

Seeking A More Excellent Way

2019-2020

PATHWAYS TO
MISSION



Conference Offices

Bishop's Office

803-786-9486, Ext. 307
bishop@umcsc.org

Camps & Retreats

864-298-0125
director@sccarm.org

Clergy Services

803-786-9486 Ext. 328
clergyservices@umcsc.org

Communications

803-786-9486, Ext. 260
domara@umcsc.org

Congregational Development

803-786-9486 Ext. 305
jlfriday@umcsc.org

Connectional Ministries

803-786-9486 Ext. 313
tfulmer@umcsc.org

Credit Union

803-691-0037
scmccu@bellsouth.net

Disaster Recovery

843-506-1289
disasterrecovery@umcsc.org

Disaster Response

803-786-9486, Ext. 265
mbrodie@umcsc.org

Information Technology

803-786-9486, Ext. 332
jcrews@umcsc.org

Pension & Benefits

803-602-0710
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Resource Center

803-786-9486 Ext. 309
bstalnaker@umcsc.org

S.C. United

Methodist Advocate

803-786-9486 Ext. 338
jbrodie@umcsc.org

S.C. United

Methodist Foundation

803-771-9125
scumf@bellsouth.net

Treasurer's Office

803-786-9486, Ext. 323
bwestbury@umcsc.org

2019 Special Days

Oct. 6: World Communion Sunday
Oct. 20: Children's Sabbath: A National Observance
Oct. 20: Laity Sunday
Nov. 3: Advance Special Ministries Sunday (SC | with offering)
Nov. 10: Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday
Nov. 24: United Methodist Student Day
Dec. 1: World AIDS Day

2020 Special Days

Jan. 19: Human Relations Day
Jan. 26: Ecumenical Sunday
Feb. 9: Scouting Ministries Sunday
March 6: World Day of Prayer
March 8: United Methodist Camps and Retreats Sunday (SC)
March 8: Alternate Scouting Ministries Sunday
March 22: UMCOR Sunday
April 26: Native American Ministries Sunday
May 10: Mother's Day Offering for Epworth Children's Home (SC)
May 10: Festival of the Christian Home
May 17: Advocate Awareness Sunday (SC)
May 24: Aldersgate Day/Heritage Sunday
June 7: Peace with Justice Sunday
June 14: United Methodist Men's Day (SC)
Aug. 9: Aldersgate Special Needs Sunday (SC | with offering)
Aug. 16: Call to Ministry Sunday (SC)
Sept. 13: Work Day Offering for Epworth Children's Home (SC)
Sept. 20: Youth Service Fund Sunday (SC | with offering)
Oct. 4: World Communion Sunday
Oct. 18: Children's Sabbath: A National Observance
Oct. 18: Laity Sunday
Nov. 1: Advance Special Ministries Sunday (SC | with offering)
Nov. 8: Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday
Nov. 29: United Methodist Student Day
Dec. 1: World AIDS Day

District Offices

Anderson District

864-226-6649
andist@umcsc.org

Charleston District

843-744-0477
chdist@umcsc.org

Columbia District

803-786-9486
codist@umcsc.org

Florence District

843-669-5992
fldist@umcsc.org

Greenville District

864-233-3611
gvdist@umcsc.org

Greenwood District

864-223-2650
gwdist@umcsc.org

Hartsville District

843-332-1631
hadist@bellsouth.net

Marion District

843-423-1202
madist@umcsc.org

Orangeburg District

803-534-7564
ordist@umcsc.org

Rock Hill District

803-328-0218
rhdist@umcsc.org

Spartanburg District

864-583-5109
spdist@umcsc.org

Walterboro District

843-549-5441
wadist@umcsc.org

The Cabinet

District Superintendents

Rev. Dr. Robin Dease (Hartsville)	Rev. Cathy Mitchell (Spartanburg)
Rev. Jim Dennis (Greenville)	Rev. Steve Patterson Jr. (Anderson)
Rev. Terry Fleming (Florence)	Rev. Thomas Pearson Jr. (Walterboro)
Rev. Dr. Cathy Jamieson (Columbia)	Rev. Tim Rogers (Marion)
Rev. Joe Long (Rock Hill)	Rev. Dr. Sandra Stevens-Poirel (Charleston)
Rev. Dr. Stephen Love (Greenwood)	Rev. Dr. Frederick Yebuah (Orangeburg)

