

# The Saint News



Issue 1 | Nov., 2021

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**Contributors:** Church Members

**Media Ministry Chairperson:** Angela Williams

**Media Ministry Co-Chair:** Latrina Holmes

**Pastor:** Rev. Kenneth Carter

**Superintendent Orangeburg District:** Rev. Ken Nelson

## Saint Stephen UMC Welcomes A New Pastor



The members of Saint Stephen UMC welcomed Pastor Kenneth N. Carter and First Lady Terri Carter to Saint Stephen UMC. Pastor Carter comes to us from New Life UMC, in Walterboro, South Carolina, of the Walterboro District.

Pastor Carter attended St. Leo University and earned a BA on May 1, 1992. He also attended Seminary at Erskine College and earned his Master of Divinity on May 14, 2000. He has been a minister for thirty (30) plus years.

**HE IS ABLE**  
TO DO ABOVE & BEYOND ANYTHING WE CAN EVER  
**ASK. THINK. IMAGINE.**  
EPHESIANS 3:20

## What's Inside:

Church— Doors Reopen

Outreach Ministries

ACES

Media Ministry

Birthdays and Anniversaries

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Church Anniversary

In Memory of SPPRC) and

## Greetings From The First Family

Greetings to you Saint Stephen,

Just want to say thank you to the church and especially to the Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee (SPPRC) and the trustees for a very hospitable transition. Your kindness and support will always be remembered.

To the entire congregation of Saint Stephen church family, we are grateful to serve, support and share in the ministries that are operating.

Our prayer for SSUMC is one of all good leaders: stay dedicated, stay committed, and stay prayed up in being a faithful servant unto the Lord.

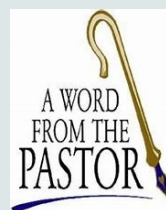
Lastly Saint Stephen, our mission and purpose are summed up in 1 Peter 5:2,

To care for the flock that God has entrusted to us

To watch over it willingly, not grudgingly-not for what we will get out of it, but because we are eager to serve God.

Blessings to you,

Pastor Kenneth & Terri Carter





# CHURCH CHANGES FOREVER

## CHURCH DOORS RE-OPEN FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP



### Saint Stephen UMC

, like many churches around the world, moves from assembling in the physical church to on-line ministry. This shift redefined what

we understood to be a “church without walls.” Of course, this was unexpected and even shocking to know there was an unknown virus (Covid-19), and it would change the way we worship forever.

Although the church was changed, making disciples did not change and that is the ultimate mission of the church, and that continued. A decision was made to return to the church building June 6, 2020. Members were required to wear a mask, check temperatures, and social distance in the sanctuary.



In addition, virtual worship continued in tandem.



“The good thing about being back in church is seeing your family, pastor, friends and neighbors. I like being able to witness the good news of Jesus in person. God’s grace and mercy allowed us back.”

Ruthel Johnson

“Worshipping in-person is a real feeling of getting some normality back in our lives. Worshipping virtually can take away the normal way to hear the word of God behind a phone call or screen. “

-Theresa Baylor



“In-person worship is awesome!”

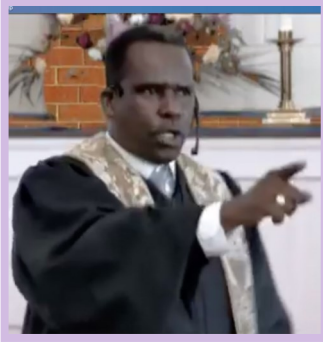
Latrina Holmes

### Bishop L. Jonathan Holston, Resident Bishop of the South Carolina Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church Allowed In-Person Worship With Guidelines

“Worship and other in-person **gatherings** are allowed to resume in the South Carolina Conference beginning June 14, 2021. Several safety guidelines were put in place for resuming in-person worship after prayer, research, data analysis and many conversations with public health officials, church leaders and state leaders.”  
<https://www.umcsc.org/restart/>



## Virtual Vs. In-Person Worship



"My in-person worship has been **"No Ordinary Worship!!!"** God has been moving through the sanctuary as a mighty rushing wind. The WORD of God preached by Pastor has made me take inventory even more of my life. It has corrected, rebuked and strengthened me to do better for the GLORY of God. Jeff and I look forward to going to church now more than ever before. The anointing and the true word is coming forth like never before. That's what we need now in order to remain saved and to be ready when Jesus returns."

-Evangelist Sharon Staley



"In-person worship is so much better for me personally. I feel a closer connection to the Holy Spirit. However, if I am unable to make it in person, I WILL get my worship in at home. But again, PERSONALLY, I prefer in house worship. But God is EVERYWHERE!!!"

-Linda Larkin 😊

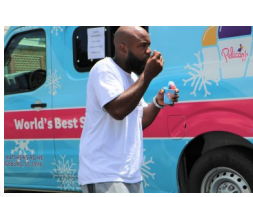


Praise Team

## - Pastor Carter

"I really enjoy in-person worship. Hopefully, we can get back to our "new normal, and everyone who desires to return to church can do so safely."





## Outreach Ministry sponsors Ice Cream for Prayer Event

On Saturday, August 14, 2021, Outreach Ministry under the leadership of **Michael Jarvis** sponsored another successful Ice Cream for Prayer activity for the children and youth in our community.

