

FOLLOWING CHRIST FROM CITY CENTER

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mainstreetgreenwood.org/live-stream

Letter from the Pastor

Love Is in the Air

After she woke up, a woman told her husband, "I just dreamed that you gave me a pearl necklace for Valentine's day. What do you think it means?"

"You'll know tonight," he said.

That evening, the man came home with a small package and gave it to his wife. Delighted, she opened it to find a book entitled "The Meaning of Dreams."

We are living in a world where our hopes and dreams are shattered by the harsh reality of the global pandemic. Too many people long for activities and events that used to be commonplace and matter-of-fact. In our grief, we can easily get caught in anger, hurt, and resentment.

One way to combat this feeling is to fight with love. Jesus said, "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." (John 13:34b) Love is not feeling your heart flutter when you see someone. Love is feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, housing the homeless, caring for the sick, the widowed and the orphan. Love is action.

As we go through this season of valentines, may we do more than declare our love. May we express our love in tangible ways as we follow the example of Christ.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor James

John McFadden
Director



Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach **and** counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing **psalms and hymns and spiritual songs** to God with thankful hearts. Colossians 3:16

Help me understand the meaning of your commandments and I will **meditate** on you and your wonderful deeds. Psalm 119:27

Meditation on Him and His Word and music about Him or to Him can help us focus on God and His Word. They are both tools that help us digest His wisdom and make it a real part of our lives.

Flowers for our Worship Services

- February 7
- February 14
- February 21
- February 28

Keep in mind multiple families can share Sunday flowers if there is a special date you have in mind. Call the Church Office to sign up!
864-229-7551

Stewardship and Finance

Financial Report as of January 24, 2021

	Actual	Budget
YTD INCOME:	\$31,460	\$69,008
YTD EXPENSES:	\$36,452	\$69,008
YTD SURPLUS		
OR (DEFICIT):	\$(4,992)	

Apportionments Report as of 01/24/2021

\$99,646	Apportionments due by 12/31/21
\$ <u> 0</u>	Apportionments Paid to Date
\$99,646	Balance of Apportionments due

No apportionments have been paid as of yet for this budget year.

Celebration Circle

The February meeting will be a Zoom meeting.

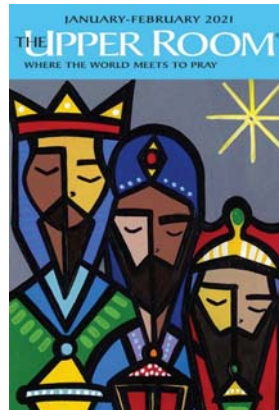
Tuesday, February 9
from 6-7 pm.

We invite anyone to join us for our meeting as we continue to discuss how we can "Be A Blessing in 2021".

Join us for the fun as we celebrate February and the month of love!

Susanna Circle

The Susanna Circle **will not** meet in February. When safe, meetings will resume on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am in the Wesley Commons Library.



The January/February Upper Room devotionals are available in the church office for \$1.00 for regular print and \$1.50 for large print.

The Upper Room is temporarily making available a downloadable PDF at:

<https://www.upperroom.org/special-editions>

MEN N MINISTRY

DISCIPLING MEN GOD CAN USE
ON THEIR FAMILIES, CHURCHES, COMMUNITIES, AND BEYOND...

You are invited!
Men of South Carolina
FREE VIRTUAL EVENT
February 26, 2021
6:30 pm—8:30 pm

Register on [EventBrite](#) to assure proper contact information to forward the link.



Carlos Whitaker and John Eldredge
are the keynote speakers.

Contact the Church Office for more information!

March Connection

Deadline for the next *Connection*
February 18, 2021

Email: churchoffice@mainstreetgreenwood.org

The *Lent* season begins this year with Ash Wednesday on February 17; following the 40 days tradition, *Lent ends* on Holy Saturday, April 3, and Easter is on Sunday, April 4.

Each year, many Christians from varying denominations welcome the new buds of spring with the celebration of Lent. The celebration of Lent is a six-week-long event in the Christian calendar when Christians are meant to be "encouraged to find [their] own method of confronting [their] sinfulness, remembering [their] mortality, and giving thanks for the gift of salvation [they] receive through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ," according to the [United Methodist Church's website](#). The word "Lent" is derived from the Anglo-Saxon term "lencten" (relating to the lengthening of days), which translates to "spring."



Super Bowl Canned Food Drive



Who: Everyone!

