

FOLLOWING CHRIST FROM CITY CENTER

Letter from the Pastor

As we are in the season of Lent, here are some things to consider for improving our walk with Christ.

Things you might consider giving up this Lent:

1. **Guilt** – I am loved by Jesus, and he has forgiven my sins. Today is a new day and the past is behind.
2. **Fear** – God is on my side. In him I am more than a conqueror. (see Romans 8)
3. **The need to please** – I can't please everyone anyways. There is only one I need to strive to please.
4. **Envy** – I am blessed. My value is not found in my possessions, but in my relationship with my Heavenly Father.
5. **Impatience** – God's timing is the perfect timing.
6. **Sense of entitlement** – The world does not owe me anything. God does not owe me anything. I live in humility and grace.
7. **Bitterness and Resentment** – The only person I am hurting by holding on to these is myself.
8. **Blame** – I am not going to pass the buck. I will take responsibility for my actions.
9. **Gossip and Negativity** – I will put the best construction on everything when it comes to other people. I will also minimize my contact with people who are negative and toxic bringing other people down.
10. **Comparison** – I have my own unique contribution to make and there is no one else like me.
11. **Fear of failure** – You don't succeed without experiencing failure. Just make sure you fail forward.
12. **A spirit of poverty** – Believe with God that there is always more than enough and never a lack
13. **Feelings of unworthiness** – You are fearfully and wonderfully made by your creator. (see Psalm 139)
14. **Doubt** – Believe God has a plan for you that is beyond anything you could imagine. The future is brighter than you could ever realize.
15. **Self-pity** – God comforts us in our sorrow so that we can comfort others with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.
16. **Lack of counsel** – Wise decisions are rarely made in a vacuum.
17. **Pride** – Blessed are the humble.
18. **Worry** – God is in control and worrying will not help.

God has so much in store for you. But many things may be holding you back from walking in the full destiny He has laid out for you. Lent is a time to renew yourself and start anew with God.

Grace and Peace,
Rev. R.T. Bowling, III



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Spring Forward
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
SUNDAY, MARCH 08, 2026

Church Council Meeting

Sunday, March 15 @ 12:00 pm

in the Fellowship Hall

Everyone is invited to attend this informative meeting. However, only church council members can vote on items.

Flowers for our Worship Services

- March 1 Available
- March 8 Available
- March 15 Rossie Corwan
- March 22 Sunni Bond
- March 29 Available



The new 2026 flower calendar is located on the bulletin board outside the church office. Call the church office or visit the calendar to sign up! Multiple families can always share

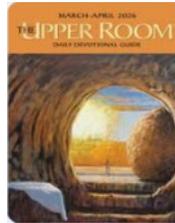
Stewardship and Finance

Financial Report as of February 22, 2026

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference
YTD Contributions:	\$107,256	\$83,278	(\$23,978)
YTD Expenses:	\$107,256	\$76,747	\$30,509

Reminder: If you are going to make a legacy gift to the Foundation, the check needs to be written to Main Street Church Foundation. Thank you.

March/April Upper Room



Devotionals are available in the church office, the narthex, and side door entrance.

\$1.50 regular ~ \$2.00 large print.



Susanna Circle
Tuesday, March 3rd
10:00 am ~ Wesley Commons

Celebration Circle
Wednesday, March 11
10:30 am ~ Fellowship Hall

Regular Meeting– then go to St. Mark River Street Campus for Lenten Pilgrimage
Wednesday, March 25th

Main Street hosts the Lenten Lunch– volunteers are needed to help prepare, serve and clean-up.

Member Support Team

The member support team stayed busy during February with our usual cards, visits, snacks, and comfort food to our homebound and short-term illness members. In addition, many thanks to the Engage Groups for providing "to go suppers" for several of our homebound members. They were much appreciated and enjoyed! We spread some love with Valentine cards and of course, a little chocolate!

Lenten Pilgrimage

- February 25: Immanuel Lutheran Church
- March 4: First Presbyterian Church
- March 11: St. Mark United Methodist Church
- March 18: First Baptist Church
- March 25: Main Street United Methodist Church
- April 1: Morris Chapel

- 12:00 pm - First Seating for Lunch
- 12:30 pm - Service
- 1:00 pm - Second Seating for Lunch

\$2.00 Donation to help cover the cost of lunch

Offering- Greater Greenwood United Ministries



On February 18th, Rev. Bowling lead the staff in a prayer by John Wesley before preparing the ashes for Ash Wednesday. The Palms from last year's Palm Sunday were burned as is customary.



