



# Together in Mission and Ministry

News from the Greenwood District



## LOVE NOTES

### WE HAVE THIS PROMISE



Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Love  
District Superintendent

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

*Isaiah 9:6 NIV*

This Season of Advent reminds us of the promises of God. Specifically we celebrate the promise that we are able to claim through the birth of Jesus. This year we continue to be faced with the reality of living in anxious times. Many of us directly or indirectly can relate to challenges of communities filled with news of violence and despair. I want to encourage each of us to remember we have the promise of this season...“for unto us a child is born a Son is given ( Isaiah 9:6 NIV).” Because of celebrating the birth of Jesus we can also celebrate the birth of this season of promise. The promise of a savior. The promise of being rescued by the hope, peace, joy, and love born into our world for our salvation. The promise of one who is called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and the Prince of Peace.

*Continued on page 2*

Greenwood District  
SC Conference  
The United Methodist Church

1633 Rivers St.  
PO Box 49968  
Greenwood, SC 29649

Phone: 864-223-2650  
E-mail: [gwdist@umcsc.org](mailto:gwdist@umcsc.org)  
Web: <http://www.umcsc.org/greenwood>

December 2022  
Volume 10, Issue 12

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Advisory Response Forms .....	3
Apportionment Update .....	3
Spring Lay Servant Ministry School.....	3
DCOM Meeting .....	3
Bishop's School of Ministry.....	4
Breakfast with Santa.....	4
District Christmas Party.....	5
Granville Hicks Leadership Academy.....	6
Native American Representative Training .....	7
January Clergy Meeting.....	8
Revolution 2023.....	8
Flood Bucket Packing Party.....	9
Merry Christmas .....	10

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- 2022 Apportionment Update
- Bishop's School of Ministry
- Recap of District Christmas Party
- Granville Hicks Leadership Academy
- January Clergy Meeting
- Flood Bucket Packing Party
- District Poll

#### Connect with Us

- **Web:** <http://umcsc.org/greenwood>
- **LinkedIn:** @gwdist
- **Twitter:** @gwdist
- **Facebook:** GreenwoodDist
- **Google+:** Greenwood District
- **Instagram:** gwdist
- **Alignable:** Greenwood District

# LOVE NOTES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Howard Thurman shares these words in his book *The Mood of Christmas*.

The Season of Promise

*Let the bells be silenced. Let the gifts be stillborn.*

*Let cheer be muted. Let music be soundless.*

*Violence stalks the land: Soaring above the cry of the dying,*

*Rising above the whimper of the starving, Floating above the flying machines of death.*

*Listen to the long stillness: New life is stirring. New dreams are on the wing.*

*New hopes are being readied: Mankind is fashioning a new heart. Mankind is forging a new mind.*

*God is at work.*

*This is the season of Promise.*

Let us embrace the promise of the season. Let us remember that this season of promise grants us all what we need to renew our strength as we focus on the birth of Jesus who is the promised one for all of us. May you have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Grace and peace,



Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Love  
District Superintendent



Happy  
Birthday

December 22: Elaine Davis (Vin)  
December 23: Daniel Eplee  
December 29: Kathy Jo Long (Joe)  
December 30: Kristi Bolin (John)



Anniversary  
Blessings

December 15: William and Karen Hightower  
December 17: Bill and Bobbie Jean Rogers  
December 23: Mike and Heather Evans

## **ADVISORY RESPONSE FORMS**

**REMINDER** Clergy and PPRC Advisory Response Forms are due in the district office by Thursday, December 15. The forms were sent to all clergy via email. PPRC chairs for whom we have email addresses also received the forms by email. Hard copy forms to mailed to all PPRC chairs. This information was sent on November 15.

A reminder email was sent on Monday, December 12. Included in that email were the listing of pastors and churches/charges that have returned their Advisory Response Forms.

## **2022 APPORTIONMENT UPDATE**

Printed below is the 2022 apportionment payment breakdown as of December 14:

- 100%: 44 churches
- 75-99%: 11 churches
- 50-74% : 6 churches
- 25-49% : 2 churches
- 1-24%: 5 churches
- 0% : 8 churches

**REMINDER:** The last day to pay 2022 apportionments is **4:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 12**. If your church pays through Vanco, the payment must be initiated no later than 3:00 p.m., January 10.



Greenwood District Lay Servant Ministries has announced the dates of the 2023 Spring Lay Servant Ministry School: March 19 (2:00 p.m.—7:00 p .m.) and March 26 (2:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.) The location will be announced at a later date.

Courses to be offered include *Living Our Beliefs; Polity; Discover Your Spiritual Gifts; Ministry with the Forgotten; and Opening Ourselves to Grace*. The cost is \$25 per course.

