



WASHINGTON
STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Connections

wsmethodist.org

Lenten Season at Washington Street UMC

The Lenten season, the 40-day period between Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday, is a time for followers of Christ to reflect on what is truly important. While the question of “what is important?” has many answers, one of the most important things to us here at Washington Street United Methodist Church is spending time with

Our siblings in Christ while strengthening our relationship with God. And the Lenten season is the perfect opportunity to do so. Every Wednesday in March we’ll be hosting a Lenten lunch followed by a 30-minute worship service in Christ Chapel. Each lunch will be prepared by one of our United Women in Faith circles and will consist of a soup, sandwich, and dessert. Lunch begins at 11:45 AM in Threatt Hall and costs \$10. Following lunch, we’ll move over to our Christ Chapel for our weekly Lenten service that begins at 12:30 PM. Rather than a traditional worship service, these 30-minute services will feature art pieces, monologues, or dramatic performances based on stories from the Bible. As you travel to our Christ Chapel, you may notice several pieces of art located in the narthex. These paintings and illustrations were all done by church member Wayne Hall, who encourages you to take in his art while practicing “visio divina.”



Visio divina is a prayerful practice of meditating on images, icons, or art and using your interpretations of such to further connect with God. If you are unsure how to get started when it comes to this process, there are printed instructions available at the art display. This art will be available for all to see throughout the season of Lent, so we hope you will take the time to try out some visio divina for yourself.

As Lent comes to a close, we will be hosting several special services to celebrate the resurrection of Christ. There will be a 6 PM service in Christ Chapel for both Maundy Thursday and Good Friday (April 2nd & 3rd), and before the service on Easter Sunday (April 5th), we will have a breakfast potluck at 9:45 AM in Threatt Hall. This truly is a special time of year, and we are glad we get to spend it with you all. We hope you will take advantage of the many opportunities to celebrate the Lenten season that we have here at Washington Street United Methodist Church.





Lenten Prayer Scrolls

During the Lenten season, our Worship Team encourages you to write down any prayers or reflections you may have on a piece of canvas that can be picked up outside of our Christ Chapel throughout the month of March. While you may hold on to your “prayer scroll” if you’d like, you may also turn it in to the Narthex outside of the Christ Chapel so that it may be used for a special art installation. Those wanting to turn in their prayer scroll should do so before March 29th.



Revolution Youth Conference

The Washington Street UMC Youth Group will be attending the South Carolina Revolution conference right here in Columbia from March 27th - 29th!

Revolution has been around since 2010 and seeks to invite young people in the church to live for Christ through spiritual renewal. Those interested in signing-up should contact Rev. Kathy James at kljames@umcsc.org.



WSUMC Easter Egg Hunt

Location: Mary Lide’s home (1400 Sherwood Rd.)

Date & Time: March 28th at 4:00 PM

Water and lemonade will be provided, but please bring a snack to share!



Ecuador Mission Trip

Every year, volunteers from Washington Street and other local churches travel to Ecuador to spend over a week helping those in need. And this year, they want YOU to join them! This year’s trip will be from June 1st through the 10th and will be spent running health and wellness clinics, supporting construction projects, and leading Vacation Bible School programs. In between service projects, you will also have an opportunity to experience the local culture of Quito and Otavalo.

No prior travel experience is required! You also don’t need to be a fluent Spanish speaker, as translators will be present throughout the entire trip. The estimated cost per person for this trip is approximately \$1,600. If you’d like to find out more about this wonderful opportunity, please contact Pato Aravena at patricio.aravena@gmail.com.



The Queerfish Artist Collective consists of allies and LGBTQ+ visual and performance artists who share a common perspective on the intersection of faith, social justice, and liturgical themes in their creative work. This group has successfully displayed their work in multiple safe venues, including Washington Street UMC, the Columbia Museum of Art, and more. This year, selected pieces will be displayed at both local and state exhibitions, and juried submissions will be featured in an online catalog and directory, facilitating opportunities for ongoing commissions and collectors. This exhibition seeks to advance the role of faith as a guiding principle in society through the medium of art.

Our group is again inviting artists who identify as LGBTQ+ to join this opportunity to collaborate with other artists seeking to express their feelings, stories, and experiences as related to social justice and faith. In addition to expanding the diversity of our group, and the

types of art created, we are also excited to open this call to artists who are Allies of the LGBTQ+ community.

You need not be a member of any religion to participate. You are encouraged to pass this on to anyone that may be interested.

Through art, we hope to connect more compassionately and to restore faith and hope to our deeply divided world. For more information,

contact Wayne Hall at

waynequeerfish@gmail.com.



Washington Street UMC Photo Album

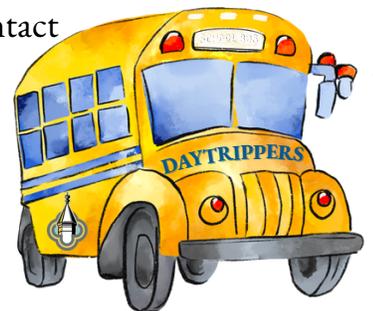
An online photo album for Washington Street events is now available! Feel free to browse the available photos and download them for yourself by scanning the QR code. If you have photos you would like uploaded to the album, please contact



WSUMC's Communications Coordinator at jacob@wsmethodist.org.