Youth Outreach for March



Do you have any old eyeglasses—readers or prescription stuck in a drawer? If so, bring them to the church. The youth will donate them to the Greenwood Lion's Club. Thank you for your support.

ELEVATE

MAIN STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STUDENT MINISTRIES

Stay Updated on Elevate Youth!

-  **Remind:** Text "@elevateyo" to 81010
-  **Instagram:** @mainstreetyouth
-  **Facebook:** Elevate Youth

March 2026 Youth Activities

Sundays

Sunday School - 10-10:45 am in Youth Room
 ELEVATE - 5:30-7:00 in the Youth Room on March 1, March 8, & March 15 (No youth on March 22 or March 29)

Wednesday Evenings:

Dinner - 5:15-6:00 in the Fellowship Hall
 ELEVATE - 6:00-7:00 in the Youth Room

Mark Your Calendars:

- March 18 - Youth serving Engage meal
- March 20 - Breakfast Club (Cost covered & transportation provided afterwards - let Preston know if you need a ride!)
- March 29-April 3 - Salkehatchie
- April 4 - Easter Egg Hunt
- April 5 - Easter Sunday - 10:00 Family Breakfast, no youth in evening
- April 12 - The Main Street Masters (Putt-Putt)
- April 19 - Bruster's/Sonic Outing
- April 26 - Youth Sunday
- April 26 - Picnic, Playground, Pickleball Family Ministries Event (4:00-6:00 at the Civic Center)

Please be in prayer for our Confirmation class! Blessing boxes will be available outside the Church Office in March. Confirmation Sunday is May 10.

Confirmands & Parents: Meetings are March 1, March 8, March 15, April 12, & April 19, with our day retreat on May 2 at Ellesor Holder's.

Praise Report:

Peyton Larkins was Miss Congeniality in the Miss Greenwood High Pageant on February 7!
 Congratulations, Peyton!



Below: In February, youth made Valentine's cards that were delivered to patients at Self Regional Hospital on February 14!

Thank you to the Marino's for hosting the youth Super Bowl watch party on February 8!





Continuing Prayer Concerns: Henrietta Morton, Judy Roberts, Frances Garren, Ron Miller, Bob Bennett, Andrea Harris Cabe, Stephanie Smith, Judy Connell, Martha Culbertson, Robert Tinsley, Mary Lynn Polk, Elaine Dukes, Kelly Ackerman, Miriam Garner, Kyle Patterson, Joe Chapman, Sam Pinckney, Tommy Andrews, Ray Shirley, Devon and Peggy Aaron, Edith Blanchett (Kathy Johnson's mother), Marian Adams, John Harr, Jackie Daniel,

In Memoriam
Rev. Dr. Ted Morton
February 6, 2026

Richard Pinckney, Sara Catherine Wilkinson, our church, peace around the world and within our city, county, state, and country, and any unspoken prayers.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving let your request be made known to God. *Philippians 4:6*



ENGAGE in Small Groups

Engage is not just on Wednesdays~ Options are available to suit your schedule.

Tuesday Hymn Study

11:00 am in the Choir Room
Myra Greene—Leader

Please join us for this intriguing study on song writers and composers. You are sure to learn something new!

Thursday Morning Study

11:00 am in the Library
Max Lucado's Life Lessons from James
(Books are available for purchase)
Glenn Williams—Leader

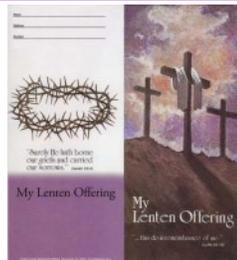
Wednesday Nights

Engage Meal 5:15 - 6:00 pm

- March 4 Chicken/broccoli casserole, meatloaf, fried corn, speckled butter beans, banana pudding, and sweet potato pie by Place of New Opportunity Church
 - March 11 Grilled Hamburgers, Fixings, and Dessert
Drake Class
 - March 18 Chick-fil-A
Youth
 - March 25 Meat, Sides, and Dessert
Place of New Opportunity Church
- Please RSVP @ mainstreetgreenwood.org by 1:00 on Monday each week so our "chefs" can plan.

