

The Vine

Windsor United Methodist Church

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

May 2024

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.

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;
Philippians 1:3-6

SEASONS

We have experienced almost everything under the sun during our six years together. I remember Brianna's baptism, every homegoing service, every meal we shared, every Unity Revival, Fall Festival, Lenten studies, Bible studies, Sunday School classes, LRE visits, singing, praying, preaching, fellowship and so much more. I remember it all! Some reframing old ideas and planting new ideas, some disagreements and resolutions, some remembering and some forgiving; we have laughed and cried, mourned and danced, and have eaten too many desserts. We have said goodbye to beloved members who have moved or gone onto the church triumphant, and we have welcomed new people as well. We acquired a new grand piano, cleaned the church, volunteered at the Washington Street UMC Soup Kitchen, and witnessed the men sell more butts than we can count. We have survived raging storms, some physical and some spiritual storms.

Throughout it all, we have bonded and grown in wonderful ways while experiencing a great deal of mercy, grace, joy and love! The Lord has blessed us in more ways than we can count. The Lord has certainly been with us and has shown us that what we think is impossible, God makes possible.

I have always believed that a pastor is called to a particular place, for a particular time, with a particular purpose, to a particular group of people in a particular community, and for a particular season. We may not have accomplished everything I had hoped for, yet much was still accomplished. It was always my intention and my covenant with this church that I would serve you in a particular way, which included preparing you for your next pastor. The new pastor has been chosen, so it is my time to exit.

When Jesus prepared to leave his disciples, he found three promises to share:

First, Jesus promised to make a home in his disciples' hearts. (John 14:23).

Second, Jesus promised to fill the disciples with a spirit of courage and comfort. "The Holy Spirit...will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you." (John 14:26).

Finally, Jesus promised to sustain his disciples with a special kind of peace. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you." (John 14:27).

It is my hope that you will remember that you will always be a part of me. Thank you for the patience, kindness, mercy, grace, generosity, and love you have shown me and my family! You are a great group of people, and I wish you all the best in this new season that you are about to begin. May you continue to grow in faith, hope, and love, worshiping the Lord with your whole heart, mind, body, and soul, and remember to do everything for the glory of God!

I thank God for each of you.

Pastor Leatha Brown





“Kale! Kale! Lettuce rejoice! Collard the neighbors.” Wednesday, May 8 is the next SC Thrive Vegetable Give-away.

By Kathy Hart



Q: What did the lettuce say to the celery about the kale?

A: He thinks he’s all that and a bag of vegetable chips!

SC Thrive frequently sends kale as part of our monthly vegetable give-away. Some folks really love it and grab it up. Some folks ignore the kale table and move on. Some folks share favorite recipes about how to best prepare it. We welcome all.

A side benefit to offering this healthy leafy food, along with other veggies, is the person-to-person conversations between neighbors, old school-mates, cousins, and former co-workers. At the April give-away, some retired nurses got together to talk about the good old days. It has become such a community gathering event that even the Richland County Public Library joined in. They brought their mobile van and provided programs in the front parking lot.

Interestingly, the word is getting out quickly about the dates and times of the vegetable give-away. Windsor’s neighbors are spreading the news on their neighborhood Facebook pages and we can testify that the news is being read. It was estimated that we provided vegetables to 98 households in April.

We need two volunteers with trucks or SUVs to help with pick-up from the SC Thrive warehouse on May 8. Charles and Rodney will be out-of- town. Please contact Kathy Hart or Becky Leonard.



Photos by Becky Leonard

A Salkehatchie Summer Service Conversation

By Kathy Hart



“Ivey, can you believe that I’ve been going to Salkehatchie for 31 years?”

“Kathy, I’ve been going for 33 years. We were not even married when we started going.”

“Ivey, why do we look forward to going every summer?”

“Because we know about the great need in repairing the homes of people in South Carolina who can’t afford to hire professionals or do it themselves.”

“True, remember Mr. Simmons on St. Helena Island? He built his cinderblock, shotgun house when he was young, but at age 90, he could no longer get on his roof to repair it.”

