

SEE THE POSSIBILITIES, LIVE THE PROMISES



See The Possibilities: The Possibilities of a Seed
Jeremiah 29:5-7

South Carolina Conference
The United Methodist Church

June 8-11, 2025

The Greenville Convention Center
Greenville, South Carolina

Hosted by
The Greenville District and
St. Mark United Methodist Church (the "911")

"Plant gardens and eat what they produce." Jeremiah 29:5

This page intentionally left blank.



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE

Leonard Fairley, Resident Bishop
Lollie Haselden, Executive Assistant



Dear Siblings in Christ,

My wife, Dawn, and I count it among our greatest honors to welcome you to the 2025 session of the South Carolina Annual Conference in Greenville. Our theme for the 2025-2028 quadrennium is “See The Possibilities, Live The Promises” – starting with this year’s theme: “See The Possibilities, The Promise of a Seed.” We have seen firsthand the beautiful seeds of hope, healing, and love being sown in so many areas of our life together as South Carolina United Methodists.

Whether it’s the coming together of laity and clergy for Tri-District Connectional Gatherings, the Summit on the Black Church, Lay Servant Ministries learning and growth opportunities, United Methodist MenNMinistry events and United Women in Faith activities; the gathering of youth from all parts of the conference for Revolution and Immerse; or our college students converging for their annual Wesley Foundation retreat at Asbury Hills – it is clear that the Connection is alive and thriving in South Carolina!

It is our prayer that even in this season of conflict, grief, and uncertainty, we will continue to plant gardens that bring glory to God. It is and will always be God’s plan to give us a future with hope. It is also our prayer that you will receive and give witness to God’s presence as we practice Holy Conferencing.

“Hymn of Promise” has long been one of my favorite hymns, especially the following lyrics:

*“In the bulb, there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free. ...
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.”*

We also are honored to hear the Rev. Will Malambri, senior pastor of Belin Memorial United Methodist Church in Murrells Inlet, preach during the Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving; and we look forward to celebrating those who are to be licensed, commissioned, ordained, or retired at Annual Conference.

We give thanks to all the people who have planted gardens that have made this Annual Conference possible. This includes, but is not limited to: our conference secretary, the Rev. Mel Arant and the Committee on the Annual Conference; the people of our host district, the Greenville District and its superintendents, Rev. Chris Lollis, Rev. Cathy Mitchell and Rev. Steve Patterson; the congregation of our host church, St. Mark United Methodist Church, and its pastor, Rev. Carlton J. McClam Sr.; and the countless volunteers who help keep us safe, on time, and heading in the right direction during our time of Holy Conferencing!

I pray each of you will come to Greenville with a new sense of hope and a willingness to plant spiritual gardens, and see what new things God has in store for the People called United Methodist in the South Carolina Annual Conference.

In Christ,

Bishop Leonard E. Fairley



The Offices of the

Secretary of the Conference and Clergy Services

South Carolina Conference | The United Methodist Church

Rev. A. Melton Arant, Jr.

*Secretary of the Conference
Coordinator of Clergy Services*

Friends:

Grace and peace to you! Allow me to be among the first to welcome you the 2025 South Carolina Annual Conference. Our quadrennial theme is "See the Possibilities, Live the Promises!" – with a focus on "See the Possibilities of a Seed." Jeremiah 29:5 says, "Build homes, and plan to stay. Plant gardens, and eat the food they produce." This serves as a reminder to us that it is time to begin the hard work of rebuilding and planting seeds (sometimes in a new way), for a new future. It's a reminder to settle into our work for God where we are and with what we have, knowing that we will thrive off the fruits of our labor.

This theme is especially relevant as new faces fill many leadership roles in this first Annual Conference of the new quadrennium. We welcome Bishop Leonard Fairley as he presides over his first South Carolina Annual Conference session with the same energetic and compassionate leadership for which he and Mrs. Dawn Fairley have both come to be known in their travels across South Carolina since their arrival. We also welcome our long-time chancellor, Mrs. Kay Crowe, to the stage in a more visible Annual Conference role as the parliamentarian. This will also be my first year officially serving as the Secretary of the Conference. There will be new faces presenting some reports, and some familiar faces as well.

Registration will again primarily be completed online, with registered pastors and lay members receiving their badges by mail. Conference materials and reports will be available at umcsc.org/ac2025 leading up to the conference. Registered lay and clergy members will be able to pick up printed copies at the conference by showing their badges at one of the packet pickup tables.

The Ordination, Commissioning, and Retirement service will be on Sunday evening with Bishop Fairley presiding and preaching. The Rev. Will Malambri will serve as the preacher for our Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving. We will continue the practice of introducing some of our new clergy members as they lead the morning communion services. We also will vote on four denominational constitutional amendments.

We have seen a lot of change these past few years. But now we must decide how best to live into our calling as the children of God. In the words of the prophet, "And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare." (Jeremiah 29:7)

Rev. A. Melton Arant, Jr.

*Secretary of the Annual Conference
and Coordinator of Clergy Services*

Mrs. Pat Mack
*Administrative Assistant to the
Secretary of the Annual Conference
ConferenceSecretary@umcsc.org*

4908 Colonial Drive, Suite 122,
Columbia, South Carolina 29203
Office: (803) 726-6733 | (803) 786-9486
umcsc.org/conferencesecretary | umcsc.org/clergyservices

Mr. Sharome Henry
*Executive Assistant to the
Coordinator of Clergy Services
ClergyServices@umcsc.org*

The South Carolina Conference was organized in 1972, continuing the South Carolina Conference (1785), and the South Carolina Conference (1866)



**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
GREENVILLE DISTRICT**

7 Shannon Drive
Greenville, South Carolina 29615
gvdist@umcsc.org

Rev. Cathy D. Mitchell
District Superintendent

Office: 864-233-3611

Greetings Friends,

On behalf of the Greenville District, we are absolutely thrilled to welcome you to the 54th session of the South Carolina Annual Conference. We also welcome Bishop Leonard Fairley and first lady, Dawn, to their first SC Annual Conference and we are excited and thankful for his leadership.

It is an honor and privilege for Greenville to serve as the host District. We have seen many changes in the landscape of the Conference over the past few years, but rather than focusing on the changes we will focus on the words of Bishop Fairley, moving from “Mourning to Dancing.” This year’s theme, “See the Possibilities, Live the Promises” encourages us to recognize potential opportunities and embrace a hopeful mindset to live the promises of God as we continue to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

As we prepare for these four days of Holy conferencing, we hope you will enjoy the worship, fellowship, special presentations, luncheons, dinners and will leave spirit filled and equipped with valuable information for the start of a new conference year.

We want to thank the Greenville Center and staff; the Annual Conference Committee; our host church, St. Mark; and all of our volunteers for the hospitality and for the many hours of preparation to make this year’s Annual Conference a success!

We hope you will enjoy your time with us in the Upstate!

Blessings,

Cathy D. Mitchell

Rev. Cathy D. Mitchell,
Spartanburg/Greenville District Superintendent



Post Office Box 1090 | 911 St. Mark Road
Taylors, South Carolina 29687

Dear Members of the South Carolina Methodist Annual Conference,

On behalf of the entire St. Mark United Methodist Church family, affectionately known as “The 911”, I would like to extend a warm and hearty welcome to you as we gather in the beautiful city of Greenville for holy conferencing. We are elated to host this year’s annual conference once again.

It is our hope that as you spend the next few days here in the upstate, that you will take advantage of opportunities to gather with colleagues and dear friends over perhaps a meal at one of our many fine dinning establishments or maybe take in a relaxing stroll through the Falls Park on the Reedy downtown Greenville.

As we gather under this year’s theme-“**See the Possibilities, Live the Promises!**” It is my sincere prayer that the spirit of God will indeed help us to see with a clear vision of the awesome possibilities for vital and meaningful ministry for such a time as this, and hopefully, also cause us to embrace God’s promises to abide with us as we gracefully move forward together towards a brighter future in Methodism!

If there is something we can assist you with to make your visit a pleasant experience, please do not hesitate to contact St. Mark with the contact information provided below.

Peace and Blessings,

Rev. Dr. Carlton J. McClam, Sr.



Church Office: 864.848.7141
Email: stmark@stmark911.org | Website: www.stmark911.org
Dr. Carlton J. McClam, Sr., Senior Pastor

The Fifty-Fourth Session of the
SOUTH CAROLINA ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Organized 1972, Continuing the South Carolina Conference (1785) and the South Carolina Conference (1866)

See The Possibilities, Live The Promises!
See The Possibilities of a Seed-*Jeremiah 29:5-7*
“Plant gardens and eat what they produce.” *Jeremiah 29:5*

Sunday, June 8 – Wednesday, June 11, 2025
Greenville Center, Greenville, South Carolina | Bishop Leonard E. Fairley, Presiding

2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA

(All sessions and events in-person unless noted otherwise)

Sunday, June 8, 2025 – Day One

- 2:00 pm Packet Pick-Up for Registered Lay & Clergy Members *(until 6 pm)*
(until 6pm on Sunday, and reopens Monday morning)
- 3-3:45 pm New Lay Member Orientation (Session 1)
- 4:30 pm Clergy Session (in person)
- 4-4:45 pm New Lay Member Orientation (Session 2)
- 7:00 pm Commissioning, Ordination and Retirement Recognition Service
(Retiring Clergy, Ordination & Commissioning Candidates will participate in-person)
Presiding & Preaching: Bishop Leonard E. Fairley
Resident Bishop, South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church
(The offering received this evening is for the SC Conference Seminary Students Scholarship Fund, an endowment of the South Carolina United Methodist Foundation, which provides scholarship awards to candidates for ministry from South Carolina attending United Methodist seminaries and theological schools. Checks should be made payable to Treasurer, SC Conference (memo line: Seminary Students Scholarship Fund). Donations can also be mailed to: The Office of the Conference Treasurer, 4908 Colonial Drive, Columbia, South Carolina, 29203)

Monday, June 9, 2025 – Day Two

- 8:00 am Packet Pick-Up for Registered Lay & Clergy Members *(until 1 pm)*
Wespath Clergy Presentation with Q&A for Compass
- 9:00 am Opening Worship Service
(The offering received this morning is for the Healing Guatemala Misson. Checks should be made payable to Treasurer, SC Conference (memo line: Healing Guatemala Misson). Donations can also be mailed to: The Office of the Conference Treasurer, 4908 Colonial Drive, Columbia, South Carolina, 29203)
- 10:15 am Conference Organization *(Welcome, Greetings, Introductions & initial reports)*
Call to Order
Greetings from Host DS
Greetings from Host Pastor
Organizational Motions
Consent Calendar (SR 22)
Committee on Standing Rules (SR 18)
Committee on Nominations (SR 19)
Report of Committee on Episcopacy
President of Epworth Children's Home
- 12:00 pm Lunch Recess
Retiree Lunch
- 2:00 pm Africa University
Committee Council on Finance and Administration (SR21)
Committee Resolutions and Appeals
The Report of the Cabinet (BOD 605.4)
Report of the Conference Lay Leader (BOD 605.5)
- 4:15 pm Report of the Board of Ordained Ministry *(including the recognition of those who have completed the Licensing School of Pastoral Ministry)*
- 5:00 pm Evening Praise and Prayer
Rev. Dr. Luke M. Rhyee - Healing Guatemala Mission Missionary, Columbia District
- 6:00 pm Evening Recess *(unless the president feels the need to reconvene after dinner)*

Tuesday, June 10, 2025 – Day Three

- 7:30 am Holy Communion – *(in room 203)*
Liturgist: Rev. Kim M. Bryant - 2025 Ordained Deacon, Grace UMC Associate, Charleston District
Preacher: Rev. M. Antoinette Gaboton-Moss – 2021 Licensed Local Pastor, Northeast UMC, Columbia District
Celebrant: Rev. B. Keith Stewart – 2025 Ordained Elder, First UMC (Cheraw), Hartsville District
- 9:00 am Morning Praise and Prayer
Rev. Kathryn M. Bariou – 2024 Ordained Deacon, Trinity UMC (Anderson), Anderson District
- 9:35 am Congregational Development Video
Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry
The Report of the Commission on Equitable Compensation
The Report of the Board of Pension & Health Benefits
Wespath Presentation with Q&A for Compass
Conference Connectional Ministries
Elections-Committee on Nominations
South Carolina United Methodist Related Colleges & Universities
- 12:00 pm Lunch Recess
- 2:00 pm General Board of Higher Education and Ministry
Report of the Chancellor
Constitutional Amendment Voting
Report of the Ministry Advisory Team
- 5:00 pm. A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving
Preacher: Rev. William F. Malambri, III – Belin Memorial UMC, Marion District
- 6:00 pm. Evening Recess *(unless the president feels the need to reconvene after dinner)*

Wednesday, June 11, 2025 – Day Four

- 7:30 am Holy Communion – *(in room 203)*
Liturgist: Rev. Rev. Ronald B. Crimm - 2025 Provisional Deacon, Lamar UMC, Hartsville District
Preacher: Rev. Brauer D. Kittrell – 2024 Licensed Local Pastor, Ebenezer UMC & Marshall UMC, Anderson District
Celebrant: Rev. Thessa G. Smith – 2025 Ordained Elder, Trinity UMC (Greenwood) & Harris UMC, Greenwood District
- 9:00 am Morning Praise and Prayer
Rev. Adrienne E. Stokes – 2025 Provisional Elder, Hickory Hill UMC & Buckhead UMC, Walterboro District
- 9:30 am Methodist Homes
Adoption of Consent Calendar
Resolutions to Church Closing and Charge Line Change
Council on Finance and Administration (SR 21)
Date and Location of the 2025 Session of Annual Conference
Expressions of Appreciation and Omnibus Motion
- 11:30 am Sending Forth and Fixing of the Appointments

The Fifty-Fourth Session of the
SOUTH CAROLINA ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Organized 1972, Continuing the South Carolina Conference (1785) and the South Carolina Conference (1866)

See The Possibilities, Live The Promises!
See The Possibilities of a Seed-Jeremiah 29:5-7
“Plant gardens and eat what they produce.” Jeremiah 29:5

Sunday, June 8 – Wednesday, June 11, 2025
Greenville Center, Greenville, South Carolina | Bishop Leonard E. Fairley, Presiding

2025 SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

(Added as scheduled with the Conference Secretary's Office)

SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2025 – DAY ONE

- 3-3:45 pm **New Lay Member Orientation (Session 1)** attend either session 203
Come learn about Annual Conference if this is your first time attending as a lay delegate.
- 4-4:45 pm **New Lay Member Orientation (Session 2)** attend either session 203
Come learn about Annual Conference if this is your first time attending as a lay delegate.
- 4:30 pm **Clergy Session** 202 BC
Active & Retired, Full & Provisional Clergy Members; Licensed Local Pastors; and Clergy & Lay Members of the Board of Ordained Ministry.
- 7:00 pm **Ordination, Commissioning & Retirement Service** Ballroom
Robing for worship participants, Ordination & Commissioning Candidates, Retirees & Spouses and BOM members will be in room 202A.
- 9:00 pm **Ordination Service Reception** Concourse
Immediately following the ordination service.

MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2025 – DAY TWO

- 7:30-10:30 am **Blueprint for Wellness** Hall 1
On-Site Blueprint for Wellness Screening at the South Carolina Annual Conference.
REGISTER: It is strongly recommended that you register for this event. Walk-ins are very limited. There are two ways to register: (1) Online by logging in to your Personify Health® account and find Blueprint for Wellness under the “Benefits” tab or through Benefits Access (for participants). (2) Phone: 1-855-623-9355 Employer group: Wespah2025.
- 8:00 am **Wespah Clergy Presentation with Q&A for Compass** 102B-C
- 10:00 am - until **Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry Hospitality Room** 202C
- 12:00 pm **Stewardship Training** 104AB
The Conference Council on Finance and Administration is sponsoring stewardship training during the lunch breaks on Monday and Tuesday of Annual Conference. Our speaker is the Rev. Ken Sloane of Discipleship Ministries, The United Methodist Church. The focus of this training is stewardship as a part of growing as a disciple. The same training is offered both days. No meal will be served at the training. The training will last approximately one hour. Attendance is first come, first serve for up to 100 people.
- 12:00 pm **Retiree Luncheon** 202 A-B
Lunch held for retirees and their families in. This gathering is by invitation only.
- 12:00 pm **African American Clergywomen's Luncheon** 102 A-B-C
Rev. Dr. Arnetta Beverly will be the speaker. The cost of the lunch is \$40 per person. Please contact Rev. Blondell Miller at 843-307-0513, blon1949@aol.com, or Rev. Doris Bright at 843-542-6543, drbright@umcsc.org for tickets.

12:00 pm **HOOD Alumni Luncheon** 102 A-B-C
Please join us for Hood Theological Seminary's Annual Friends and Family Alumni Luncheon. Join us to connect with friends and learn about everything new at Hood! If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Rev. Kimberly Clarke Turner at kclarke@hoodseminary.edu or at 336-324-9058. Cost: Free but must RSVP. Contact: Rev. Kimberly Clarke Turner, kclarke@hoodseminary.edu, phone: 326-324-9058.

12:30 pm **Diakonia Luncheon** Open Hearts UMC
Contact Rev. Meg Bryce Jiunnies (mjiunnies@centralmethodist.net) for more information.

6:00 pm **Black Methodist for Church Renewal (BMCR) Worship**
This year our BMCR Worship and Soul Food Dinner will be held at St Marks UMC in Taylors SC! Dinner will be served from 5 to 6:45! Worship will begin at 7pm. The Church is located at 911 St Mark Rd Taylors, SC 29687. The cost of the meal will be \$24.00 per person and \$20 for kids 12 and under. A Bus will be available for those who don't want to drive! it will load outside the main drop-off at the TD Convention Center! please purchase your tickets at our table in the Display Area at Annual Conference! Any questions call SCBMCR Coordinator at 743-624-0945.

6:00 pm **Duke Theological School Alumni Dinner** Aldersgate UMC
All Duke Divinity School Alumni and Course of Study Participants are invited! Location: Aldersgate UMC, 7 Shannon Drive, Greenville, SC 29615. Contact Minoka Yonts (minoka.yonts@duke.edu), Ken Spencer (ken.spencer@div.duke.edu) or Johannah Myers (jmyers@aumcsc.org) for more information.

6:00 pm **Candler School of Theology Club Dinner** Open Hearts UMC

TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2025 – DAY THREE

7:30 am **Holy Communion** 203

7:30-10:30 am **Blueprint for Wellness** Hall 1
On-Site Blueprint for Wellness Screening at the South Carolina Annual Conference.
REGISTER: It is strongly recommended that you register for this event. Walk-ins are very limited. There are two ways to register: (1) Online by logging in to your Personify Health® account and find Blueprint for Wellness under the "Benefits" tab or through Benefits Access (for participants). (2) Phone: 1-855-623-9355 Employer group: Wespah2025.

10:00 am - until **Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry Hospitality Room** 202C

12:00 pm **Stewardship Training** 104AB
The Conference Council on Finance and Administration is sponsoring stewardship training during the lunch breaks on Monday and Tuesday of Annual Conference. Our speaker is the Rev. Ken Sloane of Discipleship Ministries, The United Methodist Church. The focus of this training is stewardship as a part of growing as a disciple. The same training is offered both days. No meal will be served at the training. The training will last approximately one hour. Attendance is first come, first serve for up to 100 people.

12:00 pm **Ministers' Spouses Luncheon** 100
The Ministers' Spouses will be fellowshiping and worshipping together over lunch to share and bring more love between the Spouses as a group, and to spread that love throughout our church congregations. Being supportive of the United Methodist Church is what we endeavor to do bringing us all into a more intimate relationship with God. Contact Mrs. Johnnie L. Shuler for more information (jsimani1@gmail.com). Registration forms can be obtained from district offices.

- 12:00 pm **SC Gammon Alumni and Friends Scholarship Luncheon** 202B
Please join us on Tuesday, June 10 in room 202-B, for SC Gammon Alumni and Friends Scholarship Luncheon. Speaker: District Superintendent Rev. Jeffery Salley, Tickets \$100. (To obtain your ticket Zelle cithompson@umcsc.org or Venmo South Carolina Gammon Alumni & Friends).Your tickets will be mailed to you. Questions call Dr. C Thompson 864-704-0728 or Dr. R Thomas 864-325-9282.
- 12:00 pm **Advocate Meet the Author Book Signing** 202C
Information TBA. Contact Jessica Brodie for more details jbrodie@advocatesc.org.
- 12:00 pm **United Methodist Volunteers in Mission Luncheon** Disciples UMC
The UMVIM luncheon will be at Disciples UMC in Greenville. Guest speaker will be Rev.Dr. Luke Ryhee with Healing Guatemala. Cost will be \$15.00. If planning to attend please make check payable to UMVIM-SC and mail to Jennifer Parker - 143 Glenbrooke Circle, Columbia, SC 29204 by May 28th.
- 6:00 pm **Council on Finance and Administration Meeting** 101AB
- 6:00 pm **Claflin University Alumni & Friends Reception** 202B
Reception for Claflin Alumni and Friends to be held immediately following the afternoon business session. Contact Rev. Vivian R. Lingard for more details vlingard@claflin.edu.
- 6:30 pm **Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary Alumni and Friends Dinner** Blockhouse Restaurant
LTSS alumni and friends Dinner, June 10, 2025, 6:30pm at the Blockhouse Restaurant and Oyster Bar--- Join fellow LTSS alumni and friends for dinner during the SC Methodist Annual Conference at the Blockhouse Restaurant. LTSS's Rev. Kermit Moss, instructor of practical theology and SC UMC pastor, will share remarks. The dinner will be provided at no cost by the Office of Institutional Advancement. We kindly ask that you register for this event. <https://engage.lr.edu/e/2025-ltss-alumni-dinner-at-sc-methodist-annual-conference/> Contact: Melanie Dobson at melanie.dobson@lr.edu for more information
- 6:30 pm **United Methodist Church Night with the Hubcity Spartanburgers**
The Hub City Spartanburgers are welcoming United Methodist to the upstate by hosting a United Methodist Church night at their game on Tuesday evening as they face the Blue Rocks. The Spartanburgers are a Minor League Baseball team of the South Atlantic League and the High-A affiliate of the Texas Rangers. They are located in Spartanburg, South Carolina. The game will be played on June 10 and begins 6:35 PM at Fifth Third Park (344 S Daniel Morgan Ave, Spartanburg, SC 29306). The ticket purchase deadline is June 07, 2025 6:35 PM. Contact Rev. Brad Gray (revbradgray@gmail.com) for more information. Tickets can be purchased here: www.fev-enterprise.com/event/Bethelunited2.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024 – DAY FOUR

- 7:30 am **Holy Communion** 203

**2025 CONFERENCE MATERIAL
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

REPORT	Section	Page
Advanced Special Ministries for 2026	IV	63
Designated Special Days 2026	IV	63
Lay Leadership Area of Connectional Ministries	IV	69
Lay Servant Ministry	IV	71
MenNMinistry	IV	73
Native American Committee	IV	68
Salkehatchie	IV	74
South Carolina United Methodist Camps and Retreat Ministries	IV	74
United Women in Faith	IV	72
Advocacy Ministry Area (CCM)	IV	67
Africa University	VIII	186
Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry	IV	76
Apportionment Giving	VIII	167
Board of Ordained Ministry	VI	130
Board of Pension and Health Benefits	III	49
Boston University School of Theology	VIII	188
Cabinet Report	I	32
Candler School of Theology	VIII	188
Charleston Wesley Foundation	IV	86
Church Closure Resolutions	I	24
Church Merger Resolution	I	30
Claflin University	IV	80
Clemson Wesley Foundation	I	22
Clergy Services	VI	138
Coastal Carolina University Wesley Foundation	IV	85
Columbia College	IV	82
Columbia Wesley (Methodist Student Network)	IV	87
Commission on Archives and History	VI	131
Committee on Congregational Development	VI	133
Committee on Episcopacy	VI	136
Committee on Nominations	I	1
Committee on Standing Rules	VI	137
Committee on the Annual Conference	VI	132
Conference Chancellor	I	23
Conference Staff Relations (Joint MAT Team Report)	I	33
Connectional Ministries Report	IV	60
Consent Calendar	I	31
Constitutional Amendments	V	98
Council on Finance & Administration	VIII	146
Designated Fund Summary	VIII	154
Discipleship Ministry Area (CCM)	IV	61
Drew University Theological School	VIII	189

Duke Divinity School	VIII	190
Epworth Children's Home	IV	77
Flyers	IX	
Francis Marion Wesley Foundation	IV	88
Furman Wesley Foundation	IV	89
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary	VIII	192
General Board of Higher Education & Ministry	VIII	187
Healing Guatemala	VIII	193
Hinton Rural Life Center	VIII	195
Iliff School of Theology	VIII	196
James L. Belin Board of Trust	VI	144
Lake Junaluska Assembly, Inc	VIII	197
MAT TEAM (Staff Relations Joint Report)	I	33
Methodist Manor	IV	78
Methodist Theological School Ohio	VIII	198
Motion Sheets	IX	212
Outreach Ministry Area (CCM)	IV	62
Parliamentary Process Guidelines	IX	208
Perkins School of Theology (SMU)	VIII	201
Recognition Sheet	IX	210
Removal from Consent Calendar Petition	IX	214
Resolutions	V	92
Saint Paul School of Theology	VIII	198
SC Conference Historical Society	VI	139
SC Methodist Conference Credit Union	VI	139
SC United Methodist Advocate	VI	143
Southern Methodist University	VIII	200
Spartanburg Methodist College	IV	83
The Commission on Equitable Compensation	II	38
Trustees of the SC Annual Conference	VI	140
UM Center Board of Trust	VI	144
United Theological Seminary	VIII	203
Voting & Badge Color Guide	IX	206
Wesley Commons	IV	79
Wesley of Orangeburg	IV	90
Wesley Theological Seminary	VIII	204
Winthrop Wesley Foundation	IV	91
Wofford College	IV	84
Worship Service Contribution Guides	IX	217

SEE THE POSSIBILITIES, LIVE THE PROMISES



See The Possibilities: The Possibilities of a Seed
Jeremiah 29:5-7

SECTION I SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS & INFORMATION

“Plant gardens and eat what they produce.” Jeremiah 29:5

This page intentionally left blank.

THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Report number One is for the election of those institutions that relate to the Annual Conference, who select and nominate their own board members, and who, by standing rules, pass these nominations directly to the Annual Conference by way of the Conference Committee on Nominations. These nominations are before the Annual Conference for your election.

Report Number Two contains the nominations for the Welsey Foundations and Fellowships.

Report Number Three contains the nominations for the various district quadrennial positions, boards and committees. They are submitted by the districts for Annual Conference election.

Report Number Four is divided into three sections A, B, and C.

Section A contains the nominations for the two non-quadrennial boards elected by the Annual Conference.

Section B is the list of the quadrennial committees, councils, and commissions of the annual conference.

Section C is the list of the Conference Boards and Committees whose nominations come from the Bishop.

Report Number Five is a list of Quadrennial Conference Officers nominated by other positions or groups.

REPORT NUMBER ONE Conference Related Institutions

(These nominations “pass through” unaltered through the Committee on Nominations to the Annual Conference)

1. ALDRSGATE SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRIES

Chair: Mike Simpson

Vice Chair: Daly Ward

Treasurer: Edward Weathers

Secretary: Yvette Hering

Clergy Members

Rev. William (Bill) Childs (19-22) (22-26) (UM) (Retired)

Rev. Douglas Chambers (20-24) (24-28) (Retired)

Rev. Will Brown (12/22-27) (UM) (Retired)

Lay Members

Class of 2025

William C. Hammett (18-21) (21-25) (UM)

Yvette Hering (21-25) (UM)

Class of 2026

Earline Ulmer (18-22) (22-26) (UM)

Mike Simpson (18-22) (22-26) (UM)

Class of 2027

Judy Weathers (12/22-27)

Margie Mitchell (19-23) (23-27) (UM)

Michelle Hunt (20-23) (23-27) (UM)

Class of 2028

Edward Weathers (7/24-28)
David Renaker (7/24-28) (UM)
Daly Ward (20-24) (24-28)

Class of 2029

Bob Knight (7/25-29)
Morgan Powell (7/25-29)
Dal Poston (7/25-29)

Ex-Officio Members: Rev. Steve Patterson

Honorary Board Members: Betty Moss McGuirt (non-voting)

Lead Staff: Kim Thomas (Ex-Officio, non-voting)

2. TRUSTEES OF EPWORTH CHILDREN'S HOME

Chairperson: Bryson Williams

Vice Chairperson: Pat Hudson

Secretary: Megan Gray

Clergy Members

Isaac Dusenbury (24-28) (UM)
Megan Gray (22-30) (UM)
John Holler (25-29) (UM)
Narcie Jeter (25-28) (UM)
Mary Johnson (24-30) (UM)
Joel Jones (24-32) (UM)
Ken Nelson (23-31) (UM)
Millie Nelson-Smith (23-31) (UM)
Bryson Williams (19-27) (UM)
Neal Woods (19-27) (UM)

Lay Members

Bree Bess (24-32)
Mike Couick (20-28) (UM)
Jane Cromley (21-29) (UM)
Cora David (25-33) (UM)
Pat Hudson (18-26) (UM)
Paul Mashburn (22-30)
Laurie Matthews (24-32)
Betsy Myers (24-26) (UM)
Mike Penland (22-30) (UM)
Michael Toms (24-32) (UM)
James Williams (25-33) (UM)

3. THE TRUSTEES OF WESLEY COMMONS

NO REPORT RECEIVED

Chair: Rev. Wayne Horne

Vice Chair: Rev. Jeffrey Childress

Secretary: Ron Millender

Clergy Members

Class of 2025:

1 Jeffrey Childress (17-21) (21-25)
 2 **Class of 2027:**
 3 Wayne Horn (19-23) (23-27)
 4 **Class of 2032:**
 5 Steven Love (24-28) (28-32)
 6 Amanda Richardson (24-28) (28-32)
 7
 8 **Lay Members:**
 9 **Class of 2025:**
 10 James (Jim) Medford (17-21) (21-25), Outrigger, Greenwood, SC 29646
 11 Ron Millender (17-21) (21-25), 319 Hammond Road, Greenwood, SC 29646
 12 **Class of 2026:**
 13 Davis C. Hook, Jr. (18-22) (22-26) 2827 Hebron Dr., West Columbia, SC 29169
 14 **Class of 2027:**
 15 Bonnie M. Ramage (19-23) (23-27) 1656 Old Milton Road, Clinton, SC 29325
 16 **Class of 2030:**
 17 Melissa Bane (22-26) 82 Park Vista Way, Greenville, SC 29617
 18 Welborn Adams (22-26) 117 W. Cambridge Street, Greenville, SC 29649
 19 **Class of 2032:**
 20 Gerald Witt (24-28) (28-32) 115 Oakmonte Circle, Greenwood, SC 29646
 21 Don Clardy (24-28) (28-32) 7 Port Royal Drive, Greenville, SC 29615
 22 **Cabinet Representative:** Rev. Steven Love
 23 **Ex-Officio Nonvoting Members as Designated in the Bylaws**
 24

25 4. THE TRUSTEES OF THE S.C. UNITED METHODIST ADVOCATE

26 **Chairperson:** Enid McClam
 27 **Vice Chairperson:** Michael Henderson
 28 **Secretary:** Jeff Wallace
 29 **Treasurer:** David Bryant
 30 **Clergy Members**
 31 **Class of 2025**
 32 Rev. Michael Henderson (21)
 33 **Class of 2026**
 34 **Elect** Rev. Rebecca Rowell
 35 Rev. Eleanora Coaxum Ellington
 36 **Class of 2027**
 37 Rev. Ed Stallworth III (23)
 38 Rev. Emily Kirby
 39 Rev. Darlene Kelley
 40 **Class of 2028**
 41 Rev. Sharon Gamble (21)

Lay Members

Class of 2025

Jeff Wallace, 110 Idlewild Dr., Aiken, SC 29803

Enid Jenkins (20), 105 Cascade Court, Goose Creek, SC 29445

Class of 2026

Glen Levine (20, filling Rouse term), 612 Staffwood Dr., Irmo, SC 29062

Class of 2027

Sadie Moss, 2258 Swain St., Gastonia NC

Class of 2028

Diane Wilson 211 Shetland Way, Greer, SC 29650

Licita Rogers (21), 267 Creekridge Drive, Spartanburg, SC 29301

David Bryant (21), 1808 Elrod Rd., Powdersville, SC 29673

5. CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- 1. Elect** Robert Scarborough

6. COLUMBIA COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- 1. Re-elect** Mr. Rodrick Shivera to a third four-year term.
2. Re-elect Ms. Robin Waites to a third four-year term.
3. Re-elect The Honorable Kaymani West to a third four-year term.

8. SPARTANBURG METHODIST COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chair: Rev. Jerry Gadsden (UM)

Vice Chair: Catherine Gramling

Secretary: Rev. Lane Glaze (UM)

Clergy Members

Class of 2026

Evelyn Middleton (14-17) (17-20) (20-23) (23-26)

Class of 2028

Jerry Gadsden (16-19) (UM) (19-22) (22-25) (25-28)

Lane Glaze (19-22) (UM) (22-25) (25-28)

Lay Members

Class of 2026

Grant Close (23-26)

Betty Montgomery (23-26)

John Moore (14-17) (17-20) (20-23) (23-26)

Ashley Williams (23-26)

Class of 2027

Phillip Buchheit (15-18) (18-21) (21-24) (24-27)

Margaret Clayton (24-27)

Beth Hrubala (24-27)

Frank Lee (24-27)

Charlita Moss (18-21) (21-24) (24-27)

Marilyn Murphy (15-18) (UM) (18-21) (21-24) (24-27)

John Ramsey (24-27) (UM)

Harriett Rucker (18-21) (UM) (21-24) (24-27)

Elaine Smith (24-27)

Class of 2028

1 Rob Barrett (25-28)
2 Andrew Babb '88 (16-19) (19-22) (22-25) (25-28)
3 Pat Barber (22-25) (25-28)
4 Marcos Gomez (22-25) (25-28)
5 Catherine Gramling (16-19) (UM) (19-22) (22-25) (25-28)
6 Darryl Owings (16-19) (19-22) (22-25) (25-28)
7 Clint Settle '04 (22-25) (25-28)
8 **Ex Officio:** Spartanburg District Superintendent: Cathy Mitchell (UM)
9 **Faculty Representatives:** Dr. Maria Kithcart, Dr. Michael Haggerty
10 **Alumni Representative:** Livingston Hawkins '23
11

12 9. WOFFORD COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- 13 1. Elect Jimmy Gibbs (class of 2029)
14 2. Elect Emily Scales Sutton (class of 2029)
15

16 10. THE TRUSTEES OF THE UNITED METHODIST CENTER

17 NO REPORT RECEIVED

18 **Chair:** Rev. Thessa Smith, (864) 377-0400 tgsmith@umscs.org
19 **Vice- Chair:** Mr. Hal Clarkson, (803) 446-9459 hal.irmo@gmial.com
20 **Secretary:** Rev. Doris Bight, (843) 542-6543 drbighrt@umscs.org
21

22 Clergy Members

23 Thessa Smith (17-21) (UM) (21-25)
24 Doris Bright (18)(UM)
25 Move Sarah Johnson from laity (now clergy) to clergy vacant position
26

26 Lay Members

27 Ms. Mamie Thomas, (803) 270-4073 mthomas549@outlook.com
28 Replace Frank Gravely (resigned) and elect Debbie Smoak, (864) 992-0300, smoakdebbie@yahoo.com
29 Elect Karthy Hart for vacant laity position, (803) 318-2646, kathyivey@sc.rr.com
30

31 Ex-Officio

32 Mr. Jim Crews 4908 Colonial Drive, Suite 207 Columbia, SC 29203, (803) 786-9486 x 332 jcrews@umcsc.org
33 Ms. Beth Westbury, 4908 Colonial Dr., Suite 201, Columbia, SC 29203, (803) 726-6741 bwestbury@umcsc.org
34

35 11. JAMES L. BELIN BOARD OF TRUSTEES

36 Class of 2025

37 Rev. Kevin Lindley, Saint Luke UMC, PO Box 339, Walhalla, SC 29691
38 Rev. Meredith Dark, PO Box 30787, Myrtle Beach, SC 29588
39 Dr. Johnathan Munn, 1118 Wisteria Drive, Florence, SC 29501

Class of 2026

Rev. Charlie Thomas, 2122 Greenville Circle, Sumter, SC 29154

Rev. Dr. J. Derrick Cattenhead, 201 Kinard Street, Orangeburg, SC 29118

Ray Taylor, 1319 Parkwood Drive, Florence, SC 29505

Class of 2027

Rev. Deborah Patterson, 9705 St. James Road, Myrtle Beach, SC 29588

Danielle DuBose

Dale Faulkner, 359 Harbison Circle, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

Class of 2028

Collin Crick, 204 Colleton Court, Lexington, SC 29072

Rev. Edward McCutcheon, 2044 Cleveland Street Ext, Greenville, SC 29607

Rev. Laura Whitt, 211 Alice Drive, Sumter, SC 29150

Ex-Officio:

Marion District Superintendent: Rev. Steve Brown, PO Box 543, Marion, SC 29571

Conference Board of Global Ministries: Rev. Dr. Martin L. Quick

REPORT NUMBER TWO

Wesley Foundations and Fellowships

1. CHARLESTON WESLEY FOUNDATION

Chair: Rev. Brent Dehlbom

Vice Chair: Rev. Dr. Vivia Fowler

Clergy Members:

Class of 2026

Class of 2027

Rev. Brent Dehlbom [UM]

Rev. Haydn Miller

Rev. Dr. James Keeton

Class of 2028

Rev. David Washington (22-25) [UM]

Rev. Darlene Richardson (22-25) [UM]

Rev. Dr. Vivia Fowler (22-25) [UM]

Rev. David Lupo [UM]

Lay Members

Class of 2026

David Boudolf [UM]

William Axson (22-25) [UM]

Ella Kasten [UM]

June Stovall [UM]

Class of 2027

Jonathon Wilson [UM]

Nathan Dillehay [UM]

Class of 2028

Dr. Jacquelynn Pleis (22-25) [UM]

Student Board Members: Kevin Lopez [UM] The Citadel

Ex-Officio: With Vote: Rev. Mike Wood, Pastor of Trinity UMC

District Lay Leader: Gillis McAllister

With No Vote

Director: Rev. John Sterling Poole

District Superintendent: Rev. Jeffrey Salley
Treasurer: Marissa Wilson
Board of Higher Education Campus Ministries Chair: Rev. Narcie Jeter
Check Writer: Kathy Caine [UM]

2. CLEMSON WESLEY FOUNDATION

Chairperson: Joey Branyon

Class of 2026

Elizabeth Haas
Rev. Laura Allen Kerlin
Christopher Nelon
Gracie Pope

Class of 2027

Joey Branyon (Chair)
GraceAnne Glenn
Emily Elizabeth Castelloe
TBD

Class of 2028

Bruce Hamilton
Perry Hiott
David Lilley
TBD

Student Members (serving one-year term)

