

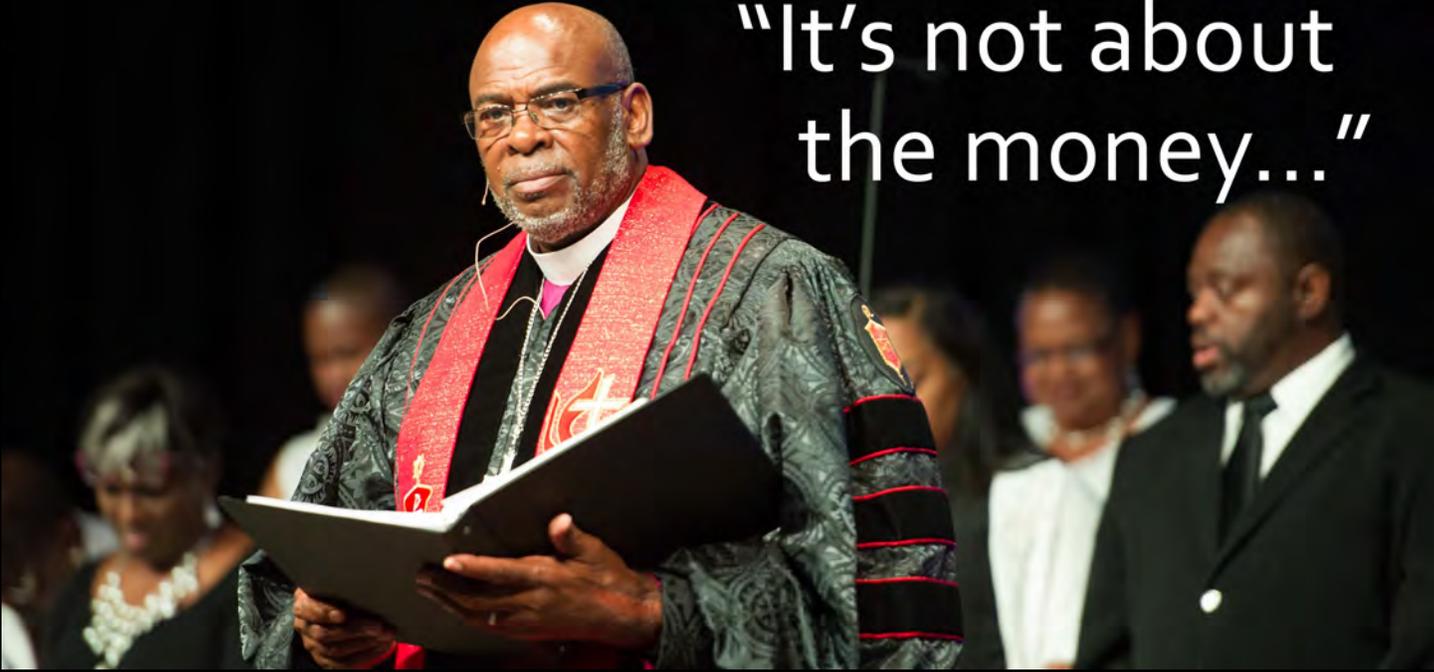
PATHWAYS TO MISSION

2017-18

From
anywhere
to
everywhere



The
United
Methodist
Church
South Carolina
Conference



“It’s not about
the money...”

As a United Methodist bishop, I have the privilege and responsibility of extensive travel both within the bounds of the Annual Conference and around the world. As I have shared with you before, wherever I go, I find that others are paying attention to what we are doing in South Carolina. We are leading in the denomination as we seek to become churches better equipped to be in ministry in the midst of the changing realities of our culture.

The theme for our 2018 Annual Conference meeting is “A More Excellent Way: In Mission From Anywhere To Everywhere.” Your generosity enables us to live into this reality.

Let us remember that the point of our apportionment giving is never the money. It is about doing together what no individual, congregation, district or conference can do alone. Through generous giving, we are faithfully sharing in being a part of the Body of Christ – doing Christ’s work.

We are committing ourselves to a ministry of being the hands and feet of Jesus. We are making disciples, training leaders, creating new places for new people – as well as addressing the needs of children and those who live in poverty.

Through our connectional giving, we prepare to respond to disasters near and far. We support young people through our United Methodist colleges, campus ministries and Africa University. We support the global Abundant Health initiative that seeks to impact the lives of children around the world so they might claim Jesus’ promise of abundant life in Him.

United Methodists pledge to support the church’s ministry through their prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Your generosity and faithful response to God’s grace in your life allows your Christian witness to be seen anywhere and everywhere. I thank you for your faithfulness and for all the ways you are involved in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Grace and peace,

L. Jonathan Holston
Resident Bishop

South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

Conference Offices

Bishop's Office

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Methodist Foundation
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Treasurer's Office

803-786-9486, Ext. 323
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2018 Special Days

Jan. 14: Human Relations Day

Jan. 18-25: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Jan. 21: Ecumenical Sunday

February: Black History Month

Feb. 11: Boy Scouts Sunday / Scouting Ministries Sunday

March: Women's History Month

March 2: World Day of Prayer

March 11: Girl Scouts Sunday/Alternate Scouting Ministries Sunday

March 11: One Great Hour of Sharing

March 11: United Methodist Camps and Retreats Sunday (SC)

April 15: Native American Awareness Sunday

May: Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

May: Christian Home Month

May: Older Adult Recognition Day (any day of the month)

May 3: National Day of Prayer

May 7-13: Christian Family Week

May 13: Mother's Day Offering for Epworth Children's Home (SC)

May 20: Advocate Awareness Sunday (SC)

