

# Together in Mission and Ministry

## News from the Greenwood District

### LOVE NOTES

### A TIME OF WAITING



Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Love  
District Superintendent

*“In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there’s a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.”*

These words are found in the *Hymn of Promise* written by Natalie Sleeth. It is a reminder of God’s timing.

Spring is here. Every time there is a season change I think about seasons in our lives and in the life of the church. We have been in a season of waiting for General Conference. We know that currently it is postponed until 2024. The waiting period is frustrating and yet in this season we can see God at work. Our Lord does not leave us alone in this time. Many times it is while waiting that we discover more about ourselves and our journey. While we wait, we put our faith into practice. While we wait, we may focus more on how we are to walk with Jesus. While we wait, there is a great opportunity to grow. While we wait, our vision for the future can be developed. While we wait, we are reminded that not in our time, but our season will change. In Natalie Sleeth’s *Hymn of Promise*, there is a reminder that God is still in control and our waiting is not in vain. Our season of and for change is coming. It is something God alone can see. Let us continue in prayer for our next steps of faith, striving to fulfill the purpose for which God in-

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Greenwood District  
SC Conference  
The United Methodist Church

1633 Rivers St.  
PO Box 49968  
Greenwood, SC 29649

Phone: 864-223-2650  
E-mail: [gwdist@umcsc.org](mailto:gwdist@umcsc.org)  
Web: <http://www.umcsc.org/greenwood>

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#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Spring Lay Servant Ministry School
- Salkehatchie Camps 2022
- 2022 Charge Conferences
- Sending Aid to Ukraine

#### Connect with Us

- **Web:** <http://greenwood.umcsc.org>
- **Linkedin:** @gwdist
- **Twitter:** @gwdist
- **Facebook:** GreenwoodDist
- **Google+:** Greenwood District
- **Instagram:** gwdist
- **Alignable:** Greenwood District

## LOVE NOTES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

tends for us individually and collectively as a church. While we wait let us draw near to God. Let us put all of our trust in Jesus Christ, who journeyed to the Cross to die for the sins of the world. May the Lord give us courage and strength to endure and overcome our season of waiting. May we know that in due season and at the appointed time, God will reveal unto us the answer.

Grace and peace,



Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Love



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## APRIL CLERGY MEETING

**DATE:** Tuesday, April **19** (please note the date change)

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** St. Paul UMC, 301 Cambridge St., Ninety Six, 29666

This is our last meeting for this Conference Year and we will be recognizing our colleagues who will be entering retired status and those who will be moving to a new appointment.

**Prayer Requests:** As you have prayer requests for family and colleagues, please send those to the district office ([gwdist@umcsc.org](mailto:gwdist@umcsc.org)).

Reminder: If you are unable to attend this last Clergy Meeting, you are to send Rev. Love an email ([gwdist@umcsc.org](mailto:gwdist@umcsc.org)) explaining your absence and requesting to be excused from this meeting. We have already heard from some of you and we thank you.



April 1: Barrett Alewine  
 April 4: Arthur Gamble  
 April 12: William Hightower  
 April 13: Kendell Healy  
 April 27: Joe Long



April 10: Bob and Becky Allen

## 2022 APPORTIONMENT UPDATE

Printed below is the 2022 apportionment payment breakdown as of April 6:

- 100%: 3 churches
- 77-99% : 1 church
- 50-74% : 1 church
- 25-49% : 17 churches
- 1-24% :17 churches
- 0% : 39 church

We are now into the second quarter of 2022. To be on track to pay 100% of this year's apportionments at least 25% should have been paid by March 31.

## PIANIST NEEDED



Aldersgate UMC in Greenwood is seeking a part-time pianist. Pay range is \$50—

\$100 weekly depending on experience.

For more information or to submit a resume, contact Ms. Jaye Leo, PPRC chair, at [jayeleo57@gmail.com](mailto:jayeleo57@gmail.com).

## 2022 CHARGE CONFERENCES



**2022 Charge  
Conference**

It's never too early to begin thinking about your 2022 Charge Conference! Charge Conferences will be held September 7 through November 20, 2022.