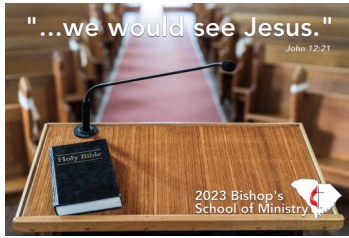
Registration will again be online or by mail.

Full details will soon be available and shared with pastors, current lay servants, and on the [Greenwood District webpage](#).

## **DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON ORDAINED MINISTRY**

DCOM's last meeting of 2022 is set the **Tuesday, December 20, 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p .m.**, at the District Office. Members have been notified and candidates submissions have been sent to all Committee members.

## BISHOP'S SCHOOL OF MINISTRY



**WHEN:** February 7-9, 2023

**WHERE:** Sheraton, Myrtle Beach, SC

[Daily Schedule](#)

[Event Registration](#)

[Hotel Reservations](#) (Conference Hotel)

[Full details available on Conference webpage.](#)

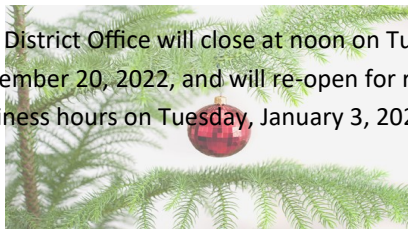
## DISTRICT GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

The time is short to submit your applications for funding from the District Connec-tional Ministries and the District Com-mittee on Congregational Development. The application deadline is January 15

If you are interested in applying for one of these grants, contact the Greenwood Dis-trict Office to request a copy of the appli-cation.

## DISTRICT OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The District Office will close at noon on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, and will re-open for regular business hours on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.



**Saturday, December 17, 2022**

**9:00 am**

**Sponsored by**

**Crossroads United Methodist Church**

**1269 McCormick Hwy,  
Saluda, SC 29138**

**Breakfast, Fun, and of course...**

**A Visit with Santa**

## SC ERT TO FLORIDA

You've heard it said, and we are sure you agree, that a picture is worth a thousand words. A video is worth even more. Thanks to Stephen Bishop, who was a member of the ERT that went to Florida to work in the aftermath of Hurricane Ian, for his time and effort to provide that video. This link should take you to Stephen's video which gives you a bird's eye view as well as street views of the damage to just one small area of Florida:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PsBFNUJRiIX979aPNtgCdQWi1Mi-WhhT/view?usp=sharing>

## ***THE GREENWOOD DISTRICT CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS***

Pastors and Spouses look forward each year to the District Christmas Gathering and this year was no exception. In addition to meeting old friends and making new ones, we had the opportunity this year to see many of the renovations that have taken place at Wesley Commons and to enjoy their beautiful Christmas decorations. The food was really good too! Despite the rainy foggy weather, a good time was had by all—adults and children.

*A special visitor joins the party and brings gifts for a few of us.*

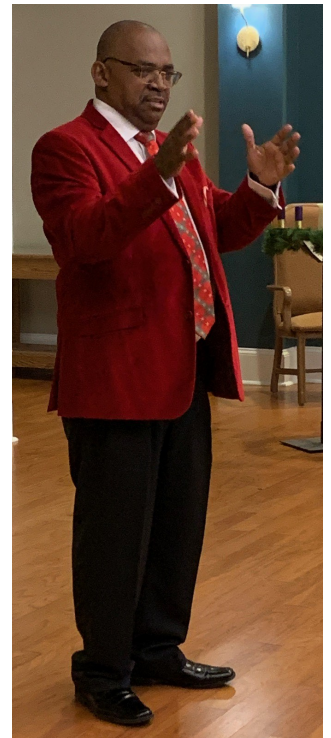


*Rev. and Mrs. Love*



*The children listening to a Cajun Night Before Christmas, when Santa comes in a skiff pulled by alligators!*

*Rev. Love reminding all of us of how special this season is and encouraging everyone to share God's amazing love and grace with everyone.*



James and Dorothy Z. Elmore Chapel  
Claflin University  
400 Magnolia Street

January 26-27, 2023

CELEBRATING THE 31ST ANNUAL GRANVILLE HICKS  
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY FOR LAITY AND CLERGY

Theme: "This is Our Story"

1866 Annual Conference, Central Jurisdiction, and  
Belated Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Merger

Worship | Workshops |

Belated 50th Anniversary of Merger Luncheon

Registration \$125

After January 13, 2023: \$150

<http://alumni.claflin.edu/granville-series->

Contact Rev. Larry D. McCutcheon at 803-535-5150  
or [lmccutcheon@claflin.edu](mailto:lmccutcheon@claflin.edu)

