

WELCOME TO OUR

# Weekly Update

*thanks for stopping by!*



**FORMING  
TRUSTED  
LEADERS**

Endowing United Methodist  
Theological Education  
Africa | Europe | the Philippines

**MIRACLE  
SUNDAY 2026**

**Sunday, May 17, 2026**

Together with United Methodists from around the world, every congregation is invited to participate in the **Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, Lead Courageously – Miracle Sunday Initiative**, a global effort that will extend the vision of The United Methodist Church and help raise up 500 new pastors across Africa, Europe, and the Philippines.

While the General Conference allocates more than \$50 million for 13 U.S. seminaries, only \$5 million is provided for more than 20 seminaries in other regions of the world. This initiative is an opportunity for us to help close that gap and support the development of strong, well-prepared leaders across our global connection.

Each church is asked to:

1. Set aside the designated Miracle Sunday date, May 17, for worship and celebration (the series is from April 12-May 17).
2. Use the Congregation Resources Manual to prepare leaders and plan for the series.
3. Pray boldly for God's work through your congregation.
4. Invite everyone to participate in this life-changing moment.

Download a step-by-step manual for your congregation at:

[www.endowftecc.org/congregation-resources-manual](http://www.endowftecc.org/congregation-resources-manual)

# 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 Hoisin 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)

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### 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



# SpiritShore 2026 Retreat

May 18–May 22, 2026

Kingston Plantation & Resort  
9800 Queensway Blvd.  
North Myrtle Beach, SC 29528

## Vision • Voice • Victory

*Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. For the revelation awaits an appointed time...though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.*

Habakkuk 2:2–3 (NIV)

Formerly known as the Carolina Black Clergy Leadership Retreat, this renewed name – SpiritShore – reflects the deep and abiding power of gathering at the shore.

At the shore, the waves return again and again – steady, faithful, and life giving. So too does God’s presence meet us here, calling us into renewal, restoration, and recommitment. As an African proverb reminds us, “*If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.*” SpiritShore is a place where we journey together – as leaders, learners, and beloved community.

This retreat is for **both clergy and laity** – from across the Carolinas and beyond. All are welcome. It is a space for mutual learning and leading, where wisdom is shared across generations and contexts. We will gather around the powerful vision of The United Methodist Church:

Love Boldly | Serve Joyfully | Lead Courageously

Conference registration is now open: <https://www.umcsc.org/spiritshoreregistration/>  
Registration closes on May 11. On-site registration will be available

The Hilton Kingston Plantation Resort is the exclusive lodging partner. The retreat rate link will be provided after your registration is complete. Single, double, triple, and quad occupancy are available. Inquire about the lodging scholarships that are available.



# *We are sent by the Spirit*

2026 Sending Forth  
Service and  
Celebration



**Sunday, May 3**

**Main St. UMC**

211 Main St. N.,  
Greenwood

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

This is the last clergy meeting of this Conference year. It will be a time of worship, fellowship, recognition, and bidding Godspeed to our colleagues moving to new appointments or moving to a new phase of ministry.

Mark your calendars now!

April 19 - Third Sunday of Easter

*Traveling to Emmaus*

Easter tide is a time of joy, joy that sits alongside the astounding, displacing news that Love has conquered death. We are invited to live in the tension between joy and the astonishment of the Resurrection, because this is how we learn to live as Easter people.

*Dr. Lisa Hancock,  
Director of Worship Arts Ministries*



## Update on the 2026 Apportionments

As of April 8, this is where the district stands with apportionment payments:

0% paid: 14 churches

1-10% paid: 10 churches

11 - 25% paid: 8 churches paid

26-50% paid: 10 churches paid

51 - 75% paid: 0 churches

76-99% paid: 0 churches

100% paid: 3 churches

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

HOW APPORTIONMENTS ARE CALCULATED

$$\frac{\text{My church's average net funds}}{\text{Sum of all churches' average net funds}} \times \text{Conference budget} = \text{My church's apportionment}$$

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