May 20: Heritage Sunday

May 27: Peace with Justice Sunday

June 10: United Methodist Men's Day (SC)

Aug. 12: Aldersgate Special Needs Sunday (with offering) (SC)

Aug. 19: Call to Ministry Sunday (SC)

Sept. 9: Work Day Offering for Epworth Children's Home (SC)

Sept. 15-Oct. 15: Hispanic Heritage Month

Sept. 16: Youth Service Fund Sunday (with offering) (SC)

Oct. 7: World Communion Sunday

Oct. 14: Children's Sabbath: A National Observance

Oct. 21: Laity Sunday

Nov. 4: Advance Special Ministries Sunday (with offering) (SC)

Nov. 11: Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday

Nov. 18-25: National Bible Week

Nov. 25: United Methodist Student Day

Dec. 1: World AIDS Day

District Offices

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Marion District

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Orangeburg District

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ordist@umcsc.org

Rock Hill District

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Spartanburg District

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spdist@umcsc.org

Walterboro District

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wadist@umcsc.org

The Bishop's Cabinet

District Superintendents

Rev. Robin Dease (Hartsville)

Rev. Paul Harmon (Spartanburg)

Rev. John Hipp (Florence)

Rev. George Howle (Greenville)

Rev. Cathy Jamieson (Columbia)

Rev. Susan Leonard-Ray (Anderson)

Rev. Joe Long (Rock Hill)

Rev. Stephen Love (Greenwood)

Rev. Thomas Pearson (Walterboro)

Rev. Tim Rogers (Marion)

Rev. Sandra Stevens-Poirel (Charleston)

Rev. Frederick Yebuah (Orangeburg)

Directors

Rev. Kathy James (Connectional Ministries)

Rev. Ken Nelson (Clergy Services)

Mrs. Barbara Ware (Conference Lay Leader)

Mrs. Beth Westbury (Conference Treasurer)

Rev. Sara White (Congregational Development)



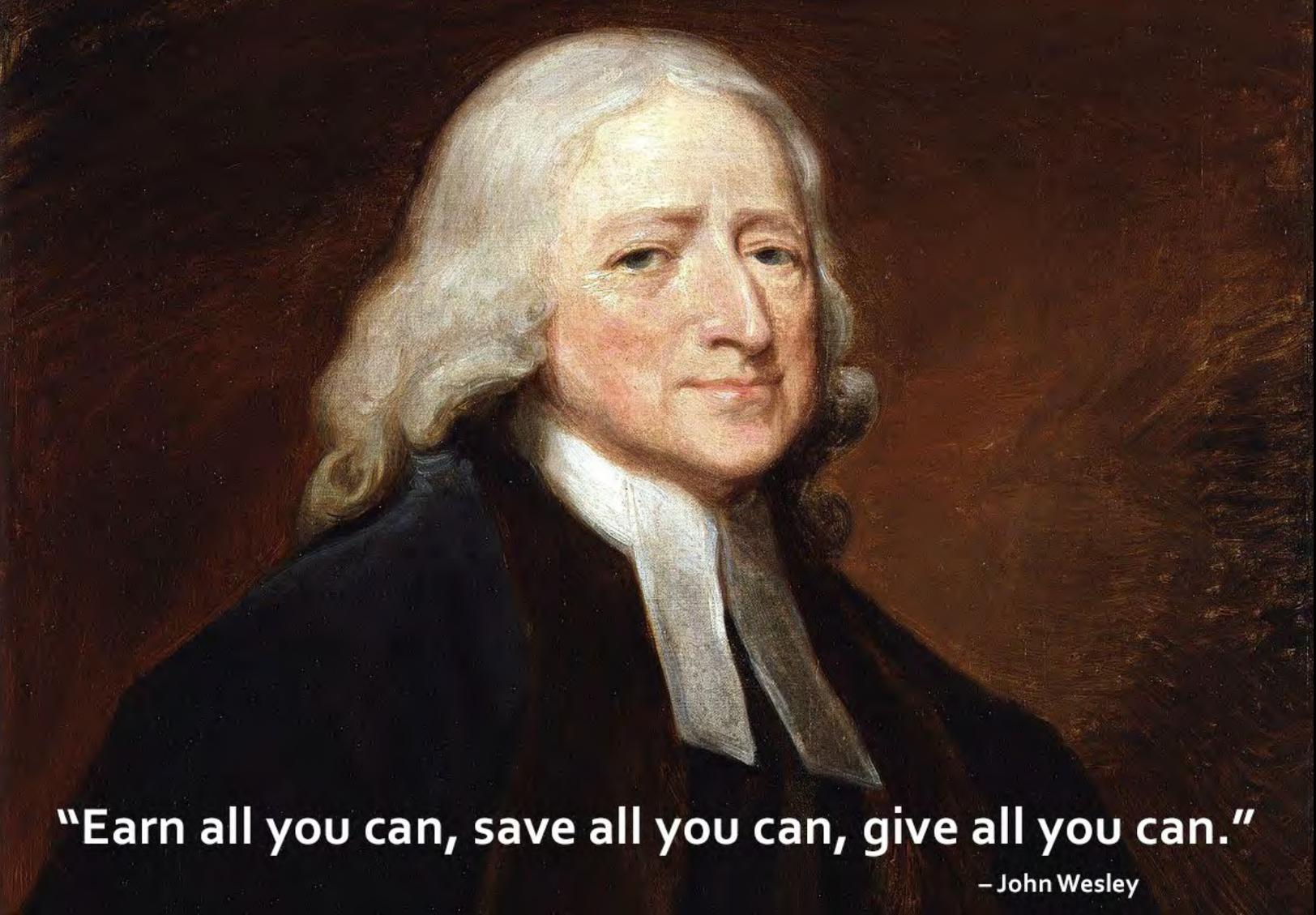
Why? give.

