

The Vine

Windsor United Methodist Church

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

September 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.

Ecclesiastes 9:11 KJV

I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.

Staying the Course

I have never been prouder of being a part of a ministry than I am. Windsor, I have seen your unwavering commitment to God, sincere relationships with Him, and deep reverence for His holiness. Your dedication is evident; you do not just show up. I watch as we never take shortcuts or make excuses, but engage wholeheartedly in acts of worship saying The Lord's Prayer and The Apostles' Creed. These rituals are transformed into meaningful acts of devotion through your participation. For example, last Sunday, little Calvin was the acolyte. As he lit the candle, he looked at his mom and said, "I love this job." You genuinely want to please God. I feel so blessed to be a part of this kind of commitment. I also witness your unwavering devotion to the United Methodist Church, which does not go unnoticed.

Your work in the local church is not easy. In a time where society is changing daily, Windsor you have decided to say yes to God in accepting the challenge of a cross-racial opportunity to do ministry together. What a gift you are. We are living in who we say Jesus is to us. If possible, regular attendance is something most of you choose to do when obstacles do not prevent you from showing up. Your involvement in our local outreach ministries in the schools and communities such as our socks and slide efforts for the middle schoolers, so no child misses school because of improper or no footwear, is priceless. The Food Pantry and our monthly Washington Street UMC Soup Kitchen participation is a testament to your dedication. We extend our space to the Al-Anon community and the Richland District 2 Skills for Life and Work Program, grant space for the home school co-op World Changers Leadership Academy and, on Sundays, we worship in our sanctuary while sharing

our fellowship hall so the Fil-Am church can honor God. These are just a few of the great things we do here at Windsor.

Not only are you devoted to the work of Christ, but you continue to be faithful to the United Methodist Conference. We also extend ourselves on the district level, working with the district United Methodist Men and United Women in Faith in partnership with Rehoboth's women and sharing in Washington Street UMC's Soup Kitchen. On the conference level, we serve with the Native American ministry and Salkehatchie in leadership capacities and in serving many camps around our state during the summer—all while attending to the holy work of coming together as a diverse community. Windsor, you surpass all in my book. We are weathering Covid, racial violence, and political uncertainty in our country, yet you continue to stay the course. You continue to rise to every occasion. As your spiritual leader, I want to say I am proud and pleased to serve people who continue to be the best despite all the odds.

The United Methodist Church is at a tender place as we await the General Conference in 2024. Many churches have chosen to separate from the United Methodist Conference for various reasons. It is a personal decision, and it varies from church to church. Our episcopal leader, Bishop L. Jonathan Holston, and South Carolina Annual Conference have asked that we wait for a decision from the General Conference concerning future ordination in our denomination. The delegates will vote at the General Conference concerning the LGBTQ community and their ordination into the UMC. Windsor, you have continued to invite and welcome others to be a part of the kingdom of God, lead people to Christ, and serve your community. Again, I am thankful to serve people who remain faithful to God and God's church.

Finally, let me pray for us. God, thank you for being our strength as we draw closer to you. Please give us understanding and compassion for each other to ensure we build lasting relationships. We thank you for the power and blood of Jesus that covers and protects us. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Pastor Leatha Brown



Congratulations

Congratulations, Tremaine! – 2023 Fowler Scholarship Recipient

By the Outreach Team

The Edgar A. Fowler Scholarship Fund was established in 1978 as a memorial for Father Ed, who nourished and developed Windsor United Methodist Church in its early years. Rev. Ed Fowler proudly served as pastor, with his wife Betty and daughter Patty, from June 1969 to July 1976.

Each spring, prospective Windsor UMC students pursuing an education in a field involving service to mankind may submit a scholarship application. These applications are reviewed by the Outreach Team and a recipient(s) selected. The funds are awarded from interest earned on the Fowler Scholarship Capital Fund and are available in July. This year's recipient is Tremaine Dunbar! Please join us in congratulating him.



Narrative courtesy of Tremaine Dunbar

Tremaine Dunbar was born to Willie Dunbar and Beverly Sails in Honolulu, HI on August 5, 1991. He attended American Baptist College for his undergraduate degree in Bible and Theology and attained his Master of Divinity at Vanderbilt University. He enjoys reading and serving God's people whenever he can.

