

The Vine

Windsor United Methodist Church

9500 Windsor Lake Boulevard, Columbia, SC
803-788-1858 www.windsorumc.org Windsorumc@bellsouth.net

January 2023

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.

2023
New Year
~~New Me!~~
better

A BETTER ME – MAKING IT PERSONAL

A few nights ago, I ran into Walmart to grab a few things. As I approached the self-checkout, a young man was standing near the exit of the area, loudly exclaiming Happy New Year to everybody around him. I was extremely irritated by what I saw as his rude behavior. As I began scanning my groceries, he yelled again, “Happy New Year’s, everybody!” Then I heard him say, “Nobody is going to wish me Happy New Year’s.” As he repeated it, an older gentleman said, “Happy New Year’s, sir.” The young man replied, “Thank you. I will purchase your groceries tonight.” Now, my full attention turned to what just happened. Frankly, I thought the guy was intoxicated and I wanted no part of what I thought to be ranting and raving. Immediately, I remembered the phrase, “Don’t judge a book by its cover.”

You see, the man was poorly dressed, ungroomed, and did not seem like a safe person to interact with, in my opinion. Oh my, how ashamed of all my thoughts I felt. If I am being genuinely transparent, I wondered if I was sorry because I’d missed an opportunity to save \$80 or if I was truly ashamed of my thoughts. After some reflection, I realized there were two opportunities: to be

financially blessed by this man and to learn a valuable lesson from God. I am so glad I learned the lesson. As we enter a brand new year, I don’t want to make a resolution but a declaration to be a better me.

Further, I realize my witness for Christ is not just what I say on Sunday morning but how I live daily. I am not just a pastor, but a wife, mother, younger sister to my siblings and auntie to my nieces and nephews. I have a host of cousins, friends, and colleagues. I want my living to count for something in their lives. My words matter, but my actions speak much louder than my words. It is not only what I say in public but also what I do in private that matters. My character and integrity mean so much to me because they say who God is in my life. A better me is what I am seeking spiritually and physically.

This year I invite you to come along with me and live with a true conviction for a better “you.” It is a personal journey and as your pastor, I want to remind us that tomorrow is not a promise to any of us, so let us not put off what I believe God wants us to do today. Let’s live our lives daily with transformation in mind. Our daily prayer should be, “Lord, change me so that I am fit for your kingdom when the time comes, and let others who need to see Christ, see my actions as an example of His Light, Hope, Peace, and Love in me.”

Pastor Leatha Brown



WINDSOR SOUP KITCHEN AT WASHINGTON STREET UMC

Article and photos by Becky Leonard

Originally initiated at the beginning of the Covid pandemic in March 2020, the bagged meal format for the noon meal servings at Washington Street UMC Soup Cellar continues. Windsor UMC helps with the meal servings on the first Monday of each month.

Windsor's November 7 serving day was a warm 80 degrees. 111 guests came through that morning to pick up their bagged meal containing a cup of soup, sliced ham sandwich, orange, granola bar, Halloween candy and bottle of water. The soup of the day was sausage, rice and beans. Terrence Chisolm, Soup Cellar manager, prepares soup no matter the weather because the guests like soup and it provides a lot of nutrition. Kathy Hart, Debbo Lackore, Anita Schmidt and Becky Leonard helped with the November serving. Many thanks to Kim and Jim Hinson for their donation of Halloween candy. The candy was combined with a few extra treats from the Alpine Community Trunk 'n' Treat held the week before at Windsor and included in the bag as an extra sweet.

It was a cold day for our December 5 serving. Bagged meals were handed out to 85 guests and included a delicious cup of hot chicken, rice and vegetable soup, a bologna or peanut butter and jelly sandwich, an orange, 2 muffins and a bottle of water. Windsor's serving crew of Kathy Hart, Debbo Lackore, Anita Schmidt and Becky Leonard helped that morning.

Windsor's next serving day will be February 6 as the Soup Cellar will not be serving on the first Monday in January. If you are interested in helping on February 6, please contact Becky Leonard at 803-466-4222 or fleonardz@hotmail.com. We begin meal preparation around 9:15 a.m. and are finished with serving at 12:30 p.m.

Little Free Hygiene Pantry at the Soup Cellar

Thank you to those who have dropped off toiletry items for us to take down to the Little Free Hygiene Pantry. This pantry is a Girl Scout project providing needed items for the Soup Cellar guests. Along with hotel soap, shampoo and conditioner, they are collecting toothbrushes and toothpaste, dental floss, deodorant, combs/brushes, tampons and pads. If you would like to help, please drop off your donations at the church office during the week or bring them to the Sunday worship service, placing them in the plastic bin provided. We will take them with us to our next serving. Thank you, Windsor, for helping those in need!