“Yes, I remember. Do you remember Mrs. Paige from Dillon whose toilet was falling through the floor? We feared for her life.”

“What about Ms. Green who had to make a choice between paying her light bill or her water bill? There was no way she could afford a new roof. Rain poured through the cracks of her roof and into the handful of pots scattered in her house.”

“We have seen a lot of poverty in South Carolina and we know our work is not done.”

“Ivey, I’m sad to admit that I can no longer work on a roof. I used to love to get up there. Do you think I can still be a part of Salkehatchie?”

“Of course. There are many jobs to help run a smooth Salkehatchie camp. You can be a runner to pick up supplies. Camps need cooks, bookkeepers, spiritual leaders, musicians, cleaners, painters, dry wall installers, carpenters, financial supporters so youth can go, etc.”

“Ok. Let’s get some folks to go with us to the Rock Hill camp. It’s June 22-29. The cost is \$250.00.”

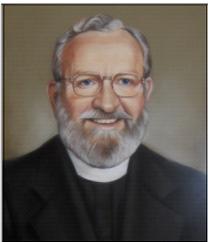
Here’s the link to register: https://www.regpack.com/reg/templates/build/?g_id=100914532 or go to salkehatchie.org. The link to get a background check for folks age 18 and over is also there.

Windsor UMC Hosts AACW Good Friday Service



Photos by
Becky Leonard

On March 31, Windsor UMC and Pastor Leatha Brown hosted the Good Friday Service presented by the African American Clergy Women (AACW) of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. 150 people attended the inspiring service, *Jesus' Seven Last Words*. A delicious catered meal of baked and fried chicken and accompanying side items followed the service with Windsor and many of the participating churches providing a vast array of desserts. The AACW thanked our Windsor UMC congregation, Pastor Brown, Rodney Mills, Windsor's Congregational Team, Worship Team and United Methodist Men, for their help in making the worship experience a success.



Fowler Scholarship Application Now Available

By Becky Leonard

The Edgar A. Fowler Scholarship Fund was established in 1978 as a memorial to Reverend Fowler, who nourished and developed Windsor United Methodist Church in its early years. The interest earned annually from this fund is awarded as one or more scholarships to students pursuing an education in a field involving service to mankind; including, but not limited to, the ministry, counseling, mental health, social work, nursing, medicine and teaching. Other fields of study may be considered with documentation by the applicant as to how this field of study is applicable to a helping profession.

Applications are available from the church office. Completed applications should be returned to the church office and will be accepted through **Friday, June 14**. Applicants will be notified of a decision in July. The funds become available to recipients after July 2024.



EASTER 2024

Photos by Becky Leonard

Many thanks to Windsor's UMM for their delicious Easter morning breakfast! Folks enjoyed pancakes, eggs, biscuits, grits, sausage, bacon, fresh fruit, juice and coffee—all prepared and served by the men. The timing worked perfectly for the Fil-Am congregation to be able to join us following their sunrise service. Thank you, Windsor United Methodist Men!

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

United Women in Faith will meet Monday, May 6 at 6 p. m. at Rehoboth UMC, 6911 Two Notch Road (beside Columbia Mall). We each bring a dish to share for a light meal followed by a short program, which will be *A Call to Prayer and Self Denial*. An offering will be collected, if you'd like to participate. This year's offering will support the ongoing climate justice work of UMF's National Office. We invite you to come gather with us to pray, reflect, and put your faith into action.

We will take a break for the summer, so this is our last meeting until September. Please call Melanie Nanney at 803-530-3134 if you have any questions or need a ride.



UNITED METHODIST MEN

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, May 5 and June 2.**

Mental Health Awareness Month
By Kathy Hart

More and more celebrities, politicians, and athletes are speaking out about their personal struggles with anxiety and other mental health disorders. Their bravery is helping to squash some of the stigma attached to mental illnesses. May is Mental Health Awareness month and Windsor is addressing this topic in different ways. Stay tuned.





