

WELCOME TO OUR
Weekly Update
thanks for stopping by!



There is still time!
Register for the
Spring Lay Servant Ministry
School
Registration deadline is April 10

April 19 & 26

Grace UMC

639 Georgia Ave., North Augusta

Courses 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.

All information, including registration options, is available online

<https://www.umcsc.org/greenwood/greenwood-district-lay-servant-ministries/>

NOTE: These classes are now open to everyone. The goal of Lay Servant Ministries is to help lay persons become better disciples.

The BASIC course is only required if someone wishes to pursue certification as a lay servant.



Annual Conference 2026

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

If your Lay Member(s) to Annual Conference changes, a **Lay Member Change Form** must be completed and signed by Rev. Lollis. The deadline for submitting change forms is **May 27, 2026**. Contact the district office with the name of your new lay delegate and the name of the person being replaced and we will submit the change form for you.

Gathering of the Orders April 16, 2026 10:00 a.m.

Edisto Fork UMC
354 Lariat Dr.
Orangeburg, SC 29115

**Registration closes at
midnight on April 10**

SPOUSES LUNCHEON AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 9, 2026

11:00 a.m. - Room 102B, Greenville Convention Center

MENU

Woodside House Salad

Choice of Entree (see options below)

Dessert: Strawberry Cream Cake, Cream Trio with Lemon Bar, Cream Puff, Dark Chocolate Brownie

Assorted Breads

Iced Tea, Water, Coffee

Choice of Entree

Hoisin Glazed Atlantic Salmon: seared fresh salmon in sweet Hoinsin sauce topped with Pineapple/Jicama Salsa served with Sesame Sticky Rice and Seasonal Vegetables (\$52.96)

Beef Bourguignon: beef braised in red wine Bordelaise sauce served with Horseradish Mashed Potatoes, and Roasted Vegetables. (\$58.26)

MEAL RESERVATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Entree Choice: _____

Detach and mail with your check to:

Debra Friday, 21 Faversham Court, Columbia SC 29229

Make checks payable to SC Ministers' Spouses

Reservation Deadline: May 10, 2026

Disaster Response Ministry South Carolina Conference Of The UMC



Early Response Team Training

UM Center, Columbia

Thursday, May 14, 2026

St. Mark UMC, Greenwood

Saturday, May 16, 2026

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



**FORMING
TRUSTED
LEADERS**

Endowing United Methodist
Theological Education
Africa | Europe | the Philippines

April 12 – May 17, 2026

Culminating in **Miracle Sunday** on May 17,

When we will humble ourselves and give generously.

Together, United Methodists around the world will raise up new generations of clergy leaders through a one-time worldwide offering.

More information will be shared via email, this publication, and the district webpage.

Epworth

May on Millwood



Saturday, May 30
11 am – 2 pm

**Please bring your church group
for a wonderful day celebrating
Epworth's 130th Anniversary**

- Columbia Classic Chevy Car Club
- Fun children's activities
- Live music
- Campus tours
- And more!



**Lunch will be
provided by Shealy's
BBQ & will be
available while
supplies last!**

Reservations are preferred



**EPWORTH CHILDREN'S HOME
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

friendsofepworth.org/may-on-millwood/



SAVE THE DATE

The Wonder Summit:

REIMAGINING CONGREGATIONAL WORSHIP & PRAYER WITH CHILDREN

NOVEMBER 4-6TH 2026

LAKE JUNALUSKA, NORTH CAROLINA

thewondersummit.org



The vision for The Wonder Summit is a reliably United Methodist gathering where leaders come together to imagine, practice, and consider the various ways of, and theological backing for, engaging children in congregational worship. Rooted in wonder, curiosity, and collaboration, The Wonder Summit creates space to cultivate ideas, stories, and practices that honor children not as observers but as vital members of the worshipping community.

Summit partners include Duke University Divinity School - *Let the Children Come* and the South Carolina Conference Intergenerational Ministry - *Connecting Children in Worship and Prayer*.

[Click here to register](http://thewondersummit.org). When registering, you may include reservations for the Terrace Hotel (\$139/night plus taxes and fees) and also for the meal plan at Lake Junaluska. The meal plan is approximately \$100 per person for the Summit.

The aim of children's ministry isn't to grow children's ministry – it's to grow children!

- Dr. Lawson Murray



Update on the 2026 Apportionments

Apportionments are the way UMC congregations proportionally give to the denomination's global and local ministries. They fund missions, disaster relief, education, and social justice work worldwide, enabling the church to act as one body in Christ's mission

Apportionments are not a 'church tax,' nor are they a form of 'membership dues' or a 'disciplinary obligation.' They are a gift and an opportunity... a means by which even the smallest church may magnify and increase its ministry potential.

As of March 31, this is where the district stands with apportionment payments:

0% paid: 14 churches

1-10% paid: 10 churches

11 - 25% paid: 9 churches paid

26-50% paid: 9 churches paid

51 - 75% paid: 0 churches

76-99% paid: 0 churches

100% paid: 2 churches

Special thanks to **Kings Chapel UMC** and **Sharon UMC** for paying 100% of their 2026 apportionments!

Where is your church in the above list of percentage of apportionments paid?

Is your church on track to pay 100% of its 2026 apportionments?

A zero apportionment payment is the first break in the connectional link that is the cornerstone of the United Methodist Church.

Why not share this [*Chuck Knows Church*](#) short video to help your members understand what apportionments are and why they are important?