Members of the Outreach Ministry, church volunteers, members of various motorcycle clubs as well as our own **Rev. Kenneth and First Lady Terri Carter** visited several local apartment complexes to serve over one hundred fifty (150) snow-cones. The locations were Glenfield Apartments, Marshall Apartments, Orangeburg Manor, Hampton Chase and St. Paul Williams Chapel Apartments. The ultimate purpose was to encourage the families to be part of a special back-to-school prayer program that was to be held on Sunday, August 15, 2021.

Offering prayer and encouragement prior to starting would give them confidence and faith to prepare for a successful year in the "new normal."

The opportunity to minister and develop relationships during this activity was truly a blessing. Information regarding the prayer call was distributed, and the communities truly appreciated the love and support shown to their children.

- Michael Jarvis

Michael Jarvis and his committee are truly looking forward to next year, and they are planning to expand and include other communities. Why? Because **#ItsInUs**.



"Embracing Our New Normal" **ACES** Back to School **PRAYER CALL** SUNDAY AUG. 15, 2021 6:00 P.M.

Rev. Kenneth Carter, Pastor

Guest Speakers: Mrs. Starlette Jean, Mr. Hayward Jean, Rev. Christopher Key, First Lady Rev. Danna Prester

REGISTER ON THE WEBSITE: [WWW.STEPHENMINISTRIES.COM](http://WWW.STEPHENMINISTRIES.COM)

Sponsored by: Outreach Ministry, Michael Jarvis, Chair, Outreach Info: (803) 707-6072

**SAINT STEPHEN MINISTRIES** ICE CREAM FOR PRAYER

Coming To A Neighborhood Near You!

August 14th 12 pm - 3 pm

Rev. Kenneth Carter, Pastor

4500 Saint Stephen UMC Orangeburg, SC 29118





## Annual Back to School Prayer Call Makes Positive Impact on Students

Saint Stephen's ACES (Aspired Collegiate Embraced Scholars) and Witness Ministries sponsored a successful and engaging Back-to-School Program on Sunday, August 15, 2021. Students ranging from Pre-K to College enjoyed a spirit-filled night of encouragement and prayer to prepare for the 2021-2022 school year. This is the "new normal" for academics and Saint Stephen wanted to make an impact this year.

**Rev. Kenneth Carter**, Pastor of Saint Stephen provided opening remarks and prayer. **Lillie Hibbler-Britt** was the mistress of ceremony, and she engaged all students prior to the breakout sessions of presenters. Four dynamic and spirit-filled speakers offered encouragement and prayer for their perspective age group.

The speakers were introduced by **Yasmire Evans**, Junior at Clemson University, Clemson, SC; **Marcus Jarvis**, Senior at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, Greensboro, NC; **Lauren Jones**, Senior at Claflin University, Orangeburg, SC and **Ahnazha Muhammad**, Graduate Student, Queens University, Charlotte NC. The speakers were **Starlett Jean** (K-5) Reading Coach Riverton Elementary School; **Hayward Jean** (6th-8th) Director of Students Services for



the Orangeburg County School District; **First Lady Rev. Sarah Priester** (9th-12th) Professor of English in the Department of Modern



Language at South Carolina State University, and **Rev. Christopher Key** (College students) Pastor, Mays Chapel United Methodist Church, Branchville, SC.



Closing remarks and recognition were given by our own, **Rev. Shirley**

**Nichols**. She acknowledged guests as well as members of Witness and ACES committees. A heartfelt closing prayer was done by **Rev. Lisa Hawkins**, Pastor of St. Stephen and Pineville United Methodist Churches in Bowman, SC.



"THIS WAS AN EVENT TO REMEMBER FOR EVERYONE. SAINT STEPHEN WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE CARE OF OUR STUDENTS. WHY? BECAUSE #ITSINUS."

-GAIL JARVIS

## NEXTGEN II

youth ministry is looking forward to an exciting opportunity to be actively involved with our community by joining the local chapter of the Orangeburg NAACP. The youth are actively participating with the Youth Council. NEXTGEN II is eager to help educate and participate with issues on a local and state level and most of all eager to make a difference. Youth member **Alaishus Mack** shares, "When the color of my skin is seen as a weapon, I should be seen as unarmed, the wheels of justice should move fairly for all."



Every member is participating with monthly meetings and has joined a committee. Two of NEXTGEN II's are currently holding offices.

The members are:

**Nylah Holmes**, Treasurer

**Alaishus Mack**, Vice-Treasurer

Committees  
**Da'Jon Holmes**, Entertainment  
**Nylah Holmes**, Political Action  
**Kristan Hubbard**, Health  
**Chandler Jones**, Youth  
Employment **Jordan Jones**, Entertainment  
**Larkyn Jones**, Education  
Alaishus Mack,  
Health

Health

**TaJour Turkvan**, Entertainment  
**Emmanuel Williams**, Juvenile Justice

It is great to receive the strong support of our pastor, **Rev. Kenneth Carter**, who is actively involved as President of the Camden Chapter. His wife, **First Lady Terri Carter**, is an active member of that chapter as well.

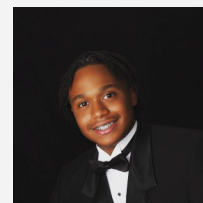
## ACES (Aspired Collegiate Embraced Scholars)

**ACES** (Aspired Collegiate Embraced Scholars) is preparing for the 2021-2022 school year with zeal and zest. Even though the past year has been a challenge in many areas, they are preparing to embrace new normal with excellence.