Dr. Dwaun J. Warmack, University President  
Reverend Larry D. McCutcheon, Interim CU Chaplain  
Reverend Dr. Granville Hicks, Academy Founder





# Native American Representative Training Registration

DATE: **February 4, 2023**

**Registration: 9:00-9:30 AM**

**Program: 9:30- 3:00PM**

**Main Street UMC**  
1830 Main Street  
Columbia, SC 29201  
(803) 779- 0610

Please **Mail Registration** January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**La Shella Kirkland**  
2662 Baron DeKalb Road  
Camden, SC 29020



La Shella Kirkland: Mobile: 803-713-5305 Home: 803-432-3699

Email: [LaShellaKirkland@live.com](mailto:LaShellaKirkland@live.com)

**Cost:** Registration fee of **\$10 per** attendee (Non-refundable fee)

Please make the registration **CHECK payable to NAC** for **\$10 per attendee**.

Pre-Order T-shirt for \$18 receive **\$3 discount** = \$15 **Size Shirt** \_\_\_\_\_

You can write 1 check for a T-shirt and registration. \$15 +\$10= \$25

On the check designate "For" NAR **Training**. Please no cash or credit cards

A **Chick fil-A** lunch will be served. Please write any dietary restrictions the bottom of this form.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Church Email \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor's email \_\_\_\_\_

First training: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Number of People from your church attending \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you in advance for choosing to attend our Annual UMC Native American Representative Training. NAR Notebooks will be given to first time attendees. Updated replacement pages will be given to returning NAR's so please bring your training books.**

**\*\*\*May the Lord bless your coming and going! Aho and Amen!**

Taking a poll: How many actually read this monthly publication and pay attention to the announcements, requests, and other information?

The first 5 people to respond to the following will receive a special treat at the January Clergy Meeting: *Let's celebrate your ministries. Send us pictures with brief explanations; stories; anecdotes; and your moments of joy or sadness in ministry.* Participate in our Telling Our Stories district publication. Email Martha for details.

## JANUARY 2023 CLERGY MEETING

The January Clergy Meeting is set for **January 17**, 9:00 a.m. The location will be announced at a later date. Mark your calendars now. Remember that all pastors, appointed and assigned, are expected to attend these monthly clergy meetings.

## CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

Connectional Ministries is scheduled to meet on **Thursday, January 19, 7:00 p.m.** The location has not been set as yet. Mark your calendars now and set a reminder.

### + REVOLUTION

Jan. 27-29, 2023  
Township Auditorium | Columbia

### 2023 Sponsoring Church registration now open

As a sponsoring church, if your church sends a group of young people to the event, the first five participants can attend at no charge and additional participants receive a 15 percent discount on the regular registration rate (by Dec. 31) and any pre-ordered event T-shirts.

**MORE INFORMATION/REGISTRATION:**  
[scmyp.org/revolution](http://scmyp.org/revolution)



*Thank you to everyone who had a part in the Christmas gifts we received this year. Serving in ministry with you in the Greenwood District is a blessing and a gift. We appreciate your support, love, and prayers, and we look forward to what God has planned for us in 2023. We pray God's continued blessings on all of you and your ministry during the coming year.*

*Rev. Dr. Stephen Love*

*Martha Alewine*



***FLOOD BUCKET PACKING PARTY***  
***SPONSORED BY ST. MARK***



St. Mark is planning a flood bucket packing event some time in the first quarter of 2023. The packing party will be held in Wayne Goff Hall on the Rivers St. Campus.

St. Mark is seeking churches and organizations (e.g., Connectional Ministries; UWF; UMM; UMYF; Greenwood Wesley Fellowship; Sunday School classes and other small groups) in the area to partner with them to plan, pack, and deliver these flood buckets. Some will be kept in the district and the rest will be delivered to the Conference Center in Columbia. Monetary donations to help purchase items for the buckets are also welcomed.

The following items are still needed to complete the goal of 100 flood buckets:

- 100 32-64 oz. liquid laundry detergent
- 100 16-40 oz. concentrate household cleaner (no spray cleaners)
- 100 16—34 oz. liquid dish soap
- 100 4-8 oz. pump spray air fresheners
- 100 scrub brushes with or without handles
- 100 2-pack kitchen gloves or 200 individual packs

If you or your church/organization are interested in partnering with St. Mark, please contact Cathy Trevino ([cathyt24@yahoo.com](mailto:cathyt24@yahoo.com)), who is coordinating this initiative for St. Mark.



*May the magic and wonder of this season stay with us throughout the new year to bring us joy, peace, and thankful hearts. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.*

*The Greenwood District Office  
Rev. Dr. Stephen Love  
Martha Alewine*