



Together in Mission and Ministry

News from the Greenwood District



Rev. Chris Lollis
District Superintendent

Grace and peace in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

'...For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave something the drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'"

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' ~Matthew 25:35-40 (NIV)

As I sit writing this, I have been the Greenwood District Superintendent a little over a week. I am humbled and honored to be in ministry with all of you across the Greenwood District. I must admit, I started writing this article a few days before I completed it. I would ponder what to say and my phone would ring. A little while later I would come back to the keyboard and an urgent email would arrive. I wanted to get back to it and then it was time for a scheduled meeting. Some would say that these were distractions. I agree, they were distractions. While they were necessary distractions, it kept me from completing or delayed my completing the task at hand.

We all face distractions in life. The unexpected shows up when we least expect it or want it. Those who have experienced sudden illness, loss of a loved one, job loss, or hearing the knock on the door when an uninvited visitor arrives know this firsthand. Some distractions are unwelcome. Some are very much welcomed.

But they are distractions, nonetheless.

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SC Conference
The United Methodist Church

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- August Set-up Meeting
- Welcome to the District
- Charge Conference Training
- Installation of a New D.S.

Connect with Us

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

I say this to remind us all that while we may face distractions personally, the church is not immune to them. Considering what has transpired in the past few years in The United Methodist Church, many might be distracted. Many might be worried about how to move forward. Many are worried of the future and what is to come.

Over the past two years over 200 churches have separated from the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church. These 200 plus churches are filled with clergy and laity that we call friend, colleague, brother or sister. While they are no longer United Methodist, they are still brothers and sisters in Christ. Let us bless them, pray for them, as they move forward in their journey of making disciples of Jesus Christ.

Many in our midst, in our district, remain in a period of discernment. Churches collectively are discerning. Members individually are discerning.

My prayer for us all in this season is that we do not become distracted from what God is calling us to do. While we perform the necessary tasks at hand we are reminded that there those in our midst who are a stranger, who are hungry, who are thirsty, who are needing clothes, who are homeless, who are imprisoned, who are sick. There are people in our midst that need to hear of the grace of God. There are people in our midst that need to hear of the love of God. There are people in our midst that need Jesus.

Blessings on the journey,




- July 1: Michael and Carol Written
- July 25: Mitchell and Carol Wray
- July 27: Robby and Jennifer Lybrand



- July 7: Carissa Taylor (Patrick)
- July 10: Chris Lollis
- July 20: Jesse Rogers

IMPORTANT DATES	
August 7:	DCOM Training, Broad St. UMC, Clinton
August 15:	Set-up Meeting
August 20:	DCOM
August 25:	Installation of new D.S.
August 26:	Africa Univ Golf Tournament
September 3:	Charge Conferences Begin

APPORTIONMENTS UPDATE

This update is from July 10, 2024:

- 100% - 3 churches
- 75—99% - 0 churches
- 50—74% - 20 churches
- 25—49% - 7 churches
- 1—24% - 9 churches
- 0% - 30 churches



2024-2025 Annual Set-Up Meeting

August 15, 2024

6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

103 Northside Dr., W.

Greenwood SC 29649

This annual gathering is for all pastors (appointed and assigned) and their families. The meal will be provided by the District; however, meal reservations are required to ensure we make adequate plans.

To make your meal reservations, send an email to the District Office (gwdist@umcsc.org) with the pastor's name and the number attending (adults and children).

Meal Reservation Deadline—August 9.



SCAN ME

The QR Code to the left is for the 2024-2025 District Clergy Directory.

Please scan the code and then check YOUR information for accuracy. If you find an error or omission, send the correct information to Martha (gwdist@umcsc.org).

Send corrections by August 9 so the updated directory can be shared at the Set-up Meeting on August 15.

