

The Vine

Windsor United Methodist Church

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

September 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.

HOPE: THE ANCHOR OF YOUR SOUL

Greetings friends: Wow! Can you believe it's already September? The next thing you know, we will be celebrating the Advent season. Isn't time a strange thing? Although I've only been at Windsor for eight weeks, by the time this goes to publication, I'll feel that I've been here for years. To me, that is a good thing because you all have welcomed and embraced me from day one and, for that, I am incredibly grateful.

I have given way too much thought and time about everything happening in our world today. If you are not careful, it can consume you. Many people are nervous and wondering what is next—culturally, politically, economically, and in the Church. Honestly, I am worn out by the tired messages we hear, loud pronouncements of “gloom doom, and agony on me, deep, dark depression, excessive misery.” Some of you may remember the old folktale *Chicken Little*. Chicken Little ran around the barnyard, yelling “The sky is falling, the sky is falling,” when an acorn hit her on the head. We all know a Chicken Little, that person who constantly warns that a calamity is imminent, especially without justification. They wind everybody up for no real reason. Behavioral scientists have recognized that such typical fearmongering can sometimes elicit a response called Chicken Little Syndrome, described as “inferring catastrophic conclusions possibly resulting in inaction.” I must admit I had to repent before God for falling prey to the dire pronouncements of gloom and doom. They will drag you down. They will cause you to lose hope if that is the only thing you listen to daily. As followers of Jesus Christ, we cannot allow ourselves to get sucked into the vortex of hopelessness. Brothers and Sisters, I have good news for you today: when we are anchored in Jesus Christ, we never have to worry about being

hopeless because the writer of Hebrews 6:19-20 tells us that the steadfast hope in Jesus Christ is “the anchor of our soul.” That anchor is Jesus, who keeps us from aimlessly drifting through our Christian lives afraid. Imagine a ship's anchor. The heavy anchor keeps the vessel safe and secure when tossed out into the sea. In scripture, the anchor is used metaphorically to represent God and faith. Therefore, we have three reliable sources of hope as an anchor for our soul: God's Word, character, and Son. God's Word and His nature are, pardon the pun, “rock” solid. It is impossible for God to lie because His words are Truth (Hebrews 6:18). God's promises in His Word are dependable and reliable because that is God's nature, which by His grace strengthens our faith, enabling us to “take hold of the hope set before us” (Hebrews 6:18). Hope is set before you! God's Son entered heaven and made our hope secure. Remember my first sermon at Windsor; I recounted how Bishop Holston defined hope as a four-letter word.

H-O-P-E. You can be reminded of hope every time you see a South Carolina license plate, “While I breathe, I hope.” I told you that's my car's license plate: “While I breathe, I hope.” Biblical hope is not some fleeting desire, but a solid and confident expectation grounded in God's promises. We can expect with certainty that God will do exactly as He says. I do not know whether you need to repent to God as I did for losing hope, but I can tell you this much, brothers and sisters: The steadfast hope in Jesus Christ is the anchor of your soul. When Jesus Christ is your anchor, nothing in the world will move you away from H-O-P-E. Amen.



Rev. Claire Van Den Berg

Congratulations

Congratulations, Tremaine! – 2024 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. We are happy to announce that Tremaine Sails-Dunbar has received the Fowler Scholarship for the second year in a row! Please join us in congratulating him.

Narrative and photo courtesy of Tremaine Sails-Dunbar

Tremaine Sails-Dunbar was born on August 5, 1991, to Willie Dunbar and Beverly Sails. He attended Madison Academic Magnet High School, American Baptist College, Vanderbilt University and is currently pursuing his PhD at the University of South Carolina. His research centers around the health-seeking process and material, social, and mental health outcomes of homeless African American men. He also is interested in the ways that faith-based organizations utilize their resources to help these men live a better life. His research is important to him, but his church life is the backbone of his faith.

Tremaine is active in several ministries at Windsor United Methodist, his home church. He serves on the Congregational Care Committee and with United Methodist Men. He also serves in the soup kitchen and has helped oversee two blood-drives at Windsor. When not working on his academic work, he can be seen serving at various events that the church hosts throughout the year. He is a dedicated Christian and looks forward to what the future holds for the people of God.



WINDSOR UNITED METHODIST MEN FUNDRAISER WE'RE MAKING CHICKEN BOG!

By Wayne Nanney

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, September 28, 5–7 p.m. The United Methodist Men of Windsor are selling trays of chicken bog!

For the uninitiated, Chicken Bog is a combination of rice, chicken and smoked sausage cooked together in a big pot of broth and stirred once in the cooking process. Chicken Bog is a hearty meal. The origins of this meal are from the coastal regions of the Carolinas. If you've spent time in the Pee Dee, you know Bog.

