

WELCOME TO OUR
Weekly Newsletter
we're so glad you're here!

A Thought for This Week

On Sunday, October 12, the Rev. Jason Wilson's sermon was titled *Waiting on God: Trust the Process*. The scripture was Jeremiah 29:1, 4-13 (NRSV). During the sermon Jason shared this thought: "We have a microwave mentality in a crockpot world." That quote has bugged me all week. So, what did I do? Ponder it. Pray about it. And then, consult Google, of course, and Google did not disappoint returning 7,490 results.

With that many results its hard not to get lost in the digital minutiae. The term, "Microwave Mindset" was developed to illustrate how fast entrepreneurs get things done. (Follos) Bottom line is we want instant gratification. We want it all, and we want it NOW, becoming like Veruca Salt in the movie and story of Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. No delayed gratification, just let me have it fast, easy, and immediate.

We don't take the time to develop the necessary mindset of needing patience, skills, goals, or anything that requires hard work. "According to research, less than 3% of people write down their goals. And, fewer than 1% review and rewrite their goals daily." (Hunter) Rev. Chris Lollis reminded us during the October Clergy Meeting to be intentional, set goals, and write them down.

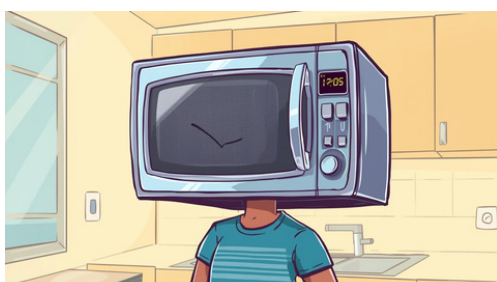
It's time to embrace living in a "crockpot world" by spending time in thought and prayer to reap the rewards of trusting the process. As Jeremiah 29:11 reminds us "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (NIV) Like some of you, I spend time journaling so I'm sharing this journal entry with you. The process is trusting in God's will and God's timing.

Will this change the way we look at our microwave ovens and our much-used crockpots? Will this change how we live and our relation with God?

Martha

Follos, Malcolm, Beware the Microwave Mindset!, May 14, 2018. www.senseiuke.com/the-microwave-mindset. Accessed October 14, 2025.

Hunter, Marc. How To Overcome The Microwave Mentality By Setting Goals." January 27, 2021. www.iamgreatness.com. Accessed October 14, 2025.



2025 Clergy Assessment



The annual clergy evaluation form has been sent to all clergy and to all PPRC chairpersons.

The completed and signed evaluation form is due in the district office **no later than November 15**. You may email the completed form to the district office or mail to us at PO Box 49968, Greenwood SC 29649

A fillable copy of the evaluation form is available on the [Conference web page](#). You must download the form prior to entering your information.

Save The Date – Advertise the Date



District Leadership Training



Sessions Offered

- Alternate Church Council Organization
- Church Council
- Finance
- Lay Leadership
- Nominations
- Outreach/Nurture
- Trustees

Save the
Date

**Sunday
November 16, 2025**

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

St. Paul UMC
102 E. Butler Ave.
Saluda 29138

Committee Chairs

Who Should Attend?

PASTORS

Lay Servants/
Persons Interested in Lay Servant Ministries

Committee Members

Church Leaders

Artificial Intelligence

Why or Why Not? A Deep Dive

Registration information for Clergy Orders

Thursday,
November 13
10:00am-3:00pm
Union UMC
7582 Woodrow
Street, Irmo, SC

Registration \$20, including
lunch with meal options

SC Clergy Orders welcome Rev. Blake Davis and
Rev. Dr. Scott Hughes from Discipleship Ministries to
share about the
advantages and disadvantages of using AI.

Come, explore and learn! How can AI
be used in ministry? What values do we
bring to the "Tech Table?" What are
concerns and questions for the use of
Artificial Intelligence in Ministry?



