



# Sharing Our Faith

## St. Luke's United Methodist Church

3080 Okatie Highway, between the back gates of Sun City on Hwy 170

**"Praising and Serving God Thru the Ages"**

**Worship times: 8:30 & 10:15 AM (5<sup>th</sup> Sundays 9:15 AM)**

Volume 20, Issue 7

JULY 2025



### ***Celebrating the Journey — Embracing the Future***

**"And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding."**

— Jeremiah 3:15 (NRSV)

Dear Beloved Church Family,

I greet you with joy, gratitude, and a deep sense of purpose as I share the news of my **reappointment as your pastor** for another year. To God be the glory! These past four years have been a blessing beyond measure. We've worshiped, served, laughed, cried, and grown together in faith and fellowship—and I am truly thankful for the trust and love you've shown me on this journey.

**"I thank my God every time I remember you."** *Philippians 1:3*

Thank you for embracing me as your pastor and partner in ministry. Your support, prayers, and commitment have made our shared mission possible. It's been a sacred privilege to lead alongside you—and I'm excited about all that God has in store for us in the year ahead.

### **Looking Ahead: A Call to Serve, A Call to Lead**

There is **much work to be done**, and the harvest is still plentiful. As some of our faithful leaders complete their time of service, we now stand in need of *new voices and willing hands* to step forward.

We are currently seeking individuals to serve in the following key leadership roles:

- **Church Council Chair**
- **Lay Leader**
- **PPRC (Pastor-Parish Relations Committee) Chair and Members**
- **Social & Hospitality Chair**
- **Trustee Members**
- **Finance Committee Members**

**"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace."** — 1 Peter 4:10

If you feel a stirring in your spirit to lead, I encourage you to answer that call. No role is too small when it is done for the glory of God.

### Reimagining Our Future: Where Are We Headed?

Now is also the time to **rekindle our vision**. What will our church look like in 10 years? What are we building for the next generation of believers? These are not just big questions—they are holy ones. And they require our attention, imagination, and action.

Therefore, we will soon be **reconvening our Vision and Planning Committee** to begin charting a new path forward. We need dreamers. We need planners. We need prayer warriors. We need YOU.

**“Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it.” — Habakkuk 2:2**

Let’s commit to revving up again—pressing forward toward the future God is calling us into.

### Final Encouragement

Let’s move forward together in love and unity, with hearts on fire and hands ready for the work.

**“Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me...” — Philippians 3:13–14**

With a grateful heart, a hopeful spirit, and a renewed commitment to serve,

I remain yours in Christ,

**Rev. Christopher L. Thompson, D. Min**  
St. Luke’s/Okatie United Methodist Church





If you are supposed to cut up your spaghetti, they would have made it shorter. My mother was Rita Pietrangelo, we did not cut our spaghetti. We used a fork and twirled it upon a spoon. We were taught that this was the right way. But you cut up yours, because it's your way.

And now, the end is near  
And so I face the final curtain.  
My friend, I'll say it clear  
I'll state my case, of which I'm certain.  
I lived a life that's full  
I traveled each and every highway  
And more, much more than this,  
I did it my way!  
How many of you just sang that song?

For everything there is a right way and a wrong way. Some things are very easy to see if it's the wrong way. Just hop in your car, pack your bags and plan a trip to Michigan (where I'm from). If you end up in Miami, you went the wrong way.

Some things are not so easy to see. Don't congratulate a strange women on her pregnancy, because you see a baby bump. You only have a 50/50 chance of getting a "Thank You" or getting a slap.

We will have questions every day of our life, wondering if it was the right way or the wrong way. We often look back on the words of wisdom and teachings that we received from our parents to make that determination. But what if our parents didn't know anything about electricity and we need to replace a wall switch.

Well, for that, ask Bill Metcalf. But that's not what is really important. Our Father in Heaven has taken care of all the really important things.