Please let the District Office know **as soon as possible** dates of any planned church events, such as celebrations, meetings, special Sundays. Pastors, if you are planning vacation time during charge conference season, let us know those dates. We will do our best to avoid the dates you send us when we are scheduling your charge conference.

**Suggestion:** The Committee on Nominations and Leadership should begin meeting now to ensure your work is completed by Charge Conference time.

## 2022 SC ANNUAL CONFERENCE



**Begins June 5, 2022**

**Meeting Virtually**

[GNTV Media Ministry](#), our Annual Conference media partner, will host the virtual gathering and help coordinate participation via Zoom. Annual Conference is traditionally open to the public, so AC2022 will be live-streamed for anyone to observe the proceedings online.

All lay and clergy members are encouraged to participate in one of two virtual training sessions, which are tentatively scheduled for June 1 and June 5

Other information about AC2022 is available online at: [www.umcsc.org/ac2022](http://www.umcsc.org/ac2022).

## FREE TO A GOOD HOME

The following items are in the District Office and are free to any church that could use them:

### **2 Church Membership Record books**

If you have need of a membership record book, contact the district office. We will be glad to bring it to you at the Clergy Meeting on April 19.

## EPWORTH MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING—MAY 8



Make plans now to have all your materials ready for publicizing the Epworth Mother's

Day Offering., remembering that **Epworth is not an apportioned item**. Epworth relies heavily on the Mother's Day and the Work Day offerings to provide care for 100+ individuals at any given time.

[Click here to request your free materials:](#)

- \* Poster
- \* Bulletin insert
- \* Worship Announcements
- \* Bulletin and Social Media announcements

The above link will also give you more information and suggested ideas for publicizing the importance of this annual offering for Epworth Children's Home.

You can also invite a representative from Epworth to visit your church to share more information about the good things happening with this ministry. Contact Rev. Kathy James ([kjames@epworthsc.org](mailto:kjames@epworthsc.org)).



**Epworth**  
Children's Home



## 2022 Salkehatchie Camps

- **Chester** – June 11-18
- **Winyah Bay** (Georgetown) – June 11-18
- **Laurens County** – June 18-25
- **Union** – June 18-25
- **Bishopville** – June 25-July 2
- **Piedmont** – June 25-July 2
- **Bamberg** – July 9-16
- **Black Swamp** (Hampton) – July 9-16
- **Santee** (Clarendon County) – July 9-16
- **Emerald City** (Greenwood) – July 16-23
- **Columbia** – July 16-23
- **North Augusta** – July 16-23
- **Moncks Corner** – July 16-22
- **Newberry** – July 17-22
- **Clover** – July 17-23

These camps will operate under strict COVID protocols:

- All campers, directors, homeowners and others in proximity to campers (such as those serving meals) must be maximally vaccinated at the time of the camp.
- Camps will focus on exterior repair work, such as accessibility ramps and roofs.
- Sleeping arrangements will be socially distanced.

Masks will be worn inside for evening programs, standing in lines, or working near someone else.

Registration opened March 1: <https://www.umcsc.org/salkehatchie/>

Additional information, including a roster of the camps with contact information, is available online at: <https://www.umcsc.org/salkehatchie/>



## 2022 Spring Lay Servant Ministry School

April 24 and May 1

2:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

St. Mark UMC, Bypass Campus  
550 Hwy 72 Bypass NW  
Greenwood SC 29649

### Courses Offered:

- Basic—this course is required as a prerequisite for most subsequent courses. It is required to be considered for Certified Lay Speaker and Certified Lay Minister.
- Leading Public Prayer\*\*
- Living our Beliefs (Heritage)\*\*
- From Your Heart to Theirs (Preach)\*\*
- Opening Ourselves to Grace: Basic Christian Practices—this is a new course; is an advanced course; and requires Basic course as a prerequisite.

\*\* denotes required classes to be considered for Certified Lay Speaker or Certified Lay Minister.

Cost for any course is \$30.00. All participants are responsible for ordering their own books in time to have for the first class meeting.

Online registration (<https://www.umcsc.org/greenwood/gwdistlsmreg/>) opened on March 1 and closes on **April 8**. You will receive an email confirming your registration. **No registrations will be accepted after the April 8 deadline.**

All sessions of the school must be attended in order to receive credit for the course toward certification.