We will be using a tried and tested Salkehatchie recipe with oversight, I understand, from Kathy Robinson, a queen of the Salkehatchie kitchens

The trays are \$10 each to either take home or stay to eat in Harbor Hall and enjoy the fellowship. At the end of the night, we will be selling bulk bags of bog if we have any left. Bog will freeze 3–4 months sealed in airtight packaging.

We will have tickets available starting the first Sunday of September. See Wayne or Charles for tickets but, don't worry, we also will have a walk-up table that night for purchasing tickets. No one will be left out.

Please consider helping the UMM fulfill our mission of continuing to support Windsor UMC, the congregation and the community.



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 1 and October 6.**



LRE Visits Frank Harbor

By Lisa McAlpine

On Monday, July 22, Kathy and Ivey Hart, Peggy and Kristen Hill, Becky McMillion and Lisa McAlpine met Frank in one of the VA "family meeting rooms" for a nice chat (through our masks most of the time). Frank said he was doing well and likes his new living arrangements but really misses Windsor and seeing everyone! We caught Frank up on all the Windsor happenings and prayed with him for his continued health and for all that goes on at Windsor. He's always ready for a visit if you have the time, but it's good to call ahead to let him know when you are coming.

Photos courtesy of Kathy Hart



What is a Lay Servant?

By Kathy Hart

Read this before you look away. This might be the very nudge you need to find ways to serve your church and God. A certified Lay Servant is a professing member of a local church or charge who desires to serve the Church and who receives specific training to witness to the Christian faith through spoken communication, to lead within a church and community, and to provide caring ministry. Lay Servant courses are 10 hours long and are on a variety of subjects, Praying in Public, Leading a Bible Study, Planning Worship, etc. Everyone begins with the Basic Course. Lay Servant academies also are a great way to meet other United Methodists from across South Carolina. This year, talk to Pastor Van Den Berg if you are interested. This is the time to make application. Applicants need the Pastor's approval and then the Church votes on Lay Servants at Charge Conference on October 23.

The next Lay Servant Academy is slated for January 2025. Dinner and opening sessions are on a Friday night and then classes are held on Saturdays into mid-afternoon. Meals are incredibly good. For more information, please contact Kathy Hart.



Join Us for Our Next SC Thrive Distribution of Free, Fresh Produce Items! Wednesday, September 4, 10 a.m. - Noon

Article and photos by Becky Leonard

Windsor UMC is among several churches partnering with SC Thrive as a monthly food distribution point to strengthen the nutrition and food supply for residents in the Columbia Northeast area (zip code 29223). The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a federal program that helps supplement the diets of residents living in "food deserts" by providing foods like fruits, vegetables and whole grains at no cost.

Kale, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, 18 watermelons, and bibb and leafy green lettuce were provided for approximately 55 families at our SC Thrive distribution on July 10. In August, with Columbia still experiencing the threatening weather of Hurricane Debby, Windsor distributed kale, lettuce, pureed peach and blueberry pouches, and watermelon to 58 families.

Windsor volunteers provide the hands and feet of the distribution. They pick up the food at the warehouse, package the boxed produce into family-sized portions and set the food out for families.

This food is available to ALL of us, free of charge, and changes during our local growing season. Everyone in our congregation and the local community is invited to come to pick it up. Our next distributions are scheduled for **Wednesdays, September 4 and October 2**. An email will be sent out closer to that time, reminding folks of the date and giving the times of the distribution and, hopefully, the food items we will be handing out. If you would like to volunteer to pick-up, package or distribute the food, please contact Kathy Hart or Becky Leonard.





WINDSOR SOUP KITCHEN AT WASHINGTON STREET UMC

Article and photos by Becky Leonard

Windsor UMC continues to help with the noontime 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 express purpose to continue to provide a meal to those in need in downtown Columbia. The Soup Cellar has retained this format for more than four years and plans to continue it in the foreseeable future.



Normally the number of guests coming for the noonday meal is lower at the beginning of the month and climbs gradually during the month. On Windsor's July 1 serving day, we expected numbers to be in the 90s and, as a result, Soup Cellar Manager Terrence Chisholm had us prepare bagged meals for 105 folks.

Terrence made vegetable beef and chicken soup and the bagged meal included a tuna fish or peanut butter and jelly sandwich, orange, donut and can of soda. Guests could also take a 12-oz bag of raisins with them. We were all surprised as our bagged meal supply rapidly dwindled. While we had plenty of soup, additional sandwiches needed to be made and the rest of the bagged meal assembled. At the end of our serving, we had fed 138 folks! Many thanks to Debbo Lackore, Susan Caskey, Michelle Nicholson, Tremaine Sails-Dunbar and Becky Leonard who helped serve that very busy morning.