We are proud to announce that several members of ACES have received scholarships from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) for the 2021-2022 school year from the United Methodist Conference.

### ACES

**Jermaine Da'Jon Holmes** - Sophomore, Claflin University, \$5,000 General Higher Education Ministry



**Dajon Holmes**

**Marcus Jarvis** - Senior, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, \$1,000 Ethnic Scholarship



**Marcus Jarvis**

**Christopher Jones** - Senior, South Carolina State University, \$1,000 Higher Education Scholarship - Band Scholarship and was named the head section leader of Tuba Section at South Carolina State University

**Lauren Jones** - Claflin University, \$1,000 Higher Education Scholarship  
- Recipient of free summer hours at Claflin University



**Lauren Jones**



**Christopher Jones**

**Jordan Jones** - Freshman at North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC  
- Recipient of the following scholarships: Jim Clyburn, to include free laptop; Chick Fil-A, Soaring Eagle NCCU Band, Kappa and Omega

**Yasmire Evans** - Junior at Clemson University  
- Selected to be 2021 Clemson Orientation Ambassador  
- Holds several positions at Clemson  
- Currently employed  
- Dean's List the entire 2020-2021 school year

**DeAndrea Thompson** - Senior at Charleston Southern University and will be graduating Fall 2021

**Ahnazha Muhammad** will be pursuing her Masters Degree in the fall, and we wish her the best.

"High school seniors and current college students can apply for more than 175 scholarship awards online with one general application."

[Scholarships | Central Carolina Community Foundation](#)

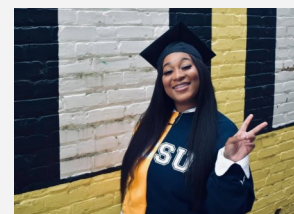
As you can see our scholars are embracing the new normal with aspiration to excel in and out of the classroom. We pray all of our ACES a blessed and successful school year.



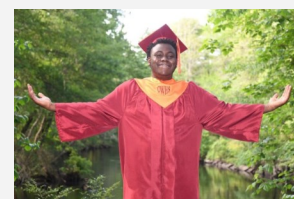
**DeAndrea Thompson**



**Yasmire Evans**



**Ahnazha Muhammad**



**Jordan Jones**



# WISDOM MEMBERS ARE STILL ACTIVE IN THE CHURCH



Pictured Above: Jerry Sistrunk, Iona Burton, Michael Myers, Debra Myers, Nolton Green, Gail Warren, Shirley Wright, Ollie Pepper, Albert Burton, Ruthel Johnson, and Leon Sistrunk

From WordLovers Bible Study, Tuesday Morning Prayer Call, and Sunday Morning Services, many of the members of WISDOM are still very actively involved in the **LIFE** of the church. Many also continue with leadership roles as well as support the ministries and programs of the church through tithing, and sharing of their time, gifts, and talents.



## WISDOM MEMBERS DISTRIBUTE CARE PACKS TO SICK AND SHUT-IN MEMBERS

**Chairperson Iona Burton** of WISDOM (age 70 and above) and other members delivered care packages to sick and shut-in members and who are sick and shut-in.



Some of the members pictured at left: Iona Burton, JoAnn Abram and at right: Albert Burton and JoAnn Abram



When asked virtual vs.in-person worship, several members of WISDOM responded:

“Although you always carry the church in your heart, virtual worship is as if you are looking at a church service on the television. There is nothing like being in God’s house worshipping God along with your fellow church family. Somehow I feel a little more connected to God when I am in His house.”

**-Iona Burton**, Chairperson of the Wisdom Ministry

“For me, worship is a spiritual exercise of adoration and reverence to my God . In person, that experience is shared more intimately with other like-minded people in a restricted. unrelaxed environment because of COVID-19; whereas, virtual affords an opportunity to worship with others in an uninhibited environment. I believe with some mind adjustment, ‘two or three can still touch and agree’ , inviting God in the midst, making either worship true worship.”

**Rev. Joseph Abram, Jr.**

“In-house service you feel more involved and more connected. You can feel the presence of God in the house.”

**-Jerry Sistrunk**

“I enjoy being back in the sanctuary, but I still am unable to feel totally safe or totally relaxed because of Covid-19. ”

**-JoAnn Abram**



## The SAINT Unites For A Worthy Cause!

**SAGE**, the Spirited Anointed Gifted Eagles ministry along with other members of Saint Stephen UMC and the virtual audience demonstrated what it means to answer the call of the those who are in need.

**Henry Miller**, the Director of the Samaritan House of Orangeburg shared the needs of the shelter during a meeting and how the SAGE ministry could help. While there were many needs, the members were intentional about choosing a mission that would benefit the most people and have the greatest impact.

Mr. Miller expressed the need for bed pillows. He explained that with the transition of the number of transients they have during any given week, "they go through a lot of pillows." He further explained that when they come, they are given a basket with toiletries and a pillow. Due to COVID guidelines, the member takes the pillow upon leaving the shelter. This rotation in and out can deplete their pillow inventory quickly.