What: Souper Bowl Food Drive — Donate canned goods or non-perishable items

Where: Outside Church office

When: Before February 5 during Office Hours

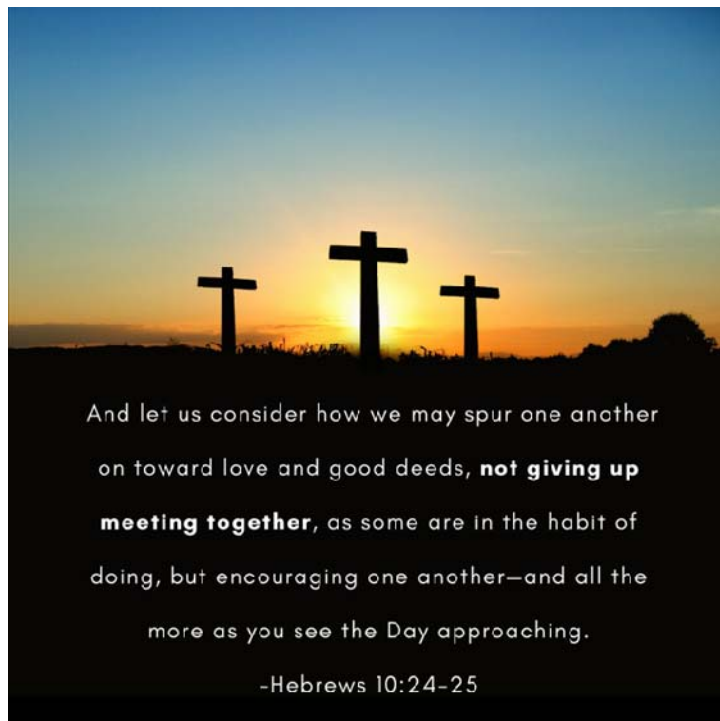
Place your items in the labeled box for the team you're rooting for in Super Bowl LV.

The team with the most goods will "win."

**All items will be donated to the
Food Pantry and
Greater Greenwood United Ministries**

Suggested items include:

Canned goods, Peanut butter, Pasta,
Rice, Powdered Milk



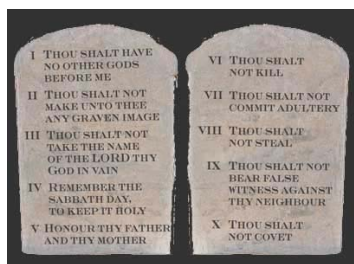
Whether on Zoom or in person, let's not give up meeting together. In Matthew 18 Jesus says, "For where two or three gather in my name, there I am with them."

Revolution 2021

Our youth attended Revolution virtually this year! The event was live-streamed on Saturday, January 30 to middle and high school students of Methodist churches around the state. We are thankful for the opportunity to experience Revolution even during the pandemic.

Return of College Bible Study- Return of in-person meetings TBA

For the past few months, our local college-age members have been meeting on Tuesday mornings for breakfast and Bible study. We have started a study on "Busyness." If interested in joining, contact Preston Goforth at 864-993-0463. Any college-age or young adult friends are welcome to join as well, along with other members when back in town!



Lenten Study

Calling all youth! We will be joining in on the church-wide Lenten study *Words of Life: Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today* by Adam Hamilton. Whether online or in-person, we are ready to prepare our hearts and minds for the Lenten season and the promise of Easter!



In Memoriam
Faye Shehane Terry
January 2, 2021

In Memoriam
Joseph Eulie Adams, Jr.
January 2, 2021

In Memoriam
Lois Gadd Nisonger
January 7, 2021

Continuing Prayer Concerns: Marian Adams, Brenda Munnerlyn, Freddia Partridge, Cera Adams, Lori Anne Hagood, Linda Bell, Leon Thompson, Peggy Ackerman, Georgia Sherard, Steve Alexander, Debbie Tackett, Ronnie Kidd, Steve Agee, Joy Pinckney, Kathy Bailey, Barbara Fisher, Wayne Wilson, Eleanor Jenkins, Bob Walters, Pat Ikonen, Kirra Grace Hantske, Joe Fennel, Mike Johnson, Bill and Doris Tunstall, Steven Stewart, Pierce Stockman, Ned Birchmore, Randy Rouse, Patricia Lindell, Bobby Pittavino, Gene Wilson, and Lori Proctor.