Connectional giving is just what the name implies. As a connected church, we work together to accomplish what we could never do on our own. When United Methodists give to the church, we have a structure in place that demands the kind of accountability one would expect of gifts meant for God's work in the world. More than 90 percent of what we give stays in our local churches. Most of those local funds help pay for expenses such as building maintenance, administration, salaries and other costs. The rest of the

local funds help pay for ministries such as community outreach programs, Christian education, worship services and other ministries associated with making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The remaining 10 percent of what we give goes to what we call apportionment giving – our financial partnership with the United Methodist Connection. Together, we reach out to our communities and the entire world to share God's love. Whether we are members of a small, medium or large church, we can do so

much more for Christ through apportionment giving than we can do alone. Some 77 percent of our apportionment giving stays on the state and regional levels, while about 23 percent supports the work of our global United Methodist boards and agencies that reach out across the country and around the world. Our giving allows us to do more together than we could ever do as individuals or as local churches.

Together, we do our best for Christ!



“Earn all you can, save all you can, give all you can.”

– John Wesley

Where your apportionment giving goes

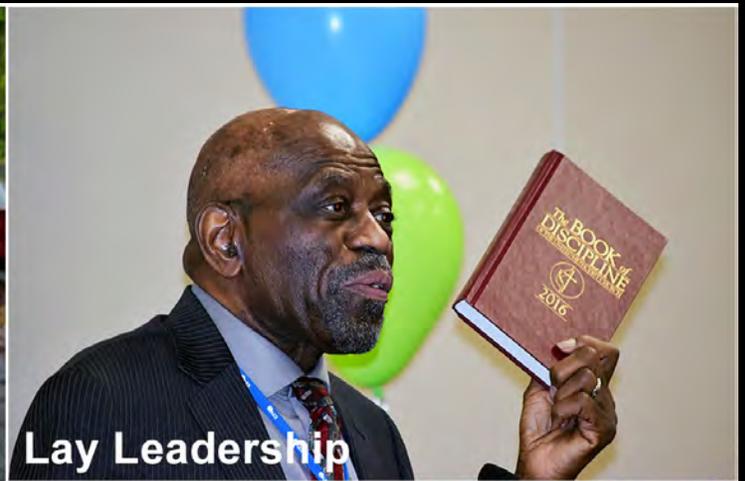
- ◆ Pays for the work of missionaries around the world, resources for local churches, and supplies money to start United Methodist churches in South Carolina.
- ◆ Provides for retired clergy and supplements pastors’ salaries in transitional churches.
- ◆ Makes personal our connection through people like our district superintendents and congregational specialists, who help equip local churches for disciple-making ministries. It provides for our bishops, who shepherd and lead us in ministry around the world.
- ◆ Supports the ministry of Asbury Hills, where United Methodists fellowship with other Christians of all ages through summer camping and other retreat experiences.
- ◆ Provides scholarships for United Methodist students at Claflin University, Columbia College, Spartanburg Methodist College and Wofford College; and helps pay for Wesley Foundation ministries on college campuses across the state.
- ◆ Supports our 11 historically black United Methodist colleges and universities, including Claflin.
- ◆ Builds and maintains Africa University in Zimbabwe – the only United Methodist university on that continent.
- ◆ Helps seniors afford to live in one of three United Methodist retirement homes in South Carolina – Methodist Manor in Florence, The Oaks in Orangeburg and Wesley Commons in Greenwood.

Connectional Ministries

Your gateway to events, resources, programming



Advocacy



Lay Leadership



Outreach



Discipleship

Connectional Ministries equips and empowers local churches of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church for the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The prayerful effort of Connectional Ministries is connecting local congregations in shared ministry, established in three ways:

- ◆ **District Connectional Ministries** offer a connection to local ministries and provide resources for advocacy, discipleship, lay leadership and outreach.
- ◆ **Conference Connectional Ministries** is represented by clergy and laity from across the conference, connecting local churches by offering ministry opportunities, trainings and resources that equip and empower them to be effective in advocacy, discipleship, lay leadership and outreach.
- ◆ **Congregational Specialists** are assigned to each of the districts as partners with local churches to engage them in equipping and empowering their congregations to discern and fulfill their God-given call to ministry.

Conference Connectional Ministries

Director: Rev. Kathy James (kljames@umcsc.org) | **Convener:** Rev. Ross Chellis (erchellis@umcsc.org)

Advocacy: Rev. Bernie Mazyck (bwmazyck@umcsc.org) | **Discipleship:** Lou Jordan (rjusc@aol.com)

Lay Leadership: Barbara Ware (conferencelayleader@umcsc.org) | **Outreach:** Michelline Williams (mikiz@sc.rr.com)

Your connectional giving makes this possible!

Congregational Specialists



What we do:

Congregational Specialists engage, equip and empower congregations to fulfill their mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Engage

- ◆ Connect with congregations through their presence by listening, building relationships, establishing trust.
- ◆ Challenge congregations to be more than they think they can be.
- ◆ Help congregations grow in their relationship with God and in understanding and doing God's will.

Equip

- ◆ Lead congregations through a process and give them the flexibility to follow the lead of the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ Provide congregations with leadership and training based on their particular needs.
- ◆ Utilize years of experience by constantly learning and sharing what they've learned.

Your connectional giving makes this possible!

