

### FOLLOWING CHRIST FROM CITY CENTER

#### Letter from the Pastor

Preston shared this devotion he used with our youth at Breakfast club in January. I thought it was a “timely” reminder for us all and wanted to pass it on to you.

A farmer lost his watch in the barn. The watch had great sentimental value, so he searched for it to no avail.

He heard some kids playing outside, and explained to them about his watch, and asked if they would help him find it. They all searched but could not find the watch. The farmer thanked them for their help and sent them off. As they were leaving, one little boy asked if he could try again. The farmer decided to give him another chance, and the boy returned to the barn.

About half an hour later, the boy walked out of the barn with the watch. The farmer was amazed, and asked how he could find it when so many had been looking and failed? The boy replied, “I didn’t do anything...I just sat in the silence and listened. Eventually, I heard the ticking of the watch, and followed the sound.”

Sometimes, if you just sit quietly, we will hear the “ticking” of our Savior’s promptings, leading us to the truth and helping us on our way.

Rearrange 2 letters in the word “SILENT” and you have “LISTEN”  
 “BE STILL, AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD” (Ps 46:10)

Grace and Peace,  
 Rev. R.T.

#### Church Closing and Weather Update

The weather forecast is calling for snow tomorrow and into the night tomorrow night. Therefore, we will not have services this Sunday, February 1, due to the snowstorm and aftermath. That includes both services at 9am and 11am, and any other scheduled activities.

We will, however, have a short service involving the pastor on-line at the church's website,

[Videos](#) | [Main Street United Methodist](#), and Facebook on Sunday.



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#### February 18th—Ash Wednesday

Our Service will be from 6:00 - 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. We will gather for supper at 5:15 but will not have regular programs.

Remember to RSVP for supper if you haven't already done so.

Click here to RSVP:

[Sign Up Wed Engage Dinner](#) | [Main Street](#)

## Flowers for our Worship Services

February 1 Church is closed  
 February 8 Rebecca Harmon Sherrill  
 February 15 Available  
 February 22 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 flowers if there's a special date you would like.



### Susanna Circle

Tuesday, February 3rd  
 10:00 am ~ Wesley Commons

### Celebration Circle

Celebration Circle mapped out our activities for the year to help our church and community. During this month of

Valentine's day let's show God's love to others by attending these events

**February 11th @10:30 am**

Meet at Wyatt Farms for our monthly meeting. Beverly Burton will give us a lesson on the history of pottery in SC and give a pottery wheel demonstration.

**February 13h @ 10:30 am**

Meet in the Fellowship Hall to make and deliver floral arrangements for our shut in members.

**February 25th at 5:00 pm**

Engage Meal

## 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**

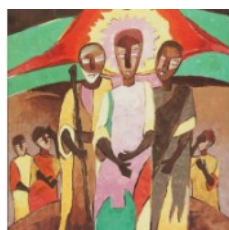
Offering- Greater Greenwood United Ministries

## Stewardship and Finance

### Financial Report as of January 18, 2026

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference
YTD Contributions:	\$40,221	\$25,357	(\$14,864)
YTD Expenses:	\$40,221	\$18,226	\$21,955

**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.



### January/February Upper Room

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

\$1.50 regular ~ \$2.00 large print.

## Member Support Team

Greetings to all members of Main Street United Methodist Church!

Our message is to remind you, we are an active committee in the church, and our purpose is to support members who are hospitalized and return home to recuperate short term. In addition, we give continued support to members who are homebound or in a nursing facility long term.

Please assist us in our mission. Be assured we will respect your privacy in these matters. However, we do not want anyone in our church family to be inadvertently overlooked.

Please contact the church office at 864-229-7551 with the needed information or contact Pastor R.T. Bowling at 864-554-5904.

You may also contact any of the following team members:

Caroline (Richardson) Hawthorne 864-223-7861

Barbara Gates 864-378-0946

Jo Patterson 864-229-7551

Thank you for helping us help you.

The Member Support Team of MSUMC



### Food Ministry

**1-3 pm in the Fellowship Hall  
 2nd Thursdays**

**February 12**

**March 12**

**April 9**

**May 14**



# ELEVATE

MAIN STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STUDENT MINISTRIES

Stay Updated on Elevate Youth!

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

## Ponderings from Preston

Verse of the month: John 15:9—"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love."