Christian Love and Sympathy is extended to:

Allison Wooten and family on the death of her grandmother, Elsie Speer, on January 20.

**Main Street
Mission Opportunities**

Special Mission Recognition

Mary Lynn Polk, Greenwood District Spiritual Growth Coordinator and President of Main St UMW, did so much during 2019-2020 in making plans for the October 2020 SC Conference UMW Annual Meeting. This meeting was hosted by the Greenwood District and was supposed to be held at Main St. UMC but ended up being a virtual event because of Covid-19. Mary Lynn did much work behind the scenes that was unknown to many.



A big thanks to Mary Lynn for her hard work! Joyce Crouch, Greenwood District UMW President, personally presented Mary Lynn with a Special Mission Recognition pin on Saturday, December 12th, in honor of this tremendous amount of work.

Mission/Outreach Report

Two teams are being formed to serve meals at the Soup Kitchen on Saturday mornings. We anticipate being assigned at least one Saturday each quarter and possibly more. Each team consists of eight church members. Thanks so much to those who have stepped up to serve in this special way!!

Care Team Report

Members of the Care Team carry out a number of functions related to Congregational Care. Team members call on, send cards to, and check-in with members who are homebound. Team members have also been checking on other members of the church during the holiday season. The Bereavement Team provides meals for families of members that we have lost, typically on the day of the funeral/memorial service.

The team met with the pastors via ZOOM in December to review various needs. The pastors reported that since September, phone calls have been made to the homebound list in addition to other pastoral calls that emerge.

Director of Music Ministries, John McFadden, also led an effort to bring Christmas Carols to several of our homebound members during December.

CELEBRATIONS

February Birthdays



- 1 Marilyn Murphy
- 2 Crawford Burns
Seth Washington
- 3 Trent Cason
- 4 Terry Adkins
Amelia Stockman
Rachel Holder
- 5 Harriet Mays, Jon Bassett
- 6 Jimmy Carson
- 7 Kelly Ackerman, Barbara Kirkpatrick, Scurry Charles
- 8 Toby Chappell
- 9 Chip Stockman, Judy Roberts
- 11 Ronney Smith, Kayla Titus
- 12 Tinker Pendergrass, Molly Austin, Kathy Murff
- 13 Pam Faulkner, Dianna Helfrich, Steve Alexander
- 14 Elizabeth Gentry, Rosemary Skinner, Mary Ashlyn Perkey
- 16 Haley Rogers
- 17 Joe Chapman
- 19 Asa Stallworth
- 20 Granger Smith, Derrick Chapman,
- 21 Claire Barrineau, Ron Miller, Caroline Leopard, Pam Dawes
Brooke Styron
- 22 Mackenzie Tharpe
- 23 Margaret Albon
- 24 Jim Briggs
- 25 Morgan LaForge, Jenny Perkey, Ann Landis
- 26 Libby Hartung
- 27 Bob Helfrich

February Anniversaries

- 4 Ron and Jean Osborne
- 7 Gerry and Freddia Partridge
- 14 Greg and Cele Shelley
- 23 Paige and Justin Swearingen
- 28 Nick and Melissie Satterfield



Congratulations



Kayla Hall and Tyler Key were married on December 31, 2020. Kayla and Tyler's girls, Abbott Grace and Parker, are excited to be sisters and for their new family.

Marler Askew was crowned Miss South Carolina Collegiate America in January. Marler is the daughter of Mark and Hope Askew and the granddaughter of Bill and Doris Tunstall. Your church family congratulates you and are proud of you, Marler.



- Be on the lookout for activity packets in the next few weeks.
- Planning is underway for VBS. Parents, please respond to the upcoming survey; this will be a tremendous help.

Dear Church Family,

Due to Covid-19, we are using lots of additional hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, and sanitizing spray in order to keep our "littles" and staff safe.

As you know, the cost of these items add up quickly. Please think of us when you are shopping and donate as you are able.

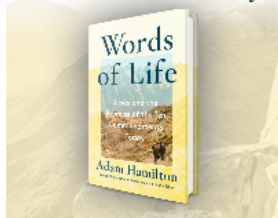
Thank you in advance for loving and supporting Main Street's preschool.

Allison Wooten, Director
 Mud Pies Committee: Jon Bassett, Cathy Chalmers, Mary Lynn Polk, Jean Osborne, Jo Patterson, and Lisa Smith





Unpack the Ten Commandments for today!