Directors

Rev. James Friday (Congregational Development)	Rev. Ken Nelson (Clergy Services)
Rev. Kathy James (Connectional Ministries)	Barbara Ware (Conference Lay Leader)

Beth Westbury (Conference Treasurer)

making the impossible real



Here in the South Carolina Annual Conference – at the local church, district and conference levels – we are constantly seeking a more excellent way to become better equipped for ministry amid the changing realities of our culture.

I believe that we can do so much more together as The United Methodist Church than we could ever do individually.

When we pool our resources through apportionments, we share our gifts in a way that makes real what would otherwise be impossible.

Through this connectional giving, we respond to disasters near and far. We support young people through United Methodist colleges, campus ministries and Africa University.

We work to recruit persons from diverse backgrounds for ministry and equip them to be effective leaders. We strengthen lay members, who are serving at every level of the church.

The past year has been a challenging, painful time for our denomination. Disagreement has tended to overshadow the broader mission and ministry that we know is happening in our local churches and their communities.

**“For I know
the plans I
have for you...”**

This day-to-day kingdom-building work is why we, as United Methodists, pledge to support the church’s ministry through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Your generosity and faithful response to God’s grace in your life allows your Christian witness to God’s promise in Jeremiah 29:11:

“ ‘For I know the plans I have for you ... plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’ ”

Through our connectional giving, we commit ourselves to a ministry of being the hands and feet of Jesus. We make disciples, train leaders, and create new places for new people. We address the needs of children and those who live in poverty.

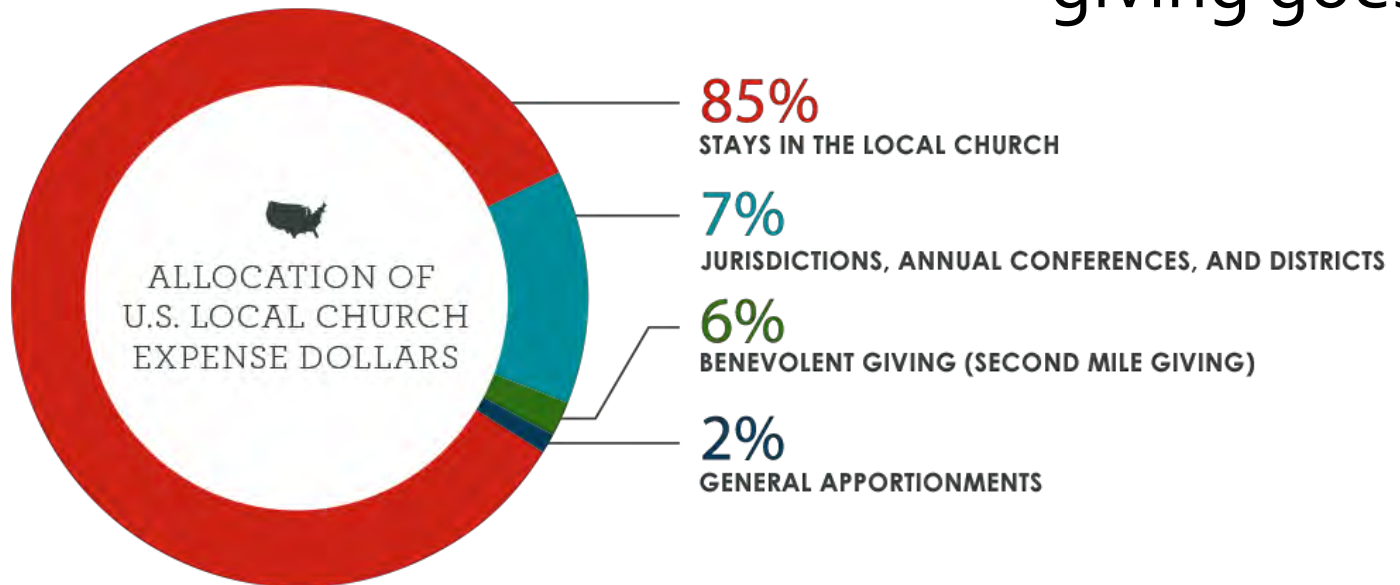
It is worth repeating that the point of apportionment giving is never the money. It is about doing together what no person, congregation, district or conference can do alone. Through generous giving, we faithfully share in being a part of the Body of Christ – doing Christ’s work.

