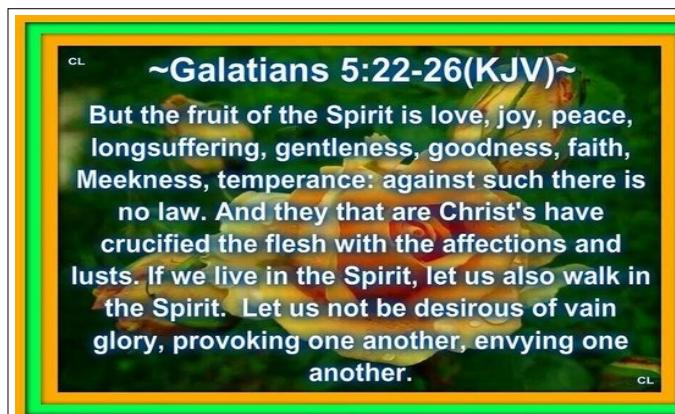




*Our Mission: To connect Christ and community and to demonstrate the love of God to all through Jesus Christ as empowered by the Holy Spirit.*



### Things to do to Make the Season of Lent More Meaningful

As we continue with the Lenten season, let's all do our best this year to grow in God's grace. Let's mind the weeds growing in our spiritual gardens. Let's let God renew us in ways that strengthen and encourage us during what has been, and continues to be, a difficult time for all of us. Galatians 5:22-26 tells us our life is in the Spirit, building ourselves up in the fruit of the Spirit.

**Serve** - We remember that we are part of the entire human family, making it a great day to serve others. Although serving may be limited this year, whatever ways you assist others is a way of serving—a phone call, a card, a prayer, etc.

**Give** - We encourage you to give within our congregation and other organizations that also serve others.

**Abstain/Fast** - Giving up something for Lent is a common practice, not only food or trying to kick a habit.

**Pray** - Pray all day. Pray for drivers of vehicles and mass transit passengers. Pray for frontline workers, which include: police officers, firefighters, doctors, nurses, government employees, and, also, teachers and school officials. Pray for all families and your family members.

**Make something** - Create something: take out the glue, clay, yarn, and other supplies to create a work of art. (I bet you didn't know how creative you are.)

**Clean something** - Spend an hour polishing your silver or merely organizing your magazine racks. (During this Lenten season, think about something you can do to help us stop thinking about what we can not do.)

**Burn something** - When you finish cleaning, burn something you no longer need; burning the Palms on Ash Wednesday is to acknowledge we are sinners. This year, let our cleaning and burning of unwanted things in our household be the sign of cleansing our inner selves as well.

**Forgive and seek forgiveness** - Ask God for forgiveness and seek forgiveness from those we have wronged. Remember, however, that forgiveness has much more to do about us than the one who offended us.

### LENT

#### (LET'S TRY A NEW METHOD OF FASTING)

1. Fast from Stress and Frustration. (Give your family an extra dose of love each day.)
2. Fast from Judging Others. (Before making any judgments, recall how Jesus overlooks our faults.)
3. Fast from Discouragement. (Hold onto Jesus' promise that He has a perfect plan for your life.)
4. Fast from Complaining. (When you find yourself about to complain, close your eyes and recall some of the little moments of joy Jesus has given you.)
5. Fast from Resentment or Bitterness. (Work on forgiving those who may have hurt you.)
6. Fast from Spending too much Money (Try to reduce your spending by ten percent and give those savings to the poor, or increase your tithes to the church to assist in the ongoing ministries.)
7. Spend Extra Time for Personal Prayer (The discipline of prayer is a practice every one of us can use to help us grow in our faith and be the best version of ourselves God will help us.)



*Pastor Leatha Brown*



### A Note of Thanks

Windsor, scripture tells us in Galatians 6:6 that the one who receives instructions in the word should share all good things with their instructor. I am happy and blessed because you have done just that in caring and sharing with Mark and me. We are indeed grateful for your selfless acts of kindness in our hour of need. As your pastor, I am proud of a flock who loves and demonstrates your love. So, please know we will never forget how you cared for us in our hour of need and great concern. We know the prayers of the righteous availeth much, and God continues to show His power and presence in our lives in such a way we know God is with us.

