

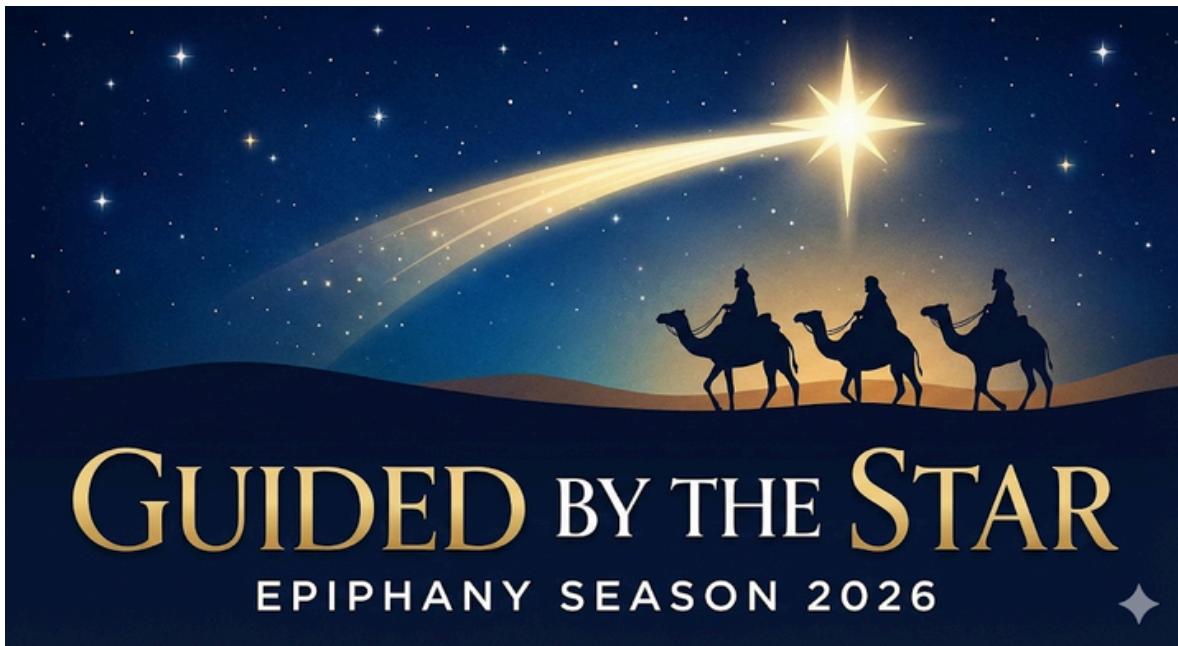


WASHINGTON STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 18, 2026

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.

We have different gifts that are consistent with God's grace that has been given to us. If your gift is prophecy, you should prophesy in proportion to your faith. If your gift is service, devote yourself to serving. If your gift is teaching, devote yourself to teaching. If your gift is encouragement, devote yourself to encouraging. The one giving should do it with no strings attached. The leader should lead with passion. The one showing mercy should be cheerful.

Order of Worship

2nd Sunday After Epiphany

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Becky Shirley

RINGING OF THE BELL

CHORAL INTROIT *Come and Find the Quiet Center*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lee Smith

*HYMN #139 (UMH) *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* LOBE DEN HERREN

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #881 (UMH) *The Apostles' Creed*

*THE GLORIA PATRI #70 (UMH)

MEINEKE

ANTHEM

O For a Song

Deborah Govenor

O for a song to praise my Lord, O for a heart to trust his word, a soul to bless his name; a voice his message to proclaim. O for a song to praise my king, for a melody to sing of him who died for me, to sing eternally. If sorry finds me on my way, give me a song, I pray, to guide me through the darkest night and lead me onward to the light. If joy be mind, Lord, I pray, give me a song to sing that day to fill me with surprise, and lift my spirit to the skies. Throughout my life his praise I'll sing no matter what the years may bring; whatever path my feet have trod, I am content to walk with God. O for a heart to worship him, o for a faith that grows not dim, a hope when death draws nigh that I may dwell with him on high. (*The scriptural basis for singing God's praise is abundant, found in numerous Psalms, Ephesians 5:19, Isaiah 12:6, and Zephaniah 3:17. Ephesians 5:19 ("address one another in psalms and hymns... making melody to the Lord"), Isaiah 12:6 ("Shout and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion"), and Zephaniah 3:17 all emphasizing joyful, heartfelt, and often "new" songs expressing God's greatness, faithfulness, and salvation, using instruments and voices as expressions of Spirit-filled worship.*)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Lisa Voegeli