WELCOME TO THE GREENWOOD DISTRICT



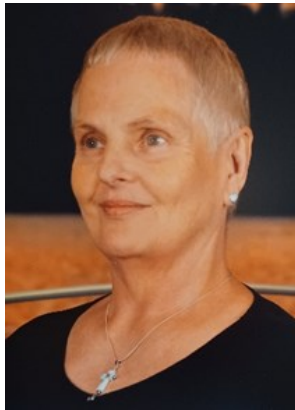
Rev. Chris Lollis
District Superintendent



Donna Lollis
Aldersgate UMC



Rev. Ed Stallworth
O'Neal St. UMC



Jo Ann Stone
Mt. Carmel, Greenwood



Rev. Michael Written
Mt. Bethel/Kings
Chapel



Rev. Greg Thompson
Central/Trinity



Sandy Shaffer
District Lay Leader

Dementia

Dementia – one of the most feared words and conditions for seniors, and their families, today. “Dementia is not a disease, but a group of symptoms that are associated with a decline in thinking, reasoning, and/or remembering.” (Bright Focus Foundation 2022) Dementia is an umbrella term covering more than 100 different types of brain disorders. The most common form of dementia is Alzheimer’s Disease, which is progressive and is rapidly rising as a leading cause of death in the US. Despite a great deal of research, there is not yet a definitive cause nor cure.

Other familiar forms of dementia include Parkinson’s Disease, Fronto-Temporal Dementia, and Vascular Dementia. All types of dementia affect not only persons with dementia but also their family, friends, and care partners. Life becomes different and often challenging as the condition progresses. Many organizations and individuals are working to assist persons with dementia and their support network.

On **August 6, 2024** Tori Anderson, Dementia Care Specialist with the South Carolina Department on Aging, will present *Dementia 101 – The Basics*, providing information about dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease and the support resources available in South Carolina. This event is open to anyone with an interest in the topic. It will be

held in the sanctuary of Tranquil UMC, 1702 McCormick Highway, Greenwood, SC 29646 from 10 until 11 am. This is a free event and does not require registration.

A fairly new resource is the South Carolina Cognitive Connection Ministry, operating under the Connectional Ministries of the SC Annual Conference. This is a team of clergy and lay persons within the Conference which includes Tori Anderson and her colleague, Jennifer Brewton, Caregiver and Alzheimer’s Division Resource Manager. It

is chaired by Rev. Bryan Pigford, Cokesbury UMC, North Charleston, who stated in an article in the April 2024 Advocate, “We want to remove the stigma, educate, advocate and encourage individuals and local churches to be in ministry with those folks living with dementia, whether that’s respite care, dementia-friendly worship or support groups for caregivers.”

Additionally, “Ministry with the Forgotten – Dementia through a Spiritual Lens” will again be offered at the Fall Lay Servant Ministries School. This

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DEMENTIA

course was written by retired United Methodist Bishop Kenneth L. Carder (who plans to attend the August 6 event) during his journey caring for his late wife, Linda, who had Fronto-Temporal Dementia. The Fall School will be held on Sundays, September 8 and 15, 2024 at Central UMC, Newberry from 2 until 7 pm.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Sandy Shaffer, District Lay Leader, at 864-980-8496 or tchrsandy@gmail.com.

APPORTIONMENT UPDATE DEMENTIA 101 THE BASICS

PROVIDING INFORMATION ABOUT DEMENTIA AND ALZHEIMER'S
DISEASE AND THE SUPPORT RESOURCES AVAILABLE IN OUR STATE

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2024
10AM-11AM

TRANQUIL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1702 MCCORMICK HIGHWAY
GREENWOOD, SC 29646

SPEAKER

Tori Anderson
Dementia Care Specialist
SC Department on Aging

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

SANDY SHAFFER- TCHRSANDY@GMAIL.COM



South Carolina
DEPARTMENT
ON AGING

FALL LAY SERVANT MINISTRY SCHOOL



WHEN: September 8 & 15; 2:00 p.m.—
7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Central UMC, Newberry

CHARGE CONFERENCE TRAINING

WHEN: Sunday, August 18; 3:00 p.m.

WHERE: ZOOM. The meeting link will be sent to all pastors in early August.

WHO: ALL pastors and associate pastors, church secretaries/admins; chairs of PPRC, Trustees, Finance; Financial Secretaries; and anyone else responsible for completing charge conference reports.



Installation Service for The Reverend Chris Lollis

You are invited to join us as we welcome our new District Superintendent to the Greenwood District of the SC United Methodist Church and to Greenwood, SC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2024, 3:00 P.M.
ST. MARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
550 HIGHWAY 72 BYPASS NW
GREENWOOD SC 29649

Reception immediately following in Founders' Hall

Pastors will gather in the Charles Poore Sunday School Classroom to robe and then will process to the sanctuary. Black robes and **white** stoles for Elders. All other pastors should wear black robes or business suits.