Since the beginning of time, He has been watching over us. He has been teaching us the right way for everything that's important in our life. First it was the ten commandments. The tablets given to Moses contained all God's do's and don'ts. When we drifted away, he sent His son Jesus to teach us. Besides teaching us the right way to live, He gave his life for us and redeemed us of all our past wrongs. If that wasn't enough, God sent us the Holy Spirit. God's Holy Spirit lives within us each and every day to help us with all the rights and wrongs.

Here is the bonus. We have a manual of how to live. Just like the manual for your dishwasher, but better, much better. It's called the Bible. Everything we need to know about what is truly the right way and the wrong way has been recorded for us. It was written by the prophets and the Apostles but inspired by The Holy Spirit.

It's a very good thing that we have a Father in Heaven who knows everything and planned to give us guidance and answer our questions.

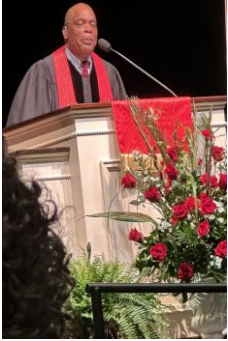
So, if you want to do things the right way, read the Bible. All the answers are there. Share it with your family and friends. Do it God's way.

And please, don't cut your spaghetti.

*Will Ross,*  
Former Lay Leader

## Report of the June 2025 SC Annual Conference

Leaving church after worship on June 8<sup>th</sup>, I traveled to Greenville SC where the SC Annual Conference was being held. As always, the first thing we do is check-in at the registration desk to receive a badge and packet of information about the worship services, meetings, resolutions to be voted on and budget to be approved. (It's always a good idea to have a "3-ring binder" for these papers!)



The theme for this year's conference was "See the Possibilities, Live the Promises" – The Possibilities of a Seed. On Sunday (the first worship service) Bishop Leonard Fairley called for the people of God to take holy risk and plant seeds of Christ's hope even when they couldn't see the outcome. His message was centered on promise and perseverance. The lyrics of "Hymn of Promise" were recited which lifts up how a flower comes from a bulb and an apple from a tree and Bishop Fairley shared how sometimes we cannot even imagine what is to come. But God sees and knows, and we must trust that if we plant and sow the seeds, God will bring fruit somehow and some way.

After the worship service, there were Commissioning, Ordination and Retirement Recognition Services. Bishop Fairley ordained three full elders, ordained one full deacon, commissioned eight as provisional elders, two as provisional deacons and recognized 32 retiring clergy.

The evening offering taken amounted to approx. \$10,500 +/- for the SC Conference Seminary Students Scholarship Fund which provides scholarship awards to candidates for ministry from South Carolina attending United Methodist seminaries and theological schools.

Monday was a full day of "business." In addition to greetings, organizational motions and the consent calendar, there were a number of actions. The Conference approved two changes to the Standing Rules. One change added the conference secretary to the Ministry Advisory Team. The other change reduced the size of the Board of Pension and Health Benefits from 18 to 12 persons.



The Conference passed a motion to go on record expressing concern about the federal government making deep cuts to needed federal jobs, health care, education nonprofit agencies, universities and discrimination without justice against the vulnerable, immigrants and LGBTQ+.

The Council on Finance & Administration offered the first reading of a proposed budget of \$10.3 million which is \$1.4 million less than 2025's budget. CF&A shared that an \$800,000 rebate from 2023 separating churches will be applied so churches will only be apportioned \$9.5 million. (This will reduce what we are asked to pay for apportionments in 2026.)

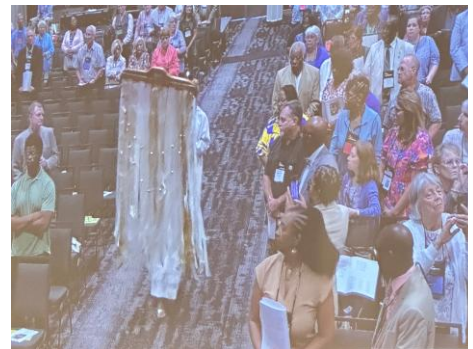
The body approved 5 resolutions (4 with little fanfare and one twice-amended that took an hour and forty minutes to debate.) The 5 that passed were: LGBTQIA+ Inclusion in Ministry; Our Responsibility for Personal Health; Upholding the Dignity of All Mothers; Supporting South Carolinians Living with Dementia; and Recommit to Collegiate Ministry as a Priority of the Church.