Tremaine's ultimate goal is to reduce mental health disparities among African American men through empowering churches and faith-based organizations to become more involved in public health practice. He brings African American men into closer proximity to public mental health research by utilizing churches and faith-based organizations as formulators of data and as locations where interventions can take place. African American men experience the worst mental health outcomes of all racial/gender groups. Religious institutions have historically stood as trusted bastions of support in African American communities and can help improve the mental health of African American men. Through employing research methods that examine how religious institutions, religiosity, and spirituality regulate mental health, Tremaine hopes to influence policy and help African American men improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and develop the tools to achieve their full potential.

WINDSOR SOUP KITCHEN AT WASHINGTON STREET UMC

Article and photos by Becky Leonard

Windsor UMC helped with the noontime meal serving on the first Mondays of July and August at Washington Street UMC Soup Cellar. Having started the bagged meal format at the beginning of Covid, the Soup Cellar has retained this format for more than three years and plans to continue it in the foreseeable future.

On Windsor's July 3 serving day, 92 guests came to pick up a bagged meal of a sliced ham sandwich, green grapes or an apple, doughnut for dessert, a bottle of water and a cup of Terrence Chisholm's (Soup Cellar manager) homemade vegetable beef soup. Our helpers were Debbo Lackore, Debbie Lounds, Tremaine Dunbar, Anita Schmidt, Noreen Doughty and Becky Leonard.

Our August 7 serving saw a big increase in the number of guests with a total of 110 folks coming through to get a meal. Terrence's soup of the day included ground beef, pasta shells, black beans, and tomatoes. Soup has been a daily menu item, no matter the weather, as it is nutritious and requested by the Soup Cellar guests. Along with the soup, guests received a pimento cheese or peanut butter and jelly sandwich, green grapes, doughnut for dessert, and bottle of water. Ferrie Ward, Anita Schmidt, Debbo Lackore, Susan Caskey and Becky Leonard composed the August serving crew.

Windsor's next serving date will not be until Monday, October 2 as our September serving date falls on Labor Day, which is a holiday for the Soup Cellar. Local groups will provide a meal to those in need on the holiday. If you are interested in helping on October 2, please contact Becky Leonard at 803-466-4222 or fleonardz@hotmail.com. We begin meal preparation around 9:15 a.m. and are finished serving at 12:30 p.m.





Kindness is
in your blood

Help save a life.



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE AT WINDSOR!

Article and photos by Becky Leonard



Windsor hosted a late afternoon blood drive on Monday, July 24. Catering to those coming home from work, the drive offered appointments from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. The last blood drive held at Windsor was more than 10 years ago in January 2011. Being familiar with the space available in Harbor Hall, the Red Cross contacted Windsor to see if we would be willing to host a drive during July, one of the summer months when blood donations are low due to summer traveling. Windsor said yes, and our location was soon up on the Red Cross website so that the public could sign up for one of the 20 appointment times.

On the day before the drive, it looked like we would have 16 donors—with half from Windsor and half from the community. By the morning of the drive, five community members had cancelled their appointments. But our Windsor folks remained committed! Many thanks, not only to the Windsor donors who originally signed up and then showed up to donate but also to the “Windsor walk-ins” who filled the open appointment slots! Two Windsor donors provided two units each through the use of an automated machine that enabled them to donate more red cells.

Volunteers during the event, Barbara Hamilton and Kristen Hill, manned the check-in/registration table and monitored the donors after they gave, making sure they drank enough fluids before departing. Kathy Robinson brought her delicious homemade brownies, a very nice addition to the snacks the Red Cross provided, and Tremaine Dunbar helped set up the check-in area and assisted the Red Cross in getting all their equipment into Harbor Hall.

The Red Cross set our goal at 15 units of blood and they ended up collecting 16 pints! Thank you, Windsor, for not only providing a place for the Red Cross to hold their drive, but also donating and helping patients in need of blood. Because there is no substitute for blood, donors provide the only supply of life-saving blood for those in need.

Thank you for your gift of life!



Windsor Food Pantry

As the price of food goes up, so does the number of families who are faced with food insecurity. Windsor’s food pantry helps families who come to the church office in need of food as well as some of those who attend the Skills for Work and Life Program on our church campus.

If you would like to help, please consider donating food items from the following list or donating funds (designating Food Pantry) so that we may purchase the food. Bins are located outside the sanctuary or you may drop off your food items at the church office. Thank you to those who have and continue to donate to our food pantry.