***** To help offset the rising costs of kitchen supplies, we are asking each group to donate \$20 of their profits to Account #5701—General Kitchen Supplies. Thank you for understanding.**

Often folks like to do something concrete during the Lenten Season rather than giving something up. This year our congregation is participating in a Lenten offering. It's an ideal way to encourage all ages to give gifts to God as a faithful sign of devotion. Our ushers will have these folders available or you can drop by the office to pick one up. Monies collected will be given to the church council to disperse. Thank you in advance, Rev. R.T.



Wednesday Night Bible Studies

Book of Esther Bible Study

This study is open for anyone interested! Join at 6:00 pm in the Drake Class. Myra Greene is leading this six week study which concludes on March 11.

Disciple Fast Tract

"Into the Word into the World"

This class is also for anyone who is interested.
Led by Jamison Tinsley and Glenn Williams
6:00 pm in the Library.

Need a book? Let Glenn or the church office know.

"What We Can Learn from the 3 Temptations that Christ Faced"

This class led by Brian Albon will begin Wednesday, March 18, at 6:00 pm.
Please join in anytime. We will meet in the Drake Class.



Food Ministry

**1-3 pm in the Fellowship Hall
2nd Thursdays
March 12 April 9**



Engage Wednesday Evenings

6-7 pm

(Nursery Provided)

Bible Study, Music, Games, and Mission Projects



On February 7th, our children were treated to a **belated** "Bowling into a New Year" event due to winter weather! Lots of fun and gutter balls! Thank you to Athena Hagood, Taylor Grimshaw, and Lynn Timmerman for helping Allison and Wendy.



The children had their own imposition of ashes during the Engage Hour on February 18th. They learned the importance of why we celebrate Ash Wednesday and the Lenten Season.

Showing God's Love Takes the Road
What a wonderful outreach! Wendy and the children showed our local "superheroes" their love and appreciation with visits, snacks, and personalized banners (Shout out to Josie Shirley) to the police, sheriff, dispatch, and the city fire department. An additional stop was made to deliver Hand Made Valentines to the residents of Emerald Gardens. Thanks to Athena Hagood and Lynn Timmerman for chaperoning.

Also, many of our older members received a surprise in the mail—Hand Made Valentines- made with love!

CELEBRATIONS

March Birthdays

- 1 Olivia Rowland
- 3 Dibble Cooper
- 4 Andrea Cabe
Tommy Williams
- 5 Cecil Gray
Howard Thomes
Spence Hagood
- 8 Rebecca McDonald
- 9 Schuyler McGinnis, Gerry Partridge
- 11 Zella Moore, Brittany Fields
- 13 Tommy McNeill
- 14 Lauren Coates
- 15 Quinn Marino
- 16 Sylvia Kinard, Allison Hartung
- 17 Brab Crooks, Cindy Smith
- 18 Lucas Bassett, Josh Skinner
- 20 Angela Rowland, Carrie Carlile
- 22 Jennifer Larkins, Desiree Morales
- 23 Carolyn Lumley
- 24 Peyton Larkins
- 26 Susan Pinckney
- 29 Rhett Baker



March Anniversaries

- 19 Rick and Joy McWhorter
- 20 Tom and Carolyn McCutcheon
- 26 Randy and Yvonne Rouse
- 29 Cecil and Paula Gray



Missions



Dr. Steve Skinner, chair of our Missions Committee, stopped by both Greater Greenwood United Ministries and Greenwood Pathway House with financial donations. These ministries are near and dear to Main Street. Not only do we support these ministries financially, but also by volunteering, providing meals, and donating needed items.



Family Game Night
Thanks to Family Ministry for hosting on February 22. A good time was had by all, and Cathy Painter taught a new card game - **Skyjo**



Congratulations, John Williams! On February 10, Faith Home held their annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. Our own John Williams was recognized as one of the 2026 Volunteers of the Year. Thank you to John for faithfully giving his time, talent, and heart to this ministry.