Monday afternoon 18 new local pastors were examined and licensed to serve the Annual Conference. The day ended with a service of Prayer and Praise. The offering received on Monday amounted to approx. \$3,980.00 for the *Healing Guatemala Mission*. This mission focuses on having surgeons remove cataracts from children's eyes to make it possible for them to see.

Tuesday was another day of “business” which consisted of reports from various committees. We also joined our counterparts around the world and voted on regionalization and three other amendments to the denomination’s constitution: expanding gender and disability inclusion in church membership; standing against racism and colonialism; and clarifying requirements for clergy-delegate elections. The amendments were all passed by the required two-thirds vote at the 2024 General Conference. But because they will change the UMC constitution, they require ratification by at least two-thirds of the total voting members of all 127 annual conferences around the world.

The Committee on Equitable Compensation requested and received a 2.5% cost of living increase for 2026 to ensure pastors can continue to pay their bills given the large amount of inflation experienced in the past few years. The Conference Board of Pension & Health Benefits reviewed their changes for the coming year. Those covered (clergy, deacons, lay employees of the conference and others under conference insurance) will see an increase in health care costs for this year, going up roughly \$100/month in 2026.

Tuesday evening, there was a Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for the 52 clergy and spouses who died over the past conference year. As the bishop read the names of those honored, a candle was lit on the altar and a bell rung in remembrance. Our very own “Cynthia” took part in the ceremony being the flag bearer!



Wednesday, June 11, 2025, was the final day of this Annual Conference. There were several more business items to be heard. We approved the Adoption of the Consent Calendar. We approved the closing of six churches and the merger of two churches into one new church. Most of the closures were because of declining membership. There was a service of “Lament to Hope” led by Bishop Leonard Fairley. This service honored the pain experienced by many over division and grief in separation. The South Carolina Conference has lost more than 225 churches these last several years because of theological differences about homosexuality. Each person was given a stone to symbolize pain and various people offered petitions—mourning the uncertain church, the discord and division, the weakness of witness, those who lost churches to call home, clergy who led churches who left the UMC and all who grapple with feelings of betrayal and confusion. As the petitions were spoken, Bishop Fairley dropped a stone into the baptismal font, asking people to imagine they are handing over their laments to God. He urged the body not to let their tears go to waste: “After the weeping is done, plant some gardens. Plant some seeds that sow love, peace and justice.” The people were invited to come forward to surrender their lamentations to God, placing the stones in baskets in an effort to move forward in hope.

Bishop Fairley then led the body in the fixing of appointments, which cemented where each pastor will serve this conference year. This ended the 2025 Annual Conference.

*Pat Simmons, Lay Delegate*

(Most of this report was taken from the *Advocate*, July 2025 issue.)



Once again, thank you all for the generous donations for the children on Mother's Day. You will have a chance to support Epworth again in September on Work Day. Keep an eye out for more information.

In the meantime, some good news: five Epworth students graduated on May 28<sup>th</sup>. This included 4 residential students and one in the Independent Living Program who received his GED. This marks the 13<sup>th</sup> straight year Epworth had a 100% Graduation rate for their seniors. Quite an accomplishment!! Two of the graduates will be moving into the Independent Living Program this summer.

Keep Epworth in your prayers. The children are thriving.

Phyllis Sippel, Epworth Representative.

## Spotlight on our Youth:

### Children and Youth Ministry happenings:

Aaron Metropolis deserves our heartfelt congratulations for his impressive performances in Shrek, The Musical. His St. Luke's church family is delighted to celebrate his success!

Pastor Chris & Cynthia enjoyed his performance!