**SAGE** decided that they would purchase at least seventy-five pillows and maybe rotate this mission among the other Life groups in the church. **Rev.**

**Charles L. White, Jr.**, liked the mission idea and decided to challenge the church by doing a pillow drive to help with SAGE's missionary project. The drive culminated June 30<sup>th</sup> during regular morning worship service.

Mr. Miller was invited to attend worship service and was able to receive more than two hundred (200) pillows to take back with him to The Samaritan House. Thanks to the Men's Ministry who assisted with delivering the pillows to the Samaritan House.

**Janelle S. Mitchell**, chairperson of SAGE thanked all who participated and shared with Mr. Miller that this would be a continuous partnership, and we look forward to future missions with The Samaritan House.



Pictured below are **Michael Jarvis** and **Rex Larkin** members of SAGE. Above are **Leon Sis-trunk**, **Nolton Green** and **Jermaine Holmes**. Members of the Men's Ministry assisted in the delivery of the pillows to the Samaritan House.



**SAGE** (Spiritual Anointed Gifted Eagles) Older Adults were able to work with various organizations that had a need for their transitional residents. The group donated baby items to Toby Place, a women's only facility of Oliver Gospel Mission in Columbia, SC, and a Pillow Drive that allowed the members of SAGE as well as the congregation to donate over two hundred (200) pillows to The Samaritan House in Orangeburg, SC. The SAGE group donated over one hundred (100) pillows. SAGE has also agreed to be in continued partnership with these community-based facilities.





## SAGE Expands Outreach into the Midlands



**SAGE, Spirited Anointed Gifted Eagles** has been busy with their outreach ministry and making connections in the local community and now has expanded into the Midlands.

Oliver Gospel Mission at, 1100 Taylor Street in Columbia, SC

was in need of baby items for their **TOBY's Place**, an extension of their services for women and children who have experienced homelessness and trauma, and SAGE answered their call. With over seven gift baskets, filled with the items requested via a list from **Danielle Morris, Executive Coordinator**, a group of SAGE members traveled to Columbia May 6th to present these items to the director and offered our services to the outreach program that provides shelter meals and chapel services to those in desperate need. Oliver Gospel was founded by Reverend Oliver in 1888 and over the years has expanded its services to 24/7 emergency meals and shelter, addiction recovery, case management, counseling, and career and life skills development.

We were thankful for the CREW member, **Lorraine Fields-Muhammad** & SAGE member **Cynthia Green** for assisting with coordinating the beautiful gift baskets which consisted of diapers, pampers, pull ups, baby bottles, baby foods, batteries, cereal, sippy cups, and other baby items donated by the SAGE members. In keeping with their commitment, SAGE promised Mrs. Morris that we would not be a "one and done" donor and would assist in future needs. The need arose in October when the director requested a need for cleaning supplies for their facilities.

SAGE gathered over seven (7) boxes of various cleaning supplies donated and purchased by SAGE members.

**Special thanks to SAGE member, Larry Shuler,**

who along with his co-workers at Valley Proteins in Orangeburg donated financially to purchase over fifty plus cleaning items to accompany what SAGE already collected. Thanks to Linda Larkin and Tracie Green who did the packing of the collected items after worship service and Gail Jarvis and Janelle Mitchell who carried them to Columbia to Oliver Gospel Mission on October 26th.

**Janelle Mitchell**, chairperson said she is grateful to God for the SAGE members and our generous spirit towards the outreach projects and positive outlook towards all the ministries. We are looking forward to continuing our outreach to our local church members, local & extended communities.

SAGE is an Age Level ministry that invites members to join from ages 56-69.





## OUTREACH IN ACTION



**Pictured Left: Nolton Green and Michael Jarvis of the Outreach Ministry presents five hundred (\$500) dollars to CASA (Citizens Against Sexual Assault) This agency helps people in domestic violence situations.**

## Outreach Ministries Add Hand

*Outreach Ministries, under the direction of chairperson, Michael Jarvis, saw the need to assist members with special needs. Their first project was to add hand rails to the home of Rebecca Harrison. Ms. Harrison, plagued with various health issues the last few years, was truly grateful to the men of the church. In particular, she wanted to thank Shelton Sistrunk, Michael Jarvis, and Nolton Green who orchestrated the donation to install the rails. Special thanks to Edward Johnson who built the new hand rails. (pictured at right are Mr. Johnson and Ms. Harrison)*



## P.U.S.H. Family Ministry Is Pushing Forward



Saint Stephen is very excited about the resurrection of our life group P.U.S.H. (Positive United Spiritual Homes), Family Ministry. Under the leadership of Chairperson, **Ollie Pepper**, she and her committee are committed to engaging the church family and community in activities to unite families spiritually and socially.

The first event was Movie Night which was held on Sunday, May 2, 2021. Members watched a dynamic, spiritual movie entitled "God's Compass" via ZOOM. **"Feast and Fellowship"** was held on Sunday, June 13, 2021. This event was also held via ZOOM. The delicious meals were described from being full meals to dessert. Members shared their meals while engaging in dialogue.

Ms. Pepper is surrounded by a dedicated committee: Tracie Green, Co-Chair, Sharnise Parker-Shuler, Barbara Lebby, Leon Sistrunk, Anthony Pepper and Tiffany Aiken. PUSH Family ministries will continue these family activities as well as implement new ones.