Windsor Food Pantry

Windsor's pantry provides food for families in need coming to our church office as well as needy families in the Skills for Life and Work Program. Each week in *The Leaf* we will highlight a need for a specific food item. However, we appreciate your donation of any of the requested food items. The following list of items includes recent updates:

- white rice (1 or 2 pound bags)
- dried red, black and pinto beans (in 1 pound bags)
- spaghetti sauce/pasta noodles
- macaroni and cheese
- vegetable/canola oil
- individual fruit cups
- canned chicken, tuna, and Vienna sausage
- sugar (2 or 4 lb bags)
- salt



You may drop off your donations at the church office during the week or bring to the Sunday worship service, placing them in the plastic bin provided.

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



Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes

Many thanks to everyone who participated in this year's Operation Christmas Child, either by filling a traditional shoebox, building one online or donating funds so that we could provide more. Altogether, Windsor UMC provided 32 shoebox gifts for children in the US and around the world!



Filled shoeboxes
Photo by Kara Lewis



Windsor Responds to Flood Bucket Need

Article and photos by Becky Leonard

In late September, Hurricane Ian began to make its way across Florida and on September 30 made landfall near Georgetown, SC bringing hurricane force winds, storm surge, destruction and flooding to the area. Mucking-out a house is one of the first steps in the massive job of clean-up. All of the cleaning buckets on-hand at the UMC Conference Office in Columbia were delivered to churches in the affected area and local churches were asked to assemble more flood buckets to replenish the much-needed supplies. Windsor responded to the request by filling 11 flood buckets. Each bucket contained 14 UMCOR designated items, including dish gloves, laundry detergent, concentrated household cleaner, dish soap, a scrub brush, scouring pads, a clothesline and clothespins, 33-45-gallon heavy-duty trash bags, work gloves, insect repellent, air freshener, handiwipes, and N95 dust masks—plus the 5-gallon bucket and lid.



Noreen Doughty, Anita Schmidt, Kathy Hart and Becky Leonard sorted the donated supplies and filled each bucket with the designated items. Blessings were bestowed upon the buckets and those who would receive them by Pastor Brown during Windsor's November 20 worship service. The following day, the flood buckets were delivered to the UMC Conference Office. They will stay in South Carolina to be ready for use in our next big storm.

Thank you to everyone who supplied cleaning items and financial donations needed to fill the 11 blue flood buckets. Participants included: Frank Harbor, Noreen Doughty, Becky McMillion, Lisa McAlpine, Janice Negus, Donna Benson, Michelle Nicholson, Anita and Rock Schmidt, Monya Havekost, Kathy and Ivey Hart, Verlie Patrick, Peggy Hill, Susan and Steve Finley, Rev. Dr. Norma and Calvin Edwards, Becky and Fred Leonard, and the late Nancy Morgan. Thank you, Windsor, for your generosity and your continuing care and concern of those in need of help.

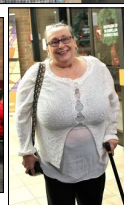


UMM Christmas Dinner

By Ivey Hart

The Men of Windsor had a great time at our Christmas party and we hope all who attended did also. We served around 60 people appetizers, salad, pasta and dessert. It is safe to say that nobody left hungry. We sang songs and enjoyed the good company.

All members of Windsor and their friends were invited, and no one had to stay in the manger. We look forward to next year and a bigger crowd. Thanks to all who helped.



Photos by Noreen Doughty and Becky Leonard



Windsor Families Helping Families

By the Outreach Team



Thank you for helping make this Christmas much brighter for the 19 children in eight families in need. As prices continue to increase, the need is even greater. Several of the children and their families – which were selected by Ms. Nelly Jolley, outreach worker for Richland School District 2 – have faced and continue to face serious health issues.

As in years past, our two Scout Troops, 900 and 2870, sponsored older children on Ms. Jolley's list and this year, Royal Scholars participated and sponsored two younger boys. We began by helping

fifteen children, but with the generous donations and support, Windsor was able to help an additional four children! Thank you, Windsor, for your support, donations and sponsorship of this year's Windsor Families Helping Families. We worked together to provide much needed shoes and clothing, and wish list items of toys, art supplies, games and sporting equipment for the children, who ranged from age 2 to 16.

Thursday, December 8, was our gift distribution day. The rain had stopped and all of the moms were able to come pick up their children's gifts. The mothers were welcomed into the annex garage with Christmas music, the beautifully wrapped gifts, and greeters Nelly Jolley, Janice Negus, Donna Benson, Kathy Hart, Becky Leonard and Pastor Brown. Along with gifts, each family received a Christmas card from Pastor Brown.

