

Union United Methodist Church
 7582 Woodrow Street
 P.O. Box 705
 Irmo, SC 29063-0705

Visit us on the Web at www.unionirmo.org

If you would like your name removed from this newsletter mailing list, please contact the church office at 803-781-3013.

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Union Connection

Union United Methodist Church Irmo, South Carolina

KNOW Christ, SHARE Faith, SHOW Grace

October 2020 Volume 35, Issue 8

Sunday Worship

Sanctuary
 9:00 am
 and
 11:10 am

Sunday School

10:10 am
 Education Building,
 Family Ministry Center
 & Sanctuary
 Lower Level

Rev. Stephen P. Taylor,
 Senior Minister

Rev. Jeri Katherine W. Sipes,
 Associate Minister

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BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYERS



OCTOBER 24 5-6 PM

Trunk or Treat PARADE

Come one! Come All!
To the Trunk or Treat Parade
Saturday, October 24th from 5-6pm

We need you to decorate your trunks for a fun, silly, or even scary community drive thru. You supply the trunks and the community will drive through in awe and wonder at your creativity. Parking lot will be ready at 4pm for you. Spots will be marked for distancing and decorating. Invite all your friends and family, the first 300 kids to drive thru get an awesome Halloween bag of treats!!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT EPWORTH

Why do children need to come and live at Epworth?

The children who call Epworth home have experienced a great deal of hurt and suffering. On average, 65% of residents are placed at Epworth by the SC Department of Social Services after being removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect. The remaining 35% arrive as a private placement as a result of a fractured family system that often includes addiction issues, homelessness or other forms of instability. On average, Epworth has 20 sibling groups on campus at any given time. The average stay for a child at Epworth is around one year and eight months, but can vary from a couple of weeks to several years.



How many children are on campus and what are their ages?

The children on campus are between the ages of four and 18. Nine cottages on campus are home to an average of 76 children at any given time. Cottage parents and staff provide consistent and ongoing care and supervision for children while on campus, using the C.A.R.E. Model developed by Cornell University. C.A.R.E. is a comprehensive model of research-based practices that enables Epworth staff members to consistently guide children in ways that lead to a higher range of social, emotional and behavioral functioning.

What is education like for children at Epworth?

During the school year, children are enrolled in Richland Country School District One public schools including Dreher High School, Hand Middle School and Brennan Elementary School. They participate in school sports and extracurricular activities like baseball, basketball and band on a regular basis. Many of the children are more than two grade levels behind their peers when they arrive at Epworth. Our Chief Academic Officer works with the children, the schools, certified teachers and volunteers to provide private tutoring sessions after school at the Barnes Learning Center on the Epworth campus. During the summer, Epworth offers two sessions of Educational Enrichment for the children to help them meet and maintain their educational expectations.

In addition, Epworth now offers high school residents the option to take online classes in the Barnes Learning Center through a free online public charter high school. The program is mastery based and allows Epworth to direct more personalized support for children struggling with grades and/or motivation to improve their education. Because many of our children have experienced educational neglect and have had limited to no positive educational role models prior to arriving at Epworth, the charter school helps us stress the importance of a quality education in breaking the cycle of abuse, neglect and shame so residents will become self-respecting, responsible and productive adults.

What services are offered to the children while on campus?

Epworth's campus consists of a dining hall, tutoring center, gymnasium, health center and counseling/admissions center. Health care, fitness, counseling, tutoring sessions and meals are all provided on campus. A comprehensive needs assessment for each child is done upon arrival. This assessment evaluates where each child is academically, emotionally, physically and spiritually. Directors and staff from each of those areas work together to develop a care plan tailored to each child. The care plan is evaluated by the case managers on a regular basis.

Specifically, how are mental and physical health issues addressed at Epworth?