Luke Hiller, Student Leader
TBD
TBD

Ex Officio: Rev. Steve Simoneaux- Executive Director (without vote)

Anderson District Superintendent: Rev. Steve Patterson

Senior Pastor Clemson UMC: Rev. Tommy Wilkes

3. COLUMBIA WESLEY FOUNDATION

Alisa Liggett, 319 King St., Columbia, SC 29205, (h) 803-779-3719, (o) 803-777-5223, ALISAC@mailbox.sc.edu
Lynn Shirley, 303 S. Saluda Ave., Columbia, SC 29205 (c) 803-422-3368,
wmlynnsc@gmail.com
Thomas Walsh, 728 Pickens Street Columbia SC 29201, 803-212-528, tcwalsh3@yahoo.com
Jan Smoak, 602 Byron Rd., Columbia, SC 29209, (c) 803-315-2068,
jansmoak@gmail.com, Chair
Lexie Chatham, 301 Sortwell Street, West Columbia, SC 29169, 803-212-8350, lexiechatham@yahoo.com
Emily Fisher, 303 Laurel Hill Lane, Columbia, SC 2920, (cell) 803-789-0662,
emilyf326@yahoo.com
Jennifer and Grant Jackson, 128 Rook Branch Road, Columbia 29209, J: 803-238-3616,
G: 803-665-8114, whetstonejackson@gmail.com, grant.n.jackson@gmail.com
John Pannell, 864-316-6352, johngpannell@gmail.com, Treasurer
Fran Elrod, fmelrod@umcsc.org, DS
Jad Taylor, jdtayloriii@umcsc.org, CM

4. FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY WESLEY FOUNDATION

Chairperson: Pete Holtz

Secretary: Carol Hughes

Class of 2025

Carol Hughes (UM)

Mikki Cooper Williams (UM)

Class of 2026

Pete Holtz

Rev. Nick Lyerly (UM)

Class of 2027

Rev. Pamela Thomas (UM)

Rev. Jennifer Price 23-27(UM)

Ex-Officio: District Superintendent: Rev. Terry Fleming

University Faculty Advisor: Tim Shannon

Campus Director: Lou Jordan

5. FURMAN WESLEY FOUNDATION BOARD

Clergy Members

Shawna Darnall VandeLune [Chair; 2] - 403 S Weston St., Fountain Inn, SC 29644

Bob Stillwell - 706 W Quincy Road, Seneca, SC 29678

James Drummond - 104 Sylvan Drive, Greer, SC 29650

Mike Jeter - 4708 Coach Hill Drive, Greenville, SC 29615

Carlton McClam - 911 St Mark Road, Taylors, SC 29687

Lay Members

Ray Magee - 2 Capewood Ct, Mauldin, SC 29662

Alan Russell - 211 Harrisburg Drive, Simpsonville, SC 29681

Mary Russell - 211 Harrisburg Drive, Simpsonville, SC 29681

Tony Snyder - 6 North Franklin Rd, Greenville, SC 29609

Mikayla Miley - 620 Halton Road Apt 2-202, Greenville, SC 29607

Adelaide Johnson - 110 Shallowford Rd, Greenville, SC 29607

David Stanley - 121 Salem Ct, Greenville, SC 29617

Melanie Gordon - 33000 Poinsett Hwy, Greenville, SC 29613

Ex Officio

Steve Patterson [DS] - 7 Shannon Drive, Greenville, SC 29615

David Stanley [Furman Advisor] - 121 Salem Ct., Greenville, SC 29617

Lana Geiger [AC Representative] - 3300 Poinsett Hwy, Greenville, SC 29613

Edward McCutcheon [Campus Minister] - 2044 Cleveland St. Ext, Greenville, SC 29607

6. THE WESLEY OF ORANGEBURG

Clergy and Lay Members

Rev. Barbara Reid, breid68@hotmail.com

Rev. Sheri White, sywhite@umcsc.org

Rev. Lisa Hawkins, lchawkins@umcsc.org

Rev. Larry McCutcheon, ldmccutcheon@umcsc.org

Rev. Enrique Gordon, ergordon@umcsc.org

Elaine Harley, engarket22@gmail.com

Sylvia Robinson, sylviarobinson@live.com

Regina Nesmith-Simon, rsimon@ccpsonline.net

Student Representative:

Nailah Outing, Claflin University (Assistant Director)

Nichols Brown, South Carolina State University

Jaylen Hicks, Claflin University

Zoe Michael, Claflin University

Ex-Officio Representatives

Director/Campus Minister: Rev. Shirley P. Gordon, spgordon@umcsc.org
Orangeburg District Superintendent: Rev. Ken Nelson
Claflin University Chaplain
SC State University Director of Campus Life

7. WINTHROP WESLEY FOUNDATION BOARD

Interim Chairperson: Michaela Sanford

Vice Chairperson: TBD

Interim Secretary: Juliette Phillpot

Treasurer: Crystal Barrs

Clergy Members

Class of 2025-26

Robin Griffeth

Class of 2027-28

Nona Woodle

Lay Members

Class of 2025-26

Juliette Phillpot

Jordan Crosby

Class of 2026-27

Crystal Barrs

Michaela Sanford

Class of 2027-28

Paul Cooper

Renee Patton

Ex-Officio

Winthrop Wesley Director: Laurel Alice Capesius

Rock Hill District Superintendent: Anthony Hodge

REPORT NUMBER FOUR

Section A

NON-QUADRENNIAL BOARDS

1. THE BOARD OF PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS

Chairperson: Jonathan Harris

Vice-Chairperson: Rebecca Tompkins

Secretary: Beth Abrussino

Treasurer/Dir of Admin: Beth Westbury

Administrator/CBO: Rett Haselden

Clergy Members

Jerry Dicks (19-23)(UM)

Jonathan Harris (17-21) (UM)

Cheryl Johnson (18-22)

Blondell Miller (23) (class of 2026)

Mary Teasley (23) (class of 2026)

Michelle Cockcroft (24)
Lay Women
 Kim Neel (18-22)(UM)
 Rebecca Tompkins (23)
 Shirley Halley (24)
 Beth Abruzzino (24)
Lay Men
 Matthew Price (24)
 Herman Lightsey (23)
Cabinet Representatives: Terry Fleming, Jeffrey Salley
Resident Bishop: Leonard Fairley
CCF&A Representative:
Wespath Liaison: Paula Whitbeck
Ex-Officio:
Wespath Member:
Committee on Proportional Payment: Joyce Timmons, Hazel Epps
Committee on Appeals: Rett Haselden, (vacancy)
Executive Committee: Rett Haselden, (vacancy)
Joint Committee on Medical Leave: (Chairperson)

2. THE TRUSTEES OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Chair: Shannon Bullion
Vice Chair: Pattie Gordon
Secretary: Anne Walker
Clergy Members
Class of 2026
Elect: Keith Stewart
Class of 2027
 Shannon Bullion
Class of 2028
 Clare Van Den Berg
Class 2029
Elect: Fred Moore
Lay Women
Class of 2026
 Sherry Eison (18-22), PO Box 2333, Orangeburg 29116
Class of 2027
 Lillie Stephenson (19-23), 1244 Mineral Springs Street, Lamar 29069
Class of 2028
 Anne Walker (24), 43 Mason Croft Drive, Sumter, SC 29150
Class of 2029
 RE-Elect Ashley Newton (23), 323 Intrepid Court, Greer 29650-5126
Lay Men
Class of 2026
 Harold McFadden (18-22), 5331 Can City Road, Walterboro 29488
Class of 2027

Soloman Bradley (23), 110 Broadford Road, Greenville 29615

Class of 2028

Michael Stalnaker (21), 412 Foxport Drive, Chapin 29036

Class of 2029

TBN

Ex-Officio

Conference Chancellor: Ms. Kay G. Crowe

Conference Treasurer and Statistician: Mrs. Elizabeth Westbury

Conference Secretary: Rev. Melton Arant

Cabinet Representative: Rev. Fran Elrod

Section B
QUADRENNIAL BOARDS

1. THE COMMITTEE ON THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Chairperson: Bishop Leonard E. Fairley

Secretary: A. Melton Arant, Jr.

District Superintendents

Steven Brown

Terry Fleming

Fran M. Elrod

Telley Gadson

Anthony Hodge

Chris Lollis

Cathy Mitchell

Ken Nelson

Steve Patterson

Jeffrey Salley

Lay Members

Class of 2028

David Salter (16)

Selena Ruth Smith (16)

Class of 2032

Kendrick Huggins (24)

Catherine Nance (24)

Conference Co-Lay Leaders: Betty Void, Michael Jennings

Ex-Officio Members

Director of Connectional Ministries: Rev. Millie Nelson Smith

Secretary of Annual Conference: Rev. A. Melton Arant, Jr.

Assistant Conference Secretary: Rev. Karen L. Jones

Treasurer of the Annual Conference: Elizabeth Westbury

Chairperson, Worship Commission: Beverly Crowe Tipton

UMW Representative: Debra Schooler

UMM Representative: Kenny Bingham

Conference Parliamentarian: Kay G. Crowe

Conference Council on Youth Ministries Representative: Chris Lynch

Representative of Host Church 2026 Rev. Carlton McClam

AC Ordination Service Coordinator: Karen L. Jones, Mallory F. Nickerson

AD HOC Members:

Worship Team: Kendrick Huggins, Catherine Nance

Clergy Services Executive Assistant: Sha'Rome Henry
Volunteer Coordinator:
Coordinator of Technology and Media Assistant:
Director of Communications: Dan O'Mara

2. THE COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCE STAFF RELATIONS

Chairperson: Bishop Leonard E. Fairley
Vice Chairperson:
Secretary:

Clergy Members

Class of 2028

Gracie Singletary (LP) (24)

Class of 2032

Brian Gilmer (FE) (24)

Bernie Mazyck (FD) (24)

Lay Members

Class of 2028

REPLACE Mike Galloway **With TBN**

Scott Fleming (24)

Class of 2032

Lisa Fusco (24)

Ex-Officio

Conference Co-Lay Leaders: Betty Void, Michael Jennings

Chairperson, Connectional Ministries: Rev. Millie Nelson Smith

President, CF&A: D. Smith Patterson

3. THE COMMITTEE ON CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Chairperson: James P. Smith
Vice Chairperson: Sandra Sindell
Secretary: Mae Taylor

Clergy Members

Class of 2028

James P. Smith (14-16)

Class of 2032

Tommy Wilkes (22)

Class of 2036

Angela Etheredge

Lay Members

Class of 2028

Charles Sovick

Class of 2032

Sha'Rome Henry

Class of 2036

Carol Stoops

District Representatives

Anderson: Rev. Jonathan Harris
Charleston: Rev. Ben Burt
Columbia: Rev. Becky Shirley
Florence: Rev. Jennifer Price
Greenville: Rev. Shawna Darnall VandeLune
Greenwood: **VACANCY**
Hartsville: **VACANCY**
Marion: Rev. Emily Kirby
Orangeburg: **VACANCY**
Rock Hill: Rev. Emily Sutton
Spartanburg: **VACANCY**
Walterboro: Rev. Curtis J. Young

Ex-Officio Members:

Representative, Board of Global Ministries: Rev. Emily Sutton
Representative, Board of Lay Leadership: Ms. Becky Green
Representative, Equitable Compensation:
Cabinet Representatives: Rev. Chris Lollis, Rev. Dr. Anthony Hodge
Conference African-American Specialist: Rev. Walter Strawther
Director of Congregational Development: Rev. James L. Friday

4. THE COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Chairperson: Rev. Mitchell Houston
Vice-Chairperson: Rev. Stephen Taylor
Secretary: Priscilla McClellan
Treasurer: Elizabeth Westbury

Executive Committee:

Rev. Steve Brown
Bishop Leonard Fairley
Ms. Carol Hall
Ms Priscilla McClellan
Mr. Smith Patterson
Rev. Stephen Taylor
Ms. Elizabeth Westbury
Rev. Sara White

Clergy Members

Class of 2028

Stephen Taylor (16)

TBN

Class of 2032

ELECT Christopher Thompson

Sara White

TBN

Lay Members

Class of 2028

Carol Stackhouse Hall (16)

Thomas Jeffries (21)

1 Pricilla McClellan (16)
2 Drayton Smith Patterson (16)
3 Class of 2032
4 Gillis McAlister
5 Dan Bozard
6 **Ex-Officio**
7 **Bishop:** Bishop Leonard Fairley
8 **Cabinet Representatives:** Rev. James Friday, Rev. Steve Brown
9 **Conference Treasurer:** Elizabeth Westbury
10 **Accounting Manager:**
11 **Connectional Ministries Director:** Rev. Millie Nelson Smith
12 **GCFA Board Member:** Rev. Stephen Love
13 **Chair, Board of Pension:** Rev. Jonathan Harris
14

15 5. THE COMMISSION ON EQUITABLE COMPENSATION

16 **Chairperson:**
17 **Vice-Chairperson:** Wayne Hester
18 **Secretary:** Blondell Miller
19 **Statistician:** Al Quarrels
20

21 **Clergy Members**

22 **Class of 2028**

23 **ELECT** Rev. J. Christopher Greene
24 Rev. Blondell Miller (16)

25 **Class of 2032**

26 **TBN**

27 **ELECT** Rev. Alisha Hansen
28

29 **Lay Members**

30 **Class of 2028**

31 Wayne Hester
32 Al Quarles

33 **Class of 2032**

34 Jakayla McCollough
35 Howard Benjamin
36

37 **Ex-Officio**

38 **Cabinet Representatives:** Rev. Dr. Anthony Hodge, Rev. Steve Brown,
39 Beth Westbury, Rev. James Friday
40 **Board of Global Ministries:** Sherry Eisom
41 **Board of Ordained Ministry:** Morris Waymer
42 **Board of Laity:**
43

44 6. THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

45 **Chairperson:** Carolyn Briscoe

46 **Clergy Members**

47 **Class of 2028**

48 Lillian Washington (16)
49 Michael Goldston (16)
50

Lay Members

Class of 2028

Lou Jordan (16)

ELECT Alvin Glen

Conference Secretary: A. Melton Arant, Jr.

7. THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS AND APPEALS

Chairperson: Steve Simoneaux

Vice Chair:

Secretary: Ann Alexander

Clergy Members

Class of 2028

Steven Paul Simoneaux, Jr. (12-16)

Narcie Jeter (16)

Lay Members

Class of 2028

Ann Alexander (12-16)

ELECT Tremaine Sails-Dunlap

Jeanette McDowell (12-16-24)

Bob James (24)

Cabinet Representatives: Terry Fleming, Fran Elrod

8. THE COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Chairperson: Meredith Dark

Vice-Chairperson:

Secretary/Treasurer:

Clergy Members

Class of 2028

ELECT Charlie Thomas

ELECT Rusty Godfrey

Meredith Dark (16)

ELECT Joseph Kovas

Lay Members

Class of 2028

ELECT Dr. Kenneth Jenkins

ELECT William Ratliff

Ex-Officio

President, Conference Historical Society: Meredith M. Dark

Claflin Library Director: Marilyn Gibbs

Claflin Archivist: Sarah De Weever

Conference Historian: A.V. Huff, Jr.,

Conference Secretary: A. Melton Arant, Jr.

Wofford and Conference Archivist: R. Phillip Stone, Wofford College

9. THE COMMITTEE ON THE EPISCOPACY

Chairperson: Jeannette Cooper

Vice Chairperson:

Secretary: Dorothy Harrison

Clergy Members

Class of 2028

David Taylor (16-24)

Jeannette Cooper (16-24)

Class of 2032

Dr. Stephen Love*(24)

Melissa Williams (24)

Lay Members

Class of 2028

Genevieve Burgess (12-16) 1

Dr. Loretta Felder McKelvey*(24)

Herman Lightsey (19)

Ronald Norton (18)

Class of 2032

Cassie Watson (24)

Sheila Shanklin (24)

Ex-Officio with vote

SEJ Committee on Episcopacy Representatives: Rev. Ken Nelson, Jackie Jenkins

***Appointed by the Bishop (Standing Rule 73)**

11. THE COMMITTEE ON STANDING RULES

Chairperson: Michael Hood

Vice Chairperson:

Secretary:

Clergy Members

Class of 2028

Michael Hood (16)

ELECT Kim Strong

Lay Members

Class of 2028

Nancy Bradshaw (16)

Class of 2032

John Davis

Lollie Haselden

TBN

Ex-Officio:

President, UMW: Debra Schooler

President, UMM: Kenny Bingham

Conference Lay Leader Representative: Jeff Fogle

President, CCYM: Chris Lynch

Conference Secretary: A. Melton Arant, Jr.

Conference Parliamentarian: Kay G. Crowe
Cabinet Representative: Steven Brown
Convener, Conference Council on Connectional Ministries: Pamela Goodwine-Glover

12. THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Chairperson: Juliette Phillpot (24)
Vice-Chairperson: Rev. Louis Ashely
Secretary:

District Representative:

Anderson:

Charleston: Mike Bruce

Columbia: Betty Void

Florence: Louis Ashley

Greenville: Chandra Dillard

Greenwood: Ed Stallworth

Hartsville: Mary Burnell

Marion: Patricia Manning

Orangeburg:

Rock Hill:

Spartanburg: Rick Hammett

Walterboro:

At-Large- Lillian Washington, Rusty Crimm, Maggie Cantey, Kenneth Middleton, Sylvia Harris Greene, Marvin Horton, Jackie Jenkins, Dena Gentry

Bishop: Leonard Fairley

Conference Lay Leaders: Betty Void, Michael Jennings

Representative, United Methodist Women: Debra Schooler

Representative, United Methodist Men: Kenny Bingham

Youth Representative: Kayla Mullins

Cabinet Representative: Terry Fleming, Fran Elrod, Millie Nelson Smith

Young Adult Representative: Angela Johnson

Representative, Retired Ministers:

Ex-Officio Without Vote

Chairperson, Standing Rules: Michael Hood

Convener, Conference Connectional Ministries: Pamela Goodwine-Glover

Convener, Status and Role of Women: Sheila Haney

Convener, Religion and Race: Chris Thompson

Chairperson, Missional Priority Coordinating Committee: Cynthia Williams

2025-2026 DISTRICT BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

ANDERSON DISTRICT

BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Linda Ferguson, Jessica Lomax, Kevin B. Lindley, Sandra MaGee, Beth McWilliams, Roy Mitchell, Justin Lee Ritter, Kurt L. Stutler, Margaret "Meg" Wilkes.

DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING: MarKeith Brock '26, Joey Gambrell '28, Stephen Graham '26, Willis Lee '27, Gayle M. Beaudrot '27.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON ORDAINED MINISTRY: Kathryn M Bariou, Amy D. Bratton, Michael J. Hood, Stephen L. Love, Steven P. Simoneaux, Jr., S. Alexander Stevenson, Adrienne E. Stokes. **Laity:** Cara Hamilton, Patricia Jackson.

COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENCY: Freda Brock, Beverly CroweTipton, A. Judson King, Kevin B. Lindley, Valerie K. Mireb, Kurt L. Stutler, Sandra Thrasher.

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Karen Carter, Wayne Coats, David Ford, David Hunter, Annie B. Jackson, Edna Rider, Thomas B. Wilkes, III .

CHARLESTON DISTRICT

BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Sarah Bozier, Ben Burt, Gillis McAlister, David Powell, Nathan Smalls, Mae Taylor, Bessie Walker.

DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING: Dave Braddon '26, Brent Dehlbom '26, Victor Hainline '27, Gillis McAllister '27, Barry Morphis '27, Darlene Richardson '26, Mike Wood '28.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON ORDAINED MINISTRY: Mike Bruce, Cindy Shaw, Tim Shaw, Lillian Washington **Laity:** Evelyn Burwell, Ceil Fewox, Gillis McAllister, Constance Wilborn.

COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENCY: Mike Bruce, Kim Bryant, George Jenkins, Gillis McAllister, Susan Pennock, Davie Sanders Jr., Cooper Stonestreet, Lillian Washington, Roxanne Whitney.

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Sarah Bozier, Gillis McAllister, Victoria Richardson, Constance Wilborn, Mike Wood.

COLUMBIA DISTRICT

BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Sandra Harrison, Felicia Howard, Faye Jones, Lex McDonald, Kermit Moss, Rebecca Shirley, Mike Penland.

DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING: Anna Barrier '27, Tiffany Knowlin Boykin '26, Gene Key '26, Shay Long '27, Ed Trussell '26.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON ORDAINED MINISTRY: David Anderson, Adrienne Fink, Sarah Tucker Fletcher, James Friday, Hope Morris, Scott Smoak, Susan Ulmer **Laity:** Daniel Canada, Beth Matthews, Veronica Williams.

COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENCY: Julie Songer Belman, John Frick, Carolyn James, Michael Jennings, Mack McDowell, Stephen Taylor.

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Cary Ballentine, Flo Johnson, Ward Smith, Geneva Stafford, Larry Waters.

FLORENCE DISTRICT

BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Brenda Cooper, Grayson Fallaw, Keith Hunter, Quinn McClam, Jennifer Price.

DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING: Kelly Gottheiner '28, Corey LaSane '27, Dawson Price '28, Pernerva Thomas '26, Patrick Wilson '27.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON ORDAINED MINISTRY: Shawn Chestnut, J. Jeanette Cooper, Katherine Crimm, Ernest Frierson, Jerry Gadsden, Ann Kovan, Barry McFadden, David McManus. **Laity:** Angela Bethea, Kim Proctor.

COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENCY: Norma Bartelle, Stevee Scott, Rusty Crimm, Michael Henderson, Mark Mitchell, Pearl Pressley, Thomas Smith, Regina Swanson.

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Louis Ashley, Angela Bethea, Isiah Brown, John Crouch, Matthew Williamson.

GREENVILLE DISTRICT

BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Sharon Bennett, Valerie Brooks-Madden, Tom Creech, Davon Harrelson, Narcie Jeter, Calvin Slade, Shawna Darnall Vandelune.

DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING: Sheila Bradley '26, Don Brown '26, Shane Dotson '26, Matthew Greer '26, Derek Holzer '26, Bruce Schug '26, David Smith '26.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON ORDAINED MINISTRY: Russell Freeman, Brian Gilmer, Karen Jones, Carlton McClam, Amanda Richardson, George Riser, Brenda Washington, LaShelia Wyatt. **Laity:** Jana Clack, Chandra Dillard, Gary Hyman.

COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENCY: Twana Cruell, Angela Etheredge-Erwin, Faye Latta, Lavelle B. Marshall, Tom Mawbry, James Patterson, Steve Scott, Andy Watson.

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Coley Altman, Fred Bostic, Rachel Carosiello, Larry McCants, Jamey Sias, Brian Underwood, Eugenia Vicars, Dick Waldrep, Wayne Wingate.

GREENWOOD DISTRICT

BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Ashley Buchanan, Gerald Clinkscales, Cameron Levi, Bonnie Ramage, Sandy Shaffer, Myra Taylor, Cathy Trevino, Janet Waters.

DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING: Joseph James '29, George Lark '28, Jay Adam Pearson '26, Terry Rawls '26, Jo Ann Stone '26, Myra Taylor '29, Glenn Williams '29.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON ORDAINED MINISTRY: Janice Hughey, Cameron Levi, Joe Long, Ed Stallworth, Thessa Smith, Jason Wilson. **Laity:** Mary Ann Arnold, Frank Coyle, David Salter, Sandy Shaffer.

COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENCY: John Bolin, Ralph T. Bowling III, David Henderson, Uwe Klauck, Dianne Oliver, Mary Lynn Polk, Sandy Shaffer, Thessa Smith, Ulysses Smith, Janet Waters, Carol Peppers Wray.

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Janice Hughey, Paul Johnson, Thomas Miller, Randy Rita, Thessa Smith, Keith Stewart, Jo Ann Stone.

HARTSVILLE DISTRICT

BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Lyndon Alexander II, Jamie Campbell, Willie Mae Cannon, Corina Esaw, Lee Floyd, Deborah Frost-Richardson, Jacqueline Greene-Stuckey, John Jordan, Corinthia Mack, Blondell Miller, Charlie Thomas.

DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING: Melinda Brown '26, Darlene Dellinger '26, Phyllis Griggs '26, Kay Holley '26, Lloyd Hunter '26, Robert Johnson '27, Emma Jones '26, Sammy Pazi '26, Teri Schell '26, Jeffrey Tadlock '27, Charles Teal '26, Gwendolyn White '27.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON ORDAINED MINISTRY: Leatha Brown, Norman Brown, Jerry Dicks, Paul Frey, Alisha Hansen, Joseph Kavas, Reginald Lee, Angela H. Marshall, Fred McDaniel, Jerry McManus, Rickey Stuckey, Brenda Thomas. **Laity:** Clarice Blakeney, Remond Cooper, Carol Stackhouse-Hall, Jacquelyn Session.

COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENCY: Jay Aldridge, Jeffrey Belton, Herbert Boykin, Troy Cato, Franklin Garrett, Daniel Hall, Minnie Harris, Frances Hill, Carol Stackhouse-Hall, Paige Wheeler, Gwendolyn White, Jimmie Williamson.

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Patricia Bowman, Gwendolyn Coleman, Albert Davis, Jamie Gandy, James Graham, Garland Jacobs, Jacob McLeod, Deborah Richards, James M. Smith, Vanessa Wilhelm, Jacqueline Woods.

MARION DISTRICT

BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Bob Elwood, Emily Kirby, Deborah Patterson, Carol Stoops, Tyler Strange, Kim Strong, Betty Swinton, Hendley Williams.

DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING: Michael Byrd '28, Verne Cappell '26, Glen Dameron '29, Bob Dunn '27, Charles McElveen '29, Angela McWhorter '28, JV Mott '26.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON ORDAINED MINISTRY: Tony Adams, Gene Aiken, Judith Knox, Nick Lyerly, Robert L. Malachi, Sandra Stevens-Poirel, Mary Teasley, Charles Wilbanks **Laity:** Trudy Drawhorn, Anna Henry, Susan Jones, Carol Stoops.

COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENCY: Gloria Cook, Ella Ellerbe, Faye Grice, Franklin Holmes, Thomas Jordan, William H. Phillips, Kyle Randle, Sandra Stubbs, Mary Teasley, Michael Toms, Carson Wittington.