In this month of focusing on love, let us remember the words of Jesus in John 15:9. He has shown us how to love. Following this verse, He gives instruction to love others as He has loved us. As you remain focused on our Savior throughout each day, remaining in His love, be watchful for the many opportunities He will provide to bless others and share His love!

God Bless,

*Preston*

## Pictures

Check out highlights of our Encounter retreat at Lake Junaluska on January 16-18! We had a great weekend!





**We extend Christian Love and Sympathy to:** Daniel and Linda Miller (our Financial Secretary) and their son, Matthew on the death of Daniel's mother, Elinor Miller on January 10th at Wesley Commons.

**Continuing Prayer Concerns:** Robert Tinsley, Andrea Harris Cabe, Mary Lynn Polk, Judy Connell, Brenda Sams, Debbie White, Ted and Henrietta Morton, Elaine

Dukes, Kelly Ackerman, Linda Bell, Miriam Garner, Joe Chapman, Tommy Andrews, Ray Shirley, Devon and Peggy Aaron, Sam Pinckney, Edith Blanchett (Kathy Johnson's mother), Marian Adams, John Harr, Jackie Daniel, 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

### In Memoriam

Sue Maloney  
January 7, 2026

### In Memoriam

Hazel Bennett  
January 20, 2026



## 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.

### Thursday Morning Study

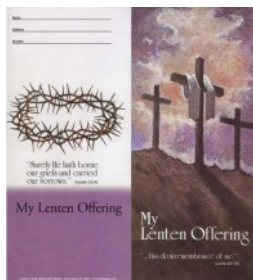
11:00 am in the Library  
Max Lucado's Life Lessons from James  
(Books will be available for purchase)  
Glenn Williams—Leader

Often folks like to do something concrete during the Lenten Season rather than giving something up.

This year I'd like for our congregation to participate 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 used for in house projects.

Thank you in advance, Rev. R.T.



## Wednesday Nights

### Engage Meal 5:15 - 6:00 pm

February 4	Meatball Subs, Chips, Fruit, & Dessert Your Main Street STAFF
February 11	Valentine Surprise
February 18	Pancake Supper Men's Club
February 25	Pork Tenderloin, sides,, &dessert Celebration Circle

Please RSVP @ [mainstreetgreenwood.org](http://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.**

## 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 (except for Ash Wednesday).

### 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.

## Lay Servant Ministry Course

~ Grace United Methodist Church in North Augusta  
~ February 11, 25, March 4, 11, and 18 from 6-8 pm.  
~ For registration form or any questions, please reach out to Rev. R.T. or the office.





## Engage Wednesday Evenings

6-7 pm

(Nursery Provided)

Bible Study, Music, Games, and Mission Projects

### Upcoming Events

February 7th @ 2pm - Bowling Into a New Year  
Meet at the Bowling Alley

February 14th @ 10 am—12 pm  
Showing Love Takes the Road

### Guess what????

We have the dates for Bible School

May 31– June 4 - evenings

We are partnering with First Presbyterian  
Lots more information to come!



Making Valentines and a snowball fight on a Wednesday night. What more you can you want?



Thank you to "Miss Myra" for the snowball surprise!



## CELEBRATIONS

### February Birthdays

- 1 Marilyn Murphy
- 2 Crawford Burns
- 4 Rachel Holder
- 5 Harriet Mays  
Jon Bassett
- 7 Kelly Ackerman  
Barbara Kirkpatrick  
Scurry Charles
- 8 Sarah Bowen
- 9 Judy Roberts
- 11 Ronney Smith, R.T. Bowling
- 12 Tinker Pendergrass, Kathy Murff
- 13 Pam Faulkner, Dianna Helfrich
- 14 Rosemary Skinner
- 16 Haley Rogers
- 20 Granger Smith
- 21 Ron Miller, Caroline Leopard, Brooke Styron  
Pam Dawes, Claire Barrineau
- 22 Mackenzie Tharpe
- 23 Ellison Albon
- 26 Libby Hartung
- 27 Bob Helfrich



### February Anniversaries

- 4 Ron and Jean Osborne
- 7 Gerry and Freddia Partridge
- 23 Brad and Sharon Wenner



Maggie Shirley



Zach Leopard



Wells Campbell



Addy McCaslan

Special thanks to Terry Robinson who served on the Member Care Team for over 10 years. She has given countless hours to minister to our home-bound. Terry, your time is one of the most valuable gifts anyone can offer. Thank you for giving yours to help others.

