



# WASHINGTON STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 30, 2025

## 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.



“But nobody knows when that day or hour will come, not the heavenly angels and not the Son. Only the Father knows. As it was in the time of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Human One. In those days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark. They didn’t know what was happening until the flood came and swept them all away. The coming of the Human One will be like that. At that time there will be two men in the field. One will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill. One will be taken and the other left. Therefore, stay alert! You don’t know what day the Lord is coming. But you understand that if the head of the house knew at what time the thief would come, he would keep alert and wouldn’t allow the thief to break into his house. Therefore, you also should be prepared, because the Human One will come at a time you don’t know.”

Matthew 24:36-44 CEB

# Order of Worship

## 1st Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Alston Lippert

CHORAL INTROIT *God of the Watching Ones*

Lee Dengler

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Pete and Alisa Liggett

CHORAL RESPONSE #211(UMH) *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (verse 1)

\*HYMN #196 (UMH) *Come, Thou Long Expected*

DIADEMATA

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #887 (UMH)

THE GLORIA PATRI

sung to the tune of "Angels from the Realms of Glory." (see insert)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Beth Matthews

Following the Children's moments, children will follow an adult into the choir room for a short time of music. Afterward, 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

ANTHEM

*Blessed is the Lord*

Dan Forrest

MINISTRY MOMENT

Jacob Valdez

OFFERTORY

*Song of Mary*  
Soloist: Jenna Barrett

Buryl Red

\*DOXOLOGY sung to the tune of "God Rest You Merry Gentlemen."  
(see insert)

\*HYMN #2092 (TFWS)

*Like a Child*

LIKE A CHILD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 24:36-44

SERMON

What are you waiting for?

Rev. Kathy James

\*HYMN #206 (UMH) *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

HOUSTON

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE

The two sanctuary poinsettias are given to the glory of God and in honor of Kay Ayers-Garren on her upcoming birthday.

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

## **Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> - 9:00 - 5:00- Daytrippers**

Daytrippers are going to Mepkin Abbey to the Creche Festival.

## **Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> - YoPro - Game Night - 6 PM - Youth Room**

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. Childcare provided. Contact Rev. Kathy (kljames@umcsc.org) for more info.

## **Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> - Sole Mates - 11:30 AM - WSUMC**

Meet at WSUMC, walk, then grab lunch & eat together at church (~3 miles)

## **Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>- AESOP MUSICAL - 3:00 PM - Threatt Hall**

For information and tickets scan the QR code on announcement slide.

### **Crèches**

You are invited to view some of the favorite crèches of a few Active Faith members in the Wesley Room until December 15th. Our full display will return in 2026.

### **First Responders**

Please join Active Faith members in remembering our first responders and other public servants who work on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day with cookies or other homemade treats. We will present our gifts of gratitude for a blessing on Sunday, December 21st and distribute them on Christmas Eve.

## **Save The Date For The Following Ministry Events**

### **Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> - 11 AM- Children's Nativity Service - Sanctuary**

#### **Sunday, December 7 and 14 - Heifer Living Gift Market**

This Christmas, give a gift that makes the world a better place by donating working animals to families struggling with hunger and poverty around the world. We will be receiving donations in the main hallway of the church 9:30-11 and 12 -12:30.

#### **Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> - Book Discussion - 6 PM**

Join us in the John Harper Classroom to discuss

*The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson.

#### **Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> - 2 PM - Youth Cookie Decorating - Youth Room**

#### **Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> - 11 AM - Christmas Cantata - Sanctuary**

The Choir presents A Christmas Cantata with full Orchestra

#### **Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> - 4 PM - Youth Caroling - See insert**

#### **Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> - 6 PM - YoPro - Sing-Along-Messiah**

YoPros meeting for Sing Along Messiah, please note that they will be meeting at 6pm at by Chapel .

#### **Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> - 7 PM - Sing-Along-Messiah - Sanctuary**

#### **Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> - Birthday Party for Jesus - 10 AM - All Children**

#### **Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve Service - 5 PM**

Carols and Candle lighting and Communion

## In Our Prayers

Ann Bell	Karen Horne	Paul McClanahan	Joe Plough
Jerry Bundy	Lisa Johnson	Patrick McClanahan	Joe Slade
Blake Burnside	Jean Leitner	Ellen Parker	Our Homebound
Nancy Epting	Sam Mathews		

### 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:	Lucy Woods
Children's Church:	Lizzie Chewing Kay Ayers Garren
Greeter:	Ute
Sound/Video/Projection:	John Pannell Spencer Stevens
Ushers:	Phil and Pam Jenkins

#### 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 11/23: ( 166 in person + online as of 11/26)**

**YTD Offerings Received: \$663,566**

**YTD Soup Cellar Gifts: \$64,050**

**YTD Expenses: \$866,908**

**YTD Soup Cellar Expenses: \$77,619**

**YTD Gifts to WSUMC Foundation: \$16,611**

#### Worship Leadership Team

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Becky Shirley	rjshirley@umcsc.org
Associate Pastor for Nurture:	Rev. Alston Lippert	alippert@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