**"These opportunities to bring families of the church and the community together are definitely successful."**

**-Gail Jarvis**



# What Is Media Ministry?



Rev. Nichols, Bernard Westcott, Janelle Mitchell, Latrina Holmes (Co-Chair), Dajon Holmes, Lorraine Mohammad (Secretary/Treasurer), Ahnahza Muhammad, Jerry Sistrunk, Amya Govan, Angela Williams (Chair), Evangelist Staley

Pictured Below: Michael Jarvis, Gail Jarvis Not Pictured Lille Hibbler, Shawana Riley, Tajour Turkvan, Trina Turkvan, Shelton Sistrunk and Larkyn Jones

## What Do We Do?

**Media Ministry** members work **behind the scenes** to support church ministries and members, through virtual platforms, social media and in-service worship to help tell the story of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

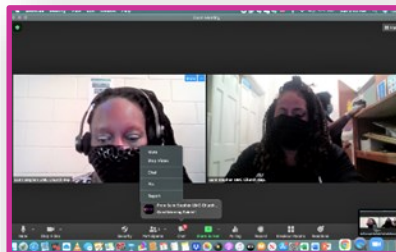
Every week hundreds of members and guests are reached around the world through the platforms that we provide.

Additionally, the ministry provides flyers, pictures, videos, notes, brochures, and newsletters to disseminate information.

**The social media platforms** are: YouTube, Facebook (StStephenUMC), (St.StephenMission), (SaintStephenUMC NOW), Website (visit [www.ststephenumc.com](http://www.ststephenumc.com))

Zoom (WordLovers Bible Study and special programs)

**Communications:** Call Multiplier, Free Conference Call, Free WiFi (password godis-good)



## OUR MISSION:

"Communicating all the good we can, in all the ways we can, to all the people we can, in all the places we can."

<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/agencies/communications/about-us>

## Zoom Protocols:

- ♦ Arrive on time
- ♦ Mute your microphone
- ♦ Be mindful of your background
- ♦ Put away distractions
- ♦ Camera on when possible
- ♦ Prepare if presenting
- ♦ No eating while on camera

## ZOOM LOGIN

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9359130083?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9359130083?pwd=Uy90MEM1azRISkxIVFZvVDJ6REdEdzo9)  
pwd=Uy90MEM1azRISkxIVFZvVDJ6REdEdzo9  
Meeting ID: 935 913 0083



# Birthdays and Anniversaries!

## Happy Wedding Anniversary

### Month of August

Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence (Maggie) Green (11)

Mr. & Mrs. Maurice (Janelle) Mitchell (20)

Mr. & Mrs. Demetrius (Krystal) Jackson (27)

## Happy Wedding Anniversary

### Month of September

Rev. & Mrs. Joseph (JoAnn) Abram (18)



Mr. & Mrs. George (Angela) Williams (19)

Mr. & Mrs. Albert (Iona) Burton (25)

Mr. & Mrs. Ezekiel (Mae Ella) Felder (25)

Mr. & Mrs. Jeremiah (Joyce) Sistrunk (25)

Rev. & Mrs. Kenneth (Terri) Carter (27)

## Happy Wedding Anniversary

### Month of October

Mr. & Mrs. Nolton (Tracie) Green (1)



## Milestone

## Rachel Sistrunk, Chairperson Faith Formation, (Christian Education)



## CHURCH MEMEBERS AND FAMILY HELP TO CELEBRATE SEVENTY SCORE AND SIX!





**HELP  
DONATE**

# Life Groups Volunteer To Decorate The Samaritan House



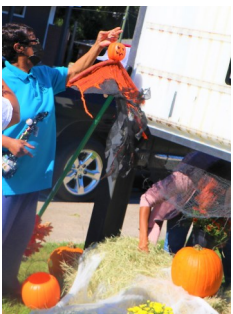
**Members from various LIFE groups met at the Samaritan House Sat., Oct. 23 to decorate the marquee for Halloween and Thanksgiving. To be effective and creative the themes were combined so that several items could be moved after Oct. 31 and Thanksgiving theme would still be present. They were joined by the director (Mr. Miller) and one of the guest from the house.**

**"For Christians, Halloween can be a source of consternation. Its origin as a pagan festival and the often and heavy emphases on death, darkness, fear, the occult and witchcraft raise theological concerns for some.**

**The United Methodist Church does not have an official statement or position regarding Halloween. Congregations are free to make their own decisions about Halloween activities.**

**Many offer alternatives to traditional activities, choosing events that celebrate life rather than death, offer safe fun for children or make the day one to give as well as get."**

**<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/to-be-united-methodist-how-do-we-celebrate-halloween>**



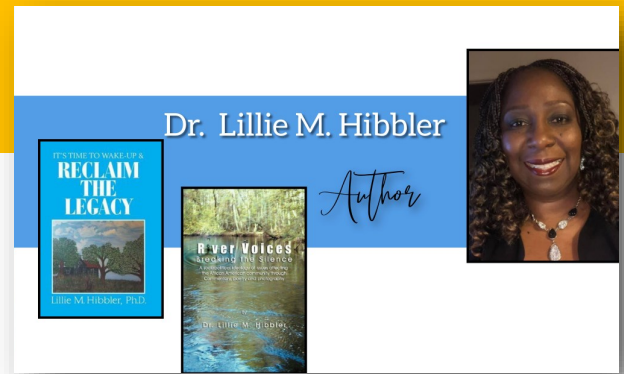


# Hide the Word in Your Heart

## Lille Hibbler

**Turmoil**, discord, confusion, these are words that come to mind when we think about what is happening in the world today. When we turn on the television or log into the internet anguish and destruction comes on the screen. There are times that we are bombarded and battered on every side and our strength begins to fail us. However, these are the times that we need to lean on the word of God. We can only achieve this when we hide the Word in our hearts. Every child of God should find that scripture that speaks to them and gives them peace, hope, and encouragement.

