

WELCOME TO OUR
Weekly Newsletter

we're so glad you're here!



CHURCH FINANCES

The 2025 Local Church Audit is due in the District Office by March 31. The [audit form is available online](#) through the Treasurer's Office.

REMINDER: This form is sent directly to the District Office NOT to the Treasurer's Office. You may mail the completed audit to Greenwood District, PO Box 49968, Greenwood 29649; or you may email the completed form to gwdist@umcsc.org.



Transition Teams
**Tri-District
Listening Sessions**
March 8 | March 15 | March 22
VIA ZOOM
[click for details](#)

You have 2 more opportunities to join one of the Listening Sessions presented by the Logistics Transition Team.

March 15 (Columbia, Greenwood, Rock Hill)
March 22 (Greenville, Spartanburg, Anderson)
You may join either session.

The sessions will be streamed from 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

The purpose of these Listening Sessions is to share with clergy and laity ongoing plans for continuing district reductions, transferring files, and providing assistance through this next phase in the transition of the SC Conference.

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



GREENWOOD DISTRICT

The **2026 Spring Lay Servant Ministry School** is scheduled for April 19 and 26, 2026, at Grace UMC, North Augusta. **Registration deadline is April 10.** If you register by mail, the envelope must be postmarked no later than April 10.

All information is now available on the [Greenwood District webpage](#), including mail-in and online registration, the letter to pastors and current lay servants, and the booklist. Click on the link for *Lay Servant Ministries* on the main District webpage.

Courses to be offered are: *BASIC with Youth Addendum; Polity, Leading Worship; and Discipleship in the Marketplace.* Cost is \$35 per course. You must fully attend both sessions to receive credit for the course.



April 16, 2026 - 10:00 a.m.

NOTE THE DATE CHANGE

Edisto Fork UMC

354 Lariat Dr.

Orangeburg, SC 29115

There will be no district clergy meeting in April due to the Gathering of the Clergy Orders.



2026 SOUTH CAROLINA UNITED METHODIST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

See The Possibilities: What do you see? Can you see anything? Mark 8:22-26

June 7-10, 2026 at the Greenville Convention Center



Visit www.umcsc.org/ac2026 for the latest information on this year's Annual Conference.

Registration is now open and will remain open until May 27.

Now is the time to make hotel reservations.

Pastors: If you need to change the Lay Member(s) to the 2026 Annual Conference, it must be done using the **Lay Member Change Form** signed by Rev. Lollis. Changes must be submitted to the Conference Secretary's office **no later than May 27, 2026**. You may contact the District Office, and we will complete the Change Form for you, or you may complete the Change Form and email it to us. Rev. Lollis will sign the form; we will submit it to the Conference Secretary on your behalf; and email you a copy of the signed form.



**March 21st,
2026**

Springdale United Methodist Church

Location: 851 Springdale Drive
Clinton, SC 29325

Date: March 21st, 2026

Time: 10:00 am

Light refreshments will be served



Stronger for Longer

A presentation on Healthy and Safe Aging

- Overview**
A practical, hands-on session that empowers older adults to stay safe, independent, and confident at home.
- Audience**
Community members 65+ as well as caregivers, community health workers, or anyone interested in promoting safe and empowered aging are welcomed!
- Topics Covered**
Early detection, wellness habits, fall-prevention strategies, and more!



**GRACE DURHAM, B.S.,
CAPS, OTD/STUDENT**

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Courtney Addison at cnkozar@presby.edu

34th Annual Granville Hicks Leadership Academy for Laity and Clergy



*A Time to Build: Resources for Building Community
with Vision*

March 25-27, 2026

Registration Cost: \$125

Claflin University Student Center

The daily schedule and registration link are available online:
<https://alumni.claflin.edu/2026-granville-hicks-lecture-series-->

REVOLUTION

Revolution 2026 was rescheduled for **March 27-29, 2026!** Registration is now open for new attendees. If you had previously registered to attend in January, that registration is valid for the new event. **The deadline to register online is Friday, March 13th**, but there will be on-site registration available at the event.

This year REVOLUTION will take place at the Doubletree Inn and Conference Center, 2100 Bush River Rd., Columbia 29223-7612.