*Pastor Leatha Brown*

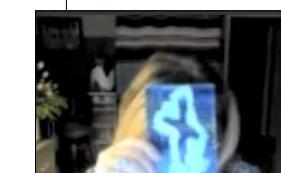


### Ash Wednesday Zoom Worship

By Kathy Hart

For me, Ash Wednesday is an important day of the year. Ash Wednesday is a Christian holy day of prayer marking the first day of Lent. Traditionally at Windsor, it is the beginning of midweek services, and, thanks to our cooks, homemade soup and sandwich lunches. We will miss that again this year.

Lent derives its name from the placing of repentance ashes on the foreheads of participants to the words "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." During the pandemic, creative suggestions about the ashes have surfaced from churches around the country, many involving Ziploc bags, lip balm containers filled with ashes to-go, or a long Q-tip, and lots of gloves. Some ideas included leaving ashes for people in the sanctuary; sending packets of ashes to members' homes; having packets available for congregants to pick up; and finally, completely forgoing ashes.



Still in her own COVID-19 recovery, Pastor Leatha Brown wanted to recognize Ash Wednesday, but in a safe manner. During a virtual brainstorming session, we decided to offer a Zoom worship service to the congregation. Instead of mailing ashes to everyone, I was inspired to create handmade Gelli-print style paintings of rustic crosses for each member of Windsor. Prior to mailing, Pastor blessed all the crosses.

On Ash Wednesday afternoon, Judi Rose from Rehoboth UMC called to ask if they could join us for our Ash Wednesday service, because a COVID case in their church had forced them to shut their doors for worship. We welcomed them.

The worship service began at 7 p.m. with opening remarks and prayer by Rev. Dr. Norma Edwards. She introduced the Bible verses Joel 2:12-13, <sup>12</sup>"Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." <sup>13</sup>Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

This led into short reflections regarding these verses shared by Libby Horton, John Mullikin, Judi Rose (Rehoboth UMC), Charles Shipman and me. Musical selections followed by Rodney Mills and Daloni Clark.

In her powerful comments, Rev. Leatha Brown explained how being afflicted by COVID-19 was a good thing.

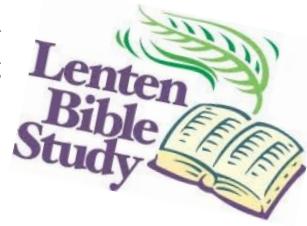
Rev. Franklin Buie's role in the Ash Wednesday service was to use the painted Ash Wednesday crosses. He struggled with how to impose a cross on each participant's forehead, then realized we could use the painted crosses — as you can see in the photos.

Yes, it was a different Ash Wednesday service. I describe it as intimate and spiritual. We saw the faces of people we haven't seen in a year. Judi Rose wrote, "Yes, it was a different service, but it was perfect. It really touched Bill and me."



**JOIN US****Lenten Bible Study** *By Kathy Hart*

Pour yourself a fruity smoothie and plan your Wednesday mornings around Windsor's new Zoom Lenten Bible Study beginning March 3 at 11 a.m. Pastor Leatha Brown will be leading us in "A Journey to Christlikeness: A study of the Fruits of the Spirit." The first week is focused on "Faithfulness." You will receive the Bible Study materials from Windsor via email. If you are part of Becky McMillion's mailing list, you will receive it by mail. Be on the lookout for a Zoom invitation and link. No masks allowed.

**Outreach Food Pantry**

We continue to collect food for Windsor's own food pantry. During this pandemic, several families have come to our church office in need of food. Windsor has been able to provide food for them out of our food pantry. Families in need in the Skills for Life and Work Program also have been assisted with their food needs from the pantry.

