



WASHINGTON STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Growing Together



Cultivating Spiritual Fruit

August 24, 2025

"When a great crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from one city after another, he spoke to them in a parable: "A farmer went out to scatter his seed. As he was scattering it, some fell on the path where it was crushed, and the birds in the sky came and ate it. Other seed fell on rock. As it grew, it dried up because it had no moisture. Other seed fell among thorny plants. The thorns grew with the plants and choked them. Still other seed landed on good soil. When it grew, it produced one hundred times more grain than was scattered." As he said this, he called out, "Everyone who has ears should pay attention."

Luke 8:4-8 (CEB)

Order of Worship

11th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Becky Shirley

RINGING OF THE BELL

CHORAL INTROIT

Spirit of the Living God

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rosemary Aravena

*HYMN #62 (UMH) *All Creatures of Our God and King* LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #883 (UMH)

THE GLORIA PATRI # 70 (UMH)

MEINEKE

ANTHEM

All Shall Be Amen and Alleluia

*All shall be Amen and Alleluia. We shall rest and we shall see. We shall see and we shall know. We shall know and we shall love. We shall love and we shall praise. Behold our end, which is no end.
(Resurrection prayer by St. Augustine of Hippo; Scripture reference: Psalm 106:48)*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Alston Lippert

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. Alston Lippert

THE LORD'S PRAYER

MINISTRY MOMENT

Sing Along Messiah

Catherine Nance

OFFERTORY

Ride On, King Jesus
Soloist: Maria Beery

arr. Hall Johnson

*DOXOLOGY #94 (UMH)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*HYMN #336 (UMH) *Of All the Spirit's Gifts to Me*

MEYER

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 8:4-8

SERMON

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Rev. Becky Shirley

*HYMN #547 (UMH)

O Church of God, United

ELLACOMBE

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

In Sympathy

Rev. Becky J. Shirley joins the entire staff and Washington Street Church family in expressing our deepest sympathy and Christian love to Deborah Rowe, whose sister, Patricia Flood, passed away on August 16, 2025.

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

* = Please stand as you are able

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:

- 1 - Please fill out the tear-off section of this bulletin and place in the offering plate during the service.
- 2- Pick up a copy of our monthly newsletter, "Connections", to learn about Sunday School classes, events and volunteer. Copies are available just outside the Sanctuary doors.

Interested in Membership? If you are interested in learning more about what it means to be a member of Washington Street UMC, please contact Rev. Becky (rjshirley@umcsc.org) to schedule a time to meet with her.

Donations Needed: The soup cellar needs donations of snack food! Things like cookies, snack cakes, candy, and such. They can be dropped off during office hours, Monday-Friday, or on Sunday when you come to the service.

Ministry Events This Week

August 25th - 7 PM - Movie Discussion - Finding Nemo

Watch the movie on your own and join us as we discuss how the movie deals with the complex relationships between parents and children. This group meets in the Wesley room and via ZOOM. For the ZOOM link, Email Rev. Alston Lippert (aflippert@umcsc.org).

Save The Date For The Following Ministry Events

Sunday, September 7th - 4:00-5:30 - Mary's Maidens

Mary's Maidens will begin a new year of service opportunities. Girls in first thru fifth grades are encouraged to join us each month to serve others. Leaders are Mary Lide and Kathy Wright. For more information, contact Mary Lide at neaudl@aol.com. (meeting place to be announced).

Sunday, September 7th - Potluck and Small Group Sign-up

Get ready for some great food and fun conversations at this annual event! We'll provide fried chicken and beverages, you bring your best crowd pleasing dish or whatever you have on hand to share. We'll meet in Threatt Hall immediately after the worship service. We'll have information about all of our small groups. Leaders will be available to answer questions and you'll be able to sign up to participate. **Please contact Mary Lide if you can help with set up or clean up (neaudl@aol.com).** We need 2-3 people to receive food (9:30-10), 2 people to receive food, cut and put desserts out, and make tea (10-10:55); 5-6 people to put food on the serving tables, and prepare drinks (11:30-12); we also need several people to help clean (1:00).

Wednesday, September 10th - Reading Club

Join us to discuss State of The Heart volume 2, edited by Aida Rogers
foreword by Marjory Wentworth

In Our Prayers

Ann Bell	Mickey Epting	Lisa Johnson	Sharon McCullough
Ron Bowden	Nancy Epting	Sam Mathews	Ellen Parker
Martha Boynton	Pat Griffin	Paul McClanahan	Joe Plough
Jerry Bundy	Karen Horne	Patrick McClanahan	Our Homebound
Truman Duggin			

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:	Katie Murphy Kay Ayers Garren
Greeter:	Ute
Sound/Video/Projection:	John Pannell
Ushers:	Charles Garren Lanneau Lide

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 08/17: 339 (183 in person + 156 online as of 08/20)

YTD Offerings Received: \$481,792 YTD Soup Cellar Gifts: \$43,222

YTD Expenses: \$609,785 YTD Soup Cellar Expenses: \$54,600

YTD Gifts to WSUMC Foundation: \$16,261

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)
Audio/Video Technology	Ryan Wiskes	ryan@wsmethodist.org