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 parents.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Alston Lippert

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

Something for Thee

Paul Jones

Soloist: Emily Schlegel

*DOXOLOGY #94 (UMH)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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

MEYER

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 12: 6-8

SERMON

Gifts Along the Way

Rev. Becky Shirley

*HYMN #438 (UMH)

Many Gifts, One Spirit

KATHERINE

*BENEDICTION & CHORAL RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

In Sympathy

Rev. Becky Shirley joins the entire staff and Washington Street Church family in expressing our deepest sympathy and Christian love to Ricky and Kristie Rowe and family in the death of his mother, Wilma Winslow, who died January 14, 2026, and to Gail Ward-Besser, whose brother, Neal Ward, died on December 29, 2025.

Opportunities to Grow in Faith & Serve in Love

Today - "Operation Inasmuch" - Encourage our Legislators

Between 9:45AM - 10:50AM and 12PM - 12:15 PM take a few minutes on your way in or out of Sunday School or the Worship Service and look for a table in the main hallway of the church providing materials for you to write notes to our legislators sharing your wishes and prayers for the new legislative session. Contact Jim Lane (jlane132@gmail.com) if you want to learn more.

Today - Mary's Maidens - Valentine's Creation - 4 PM

All elementary school-age girls are invited to help create Valentines for our sale in February in the elementary Sunday school classroom.

Jan. 19th - Church Office Closed

Jan. 19th - "Operation Inasmuch" - Litter Pick up at Congaree Swamp

Friends of Congaree Swamp invite volunteers to meet at Bates Bridge landing on US 601 to collect trash in the area by 9:30 AM, and we will work until 11:30 AM. Keep the Midlands Beautiful will provide trash pickers, trash bags, gloves, etc. Light hiking boots, water, sun protection, and a snack are recommended. Contact friendsofcongareeswamp@gmail.com with questions.

The leader of the event is John Grego to volunteer, contact him directly at his number: 803-331-3366

Jan. 19th Saluda Riverwalk Invasive Species Removal and Litter Cleanup

Join the Midlands Nature and Bird Alliance at the Saluda Riverwalk (650 Candi Lane, Columbia, SC) from 9:30-10:30 am, where there will be a short nature walk on the boardwalk and along the riverside. This is a beginner friendly adventure, but more experienced birders and naturalists are always welcome to join in the fun! Then from 10:30-12:00, group leaders will guide volunteers to areas in the park that require invasive species removal and litter cleanup. Gloves, trash bags, and appropriate tools will be provided, but if you have your own gloves to bring, please do so.

Jan. 23rd - Postcard Writing - Reproductive Rights

Join us at Azalea Coffee Bar (2700 Devine Street) from 9AM - 11AM where we will be writing letters to our legislators in support of women's reproductive rights and bodily autonomy.

Save The Date For The Following Ministry Events

Jan. 26th - Postcard Writing "Parties" - Censorship/Students' Rights

Join us at All Good Books (734 Harden Street) from 2PM - 4PM where we will be writing letters to our legislators in support of students' rights.

Jan. 26th - Movie Discussion (Lilly) - 7 PM

This winter, we will be discussing movies that have some relevance to our world today. This will give us a broad range of genres and ideas. We hope you'll join us for these discussions in the Wesley Room or via Zoom. Contact Rev. Alston Lippert (alippert@umcsc.org) to sign-up.

Jan. 30th - Feb. 1st - Revolution

The Washington Street UMC Youth Group will be attending the South Carolina Revolution conference from January 30th to Feb. 1st! Please contact Rev. Kathy James to sign-up (kljames@umcsc.org).

In Our Prayers

Ann Bell
Blake Burnside
Nancy Epting
Sarah- Kate Gravely
Karen Horne

Lisa Johnson
Jean Leitner
Sam Mathews
Lena McClain

Paul McClanahan
Patrick McClanahan
Ellen Parker
Joe Plaugh

Cathy Puckett
Joe Slade
Nancy Whittle
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:	Lucy Woods
Children's Church:	Eleanor Langley Shelley Stafford
Greeter:	
Sound/Video/Projection:	John Pannell Ryan Wiskes
Ushers:	Lanneau Lide Garry Stevens

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 01/11: 343 (175 in person + 168 online as of 01/15)

YTD Offerings Received: \$36,096

YTD Soup Cellar Gifts: \$690

YTD Expenses: \$30,119

YTD Soup Cellar Expenses: \$1,200

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	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