The Bible tells us in **Psalm 119:11** to hide the Word of God in our hearts so that we do not sin against Him. God's Word gives us the wherewithal to stand against the enemy. Satan knows that when trouble comes our way we become weak and, in our weakness, we are tempted to sin. Therefore, God says to keep His Word in our hearts to trust in Him and Him alone. Doing so will keep us from depending on either ourselves or man.



"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

*"The words of Joshua 1:9 has served as my personal strength for decades. Although I have memorized many scriptures knowing that my Father in heaven is with me wherever I go has always given me a sense of peace and assurance. Today I suggest that you hide the Word in your heart. That you find that scripture that gives you hope and helps you to lean on God."*

*-Lillie Hibbler*

## FROM THE PEACE CORPS AND OFF TO MEDICAL SCHOOL



French) She assisted in a few pilot projects including the building of latrines to prevent open- air defecation. KeeKee especially loved the people of Togo, but most of all, she

KeAnjane' Govan, affectionately known as KeeKee, spent approximately a year in **Togo, Africa** as a volunteer in the **Peace Corps**. While there, she taught orphan children to speak English. (their native tongue is

adored the children she encountered there. While in Togo and after, she was recognized for her contributions on numerous occasions.

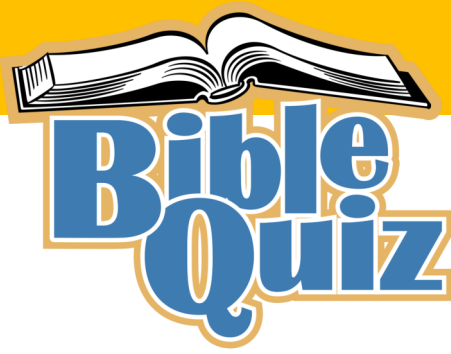
March of 2020, all Peace Corps volunteers were sent back to the US to avoid an outbreak of the Covid Virus, specifically because they were located in remote areas, with little access to hospitals.

This was disheartening to KeeKee at first, but she came up with a plan for the next chapter in her life. She applied to and was accepted to **USC School of Medicine** in SC where she plans to study Biochemical Research.



"A big thank you to [Keanjane Govan](#) for her work that she has done and that she continues to do for the rise and evolution of [Association Vivasfm-Togo](#) and [MEROA](#) until today. After the 2020 General Assembly the executive committee to vote that she becomes the representative of the organization in the USA, given her involvement, that of her family and friends, she deserves the honor roll. Thank you Kee." - [Dzidodo Ekpeboy](#), Togo. Africa





## 1. WHICH SAINT IS OUR PASTOR?

- A. White shirt and grey pants?
- B. Checkered shirt and hat?
- C. White shirt, mask and hat?



## 2 WHO WERE ADAM'S CHILDREN?

- Cain and Abel
- Cain, Abel, and Seth
- Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John
- Cain, Abel, Seth, and other sons and daughters

**DID YOU KNOW?**



There are sixty- six books in the Bible, thirty- nine in the Old Testament and twenty- seven in the New Testament. More than 100 million copies of the Bible are sold each year?

## 3. WHICH ONE OF ABRAHAM'S SONS' NAME MEAN "LAUGHTER"?

- Ishmael
- Isaac
- Esau

## DOES THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HAVE AN OFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF THE BIBLE?

- Yes
- No

For more quiz questions visit: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/united-methodist-bible-quiz>

2. The correct answer is Cain, Abel, Seth and other sons and daughters. "The days of Adam after he became the father of Seth were eight hundred years; and he had other sons and daughters." (Gen 5:4)

3. The correct answer is Isaac. "Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Now Sarah said, God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me" (Gen 21:5-6)

4. The correct answer is no. When it comes to United Methodist teaching resources published by The United Methodist Publishing House, the Common English Bible (CEB) and the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) are the preferred

**Answers:** 1. Checkered shirt and hat

# 152 Years Church Anniversary



**“We give God all the praise and glory for allowing us to worship Him with our gifts, talents and service as we celebrated our 152nd Church Anniversary and Homecoming. It was a spirit-filled event that enriched us all. I would like to thank all the worship service participants, the committees that worked behind the scenes and especially our Saint Stephen family who make every service we have a success. We look forward to seeing you in October, 2022.”**