Upon arrival each child is given a physical. Many of the children have not received adequate health care prior to their arrival at Epworth. They arrive with conditions ranging from lice to cavities; and depression to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. One of Epworth's two on site nurses arranges for the appropriate doctor visits and sits with each child during the exam. At our on site Health Care Center the children visit with a psychologist on a monthly basis as needed. When a child in a cottage comes down with a contagious illness, one of two nurses care for him or her in the center by providing all the things a loving parent would provide, including chicken-noodle soup. Counseling services are also offered to children on campus, as well as free family counseling and parenting classes. If a higher level of therapy is needed, Epworth transports children to appointments off campus.



We extend our sympathy to the following families at the loss of their loved ones:

IN MEMORIAM

Katherine Koger Harney
August 4, 1931-September 16, 2020

SYMPATHY

Debra Stansell Owens
sister of Randall Stansell

Barry Bazemore
Uncle of Jane Graham

William "Bill" Robert Roy
Father of Susan Elvis



TOGETHER
FOR JOY

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY
11.22.20



There are dates available in November & December for 9 am worship altar flowers. Please check the calendar in the Narthex. Cost is \$42.50 per vase.

Our Ministry Team

Senior Minister
Rev. Stephen P. Taylor

Associate Minister
Rev. Jeri Katherine W. Sipes

Minister of Visitation
Rev. David Anderson

Retired Ministers
Rev. Tommy R. Bailey
Rev. Dick Holliday
Rev. Paul Van Dine

Administrative Assistant
Susan Vinson

Communications
Liz Edwards

Coordinator of Contemporary Worship
Michelle Cochcroft

Director of Music Ministries
Don Kirkindoll

Director of Youth and Leisure Ministries
Eleanor Cannon

Facilities Manager
Ned Calvert

Finance
Barbara Tanner

Kindergarten
Kathy Horne

Director of Ministries to Children & Families
Suzy Broadus

Nursery Coordinator
Stacy Burggraf

Organist
Joey Rothfuss

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7582 Woodrow St.
P.O. Box 705
Irmo, SC 29063-0705
Telephone: 803-781-3013
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Web site: www.unionirmo.org

The *Union Connection* is a monthly publication of Union United Methodist Church. Articles should be submitted to Liz Edwards, Coordinator of Communications, by noon on the 15th of each month via Fax (781-3034), email liz@unionirmo.org or placed in the box outside the Communications Office (F 210).



Spread the Word

Just a reminder of the different opportunities available at Union to help you spread the word about upcoming events.

Weekly Bulletin, Sunday School Announcements and Website News

Deadline: Noon on Tuesday

Monthly Newsletter

Deadline: 15 of each month
Please email your information to
Liz Edwards at
liz@unionirmo.org



Your pastors want to give you care and be in prayer for you. If you or someone in your family is in the hospital or having surgery, please call the church office (781-3013) and let us know.



BLESSING BOX

The Blessing Box is running low. Please stop by and drop off a few cans of non-perishable food. The box is located by the side parking lot near the FMC building.

FOLLOW US: @unionumcirmo

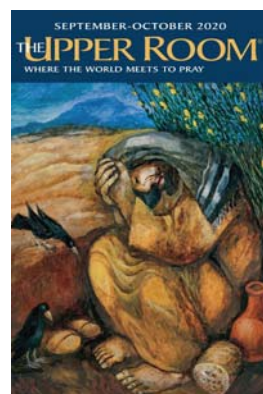


Instagram

UPPER ROOMS

Are available in the Church Office Reception Area for anyone who would like one.

Price:
.50 for small print
\$1 for large print



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Friday
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

THE WALKING TRACK IS OPEN!

Guidelines:

- Bring a driver's license and sign-in
- Only 5 people on the track at one time
- Remember to practice social distancing
- Only open during church office hours.



