

October 2026



WASHINGTON  
STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# Connections

wsmethodist.org

## Another Successful Yard Sale!

Thanks to our wonderful congregation, this year's Active Faith Yard Sale was a huge success! Hosted from Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>, with a special discounted sale for church members on the 27<sup>th</sup>, the yard sale is a way to raise money for the ministry efforts of our Active Faith team. This includes providing support for foster children, sponsoring low-income daycares, running food drives, and more.

This year, Active Faith earned \$7397.60 from the sale, a significant increase from the \$5814 earned in 2025. The success of the 2026 sale can be attributed to the tireless efforts of organizers Deborah Rowe and Sam Waldrep, as well as the rest of Active Faith and all of their volunteers that contributed their time to this event. Active Faith would also like to thank our congregation members who not only supported the sale by spending their money, but made the sale possible by donating sellable items throughout the month of September. An overabundance of merchandise was donated this year, and we consider it a blessing that a majority of it was sold.



## Fall Festival 2026

It's time once again for Washington Street UMC's Fall Festival! Join us on October 25<sup>th</sup> from 4pm to 6pm for a night of fun for the whole family! We'll have a costume contest, Trunk or Treat, cake walk and a variety of games and activities. There will also be a special area for preschool children's activities. Bring your children, grandchildren, neighbors and friends!

We're also seeking donations of candy and water bottles! Drop off all donations in The Mission Garden with a note specifying what it's for.



## Congratulations to Ellis Rowe!

Please join us in congratulating Ellis Rowe for becoming an Eagle Scout! Ellis and his family have been attending Washington Street for many years, and we couldn't be more proud of him and his accomplishments!



*Ellis at his Eagle Scout ceremony with his family (left to right: Wyatt, Kristie, Ellis, Ricky, and Hayden Rowe)*



## Meet Our New Members!



**Hayden Uzelac**



**Malcolm Lemons**



**Ben Davis**

### Welcome Table Meal

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. But four times a year, we host a special meal that goes beyond our normal daily duties.

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.

We will host our third Welcome Table of the year on Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.

Volunteers, 20 or more, make this event run smoothly and we could always use more.

Reach out to Lynn Shirley at 803-422-3368 or [wmlynns@gmail.com](mailto:wmlynns@gmail.com) with any questions.



*Soup Cellar Manager, Terrence Chisholm, preparing food for the Welcome Table meal.*

### Bag Checkers Needed

Due to recent changes in our Soup Cellar, we are now checking our patrons' bags so they may come inside to eat. This means we need volunteers to help in our efforts! If you are available weekdays in the late morning to early afternoons, are able to lift heavy objects, and love talking with people, you're invited to volunteer to be a bag checker for the Soup Cellar! Those interested should scan the QR code to sign up!



### Sing-Along Messiah

Our annual performance of Handel's *Messiah* is just a couple of months away! This year's Sing-



*SAM 2025 conductor  
Dr. Lillian Quackenbush*

Along Messiah will be on December 14<sup>th</sup> and while tickets are free they're first come, first served. If you would like to stay up to date on this year's performance, or learn more about the history of Sing-Along Messiah, follow the SAM social media pages by scanning the QR code at the top of Pg. 6!

## CDC Grandparent's Day

On Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, our Child Development Center hosted a special event for Grandparent's Day! During the fun-filled celebration, each of our CDC classes put on a show featuring classic children's songs like *Wheels on the Bus*, *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star*, and more.

Our Grandparents in attendance had a great time, and we were happy to have them! Thank you to our CDC teachers who made this event possible. If you would like to view more photos from Grandparent's Day, or stay up-to-date with future CDC events, scan the QR code at the top of Pg. 6 and follow the CDC on Facebook and Instagram!



## Active Faith needs you to "Sock it to us!"

Please donate new pairs of socks to Active Faith this October!  
(Women's, men's, and children's)

Drop off socks in the laundry basket  
by the office door.

All donations will benefit  
Cooperative Ministry.

Questions? Contact Deborah Rowe at  
rkrdrtr@bellsouth.net



## Reading Club | October Meeting

The WSUMC Reading Club brings together members of our church who love to read. Together we share our interest in all kinds of reading—novels, memoirs, short stories, magazine articles, poetry—and we enjoy the pleasure of being with other avid readers to discuss what we have read.



This month, we will be discussing *See No Stranger: A Memoir and Manifesto of Revolutionary Love* by Valarie Kaur.

Those interested in participating may join us in the John Harper Classroom on October 21<sup>st</sup> at 6pm. Please note, this meeting was

originally scheduled for October 14<sup>th</sup> but has been delayed by a week.

## Biltmore House Performance

If you've ever been to one of our Sunday services, you've likely been blown away by our amazing choir. Well now, you have the opportunity to watch them live at one of the greatest tourists destinations in the Carolinas! Our choir has been invited to sing at the Biltmore

Estate's Candlelight tour. The performance is on December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. All are invited to come along and listen to the Washington Street choir as you tour the house. Scan the QR code to get your tickets now!





An Interdenominational Pride Worship Gathering

*join us in standing strong for justice and love*

# shield the joyous

Wednesday, October 14th @ 6 PM  
Washington Street UMC | 1401 Washington St.