**Cynthia P. Green, Chairperson of the Anniversary Committee**

**Cynthia P. Green**



**First Lady Terri Carter**

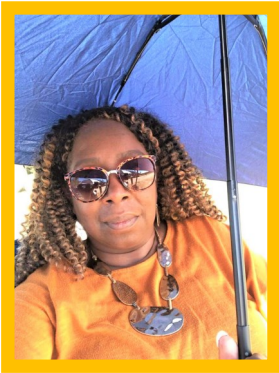
**Trina Turkvan**



**Rev. Shirley Nichols  
(TaJour Turkvan)**







## 152 Years of Being Kept by God

Lillie Hibbler

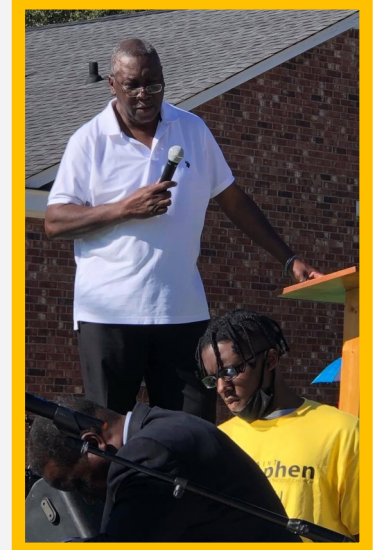
I grew up in St. Stephen and attending services was one of the prides of my life. I enjoyed attending Sunday School and then church services. Once a year the church would have revival and my father would make sure that we would attend. It was important that his chil-

dren were brought-up on the word of God. While attending the church anniversary, those memories came flooding back. An appreciation for the word and the knowledge that God is always there for us. To say that the 152nd Church Anniversary was engaging would not do justice to an

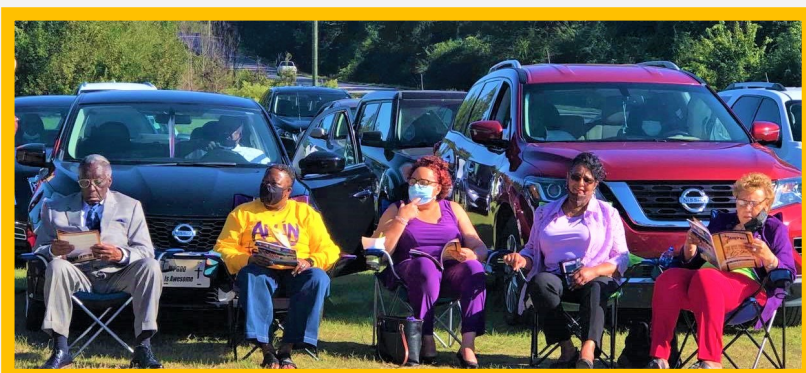
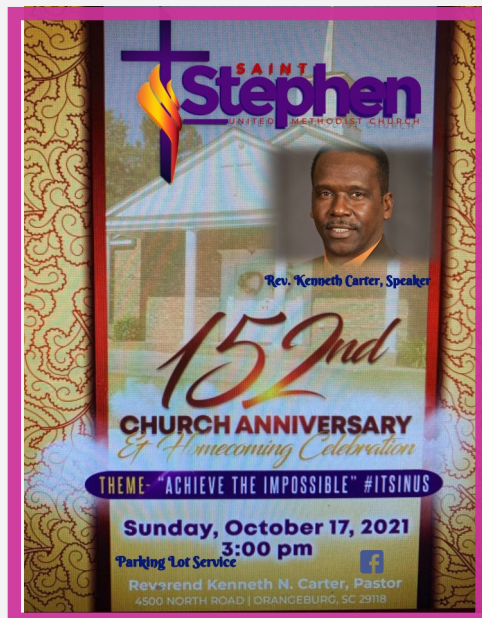
event that uplifted and inspired those in attendance either in person or virtually.

The pandemic has changed so much within the life of churches; however, our anniversary celebration was held in the church's parking lot and allowed the various choirs to participate and render praises to God. Choirs that had not sung together in over a year because of the pandemic sung songs of praise, remembering all that God had done and is doing the life of Saint Stephen UMC.

demonic sung songs of praise, remembering all that God had done and is doing in the life of Saint Stephen UMC. The celebration was not to boast about all that we the members had accomplished, but to shine a light on how God has blessed us as a congregation. From, acknowledging those that had gone to glory all the way to a souvenir journal that showcased how God has blessed various members and groups in our congregation.



Pastor Carter's message reminded us that God has and will always be there for Saint Stephen. We thank those that participated in the service and those that attended. **God is blessing Saint Stephen, we must continue to look to the hills from which cometh our help, our help comes from the Lord.**







# ANNOUNCEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT



**GOD  
is  
LOVE**

Visit our website:  
[www.ststephenumc.com](http://www.ststephenumc.com)

CIA, Christians In Action resumed Noonday prayer October of 2021. It's designed specifically for ages 19-39 to come together in prayer to grow spiritually.

Pearl Thompson, chairperson of Next Gen I solicits pictures and videos for upcoming holidays to include Thanksgiving and Christmas. Please submit to Angela Williams  
[@a\\_mack\\_williams39@hotmail.com](mailto:a_mack_williams39@hotmail.com)  
one week prior to the Sunday before the holidays.