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
The United Methodist Church

Where our connectional giving goes



- ♦ Provides for retired clergy and supplements pastors' salaries in transitional churches in South Carolina.
- ♦ 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 at home and abroad.
- ♦ Builds and maintains Africa University in Zimbabwe – the only United Methodist university in Africa.
- ♦ 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.
- ♦ Pays for the work of missionaries around the world and resources for local churches, and supplies money to start United Methodist churches in South Carolina.
- ♦ Supports the ministry of three sites where United Methodists fellowship with other Christians of all ages through summer camping and other retreat experiences.
- ♦ Supports our 11 historically black United Methodist colleges and universities, including Claflin.
- ♦ Helps seniors afford to live in one of three retirement homes in South Carolina – The Manor in Florence, The Oaks in Orangeburg and Wesley Commons in Greenwood.

By the numbers

connectional

giving makes a difference

World Service

\$2,227,887 (2020) | \$2,098,879 (2019)

Lifeline of our connection. Makes possible the programs, resources and materials of the general boards and agencies at home and around the world.

Conference Benevolences

\$2,448,094 (2020) | \$2,550,580 (2019)

Nurture and outreach arm of our Annual Conference. Largest portion supports congregational specialists (page 7) and administration/ programs of Connectional Ministries, as well as the Board of Ordained Ministry, Archives and History, Cabinet emergency fund, the South Carolina United Methodist Advocate and the Episcopal residence.

Episcopal Fund

\$659,768 (2020) | \$621,563 (2019)

Funds our share of support for all active and retired bishops (salary, housing, travel, pensions, office expenses).

Retiree Health/ Transition/Contingency

\$1,800,000 (2020) | \$1,900,000 (2019)

Provides subsidy for health insurance premiums for retired clergy, and grant funds for those in significant transitions, such as disability.

District Superintendents' Compensation

\$1,236,000 (2020) | \$1,236,000 (2019)

Provides salary of \$103,000 for each of the 12 superintendents.

Equitable Compensation Fund

\$565,000 (2020) | \$565,000 (2019)

Helps pay the salaries of pastors serving churches that are not able to meet the minimum standards set by the Annual Conference. Also provides primary support for new church start pastors.

District Administration

\$819,000 (2020) | \$840,000 (2019)

Provides for district office operations, secretary's salary, District Connectional Ministries, institutional share of the superintendent's pension and insurance, continuing education and travel.

Conference Administration

\$1,551,859 (2020) | \$1,591,650 (2019)

Covers expenses of the Annual Conference session, the Journal, conference secretary, treasurer's office, clergy services coordinator, other administrative expenses.

Jurisdiction Mission/Ministry

\$32,554 (2020) | \$32,554 (2019)

Covers expenses of Jurisdictional Conference, and missions, programs and administration of the SEJ.

General Conference Administration

\$264,543 (2020) | \$249,225 (2019)

Covers expenses of the General Conference, Judicial Council, other General Church administrative agencies.

Senior College Scholarships

\$1,000,000 (2020) | \$1,100,000 (2019)

Helps provide quality education in a Christian setting for students at Claflin, Columbia and Wofford colleges; 1/3 of total receipts goes to each institution.

Spartanburg Methodist College

\$618,967 (2020) | \$634,838 (2019)

Support fund for the two-year college, providing academic programs, work-study opportunities and programs for those with special academic needs.