MEMORIALS

Given in memory of Larry Baines

by: Annie and Joe Mac Bates, Gail and Charles Elfert

Given in memory of Katherine Harney

by: Aline Leitner Fellowship SS Class

Given in memory of Brian Hatcher

by: 23 Mercantile, Mary and Drew Broadhurst, Faye and Robert Burton, Kristine Jensen and Paul Cernansky, Bridget and Deny Clark, Gail and Charles Elfert, Sue and Gene Ray Fulmer, "The Girls" (Cathy Godfrey, Sandra Lybrand, Joan King, Martha Morris, Susan Straup, Judi Keith), Pamela and Bill Hallman, Rhonda and Bryan Harsch, Donna and Larry Hatcher, Pam Head, Jerry Jackson, John Johnson, Tonya King and family, Roxane Lane, Ann and Jim Martin, Lynn and Jim McCune, Florence Merbach, Jennifer and Mitchell Metts, Steven Moon, Valerie and Bill Ratliff, Marlo Ready and family, Tracy and Warren Rutland, Grace Satcher, Lionel Smith, Danny Tidwell, Shuana and Joe Todd, Sharon and Willard Wages, Connie and Bob Warren, Glenna Dean and Joe Wildt, Rachel Williams, Lee and William Wise, Beth and Tim Worth, Joyce and Ray Yonce

Given in memory of Zoe Hendrix, mother of Mandy Ayers and grandmother of Zoe Ayers

by: Connie and Bob Warren

Given in memory of Dr. Pearce McCall, brother of Alice Martin

by: Betty and David Moxley

Given in memory of Sarah Murphy

by: Aline Leitner Fellowship Sunday School Class, Carol and Joe Anderson, Beth and Mark Dyga, Jean Eng, Jane and Bryan Graham, Jackie and Bob Hall, Sam and Charlie Jenkins, Wendy and Joe Lucas, Michele Lylerly, Phyllis and Charlie Maier, Norma Berry and Larry Platt, Harriet and Ted Simpson, Pat Swygert, Connie and Bob Warren

Given in memory of David Stewart, father of Libby Tucker

by: Mandy and Charles Ayers, Connie and Bob Warren.

Given in memory of John Teague

by: Barry and Bill Lide

Given in memory of Linda Williams

by: Resel Bourne, Allianne and Howard Duvall, Jane and Carl Hinze, Bill and Donna McElveen, Betty and David Moxley, Talbert Pearce, Rev. Cooper, Martha and Scott Stonestreet, Charlie and Patricia Williams

HONORARIUMS

Given in honor of Suzy Broadus

by: Connie and Bob Warren

Given in honor of Nora Whitley

by: Sharon and John Hanson





Union has a new website: unionirmo.org

New staff emails:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| David Anderson | david@unionirmo.org |
| Suzy Broadus | suzy@unionirmo.org |
| Ned Calvert | ned@unionirmo.org |
| Eleanor Cannon | eleanor@unionirmo.org |
| Michelle Cochcroft | michelle@unionirmo.org |
| Liz Edwards | liz@unionirmo.org |
| Don Kirkindoll | don@unionirmo.org |
| Jeri Katherine | jerikatherine@unionirmo.org |
| Barbara Tanner | barbara@unionirmo.org |
| Stephen Taylor | stephen@unionirmo.org |
| Susan Vinson | susan@unionirmo.org |
| Diane Hamilton | diane@unionirmo.org |
| Kathy Horne | kathy@unionirmo.org |

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SIGN-UP FOR UNION E-MAIL UPDATE

In an effort to keep you up to date with the happenings at Union, we have an email list. You can join by clicking on the "Union E-mail Update" button on the left side of the Home Page on the website. By joining, you will begin receiving weekly updates on Fridays of events and activities that are going on at Union and any reminders that pertain to Sunday.

We want you to know what's happening, so join us by going to the website at www.unionirmo.org.



PRESCHOOL POST

We are so excited to be back on Union Church campus. Once again, we are making "joyful noises"! Things may have started off differently this year, but we are settling into our school routine. Heading into the season of Thanksgiving, we stop and give thanks to God for blessing us with an excellent staff and great families. Thank you for your prayers as we move forward in our school year.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

YAMS (YOUNG ADULT METHODISTS, 20S-30S)

Our YAM event for October will be a bonfire at the Vinson Farm on Sunday, October 11 @ 4 PM Reach out to Zoe Ayers (803-920-0929 or zoeayers13@gmail.com) for address or more details!

CONGRATULATIONS 2020 CONFIRMANDS!