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Freddie David, Lewis Evans, Mike Jackson, Sadie Parmley, Paula Stover, Wellons Williams.

ORANGEBURG DISTRICT

BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Matt Alexander, Jeremiah Berry, Vernise Corley, Shirley Gordon, Kenneth Middleton, Arthur Rose.

DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING: James Dantzler '26, Anna G. Miller '27, Janell Mitchell '27, Ron Turnblad '26.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON ORDAINED MINISTRY: Derrick Cattenhead, Sharon Gamble, Enrique Gordon, Anna Miller, Nancy Reed, Laura Whitt, Eddie Williams. **Laity:** Doug Baldwin, Judith Salley, Sheila Shanklin, Ronald Speight, Earline Ulmer.

COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENCY: Minnie Anderson, Rosa Kennerly Dance, Lisa Fusco, Sheila Shanklin, Stephon Void, Jerry Weunscher, Ellis White.

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Jill Crim, Lamont Green, Karen Lee, Andrea Matthews, Edgar McGee, Buddy Pough, Lanny Wolfe.

ROCK HILL DISTRICT

BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Pete Berntson, Renee Garrison, Tammy Grey, Ken Jones, Emily Sutton, Michael Walker,

DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING: Greg Adams '27, Heather Baird '27, Scott Gilmer '27, John Howle '29, Wayne Sandifer '28, Chad Williams '28, Neal Woods '28, Nelson Wright '29.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON ORDAINED MINISTRY: Wanda Altman-Shirah, Thomas Bowman, Sr., Robin Griffith, Michael Jarrell, Mallory Nickerson, Karen Radcliffe, Neal Woods. **Laity:** Pat Cook, Susan Floyd, Wesley Wright.

COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENCY: Jim Dougherty, Renee Garrison, Bob James, James Kimble, Martha McGill, Peggie Palmer, Cindy Rumsey, Charles Smalls, Cameron Treece, Sheera Yates.

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Judy Anderson, Edgar Cole, Mike Griffin, Gene Martin, Fred Moore, Joe Wix.

SPARTANBURG DISTRICT

BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Donna Campsen, Brian Carey, Ricky Howell, Jimmy Lewis, Lcita Rogers, Steve Smith, Prudi Youngblood.

DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING: Elizabeth Blackwell '26, Allen Burden '27, Donna Campsen, Brad Gray '26, Sharon Parham '27, Rebecca Rochester '26, Jeff Tillerson '27.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON ORDAINED MINISTRY: Heather Humphries, Jimmy Lewis, David Nichols, Morris Waymer, Merritt Wentz, Paige Wolfe. **Laity:** Donna Campsen, Annie Crocker, Bill Fitch, Rick Hammett.

COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENCY: Donna Campsen, Scott Fleming, Christopher Greene, Rick Hammett, Sylvia Landrum, Angelia Price, Rhonda Young.

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Kevin Bobo, Donna Campsen, Edward Enlow, Sylvia Landrum, Melissa Lusk, Leonard Starks, Merritt Wentz, Andrew Wolfe.

WALTERBORO DISTRICT

BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: James Grant, Hans J. Hamm, Scarlett Hester, Lisa Way, Curtis Young.

DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING: William Court '26, Wilbert Hankins '26, Richard W. Kelly '27, Vivian Lingard '27, Jonathan E. Tompkins '27.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON ORDAINED MINISTRY: Constance Barnes, Angela Ford Broughton, Scarlett Hester, James P. Smith, Christopher Lee Thompson, Bryson Williams, Jr. **Laity:** Jackie Jenkins, Jay Parks.

COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENCY: Anne G. Bridgers, Tracy Colleton-Glover, Thelma Hudson, Jackie Jenkins, Rickie Jenkins, Marvin Jones, James A. Ross.

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Lamonte Hodges, Jack Walter Hutto, Whitney Lingard, San Roman King.

CLEMSON WESLEY FOUNDATION

This report should have been included in Section IV-Connectional Ministries and Related Reports

Clemson Wesley's purpose is to connect with college students to create a Christ centered community where all students can find belonging, be challenged to grow in their faith, and encouraged to love God and neighbor in concrete ways.

This year has been an adventure filled with change, renewal and hope! Approximately 80 students called Clemson Wesley home this past year. We had 40 plus on both of our weekend retreats and we took 20 students on a weeklong mission trip in March and another trip in May. We graduated and sent into the world 26 students.

We have also seen an uptick in on campus outreach. We've served approximately 3000 students in various outreach ministries on campus this past year. This is just a small sampling of the ministry through CW.

CW also celebrates two recent alumni who are attending seminary and plan to seek ordination. They join a long history of over 30 former students who have followed this path over the last two decades.

These are a just a few of the highlights of CW's ministry. But each number is a story. A story of a young person finding belonging, experiencing God's grace, growing in their faith, and seeking to serve.

1
2 College students are hungry for belonging and thirsting for an authentic faith. Clemson Wesley is ready for
3 the future and will continue its ongoing outreach to college students. Every year we graduate a large group of
4 seniors and welcome in new students. This dynamic allows for fresh expressions of ministry every year. We look
5 forward to meeting the challenge.

6
7 We ask for your continued support of campus ministry.
8

9 Clemson Wesley is a vibrant campus ministry helping to transform the lives of college students through
10 belonging, faith development, and hands on service. Our ministry has a powerful impact on students. These
11 students will soon graduate and be serving in your local community.
12

13 We thank the SC Conference for its support of campus ministry. It is vital for the church of today and even more
14 important as we look toward the future.
15

16 Rev. Steve Simoneaux
17 Executive Director/Campus Minister
18

19 **THE REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE CHANCELLOR**

20 It is my privilege to serve the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church as the Conference
21 Chancellor. In that role I am the legal advisor to the Bishop and the Annual Conference. By Conference standing
22 rule 98, requests for my services are made through the Episcopal office. It is a privilege to continue to my work
23 with the dedicated clergy, staff and laypersons of the Conference.

24 This year my work has included serving as a resource for lawyers representing the Conference and local
25 UMC Churches in litigation, working with the Conference Board of Trustees by preparing leases, deeds, sales
26 contracts, and other legal documents, and assisting in drafting resolutions and resources for the Conference and
27 local churches.

28 I have also continued to monitor the filings in the Boy Scout Bankruptcy. There are still some remaining
29 issues which will determine the extent of the releases given to sponsors of Boy Scout troops as a result of the
30 Bankruptcy. Please respect the advice that I have given and has been given by the Leadership of the Boy Scouts
31 to use either the Affiliation Agreement or the Facilities Use Agreement to define the relationship between the
32 local church and the Boy Scout troops. Once again, I urge all churches to carefully review your insurance
33 coverages, to comply with the recommended coverages and to have written documents setting forth the
34 parameters of all relationships with groups that the local church sponsors or allows to meet on church property.

35 I continue to recommend that local UMC churches incorporate as a South Carolina nonprofit corporation.
36 Section 2529 of the *Book of Discipline* must be complied with in that process. This section requires that the local
37 churches must be organized and operated in compliance with the *Book of Discipline* and cannot sever the
38 connectional relationship to The United Methodist Church without the consent of the Annual Conference.
39 Because many lawyers who incorporate entities may not be familiar with the *Book of Discipline*, it is important
40 that Section 2529 be brought to their attention and that the local church articles of incorporation and any by-
41 laws be reviewed for compliance with section 2529 prior to adoption and filing.

42
43 Kay G. Crowe, Conference Chancellor

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41

CHURCH CLOSURE RESOLUTIONS

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE (AD INTERIM) CLOSURE OF
GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
145 GRACE DR., ABBEVILLE, SC 29620
ANDERSON DISTRICT
GCFA # 274563**

Whereas Grace United Methodist Church of Abbeville, South Carolina, located in the Anderson District, no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized. By vote of remaining members, the decision was reached to abandon the property and permanently close the church. The District Superintendent certifies that the procedures as set forth in Section 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (2016) have been complied with.

Whereas there are exigent circumstances present to support the (ad interim) closure of this church pursuant to section 2549 (3) (b) of *The Book of Discipline*. These include the need to preserve and protect the building and to preserve the limited and existing funds of the church. The church does not have the means to maintain the property, insure this property, or repay the mortgage into which the church entered when the facilities were constructed. Services will cease with this congregation on February 1, 2025.

All property of Grace United Methodist Church shall be transferred to Trustees of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. The Superintendent of the Anderson District and/or any two members of the Conference Board of Trustees are authorized to execute any documents to include any deeds or other legal documents to effectuate this transfer.

Resolved, pursuant to the authority granted to authorize (ad interim) closure of a church under section 2549 (3) (b) of *The Book of Discipline*, the majority of the District Superintendents agree and consent to the closure of this property.

This resolution is contingent upon the Trustees of Grace UMC signing over the property deed to the Trustees of the South Carolina United Methodist Church.

Adopted and approved this 16th day of January 2025.

Rev. Fran Elrod
Secretary of the Cabinet
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

Bishop Leonard Fairley, Resident Bishop
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

**A Resolution to the Church Conference for the Closure of
St. Mark United Methodist Church
3200 Lyles Street
Columbia, SC 29201
Columbia District
GCFA #272600**

Whereas St. Mark United Methodist Church located in the Columbia District no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized; the declining membership is no longer able to sustain itself financially, care for the facilities, and continue to engage in ministry. The District Superintendent certifies that the procedures as set forth in Section 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (2020/2024) have been complied with.

Whereas there are exigent circumstances present to support the closure of this church pursuant to section 2549 (3) (b) of *The Book of Discipline*. These include the need to preserve and protect the building and to preserve the limited and existing funds of the church. The church does not have the means to maintain or insure this property.

Whereas the charge conference of St. Mark United Methodist Church voted to approve a closing resolution on April 6, 2025,

The District Superintendent recommends that the Conference Board of Trustees explore possible repurposing of the building that may benefit the Earlwood Community.

All property of St. Mark United Methodist Church shall be transferred to Trustees of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church and the District Superintendent of the Columbia District and/or any two members of the Conference Board of Trustees are authorized to execute any documents to include any deeds or other legal documents to effectuate this transfer.

Resolved, pursuant to the authority granted to authorize closure of a church under section 2549 (3) (b) of *The Book of Discipline*, the majority of the District Superintendents agree and consent to the closure of this property.

Adopted and approved this 9th day of April, 2025.

Rev. Fran Elrod
Secretary of the Cabinet
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

Bishop Leonard Fairley, Resident Bishop
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

**A Resolution Declaring the Ad Interim Closure of
Trinity United Methodist Church
27922 Low Country Highway
Smoaks, SC 29481
Walterboro District
GCFA # 278138**

Whereas Trinity United Methodist Church located in the Walterboro District no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized; the local church is no longer financially sustainable by its members, is no longer in a position to foresee such long-term sustainability as well as the ability to be active in the life of the community, declining membership, and inability to sustain a vibrant faith community. The District Superintendent certifies that the procedures as set forth in Section 2549 of The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church (2020/2024) have been complied with.

Whereas there are exigent circumstances present to support the ad interim closure of this church pursuant to section 2549 (4) (b) of The Book of Discipline. These include the need to preserve and protect the land and to preserve the limited and existing funds of the church. The church does not have the means to maintain or insure this property and services are no longer be held at this location.

Whereas the Walterboro District Committee on Church Location & Building voted on 5-12-2025 and the Bishop and the majority of the District Superintendents voted on May 8, 2025 to concur with a recommendation for ad interim closure.

All property of Trinity United Methodist Church shall be transferred to Trustees of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church and the District Superintendent of the Orangeburg District and/or any two members of the Conference Board of Trustees are authorized to execute any documents to include any deeds or other legal documents to effectuate this transfer.

Resolved, pursuant to the authority granted to authorize (ad interim) closure of a church under section 2549 (3) (b) of The Book of Discipline, the majority of the District Superintendents agree and consent to the closure of this property.

Adopted and approved this 8th day of May, 2025

Rev. Fran Elrod
Secretary of the Cabinet
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

I have reviewed this resolution and I consent.
Bishop Leonard Fairley, Resident Bishop
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

**A Resolution Declaring the Ad Interim Closure of
Good Samaritan United Methodist Church
5220 Crowders Cove Lane
Lake Wylie, South Carolina 29710
Rock Hill District
GCFA #278617**

Whereas Good Samaritan United Methodist Church located in the Rock Hill District no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized. The District Superintendent certifies that the procedures as set forth in Section 2549 of The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church have been complied with.

Whereas there are exigent circumstances present to support the ad interim closure of this church pursuant to section 2549 (3) (b) of The Book of Discipline. The Church does not have the means to maintain or insure the property and have by separate resolution voted to transfer all of the property of the church to the Conference Trustees on or before September 20, 2024.

Resolved, pursuant to the authority granted to authorize ad interim closure of a church under section 2549 (3) (b) of the Book of Discipline, the majority of the District Superintendents agree and consent to the closure of this property.

Adopted and approved this 17 day of September, 2025.

