



NOVEMBER 2023

The Connection

Monthly publication of the Trenholm Road United Methodist Church



8:45am - Traditional Worship
9:45am - Sunday School
11:00am - Traditional Worship



PASTOR'S ARTICLE Giving Thanks for Spilled Trash



A few years ago, I was running right on schedule in the middle of a busy day. I had just enough time to stop by the house, eat lunch, and collect the trash before heading out the door for a visit. (I really shouldn't have needed to get the trash, but we missed the regular morning pickup.) As I was emptying the small trashcan in the master bathroom, the unthinkable happened. I dumped the last half of the trash all over the floor!

I don't know about you, but few things frustrate me more than something that takes more time than it should. This was the last can before I could head out the door, and now I had a mess. I was going to have to pick up a quite disgusting pile of discarded sundries, get cleaning supplies, and mop. My day had been busy, but now I had added another project to my list. "I just don't have time for this," I kept thinking to myself.

One scoop at a time, I put the garbage into a large trash bag, making sure I didn't spill any more. When I was almost through, I noticed, just out of the corner of my eye, something shiny on the floor. "That's odd," I thought.

I stopped and looked -- and my jaw fell wide open. There on the bathroom floor in the middle of the trash was a tie pin. I had been missing this pin for about 3 weeks. It was not particularly valuable to the casual observer, but I would wear it to church every Sunday. This pin is one of the few things that I have that belonged to my maternal grandfather who died almost 40 years ago. It was precious to me, and it had mistakenly found its way into the garbage.

Then it dawned on me: if I hadn't spilled the trash on the floor, I never would have found the tie pin. It would have disappeared into a landfill along with many other countless, lost possessions. What was a frustration at first, now made me smile. I thought I was experiencing a mess; instead, I was surrounded by grace.

This little episode reminds me that God is the first and best recycler. As it says in scripture, "We know that God works all things together for good for the ones who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28 Common English Bible, 2012)

Our difficulties, our hurt, our sorrow, our challenges can all be taken and turned so that they are used for good. God loves us, and wants what is best for us. If we will trust and listen, especially when things do not go our way, we might just see God's grace transforming misfortunes into miracles.

I hope I can learn to always praise God for spilled trash.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor James

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

Prayers of the Church

Larry Ayers, Summers Duffie, Jeff Adams, *son of Jess & Myra Torres*, Lynn and Sophia Derrick, Shealy McCoy, John Bolin, B Jackson, Sandy Harris, Maxine Reynolds, *mother of Amy Craighead*, Eddie Drayton, Michael Reaves, Nancy Howarth, *grandmother of Nathan Cox*, Jess & Myra Torres, Stella Wilkins, Vernon Bowen, Paula Wilson, Suzanne Wise, Sharon Lentz, Robbie Bowers and Andrea Pyatt.

Christian Sympathy: Byrnie Chapman and family at the death of Byrnie's mother, Louise Chapman, Friday, October 20, 2023. A service was held at TRUMC on Thursday, October 26.

Congratulations to TRUMC member, Attorney Jessica Gooding, for being named "Best & Brightest 35 and Under" in the Columbia Business Monthly.

Baptisms

The Baptism of Emily Caughman, daughter of Scott & Mary Grace Caughman was celebrated on September 17.

The Baptism of Anderson Conine, son of Dusty and Lindsay Conine was celebrated on October 23.



Caughman family



Conine family

Recent Births

Brad and Grace West Miano welcomed a son, James Henry Miano, on September 30.

Expectant Parents

Jess and Ben Gooding,
Blythe and Kason Littlefield



Baby Miano



2024 Stewardship

GENEROSITY

Through our congregation, we are the heart, spirit and hands of God's outreaching love. Life grows here through the joy of generosity.

We personally acknowledge God's generosity towards us and commit our time, talent and treasure to God.

We live out our commitment when we serve in ministry for God and give generously to God.

Annual giving is what makes the daily mission and ministry of the church possible. It is also an annual opportunity for the congregation to discern God's work in our lives and what God might be calling us to do in the year ahead with our resources.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2024

Stewardship is the act of giving joyfully back to God a portion of what He has given us and is just one of the many spiritual disciplines that enhance our lives as Christians. Our theme is **GENEROSITY**.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, we thank you for being a part of the TRUMC family and for your support of our ministry and mission by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness.

We ask that you consider increasing your gifts this year.