Church Wide Study – “Words of Life”

We had a good start to the Adam Hamilton study “The Walk” last year. We are doing a similar study and campaign this year during Lent. Hamilton will examine the Ten Commandments. These are ‘the guardrails and guideposts that God has provided to help us live an abundant life and know God’s heart in a deeper way.’

We are preparing for both scenarios - online only or in-person only. You can indicate your interest in how you are willing to participate in the church wide study by completing a 'pre-registration form'. We know some have a strong preference, so please indicate yours on the form. Also, please indicate if you are willing to facilitate a group. You can find the “Pre-Registration Form” here:

<https://mainstreetgreenwood.org/church-wide-study-for-lent/>

Spring Lay Servant Ministry School....

The Greenwood District Spring Lay Servant Ministry School is set for March 20, 21, 27, 28, 2021. These sessions will be held via Zoom. Please note that the **registration deadline is February 19, 2021. No registrations will be accepted after this date.** The registration information and form will ALSO be available online: <http://www.umcsc.net/greenwood/home/>. Look for the link for Lay Servant Ministries on the right-hand side of the page. Please complete the registration form and mail it with your registration fee to the Greenwood District Office, PO Box 49968, Greenwood, SC 29649. Please order your books in advance so you will have them for the first session on March 20. Order information for these course books will be available online: <http://www.umcsc.net/greenwood/home/>.

Gray Stallworth
Pastor of Discipleship

**Are you active and effective in sharing with others
your faith, your resources, and your love?**
Philemon 1:6


I remember a time when my favorite team had an unusually easy schedule (at least on paper) for a season. Friends would take jabs at me because they thought this gave me an unfair advantage. My response came from an old cliché, “You play the hand you are dealt.” I know that policies came down from authorities in my previous career that I might not have agreed with. Yet, I was to carry out those policies to the best of my abilities. Another team was reclassified into a ‘class’ of the largest schools, yet they were now one of the smallest, if not the smallest school in that classification. The coaches were using that same premise, “we are going to play the hand we are dealt, regardless of how we feel about it.”

At this time, no one is excited about the hand we’ve been dealt. However, we are going to move forward, doing the best we can, under the most unusual circumstances we’ve likely ever faced. We have changed how we do worship services, how we conduct our small group ministry, how we go about providing opportunities for our congregation to grow. We have not been promised an easy path as Christians. We still need to participate in worship, in fellowship and in study. Our community still needs us as we provide support to various ministries. Our command, ‘go and make disciples’, has not been rescinded.

We all know this is different and in many ways is pulling us out of our comfort zones. Let’s continue to focus on Jesus Christ and the fact that He is walking beside us, guiding us there to give us strength!

Don’t forget to “stay salty”! (Matthew 5:13)

February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool 5:15 pm Pandemic Response Team Zoom Meeting 6:00 pm The Essentials Zoom</p>	<p>2 Groundhog Day</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool 9:30 am Staff Meeting 4:00 pm Virtual Care Team Meeting</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool 6:30 pm Ladies Essentials Zoom</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool</p>	<p>6</p>	
<p>7</p> <p>8:30 am Virtual Early Service 10:00 am Sunday School Zoom 11:00 am Virtual Traditional Worship</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool 6:00 pm The Essentials Zoom</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool 6:00 pm Celebration Circle — Zoom 6:30 pm Wesley Fellowship</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool 5:30 pm Confirmation Zoom Meeting 6:30 pm Ladies Essentials Zoom</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14 Valentine's Day</p> <p>8:30 am Early Service and Live Stream 10:00 am Sunday School Zoom 11:00 am Traditional Worship and Live Stream</p> 	<p>15 Presidents' Day</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool</p> <p>"Words of Life" begins this week!</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool 9:30 am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Wesley Fellowship</p>	<p>17 Ash Wednesday</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool 5:30 pm Confirmation Zoom Meeting</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Soup Kitchen Volunteer Team 1</p>
<p>21</p> <p>8:30 am Early Service and Live Stream 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship and Live Stream</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00 am Mud Pies Preschool 6:30 pm Wesley Fellowship</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 Mud Pies Preschool</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 Mud Pies Preschool</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00 Mud Pies Preschool</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>8:30 am Early Service and Live Stream 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship and Live Stream</p>						



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The Connection

A monthly publication connecting members and friends of Main Street United Methodist Church.

Main Street United Methodist Church

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