Sponsored by:

Reformation Lutheran | Emmanuel Baptist | Emmaus Church | Kathwood Baptist  
Shandon Presbyterian | St. Martin's-in-the-Fields Episcopal | Washington Street United Methodist Church

ORDER YOUR ROSES TODAY FOR  
ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY!

All Saints' Sunday  
Nov. 1st, 2026

Scan the QR Code to fill out a digital  
order form or pick one up outside of  
the Sanctuary every Sunday in  
October! Form is due by October 25th!



## PLEASE BE ADVISED!

No staff member or volunteer from  
Washington Street will EVER ask you to  
purchase gift cards for any reason!

## Join us for Charge Conference!

Join us on Sunday October 18<sup>th</sup> at 3pm for our annual Charge Conference meeting! This will be a review of our church, our mission, our current budget, and more. While this event is open to the entire congregation, only church officials may vote during Charge Conference.

## 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 and visit the class or classes that interest you. Each class welcomes all to join them.**

### Aldersgate Class - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Contact: David Anderson (danderson@richardsonplowden.com)

The Aldersgate Class will begin a new study series beginning September 13<sup>th</sup> using scripture, stories, and personal affirmations. Bishop Berlin will take us on a journey from our own brokenness to redemption and restoration through Jesus. This study will be lead off from a short video each week from Bishop Berlin and then we will examine several topics. Come join us at 10 am and have a donut and cup of coffee as we explore the "messes" in peoples lives and how we can be restored and transformed through our savior, Jesus.

### Dawsey Class - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

Contact: Demi Garvin (garvindemi@gmail.com)

We will continue our study on September 27<sup>th</sup>: *The Bible With and Without Jesus: How Jews and Christians Read the Same Stories Differently* by Amy Jill Levine. 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 - 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

Contact: Jim Lane (jlane@columbiasc.edu)

The Grace class is reading *Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others* by Barbara Brown Taylor. In this memoir of her years teaching Religious studies, she writes "about how teaching the different religions changed her students' understanding of faith-as well as her own."

### John Harper Class - 1<sup>st</sup> floor

Contact: Boyd Saunders (jboydsanders@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 - 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

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

\*The Open Door Class is currently studying *Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life* by Tish Harrison Warren. All are welcome to come and discuss how God's presence is in the midst of our ordinary days and how to find holiness and spiritual growth in mundane and small daily habits.

### Paul Harmon Class - 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

Contact: Sally Mings (sallymings@gmail.com)

The Paul Harmon Class is continuing to study one of the Great Courses entitled *Gnosticism: From Nag Hammadi to The Gospel of Judas*. The lectures are taught by Professor David Brakke, The Ohio State University. Dr. Charles Bryan leads the class in discussions.

### Solomon's Porch Class - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

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

We are following the liturgical year and using scripture appropriate for each Sunday. Our source for discussions is *Feasting on the Word*.

\*subject to change

## WSUMC Library

(Written by Michelle Bizzell)

Check out the many books available in the library! Here is a title you may be interested in this month:

*The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison - A story of the tragic life of Pecola Breedlove, an eleven-year-old African American girl who is convinced that she is ugly, and yearns to have lighter skin and blue eyes. Set during the Great Depression, this book is renowned for its beautiful prose and handling of difficult topics like racism and abuse.

Find this on the banned books shelf with other books that have been

banned or challenged throughout the years. Check them out and celebrate the freedom to read during Banned Books Week, October 4<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>.

You can search for books on the library catalog at [wsumclibrary.librarika.com](http://wsumclibrary.librarika.com).

For any questions about the library, contact [wsumclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:wsumclibrary@gmail.com).



## 40 Days of Prayer for the Election

Please join us for 40 days of prayer starting September 24<sup>th</sup> leading up to Election Day on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will be hosting online prayers via Zoom every Monday at 7:30 am and pm. Scan the QR code here to join these sessions!





## Ways to Stay Connected at Washington Street!

### WORSHIP



October 15th  
11:00 - 11:30 AM  
Christ Chapel

Filled with familiar hymns, an interactive Jesus story, and Holy 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 *Good Will Hunting* on your own or with friends.



After viewing the film, plan to join Rev. Alston on Oct. 26th 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

To Register

### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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



### YoPro (Young Professionals)

If you are between your mid-twenties and mid-forties, use the QR code on this page to join YoPro on Group Me! Through the app, you will get updates about events and any last minute schedule changes.

Here's a look at what is planned for the next month:

Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> @ 6 PM - Attending Pride Service & Dinner

Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> @ 6 PM - Halloween Movie Night

UMC Young Professionals



Join on GroupMe

## Donate to Sing-Along Messiah!

Washington Street will be hosting our annual Sing-Along Messiah performance on December 14th! This performance of Handel's Messiah is open to everyone and is first come first served!

But in order to put on a performance of this scale, we need your help! We are currently seeking donations to help pay for musicians and other expenses that come with this performance.

You can donate using the QR code. Share this with your friends, family, or anyone who might be interested! We hope to see you December 14th!



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