Requested items include:



- dried red, black and pinto beans (1 pound bags)
- white rice (1 or 2 pound bags)
- peanut butter
- spaghetti/elbow macaroni
- canned chicken, tuna and Vienna sausage.
- Bar soap, toothpaste/toothbrushes and paper towels/toilet paper are also appreciated.
- jelly
- spaghetti sauce

You may drop off your donations at the church office during the week. Please remember to wear a mask and social distance!

Thank you for continuing to help those in need, Windsor.

A special thank you as well to Troop 2870. They designated their food collections during this year's Scouting for Food Drive to Windsor's Food Pantry. Thanks to their efforts, our food closet received more than 150 food and toiletry items for those in need!

**Calling All Women of Windsor (WoW!):***By Joy Stone*

Please mark your calendars for a scheduled Zoom meeting.

- Topic: Windsor's Answer to "A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial"
- Time: March 16, 2021 11:30 a.m. Eastern Time (US and Canada)
- Join Zoom Meeting
- <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76189203592?pwd=NfZSeHJhdDJhN3JaTXUyVWVYOWJxUT09>
- **Meeting ID: 761 8920 3592**
- **Passcode: yW3JN1**



On Tuesday, March 16, at 11:30 a.m., Windsor's UMW will meet via Zoom from the home of UMW President Joy Stone (with limited seating available to those unable to connect via computer; social distancing and masks will be observed in the home). The program will be "A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial" encouraged by the national organization. We participated last year, and it was enlightening.

This year's theme "She Leads: Empowering Women to Make a Difference," invites women to be part of an observance in sisterhood with women from Windsor, our community, and the world. The scripture is Numbers 27:1-8. A special offering will be collected to go toward projects including, but not limited to, GED and ESL, job readiness, life skills and livelihood training, scholarships, and microenterprise programs. Through your Call to Prayer and Self-Denial offering, you are witness to God at work, empowering women to make a difference. You may download more information about the program at <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/Media/PDF/Worship/CallToPrayer2021Brochure.pdf>.

Julie Milhouse has offering envelopes in the church office. Please contact Joy Stone at [dumbolhousewife@yahoo.com](mailto:dumbolhousewife@yahoo.com) or 803-409-9951 for more information.



## WINDSOR SOUP KITCHEN AT WASHINGTON STREET UMC

Photos and article by Becky Leonard

It has been nearly 12 months since Windsor's Soup Kitchen crew was last able to volunteer downtown at the Soup Cellar. Until it is safer for outside churches to participate in the servings, Washington Street UMC has volunteer activities on hold. While we will not be able to serve in March, please check the weekly *Leaf* for updates for the possibility of an April serving. You also may contact Becky Leonard at 803-466-4222 or [fleonardz@hotmail.com](mailto:fleonardz@hotmail.com).

A dedicated team of Washington Street and Soup Cellar staff continues to feed the hungry since COVID-19 concerns necessitated changes in the noon meal serving. Meals are a bagged lunch which include a cup of soup and a sandwich, along with a piece of fruit, dessert treat and bottle of water. Since last March, they have averaged between 70 and 100 guests per serving and have prepared nearly 23,000 sandwiches!

The Soup Cellar manager also added a full meal, such as meat loaf, roasted potatoes, green beans, dessert and soda, once or twice a month to give the guests a little something extra.

In keeping with safety protocols, guests come in one at a time to pick up their meal and then depart so that the next guest can get their meal. Masks are provided for any guest who does not have one.

Washington Street UMC and the Soup Cellar are very appreciative of everyone's prayers and support. Robbie Douglas, Washington Street UMC Business Administrator and a member of the sandwich making team, wrote "We could not have done this without the outpouring from our volunteer community and the community as a whole. The prayers, financial, and food donations have been overwhelming." He continued, "We are truly blessed!"

### Our Deepest Sympathies

The Outreach Team wishes to express sympathies to the families and friends of three Windsor Soup Kitchen crew members who have passed away in the recent months—Ms. Evelyn Saleeby, Mrs. Diane Thompson and Mr. Nelson Woods.