Adopted and approved this 8th day of May, 2025

Rev. Fran Elrod
Secretary of the Cabinet
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

I have reviewed this resolution and I consent.
Bishop Leonard Fairley, Resident Bishop
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

**A Resolution Declaring the Ad Interim Closure of
Ebenezer United Methodist Church
1616 South Live Oak Drive
Moncks Corner, South Carolina 29486
GCFA # 271673**

Whereas, Ebenezer United Methodist Church located in the Charleston District no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized; the declining membership is no longer able to sustain itself financially, care for the facilities, and continue to engage in ministry. The District Superintendent certifies that the procedures as set forth in Section 2549 of The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church (2020/2024) have been complied with.

Whereas there are exigent circumstances present to support the closure of this church pursuant to section 2549 (3) (b) of The Book of Discipline. These include the need to preserve and protect the building and to preserve the limited and existing funds of the church. The church does not have the means to maintain or insure this property.

Whereas the charge conference of Ebenezer United Methodist Church voted to approve a closing resolution on May 2, 2025,

The District Superintendent recommends that the Conference Board of Trustees explore possible repurposing of the building that may benefit the Moncks Corner area.

All property of Ebenezer United Methodist Church shall be transferred to the Trustees of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church and the District Superintendent of the Charleston District and/or any two conference members of the Conference Board of Trustees are authorized to execute any documents to include any deed or other legal documents to effectuate this transfer.

Resolved, pursuant to this authority granted to authorized (ad interim) closure of a church under Section 2549 (3) (b) of *The Book of Discipline*, the majority of the District Superintendents agree and consent to the closure of the property.

Adopted and approved this 8th day of May, 2025.

Rev. Fran Elrod
Secretary of the Cabinet
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

I have reviewed this resolution and I consent.
Bishop Leonard Fairley, Resident Bishop
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

**A Resolution Declaring Closure of
Woods Chapel United Methodist Church
2388 Brown Wood Rd.
Greer, South Carolina 29651
Greenville District
GCFA # 274142**

Whereas Woods Chapel United Methodist Church located in the Greenville District no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized; the local church is no longer financially sustainable by its members, is no longer in a position to foresee such long-term sustainability as well as the ability to be active in the life of the community, declining membership, and inability to sustain a vibrant faith community. The District Superintendent certifies that the procedures as set forth in Section 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (2016) have been complied with.

Whereas there are exigent circumstances present to support the closure of this church pursuant to section 2549 (3) (b) of *The Book of Discipline*. These include the need to preserve and protect the building and to preserve the limited and existing funds of the church. The church does not have the means to continue to maintain or insure this property and services will no longer be held at this location after June 30, 2025.

Whereas a Church Conference was held at Woods Chapel on March 12, 2025 to explain the exigent circumstances for closure and the process. There were only four members present at the Charge Conference, two voted for closure, and two abstained from the vote due to grief of the loss.

All property of Woods Chapel United Methodist Church shall be transferred to Trustees of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church and the District Superintendent of the Greenville District and/or any two members of the Conference Board of Trustees are authorized to execute any documents to include any deeds or other legal documents to effectuate this transfer.

Resolved, pursuant to the authority granted to authorize closure of a church under section 2549 (3) (b) of *The Book of Discipline*, the majority of the District Superintendents agree and consent to the closure of this property.

Adopted and approved this 8th day of May 2025.

Rev. Fran Elrod
Secretary of the Cabinet
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

I have reviewed this resolution and I consent.
Bishop Leonard Fairley, Resident Bishop
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46

CHURCH MERGER RESOLUTION

A Resolution Declaring the Merger of
Bethlehem United Methodist Church, GCFA #958102
Mt. Nebo United Methodist Church, GCFA #959744
to become:

TRIUNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6815 Columbia Road, Hwy 21
St. Matthews, South Carolina
Orangeburg District

Whereas Bethlehem United Methodist Church (6815 Columbia Road, Hwy 21, St. Matthews, SC) and Mt. Nebo United Methodist Church (1919 Kennerly Road, Orangeburg, SC) located in the Orangeburg District of SC Conference of United Methodist Church have been organized as a part of the Orangeburg Circuit for many years. Whereas each church held a separate conference on Saturday, July 27, 2024, and each church by written ballot approved a “**Plan of Merger**” to merge the two churches effective June 11, 2024 to become Triune United Methodist Church. Whereas the merger has been approved by Rev. Kenneth L. Nelson, Superintendent of the Orangeburg District.

Whereas the “**Plan of Merger**” directed that all property, both real and personal, would become the property of the newly merged church (Triune UMC), and directed the trustees to execute any necessary documents to complete these transfers.

It is therefore resolved that Bethlehem and Mt. Nebo United Methodist Churches, pursuant to Paragraph 2546 of ***The Book of Discipline (2020/2024)***, shall be merged to become Triune United Methodist Church effective June 25, 2025.

All property, both real and personal, (including all archives and records) of Bethlehem United Methodist Church and Mt. Nebo United Methodist Church shall be transferred to Triune United Methodist Church. The District Superintendent of the Orangeburg District and/or any two members of the trustees of the two named churches are authorized to execute any documents to include any deeds or other legal documents necessary to effectuate these transfers.

The Bishop and District Superintendents of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church agree and consent to the merger of these churches.

Adopted and approved this 11th day of June 2025.

Rev. Fran Elrod
Secretary of the Cabinet
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

I have reviewed this resolution and I consent.
Bishop Leonard Fairley, Resident Bishop
South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

CONSENT CALENDAR

The consent calendar provided for in standing rule no. 22 allows for the adoption by “consent” of reports and other items which do not necessarily require deliberation by the Annual Conference in open session and which can be adopted or “moved to the record without reading” by a simple majority vote. Prior to consideration of the Consent Calendar scheduled for Monday morning, any fifteen members of the Annual Conference may request the removal of a specific item from the Consent Calendar, and it shall be removed and considered at an appropriate time determined by the president and the secretary. The Consent Calendar shall be adopted by a majority vote. To remove an item from the Consent Calendar, complete and secure the required signatures on the form on page 214 and deliver the completed form to the Secretary of the Annual Conference prior to consideration of the Consent Calendar. A separate petition is required for each item to be removed.

PAGE	REPORT	PAGE	REPORT
22	CLEMSON WESLEY FOUNDATION	133	CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
63	DESIGNATED SPECIAL DAYS	138	CLERGY SERVICES
64	ADVANCED SPECIAL MINISTRIES	139	SC CONFERENCE METHODIST CREDIT UNION
67	ADVOCACY	139	HISTORICAL SOCIETY
68	NATIVE AMERICAN COMMITTEE	140	TRUSTEES OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
71	LAY SERVANT MINISTRY	143	TRUSTEES OF THE SC UNITED METHODIST ADVOCATE
72	UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH	144	JAMES L. BELIN TRUSTEES
73	MENNMINISTRY	144	TRUSTEES OF THE METHODIST CENTER
74	SALKEHATCHIE	184	AFRICA UNIVERSITY
74	SC UNITED METHODIST CAMPS AND RETREATS	185	GENERAL BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION & MINISTRY
76	ALDERSGATE SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY	186	BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
77	EPWORTH CHILDREN’S HOME	186	CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
78	METHODIST MANOR	187	DREW UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
79	WESLEY COMMONS	188	DUKE DIVINITY SCHOOL
80	CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY	189	GAMMON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
82	COLUMBIA COLLEGE	190	GARRETT-EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
83	SPARTANBURG METHODIST COLLEGE	191	HEALING GUATEMALA
84	WOFFORD COLLEGE	193	HINTON RURAL LIFE CENTER
85	COASTAL CAROLINA WESLEY FOUNDATION	194	ILIFF SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
86	CHARLESTON WESLEY FOUNDATION	195	LAKE JUNALUSKA ASSEMBLY
87	COLUMBIA WESLEY	196	METHODIST THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL OHIO
88	FRANCIS MARION WESLEY FOUNDATION	196	SAINT PAUL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
89	FURMAN WESLEY FOUNDATION	133	SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY
90	ORANGEBURG WESLEY FOUNDATION	138	PERKINS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
90	WINTHROP WESLEY FOUNDATION	139	UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
131	COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY	139	WESLEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
132	COMMITTEE ON THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE		

2025 Report of the Cabinet

“From Mourning to Dancing”

On behalf of the SC Annual Conference’s Extended Cabinet, we greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! This year we welcomed our new Resident Bishop, Leonard E. Fairley and his lovely wife Dawn, two new District Superintendents, Rev. Jeffrey Salley and Rev. Christopher Lollis, and we are excited to move forward in mission and ministry with them.

We also want to thank the District Administrative assistants and our Congregational Specialists for their support of the District Offices with special recognition of Medina Wilkerson. Medina Wilkerson retired last year having serving the Anderson District for 34 years.

1 Over the past several years we have experienced loss, significant change and are experiencing new challenges.
2 Bishop Fairley acknowledges the long period of sorrow and difficulty as a denomination, and in his welcome
3 address, gives us a new hope as he references *Psalms 30:11-12*, "You have turned my mourning into dancing; you
4 have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord
5 my God, I will give thanks to you forever." (NRSV). Bishop Fairley poses the question, "What if it's time to turn
6 our mourning into dancing?"

7
8 Well, we have begun that dance! Appointment making continued to be centered around caring for the well-
9 being of the local church and our pastors. The Appointive Cabinet is aware of the challenges that separation and
10 the economy has placed on our local churches; therefore, the Cabinet created the Hope Fund to support church
11 missions, ministries, revitalization, and leadership development. The Hope Fund grants are funded from the
12 portion of Separation funds granted to the Cabinet by the Conference Trustees. Grants are given to churches
13 who commit to remain United Methodist and demonstrate one or more of the following attributes: 1)
14 Substantial advancement in at least one of the Four Priorities of the SC Annual Conference, 2) Evidenced
15 potential toward vital discipleship in their context, potential which would be aided into reality by timely financial
16 investment by the Conference. Grants may be given to churches and pastors who are experiencing one of the
17 following challenges:

- 18 1) Financial debilitation initiated or exacerbated by the exit of church members after the church
19 voted to remain UMC.
- 20 2) Salary Equity grants to supplement pastors who may suffer a severe salary cut or
21 displacement by no fault of their own, not to exceed a three-year period.
- 22 3) Capital Improvement/Maintenance grants which are one-time grants for fruitful churches that
23 are being consumed by large building Capital Improvement Maintenance costs, due to
24 decreased membership and income due to becoming an aging congregation for things such as
25 HVAC and Roof issues.
- 26 4) Leadership Training for churches and pastors.
- 27 5) Cooperative Parish Development grants for small or part-time churches that agree to become
28 a part of a Cooperative Parish to make more fulltime appointments, as we anticipate a greater need.
- 29 6) Matching grants for churches that are responding to church growth needs such as renovated
30 or new structures to accommodate the growth in ministry.

31
32 As of March 31, 2025, 130 Hope Fund requests have been received and approved by the Appointive Cabinet in
33 the amount of \$4,893,712. The distribution of these funds is as follows: 42% has been allocated to African
34 American congregations, 56% to White congregations, 1% to multi-district initiatives for Young Clergy
35 Leadership Development, and 1% designated for an African American Congregational Specialist serving the
36 Florence and Marion Districts.

37
38 Additionally, the six remaining grants have been allocated to Salary Equity and Capital
39 Improvement/Maintenance projects with five grants allocated to African American congregations and one to a
40 White congregation.

41 Ten District Superintendents have continued the work of twelve District Superintendents by sharing District
42 coverage for the Greenville and Walterboro Districts. Though this has been a challenge, it was a strategy
43 designed to allow the districts to maintain their identity as we begin to slowly transition into a new way of being.
44 Bishop Fairley initiated the Jeremiah teams to facilitate a more efficient and unified approach to mission and
45 ministry. The Cabinet is actively working along side the Jeremiah Alignment team. This team, in consultation
46 with Administrative staffing, Finance, and recently realigned Conferences, is seeking to determine the most
47 effective number of Districts for the conference to provide the most nimble, cost-effective structure that both
48 allows District Superintendents to continue to be Missional Strategist by defining possible restructuring
49 opportunities that will express the connectionalism in mission and ministry at the heart of the United Methodist
50 Church.

The Cabinet extends our felt gratitude to the local churches of this Annual Conference that have committed to actively being engaged in mission and ministry in their communities, and for the Clergy and Lay leadership in the Local church, District and Conference levels for their support.

In the words of Bishop Fairley, “In healing,” he said, “we can begin to dance to the rhythm of God’s transformative song of Hope and new life that has the power to turn our mourning into dancing. Join us in the dance!”

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Cathy D. Mitchell

The Report of The Ministry Advisory Team and Conference Staff Relations Committee Centered on the Work of The Jeremiah Teams and

The people of The United Methodist Church in South Carolina have been blessed with a unique opportunity. After years of living through the storms of theological division and disagreements over polity – and all of the angst, grief and loss this breach in our Connection has fostered – we now stand on the other side. After months of holding our collective breath, we now exhale and eagerly await that next cleansing breath.

Without a doubt, we are banged up and bruised. We have scars that will take time to fade. And while we still shed tears for church communities and colleagues and friends lost, we are not looking back. We have fixed our eyes on Jesus – the one who fulfilled the prophesy of a future with hope.