Empower

- ◆ Inform congregations, so as they grow in faith, they grow in competence and confidence.
- ◆ Celebrate with congregations as they move toward God's preferred future.
- ◆ Step aside so congregations can be released to do God's calling.
- ◆ On call so that, when a congregation needs help again, a specialist will be there to help.



Rev. Jim Arant

Greenwood/Orangeburg districts

Specializing in leadership development & strategic planning

jarant@umcsc.org
803-727-0327



Mr. Chris Lynch

Rock Hill/Spartanburg districts

Specializing in youth ministries, next-gen discipleship & practical technology

clynch@umcsc.org
864-590-4628



Rev. Cathy Joens

Anderson/Greenville districts

Specializing in age-level ministries & Safe Sanctuaries

cljoens@umcsc.org
864-940-1893



Rev. Genova McFadden

Charleston/Walterboro districts

Specializing in revitalizing congregations & cultivating leadership

gmcfadden@umcsc.org
843-300-9642



Rev. Reggie Lee

Florence/Marion districts

Specializing in connecting churches & communities through outreach & worship

rlee@umcsc.org
843-601-1834



Rev. Millie Nelson Smith

Columbia/Hartsville districts

Specializing in African-American ministries & conflict mediation

mnelsonsmith@umcsc.org
803-960-5733

Forward Focus



Forward Focus is designed to help South Carolina United Methodist churches study their past, present and future potential for ministry to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

More than 100 churches have embarked on their Forward Focus journey, with more than 20 having completed the process.

Forward Focus is a congregation-driven process that helps a church look at itself and the community in which it resides, enabling church members to set a course for future ministry.

The roughly 90- to 120-day process helps your church answer four key questions:

- ◆ Who are we?
- ◆ Who is our neighbor?
- ◆ What are we here for?
- ◆ What are we going to do about it?

Check out what those who have been through Forward Focus have to say about it:

"Your congregation will be benefited and you will see yourselves in a new way, with new possibilities, new opportunities for growth and joy."

"Forward Focus opens the door for you to utilize your God-given gifts to help your church move forward."

"It's a good way to study yourself, your church as a whole and your community."

"You owe it to yourself, to your congregation and to the community to know what is out there for the future."

Is your church ready? Contact your congregational specialist.

Your connectional giving makes this possible!

Disaster Recovery

Plenty of need, more volunteers needed



Hundreds of families across more than half of South Carolina's counties are still struggling to recover from damage caused by 2015's floods and Hurricane Matthew in 2016.

Volunteers with Disaster Recovery Ministries of the S.C. Conference of the United Methodist Church – both individuals and teams – continue to respond to the needs of families in most of the affected counties.

In the coming weeks – and throughout all of 2018 – S.C. volunteers will be needed to roof houses, repair siding, install sheetrock and other tasks to return families to safe situations.

If you know of individuals, churches or groups (such as United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, youth groups) who would like to help, please send those names and their contact information to volunteer coordinator Nikki Ulmer at nulmer@umcsc.org.



Got a team ready to help? Here's how:

1

Put together a team and assess your skills. Teams of any size, ability level are needed.

2

Identify a date or dates on which your team can volunteer.

3

Contact us to confirm and arrange details for your mission.

Phone: 803-888-3051

Fax: 803-888-3057

screcovery@umcsc.org

Congregational Development



Congregational Development in South Carolina is the work of creating new places for new people. It is strategic in identifying places and needs for new church establishment and is responsive in funding for existing church needs and leadership development.

Annual Conference 2017 saw the establishment of three new congregations – two satellites and one standalone project. The satellites serve as additional campus settings for established congregations, and the standalone serves the community of Cainhoy in the Charleston District:

- ◆ St. Mark, The Connection @ Coronaca, Greenwood District
- ◆ Buncombe Street at Trinity, Greenville District
- ◆ Two Rivers, Cainhoy, Charleston District

Established church response is driven through two areas:

- ◆ District 20 Percent Funds – From every dollar given to the Congregational Development line item, 20 cents is returned to the district of origin. This is administered through the district committees on Congregational Development. Applications go through district offices.
- ◆ Each February, applications are reviewed and processed for Existing Church Grants from line item funds. Applications are available from the Conference Office of Congregational Development.

Conference Congregational Development

Director: Rev. Sara White
(swhite@umcsc.org)
Chairperson: Rev. Richard Reams
(rreams@umcsc.org)

Your connectional giving makes this possible!

– Rev. Sara White

Two Rivers, Cainhoy

Two Rivers Church is a new United Methodist faith community in the rapidly growing Clements Ferry Road corridor in Charleston.

The church's mission is to cultivate new expressions of the Gospel for people looking for a place to belong.

Our new church embraces the values of living like Jesus, creating a fully inclusive community, experiencing the beauty of creation, serving

others with passion and grace, and reflecting the courage of vulnerability.

We are excited to see the way God is using the diversity of our neighborhood and our launch team to reach to people on the margins of church and invite them to experience the hope, life and possibility that comes from a relationship with Jesus and with others.

–Rev. Wendy Hudson-Jacoby,
Pastor



New places for new people



St. Mark, The Connection @ Coronaca

St. Mark UMC-Greenwood launched its newest campus “The Connection” in the Coronaca community near Lake Greenwood in March 2017. The vision is to be a church of the community by meeting people where they are and walking alongside them so they might come to know Christ and His grace.

We are actively seeking to connect with our neighbors through our service and intentional community involvement. Our service focus has been on two partnerships – Rice Elementary School and our county food bank. We are partnering with the school by volunteering in the school, supporting the teachers and staff.

We host the county food bank once a month as a mobile distribution point.