- white rice (1 or 2 pound bags)
- boxed macaroni and cheese
- spaghetti sauce
- canned chicken/tuna/Vienna sausage
- individual fruit cups
- bar soap, toothpaste/toothbrushes and paper towels/toilet paper are also appreciated
- dried red, black and pinto beans (in 1 pound bags)
- vegetable/canola oil
- spaghetti/elbow macaroni

Thank you for helping those in need, Windsor.



25 Filled Backpacks Ready for the First Day of School!

By Becky Leonard

Following three years of handing out the backpacks from the outside entrance of the church, Windsor's 2023 backpack distribution day returned to Harbor Hall. During the July 23 Sunday Worship Service, Pastor Brown and the congregation joined in a unison prayer to bless the students receiving the backpacks. Our prayer included all teachers and administrators, and that they all be sustained by God's blessings.



The day of the distribution, July 27, was a hot Thursday morning. As the children and their families arrived to pick up their backpacks, Becky McMillion and Lisa McAlpine handed out individually packaged snacks and cold bottles of water. Our welcoming team also included Nelly Jolley (Richland 2 Outreach Worker Coordinator), Kathy Hart, Anita Schmidt, Janice Negus, Donna Benson and Becky Leonard.

Thank you to all who made Windsor's Backpack Project possible – through both your own shopping and monetary donations. You all provided backpacks and needed school supplies for 25 children in the Skills for Life and Work families and helped students in 13 families. The students ranged from Pre-K through high school juniors

This year's participants included: John Mullikin, Frank Harbor, Monya Havekost, Peggy Hill, Kara and Gene Lewis, Kathy and Ivey Hart, Anita and Rock Schmidt, Becky McMillion, Lisa McAlpine, Becky and Fred Leonard, Joyce and Isaac Byrd, Janice Negus, Donna Benson, Nancy and Melvin Wolff, Michelle Nicholson, Jean and Al Robinson, Rochelle and Richard Harvey, Tremaine Dunbar, World Changers Leadership Academy, Kristen Hill, Barbara Hamilton and BSA Scout Troops 900 and 2870.

Your generosity has helped these students get a good start on what we pray is a safe and healthy school year for both them and their teachers!



Photos by Nelly Jolley and Becky Leonard

A Message of Gratitude

Dearest WUMC family,

You are the church in action that changes/saves lives, lifts people up, and makes the world a better place. Thank you for your extraordinary donation of book bags to dozens of our R2 neediest children and helping our families in unspeakable ways.

Our gratitude goes out to you for now and forever. Thank you from the very bottom of our hearts.

Love, respect and admiration for all of you.

Nelly

R2 Outreach Worker Coordinator/Skills for Life & Work Program

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, September 6 and October 1.**



Fall into Faith - Alpine Community Trunk and Treat Set for October 31

By Kathy Hart

Mark your calendars because the Alpine Community Trunk and Treat is returning on October 31. This is an annual partnership between Windsor United Methodist church and Christian Faith Fellowship. It is a safe alternative to Trick or Treating in neighborhoods, and we normally see about 600 people in our parking lot for this event. Start thinking about how you want to volunteer. There is something for everyone to do. In addition to trunks, games and food, we will have a new original puppet play, *The Mystery of the Missing Fall Leaves at Congaree National Park*, and a simplified escape room experience, *Escape from Sesquicentennial State Park*. For volunteer opportunities, contact Charles Shipman, Kathy Hart, Felicia McCoy or Pastor Leatha Brown.

Kathy and Ivey Pass a Torch

Article and photos by Kathy Hart

With our bodies saying, “You can’t roof a house anymore. Your knees will not take kindly to climbing a ladder,” we knew it was time to pass the torch to a younger generation. With a combined number of 62 years of Salkehatchie Summer Service experience, could we lay down our hammers? Well, not exactly.

Salkehatchie Summer Service is a work mission project started 45 years ago by Rev. John Culp to help families in poverty and to give youth a meaningful spiritual experience. Youth and adults repair homes for families who cannot do the work themselves. Salkehatchie is building back from the Covid Pandemic hiatus. This summer, thirty-two camps were held in the state with 920 campers, working on eighty homes.

