

WELCOME TO OUR

Weekly Newsletter

we're so glad you're here!



Building Bridges Across Generations

MEN N MINISTRY RETREAT

February 20-21, 2026

Journey UMC

1151 Longreen Pky

Columbia

Full details, including the registration link, are
online



SOUTH CAROLINA MenNMinistry



A weekend inspired by Psalm 145:4 and Luke 22:31-32, this retreat focuses on passing faith and wisdom between generations.

Prior to the Retreat on Saturday, enjoy the Fellowship Opportunities on Friday, February 20, which include the Golf Tournament beginning at 10:00 a.m. and then Cigars and Scriptures beginning at 6:00 p.m. You can register for these activities when you register for the Retreat.



Become a Sponsoring Church

\$600.00 Major Sponsor receives 12 registrations
\$300.00 Local Sponsor receives 6 registrations

Sponsorship registration is still available

Be a sponsor church even if your church may not use all the registrations available through sponsorship, the extra registrations could be given to other churches so their men can participate.

Benefits Tools and Q&A Workshops

Questions about your health, wellbeing, retirement, death and disability benefits? Plan now to attend one of these workshops to learn more and to ask questions.

Midlands Workshop: February 9, 2026:
Central UMC,
1005 College St., Newberry, SC 29108
11:00 am - Noon.

Register by February 6, 2026

Pee Dee Workshop: March 3, 2026:
Cumberland UMC
163 S. Coit St, Florence, SC 29501
11:00 am - Noon.

Register by March 1, 2026

Participation is voluntary, and participants may choose to participate in any regional workshop regardless of their district. There will not be a hybrid option. Those unable to participate may contact the Benefits Office or Clergy Services to schedule individual conversations if desired.

Register Online

Annual Statistical Reports

Are Due February 28!



You should be working on entering your 2025 statistics (Tables I, II, III). The website, [ACStats](#), is now open.

All previous user logins have been deleted. Your initial login for this year is the church's GCFA number. The **password** associated with the church's GCFA number is **byourlove25!** (NOTE: it is case sensitive and must include the exclamation point).

Once you have logged in using the church's login, you can set up your own personal login; however, the church's login will not change. You can find resources to help you with the statistics input at <https://www.umcsc.org/statistics/>. You may also contact your district office (gwdist@umcsc.org or 864-223-2650).

Be sure to address any RED flags prior to submitting your report.



The Spring Lay Servant Ministry School is scheduled for April 19 and 26, 2026, at Grace UMC, North Augusta. Registration will be online and by mail.

Mark your calendars now and watch your email, this publication, the [district webpage](#), and [Facebook page](#) for details, including registration information.

The BASIC Lay Servant Ministries Course will be offered at Grace UMC from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on February 11, 25, and March 4, 11, and 18. You must attend all 5 sessions to receive credit for the course.

If anyone is interested in taking this course to be prepared for an advanced course offered in the Spring School, please contact the [Greenwood District Office](#) or [Amber Forrest](#) at Grace UMC to request a registration form.



A Gathering of Lay Leaders and Church Council Chairs

Led by Sandy Shaffer, Greenwood District Lay Leaders, local church lay leaders, church council chairs, and others will gather at Tranquil UMC on **Saturday, February 7**, to meet, network, and talk about shared ministry across the district. This gathering was postponed from January 31, due to inclement weather blanketing the state.

For those who registered for the January 31 date and are still able to attend, you are still registered and we look forward to seeing you on February 7.

For those who registered for the January 31 date and cannot attend on February 7, please notify Sandy Shaffer, Greenwood District Lay Leader, and the Greenwood District Office.

For all other Lay Leaders and Church Council chairs (or the equivalent administrative officer): if you are now able to join us on February 7, please notify Sandy Shaffer and the Greenwood District Office.

We look forward to seeing you on February 7, at Tranquil UMC, 1702 McCormick Hwy., Greenwood 29649, 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch will be served.

HOW TO ALWAYS BE INFORMED

Do you



- **Read your Conference email daily!?**
- Read the weekly newsletter delivered via email and posted on the District webpage?
- Check the District webpage regularly:
www.umcsc.org/greenwood?
- Check the District Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/GreenwoodDist?>



February Clergy Meeting

The February Clergy meeting originally scheduled for February 9 will be rescheduled. Please watch your email, this publication, the district webpage and Facebook page for the new meeting date and location.



Did You Know?

The Conference Information Technology Department provides help to local churches, districts, agencies and the conference – serving as a resource for any of your technology needs.

The South Carolina Conference and TechSoup have partnered to ensure local churches have access to the best technology options available at the most affordable price. An updated process for local churches wishing to use TechSoup's resources and discounts is available to the church administration on the church menu. To access the church menu, you must log into the church's online account through the Conference webpage.



Join Rev. Jason Wilson and Rev. Robby Lybrand, pastors at St. Mark UMC, Greenwood, each Wednesday for their weekly podcast, *Two Pastors: Conversations About Everything*, on [Apple](#), [Spotify](#), [iHeart Radio](#), or [Amazon Music](#).

Jason and Robby welcome topic suggestions from their listeners. Send your suggestions, thoughts, comments to 2pastorspodcast@gmail.com or visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9TWSNW6> to complete this form.

COVID taught us the importance of using technology to reach people beyond the four walls of the church building. Why not add podcasting to your repertoire?