Full information, including registration, schedule, guest speakers, hotels, etc., is available online: <http://scmyp.org/revolution/>



Gracious and Loving God, help us to reflect on the teachings of love, sacrifice, and renewal. May we find strength in our spiritual practices and grow in compassion for others. Guide us to let go of burdens that weigh us down and fill us with hope and peace. Keep us mindful of the sacrifices made for us and inspire us to live with gratitude and grace. Amen.



WHO NEEDS TO KNOW MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

- Employers.
- Police officers.
- Hospital staff.
- First responders.
- Caring individuals.

WHY MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID?

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adults.

On average,
130
people die by
suicide every day.
*Source: American Foundation
for Suicide Prevention*

From 1999 to 2019,
841,000
people died from
drug overdoses.
*Source: Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention*

Nearly
1 IN 5
in the U.S. lives
with a mental illness.
*Source: National Institute
of Mental Health*

Sources
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. (n.d.). Suicide statistics. <https://afsp.org/suicide-statistics/>
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.). Drug overdose deaths. <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/deaths/index.html>
National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). (n.d.). Mental illness. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics/mental-illness>

REGISTER TODAY!

- Delivery Format:**
In-person, Instructor led training: Lucila Beaton, Jean Ann Lambert and Kathy Cinnamond
- Date and Time:**
Saturday, May 30 and June 6, 2026 from 8:30am - 12:30pm
- Location:**
Central UMC, 1002 Caldwell Street, Newberry, SC
- Where to Register:**
www.eventbrite.com/e/1984473757429

The course will teach you how to apply the MHFA Action Plan (**ALGEE**):

- **A**ssess for risk of suicide or harm.
- **L**isten nonjudgmentally.
- **G**ive reassurance and information.
- **E**ncourage appropriate professional help.
- **E**ncourage self-help and other support strategies.

The Reverend Kathy Cinnamond will be teaching the Mental Health First Aid Course on May 30th and June 6th from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Central UMC, 1002 Caldwell St., Newberry. This 10-hour class is free and counts as an advanced lay servant ministry class.

Refreshments will be provided.

Use this link to register: www.eventbrite.com/e/1984473757429

Disaster Response Ministry South Carolina Conference Of The UMC



Early Response Team Training

**UM Conference Center, Columbia
Wednesday, April 8, 2026**

**St Andrew By-The-Sea UMC, Hilton Head Island
Saturday, April 11, 2026**

**UM Conference Center, Columbia
Thursday, May 14, 2026**

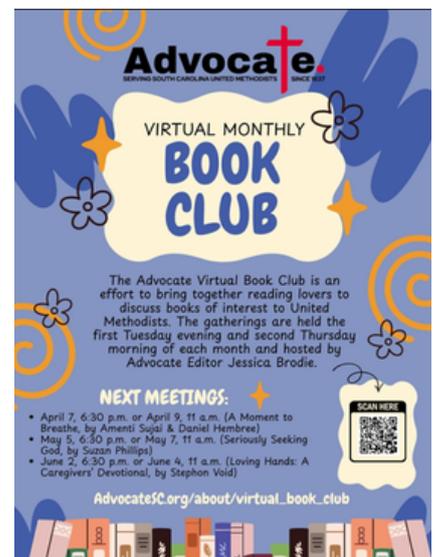
**St. Mark UMC, Greenwood
Saturday, May 16, 2026**

**Click the link to register
<http://www.umcsc.org/ertregistration/>**

Click here to register: www.umcsc.org/ertregistration/

By now you should have seen this week's announcements from *The Advocate*. Be sure to check your Conference email for details about these new opportunities *The Advocate* is sponsoring:

1. Precious Pet of the Month submissions wanted!
2. Advocate's Young Voices kids writing contest submissions wanted!
3. Join the Advocate's new Zoom-based United Methodist monthly book club!
4. Will you be an Advocate advocate in your district?



Just for Fun!

Test your knowledge...

The Bible introduces us to four people named Korah, but only one earned his place in infamy. Who is this Korah? Why is he infamous? What befell him?

Send your answer to us (gwdist@umcsc.org) and be surprised!