And so we find ourselves at the dawn of this new thing that God is doing through us, knowing that what lies ahead are endless opportunities to inhabit our mission and call as followers of Jesus Christ in South Carolina.

Perhaps the greatest opportunity arises from that which we grieve: the loss of churches, friends and, yes, resources – a seeming fracture in the Connectionalism that is at the heart of what it means to be a United Methodist.

In the wake of a season of separations, we know that it is time to rethink and re-envision how we can we do effective ministry and expand the Kingdom of God – all while making sure that we are living within our means and being good stewards of what God has entrusted to us.

For several months, four Jeremiah Teams – consisting of a diverse array of laity and clergy from across all 12 districts – have made remarkable progress in this reimagining of how the South Carolina Conference is structured, how it operates, and how it aligns with Our 4 Priorities.

Most importantly, the work of the Jeremiah Teams is centered on building up the local church, which “provides the most significant arena through which disciple-making occurs.” (The Book of Discipline ¶1201)

This is not optional. Moving forward, every action at the conference and district level must be attuned to “equipping the local church for ministry and providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God.” (The Book of Discipline ¶1601)

To that end, the Jeremiah Teams have been assessing this responsibility from four distinct perspectives:

Missional Priorities – Evaluating the effectiveness of current ministries and missions to identify ineffectiveness and duplication; to discern what things are essential for us to live into Our 4 Priorities; and to develop a stop-do list that will free us up for more imaginative, creative ideas that will help us reach new people in new places and in new ways.

The Black Church and Ethnic Ministries Strategy – Creating and resourcing an effective conference strategy for strengthening the Black Church and other Ethnic Ministries, looking for the new thing God is calling for in this area.

Conference Staff Alignment – Aligning our staff with our missional priorities and resources; compensating our staff properly for their work and leadership; and creating more space for staff to be creative and imaginative in their work.

District Alignment – Determining the most effective number of districts in order to be the most nimble, cost-effective structure that still allows district superintendents to continue to be missional strategists by defining possible restructuring opportunities that will allow continued Connectional mission and ministry.

This report aspires to answer two questions based on the work of each of these teams to date: What have we learned? What are our next steps over the next six months?

MISSIONAL PRIORITIES

What have we learned?

- Many conference ministries are overextended, attempting to address too many areas without prioritizing those with the greatest potential impact.
- While some ministries demonstrate strong vitality, others have become dormant.
- There is a persistent and critical communication breakdown – both to the local church from the conference, and to the conference from the local church.
- The foundational understanding that local churches are part of a larger, interconnected body – the core of The United Methodist Church’s Connectionalism – has significantly weakened.
- Considerable healing is still needed in the wake of racial tensions and denominational separations.
- Lay Servants represent a valuable but underused leadership pool within the conference.
- Our Wesley Foundations remain underfunded and underemphasized, despite their strategic importance in helping individuals discern calls to ordained ministry and Christian vocations.
- Congregational Specialists are not being fully utilized due to widespread misunderstanding of their role.
- In many cases, financial limitations are not the primary issue. Instead, challenges stem from a lack of clarity in mission, absence of strategic focus, and ineffective use of existing resources.

What are our next steps?

- Listen and Measure – Gather input from Annual Conference attendees and other stakeholders to understand local missional priorities. At the same time, develop tools to assess ministry impact – ensuring decisions are guided by both grassroots feedback and measurable outcomes.
- Strengthen Connection and Communication – Improve methods of communication and collaboration across districts through shared events, mission projects, and engagement. These efforts will help churches reconnect with their United Methodist identity and a renewed sense of shared mission.
- Refocus and Align – This includes defining focused, actionable goals for each ministry area, and identifying activities that no longer support our mission – creating space for innovation and deeper effectiveness. Then creating a budget that reflects the missional priorities, which includes staffing and programming.

THE BLACK CHURCH AND ETHNIC MINISTRIES STRATEGY

What have we learned?

- The South Carolina Conference is home to 249 Black churches – more than one-third of the total number of churches across the conference.
- While seven churches are identified in conference statistics as multi-ethnic, only one appears to have a substantial multi-ethnic identity.
- There is one Korean congregation, no active Hispanic churches or ministries, and no active Native American congregations.
- Significant geographic gaps exist across South Carolina where no Black or ethnic United Methodist presence is currently active.

What are our next steps?

- Develop a forward-looking, mission-driven plan to support leadership, resourcing and discipleship within thriving Black and Ethnic ministries across South Carolina. This includes:
 - Creating a standardized tool to evaluate the current and future needs of Black and Ethnic churches.
 - Initiating a 10-year narrative project to document the stories, histories, and contributions of South Carolina's Black and Ethnic churches.
 - Creating discipleship frameworks to nurture spiritually grounded, principled, and maturing Christian leaders – clergy and laity – focused on spiritual wellness, congregational vitality, and long-term fruitfulness.
 - Examining current charge and church configurations to determine their effectiveness and sustainability.

CONFERENCE STAFF ALIGNMENT

What have we learned?

- A comprehensive Personnel Audit Review was conducted to evaluate the effectiveness, alignment, and sustainability of current conference staffing structures. This included:
 - Quantitative staff data analysis (e.g., roles, tenure, workload distribution)
 - A confidential staff-wide survey to gather insights on job clarity, morale, communication, and professional development needs
 - One-on-one interviews with individual staff members to explore experiences, challenges, and aspirations in more depth
 - 35 staff members participated in this audit, representing a broad cross-section of departments and roles.
 - The audit focused on current staffing capacity as well as long-term planning.
 - Key areas of emphasis included role clarity and efficiency, organizational structure alignment, staff morale and engagement, and succession planning.
- The resulting report includes detailed recommendations for staff position adjustments, potential reassignments or restructuring, and a proposed framework for succession planning to ensure leadership continuity. These insights provide a foundation for making data-informed decisions.

What are our next steps?

- Assess whether:
 - Staff roles are clearly defined and effectively structured.
 - There are any overlaps, gaps, or inefficiencies in responsibilities.
 - The current organizational structure supports cross-functional collaboration and ministry alignment.
 - There may be opportunities to realign staff roles, consolidate functions, or introduce new positions that are better suited to meet the evolving needs of the conference in its support for the local church.
- Create a conference organizational design that is both faithful to United Methodist polity and responsive to current realities – always with an eye to the future.

DISTRICT ALIGNMENT

What have we learned?

- A successful district realignment process requires a minimum of 12 months for thoughtful planning and effective implementation. The process must be strategic, phased, and responsive to both logistical and legal dynamics to ensure sustainability and effectiveness.

- A Mapping Subteam has provided district superintendents with initial realignment scenarios based on distances between churches and district offices. This analysis has uncovered significant challenges, including large district land areas and traffic issues, which complicate effective oversight and support.
- A Workload Subteam conducted a review of the responsibilities of district superintendents and district administrators. They also examined models from other conferences that have already undergone realignment.
- Due to ongoing efforts by some churches to separate from the denomination, and the resulting fluid church numbers, a phased realignment approach may be most prudent to allow for flexibility and legal clarity.

What are our next steps?

- The team meets with district superintendents to discuss preliminary realignment scenarios.
- The Workload Team will interview those who have guided district realignment efforts in other annual conferences to further understand their processes and the advantages and disadvantages of realignment, both short term and long term.
- A critical factor in all next steps: Concerns about the stress level and effectiveness of district superintendents who are currently serving more than one district, as well as for districts that are currently sharing district superintendents.

The Ministry Advisory Team strives to create a more excellent way in ministry by advising the bishop and district superintendents, as well as the programmatic, administrative and personnel teams of the South Carolina Annual Conference. Our first step is always to listen for God's voice, leaning not on our own understanding – and acknowledging the importance of finding a way forward together.

“Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” – Ephesians 4:15-16

Respectfully submitted,
 The Ministry Advisory Team
 Bishop Leonard Fairley*
 Mel Arant, Coordinator of Clergy Services
 James Friday*, Director of Congregational Development
 Pamela Goodwine-Glover, Convener, Connectional Ministries
 Jonathan Harris, Chairperson, Board of Pension and Health Benefits
 Rett Haselden, Conference Benefits Officer
 Michael Jennings, Co-Conference Lay Leader
 Cathy Mitchell*, Spartanburg District Superintendent, Dean of the Cabinet
 Smith Patterson, Chairperson, Council on Finance and Administration
 James Smith, Chairperson, Committee on Congregational Development
 Millie Nelson Smith*, Director of Connectional Ministries
 Betty Void, Co-Conference Lay Leader
 Morris Waymer, Chairperson, Board of Ordained Ministry
 Beth Westbury, Conference Treasurer

**Jeremiah Team leader*

CHARGELINE CHANGES

Effective June 25, 2025

Anderson District

Close Grace, Abbeville (274563) Ad interim, effective February 1, 2025

Columbia District

Attach Shady Grove (272553)-Capers Chapel, Pomaria (272633) of the Greenwood District (272633) to form

Shady Grove-Capers Chapel Charge

Close St. Mark (272600)

Florence District

Dissolve Lake City Circuit (St. John-St. Luke-Nineveh)

a. Make St. John (957858) a station church

b. Attach Lake Point (957552) to Nineveh (957847) to form Lake Point-Nineveh Charge

c. Make St. Luke (957860) a station church

Dissolve Johnsonville Circuit (Vox Memorial-Browns Chapel)

a. Attach Vox Memorial (276050) to Bethlehem-Johnsonville Charge

b. Attach Browns Chapel (275897) to Lake City (275966) to form Lake City Charge

Greenville District

Attach St. Mark, Greenville (273865) to Berea Friendship (273581) to form Berea Friendship- St. Mark Charge

Attach Salem (273717) to St. John, Greenville (273832) to form Salem-St. John Charge

Close Woods Chapel (274142)

Greenwood District

Dissolve Pomaria Charge (New Hope-Capers Chapel)

a. Make New Hope (272713) a station church

b. Capers Chapel, Pomaria (272633) is attached to Shady Grove (272553) in the Columbia District

Dissolve St. John-Warrenville Charge (St. John-Warrenville)

a. Make St. John (274767) a station church

b. Attach Warrenville (275408) to Langley (275044) and Capers Chapel (274596) to form Langley-Warrenville-Capers Chapel Charge

Dissolve Ebenezer-Mathews Charge (Ebenezer-Mathews)

a. Make Ebenezer (274962) a station church

Dissolve Lowell Street-Panola Charge (Lowell Street-Panola)

a. Make Panola (274962) a station church

b. Attach Lowell Street (274847), Mathews (274905) and St. Paul, Ninety Six (275283) to form Lowell Street-Mathews-St. Paul, Ninety Six Charge

Dissolve Ridge Spring Charge (Ridge Spring, Spann)

a. Make Ridge Spring (273114) a station church

b. Make Spann (272757) a station church

Hartsville District

Dissolve North Sumter Charge (Antioch-Shepherd)

- 1 a. Make Antioch (958988) a station church
- 2 b. Make Shepherd (953348) a station church
- 3
- 4 **Dissolve Jefferson Charge** (Fork Creek-Jefferson)
- 5 a. Make Fork Creek (280518) a station church
- 6 b. Make Jefferson (280360) a station church
- 7
- 8 Attach Hebron (280110) to McBee (280440) to form Hebron-McBee Charge
- 9
- 10 **Orangeburg District**
- 11 **Dissolve the Livingston-Pine Hill Charge** (Livingston-Pine Hill)
- 12 a. Make Livingston (277965) a station church
- 13 b. Make Pine Hill (277533) a station church
- 14
- 15 **Dissolve the North Circuit** (North-Trinity)
- 16 a. Make North (278071) a station church
- 17 b. Make Trinity, North (278047) a station church
- 18
- 19 **Dissolve the Edisto Charge** (St. John-Union-Wesley Grove)
- 20 a. St. John, Orangeburg (277761) and Wesley Grove, Cordova (277577) to continue as Edisto Charge
- 21 b. Make Union, Cope (277555) a station church
- 22
- 23 **Dissolve Pelion-Sharon Charge** (Pelion-Sharon)
- 24 a. Make Sharon (272611) a station church
- 25 b. Make Pelion (272963) a station church
- 26
- 27 **Dissolve Eutaw Circuit** (Eutawville-Target-Gerizim)
- 28 a. Make Eutawville (277566) a station church
- 29 b. Attach Target (277794) to Gerizim (277737) to form Target-Gerizim Charge
- 30
- 31 **Dissolve Orangeburg Circuit** (Bethlehem-Mount Nebo-St. John)
- 32 a. Merge Bethlehem (958102) and Mt. Nebo (959744) to form new Triune UMC (718202)
- 33 b. Attach Triune (718202) to St. John, Orangeburg (959755) to form Triune-St. John Charge
- 34 **Rock Hill District**
- 35 Close Good Samaritan (278617) Ad interim, effective September 17, 2024
- 36
- 37 **Walterboro District**
- 38 **Dissolve Allendale Charge** (Gillette, Swallow Savannah)
- 39 a. Make Swallow Savannah (277282) a station church
- 40 b. Make Gillette (277681) a station church
- 41
- 42 **Dissolve Smoaks Circuit** (Green Pond-Little Swamp-Trinity)
- 43 a. Green Pond (278105) and Little Swamp (278116) to continue as Smoaks Circuit
- 44 b. Close Trinity, Smoaks (278138)