*Michelle Cramer*  
Children and Youth Ministry



With many of our committee members traveling and visiting with family, we have decided not to hold a meeting in July. Our next Missions Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 PM. Unfortunately, the needs in our community do not take summer break. We will continue collecting food for Bluffton Self Help in July, and volunteers are especially needed at the Agape Food Pantry in July since many of their regulars may be on vacation. Please keep these opportunities in mind.

We are grateful for your support of St. Luke's mission's programs. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or mission concerns before our next meeting.

Elizabeth Vance and Linda Fisher  
St. Luke's Missions & Outreach Co-Chairs

### Bluffton Self Help First Sunday Food Drive, July 6<sup>th</sup>

**Thank you** for your generous donations each month that help ensure our neighbors in need have access to healthy food. Jane Tiffany will be collecting your donations in the parking lot before each worship service on July 6<sup>th</sup>. If you miss Jane, or have food to donate later in the month, please leave it in the basket in the Fellowship Hall labeled "Bluffton Self Help." All donations are appreciated; however, here is the current list of most needed nonperishable food and hygiene items. Unfortunately, they cannot accept out-of-date, open, or damaged items.

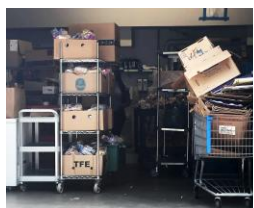


#### \*\*Most needed items

**Canned Beans\*\* -- (Black, Red, Pinto, Kidney, Cannellini, Navy, Garbanzo)**  
**Condiments & Shelf Stable Dressing\*\***  
**Whole Grain Cereal & Oatmeal\*\***  
**Whole Grain Flour & Baking Mixes\*\***  
**Pancake Mix & Maple Syrup\*\***  
**Shampoo & Conditioner (adult & child) \*\***  
**Shaving Cream\*\***  
**Toothpaste\*\***  
**Large Diapers (size 4, 5, 6, & 7) \*\***  
**Training Pants (2T – 5T) \*\***  
**Baby Wipes\*\***

#### Always needed items

Canned Tuna & Canned Chicken  
 Low Sodium Hearty Soups  
 Rice, Whole Grain Pasta, Barley or Farro  
 No Salt Added Canned Tomatoes & Sauces  
 Canned or Dried Fruits  
 Unsweetened Applesauce  
 Nuts & Seeds  
 Peanut, Almond or Cashew Butter  
 Low Sugar Jelly & Honey  
 Shelf Stable Milk & Almond Milk  
 Granola Bars, Cane Sugar, Coconut Oil  
 Gluten Free Food Options<sup>2</sup>  
 Soap & Body Wash (adult & child)  
 Body Lotion, Deodorant & Feminine Products



Bluffton Self Help volunteers are always eager and willing to unload your donations to help fill their empty shelves. We are the most consistent & generous donor they have!

#### Blanket Ministry – Save the Date!

Our blanket ministry is taking a well-earned break this summer. Please mark your calendar for our next blanket-making session on Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m.



**Thank you** to everyone who donated food for the families at the Family Promise shelter in June. We provided two dinners for five adults and seven children. Our next meal dates will be August 21<sup>st</sup> and August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please look for the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board the first Sunday in August.



### **Agape Family Life Center Programs** **Summer Camp**

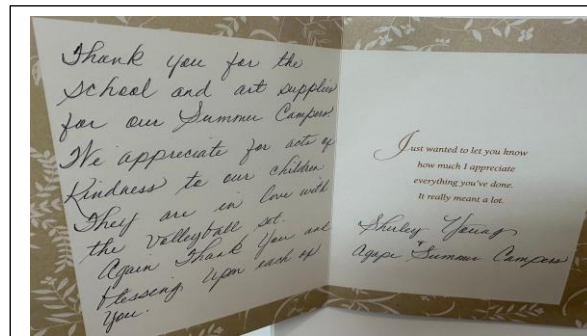
*Thank You*  
*St. Luke UMC - Okatie*



Ms. Linda Fisher  
 Ms. Elizabeth Vance  
 Ms. Mary Cale

The Summer Campers at Agape Family Life Center, extends heartfelt thanks for your generous gifts to help make this year Summer Camp a memorable experience. The volleyball set is utilized throughout each day.