With Nelly Jolley as interpreter, we were able to converse with those moms who needed a little extra help with English. They all were very grateful for the blessings received through this Windsor ministry.

Our thanks to the many who made this ministry project possible: Kara and Gene Lewis, Kathy and Ivey Hart, Michelle Nicholson, Janice Negus, Donna Benson, Debbo and Dan Lackore, Anita and Rock Schmidt, Frances Huggins, Mitzi Shipman, Peggy Hill, Joyce and Isaac Byrd, Becky and Fred Leonard, Dianne Dixon, Barb Hamilton, Kristin Hill, Kathy Robinson, Royal Scholars and BSA Troop 900 and Troop 2870. This was the seventh year Troop 900 participated and the fourth year for our female Troop 2870. We thank them for their tremendous support.



Thank you all for the love shown to these families in need. You helped to make their Christmas special, knowing that others care about them.



Gracias! Once again, thanks for sharing your most precious blessings, time and love with our kids. Thanks to your generosity, dozens of our children and families will enjoy a beautiful Christmas and will always bless your lovely support in the difficult times, that along with their families, they are facing.

I would also like, on this occasion, to extend my gratitude to WUMC and all the programs that are offered during the year in the church. We have seen several generations of children and their families, who have fled their countries due to the most terrible crimes they have suffered, coming to the USA to start a new life. In that very difficult beginning, the WUMC programs have been essential for the survival and education of these kids. Thanks to the WUMC Food Pantry, the Christmas programs, backpack programs, tutoring programs, support with eyeglasses, rent and much more you do daily for our community. You all are our real heroes.

All of these programs started as a dream and are quickly paying off for dozens of our children, our most beautiful future.

With much love, respect and appreciation,
Nelly Jolley



Photos by Nelly Jolley and Becky Leonard



2022 Christmas Eve Service

Photos by
Noreen Doughty
and
Becky Leonard



Many Thanks to Royal Scholars!

From the Outreach Team

Thank you to Royal Scholars for stuffing the Windsor UMC food pantry full of food! Outreach appreciates your tremendous support of this ministry as well as sponsoring two boys in Windsor's Families Helping Families ministry. The families receiving the food items and the Christmas gifts are very grateful for your kindness.



**UNITED METHODIST MEN
BREAKFAST MEETING**

All men are invited to join Windsor's United Methodist Men the first Sunday of the month at Lizard's Thicket on Two Notch Road near I-20. We meet at **7:30 a.m.** Please join us for food and fellowship at our next meetings on **Sundays, January 8 and February 5.**



Financial Summary through November 30, 2022

| | Income through November 30, 2022 | Expenses through November 30, 2022 | 2022 Budget | Percent of Total |
|--|--|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| Regular Income (offering, Sunday school, fees, other) | \$ 193,301.64 | | \$ 231,356.00 | 84% |
| Administration (buildings, staff, & staff expenses) | | \$ 216,668.89 | \$ 253,790.00 | 85% |
| Apportionments | | 24,316.40 | 26,748.00 | 91% |
| Nurture (worship, communications, education, family ministries, music ministry & youth) | | 2,402.50 | 7,455.00 | 32% |
| Outreach | | 1,810.00 | 5,050.00 | 36% |
| Witness (evangelism & LRE) | | 1,074.49 | 6,020.00 | 18% |
| Total Regular Income & Expenses | \$ 193,301.64 | \$ 246,272.28 | \$ 299,063.00 | 82% |



**God Bless
America!**

**Please Pray for:
Our Military,
Law Enforcement Members,
First Responders,
Healthcare Workers
and their families.
The people of Ukraine**



Average Attendance

| 10 a.m. Worship Service—Sanctuary | |
|--|----|
| November 1 to November 30, 2022 | 53 |
| December 1 to December 31, 2022 | 45 |

All Sanctuary worship services are held with COVID-19 protocols in place.

Sunday School

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| November 1 to November 30, 2022 | 16 |
| December 1 to December 31, 2022 | 11 |

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

Our Windsor Family

WINDSOR'S DEEPEST SYMPATHY to...

- † Wayne and Melanie Nanney and family on the passing of Wayne's uncle, Charles Roland Smith, on November 8 in Atlanta.
- † Marlene Nelson and their family on the passing of Marlene's cousin, Lorna Shepherd, on December 12.
- † Becky and Steve McMillion, Lisa McAlpine and their family on the passing of Becky's cousin, Ms. Betty Wilson, on December 16.

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 or 803-788-1858.



Prayer

for God's Blessings throughout the New Year!

We know that the joy of the Lord is our strength and, as we meditate on Your Word, saturate our hearts.

Teach us to confess what the word says so we can see the manifestation of our prayers.