Additional information regarding the Spring 2022 Lay Servant Ministries School is available on the Greenwood District web page: <http://www.umcsc.org/greenwood>.

If you have any problems with the online registration, please contact the Greenwood District Office ([gwdist@umcsc.org](mailto:gwdist@umcsc.org) or 864-223-2650).



## 2022 CAROLINAS BLACK CLRGY LEADERSHIP RETREAT



**Registration is now open!**

*From Mourning to Dancing*

**When:** May 23-27, 2022

**Where:** Kingston Plantation, Myrtle Beach, SC.

Hotel registration for Conference room rate deadline is **April 20**.

**Conference registration:** attend in-person or virtually. [Click here to register](https://www.umcsc.org/cbcretreat/). ALL clergy are welcome!

All details regarding this annual retreat are available online:

<https://www.umcsc.org/cbcretreat/>

### **REMINDER TO PASTORS**

***Please update your clergy profile now!***

If you need assistance in accessing your profile, contact the district office.

## An Easter Prayer

Loving Lord, today we remember  
the veil of darkness  
transforming to the brightest light.

The most dreadful end  
becoming the most beautiful  
beginning.

We remember with trembling hearts  
the depths of despair  
fading to reveal hope everlasting.

The curse of death defeated by  
eternal life.

Today we remember with  
thankfulness  
your willingness to be pierced  
for our sins.

We sing with abounding joy  
of your miraculous rise,  
from death's tomb to resplendent life.  
Thank you for the promise of heaven  
and your generous invitation of  
eternal life for all.

(prayer by Julie Palmer copyright © 2020  
[www.lords-prayer-words.com](http://www.lords-prayer-words.com))



## SENDING AID TO UKRAINE



Ukraine is part of the Moldova-Ukraine Conference of The United Methodist Church. The Ukraine UMC has created a crisis committee to oversee all the support that is coming in through the **Advance #14053A** "Eurasia In Mission Together - Ukraine and Moldova." <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/14053a/>

The money channeled through this Advance has already started to arrive in Ukraine and a crisis committee is making decisions as to how these funds are being used. Weekly reports will be made to Ullas Tankler who is the Global Ministries representative for Europe, Eurasia and North Africa. This gives us confidence to work through the Advance directly with Ukraine. ***Donors can designate their gift on this Advance. Designation can be for general refugee relief or some other project.***

**TO HELP UKRAINIAN REFUGEES OUTSIDE OF UKRAINE** in neighboring countries such as Poland, Slovakia, Romania or Hungary, as well as Ukraine, if requested from UMCOR, Advance #982540 can be used for general refugee assistance. <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982540/>. There is no designation available for using this Advance number.

### Ways to give:

- Online: <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/14053a/>. This option sends donations to Advance **#14053a**.
- Online: <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450/>. This option sends donations to **Advance #982450**.
- By toll-free telephone: 888-252-6174
- By check with "Advance #982450-Ukraine" or "Advance #14053a" written on the memo line, mailed and addressed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068



## LENT/EASTER RESOURCES



- Adaptable Easter Egg Hunt for Families During COVID:  
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/adaptable-easter-egg-hunt-for-families-during-covid-19>
- [Lent Small Group Study on Anti-Racism](#)
- [Roll Down, Justice! A Lenten Biblical Reflection](#)
- [30 Simple Lent Activities for Families](#). This blog

post was written in February 2019 but it still has some really good ideas.

- Activities to do with children
  - do someone else's chore
  - give someone a hug
  - make a card for someone
  - do something nice for Mom/Dad
  - do something kind for the earth
  - read a book to a sibling
  - say something kind to a family member
  - say something kind to a friend
  - play with someone different at recess
  - tell your teacher one thing you like about him or her
  - smile at as many people as you can
  - bake something for a neighbor
  - do someone else's laundry
  - make someone else's bed
  - buy food for the food bank
  - praise God for who He is
  - confess something to God that you feel bad about
  - thank God for your favorite people
  - pray for someone who is sick
  - sing a song of praise to God
  - pray for all refugees
  - pray for someone who needs to know Jesus
  - pray for your pastor
  - read a Bible story together