It can be through increased pledges, through ad hoc giving on Sundays or increased gifts to specific programs that may call for your support during the year.

2024 Pledge Cards are also located in the west foyer and narthex. Watch for additional information by mail.

Dave Mackey, Chair

September Financial Report

Annual Budget, \$1,528,470

August Receipts, \$88,584

August Expenses, \$117,293

Difference, (\$28,709)

Year-to-Date Receipts, \$869,944

Year-to-Date Expenses, \$983,433

Difference, (\$113,489)



While you are in the pew or away, continue to support TRUMC by giving online or by mobile phone. Txt2give - text the word GIVE to 803-998-2311 and follow instructions or www.trenholmroad.org

SCAN TO GIVE



A Word from Your Lay Leaders: For the Children and the Youth!

Our Lay Leadership Team, Clergy and Staff recently joined together in a heart-felt conversation about the calling and passion for supporting our children's and youth ministries. We heard stories about older adults who have answered the call and have committed to serve in active discipleship teaching on a regular basis. We were touched by the testimony of parents in our group about their joy in experiencing their children's growth and excitement through the loving teaching and nurture of these lay servants.

Parents bring their children and youth to Sunday school, Wednesday discipleship and MYF for many reasons. Chief among these reasons is the importance of raising their children in the loving, safe and nurturing community of believers, people who make their love known by knowing our children and youth by name.

In the next weeks, we will highlight the many opportunities for experiencing the joy of loving and nurturing these cherished charges. Our prayer is that you will give thought to what our Sunday morning prayer for our children "that they will grow up to be like Jesus...and that we will help them" might mean for you answering a call.

- Randy Akers and Beth Corley, with Ann Baggett, Josh Day and Jess Gooding

United Women in Faith news

The United Women in Faith of TRUMC is humbled to have been recognized / awarded by the District for its support of the following programs and initiatives of the SC United Women in Faith in 2023.

To learn more about United Women in Faith contact Patty Junqueira – pajeira@gmail.com.

- Campaign for Children
- Charter for Racial Justice Diamond Unit
- Mission Today Unit
- Five Start Unit

READING IS REWARDING and bring together members to explore, share and discuss books. As part of The United Women in Faith Reading program, the UWF of TRUMC maintains an on-site library accessible to TRUMC members. Library is located on the main hall. Available books span different categories and topics, along with current books from the UWF reading catalog. Additionally, UWF Reading Program offers national virtual events including small group book discussions and author talks. We invite you to learn more about UWF Reading Program by visiting <http://uwfaith.org/resources/reading-program/> and participate of a Reading Program Plan.

From the 2024 Reading Program Catalog the following books have been added to the library:

- *Book of Rosy: Mother's Story of separation at the border*, Rosayra Pablo Cruz and Julie Schwieter
- *The House that Love Built: why I opened my door to immigrants and how we found hope beyond a broken system*, Sarah Jackson
- *Beautiful Country: a memoir*, Qian Julie Wang
- *Our Strangely Warmed Hearts: coming out into God's call*, Karen Oliveto
- *In My Grandmother's House: black women, faith, and the stories we inherit*, Yolanda Pierce
- *Maid: hard work, low pay, and a mother's will to survive*, Stephanie Land
- *The Color of Compromise: the truth about the American church's complicity in racism*, Jemar Tisby
- *Until I am Free: Fannie Lou Hamer's enduring message to America*, Keisha N Blain
- *The Cure for Sorrow: a book of blessings for time of grief*, Jan Richardson
- *The Land of Silence*, Tessa Afshar

All Saints Choir Concert

Choristers of Shandon, Trenholm Road, Union/Irmo, Cayce, Mt. Hebron, Salem and Trinity/Blythewood United Methodist Churches will present John Rutter's *Requiem* on Sunday, November 5, at 4pm at the Shandon UMC in Columbia. The program will be accompanied by an orchestral ensemble with soprano, Anna Flynn, conducted by Eddie Huss. The members of the represented churches who have died since All Saints Day 2022 will be included in the programs. The church is located at 3407 Devine Street in Columbia. Childcare will be available by reservation at 803-256-8383, ext. 104. Everyone is invited to attend. www.shandonumc.org

TRUMC Book Club

The TRUMC Book Club will meet at 6:30 pm on Monday, November 6 in the parlor. The group will discuss *Hiroshima*, by John Hersey.

