Together in Mission and Ministry

News from the Greenwood District

LOVE NOTES

Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Love District Superintendent

DO ALL THE GOOD YOU CAN

⁷Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

Galatians 6:7-10

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2024 seems full of a promising future for all. We have had time to anticipate and appreciate the hope of another year. We may have been challenged in previous years but with each new year, there are possibilities of new things and new experiences. The idea of new often carries with it the expectation of something better than before. John Wesley left us the famous words of challenge in all things as he said "do all the good you can..." I want to thank all of you for your continued prayers as we walk together into this new year.

I want to thank you for your final push to making this year's report of missional giving, through our apportionments one way in which we are faithful in sowing good seeds. May all of our goals and our service be guided by the principle of loving our neighbors as ourselves. So as Wesley suggested, may we "do all the good we can, in every place, to all the people, for as long as we ever can." I believe that doing this will fulfill our greatest expectations for 2024 and beyond, as we live out our Christian faith. We are created in the image of God!



Greenwood District SC Conference The United Methodist Church

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- 2023 Apportionments Update
- Salkehatchie Regional Mtgs.
- District Leadership Training
- Using Artificial Intelligence in Ministry

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We are blessed to be a blessing. Let us sow seeds for a season of blessings for others and trust God, that in due season we will reap what we sow.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Love **District Superintendent**



January 1: Mimi Rogers (Jesse) January 4: Amber Wilson (Jason)

January 8: Robby Lybrand **Graham Bennett** January 13:` January 18: Laura Barnett (Ben) Lynda Counts (Jimmy)

January 19: Aubrie Bundrick (Kenneth)

January 22: **Durand Hall**

January 23: Chris Richardson (Amanda) January 27: Karen Hightower (William)

January 31: Cameron Levi



January 1: Jesse & Mimi Rogers

January 19: Kenneth & Aubrie Bundrick

FEBRUARY CLERGY **MEETING**

Alytha L'Low

Is set for Tuesday, February 13, at Harris UMC, 501 Oakwood Dr., Greenwood.

2023 FINAL **APPORTIONMENTS UPDATE**

100% -65 churches 76-99% - 1 church 51-75% - 5 churches 26-50% - 3 churches 1-25% -3churches 0% -0 Churches

2024 BUSINESS **MILEAGE RATE**

The IRS has set the 2024 business mileage reimbursement rate at 67 cents per mile. That's an increase from the 2023 rate of 65.5 cents per mile. Please let your finance people know of this rate increase.



DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TRAINING

The annual District Leadership Training event is set for **Sunday, February 18, Lowell St. UMC.,** 300 Lowell Ave., Greenwood, 2:3–p.m.—5:30 p.m..

Reverend Love will lead the general session in a discussion of the results of the group work done during the Bishop's Day in the District. There will be 4 breakout sessions. Watch this publication, the district web page (www.umcsc.org/greenwood); and our Facebook page for more details.

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Salkehatachie Regional Meeting: February 10
February Clergy Meeting: February 13
District Leadership Training: February 18
District Committee on Ministry: February 20
Exploring Artificial Intelligence in Ministry: March 2

SALKEHATCHIE REGIONAL MEETINGS



The Salkehatchie Summer Service leaders have scheduled a series of regional meetings to give campus and leaders a chance to meet and greet other from around the SC Conference. These gatherings are designed to increase interest and excitement as camps across the state progress toward registration in March 2024.

The regional meeting for the Greenwood area has be set for **February 10** (10 a.m.-3 p.m.), St. Mark UMC Rivers Street Campus, 1633 Rivers St., Greenwood.

Volunteers are needed for this regional meeting. If you can help, contact Ward Smith (smith.ward@rocketmail.com).



Salkehatchie Summer Service - South Carolina UMC (umcsc.org)

EXPLORING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR MINISTRY



What is AI? Everything to know about artificial intelligence | ZDNET

March 10 is the date. 9:00 a.m. is the time. St. Mark Rivers St. Campus is the place. You are there at the beginning!

Churches are invited to send at least two people (one of which is the pastor) to this one-day training and exploration session on the use of artificial intelligence in ministry.



Jason Moore, Midnight Oil Productions, works with pastors and laity teaching new skills in using technology to reach the churched and unchurched. Jason also coaches these pastors and laity as they practice their new technology skills and expand their outreach ministries.

Join Jason in the Greenwood District on March 2 to hear about and learn about using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to help expand your ministry.

Participating churches will have the opportunity to sign up for 3 additional sessions with Jason on using artificial intelligence to create illustrations, video clips, content for bulletins, newsletters, and web pages.

St. Mark Rivers St. Campus 1633 Rivers St., Greenwood 29649 March 2, 2024; 9:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Email gwdist@umcsc.org or call 864-223-2650 to register your attendance. There is no cost to attend this one-day session.