Rev. Dr. M. Scott Hughes
Associate General Secretary, World Service, Discipleship
Ministries, The United Methodist Church



C. Blake Davis
Executive Director, Marketing and Delivery
World Service of Discipleship Ministries, the United Methodist Church



Register today at
www.umcsc.org/clergyordersregistration/

Christmas Gathering

INN ON THE SQUARE
104 COURT ST. E
GREENWOOD SC

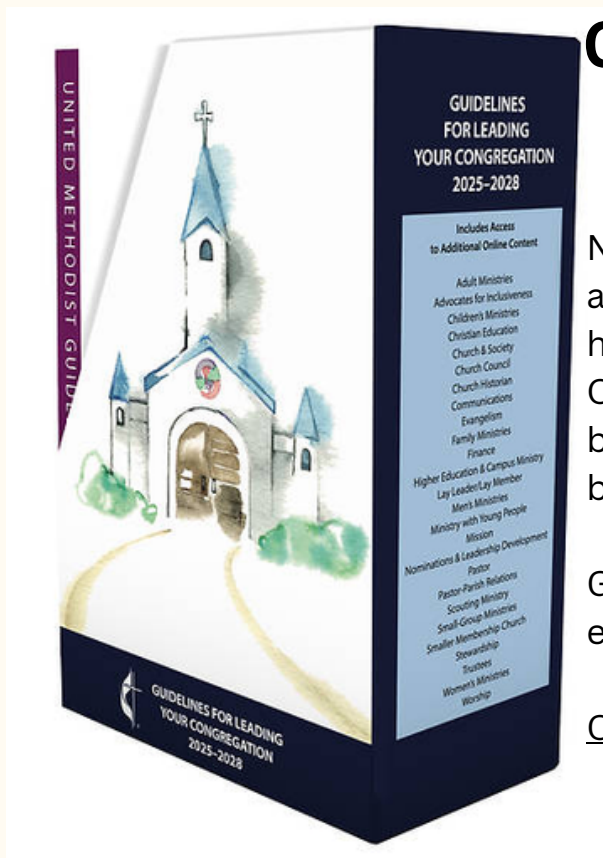
WHITE ELEPHANT
GIFT EXCHANGE



6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
BUFFET DINNER

A TIME OF FUN,
FELLOWSHIP, GOOD
FOOD, AND
CHRISTMAS CHEER

MAKE DINNER RESERVATIONS BY DECEMBER 4
EMAIL OR CALL MARTHA



Guidelines for Leading Your Congregation 2025-2028

Now is the time to order new Guideline books for any new church officers/leaders. The Guidelines have been revised following the recent General Conference. Order the complete set of 26 booklets or just pick and choose the individual books you may need.

Guidelines are available in hard copy or electronically.

[Order from Cokesbury.](#)



Charge Schedule

Sunday, October 26

Meeting at Central,
Newberry

12:00 - O'Neal St.

2:15 - Zion

3:30 - Lewis/Ebenezer

4:45 - Trinity, Newberry

6:00 - New Hope

7:00 - Central, Newberry

Wednesday, October 28

6:30 - St. Mark

Sunday, November 2

Meeting at Advent UMC

11:30 - Advent

2:15 - Simpsonville

3:30 - Bethel/Ebenezer Chg.

Sunday, November 9

Meeting at Hopewell UMC

1:00 - Hopewell

2:15 - Augusta Rd.

3:30 - Trinity, Fountain Inn



Consultation Schedule

Monday, October 27

9:30 - Russell Freeman

10:35 - Joe Cate

11:40 - Brad Thompson

Wednesday, October 29

9:30 - Dan Brown

10:35 - Shawn Armstrong

11:40 - Shawna VandeLune



Photo Credit - Fox News

Hurricane HELENE

If you have anyone in your church(es), or know of someone in your community, who still needs home repair as a result of Hurricane Helene, please help them contact Millie Nelson Smith at the conference center. There are resources to help, but we need to know those who are in need.