Each camper pays \$250.00 which is used to buy building supplies like lumber and shingles. Local churches prepare meals and, in some cases, provide lodging facilities. Some camps lodge in schools.

We were approached about opening a new camp in Rock Hill—and God had a plan all along, because he planted the perfect person to be the Camp Director there. Eryn Price Wilson is someone we’ve known since she was age 15, attending the Harvest Salkehatchie camp in Dillon 15 years ago. She followed us to Hemingway in 2018 and 2019 and served as the Assistant Director. She is now married and a third grade teacher in Rock Hill. When asked if she would be interested, she said yes. We said we would come to help. Like proud pseudo parents, we watched Eryn and the younger generation take Salkehatchie into the future.

We didn’t get on a roof, but we worked onsite in the heat. Ivey wore his good ole’ measuring -tape suspenders and it felt like the old days, except in the old days we didn’t have blowers to quickly dry wet paint. Success is when you see a happy homeowner descending his back porch steps for the first time in many years. See pictures.

For more information about Salkehatchie Summer Service 2024, please talk with Kathy or Ivey Hart or the Salkehatchie office at 803-691-6606 or salkehatchie@umcsc.org or Salkehatchie.org.



Exciting Opportunity to Partner with the Center for Knowledge

By Kathy Hart

Will the construction across the street ever end? Pastor Leatha Brown, Kathy Hart and Becky Leonard met with Principal Jessica Agee and Jessica Holley to discuss partnering with the Center for Knowledge which will be in their new two-story building in January. More information will be forthcoming as we brainstorm a little more. The Center for Knowledge is Kindergarten-5th grade and will be located in the lighter beige colored brick building nearest to Alpine Road.



Artist’s rendition of E.L. Wright Middle School and the Center for Knowledge.

Lay Servant Ministries

By Kathy Hart

Growing up, I was like a “water strider,” a long-legged insect that catches the breeze that allows them to surf effortlessly across the water. I came to church and sat in a pew. No effort. Somewhere in my spiritual journey, I knew God was calling me to be more like a “diving beetle,” taking a risk and responding to God’s call to dive in and serve. But where to start? There are many opportunities and I want to share with you the Lay Servant Ministries, a leadership development program in the United Methodist Church focused on equipping and empowering laypersons who have responded to the call of God to serve in mission and ministry.

If you feel a nudge to get better equipped to serve God, this may be the year to apply to be a Lay Servant. Talk to Pastor Leatha Brown. Application forms will be available and will need to be completed before Charge Conference in October. Also feel free to talk to Kathy Hart at 803-318-2646.



Financial Summary through July 31, 2023

| | Income through July 31, 2023 | Expenses through July 31, 2023 | 2023 Budget | Percent of Total |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Regular Income (offering, Sunday school, fees, other) | \$ 142,420.51 | | \$ 213,550.00 | 67% |
| Administration (buildings, staff, & staff expenses) | | \$ 128,595.64 | \$ 219,792.00 | 59% |
| Apportionments | | 1,552.02 | 2,845.00 | 55% |
| Nurture (worship, communications, education, family ministries, music ministry & youth) | | 1,153.34 | 3,796.00 | 30% |
| Outreach | | 200.00 | TBA | over |
| Witness (evangelism & LRE) | | 522.65 | 850.00 | 61% |
| Total Regular Income & Expenses | \$ 142,420.51 | \$ 132,023.65 | \$ 227,283.00 | 58% |

Average Attendance

10 a.m. Worship Service—Sanctuary

July 1 to July 31, 2023 57
August 1 to August 31, 2023 48

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

Sunday School

July 1 to July 31, 2023 16
August 1 to August 31, 2023 15

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

Our Windsor Family

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

DAVIS FAMILY

Windsor welcomed the Davis family who joined Windsor on July 16. Please welcome Nicholas and Faith, and their children, Naomi and Nicholas Jr.

WINDSOR'S DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO...

- † Melanie and Wayne Nanney and family on the passing of Melanie's mother, Carolyn Bishop, on July 16.
- † Merry and Everett Fredericks and family on the passing of their son, Gerad Fredericks, on August 4.

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.