Audubon's Beidler Forest Sanctuary Day Trip

Our Daytrippers group will be traveling to the Audubon's Beidler Forest Sanctuary on Thursday, March 12th! Attendees will have the option of walking along the swamp boardwalk which is \$12, or the Grassland-Woodland trail which is free. The group will meet at the church at 10 AM and stop for lunch at Just Desserts Cafe before reaching Beidler. To register, contact Rev. Alston at aflippert@umcsc.org.





Welcome Table

If you've been around Washington Street long enough, you know we are dedicated to providing care for those in our community who could use a helping hand. One of the ways we are able to do this every day is with our Soup Cellar ministry, a group of volunteers from several local churches that provide lunch to the hungry. However, due to the sheer number of our soup cellar patrons, we are unable to invite them inside to eat on a daily basis, which is why we host the Welcome Table meal!

The Welcome Table is an event held once a quarter where those who are experiencing food insecurity can come inside Washington Street for a home-cooked meal. Our volunteers also provide attendees with hygiene products, reading glasses, and haircuts.

Our next Welcome Table meal will be held on Monday, April 6th, and anyone is welcome to volunteer! A proper sign-up sheet is to come, but those interested in volunteering may contact the event organizer, Lynn Shirley, at wmlynnsc@gmail.com.



Easter Egg Dying

On April 4th at 3:30 PM, our Washington Street Young Professionals and youth will be dying Easter Eggs for the upcoming Welcome Table meal! Anyone who is interested in helping may volunteer as well. If you can't make it, we're also seeking donations of eggs. We plan to dye around 156 eggs, so any donations of time or supplies are appreciated!



Lost & Found

Recognize any of these items? If so, please come pick them up! We have many unclaimed items on our Lost & Found table located in the church's main office. If you or someone you know has misplaced something while in our building, come by to see if it ended up here!



Meet Our New Members!



**Jim
Andreen**



**Melanie
Andreen**



**Brenda
Fields**



**Michelle
Dobson**



**Brian
Williams**



**Jackie
Williams**



**Maddie
Bennett**

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 - 2nd Floor

Contact: David Anderson (danderson@richardsonplowden.com)

*Starting on October 26th the Aldersgate Class will embark on a 6-week journey on Max Lucado's new book *Tame Your Thoughts Three Tools to Renew your Mind and Transform Your Life*. Come join us for a short video and discussion on this topic. Enjoy a cup a coffee and a donut all our welcome as embark on this study series beginning Sunday October 26 and running through November 30.

Dawsey Class - 2nd floor

Contact: Demi Garvin (garvindemi@gmail.com)

*We continue our new study: Days of Awe and Wonder-How to be a Christian in the 21st Century by Marcus Borg. Hunter Rentz will lead our discussion of Chapter 2. 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 - 3rd floor

Contact: Jim Lane (jlane@columbiasc.edu)

During the month of March, the Grace Class will be reading and discussing *An Unlikely Lent: Extraordinary People of the Easter Story* by Rachel Billups.

John Harper Class - 1st floor

Contact: Boyd Saunders (jboyd Saunders@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 - 3rd floor

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

During Lent, the Open Door Class is studying "He Set His Face To Jerusalem" by Richard B. Wilke. This book explores how Jesus's commitment to go to Jerusalem can inspire us to commit to our own goals in our Christian walk. The Wednesday night zoom Bible study group is offering a Lenten study for all who may be interested. Starting on February 18, the group will meet at 7:00PM for one hour each week to study Max Lucado's *He Chose the Nails: What God Did to Win Your Heart*.

Paul Harmon Class - 3rd floor

Contact: Sally Mings (sallymings@gmail.com)

The Paul Harmon Class is reading and discussing *The Book of Joy*, by His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and Douglas Abrams. Visitors are always welcome!

Solomon's Porch Class - 2nd floor

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

*For Advent, Solomon's Porch is using *The Redemption of Scrooge* study by Matt Rawle to look at Advent through the lens of Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*.

*subject to change

Washington Street Pancake Dinner

This Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday, our Washington Street Young Professionals and youth group worked together to make a traditional pancake dinner for our congregation! The intention of this meal was to further Washington Street's goal of bringing the different generations within our congregation together. Not only was this shown through the different ages of those cooking the meal, but attendees were also encouraged to sit with people they didn't know and discuss which generation they were born into.

Thank you to those who hosted and attended this event for making it the best it could be. We hope those who couldn't attend will join us in the future!





Ways to Stay Connected at Washington Street!

WORSHIP



March 19th
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 *Wall-E* on your own or with friends.



After viewing the film, plan to join Rev. Alston on March 23rd at 7 PM in the Wesley room or via Zoom for a discussion of this film's themes of perseverance and interdependence.

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

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay up to date on everything Washington Street by following us on social media!



ORDER YOUR FLOWERS TODAY FOR THE EASTER SEASON!

Scan the QR Code to fill out the order form or pick one up outside of the Sanctuary every Sunday in March! Form is due by March 22nd!



Thank You for Your Contributions!

Shrove Tuesday Dinner
Raised \$298

Souper Bowl of Caring
Raised \$641

Mary's Maidens Chocolate Sales
Raised \$194



WASHINGTON STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Connections

1401 Washington Street
Columbia, SC 29201
803.256.2417