## Saint Stephen UMC



Young Adult Ministries  
AKA  
Christians In Action (CIA)

Teddy Bear Ministry



Love△ Share△ Care

Do you think that you may be in need of any of these services? If so, the Young Adult Ministry (CIA) wants to provide services for you. The Young Adult Ministry is (CIA) proud to present to you its Teddy Bear Ministry. The Teddy Bear Ministry will provide the following services:

Drive /Pick up to/from Grocery Store  
Drive/Pick up to/from Doctor's Appt  
Drive/Pick up to/from Special or regular church services  
Pick up/drop off Prescriptions  
Limited yard services

To be eligible for these services you must fit the following criteria:

Be a senior citizen  
Must be a member of Saint Stephen UMC

In order to receive services you must give a minimum of 24 hours notification.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Please use the bottom of this form to request your service.

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone:

\_\_\_\_\_

Service Requested:

\_\_\_\_\_

## August Birthdays

Nylah Holmes 8/1  
Dajon Holmes 8/2  
Terrell Cobbs 8/2  
Ezekiel Felder 8/7  
Gail Jarvis 8/11  
Minister Eartha Jones-Rice 8/11  
Deborah Myers 8/12  
Anthony Pepper 8/14  
Isreal Wilds 8/15  
Krystal Larkin-Jackson 8/19  
Maurice Mitchell, II, 8/22  
Hattie Felder 8/22  
Ollie Pepper 8/24  
Anthony Rogers 8/24  
Bernard Wescott 8/24  
George Herring, III 8/27  
Clarissa Vincent Joyner  
Heddie Carson 8/7

## September Birthdays

Jacob Benjamin (1)  
Sheryl Sistrunk 9/1  
Cynthia Green 9/5  
Gloria Hutto 9/6  
Edward Green, II 9/7  
Willie Cobbs 9/10  
Eugene Rickenbacker 9/11  
Katrina Green 9/11  
Nolton Green 9/12  
Lameshia Wallace 9/15  
Cheryl Brown 9/16  
Marquise Mack 9/18  
Marshall Rickenbacker 9/18  
April Wright 9/19  
James Mack 9/21  
Ahnazha Muhammad 9/22  
Jarred Parker 9/22  
Kadacia Pepper 9/23  
Dorothy Cobbs 9/27  
Andrew Harrison 9/30  
Nathan Carson, Jr.  
Ellis Mack

## October Birthdays

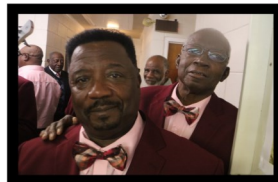
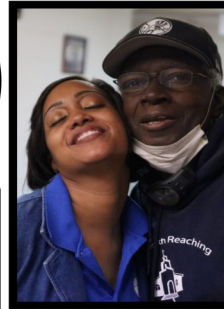
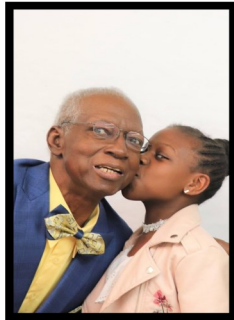
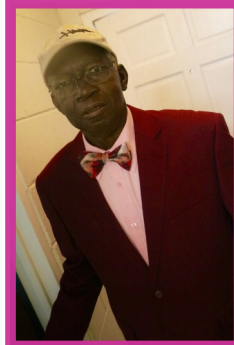
Rex Larkin, Jr. 10/1  
Elijah Wilds 10/3  
Dre' Thompson 10/6  
Jeffrey Staley 10/8  
Shelton Sistrunk 10/5  
Larry Harrison 10/11  
Iona Burton 10/15  
Leslie Warren 10/15  
Lawrence Green 10/18  
Janelle Mitchell 10/19  
George Fields, Sr. 10/22  
Mary Rogers 10/23  
Theresa Baylor 10/24  
Latrina Holmes 10/25  
Maggie Green 10/30  
Rev. Julius Sistrunk  
TaJour Turkvan

**JOHN 3:16**  
**FOR GOD SO LOVED**  
**THE WORLD**  
THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON,  
**THAT WHOEVER**  
**BELIEVES IN HIM**  
SHOULD NOT PERISH BUT HAVE  
**ETERNAL LIFE.\***





# *Always In Our Heart*



*In Loving Memory Of Mr. George Fields*

*"Mr. Fields was the epitome of what a Church Trustee, a gentleman and a friend should be."*

Nolton Green



*"Dad you will always be in our thoughts, and forever in our hearts"*

-Your Children



**Rev. Kenneth Carter, Pastor**



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**Superintendent Orangeburg District:** Rev. Ken Nelson,

“The United Methodist Church is a global denomination that opens hearts, opens minds and opens doors through active engagement with our world. The mission of The United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

John Wesley and the early Methodists placed primary emphasis on Christian living, on putting faith and love into action. ”<https://www.umc.org>



## Coming Soon:

**Church Yard Sale**

**Nov. 13, 2021 (8am-2pm)**

**Thanksgiving Give Away**

**Nov. 20, 2021**

**Goldstar Program**

**Dec. 11, 2021**

**SAINT Christmas Village**

**Dec. 18, 2021**



**Cashapp**

**STStephenUMC**

**See website for other ways to give.**



“United Methodists help one another grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. John Wesley, historic founder of the Methodist movement, succinctly described the plan of discipleship in what he called The General Rules. As Christians, we are to (1) do no harm by avoiding evil of every kind; (2) do good to all people; and (3) attend upon all the ordinances of God like participating in worship, taking Communion, reading the Bible, praying, and more. “

<https://www.umc.org>