Windsor United Women in Faith 2023 Woman of the Year and Special Recognition

By Anita Schmidt

On Sunday, August 20, Windsor United Women in Faith recognized Ms. Kathy Hart as our 2023 Woman of the Year. Each year, the Columbia District of the United Women in Faith recognizes outstanding women who make significant contributions to their church community. Kathy Hart has been part of the Windsor community for more than 25 years. She is the epitome of what the United Women in Faith stands for. She has been a leader in our congregation and community, working to improve the lives of women and children, and working with our pastor to help ensure our worship services are meaningful and inspiring. Kathy Hart is truly a leader and inspiration here at Windsor. She is a compassionate, creative and devoted member of both our congregation and community...a United Woman in Faith who we can all aspire to emulate.



*Photos by
Colonel (Ret) Rock Schmidt*

We also recognized Melinda Huggins for a special contribution she makes to our community. For more than 20 years, Melinda has collected and given soda can tabs to Ronald McDonald House of Columbia. These tabs are recycled in exchange for dollars, which support the children and families served by Ronald McDonald House. We are so very proud of Melinda for her long-time efforts to support this worthy cause and we're happy to show her our appreciation.



CHURCH CLEAN UP DAY
Saturday, September 23,
9 a.m. - noon

Calendar September 2023

Saturday, September 2

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)
3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal - HH

Sunday, September 3

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

Monday, September 4



7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, September 5

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
1:00 PM Bible Study - HH

Wednesday, September 6

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Thursday, September 7

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Saturday, September 9

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)
3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal - HH

Sunday, September 10

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

Monday, September 11

9:00 AM WCLA CoOp - All Classrms, HH/Pav
7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, September 12

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
1:00 PM Bible Study - HH

Wednesday, September 13

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Thursday, September 14

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Friday, September 15

9:00 AM Briarwood HOA Board Meeting - Rm 10

Saturday, September 16

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)
3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal - HH

Sunday, September 17

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

Monday, September 18

9:00 AM WCLA CoOp - All Classrms, HH/Pav
7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, September 19

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
1:00 PM Bible Study - HH

Wednesday, September 20

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Thursday, September 21

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

Saturday, September 23

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)
9:00 AM Church Clean-up Day
3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal - HH
6:00 PM Prayer Meeting - HH

Sunday, September 24

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

Monday, September 25

9:00 AM WCLA CoOp - All Classrms, HH/Pav
7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, September 26

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
1:00 PM Bible Study - HH
6:00 PM *Church Reset* with Rev Cox - HH

Wednesday, September 27

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Thursday, September 28

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Saturday, September 30

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)
3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal - HH

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.



| | |
|------------------|----|
| Wayne Nanney | 5 |
| Fred Leonard | 6 |
| Peggy Hill | 12 |
| Quilles Brown | 18 |
| Doug Meade | 24 |
| Barbara Hamilton | 25 |



| | |
|--------------------|----|
| Gail VanValkenburg | 8 |
| Walter Brown | 11 |
| Dottie Myers | 14 |
| Darnella Reeves | 14 |
| Kristen Hill | 15 |
| Susan Finley | 16 |
| Marion Zissett | 17 |
| Dolores White | 19 |
| Terry Kitchens | 20 |
| Kim Hinson | 21 |
| Martha Walters | 22 |
| Daisy Reeves | 23 |
| Donna Benson | 29 |

Windsor United Methodist Church

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World Changers Leadership Academy

By Felicia McCoy

World Changers Leadership Academy (WCLA) is off to a great start! We had our Open House on August 14 and our first day of Co-Op on August 20. We currently have 61 students signed up to take four classes this semester. They will be enjoying Science and Discovery, Introduction to Computers, and Physical Education. They have a choice between African Art or Guitar which is taught by Windsor's very own John Woodard. Thank you John for donating your time and your talents to WCLA.

Our middle schoolers will be enjoying Public Speaking instead of Introduction to Computers, and our high schoolers will have Biology, Financial Literacy, and Leadership Training (facilitated by Empowered to WIN Leadership Academy). As you can see, we have a busy yet exciting semester ahead of us.

We are so grateful for the opportunity to offer this program for our homeschool students. Thank you Windsor for being such gracious hosts. The televisions in the classrooms were an added bonus this semester. We love having accessibility to the Internet. It allows us to teach more efficiently.

If you are interested in supporting WCLA in any way, please reach out to Felicia McCoy at 803-269-4749. Thank you again Windsor for being the love that this community needs.



Photos courtesy of Felicia McCoy



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church™

THE VINE

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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.