

July 2025



WASHINGTON  
STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# Connections

wsmethodist.org

## SALKEHATCHIE CAMP 2025

We are proud to say that members of our congregation were part of a successful mission trip this past month. From June 14th through the 21st, Penn Center Camp in St. Helena Island, SC was home to campers from Salkehatchie Summer Service. The group, which included 15 volunteers from Washington Street, spent a week renovating the homes of people who normally wouldn't be able to afford this kind of service. Thanks to the hard work of these campers, all five houses being renovated received brand new roofs. Even when the end date of camp arrived they stayed past their required time to make sure they finished the job. That's how dedicated these campers were. Other renovations made were to the walls, floors, kitchens and bathrooms.

"We bonded more than I could have ever imagined," camper McCullough Adams said. "...even when we were all hot and tired, we offered words of encouragement to each other. [...] We all left better people."

Salkehatchie campers also felt extremely grateful for the support received from Washington Street. Donations collected from the church went towards mobile showers which allowed the volunteers to relax and get clean after a long day's work.

This year's campers should feel proud of what they have accomplished and are an inspiration to us all. If like them you feel God's call to help those in need, go to [www.salkehatchie.org](http://www.salkehatchie.org) to find out how.





## Taking a Stand Against Gun Violence

On June 8<sup>th</sup>, Wear Orange and Moms Demand Action visited Washington Street to educate our congregation on how they can help prevent gun violence. They set up an informational table outside of the sanctuary, and even hosted a t-shirt giveaway for those who signed up for the Moms Demand Action e-mail newsletter. Congrats to the winners Sally Mings and Lisa Voegeli!

Wear Orange is an organization that honors those who lost their lives to gun violence. It was founded in honor of Hadiya Pendleton who was fatally shot at just 15 years of age.

Moms Demand Action is an activist group that seeks to pass common sense gun laws to prevent mass shootings or other instances of gun violence.

Thanks to every one who wore their orange in support of this great cause! If you'd like to get involved with either group, follow the links below to get more information.

[wearorange.org/about/](http://wearorange.org/about/)

[momsdemandaction.org/](http://momsdemandaction.org/)



*Event organizer MJ Fox (left) and Moms Demand Action coordinator Angela Vandelay (right)*

## Honoring the Forgotten

On June 29<sup>th</sup>, Washington Street hosted a memorial service for 18 unidentified bodies at the Richland County Cemetery.

Over 40 members of our congregation were present to help put those to rest who had no one in their lives to do so. We feel honored that Rev. Becky and Washington Street were chosen to host this service and thank those of you who were able to attend.



## Welcome to our New Members!



## AARP Sundaes for Security

Date: July 13th

Location: Threatt Hall

Immediately after service, come by, enjoy some ice cream, and learn about how you can help protect your Social Security benefits.



**Chris Boyce**



**Erik, Josee, & Evie Vanden Heuvel**



**Velma & Alex Christian**

# Sunday School Updates

**If you aren't involved in a Sunday morning class, take a look at the variety of topics being discussed in Sunday School this month and visit the class or classes that interest you. Each class welcomes all to join them.**

## \*Aldersgate Class - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Contact: David Anderson (danderson@richardsonplowden.com)

This month, the class will be studying *Parables* by Reverend Josh Scott. When Jesus taught in parables, he was doing more than telling simple morality tales. His stories were grounded in the world in which he lived and his vision of the kingdom of God. This book explores six parables that give us a window into Jesus's message and movement, and once they are heard in their own context, ask what they might mean for us today. The parables discussed include the new wine and wineskins, the mustard seed, the leaven, the wedding party, the workers in the vineyard, and the wicked tenants.

## Dawsey Class - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

Contact: Demi Garvin (garvindemi@gmail.com)

On July 13<sup>th</sup>, this class will begin discussing *The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage* by Richard Rohr. In his book, Rohr seeks to add new meaning to ancient texts that will open doors for those who are seeking compassion in a world that lacks it. You can join in person or from home via Free Conference Call. To join from home, call in between 9:50 and 10 AM. The call-in number is (701) 802-5115. The access code is 7252934.