Campus Ministry

\$650,000 (2020) | \$650,000 (2019)

Supports full-time campus ministries (page 11) in Charleston, Clemson, Columbia, Greenville, Orangeburg and Rock Hill, and part-time ministers in Florence and Greenwood.

Methodist Homes

Residents' Assistance

\$526,722 (2020) | \$540,228 (2019)

Supports residents of three retirement communities around the conference.

Camps & Retreat Ministries

\$319,800 (2020) | \$328,000 (2019)

Provides for the development, operations and maintenance of three facilities operated by South Carolina Camps & Retreat Ministries across the conference.

Congregational Development

\$930,000 (2020) | \$960,000 (2019)

Assists in the purchase of land for new church sites, helps newly organized churches and assists in revitalization programs for existing churches.

Ministerial Education

\$752,477 (2020) | \$708,904 (2019)

Three-fourths of receipts goes for support of United Methodist seminaries and one-fourth remains in conference for scholarships and grants to South Carolina seminary students.

Interdenominational Cooperation Fund

\$58,849 (2020) | \$55,441 (2019)

Supports church activities in mission with other Christian communions (the World and National Councils of Churches and the Consultation on Church Union).

Black College Fund

\$300,156 (2020) | \$282,775 (2019)

Our share of support for 10 historically black United Methodist colleges (including Claflin University in Orangeburg) and one medical school in the United States.

Africa University Fund

\$67,174 (2020) | \$63,284 (2019)

Continues development of the only fully accredited United Methodist university on the continent of Africa.

Connectional Ministries

Linking local congregations in shared ministry



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 linking local congregations in shared ministry, established in three ways:

- ♦ **District Connectional Ministries** offer a connection to local ministries and provide resources to equip local churches for disciple-making and community engagement.
- ♦ **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 Leadership

Director: Rev. Kathy James (kljames@umcsc.org)

Convener: Rev. Ross Chellis (erchellis@umcsc.org)

umcsc.org/connectional

LAY LEADERSHIP: Barbara Ware (conferencelayleader@umcsc.org)

DISCIPLESHIP: Lou Jordan (rjusc@aol.com)

OUTREACH: Rev. Zach Dillard (zhdillard@umcsc.org)

ADVOCACY: Rev. Bernie Mazyck (bwmazyck@umcsc.org)

Congregational Specialists

Engaging, equipping and empowering congregations



Rev. Jim Arant

Greenwood/Orangeburg districts

Specializing in leadership development
& strategic planning

jarant@umcsc.org
803-727-0327



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. Millie Nelson Smith

Columbia/Hartsville districts

Specializing in African-American ministries
& conflict mediation

mnelsonsmith@umcsc.org
803-960-5733



Rev. Reggie Lee

Florence/Marion districts

Specializing in connecting churches &
communities through outreach & worship

rlee@umcsc.org
843-601-1834



Rev. Suzanne Walker

Charleston/Walterboro districts

Specializing in revitalizing congregations
& worship design

sbwalker@umcsc.org
843-300-9642

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. The congregation-driven process helps a church look at itself and its community, enabling church members to set a course for future ministry. The 90- to 120-day process helps your church answer four key questions:

- 1) Who are we?
- 2) Who is our neighbor?
- 3) What are we here for?
- 4) What are we going to do about it?

Is your church ready? Contact your congregational specialist.

Congregational Specialists:

- ◆ Engage churches to connect, challenge and help them grow in their relationship with God and in understanding and doing God's will.
- ◆ Equip churches with processes to follow the lead of the Holy Spirit, provide leadership and training, and share what they've learned.
- ◆ Empower congregations to grow in faith, competence and confidence, celebrate with them, and step aside so congregations can be free to act on God's calling.

umcsc.org/congregational-specialists

Aldersgate

Special Needs Ministry



Aldersgate Homes

- Aldersgate Columbia is a home for six women.
- Aldersgate Florence is a home for four men.
- Aldersgate Orangeburg is a home for six men.

Want to help?

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

Thank you!