TRUMC UMMen's Fall Feast Wild Game Dinner

All men are invited to join the UMM on Thursday, November 16th at 6:00PM in the dining room for dinner and a devotion. Our guest speaker will be Carl Cox from Habitat for Humanity. Although reservations are not required, please contact David Free via email dafree@sc.rr.com or phone 803-606-5745, so that we can get an accurate count for food preparations. Bring a friend and come enjoy the good food and fellowship as we explore opportunities to help with Habitat for Humanity.



**Join us for worship on
Sunday, November 19, 2023
COMMITMENT SUNDAY
2024 Stewardship
GENEROSITY**

Offer to God your commitment to sharing the love of Christ through the life and work of TRUMC at 8:45 AM and 11:00 AM worship service.

Annual giving is what makes the daily mission and ministry of the church possible. It is also an annual opportunity for the congregation to discern God's work in our lives and what God might be calling us to do in the year ahead with our resources.



COMMITMENT SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 19

Giving freely of one's time, talent, and treasure is not an obligation for the faithful but an opportunity to share in God's abundant love for creation. "We have this treasure in clay jars," the apostle Paul once wrote, "so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us." By sharing our gifts generously, we glimpse the generous heart of God.

Your financial gifts allow TRUMC to share the good news of Jesus Christ as we set out to accomplish our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Your financial gift will fortify plans for fostering personal spiritual growth and expanding our ability as a congregation to make a kingdom impact in our community, region and all the world. Join us as we present our commitment to God on Sunday, November 19 at the 8:45 AM and 11AM service.

Donations accepted - Major Way to Faith

The Major Way to Faith Circle will be collecting 2024 advertising calendars again this year to be given to Epworth. Also, we will be collecting warm, clean socks of all sizes, adults and children which will be given to Cooperative Ministry for their clients. The calendars and socks can be placed in the white cart on the main church hall near the reception office. Thank you to all for your support of these missions. Contact Lorene McGuire with any questions lmcguire38@gmail.com.



Bringing Christmas to Epworth Children's Home on Saturday, November 25th!

Trenholm Road UMC will be decorating Epworth Children's Home again this Christmas! We need church members to help bring cheer to the Epworth residents and staff by placing outdoor decorations around campus. All skill levels are needed. However, we specifically need a few members with ladders that can assist with hanging garlands and lights. We look forward to spreading Christmas joy and lifting holiday hope with anyone who can attend on Saturday, November 25th at 10:00 AM. In the event of rain, decorating will move to Sunday, November 26th at 2:00 PM. Please sign up in the West Foyer or by contacting Kate Usry [803-378-0007 or kateusry@gmail.com]



We will be meeting at the circle. Enter Epworth at 901 Sims Avenue. Drive straight down Holly Street to the stop sign and turn left to reach the circle. There is not a better way to begin the holiday season than by focusing on giving, sharing your time, and Bringing Christmas to Epworth!



Harvest Hope Donations

This month we are asking everyone to bring Peanut Butter and Jelly for Harvest Hope. Your generosity provides support for families in the Midlands. Drop your donations in the white bin at the reception area. Please, no glass jars.

Lost and Found Items at TRUMC

Please stop by the reception area and pick up any items that may be left at the church.

Items found: Nintendo Kirby backpack keychain, coloring book and crayons, Girl Scout water bottle, Magical Mermaid water bottle, silver water bottle, 1 brown child's shoe, 1 MMHC Hat.

At the end of November, we will donate all unclaimed items to Cooperative Ministries. Lost and found is located in the receptionist office on the bottom shelf of the bookcase.

Flower Calendar

Watch for the 2024 flower calendar outside of Renee's office. Be sure to sign up for your preferred dates ASAP. The altar flowers for 2024 are \$100 per Sunday.



December opportunities for worship and fellowship

The Children's Choirs of Trenholm Road UMC will present *Calling All Angels!* at the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 3. This mini-musical will be the prelude to our service of worship for the First Sunday of Advent, and embraces the story of the Annunciation, the season of Advent, and the Christmas event. Join us and hear our children's choirs become the angel host singing "Gloria in excelsis Deo!"



Lessons and Carols

The Sanctuary Choir will present their annual Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols, accompanied by string quartet, on the Third Sunday of Advent, December 17, 2023 at both the 8:45 am & 11:00 am services.