We are pleased to report that St. Luke's Mission Committee provided educational materials and recreation equipment for Agape's Enrichment Summer Camp. Over forty children from pre-K to middle school are enjoying this six-week program. Mornings at the camp are spent enhancing basic reading, math, and language arts skills. The afternoons are for games and sports. We received a thank you letter for St. Luke's support along with a picture of the children enjoying the indoor volleyball equipment, which we were told is one of their favorites! Thank you to Mary Cale for coordinating St. Luke's donations.



### **Food Pantry**

Volunteers are always needed and appreciated from 10:00 a.m. until noon at the **Agape Food Pantry**, 5855 Okatie Highway, Hardeeville. If you can help, you do not need to sign up in advance, just show up. You will be helping to sort and distribute fresh food donated by local grocery stores to families and seniors in need. If you would like more information, please contact Leslie Richards at [lesliearichards717@gmail.com](mailto:lesliearichards717@gmail.com).



If you are going through an illness or a crisis and could use some support, please let us know. Marie Baldauf leads this ministry, which can help by providing a meal and caring phone calls. Please contact Marie at [baldaufmarie@gmail.com](mailto:baldaufmarie@gmail.com), if you need support or would like to help in this ministry.



## Thank you letter received by Lois Willig – May 9, 2025

*Helping families feel at Home – even when they can't be*

May 9, 2025



Dear Lois,

**Keeping Families close.**

On behalf of the kids and families served by Ronald McDonald House Charities\* (RMHC\*) of the Coastal Empire, ***thank you for your generous In-Kind donation of pop tabs.***

We believe in supporting families throughout the Coastal Empire and helping them access the medical care and resources they need. No family should have to deal with their child's medical crisis alone. For hospitalized kids and their families, it will be the most important House they will ever visit. RMHC\* helps families of seriously ill, hospitalized children cope with the stress and expense of daily living while trying to be close and emotionally strong for their child. We provide for every child's illness and injury and serve all children from newborn to 22 years of age and their families. ***Keeping Families Close is the true spirit of our mission.***

Caring for these special families since July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1987, RMHC\*' is located just 176 steps from the Dwaine & Cynthia Willett Children's Hospital of Savannah. Additionally, RMH serves St. Joseph's/Candler Hospital and all area medical facilities serving the Coastal Empire. The Savannah House is open 24/7/365, governed by a 17-member Board of Directors, and managed by a full-time staff of six. A community effort, RMHC\* funding comes from events, donations (corporate, civic, and individual), as well as local McDonald's owner operators. Your gift enables us to touch the lives of thousands of individuals through our programs, including the Savannah Ronald McDonald House", the Ronald McDonald Family Rooms", the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile" and the Ronald McDonald Hospitality Cart". The RMH Family Rooms" are an outreach program of RMH. Located in Memorial and St. Joseph Hospitals, these comfortable hospitality suite /resource centers offer families of hospitalized children light refreshments, the use of computers, TV, and laundry services. Most importantly, families are encouraged to simply take a much-deserved break while remaining steps away from their child's bedside. Finally, in 2022 we added the Hospitality Cart Program- a Cart With Heart- which visits the kids and families at Willett's Children's Hospital providing snacks, drinks, toiletries, clothing, and toys directly to their rooms.