Windsor's August 5 serving occurred during a 'dry' spell of Hurricane Debby. The bagged meal contained a ham or peanut butter and jelly sandwich, orange, donut and can of soda. Terrence had prepared a vegetable beef and pasta soup to add to the meal. As the day also was Tremaine's birthday, we celebrated him by singing a round of *Happy Birthday!* Our crew of Debbo Lackore, Michelle Nicholson, Tremaine Sails-Dunbar, Patty Fowler and Becky Leonard served 123 guests that morning.

Windsor's next serving day will not be until October 7 as our September serving falls on Labor Day. If you are interested in helping in October, or have any questions, 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.



Windsor Food Pantry

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

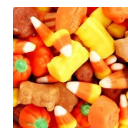
Thank you for helping those in need, Windsor.



THE FALL INTO FAITH COMMUNITY FESTIVAL IS OCTOBER 31

By Kathy Hart

Windsor UMC and Christian Faith Fellowship are teaming up for our "Fall into Faith Community Festival." We are planning for 600. We need all-hands-on-deck for this event. Volunteer sign-up sheets and tubs for candy will be available beginning September 15. As always, we are asking for candy and we will need at least six decorated trunks. By popular demand, the puppet show, escape room and the Pumpkin Patch Prayer Station will be returning. There will always be games and maybe some new ones. The UMM will be cooking hot dogs. Please be thinking about what you would like to do. For more information, contact Kathy Hart or Charles Shipman.





The Hands and Feet of Jesus 24 Filled Backpacks Ready for the First Day of School!

By Becky Leonard

July 31 was a hot summer day, but it was nice and cool in Harbor Hall as Windsor's Backpack Distribution Day got underway! Tables were displayed with each family's backpacks grouped together, and the snack table with packaged drinks and treats for the kids, was ready and waiting. During the July 28 Sunday Worship Service, Pastor Claire and the Windsor congregation joined in prayer to bless the backpacks and all students, teachers and administrators as they begin a new school year.

The morning's welcoming team included Nelly Jolley (Richland 2 Hispanic Outreach Coordinator), Pastor Claire, Kathy Hart, Becky McMillion, Janice Negus, Donna Benson and Becky Leonard, with Ivey Hart providing table set up. There were lots of smiling faces as each student saw the backpack picked out especially for them and filled with their needed school supplies. Pastor Claire shared a little Jesus with each child.

Thank you to all who made Windsor's Backpack Mission possible – through both your own shopping and monetary donations. You all provided backpacks and needed school supplies for 24 children in the Skills for Life and Work families, helping students in 10 families. The students ranged from kindergarten to 11th grade, with more than half in elementary school.

On behalf of the families, Outreach thanks John Mullikin, Kathy and David Williams, Monya Havekost, Peggy Hill, Kara and Gene Lewis, Becky McMillion, Lisa McAlpine, Donna and John Woodard, Katrina Garvin and her mother, Albertina, Stacy Rogers and his family, Terry and Steve Kitchens, Patty Fowler, Becky and Fred Leonard, Joyce and Isaac Byrd, Janice Negus, Donna Benson, Nancy and Melvin Wolff, Michelle Nicholson, Jean and Al Robinson, Noreen Doughty, Linda and Tommy Friar, Susan and Steve Finley, Kristen Hill, Barbara Hamilton, BSA Scout Troop 2870, and Kathy and Ivey Hart. Your generosity has helped these students and their families get a good start to what we pray is a safe and healthy school year for both them and their teachers!



A Message of Gratitude

Dear WUMC family,

Praying all is well with you and your beloved ones.

Our Richland School District 2 families are beyond blessed with your prayers and support with bookbags to almost 25 of our neediest R2 children. Last Wednesday, our children's faces lit up when they received, along with the book bags, healthy drinks and snacks. It was a happy, happy day for all of us, thank you!

Each parent of these kids, with most of them single moms, but also widowers, homeless, and parents who are recovering from terrible accidents, are struggling to meet their ends. It is for that reason, we can't begin to express what your thoughtfulness, love and efforts to bring the book bags and food to these families means to all of us. Thanks for creating this beautiful tradition that has been benefiting hundreds of our kids over the years.

You are alleviating the most important needs of many of our families. Please know we won't forget your kind gesture that is helping our families to get ahead in these difficult times.

You and your family have our deepest gratitude and appreciation.