Our community presence has included events such as Santa Paws (pictures with



Santa and your pet), an outside Christmas candlelight service, and our fireside socials to share food and friendship.

Our Sunday presence includes a modern worship service at 10 a.m. and small groups are forming this fall. We are excited about what God is doing and will do as we reach our community for Him.

– Rev. John Elmore, Associate Pastor

Buncombe Street at Trinity



The story of Buncombe Street’s adoption of Trinity is a story of altruism, faith and new life.

Trinity did not have to put itself up for adoption. However, its members were willing to give up their life as a congregation for the sake of Jesus Christ, and in doing so they have found a new life.

Buncombe Street is the perfect congregation to adopt Trinity, because it has an effective way of making disciples of Jesus Christ in this community.

Now God is at work building something new.

We have an old building that is looking newer by the day. We have people from the Trinity and Downtown campus, as well as new people, worshipping here every Sunday.

We are becoming something new that only God could create.

We are one church with two street addresses and more ways than ever to reach people for Jesus Christ.

– Rev. Ben Burt, Associate Pastor

SCMYP Strengthening local church youth ministry



South Carolina Ministries with Young People is the youth ministry arm of the S.C. Conference of the United Methodist Church.



The most effective way to have a strong conference youth ministry is to equip and enable churches for impactful ministry with young people through local churches.

With that philosophy, SCMYP will continue to focus on two avenues to strengthen local church youth ministry – effective conference events and leadership development for youth workers.



SCMYP offers several annual events, each with a specific purpose and with the idea that participating in each offers a balanced model for youth ministries to follow on the local church level.

We model these four areas – evangelism, discipleship, service, fellowship – on the conference level because they easily transfer to the life of the local church.

Revolution

Designed to be evangelistic in nature. Allows young people an opportunity to begin a relationship with Christ.

Honduras Mission

Offers young persons a chance to put their faith in action by serving in rural areas of the impoverished nation.

Immerse

Summer camp experience is a discipleship event offered as a chance for youth to dive deeper, grow in their faith.

Youth Basketball Tournament

Gives youth an opportunity to connect in fellowship with others from across the state through shared love of hoops.



Our focus on local church leadership development includes growing adult youth leaders and student leaders within the local church. SCMYP equips youth leaders through:

- ◆ Training events, such as the Not My Kingdom event in 2017.
- ◆ Supporting and encouraging district youth worker networks.
- ◆ Creating student leadership events.
- ◆ Offering youth ministry assessments to local churches and helping them develop youth ministry-specific strategic plans.

In the coming year, SCMYP will launch new youth leader training through a blog and web-based training designed to make high-quality training for youth workers at the fingertips of local church leaders.

The exodus of young people from mainline denominations is well documented, but the church has much to offer this generation. We come alongside local churches to help discover within their own DNA how God has gifted them to reach this generation for the Kingdom.

For more information on how SCMYP can partner with your church, email info@scmyp.org or go to scmyp.org.

– Chris Lynch, congregational specialist, next-gen discipleship

Your connectional giving makes this possible!

Campus Ministries



Growing in faith

Wesley Foundations send each year:

- ◆ About 25 percent of their congregations into the world as graduates looking to transform their communities.
- ◆ Graduates to seminary or into the candidacy process.
- ◆ Countless teachers, nurses, engineers and business people into the world to live and serve others from a gospel perspective.

United Methodist Wesley Foundations play a vital role in shaping college students. Hospitality, community, discipleship and mission are cornerstones of the programs across South Carolina.

College is a time of self-discovery and learning, but it can also be a lonely place for many students as they begin new adventures. Campus ministries provide a place where all students feel welcomed just as they are into a community that treats them like family.

There is also a strong sense of urgency that undergirds ministry to college

students. Usually, students are in campus ministry communities for two to four years before moving out into the world. With such a short window of time during critical discernment years, campus ministers know there is no time to waste.

Therefore, Wesley Foundations offer ample discipleship and mission opportunities. On campuses across the state, you'll find Wesley Foundations leading small groups, retreats and worship services that help students grow in their faith. Each year, several hundred students participate in local

and foreign missions as they discover how to love God and neighbor in concrete ways.

One of the unique aspects of campus ministry is that we are truly sending ministries. As hard as it is to see these students leave, there is also a great sense of optimism knowing that they are today's new leaders.

Wesley Foundations are sending them into your communities and churches. Supporting these ministries is an investment in the future of the UMC and the communities in which we live.

— Rev. Steve Simoneaux

Campus Ministries Campus Ministers

Charleston Wesley Foundation

Rev. Aaron Meadows
sameadows@umcsc.org
charlestonwesleyonline.org

Clemson Wesley Foundation

Rev. Steve Simoneaux
wesley@clemson.edu
clemsonwesley.org

Columbia Wesley Foundation

Rev. Tom Wall
wallbrodie@aol.com
tuiollc.wixsite.com/msn-at-usc

Francis Marion Wesley Foundation

Mrs. Lou Jordan (*lay director*)
rjusc@aol.com

Furman Wesley Fellowship

Rev. Edward McCutcheon
edward.mccutcheon@furman.edu
furmanwesley.com

Lander Methodist Campus Ministry

Rev. Justin Ritter
landermcm@gmail.com

Orangeburg Wesley Foundation

Rev. Mary Haggard
revmaryow@gmail.com

Winthrop Wesley Foundation

Rev. Richard Howell
winthropwesley@gmail.com
winthropwesley.com

Your connectional giving makes this possible!

Camps & Retreat Ministries



Can
camping
ministry
really reach
anyone?
Is camping
necessary
in our
world
today?