*Thank you for making a difference.*

Sincerely,

Billy Soroachak  
CEO/Executive Director

*Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Coastal Empire specializing in providing comfort, care, and kindness when it matters the most.*

4710 Waters Avenue • Savannah, GA 31404 • 912-350-RMH1(7641) • Fax 912-350-2309 • [www.rmhc.coastalempire.org](http://www.rmhc.coastalempire.org)

*The mission of Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Coastal Empire is to create, find and support programs that directly enhance the health and well-being of children and families.*

**We are continuing to collect pull tabs! This container can be found in the Fellowship Hall. It doesn't matter if you have 6 or 60, they add up quickly! Thank you!!**





# HISTORY HAPPENINGS

## Writing on the Wall

The flowing excerpt is taken from the article entitled “Layer in Time” from the LOWCOUNTRY MONTHLY, January 2001. It tells the story of St. Luke’s restoration of the slave gallery.

...Longtime members insist that they recall the rumors of graphite graffiti existing, hidden under layers paint of the walls of the old slave balcony. “I’ve heard some rumors about that” admits Martha Cramer of Bluffton, a member since 1962. “I’ve heard. It was for the black people.” Another parishioner petite, cordial Elnora Ekholm who has also attended since 1962, remembers the stories of words on the walls. I’m fascinated by the history,” she says of possible listing of slave or army personnel. “I’d love to know.”

Penn Center director Emory Campbell concurs, for area blacks whose family roots go back to that era, exposing those words may shed new historical light on both their backgrounds and on the rich Gullah culture of the Lowcountry barrier islands—a culture which today is threatened with extinction via assimilation in the face of the area’s explosive development. Columbia mural and art conservationist Craig Crawford may be the person who can help Ekholm and the rest of the congregation discover just what is on those walls.

Retained by the board of trustees, Crawford recently performed test patches at various sites on the balcony wall, revealing “writing that was recovered –on top of a thin whitewash that is covering the plaster wall.

The writing is in graphite and tentatively adhered to this paint layer. In areas there are multiple layers of oil painting over the writing, while others exhibit only the spackling layer that was applied in the 1980’s.

Crawford admits that a certain amount of artistic detective’s work is in order in tackling the task. First of course would be to define, via further test patches, those areas most apt to yield success, and the work on a 3x3 foot primary area. To expose multiple layers of the entire wall is simple too costly. Secondly the task requires removing layer upon layer of paint, spackle, liners, and adhesives in the primary search area. Crawford estimates that some parts of the have as many as 7 layers of material covering those samples he exposed in testing, “Getting back through those layers to the graffiti is obviously crucial, he says although infra—red capability may become feasible at some point before that. “Then,” he adds, “we can use a thin coat of synthetic co-polymer resin, which is stable and does not discolor. Finally. a protective sheet of Plexiglass, somewhat removed from the wall, would permit viewing. The problem is, as always, cost. To expose the entire area under consideration would probably be close to \$10,000. Even the 3x3 foot area Crawford proposes exposing initially would cost \$1,500.

Still, Crawford and the members of the congregation most closely associated with the project don’t feel they are on a wild goose chase in the search. “Gwen Cassidy and Loretta DuBois swear these writings existed in their lifetimes,” says incoming board of trustees, Richard Worley. As a retired professor of physics and mathematics at Dyersburg St. College in Tennessee Dr. Worley is not prone to exaggeration, for his words are corroborated by Mrs. Dubois “I remember when the writing was on the wall—probably sometime in the 1970’s she said recently. “But when we had the church painted none of us were smart enough to write down what was on the walls. I do remember going up and seeing it. It was old-timey (style) writing and very pretty, and you could read what it said. And I believe it had some dates in it, too. Indeed, some actual writing appears indistinctly on the wall above the right staircase, writing which Crawford estimates rests somewhere between the third and fifth layers.”

Note: At the time of this article, church membership was 44.