We thank the churches and persons who have given faithfully on Aldersgate Special Needs Sunday and other times during the year.

Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry – born at the 2003 South Carolina Annual Conference – provides Christian homes for adults with developmental disabilities. Our residents are encouraged to be as independent as possible with the support of trained staff.

Today, Aldersgate operates three homes that provide life-skills training, recreational experiences and connections to worshipping communities. Residents enjoy living in a Christian home that helps them be independent and make new friends.

The South Carolina Conference designates the second Sunday in August (or an alternative Sunday) as “Aldersgate Special Needs Sunday” – encouraging local churches to support our ministry with a special offering on that day. Churches, Sunday School classes, study groups, mission groups and individuals give additional support with regular and special gifts.

Adults with special needs are among the most underserved people in South Carolina and the nation. The need for their care continues to grow. Your support allows us to care for our three homes and residents, as well as plan for the future. Our vision is to enhance our existing ministry, form a coalition within the United Methodist Connection, explore additional opportunities to support caregivers, and to continue to monitor governmental residential building regulations and assess needs.

aldersgatespecialneedsministry.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 15 Advance Special Ministries across the state through apportionments and annual offerings on Advance Special Ministries Sunday and direct involvement.

Alston Wilkes Society

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

alstonwilkessociety.org

Coastal Samaritan Counseling Center

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

coastalsamaritan.org

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

Bennettsville-Cheraw Area Cooperative Ministry

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

864-523-6550

The Cooperative Ministry

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

coopmin.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.

864-366-8517

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.

facebook.com/CBCCServes

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 and literacy.

interfaithcommunityservices.org

United Methodist Volunteers in Mission

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

umcsc.org/umvim

Bethlehem Community Center (Spartanburg)

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

864-582-7158

Jubilee Academy

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

jubileeacademysc.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

Christian Assistance Bridge

Offers emergency assistance (utilities, rent, food, medication, transportation, traveler's aid), to Blythewood area residents.

christianassistancebridge.com

Killingsworth Home

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

Wallace Family Life Center

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

wallacefamilylifecenter.org

umcsc.org/advance-specials

South Carolina Ministries With Young People

South Carolina Ministries with Young People is the youth ministry of the South Carolina 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.

SCMYP focuses on two avenues to strengthen local church youth ministry – effective conference events and leadership development for youth workers.



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

We model four areas – evangelism, discipleship, service, fellowship – on the conference level that 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.

Immerse

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

Honduras Mission

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

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.
- ♦ 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.

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.

Wesley Campus Ministries



"So, what's your major?" This is the question every student is asked when they arrive on campus. While some come ready to answer "engineering," "nursing," "business," etc., your Wesley Foundations across the South Carolina Conference challenges students to answer this question in a different light. What are the important things that we are called to major in as people of faith, and what are the minor things that perhaps we need to set aside?

Your Wesley Foundations triple-major in hospitality, growth and love. We live into a culture of hospitality and radical welcome, because that is one of the best ways we know how to love our neighbor and love God. We challenge students to grow in their faith through small groups and worship because that is one of the best ways we know how to love our neighbor and love God. We encourage students to love their neighbors and God in authentic, concrete ways because that is what we're called to major in.

This is an exciting time to be in campus ministry and to journey with students as they major in hospitality, growth and love. Each week across the conference, more than 600 students participate in worship services and small groups. During the academic year, more than 230 will go on service trips within South Carolina and around the world. In the past 10 years, 63 students from Wesley Foundations have answered a call to ordained ministry.

Although your Wesley Foundations are bearing great fruit, we know that we cannot do this sacred work alone. We need your help! Reach out to your local Wesley Foundation and offer to provide a meal, participate in service trips, be in prayer or partner with them financially. Let us know if you have students coming our way. Invite us to speak at your local church! We would love the opportunity to share the ways God is moving on our campuses.

All of the campus ministers and students around the conference thank you for continuing to partner with us as we live into what it means to be a people of hospitality, growth and love.

Introduce a college student or donate at
umcsc.org/campus-ministries.