Now, more than ever, the answer is yes!

If you talk with previous campers or staff members, they will tell you that the mission of camping and retreat ministries is one that rings in their hearts forever. In South Carolina, our Camps & Retreat Ministry is blessed with growth and ways to further our reach through camping.

Due to the sale of the Sewee property, Camps & Retreat Ministries is able to grow its ministry at Asbury Hills in Cleveland and Camp Providence in Anderson.

Asbury Hills is a name that is close to many hearts but what about Camp Providence?

Camp Providence may be a small day camp, but it has done

great things for the campers hosted during the July 4, 2017, week. As the week progressed, the numbers grew to reach almost 40 campers in one day.

Why? These campers were welcomed with open arms and songs from summer staff members highly trained from Asbury Hills. Their day was filled with trying new things, like swimming and archery, and seeing new parts of Anderson while enjoying boat rides on Lake Hartwell.

One Providence camper was invited to spend a week at Asbury Hills, and her life will never be the same.

Just like Camp Providence, those at Asbury Hills welcomed her with open arms and songs. She tried new things and experienced new places.

She grew in her relationship with Christ alongside new friends. The tears in her eyes upon being picked up on the last day of camp spoke volumes to the impact camping has had on her.

Camping is a ministry that can affect anyone. Once you experience what camping can do, you will never be the same.

– Paige Railey



To learn more about this growing ministry, go to sccarm.org.

Your connectional giving makes this possible!

Salkehatchie@40



Salkehatchie Summer Service is a pioneering servant ministry at sites in South Carolina. Middle and high school and college youth, adult community leaders and persons of different cultures work to upgrade housing, help persons to help themselves, and take advantage of opportunities for personal growth and service.

Who?

Middle and high school and college age youth, drawn primarily from the S.C. Conference of the United Methodist Church. Participants must be at least 14. Adult leaders also are needed to offer guidance and support.

What?

This program consists of more than 50 work camps during which participants improve homes of needy families and reach out to these families and one another in friendship.

When?

June and July,
Saturday to Saturday.



Want to help?

- ◆ Volunteer – Youth willing to work and adults with skills to share are needed.
- ◆ Donate – Lumber, paint, plywood, linoleum, paneling, nails and other supplies can be taken to camps.
- ◆ Financial support – Mail checks payable to Salkehatchie Summer Service to: Salkehatchie Summer Service, 4908 Colonial Drive, Columbia, SC, 29203.



40th Anniversary Celebration

Salkehatchie marks its 40th year in 2018, and you are invited to a celebration to mark the anniversary with fellowship, worship and reflections from campers.

The 40th Anniversary Celebration is scheduled for 1-5 p.m. Saturday, March 10, 2018, at Union United Methodist Church, 7582 Woodrow St., Irmo.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Susan Caskey at:
803-463-6138 | turnitbluesue@hotmail.com

803-691-6606 | salkehatchie@umcsc.org | salkehatchie.org

Advance Special Ministries



The Advance Special Ministries Network's mission is to see, cultivate and share a wide range of United Methodist resources to support and strengthen our ministries. This helps us work toward the vision of the South Carolina Conference, which is to joyfully fulfill Christ's mandate to care for those in need by contributing generously of our time, talents and resources. United Methodists support the work of the 16 Advance Special Ministries across the state through apportionments and annual offerings on Advance Special Ministries Sunday and direct involvement.

2017-18 Advance Special Ministries

Alston Wilkes Society

Provides services for adults released from correctional facilities, at-risk youth, homeless veterans, other homeless individuals, and their families.

alstonwilkessociety.org

Bennettsville-Cheraw Area Cooperative Ministry

Meets holistic needs of families via Bible study, prayer, workshops, school enrichment, leadership training, health screenings, food distribution, day camps.

tinyurl.com/bc-coopmin

Bethlehem Community Center (Columbia)

Meets educational, cultural, recreational, spiritual needs of Midlands children and families, while encouraging them to use their gifts to make a positive difference.

bethlehemcenter.umcsc.org

Bethlehem Community Center (Spartanburg)

Strengthens families physically, emotionally, spiritually, socially, educationally. Provides education and assistance programs for the community.

thebethlehemcenter.org

Christian Assistance Bridge

Offers emergency assistance, such as utilities, rent, food, medication, transportation and traveler's aid, to residents of the Blythewood area.

christianassistancebridge.com

Coastal Samaritan Counseling Center

Provides counseling, pastoral & spiritually integrated psychotherapy, education and consultation to individuals and families in crisis due to mental illness.

coastalsamaritan.org

The Cooperative Ministry

Works with community partners to increase self-sufficiency of people experiencing poverty in the Midlands through crisis assistance and sustainability programs.

coopmin.org

Interfaith Community Services

Convenes, educates and coordinates faith and other community partners to meet the needs of struggling families in the areas of child nutrition, safety, literacy.

interfaithcommunityservices.org

Jubilee Academy

Year-round, faith-based school provides supportive and nurturing educational environment aimed at training thinkers who have a biblical worldview.

jubileeacademysc.org

Killingsworth

Transition home for women in crisis offers counseling, education, spiritual and job development, work support, life-skills training and community re-orientation.

killingsworth-home.com

P.A.T.H.

Provides financial aid for rent, utilities, prescription medications and other small qualifying needs to those in crisis who live in the York School District.

pathyork.org

Rural Mission Inc.

Addresses housing needs of Sea Islands families through renovations and construction, offers crisis assistance for prescriptions, food and transportation.

ruralmission.org

Tracy Jackson Program (G.I.F.T)

Summer program providing lunch, games, activities, speakers, field trips and back-to-school supplies for children in Abbeville and Anderson counties.

Facebook: "Tracy Jackson Program of GIFT"

United Methodist Volunteers in Mission

Provides opportunities for volunteers in short-term mission projects, such as construction, medical care, education, disaster response and recovery.

umvim-sc.org

United Ministries of Greenville

Provides assistance for utilities/rent and prescriptions, food pantry, day shelter and case management for the homeless, GED classes, employment assistance.

united-ministries.org

Wallace Family Life Center

Provides educational, cultural, recreational, religious programs, such as GED classes, student tutoring, summer reading, food pantry and clothes closet.

wflc.tripod.com

Your connectal giving makes this possible!

Christian Assistance Bridge



Christian Assistance Bridge – the newest Advance Special Ministry of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church – is a service agency in Blythewood that is blessed with significant support from a generous community.

The mission of Christian Assistance Bridge is to provide hope and support to those in need by offering basic necessities.

The organization reaches out to the community by offering basic necessities and hands-up assistance during crisis situations. It strives to grow discipleship through service and obedience to Christ.

Christian Assistance Bridge offers emergency assistance with utilities, rent, food, medication, transportation and traveler's aid, to residents of Blythewood and surrounding communities.

The agency is a collaborative effort of area churches, individuals and support organizations that currently serves residents of Blythewood, Northeast Richland County and Ridgeway.

Christian Assistance Bridge is a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt agency. All donations are tax deductible.



Christian Assistance Bridge

126 Blythewood Road
Blythewood, SC 29016
(Next to Trinity UMC)

Mail donations to:

P.O. Box 1026
Blythewood, SC 29016

803-786-1903

info@christianassistancebridge.com

Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry



Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry was established by the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church to provide homes for adults with special needs, where residents can live in a loving Christian environment, overseen by a dedicated professional staff.

The homes provide life skills training and work experiences along with daily living skills, cooking, laundry, self-help, social and recreational experiences and Sunday connections to worshipping communities.

The S.C. Conference gives support by designating an Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry offering to be taken each year on the second Sunday in August or an alternative Sunday chosen by each church. Churches, Sunday School classes, study groups, mission groups and individuals give additional support with regular and special gifts.

As there is a growing need for homes in South Carolina, our vision is to expand Aldersgate to meet this need.

Help this vision come into reality with your prayers and your gifts to build and maintain additional homes and to provide a residents assistance fund.

Aldersgate Homes

Aldersgate at The Oaks

Adjacent to The Methodist Oaks Retirement Community in Orangeburg, a home for six men.

Aldersgate Columbia

Near Epworth Children's Home in Columbia, a home for six women.

Aldersgate Florence

Near The Methodist Manor of the Pee Dee, "Rick's House" is a home for four men.

Want to help?

- † Donate money or property.
- † Lend professional expertise.
- † Adopt Aldersgate as a mission project for your church group.
- † Lend your prayers, spiritual and moral support.

P.O. Box 5781, Columbia, SC 29250 | 803-376-8991 | columbiahomecare73@att.net | tinyurl.com/aldersgateSNM

Your connectional giving makes this possible!

Epworth Children's Home



South Carolina's United Methodist Mission for Children



Epworth Children's Home gives hope to children and families in their moment of need. For 120 years, Epworth has brought light and hope into the lives of children. Epworth serves over 100 children each day and each child has experienced loss, neglect and/or abuse while living in a community in South Carolina.

Epworth's mission is to serve children, youth and families through a caring, accepting and safe Christian community, where hurts are healed; hope is nurtured;

and faith in God self and others is developed.

People from across the conference believe in the life-transforming mission of Epworth. God has called the United Methodists in South Carolina to action and God's people have responded.

Each year more than 2,000 volunteers provide more than 13,000 hours of hands-on missional service for the children at Epworth. Missions at Epworth take all different forms. Some make Epworth feel like a home, like when a UMM group improves the campus landscaping or when a Sunday School class takes a multi-day mission trip to makeover a cottage.

Others bring happiness and smiles into childhood by doing things like a youth group inviting Epworth children to a movie night or the UMW hosting a special holiday party. Some missions are more personal, like when a father, whose children are now grown and out of the

house, comes to Epworth on Saturday mornings to mentor a child, or when a faithful teacher shares her gift as a faith formation volunteer. Each volunteer brings his/her special gifts and talents and offers them with love for the children at Epworth.

In addition to being called to volunteer action, United Methodists from around the state are united in their support of the children at Epworth. Epworth is not an apportioned item in the conference budget. Instead, support for Epworth is expressed in more than 2,000 special worship services and offerings to support the ministry of Epworth.

Additionally, people give from their heart with in-kind donations for basic supplies, back to school needs, college dormitory items, and an outpouring of support to make Christmas special for each child at Epworth.

— Andrew Boozer

Since 1896

Epworth Children's Home has been a place for children to grow, learn and be loved. Children ages 4–18 come from severely stressed family systems and our goal is to nurture and love them by providing education, counseling, medical care and spiritual enrichment.



Want to help?

For more information on how your church can get involved in mission projects and support Epworth Children's Home:

† Go to epworthchildrenshome.org

† Call 803-256-7394

Methodist Homes



Wesley Commons – Greenwood
wesleycommons.org



Methodist Manor – Florence
methodist-manor.com



The Oaks – Orangeburg
theoakssc.com



**Firmly rooted in its history,
The Oaks looks to the future**

The Methodist Oaks was chartered by the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church in 1953 as the South Carolina Methodist Home for the Aging. With 10 residents and an administrator, the Methodist Home for the Aging opened its doors a few months later in Orangeburg with a mission of providing care for seniors in a faith-based environment.

