events

### Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> - Reading Club - 6 PM - Open Door Classroom

This month's book is Redwood Court by DeLana R.A. Dameron. All are welcome! Email Christine Hait for more info. (chris.hait@gmail.com).

### Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> - WELL - 11 AM - Chapel

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.

### Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> - Active Faith Yard Sale - 7 AM to 1 PM - Threath Hall

Proceeds benefit local charities. Donations being accepted May 10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>, Mon - Fri between 10 AM & 3 PM and on Saturday between 10 AM & 2 PM.

### Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup> - YoPro - Pizza & Game Night - 6 PM - Youth Room

A time for young adults (mid 20s - mid 40s) to gather. childcare provided

### July 21<sup>st</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> - Vacation Bible School - Road Trip

Save the date for VBS Road Trip on the go with God. For children ages 4 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.



## In Our Prayers

Ann Bell	Carl Evans	Sam Mathews	Sally Mings
Ron Bowden	Pat Griffin	Paul McClanahan	Ellen Parker
Truman Duggin	Karen Horne	Patrick McClanahan	Joe Plough
Mickey Epting	Lisa Johnson	Sharon McCullough	Our Homebound
Nancy Epting	Robin Johnson		

### 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:	McCullough Adams Allison Coombe
Greeter:	Ute
Sound/Video/Projection:	Lynn Shirley Spencer Stevens
Ushers:	Joe and Kelly Epting
Communion Servers:	Mary Lide, Sam Waldrep, Eleanore Langley, and Tommy Betenbaugh

### 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 04/30: 293 ( 189 in person + 104 online as of 04/27)

YTD Offerings Received: \$250,974      YTD Soup Cellar Gifts: \$18,630

YTD Expenses: \$328,817      YTD Soup Cellar Expenses: \$26,533

YTD Gifts to WSUMC Foundation: \$0

### Staff Worship Leadership Team

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



# **INCLUSIVE THEATRE Co. SC**

The Mission of ITCSC:  
Embracing and  
respecting the  
uniqueness of all people,  
we create artistic  
opportunities for young  
artists and families.

**Join Washington Street's Inclusive Theatre Company  
of SC**

**as it presents the musical:**

**"Annie Kids"**

**Saturday, May 3 and Sunday May 4.**

**The 45-minute performance is at 2pm in Threatt Hall.**

**Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.**

**Tickets will be available at the door or scan QR code below**



**The production features youth of all abilities along with adult  
mentors performing together. Based on the popular comic  
strip, follow Annie as she charms everyone's hearts despite  
her next-to-nothing start in 1930s New York City.**

**This production receives support from SC Arts Commission,  
City of Columbia and BlueCross and BlueShield of SC.**

## **Spring Cleaning? Donate to WSUMC!**

**Decluttering? Donate your gently used items to  
WSUMC's Active Faith Ministry!**

**Collection runs May 10–16  
(ends at noon on May 16).**


 **Drop-Off Hours:**


**Mon–Fri: 10 AM – 3 PM | Sat: 10 AM - 2 PM |**

**Sun: During church hours**

**(Call ahead if you need unloading assistance).**

**(FOBS NEEDED ON SATURDAY FOR ENTRY)**

 **Accepted Items: Small furniture, home décor,  
kitchenware, toys, tools, jewelry, linens & more!**

 **Not Accepted: Clothing, shoes, mattresses, cribs, car  
seats, books (except children's).**



**Event Highlights:**

- ◆ **Preview Night: May 16, 5–6 PM (**  
**Free for donors | \$5 public)**
- ◆ **Mega Yard Sale: May 17, 7 AM – 1 PM**
  - ◆ **Half-Price Sale: May 18**

 **Proceeds benefit local charities.**  
**Leftovers donated to charity.**

**Questions? Contact Jane Peterson:**  
**janepeterson18@gmail.com or text 803-414-4888.**  
**Thank you for supporting this mission!**