Connect w/Wesleys

Charleston Wesley Foundation
charlestonwesleyonline.org

Clemson Wesley Foundation
clemsonwesley.org

Columbia Wesley Foundation
msnatusc.com

Francis Marion Wesley Foundation
facebook.com/groups/AliveinChristFMU

Furman Wesley Fellowship
furmanwesley.com

Greenwood Wesley Foundation
greenwoodwesleyfellowship.weebly.com

Orangeburg Wesley Foundation
wesleyorangeburg.org

Winthrop Wesley Foundation
winthropwesley.com

Camps & Retreat Ministries

What makes for a successful summer with South Carolina Camps & Retreat Ministries?

Is the summer a success if Asbury Hills breaks the record for the largest summer in its history?

Is Camp Providence a success if we have a certain number of day campers?



Oftentimes, we are quick to measure success through numbers or broken records. While it is nice to see those numbers rise and surpass those benchmarks, is that truly a good and accurate measure of success in our ministry?

Success is defined as “the accomplishment of an aim or purpose.” Shouldn’t we, then, measure the success of Camps & Retreat Ministries by whether we upheld our mission and grew our ministry?

Our “aim” and “purpose” at Camps & Retreat Ministries is to serve all people for Christian birth, growth and renewal.

Yes, Asbury Hills did have a record number of campers per week in the summer of 2019. Yes, we were able to fill almost every spot at Camp Providence for day camp.

We also can say that, yes, we did strive to serve each and every person who set foot on our property for Christian

birth, growth and renewal.

Our staff worked to form and grow a relationship with every camper. Not only did we encourage campers to try new activities, we encouraged them to grow in their faith. Our theme at Asbury Hills and Camp Providence was “Unleash,” and our campers learned that even though their faith may feel small, through Christ they could do the impossible.

By comparing the towering mountains at Asbury Hills and the vast Lake Hartwell at Camp Providence to the size of a mustard seed, campers learned what it meant to unleash their mountain-moving, mustard-seed faith.

Over one summer, our success was determined by growth in our campers and our staff. They grew through trying new things, making new friends, building new relationships, and ultimately growing their relationship with Christ.

sccarm.org

Methodist Homes



The Manor – Florence

themanorseniorliving.com

Facing the uncertainty of their own retirement, a group of friends meeting in 1982 at Central United Methodist Church in Florence realized the need for a place where they could maintain their independent lifestyle while gaining security and comfort for the future.

During their conversation, the seeds were sown for the establishment of a Methodist continuing care community. With the support of their church, they worked diligently to turn their vision into a reality.

Nine years later, The Manor opened as a picturesque continuing care community with 123 total units, including independent living apartments, assisted living suites, and skilled nursing beds. Within two years, The Manor reached full occupancy, and a waiting list grew.

Its latest \$18 million expansion, completed in 2017, included a new Assisted Living building, a new Memory Care building, complete refurbishment of the Health Care facility, and the addition of a bistro, auditorium and physician's clinic.

The Manor has grown into an 87-acre campus with more than 200 living spaces – 36 patio homes, 80 independent living apartments, 64 assisted living apartments, 31 Alzheimer's/dementia care apartments, a 32-bed Health Care Center. Home health care, respite care, and rehabilitation services have also been added.



Wesley Commons – Greenwood

wesleycommons.org

Wesley Commons was built on a vision created nearly four decades ago by South Carolina United Methodists working closely with community leaders in Greenwood.

It was a vision based on providing an enriching and rewarding retirement in a community built on shared Christian values and respect for the dignity and independence of each person.

The result is a master-planned, full-service senior community with services and amenities that give retirees freedom to shape their own retirement lifestyle.

Wesley Commons is a 501(c)(3) corporation that relies on gifts and donations from residents, the surrounding community, area businesses and foundations to help ensure its programs and services enhance the quality of life of its independent living, assisted living and health care residents.

Such gifts help advance Wesley Commons' mission, goals and objectives, and help further its ministry.