Family Promise "Host Week" Coming December 10-16

Trenholm Road will have its 4th 2023 "host week" on December 10-16 to support Family Promise of the Midlands. From now through November 30, individuals and families may support these efforts through a contribution to Trenholm Road's designated (restricted) Family Promise account. All funds collected will be used to provide Christmas trees, gifts, groceries, and other holiday items.

In addition, Sunday School classes, circles, and other groups may adopt a family through the provision of grocery gift cards and gas cards, as well as prepared supper meals and/or restaurant gift cards. Details on each family will be provided in advance. Assistance will be provided in organizing and coordinating deliveries, etc. Depending on the size and particular needs of each family, the total financial commitment is expected to be approximately \$300-\$350.

This local missions effort is also supported through a generous donation from the Missions Core Team to help offset housing expenses for these families. For more information or to adopt a family, please contact Walter Caudle at waltercaudle@gmail.com.

Important Final 2023 Dates for Youth

- Sunday November 12: Special MYF with guest speakers Pastor Mollie and Kyle Reed
- Friday, November 17-Sunday November 19: Fall Retreat "Encounter" at Epworth by the Sea.
- Sunday, December 3: Hanging of the Greens Service, led by Youth
- Wednesday, December 13: Birthday Party for Jesus
- Sunday, December 17: MYF Christmas Party
- Friday December 22: Youth Game Night

Save the Dates for Summer Mission Trips

- High School (rising 9th-12th): Students age 14-18: Salkehatchie June 15-22, 2024
- Middle School: COMING SOON!



Supporting Bradley Elementary

James 2:14-17: What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but does not have works? Surely that faith cannot save, can it? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Missions Core is facilitating a partnership between TRUMC and Bradley Elementary School. You may remember our recent “Stock-the-Lounge” event through children and youth ministries for Bradley. As a result of this successful experience with them, we approached the school to form a long-term partnership. Bradley Elementary is a Title 1 school located only two miles from TRUMC.

With over 400 students, Bradley serves a large portion of children from low-income families. To kick off this new venture, Mission Core Team is collecting new coats and hoodies to be distributed to the students at the school's 3rd grade music event on December 5. Our very own TRUMC member Meredith Trobaugh will be directing as the school's music teacher!

What we need from you as the congregation: Donate and Serve!

You can donate two ways!

- 1 - Purchase a coat or hoodie and drop it off in the West Foyer by Wednesday, November 29th. Boys and girls' coats and hoodies are needed in sizes 5T, youth XS, youth S, youth M, youth L, and youth XL.
- 2 - Donate monetarily via Venmo to @TrenholmRoad-UMC (coat drive in memo line) or write a check to TRUMC (memo line—Coat Drive). Forms are being distributed to Bradley Elementary parents in the coming week in which parents will request a coat size. Monetary donations will help us ensure we have enough coats in the correct sizes.

Serve: 3 adults are needed to serve at Bradley Elementary (located on 3032 Pine Belt Road, Columbia) on the evening of December 5th. We would like to assist with distributing the coats to the parents before and after their evening program. Please email Rev. Mollie Reddic if you are interested for detailed information.

The second ministry opportunity for Bradley Elementary will be in December. Look for the Angel Trees displayed in the West Foyer and the Leisure Ministries lobby for opportunities to support these children.

Questions? contact Rev. Mollie Reddic at mollie@trumc.org

“Title I programs are federally funded instruction that is in addition to core reading and math classes for students who are struggling to meet the state standards. The federal government gives funds to South Carolina through the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to divide among school districts based on their percentage of low-income families and participating schools. Title I coordinates services with other educational services and, to the degree possible, with health and social services programs. Title I provides greater decision-making authority and flexibility within schools for teachers, requiring greater responsibility for student performance.”

Fall Back

The first Sunday in November is when Daylight Saving Time ends in most areas of the U.S., so in 2023 we'll "fall back" one hour and return to Standard Time on Sunday, November 5, 2023, at 2 am.

Be sure to set your clocks back one hour before bed Saturday night!

Make Plans to Join us on Wednesday Nights

The congregation will gather every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the gym for a delicious fellowship meal. Both kids and adults can enjoy specially prepared meals. Adult meals are \$10. Kids meals are \$7. Family meals are \$27. Following the meal, there will be a variety of activities to participate in. Children can join the engaging children's programs, while youth can attend their dedicated meetings. Additionally, