

# Together in Mission and Ministry

## News from the Greenwood District

### LOVE NOTES

### ONE IN GOD'S HANDS!



Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Love  
District Superintendent

5 The word of the LORD came to me: 16 Mortal, take a stick and write on it, "For Judah, and the Israelites associated with it"; then take another stick and write on it, "For Joseph (the stick of Ephraim) and all the house of Israel associated with it"; 17 and join them together into one stick, so that they may become one in your hand. 18 And when your people say to you, "Will you not show us what you mean by these?" 19 say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am about to take the stick of Joseph (which is in the hand of Ephraim) and the tribes of Israel associated with it; and I will put the stick of Judah upon it, and make them one stick, in order that they may be one in my hand. 20 When the sticks on which you write are in your hand before their eyes, 21 then say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I will take the people of Israel from the nations among which they have gone, and will gather them from every quarter, and bring them to their own land. 22 I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king over them all. Never again shall they be two nations, and never again shall they be divided into two kingdoms. 23 They shall never again defile themselves with their idols and their detestable things, or with any of their transgressions. I will save them from all the apostasies into which they have fallen, and will cleanse them. Then they shall be my people, and I will be their GOD.

*Ezekiel 37:15-23*

"Everything Moves By the Power of God!" These are words that begin a song I heard my father sing all of my life until he was no

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#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- 2023-2024 Set-up Meeting
- Annual Conference Information and Links
- 2023 Charge Conference Information

#### Connect with Us

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

longer able to sing. I was reminded of the message that focuses on God at work in our lives and in whatever circumstances we find our selves. The words help me to focus on focusing my energies on that which God has called me to do and who God has called me to be. We continue to see this manifest itself in our lives and in the life of the church. May we draw strength from these words.

Thank you for your prayers for The United Methodist Church, Greenwood District, and the South Carolina Annual Conference. The power of God and the movement of the Holy Spirit has guided us through another Annual Conference. We celebrate the ongoing ministry of churches separating from the United Methodist Church. We celebrate the ministries of the closed churches who were acknowledged.

Our prayers for faithful and fruitful ministry for all of our churches and communities are being lifted. We remain family as believers and followers of Jesus Christ. In the passage above, God speaks through the prophet Ezekiel about being one in His Hands. I encourage us to continue praying for our oneness in Jesus Christ to be proclaimed in every place. May we all embrace the Power of God at work in our lives and the life of our communities as we offer our support and encouragement to one another. I pray for all of you that as we share our faith together, we may build up the body of Christ and fulfill our purpose and call of “making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

Grace and peace,



Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Love  
District Superintendent



*Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel, his companions; and I will put them with it, with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they will be one in My hand.*

Ezekiel 37:19

## Happy Birthday

June 4:	Amanda Gambrell
June 7:	Rachel Huggins (Bob)
June 8	Joey Gambrell
June 10:	Justin Ritter
June 20:	Bob Huggins
June 23:	<b>Mamie Love (Stephen)</b>



June 2:	Ken and Amy Freeman
June 20:	Ben and Laura Barnett
June 26:	Emil and Mary Lou Finley

## Duke Divinity School **STUDY LEAVE** for Ministry Professionals

Make time to read, reflect, research, or relax with Study Leave for Ministry Professionals. During the span of 5-7 days, participants immerse themselves in learning and renewal through self-directed study, worship, and prayer on the Duke campus. This program is designed for Christian institutional leaders, pastors, program staff, or laity. Select your topic and Duke Divinity School provides the resources. Registration began June 1. [Full details are on the study leave website.](#)

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

### Intersectionality

the complex, cumulative way in which the effects of multiple forms of discrimination (such as racism, sexism, and classism) combine, overlap, or intersect especially in the experiences of marginalized individuals or groups.

[Kimberlé] Crenshaw introduced the theory of *intersectionality*, the idea that when it comes to thinking about how inequalities persist, categories like gender, race, and class are best understood as overlapping and mutually constitutive rather than isolated and distinct. [Read her comments here.](#)

In this time of disaffiliation or separation in our denomination, consider the role of intersectionality in actions, comments, and decisions.

## ANNUAL SET-UP MEETING

Our annual set-up meeting is set for **August 10, 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.** The location will be announced at a later date.

Mark your calendars now. You are reminded to keep this date clear. Please avoid scheduling vacations, side trips, etc., that would interfere with your attending this first clergy meeting of the 2023-2024 Conference Year.



Rev. Laura Parrish  
Senior Pastor  
Central UMC, Newberry



Rev. Jason Wilson  
Senior Pastor  
St. Mark UMC



Ms. Joie Rogers  
Lay Supply  
Epworth/Springdale  
Charge



Ms. Kathleen Cinnamond  
Lay Supply  
Hopewell/Sharon Charge

We welcome these pastors and lay servants to the Greenwood District and look forward to serving in ministry with them during this coming Conference Year.







Why use a box full of books to bid these pastors *God Speed* on their RE-retirement? They are only moving their books and other items from their church office. Congratulations to Dick and Jerry as they enter the next phase of their ministry.



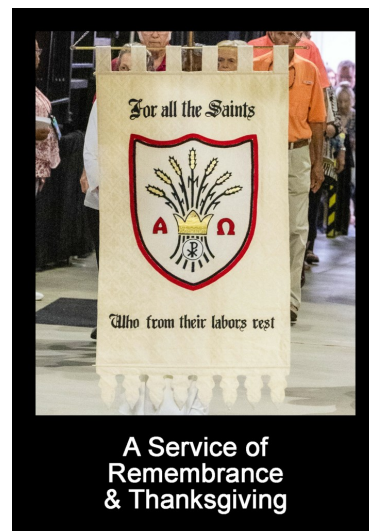
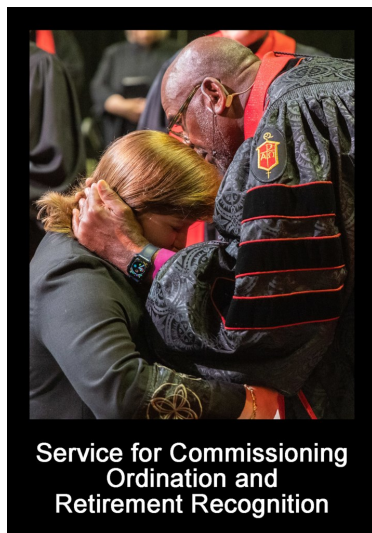
Rev. Richard "Dick" Goldie



Rev. Gerald "Jerry" Pickens

The full appointment list for 2023-2024 is available on the Conference webpage:

[2023-2024 Ministerial Appointments Final-6-4-23.pdf \(dropbox.com\)](#)



Click on each image to view the recording for that service.

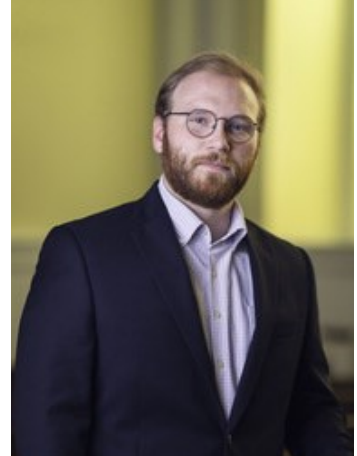
# *Congratulations*



Rev. Scott Gilmer



Rev. Amanda Richardson



Rev. Cameron Levi

Scott, Amanda, and Cameron were ordained as Elders in Full Connection at the 2023 Annual Conference.



Rev. Arthur Gamble was commissioned as a Provisional Elder at the 2023 Annual Conference.



Rev. Mark English was licensed as a Local Pastor at the 2023 Annual Conference.



# ATTENTION!



## 2023 Charge Conferences Begin on **August 28**

**NOW** is the time to notify the District Office of any special dates (August 28—November 16) that we should avoid in scheduling your Charge Conference and/or Consultation.

Remember that once your Charge Conference and/or Consultation dates are set there is no re-scheduling so don't let time slip up on you.

Access to Charge Conference forms and reports will open in August. You are strongly encouraged to begin working on gathering information for your reports now (e.g., Nominations and Leadership, demographics for the Pastor's Report).

## **CHARGE CONFERENCE TRAINING**

- WHEN:** August 20, 2023; 3:00 p.m.—4:30 p.m.
- WHERE:** Goff Hall (multi-purpose room), Rivers St. Campus, St. Mark UMC
- WHO:** Pastors, Church Admins/Secretaries; Committee Chairs—PPRC, Trustees, Finance, Membership, and any person with responsibility for completing a charge conference report.