“Raise up a child in the way of the Lord...”
Proverbs 22:6a

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

During the 11:10am service for the month of October we will offer an extended Children's church time. Parents can drop their kids off at the beginning of worship. This will be a worship experience with some extra activities just for kids. Parents will need to sign in their children with name and phone number. Starting in November Children's church will resume for both 9am and 11:10am worship services. Children will leave during worship with volunteers for continuing worship time. We are starting a lesson series on why we do what we do in worship to help our children understand what is going on around them.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

This is it!! Sunday school for children is restarting in person this Sunday October 4th from 10:10am- 10:50am. Join us in the Education Building on the 2nd floor. All parents need to check in their children at the welcome table each week, this is how we will take attendance. Be sure to wear your masks and get some hand sanitizer before going to your rooms.

3RD GRADE BIBLES

On **October 25th** during the 9am and 11:10am worship services we will celebrate a special tradition of giving our rising 3rd graders their own bible. Following worship at 1:30pm on October 25th kids and parents are invited to Bible Bootcamp in the Fellowship Hall. Any questions or to let us know you will be attending, contact Suzy at suzy@unionirmo.org.



Have you considered making a gift to the Union United Methodist Church Permanent Endowment Fund? A gift to the Endowment Fund ensures that Union will continue to have an impact on the lives of our community even after we are gone. There are many ways to remember the Endowment Fund in your estate planning, but you can also give a current gift of cash or securities. Cash gifts can simply be made out to UUMC and designated for the Endowment Fund. You can also give securities that have appreciated over time and avoid paying tax on the gains (please consult your tax advisor). Please contact Barbara Tanner in the Church Finance Office (barbara@unionirmo.org) and she can help you through the process of donating securities. Stay tuned for more tips throughout this year on how you can leave a legacy gift to Union's Endowment Fund for generations to come.



YOUTH OF UNION
MINISTRIES
6TH-12TH GRADES

IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION INFO—STAY IN THE KNOW!

JOIN OUR TEXTING PLATFORM TO GET UP TO DATE TEXT MESSAGES ABOUT ALL THINGS YOUTH OF UNION!

Text: YouthofUnion
(all one word – NO spaces)
To: 84576

*Open a new text message.

In the “to” space, where you would enter a phone number, you enter 84576. In the space where you would write a message, you enter YouthOfUnion. Send message and await the automated response.*

BE SURE TO CLICK THE LINK AND COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION!
This is VERY important!

You may also keep up with us on Social Media and our very own website!
www.youthofunion.com



Instagram:
YouthofUnion



Facebook:
Youth of Union



Twitter:
@YouthofUnion

UPCOMING EVENT

OCTOBER 11

Sunday Night Youth resumes in the FMC Gym with a new schedule.

5:00-6:30 pm
Middle School Youth

6:00-7:30 pm
High School Youth

6:00-6:30 pm
Games and a heavy snack/light meal will take place for ALL youth.

CONTACT:
Eleanor Cannon
Director of Youth and Leisure Ministries
eleanor@unionirmo.org



OUR PURPOSE

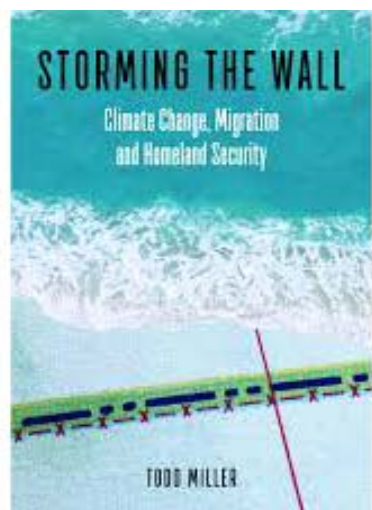
United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

THE VISION OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

On behalf of Union's United Methodist Women, we want to welcome you. We look forward to working with you, with our many circles, project and Bible Studies. If you or someone you know is interested in joining, please call the church office or contact one of the following officers:

- President**
Becky Travis
mail@bobtravis.com
- Co-Vice Presidents**
Jane Davis
janesdavis@yahoo.com
Nancy Nelson-Embler
nancy.realtyagent@gmail.com
- Secretary**
Lee McMillan
lmcmillan@umcsc.org
- Communications**
Joy Downs
Joydowns6@gmail.com
- Treasurer**
Lisa Mansfield
lisalmans@me.com
- Social Action/Special Mission Recognition**
Gail Elfert
celfert@aol.com
- Education & Interpretation**
Judy Livingston
judyblivingston@gmail.com
- Secretary of Program Resources (Reading Program)**
Connie Warren
connieswarren33@gmail.com
- Spiritual Growth/Historian**
Gail Elfert
celfert@aol.com
- Membership, Nurture and Outreach**
Domi Kyle
domipk@sc.rr.com



UMW READING PROGRAM

STORMING THE WALL, by Todd Miller
Category - Social Action

As global warming accelerates, droughts last longer, floods rise higher, and super-storms become more frequent. With increasing numbers of people on the move as a result, the business of containing them - border fortification - is booming.

Due to social distancing, please contact circle chairs for meeting times and location.

UMW CIRCLES CONTACTS

- Heritage**
Contact: Ann Carroll, (803) 319-4893
Carolyn Hellams, (803) 359-9846
- Leona Hydrick**
Contact: Mandy Ayers, (803) 732-4135
- Martha**
Contact: Michelle Cochcroft, (803) 463-1586
Meghan Thompson, (803) 403-3943
- New Ventures**
Contact: Sandy Kammermann, (803) 920-8302
Beth Sawyer, (803) 422-7329
- Nikki**
Contact: Michelle Cochcroft, (803) 463-1586
Meghan Thompson, (803) 403-3943
- Pauline Younginer**
Contact: Mona Holliday, (803) 414-3842
Marie Frick, (803) 504-3664
- Rosa Hook**
Contact: Jonnie Mitchell, (803) 238-8196
- Sarah**
Contact: Jane Davis, (803) 960-6874
- Wilson**
Contact: Jean Peaden, (803) 727-6123
Jobie Riveria, (803) 960-9309

The UMW are collecting cancelled postage stamps for Marion Mission Storehouse. The storehouse sells the stamps for profit which is used to send shoes, clothes and medical supplies to Methodist Churches in Zambia and Republic of the Congo. When collecting the stamps, please trim the excess envelope paper to a 1/4 inch border around the stamp. Trimming is not required but is very helpful as it has to be done before donating to the Storehouse. There is a collection box located in the Church Office reception area.

The UMW are also collecting pull tabs to donate to the Ronald McDonald House. Susan Vinson (F 208) can accept your tab donations.

**Columbia District
2020 Woman of the Year
Union United Methodist Church**

Michelle Cochcroft is the Columbia District Woman of the Year from Union UMC. Michelle has attended Union UMC since 1986 and has been very involved since the beginning. Michelle is currently serving on the church staff as the coordinator of the 11:10 contemporary worship service and is the female lead singer in the praise band, but her duties and her work far exceed her job description because of her love for Christ and the church.

These are just some of her involvements in our church and Martha Circle:

- Co-chair of Martha Circle for multiple years and encourages our circle to be involved in UMW
- Helped start "Martha's Market" and co-chairs it annually to help raise money for local missions
- Singer for contemporary Praise band and 11:10am worship coordinator
- Organizes Maundy Thursday service
- Leads the Living Nativity at Christmas to involve children telling birth of Jesus
- Volunteer for Camp Friarsgate in years past which is VBS at the park as an outreach to neighborhood
- Organized the first UMW Tea Party which was very successful involving women/girls in church who are a part of UMW and not members yet
- Helping to start new UMW Nikki circle for younger generation (4yr old -5th grade)
- Organizes Snack Pack which is mission in local school for our church
- Participates in Union VBS
- Confirmation sponsor
- Participates with her family each year in The Living Christmas Story drive-through Nativity
- Sings with others in the Praise Band for events outside of Sunday morning worship such as Salkehatchie and UMW General Meetings