WINDSOR SOUP KITCHEN AT WASHINGTON STREET UMC

Article and photos by Becky Leonard

Windsor UMC helps with the noon-time meal servings at Washington Street UMC Soup Cellar on the first Monday of the month. At the beginning of Covid, the Soup Cellar changed from a sit-down meal serving to a bagged meal format with the purpose to be able to provide a meal to those in need in downtown Columbia. The Soup Cellar has retained this format for more than four years now and plans to continue it in the foreseeable future.



Soup Cellar manager Terrence Chisholm made vegetable, chicken and pulled pork soup on Windsor's March 4 serving day. Along with a cup of hot soup, the bagged meal included a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, clementine orange, doughnut, and bottle of water. Michelle Nicholson, Noreen Doughty, Becky Leonard, Debbo Lackore and her daughter, Caralee Workman, helped serve the 105 guests who came that morning.

The April 1 serving was a special meal provided for guests in Threatt Hall at Washington Street UMC. 155 guests sat at tables complete with tablecloths and silverware, and were served a meal that included BBQ chicken, macaroni and cheese, peas and carrots, dessert and a drink. Michelle Nicholson, Tremaine Sails-Dunbar and Debbo Lackore helped with this meal, assisting additional volunteers from Washington Street UMC. These special meal events began shortly before Covid and were held on a quarterly basis. Due to Covid they were placed on hold the past few years and began again in November 2023.

Windsor's next serving days will be Mondays, May 6 and June 3. If you are interested in helping on either of these two days, please contact Becky Leonard at 803-466-4222 or fleonardz@hotmail.com. We begin meal preparation around 9:15 a.m. and finish serving at 12:30 p.m.



Thank You, Windsor and Windsor UMM!

Thank you to all those who donated coins (and currency and checks) during the six Sundays in Lent to support Windsor's Food Pantry. The children collected a total of \$496 in their Lenten boxes! Many thanks to the Worship and Music Committee for designating the *Coins for Lent* collection to go towards the Food Pantry.

And many thanks to Windsor's UMM. They have provided financial support to the Food Pantry for more than four years. Outreach greatly appreciates their continued support and that of the Windsor congregation, which makes this ministry possible.



Windsor Food Pantry

The number of families facing food insecurity continues to increase. 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.

Many thanks to those who have donated to our food pantry. If you would like to help, please consider donating food items from the following list or donating funds so that we may purchase the food (please indicate your donation is for *Food Pantry*).

We are requesting donations of canned tuna, vegetable/canola oil and white rice in 1 or 2 pound bags, however, any of the foods on the following list would be appreciated! Bins are located outside the sanctuary or you may drop off your food items at the church office.

- white rice (1 or 2 pound bags)
- spaghetti sauce
- salt
- individual fruit/applesauce cups
- Ajax liquid dish detergent and toilet paper are also appreciated.
- dried red and pinto beans (in 1 pound bags)
- vegetable/canola oil
- canned tuna, chicken and Vienna sausage
- pasta noodles (angel hair and elbow)

Thank you for helping those in need, Windsor.

Financial Summary through March 31, 2024

	Income through March 31, 2024	Expenses through March 31, 2024	2024 Budget	Percent of Total
Regular Income (offering, Sunday school, fees, other)	\$ 49,889.71		\$ 225,000.00	22%
Administration (buildings, staff, & staff expenses)		\$ 59,894.80	\$ 249,544.00	24%
Apportionments		517.34	2,845.00	18%
Nurture (worship, communications, education, family ministries, music ministry & youth)		548.18	2,450.00	22%
Outreach		0.00	0.00	0%
Witness (evangelism & LRE)		0.00	790.00	0%
Total Regular Income & Expenses	\$ 49,889.71	\$ 60,960.32	\$ 255,629.00	24%



**God Bless
America!**

**Please Pray for:
Our Military,
Law Enforcement Members,
First Responders,
Healthcare Workers
and their families.
People affected by the ongoing
violence, fire, hurricanes, tornadoes
and other bad weather.**



Average Attendance

10 a.m. Worship Service—Sanctuary

March 1 to March 31, 2024	47
April 1 to April 30, 2024	44

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

Sunday School

March 1 to March 31, 2024	11
April 1 to April 30, 2024	14

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

Terra Bella Worship Service

March 1 to March 31, 2024	8
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Our Windsor Family

WINDSOR'S DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO...