Your word will not return to You void of fulfillment, but it will accomplish everything for which You sent it.

Remind us to not worry about what is happening around us, but to trust You.

Read full prayer @ christianstt.com



Calendar January 2023



Sunday, January 1

9:00 AM Sunday School (see *Leaf* for details)
10:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary
 10:30 AM Filipino American Church - HH
 7:00 PM BSA Troop 2870 Meeting - Pavilion

Monday, January 2

7:00 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, January 3

9:00 AM SL&WP - Winter Break
 1:00 PM Bible Study - Annex Cancelled

Wednesday, January 4

9:00 AM SL&WP - Winter Break

Thursday, January 5

9:00 AM SL&WP - Winter Break

Saturday, January 7

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

Sunday, January 8

7:30 AM UMM Breakfast - Lizard's Thicket
 9:00 AM Sunday School (see *Leaf* for details)

10:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

10:30 AM Filipino American Church - HH
 7:00 PM BSA Troop 2870 Meeting - Pavilion

Monday, January 9

9:00 AM Homeschool CoOp - HH/Pavilion
 7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, January 10

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
 1:00 PM Bible Study - Annex
 3:30 PM Richland Library Tutoring - Rm 5&10
 4:30 PM Richland Library Tutoring - Rm 5&10
 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - Rm 9

Wednesday, January 11

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Thursday, January 12

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
 6:00 PM United Women in Faith - HH
 6:30 PM - Trustee Meeting - Annex

Saturday, January 14

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

Sunday, January 15

9:00 AM Sunday School (see *Leaf* for details)
10:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary
 10:30 AM Filipino American Church - HH
 7:00 PM BSA Troop 2870 Meeting - HH/Pavilion



Monday, January 16

9:00 AM Homeschool CoOp - Holiday
 7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, January 17

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
 1:00 PM Bible Study - Annex
 3:30 PM Richland Library Tutoring - Rm 5&10
 4:30 PM Richland Library Tutoring - Rm 5&10
 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - Rm 9

Wednesday, January 18

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
 6:00 PM Worship Meeting - HH

Thursday, January 19

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Friday, January 20

9:00 AM Briarwood HOA Board Meeting - Rm 10

Saturday, January 21

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

Sunday, January 22

9:00 AM Sunday School (see *Leaf* for details)
10:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary
 10:30 AM Filipino American Church - HH
 7:00 PM BSA Troop 2870 Meeting - HH/Pavilion

Monday, January 23

9:00 AM Homeschool CoOp - HH/Pavilion
 7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, January 24

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
 1:00 PM Bible Study - Annex
 3:30 PM Richland Library Tutoring - Rm 5&10
 4:30 PM Richland Library Tutoring - Rm 5&10
 6:00 PM Church Reset Class - HH
 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - Rm 9

Wednesday, January 25

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Thursday, January 26

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Saturday, January 28

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

Sunday, January 29

9:00 AM Sunday School (see *Leaf* for details)
10:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary
 10:30 AM Filipino American Church - HH
 7:00 PM BSA Troop 2870 Meeting - Pavilion

Monday, January 30

9:00 AM Homeschool CoOp - HH/Pavilion
 7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, January 31

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
 1:00 PM Bible Study - Annex
 3:30 PM Richland Library Tutoring - Rm 5&10
 4:30 PM Richland Library Tutoring - Rm 5&10
 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - Rm 9

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.



| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Bradley Meade | 3 |
| Tina Hathaway | 3 |
| Barbara Catoe | 6 |
| Sonya Hunter | 9 |
| Charles Shipman | 17 |
| Joyce Byrd | 20 |
| Janice Negus | 25 |
| Diana Stout | 27 |
| Shah Hussain | 31 |



| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Nancy Wolff | 3 |
| Brianna Hinson | 6 |
| Rev. Franklin Buie | 7 |
| Ben Catoe | 13 |



Windsor United Methodist Church
9500 Windsor Lake Boulevard
Columbia, SC 29223-2022
803-788-1858

www.windsorumc.org



Windsorumc@bellsouth.net

Happy New Year

May the Lord bless you
and keep you. May His favor
shine upon you. May you be
filled with His peace!



Help For The Broken Hearted.com



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church™

THE VINE

Published by Windsor United Methodist Church

9500 Windsor Lake Boulevard

Columbia, SC 29223-2022

Rev. Leatha Brown, Pastor

www.windsorumc.org windsorumc@bellsouth.net

Julie Milhouse, Administrative Assistant

Julie Milhouse, Publisher

Send articles by the 20th of the month by email to Julie at windsorumc@bellsouth.net or place articles in *The Vine* mailbox in Room 10.