### Save the Dates

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

Mud Pies Spring



### Our Youth are hosting the 2026 Super Bowl Canned Food Drive

Drop off your donation as your vote for who will win the Super Bowl! Labeled tubs are outside the Church Office and Fellowship Hall. Cast your vote for the New England Patriots or the Seattle Seahawks.



What a way to start the new year! Mary Kate Skinner trained 4 new crucifers on January 21st. At Main Street, a crucifer (or cross-bearer) carries the processional cross into and out of the sanctuary, symbolizing Christ leading His people into worship and with them into the world. Thank you to these young people for their servant's heart.

# February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> All Sunday services and scheduled activities are cancelled due to the snowstorm.	<b>2 Ground Hog Day</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 5:00 pm Foundation Board Mtg 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 911 	<b>3</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 10:00 am Susanna Circle 11:00 am Hymnology Class	<b>4</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 11:00 am Member Support 5:15 pm Engage Wednesday Night 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	<b>5</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 9:00 am Mud Pies Donuts for Dads	<b>6</b> 7:30 pm Mud Pies Preschool 9:00 am Mud Pies Donuts for Dads	<b>7</b> 2:00 pm Children's Bowling Into a New Year
<b>8 Scout Sunday</b> 9:00 am Early Service 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 3:30 pm Small Discussion Group 6:00 pm Youth Super Bowl Party 7:30 pm Pick-up Basketball <b>Super Bowl Canned Food Drive-turn your canned food vote in! See flyer below!</b>	<b>9</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 4:00 pm Mud Pies Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 911	<b>10</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 9:30 am Staff Meeting 11:00 am Hymnology Class	<b>11</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 10:30 am Celebration Circle 5:15 pm Engage Wednesday Night 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	<b>12</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 1:00 pm Food Ministry 7:00 pm Pick-up Basketball	<b>13</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool	<b>14 Valentine's Day</b> 10:00 am Children's Ministry 'Showing Love Take the Road' Outreach Project 
<b>15</b> 9:00 am Early Service 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 3:30 pm Small Discussion Group 7:30 pm Pick-up Basketball	<b>16 President's Day</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 911	<b>17</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 11:00 am Hymnology Class	<b>18</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 5:15 pm Engage Wednesday Night Supper 6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service	<b>19</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 6:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 1389 7:00 pm Pick-up Basketball	<b>20</b> 7:00 am Youth Breakfast Club 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool	<b>21</b> 9:00 am Soup Kitchen Volunteers TEAM #3 
<b>22</b> 9:00 am Early Service 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service 3:30 pm Small Discussion Group 7:30 pm Pick-up Basketball	<b>23</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 911 	<b>24</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 11:00 am Hymnology Study 4:15 pm Staff Meeting	<b>25</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 12:00 pm Lenten Community Pilgrimage-Immanuel Lutheran 5:15 pm Engage Wednesday Night Supper 6:00 pm Children's Engage 6:00 pm Elevate Youth 6:00 pm Engage Book of Esther Bible Study 6:00 pm Engage Disciple Fast Track Bible Study	<b>26</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool 7:00 pm Pick-up Basketball	<b>27</b> 7:30 am Mud Pies Preschool	<b>28</b>
<b>We hope to see you at our events! Call the Church Office with any questions.</b> <b>864-229-7551</b>						





### Children's Ministry Volunteer List

Email Mary Kate Skinner to be part of the rotation at [mkskinn@gmail.com](mailto:mkskinn@gmail.com)

#### Acolytes and Crucifer:

**February 1** Church closed due to the snowstorm  
**February 8** Ansley Boring and Wells Campbell  
**February 15** Crawford Burns and Caroline Leopard  
**February 22** Maggie Shirley and Zachary Leopard

**Sunday School & Extended Session:**  
Allison Wooten and Wendy Hill

**Nursery:** Sydney Sluder & Kim Gultch



After reading the book, We're Going on a Bear Hunt, the 2s set off to find their own bear at MSUMC.



**Success!**



## The Connection

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

### Main Street United Methodist Church

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Greenwood, SC 29646

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Website: [www.mainstreetgreenwood.org](http://www.mainstreetgreenwood.org)

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