Beginning Fall 2010, Ms. Evelyn Saleeby, a member of Forest Lake Presbyterian Church, joined our Windsor group for numerous servings. Affectionately called "Aunt," Evelyn played the kazoo and the keyboard, often partnering with Beth Anderson. For many servings, Soup Cellar guests were treated to a devotional reading Aunt had selected and delivered prior to the meal.

Mrs. Diane Thompson joined our servings in 2017 and 2019, helping to prepare and bag the sandwiches for the noon meal. During the serving, Diane was frequently at the front desk, welcoming the Soup Cellar guests with her big smile.

Mr. Nelson Woods helped with nearly all of our Windsor servings in 2013 and 2014, preparing sandwiches and helping with various steps in the soup preparation process. Always wearing a U.S. Army cap, Nelson collected each guest's ticket as they came through the serving line to get their food and was there to offer a greeting to each one.

Our Soup Kitchen crew and the Soup Cellar guests were blessed to have these caring individuals helping with our monthly servings.



## Windsor Elementary School Food Drive Update

By Becky Leonard

Many thanks to Kara and Gene Lewis for arranging and making deliveries of the food items and gift cards Windsor collected last fall and the beginning of 2021. As of mid-February, the Lewises have made four deliveries totaling more than 1800 food items and weighing close to 1620 pounds to Windsor Elementary School!



January food delivery  
Photo courtesy of Kara Lewis

Deliveries in November 2020 and February 2021 included food purchased with monetary donations received. Using these donations, Kara was able to order food items online, in quantities of 10 or more, and pick-up curbside. The January delivery included small-dollar gift cards to Food Lion and Walmart for families to purchase fresh produce. Elementary school personnel continue to express their sincere thanks for Windsor's generosity.

We thank our many donors who have helped provide food for the students in need and their families.

An article about Windsor's food drive to benefit the neighborhood school appeared in the February 2021 issue of the *South Carolina United Methodist Advocate*.

# TROOP 900/TROOP 2870 NEWS



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA | COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

## Troop 2870 Events and Activities *By Ed Gatzke, Troop 2870 Scoutmaster*

Troop 2870 celebrated two years since girls were allowed in the Scouts BSA program with a campout at Aiken State Park. Scouting for Food takes place each year in February to celebrate the 1920 incorporation of the BSA. More than 150 items were collected for the Windsor UMC food pantry.

Troop 2870 recently held a virtual court of honor. Ava Phelps was recognized for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout and both Aiden King and Emily Bailey earned the rank of Life. Windsor United Methodist Church was recognized by the Capital Rivers District as the 2020 Charter Organization of the Year.

The troop plans upcoming trips to Santee State Park and DuPont Forest.



## Windsor has a New Piano

*By Doug Meade*

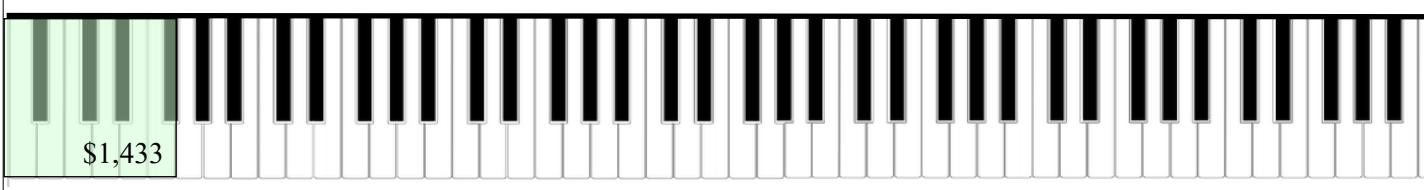
On Wednesday, January 17, 2021, Windsor's music program received a significant improvement with the delivery and installation of a new piano. This purchase was necessitated by the fact that the previous piano was in a condition where it was no longer tunable. Trustees requested and the Finance Team approved the purchase of a replacement piano. Rodney Mills did most of the legwork. His search ended with a recommendation to purchase a new Yamaha GB1 Acoustic 5' Grand Piano. We look forward to having this new piano to add to Windsor's music ministry for many years to come.