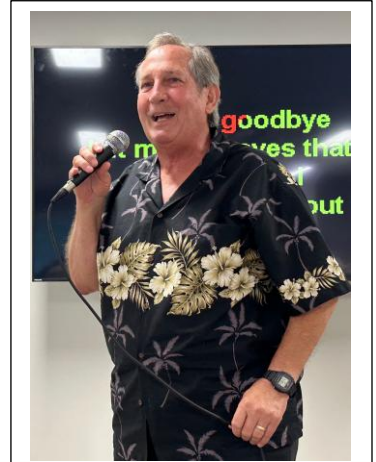
Blessings,  
Pam Hoel, Church Historian

# A BACK AT JUNE 2025

We were pleased to honor all our men on Father's Day this year! They each received a "labeled" bottle of water. It read: "May you continue to inspire and uplift everyone around you with your wisdom and kindness." With our appreciation, St. Luke's UMC.



On June 14<sup>th</sup>, we had a fun Karaoke night with Linda Jackson and her brother from England.





## More from June...

We had a "Full House" for our Mexican Train night on Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. It was great fun!



We even had some trying to hula-hoop!





And, more from June...



After our 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday (6/29) 9:15 a.m. worship service, we had a delicious Potluck!



On June 29<sup>th</sup>, we welcomed 4 new members.



Pastor Chris & Cynthia celebrating his birthday at Kenny B's French Quarter Café (Cajun cuisine.)



John Sariscak, Michele Elek\*, Nancy Sariscak, Mary Cale, Sue Boisvert\*, Thomas Cook\*, Beverly Cook\*, Shirley & Norm Stark, Pastor Chris – New members have the \*.

We welcomed our Music Director back after her surgery.



Mark your calendars for these Upcoming meetings!! (Subject to change)



### MEETINGS — In the Fellowship Hall

Every Monday—Men's Bible Study at 8:00 AM

Tuesday, 7/1—Trustees at 9:00 AM

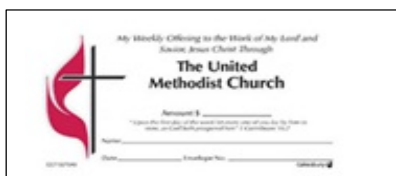
Every Thursday, Women's Bible Study at 5:30 PM

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. for another EXCITING night of Mexican Train!!



### Did You Know??

If you would like to dedicate the worship flowers to someone special, all you need to do is sign up for flowers on the bulletin board. When it's your time to be recognized as the donor, we request that a donation of \$53.50 marked "Flowers" be placed in the offering plate. The flowers are for two Sundays and then, if you'd like, you may take them home. To have it listed in the bulletin, send your info about who you are recognizing (in honor of/in memory of:) to Amy Erickson and Linda Metcalf.



If you give "cash" in the offering and want to get credit at the end of the year for your donations...use one of the envelopes we have hanging on the last pew. Just write your name on the envelope.





## CONGREGANTS

Ruth Dolan   Marsha Gerber   Linda Jackson  
Andy & Sharon Makarick   Lois Willig  
Pam Hoel   Michael Brown   Barb Silcox  
Thomas Cook   Ouida Dell

## FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF CONGREGANTS

Hannah Nystrom, friend of Marie Baldauf  
Edward, brother of Debra Burr  
Kelly Mayer, daughter of Donna Stephen  
Drew Howell, nephew of Donna Stephen  
David Howell, relative of Donna Stephen  
Jill Demsack, friend of Jane Tiffany  
Nancy, mother-in-law of Michelle Cramer  
Courtney, daughter of Judi Landin  
Donna Ludwig, friend of Marie Baldauf  
Sharon Johnson, friend of Cynthia Thompson  
Jim Myers, neighbor of Judi Landin  
Eva Bergren, friend of Sheryll Ingram  
Tina McIlroy, friend of Ann Webster  
Kinsey, family member of Nancy Sariscak  
Gary Bethel, brother of Alan Bethel  
Jonathan Bethel, grandson of Alan and Carole  
Bethel  
Joan Wagner, sister of Constance Ulrich  
John Busby, husband of Emma Jo Busby  
Thomas, brother of Susie Brown  
The Scott family  
Margo, daughter of Suzie Wiles, friend of  
Constance Ulrich  
Tilly, daughter of Sandy Lowry  
Dara, sister of Margo Cservek  
Helena, daughter of Don McKay, and Helena's  
daughter, Amelia  
Paul Black, friend of Chick Mazon  
Ethel Johnson, sister of Archie Vance

## FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF CONGREGANTS

David Sharp, son of Beverly Cook  
Norman Neus  
Carolyn Kurz, friend of Sheryll Ingram  
Gina Tuttle, friend of Jerry Vagnier  
Beverly Smith, Peggy Firtion's next-door  
neighbor's sister

**Let us remember with cards, and prayers...**

### CHURCH MEMBERS IN NURSING HOMES, ASSISTED LIVING OR HOMEBOUND

Ruth Dolan,  
Summer Breeze  
351 Wilmington Island Rd., Room 225  
Savannah GA 31410  
Elnora Ekholm, 173 May River Rd.,  
Bluffton SC 29910  
June Hamilton, 4 Concession Oak Dr.,  
Bluffton SC 29909  
Jane and Jerry Wick, 740 Middletrail Court,  
Mt. Airy MD 21771





### JULY BIRTHDAYS

02-Debbie Burr  
 06-Diana Hamilton  
 11-Alan Jordan  
 12-Elizabeth Vance  
 12-Reece Woods  
 13-Arlene Schaltegger  
 19-Will Ross  
 24-Richard LaFever  
 26-Lois Finch  
 26-Eric Woods  
 27-MaKayla Carter  
 28-Dell Harper

### AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

01-Donna Stephen  
 02-Jim Jackson  
 02-Carol Jackson  
 04-Archie Vance  
 06-Harry Skinker  
 08-Gwen Cassidy  
 10-Jeananne Cranston  
 17-Hudson Pryor  
 19-Francine Iacovo  
 21-Letty Husson  
 22-Mim Mazon  
 22-Tom Symonds  
 23-Leslie Richards  
 24-Pat Schwartz-Ross  
 25-Joe Cservek  
 29-Sharon Symonds  
 30-Lee van Rensburg

### JULY ANNIVERSARIES

06-Sheryll Ingram & Bill Halstead  
 12-Barbara & Ron Marangio  
 17-Cynthia & Rev. Chris Thompson  
 17-Sharon & Tom Symonds  
 20-Doris & Bob Heck  
 21-Joyce & Bill Haskins  
 25-Pam & Rick Hoel  
 27-Denise & Randy Pryor  
 27-Elizabeth & Archie Vance  
 29-Ann & Allen Webster  
 29-Carol & Jim Jackson  
 31-Lynn & Joseph Cutshall



### AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

04-Tatyana Topoleski & Darrel Fitzgerald  
 15-Shirley & Norm Stark (60<sup>th</sup>)  
 17-Diane & JP Moery  
 17-Constance & George Ulrich  
 27-Karen & Phil Mitchell  
 31-Mim & Chick Mazon



### OR WATCH "ON-LINE" AT

### ST. LUKE'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL

<https://www.youtube.com/@st.lukesunitedmethodistchu8920/videos>



**Donate through Vanco**, go to our web page:

<https://stlukesumc-okatie.org/>, Click on the "Donate" button at the top of the page. This will link you to our Vanco donation tiles. Choose where your donation will be applied.



Please "like" our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100082060615677&mibextid=LQQJ4d>

**LET ME TAKE YOUR PHOTO!** If you are attending St. Luke's United Methodist Church, we would like to have you in our Photo Directory. We include visitors as well as members! Please see Pat Simmons to arrange a time to have your photo taken. It only takes a minute of your time!



### IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER OF

**ST. LUKE'S** – you may pick up an "Invitation to Membership" form (located behind the last pew) also on the bulletin board and in the Fellowship Hall. Or email [patsimmonsperdue@gmail.com](mailto:patsimmonsperdue@gmail.com) for a copy. Fill it out, bring it back and Pastor Chris will get in touch with you.

**If you cannot come to church, we Thank You for "mailing" your donations to:**

**St. Luke's UMC  
 PO Box 2779  
 Bluffton SC 29910**