- † Isaac and Joyce Byrd on the passing of Isaac's sister, Mary Szczepanski on February 28 in Florida
- † Calvin and Felicia McCoy and family on the loss of Calvin's brother, Christopher Levern McCoy on March 4 in Sumter.
- † Barbara Hamilton and family on the passing of her sister-in-law, Gail Hamilton on April 9 in New York.
- † The Russell family on the passing of a beloved member, John Russell, on April 25.

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.



Online Health Survey

By Kathy Hart

SC Thrive is more than just distributing vegetables to neighborhoods described as "food deserts." It is a non-profit organization whose mission is to lead South Carolinians to stability by providing innovative and efficient access to quality-of-life resources. They have created a simple online survey as a service for churches to find out what types of health topics you are interested in learning about. Responses are anonymous. The health survey link is <https://wkf.ms/3T8u5y4>. If you want your voice heard, please open the link and complete the survey.



Calendar May 2024

Wednesday, May 1

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Thursday, May 2

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Saturday, May 4

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal - HH

Sunday, May 5

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, May 6

9:00 AM WCLA CoOp - No Classes

6:00 PM UWF - Rehoboth UMC

7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, May 7

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

1:00 PM Bible Study - Classroom 1

2:00 PM SL&WP Speech & Audio - Rms 5&10

3:00 PM Richland Library Tutoring - Rms 5&10

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Wednesday, May 8

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

11:30 AM SC Thrive Food Distribution - HH

Thursday, May 9

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

7:00 PM Briarwood HOA General Meeting - HH

Saturday, May 11

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal - HH

Happy Mothers Day



Sunday, May 12

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, May 13

9:00 AM WCLA CoOp - All Classrooms, HH/Pav

7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, May 14

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

1:00 PM Bible Study - Classroom 1

2:00 PM SL&WP Speech & Audio - Rms 5&10

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

7:00 PM RCSD Citizens Academy Alumni - HH

Wednesday, May 15

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Thursday, May 16

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Saturday, May 18

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal - HH

Sunday, May 19

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, May 20

9:00 AM WCLA CoOp - All Classrooms, HH/Pav

7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, May 21

1:00 PM Bible Study - Classroom 1

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Saturday, May 25

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal

6:00 PM Fil-Am Prayer Meeting - HH

Sunday, May 26

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, May 27



7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, May 28

1:00 PM Bible Study - Classroom 1

Thursday, May 30

6:00 PM Richland Herb Society - Rm 10

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.



May

Dave Christiansen	1
Sharon Wing	5
Rochelle Harvey	7
Lane Hinson	10
Marlene Nelson	21
Katy Hinson Bearden	22
Mitzi Shipman	23
Molly Walters	26
Kathy Robinson	27
Irene Nicholson	28
Minnie Rideout	28
John Schwab	29
Linda Jackson	31



June

Joe Thompson	3
Melanie Nanney	5
Richard Taylor	6
Frances Huggins	7
Faith Davis	8
John Dixon	9
Michael Grimes	10
Charmaine Ruppe	11
Karen Taylor	26
Becky McMillion	29



Windsor United Methodist Church

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Columbia Lay Servant Ministries Spring School Dates Set

By Kathy Hart

If you are interested in learning how to exercise servant leadership in church, register now for the Lay Servant school. The dates are May 17-18, 2024. Five courses are offered. Classes are 4:30–9 p.m. on Friday night (supper included) and Saturday, 8:30 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.. (breakfast and lunch included), at Union UMC in Irmo. The Basic Class is a prerequisite for the advanced classes. Cost for school is \$35.00. Books are a separate cost. More information is available on the bulletin board in the Education Hall.



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.