While the piano's purchase is a part of Windsor's 2021 budget, the Finance Team, with Church Council's approval, has created a Piano Fund to receive special designated funds for this purchase. Each shaded key on the following graphic represents \$135 in contributions to the Piano Fund. To make a contribution to the Piano Fund, simply write Piano Fund in the memo field and list Windsor UMC as the recipient. Thank you in advance for your contributions to the Piano Fund.



*Photo by Monya Havekost*

*Donations received as of February 24, 2021*



<b>Financial Summary through January 31, 2021</b>		<b>Income through January 31, 2021</b>	<b>Expenses through January 31, 2021</b>	<b>2021 Budget</b>	<b>Percent of Total</b>
Regular Income (offering, Sunday school, fees, other)	\$ 8,745.00		\$ 326,594.00	3%	
Administration (buildings, staff, & staff expenses)		\$ 17,666.65	\$ 251,374.00	7%	
Apportionments		2,923.70	29,237.00	10%	
Nurture (worship, communications, education, family ministries, music ministry & youth)		746.82	34,560.00	2%	
Outreach		0.00	5,050.00	0%	
Witness (evangelism & LRE)		0.00	6,373.00	0%	
<b>Total Regular Income &amp; Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 8,745.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,337.17</b>	<b>\$ 326,594.00</b>	<b>7%</b>	
Estimate of Giving for 2020			\$ 326,594.00		



**God Bless  
America!**

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY  
FRIENDS AND FAMILY  
SERVING OUR COUNTRY**

*Call the church office with the names of those you wish added to this list.*

**All Troops from Fort Jackson deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan**

**All Troops overseas and away from their homes**

**All Windsor families facing activation, deployment and homecoming**

**Average Attendance**

**10 a.m. Worship Service—Sanctuary**  
January 1 to January 17, 2021 38

**All in-person worship services were held with COVID-19 protocols in place.**

**Face-to-face worship services were cancelled beginning January 24 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

**Sunday School**

January 1 to January 31, 2021 31

February 1 to February 28, 2021 32

**Sunday School figures reflect those participating in Zoom, GoToMeeting and conference call classes.**

***Our Windsor Family***

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



*Photo courtesy of Jennifer Lull*

Congratulations to Jennifer and Josh Lull on the birth of their daughter, Rylie Ann, on January 9, in Pennsylvania. Becky and Fred Leonard are the proud grandparents!



*Photo courtesy of Betsy Meade*

Congratulations to Stuart and Jesse Grimes on the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Lee born on December 15, 2020 in Sumter, SC. Doug and Betsy Meade are proud grandparents!

**WINDSOR'S DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO...**

- † Family and friends of Evelyn Saleeby who passed away on December 18, 2020. Ms. Saleeby participated in many events held at Windsor UMC.
- † Myong Woods and Rev. Neal Woods and their family on the passing of her husband and his father, Nelson Woods, on January 7.
- † Joe Thompson and family on the passing of his wife, Diane Thompson, on January 16.
- † Marion “Zeke” Zissett and family on the passing of his wife, Margaret Zissett, on January 18.
- † Doug and Betsy Meade and family on the passing of his mother, Catherine Meade, on January 24.
- † Maudistine Hathaway and family on the passing of her husband, Robert Hathaway, on February 1.

*If you have a “Windsor Family” item that you would like to share with our church family, please notify the church office at [windsorumc@bellsouth.net](mailto:windsorumc@bellsouth.net) or 803-788-1858.*

## Calendar March 2021

### Wednesday, March 3

9:45 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)  
7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal - Sanctuary

### Thursday, March 4

6:30 PM BSA Troop 900 Meeting - Pavilion

### Saturday, March 6

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

### Sunday, March 7

9:00 AM Sunday School (see *Leaf* for details)

### **10:00 AM Worship Service - via YouTube**

3:00 PM BSA Troop 2870 Meeting - Pavilion

### Wednesday, March 10

9:45 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)  
7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal - Sanctuary

