



WASHINGTON STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 8, 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.

Faith is the reality of what we hope for, the proof of what we don't see. The elders in the past were approved because they showed faith.

All these people died in faith without receiving the promises, but they saw the promises from a distance and welcomed them. They confessed that they were strangers and immigrants on earth. People who say this kind of thing make it clear that they are looking for a homeland. If they had been thinking about the country that they had left, they would have had the opportunity to return to it. But at this point in time, they are longing for a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God isn't ashamed to be called their God—he has prepared a city for them.

Hebrews 11:1-2, 13-16

Order of Worship

5th Sunday After Epiphany

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Becky Shirley

RINGING OF THE BELL

CHORAL INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Alisa Liggett

*HYMN #418 (UMH)

We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder JACOB'S LADDER

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

*THE GLORIA PATRI #70 (UMH)

MEINEKE

ANTHEM

Precious Lord

Thomas A. Dorsey
arr. Arnold Sevier

(text may be found in UMH #474) Hymn background: The song was composed in 1932 during a time of deep personal tragedy, following the death of Dorsey's wife during childbirth and the passing of their infant son. Drawing from the traditions of blues, spirituals, and sacred hymnody, Dorsey created a work that expresses profound grief, faith, and hope.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. 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 parents.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

Deep River

Norman Luboff

Soloist: Malcolm Lemons with Sanctuary Choir

*DOXOLOGY #94 (UMH)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*HYMN #448 (UMH)

Go Down, Moses verse 1-5

TUBMAN

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Hebrews 11:1-2, 13-16

SERMON

Memory and Hope

Rev. Becky Shirley

*HYMN #708 (UMH)

Soon and Very Soon

VERY SOON

*BENEDICTION & CHORAL RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

Opportunities to Grow in Faith & Serve in Love

Today - Valentines and Chocolate Sales

Mary's Maidens will be selling valentines and chocolates before Sunday School and after service in the hallway outside the office.

Today - Youth Group - 4 PM

Open to all 6th - 12th grades. Join us for fun and fellowship.

Feb. 11th - Day Trippers - Sanctuary Stained Glass Tour - 10:30 AM

Taking "day trips" together is a great way to connect with other members of the Church community and have fun. Daytrippers will meet at the church for the Sanctuary Stained Glass Tour at 10:30. There will also be a lunch of Chicken Brunswick Stew, salad, and dessert for \$10. To sign up contact Mary Lide at neaudl@aol.com.

Feb. 11th - Reading Club - Book Swap and Social - 6PM

Join us for our annual book swap and social in the Wesley Room.

Feb. 12th - Postcard Writing "Party" - LGBTQAI+ RIGHTS

Join us at Queer Haven Books, 1332 Main Street, from 3-5 PM, where we will be writing letters to our legislators in support of LGBTQAI+ Rights.

In celebration of Black History Month

The Washington Street United Methodist Church choir is offering music by Black composers as an act of Christian love, truth-telling, and worship. This music honors the faith, perseverance, and theological depth of the Black Christian experience, which has profoundly shaped sacred music and strengthened the global church. Rooted in the Methodist call to social holiness, this focus invites us to engage history honestly and seek reconciliation through faithful action. **As we worship together, we affirm that unity in Christ is enriched—not diminished—by the diverse voices of God's people.**

First Year Teacher's Closet

Active Faith is again sponsoring the First Year Teacher's Closet in the month of February. Beginning February 1st. Please bring your gently used clothing, shoes, belts, ties, and purses to the new closet in Threath Hall. It is the closet next to the Courtyard, and signage will be on the closet door.

Save The Date For The Following Ministry Events

Feb. 17th - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - 5:30 PM

This Shrove Tuesday, the Young Professionals are hosting a Pancake Dinner in partnership with the Washington Street Youth Group! Come enjoy a good ol' fashion breakfast for dinner before the beginning of Lent the following day.

Feb. 18th - Ash Wednesday Service and Lenten Lunch

Join us for a lunch of soup, sandwiches, and desert. Followed by a 30 minute service. Lunch 11:45 - 12:25 and service 12:30.

Feb. 19th - Postcard Writing "Party" - Immigration

Join us at Richland County Public Library, 1431 Assembly Street, Columbia – Meeting Room A, from 10 AM -12 PM, where we will be writing letters to our legislators in Immigration

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 Plough

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:	Alma Louise Aravena
Children's Church:	Sofia Bourne Sam Maffei
Greeter:	Shelley Stafford
Sound/Video/Projection:	Ryan Wiskes Jacob Valdez
Ushers:	Susan Caskey Jane Peterson

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 02/01: 233 (NA in person + 233 online as of 02/05)
YTD Offerings Received: \$80,917 YTD Soup Cellar Gifts: \$1,890

YTD Expenses: \$58,945

YTD Soup Cellar Expenses: \$3,088

YTD Gifts to WSUMC Foundation: \$4,303.00

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