## Grace Class - 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

Contact: Jim Lane (jlane@columbiasc.edu)

This class will be having leader-led discussions on various topics for the summer. These are engaging discussions on a variety of topics that don't require anything from participants except to show up and be willing to discuss.

## John Harper Class - 1<sup>st</sup> floor

Contact: Boyd Saunders (jboydsanders@aol.com)

The class utilizes Cokesbury's *Adult Bible Studies* each quarter as a guide for class discussions. Each weekly lesson offers background and focal Scriptures, key verses, and doctrinally sound and relevant biblical interpretation and application. This quarter, following the theme "Living Faith", the focal passages come from 1 Corinthians.

## Open Door Class - 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

Contact: Ann Jessup (jessup.ann@gmail.com)

Discussions this month will be based on the book, *Crazy Christians* by Retired Bishop Michael Curry. We will discuss the traits of crazy Christians who followed Jesus like Mary Magdalene and Harriet Beecher Stowe.

## Paul Harmon Class - 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

Contact: Sally Mings (sallymings@gmail.com)

In July, this class will begin a study on one of Jesus' closest disciples: Mary Magdalene. We will have several guest speakers during this lesson plan and at some point will watch and discuss *Conclave (2024)*.

## Solomon's Porch Class - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

Contact: Rev. Adrienne Fink (ajhamm@umcsc.org)

Discussions in class this month will be based on episodes from "The Bible for Normal People" podcast.

\*subject to change

## Over 100 Cookie Boxes Donated

Lucy Woods is a Girl Scout who along with her family is a member of Washington Street UMC.

While selling Girl Scout cookies to fellow members of the church, she gave them an option to donate boxes of cookies to the Soup Cellar. By the end of it, 110 boxes were donated and the cookies were split between 505 portion bags for the Soup Cellar patrons!

Amazing job, Lucy!



## The Basics Class

Do you know how many sacraments that United Methodists practice? Have you ever heard of prevenient grace? Do you know the General Rules? If you answered no to any of these questions, join us for The Basics class!

Held in the Wesley Room on July 25<sup>th</sup> from 6pm-8pm and July 26<sup>th</sup> from 10am-4pm, this class seeks to educate those who are new to the United Methodist denomination! Scan the QR code below to sign up! Childcare is provided!





## Ways to Stay Connected This Summer!

### WORSHIP



July 17  
11:00 - 11:30 AM  
Christ Chapel

Filled with familiar hymns, an interactive Jesus story, and communion, this service is especially friendly to persons living with dementia and their care partners.

The W.E.L.L. - A Place for Worship  
- Encouragement - Laughter & Love

### MOVIE

#### DISCUSSION



You are invited to watch *On Golden Pond* on your own or with friends.

After viewing the film, plan to join Rev. Alston on July 28th at 7 PM in the Wesley room or via Zoom for a discussion of the ways this film portrays and helps us understand the complex relationships between parents and children.

To register and to receive the ZOOM link, email  
aflippert@umcsc.org

### BIBLE STUDY

Disciple Bible Study and Disciple 3 will begin in August and go through May. If you are interested in either one, please email Kathy James at [kljames@umcsc.org](mailto:kljames@umcsc.org). Definitive schedule is TBD.

### YoPro (Young Professionals)

If you are between the ages of 25 & 45, use the QR code on this page to join YoPro on Group Me! Through the app, you will get updates about events and any last minute schedule changes.

Here's a look at what is planned for this month:

Thursday, July 10th, 6-8 PM: Game Night in the Youth Room at WSUMC.  
Pizza and childcare provided



### Time to Register for VBS!

Register now online using  
the QR Code  
or sign up in person outside the  
sanctuary.



Vacation Bible School will be July 21-24 from 9 am to noon for children aged 4 through 5th grade. Youth may serve as helpers.

Join Scout the Pup and bring your friends as we learn together that God is with us wherever we go! You will want to check out our VBS website to get a sneak peak of some of the songs and videos the children will be experiencing that week! To register, use the QR Code above or go to

<https://washington-street-united-methodist-church.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

If you are interested in helping with Vacation Bible School, please contact Debra Schooler ([debrajschooler@gmail.com](mailto:debrajschooler@gmail.com)).



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