Mud Pies Spring

- March 4 - 7 Drop off
- March 9 Volunteers Shop
- March 10 Consignors Shop
- March 11- 14 Open to the Public



March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 am Early Service 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 4:15 pm Confirmation Class 5:30 pm Elevate Youth	2 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 5:30 pm Board of Trustees Mtg 6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 911 Court of Honor	3 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 10:00 am Susanna Circle 11:00 am Hymnology Class 6:00 pm Greenwood Wesley Fellowship	4 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 10:00 am Member Support 12:00 pm Lenten Community Pilgrimage-First Presbyterian 5:15 pm Engage Supper 6:00 pm Elevate Youth 6:00 pm Children's Engage 6:00 pm Engage Book of Esther Bible Study 6:00 pm Engage Disciple Fast Track Bible Study	5 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 11:00 am Lessons from James Book Study	6 7:30 pm Mud Pies Preschool 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery	7 8:15 am UIMM Men's Breakfast
8 9:00 am Early Service 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 4:15 pm Confirmation Class 5:30 pm Elevate Youth	9 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 5:00 pm Foundation Board Meeting 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 911	10 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 9:30 am Staff Meeting 11:00 am Hymnology Class 6:00 pm Greenwood Wesley Fellowship	11 Consignment Sale 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 10:30 am Celebration Circle 12:00 pm Lenten Community Pilgrimage-St. Mark UMC 5:15 pm Engage Supper 6:00 pm Elevate Youth 6:00 pm Children's Engage 6:00 pm Engage Book of Esther Bible Study 6:00 pm Engage Disciple Fast Track Bible Study	12 Consignment Sale 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 11:00 am Lessons from James Book Study 1:00 pm Food Ministry	13 Consignment Sale 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery	14 Consignment Sale 9:00 am-2:00 pm
15 9:00 am Early Service 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 12:00 pm Church Council Mtg. 4:15 pm Confirmation Class 5:30 pm Elevate Youth	16 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 5:30 pm Family Ministries Mtg 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 911	17 St. Patrick's Day 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 11:00 am Hymnology Class 6:00 pm Greenwood Wesley Fellowship 	18 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 12:00 pm Lenten Community Pilgrimage-First Baptist 5:15 pm Engage Supper 6:00 pm Elevate Youth 6:00 pm Children's Engage 6:00 pm Engage Bible Study 6:00 pm Engage Disciple Fast Track Bible Study	19 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 11:00 am Lessons from James Book Study 6:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 1389 7:00 pm Pick-up Basketball	20 7:00 am Youth Breakfast Club 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery	21 9:00 am Soup Kitchen Volunteers TEAM #4  2:00 pm Jim Medley Memorial Service
22 9:00 am Early Service 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service 7:30 pm Pick-up Basketball	23 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 911	24 11:00 am Hymnology Study 4:15 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting 6:00 pm Greenwood Wesley Fellowship	25 12:00 pm Lenten Community Pilgrimage-Main Street UMC 5:15 pm Engage Supper 6:00 pm Children's Engage 6:00 pm Elevate Youth 6:00 pm Engage Bible Study 6:00 pm Engage Disciple Fast Track Bible Study	26 11:00 am Lessons from James Book Study 7:00 pm Pick-up Basketball	27 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery	28
29 Palm Sunday 9:00 am Early Service 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service 7:30 pm Pick-up Basketball	30 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 911	31 6:00 pm Greenwood Wesley Fellowship	We hope to see you at our events! Call the Church Office with any questions. 864-229-7551			



Children's Ministry Volunteer List

Email Mary Kate Skinner to be part of the rotation at mkskinn@gmail.com

Acolytes and Crucifer:

- March 1 Crawford Burns and Ryder Larkins
- March 8 Diana Fields and Peyton Larkins
- March 15 Maggie Shirley and Addy McCaslan
- March 22 Campbell & Finnley Smith and MM Skinner
- March 29 Ansley Boring & Maggie Shirley and Zachary Leopard

Sunday School & Extended Session:

Allison Wooten and Wendy Hill

Nursery: Sydney Sluder & Kim Gultch



The Connection

A monthly publication connecting members and friends of Main Street United Methodist Church.

Main Street United Methodist Church

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Rev. R.T. Bowling, III, Pastor

Gina Jolly, Director of Music Ministry

Sarah Bowen, Organist

Preston Goforth, Youth & Young Adult Director

Allison Wooten & Wendy Hill, Children's Ministry

Allison Wooten, Mud Pies Creative Learning Director

Debbie Tharpe, Administrative Assistant

Jo Patterson, Office Assistant

Linda Miller, Financial Secretary

Donald Young, Building Caretaker

Michael Fisher, Custodian