The Rev. James F.M. Hoffmeyer founded and was the first administrator of the SC Methodist Home for the Aging. The 113-acre tract with 10 buildings, paved roads and its own water system was bought for \$105,000 from the city of Orangeburg.

Through the years, the campus grew and changed to meet the demands of the residents and the community.

A 1969 capital campaign provided the means for major expansion in the number of residents who could be accepted, as well as in the services offered. John Brailsford, owner of Shady Grove Nursery, planted the "Avenue of Live Oaks," prompting the name change to The Methodist Oaks in 1997.

Today, The Methodist Oaks – with a main campus of more than 650 acres – is a Continuing Care Retirement Community offering independent living, assisted living, skilled nursing care, and both inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation.

In addition to the main campus, The Methodist Oaks offers a Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly, which serves seniors in Orangeburg, Bamberg and Calhoun counties whose health concerns qualify them for nursing home care, but who wish to stay at home.

Across all living options and service areas, The Methodist Oaks cares for more than 400 residents and patients.

Through apportionments, your connectional giving supports the Resident Assistance Fund, which offsets monthly service fees for residents who have outlived their resources. The fund also helps fill part of the gap between Medicaid daily rates and standard rates.

"We are extremely grateful for this support and also for the many other ways in which local churches support The Methodist Oaks and its residents," said Andy Cox, chief executive officer.

Looking ahead, The Methodist Oaks is exploring the possible addition of a memory care unit.

"The future of The Methodist Oaks is exciting," Cox said. "Our commitment is to provide outstanding health care for our residents and the community, and this dementia unit would certainly allow us to do that for those families who need that level of care for their loved one."

– Lisa Livingston

Your connectional giving makes this possible!

S.C. United Methodist Advocate

One way your connectional giving is put to use is through publication of the South Carolina United Methodist Advocate, the annual conference's newspaper. The award-winning print and online



monthly newspaper was first published in 1837 and is the oldest continuously published newspaper in Methodism.

An independent publication funded by conference apportionments, subscriptions, advertising and private tax-deductible donations, The Advocate's mission is to inform and connect S.C. United Methodists by independently reporting relevant news, engaging readers, providing a forum for dialogue and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The recipient of 94 state, national and global journalism awards since 2010, The Advocate tells the stories of God at work in South Carolina United Methodist churches. It has earned a reputation as a strong, high-quality, Christian newspaper.



Learn more, subscribe
and read stories at
advocatesc.org

S.C. Methodist Conference Credit Union



The South Carolina Methodist Conference Credit Union offers special interest rates to help fund mission trips. Tom Wall, director of the Methodist Student Network at the University of South Carolina, turned to SCMCCU for assistance when planning a mission trip in March 2015.

"Thanks to the SC Methodist Conference Credit Union for the loan, which gave us the cash flow to make our mission trip to Ecuador a reality," Wall said. "The help made it possible for many students to experience the trip of a lifetime. Becoming the hands of Christ and experiencing the love of God through our Ecuadorian sisters and brothers was a transforming time in many ways."

Membership in SCMCCU is open to:

- ◆ United Methodist churches in the S.C. Conference and their members
- ◆ Clergy and employees of the S.C. Conference and its churches
- ◆ Employees and students of Claflin University, Columbia College, Spartanburg Methodist College and Wofford College
- ◆ Employees of The Methodist Oaks, The Methodist Manor of the Pee Dee, Wesley Commons and Epworth Children's Home.
- ◆ Family of members (spouses, children, grandchildren, parents,

Services include:

- ◆ Share (savings) accounts
- ◆ Certificates of deposit (6-, 12-, 18- and 24-month)
- ◆ New and used automobile loans
- ◆ Personal loans
- ◆ Loans for boats, RVs, campers, motorcycles
- ◆ Share secured loans
- ◆ Church loans



"Growing Generous Givers" 2018 Stewardship Summit

South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church
Bethany United Methodist Church – Summerville
Register at umcsc.org/data/stewardshipsummit.php



2018 Annual Conference June 3-6, 2018

TD Convention Center | Greenville, South Carolina
For hotel and other information, go to
umcsc.org/home/2018-annual-conference

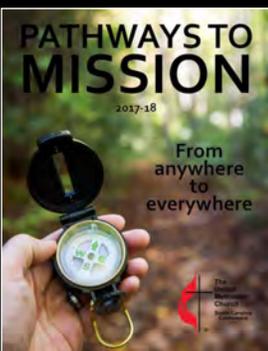


For more information or to register, go to
mennministrysc.org



#getmovingumcsc

Who photographed those scenic covers?



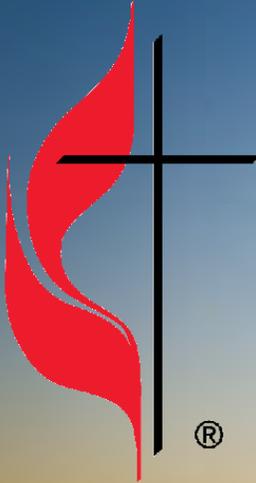
Front cover

Matt Brodie went for a hike in the pristine woodlands that make up the Asbury Hills Camp and Retreat Center near the Cleveland community in the rolling terrain of northern Greenville County.



Back cover

Matt captured the spectacular view of Asbury Hills and surrounding mountains from Caesars Head, the outcropping atop the Blue Ridge Escarpment that lends its name to Caesars Head State Park.



**The
United
Methodist
Church**
South Carolina
Conference

A More Excellent Way

In Mission From
Anywhere To Everywhere

South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

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