Contact Wesley Commons for more information on how you can help continue to provide comfortable, rewarding and enriched retirement experiences in a community based on shared Christian values and respect for the dignity and independence of each resident.

The Oaks – Orangeburg

theoakssc.com

The S.C. Annual Conference has approved the decision of The Oaks, a non-profit United Methodist retirement community, to sell to a for-profit company.

Until that transaction is completed, the conference will continue to support the residence assistance fund to help maintain continuity of care for those who live there.

Congregational Development

Encouraging, growing and revitalizing Christ's church



"Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Blessed are you Simon, son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by (humans) but by my father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hades will not overcome it.'" – Matthew 16:16-18

Congregational Development is a ministry of the South Carolina Conference, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ while seeking to extend and expand the Kingdom of God for the transformation of the world.

We encourage, grow and revitalize Christ's church by being responsive and faithful to the Great Commission and Commands (Matthew 28:16-19; Matthew 22:35-40; John 13:34-35; Ephesians 4:1-16; Acts 1:6-8) and by reaching, teaching, equipping, growing and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ as witnesses in the world.

We create new places for new people, and reimagine and resource ministries in and around existing local churches. We are innovative and strategic in identifying places and needs for new church establishment and responsive in resourcing and funding existing church needs and leadership development for clergy and laity.

Congregational Development works with district superintendents to identify clergy and lay people to assist local churches with strategic planning on such matters as demographic information, facility expansion and renovation, grant applications, and much more.

Established church response is driven through two areas:

District 20 Percent Funds – Of every dollar given to the conference Congregational Development line item, 20 cents is returned to the district of origin. These funds are administered through the district committees on Congregational Development, and applications go through district offices.

Existing Church Grants – 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 Leadership

Director: Rev. James Friday (jlfriday@umcsc.org)

Chairperson: Rev. Richard Reams (rhreams@umcsc.org)

umcsc.org/congregational

New places for new people

The work of developing new congregations falls into general categories (but is not limited to these):

- African-American communities – Multiple South Carolina counties do not have an African-American United Methodist church, and some have only one. We will seek opportunities to start new congregations around the state.
- Other ethnic minority populations – United Methodists in South Carolina face splendid opportunities to launch missional congregations and other ministries with Native Americans, Hispanic Americans and Asian Americans.
- Those living in poverty – Our vision is that more and more persons living below the poverty level will find hope and strength in the fellowship of new and existing United Methodist churches.
- Fast-growing communities – As our state's population increases and becomes more urban in some areas, South Carolina United Methodists face untold opportunities to start new churches in urban, suburban and coastal communities.
- Seeking opportunities to find creative ways for developing and connecting more people to a diversity of faith-sharing communities of Jesus Christ – especially in this time of communication revolution.

The Conference Office of Congregational Development:

- Coordinates and collaborates with the bishop, the Cabinet and Connectional Ministries in planning the re-formation of existing churches and the creation of new faith communities.
- Provides training, demographic information and consultation to local churches and districts.
- Assists churches and agencies in identifying resources and funding sources from the districts and from agencies of the Annual Conference and the General Church.
- Coordinates efforts with district boards of Congregational Development.

Three new congregations
– two satellites and one
standalone community –
have been established in
the South Carolina Conference
since 2017:

Buncombe Street UMC's
Trinity Campus
(Greenville District)

St. Mark UMC's
The Connection | Coronaca
(Greenwood District)

Two Rivers
(Charleston District)



Conference Communications

The Communications Office of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church is a resource for ministries – on the conference level, through the districts and to local churches. Whatever assistance you need from a communications standpoint, we can help. If we can't do it ourselves, we'll help you find someone who can. umcsc.org/communications

Where to find us



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Multi-media

Graphics

Audio/visual support



umcsc.org/communications

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 award-winning print and online monthly newspaper, first published in 1837, 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 113 state, national and global journalism awards since 2010, The Advocate tells stories of God at work in South Carolina United Methodist churches. It has earned a reputation as a strong, high-quality, Christian news source.

Learn more, subscribe and read stories at advocatesc.org.

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