Love, Nelly

*Richland 2 Hispanic Outreach Coordinator
Skills for Life & Work Program*



Photos by Pastor Claire, Kathy Hart and Becky Leonard

Financial Summary through July 31, 2024

	Income through July 31, 2024	Expenses through July 31, 2024	2024 Budget	Percent of Total
Regular Income (offering, Sunday school, fees, other)	\$ 111,942.17		\$ 225,000.00	50%
Administration (buildings, staff, & staff expenses)		\$ 149,466.92	\$ 249,544.00	60%
Apportionments		517.34	2,845.00	18%
Nurture (worship, communications, education, family ministries, music ministry & youth)		1,172.28	2,450.00	48%
Outreach		0.00	0.00	0%
Witness (evangelism & LRE)		294.41	790.00	37%
Total Regular Income & Expenses	\$ 111,942.17	\$ 151,450.95	\$ 255,629.00	59%



**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

July 1 to July 31, 2024	50
August 1 to August 31, 2024	43

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

Sunday School

July 1 to July 31, 2024	13
August 1 to August 31, 2024	10

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

Terra Bella Worship Service

July 1 to July 31, 2024	8
August 1 to August 31, 2024	9

Our Windsor Family

CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to Jennifer and Josh Lull on the birth of their son, Harrison William, on August 21. He was welcomed by his very excited big sister, Rylie, and proud grandparents, Fred and Becky Leonard.

Photo courtesy of Becky Leonard

WINDSOR'S

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO...

† The family and friends of Sheila Lafex, who passed away on July 18 in Columbia. Sheila attended Windsor when we had our 8:30 a.m. service.

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.

New Secret Sisters' Bulletin Board

By Kathy Hart

Ladies, check out the new Secret Sisters' bulletin board located in the hallway. We kicked off the season of Secret Sisters by completing a new questionnaire. We will assign a sister to you before September 1. We suggest sending cards each month. Please mail them. If you would like to give a gift, you may bring it to church and put it in the Secret Sister basket on the Volunteer Table in the glass pass-through. The next Reveal party will be on December 7 at 10 a.m., when we will have the reveal of Secret Sisters, and then we will begin again in January with new Secret Sisters for January through June 2025.



Calendar September 2024

Sunday, September 1

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 2

Church Office Closed
7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8



Tuesday, September 3

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
1:00 PM Bible Study - Classroom 10
6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Wednesday, September 4

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
10:00 AM SC Thrive Food Distribution - HH

Thursday, September 5

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
6:00 PM Liturgist Training - HH

Saturday, September 7

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

Sunday, September 8

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 9

9:00 AM WCLA CoOp - All Classrooms, HH/Pav
6:00 PM UWF Meeting- HH
7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, September 10

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
1:00 PM Bible Study - Classroom 10
6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Wednesday, September 11

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Thursday, September 12

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
6:00 PM Church Council - HH

Friday, September 13

9:00 AM Briarwood HOA Board Meeting - Rm 10

Saturday, September 14

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

Sunday, September 15

9:00 AM Sunday School (see *Leaf* for details)
9:00 AM Filipino American Church - HH

Monday, September 16

9:00 AM WCLA CoOp - All Classrooms, HH/Pav
7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8
Tuesday, September 17
9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
12:30 PM Richland Library Storytime - HH
1:00 PM Bible Study - Classroom 10
3:00 PM Richland Library - Classrooms 5&10
6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - Classroom 9

Wednesday, September 18

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
11:00 AM Bible Study - TBA
6:30 PM Bible Study - TBA
Thursday, September 19
9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
Saturday, September 21
8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)
3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal
Sunday, September 22
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 23

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms

Monday, September 23

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

Tuesday, September 24

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
12:30 PM Richland Library Storytime - HH
1:00 PM Bible Study - Classroom 10
3:00 PM Richland Library - Classrooms 5&10
6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - Classroom 9

Wednesday, September 25

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
11:00 AM Bible Study - TBA
6:30 PM Bible Study - TBA

Thursday, September 26

9:00 AM SL&WP - All Classrooms
6:00 PM Richland Herb Society - Classroom 10

Saturday, September 28

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)
12:00 PM UMM Chicken Bog Prep - K
3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal
5:00 PM UMM Chicken Bog pick-up
6:00 PM Fil-Am Prayer Meeting - HH

Sunday, September 29

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 30

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

**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
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



Results from “Silence is Golden” Silent Auction

By Kathy Hart

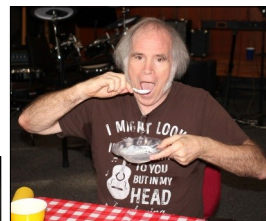
It was our first ever Silent Auction. We exceeded our goal and raised \$1140.00 from purchases and donations. The money will be applied toward our Apportionments. Many thanks to the donors, Wayne Nanney, Melanie Nanney, Karen Taylor, Kathy Robinson, Becky Leonard, Felicia McCoy, Kathy Hart, Ivey Hart, Dolores White, Rev. Claire Van Den Berg, Windsor UMC, and Becky McMillion.

Our mystery gift was won by Lisa McAlpine. She is the proud owner of a Whoopie Goldberg birdhouse and signed photo from Whoopie.

Start looking at what you have. Do you have something you don't need and looks brand new, but it would be of interest to someone else? From our experience, we know that crystal (lead) vases and dishes are not enticing bidders.



Photos by Noreen Doughty



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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.