



# WASHINGTON STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



## Cultivating Spiritual Fruit

August 31, 2025

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vineyard keeper. He removes any of my branches that don’t produce fruit, and he trims any branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. You are already trimmed because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can’t produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can’t produce fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can’t do anything. If you don’t remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.”

John 15:1-8

# Order of Worship

## 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Becky Shirley

RINGING OF THE BELL

CHORAL INTROIT

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lucy Woods

\*HYMN #166 (UMH) *All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine* SINE NOMINE

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #883 (UMH)

THE GLORIA PATRI # 70 (UMH)

MEINEKE

ANTHEM

Offertory

John Ness Beck

*With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings? Shall I come before him with yearling calves? Will the Lord be pleased with thousand of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I bring him my first-born for my transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has shown you, O man; he has shown you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*  
(Scripture text: Micah 6:6-8)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Ann Jessup

*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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*  
Soloist: Anthony Porter

arr. Hayes

\*DOXOLOGY #94 (UMH)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

\*HYMN #397 (UMH)

*I Need Thee Every Hour*

NEED

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 15:1-8

SERMON

Staying Connected to Jesus and to One Another

Rev. Shirley

\*HYMN #430 (UMH)

*O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

MARYTON

\*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 Nancy Epting and family on the passing of her husband, Mickey Epting, on August 26, 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 grateful you are here to worship with us! We are an open community of Christians helping people find and give hope through Jesus Christ - regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, disability or socioeconomic background. No matter who you are, where you are from, who you love or what you look like, know that God loves you and YOU BELONG HERE. Please take a moment to help us get to know you by completing the blue tear off section of this bulletin and placing it in the offering plate during the service.

**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 and #10 cans. 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.

**Altar Flowers:** The altar flowers today are given to the honor and glory of God and in celebration of Laurely Nance's 90th birthday by her children and grandchildren.

## Ministry Events This Week

### **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 7<sup>th</sup> - 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.
- Meet in Threatt Hall immediately after the worship service.
- Small Group Information and leaders will be available to answer questions and you'll be able to sign up to participate.
- **Contact Mary Lide if you can help with set up or clean up (neaudl@aol.com).** Volunteers needs: 9:30-10:00 to receive food, 10-10:55 to cut and put desserts out, and make tea, 11:30 - 12:00 - to put food on the serving tables, and prepare drinks. We also need several people to help clean after the meal..

## Save The Date For The Following Ministry Events

### **Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> - Reading Club - 6- 7 PM**

Join us to discuss *State of The Heart* volume 2, edited by Aida Rogers foreword by Marjory Wentworth. Contact Andrea McAtee at acmcatee21@gmail.com

### **Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup> - YO PRO - Game Night - 6 - 8 PM**

YO PRO is a group of young professionals (mid 20s -mid 40s), some single, some married, who gather monthly for fun and fellowship. The group meets in the youth room on the 3rd floor. Pizza and childcare provided. Contact Rev. Kathy (kljames@umcsc.org) for more info.

## In Our Prayers

Ann Bell	Truman Duggin	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

### 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:	Cora McGandy
Children's Church:	Eleanore Langley Kelly Grove
Greeter:	Ute
Sound/Video/Projection:	Ryan Wiskes Spencer Stevens
Ushers:	Susan Caskey Robbie Douglas

#### 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 08/27: 391 (204 in person + 187 online as of 08/24)**

**YTD Offerings Received: \$488,889      YTD Soup Cellar Gifts: \$43,382**

**YTD Expenses: \$640,185      YTD Soup Cellar Expenses: \$55,382**

**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