### Thursday, March 11

6:30 PM BSA Troop 900 Meeting - Pavilion

### Saturday, March 13

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

### Sunday, March 14

9:00 AM Sunday School (see *Leaf* for details)

### **10:00 AM Worship Service - via YouTube**

3:00 PM BSA Troop 2870 Meeting - Pavilion

### Tuesday, March 16

11:30 AM UMW Sarah Circle - Zoom meeting

### Wednesday, March 17

9:45 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal - Sanctuary

### Thursday, March 18

6:30 PM BSA Troop 900 Meeting - Pavilion

### Saturday, March 20

7:00 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

### Sunday, March 21

9:00 AM Sunday School (see *Leaf* for details)

### **10:00 AM Worship Service - via YouTube**

3:00 PM BSA Troop 2870 Meeting - Pavilion

### Wednesday, March 24

9:45 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal - Sanctuary

### Thursday, March 25

6:30 PM BSA Troop 900 Meeting - Pavilion

### Saturday, March 27

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

### Sunday, March 28

9:00 AM Sunday School (see *Leaf* for details)

### **10:00 AM Worship Service - via YouTube**

3:00 PM BSA Troop 2870 Meeting - Pavilion

### Wednesday, March 31

9:45 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal - Sanctuary

**THIS CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE**

If you have any additions, changes and/or corrections to the calendar, please notify Julie in the office (803-788-1858).  
Thank You.

## Calendar April 2021

Due to the coronavirus, a meaningful April calendar cannot be created. The weekly *Leaf* and additional email announcements will continue to provide updates to re-opening and building usage.



### March

<b>Ivey Hart</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Pat Christiansen</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Richard Lane</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Norma Thompson</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>George Ruppe</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Linda Hershey</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Kathy Hart</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Sharon Emory</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Stephanie Kitchens</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Bea Stout</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Crawford Latham</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Sam Frierson</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>David Williams</b>	<b>28</b>

### April

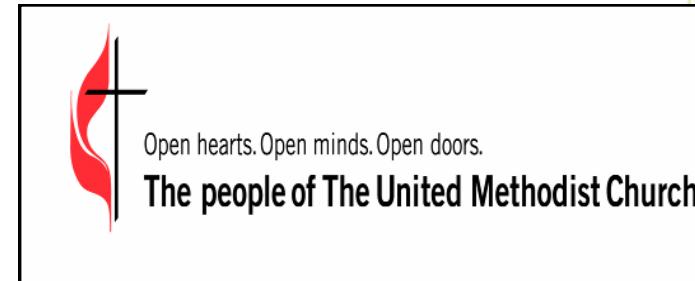
<b>Steve Finley</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Betsy Meade</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Kris Hartley</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Kalani McCoy</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Suzanne Frierson</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Megan Stout</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Nicholas Kitchens</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Dan Lackore</b>	<b>27</b>



*Lenten Reflection:*

*Focus on gratitude ~ give up complaining  
Think kind thoughts ~ give up judgments  
Be hopeful ~ give up discouragement  
Turn to forgiveness ~ give up bitterness  
Return good for evil ~ give up anger  
Control your tongue ~ give up gossiping  
Be optimistic ~ give up pessimism  
Enjoy the beauty that is around you ~ give up gloom  
Pray for trust ~ give up jealousy  
Trust Divine Providence ~ give up worry  
Hang in there ~ give up giving up*

*3psbyseeker*



**THE VINE**

Published by Windsor United Methodist Church  
9500 Windsor Lake Boulevard  
Columbia, SC 29223-2022  
Rev. Leatha Brown, Pastor  
[www.windsorumc.org](http://www.windsorumc.org) windsorumc@bellsouth.net

Julie Milhouse, Administrative Assistant

Julie Milhouse, Publisher

Send articles by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month by email to Julie at [windsorumc@bellsouth.net](mailto:windsorumc@bellsouth.net) or place articles in **The Vine** mailbox in Room 10.

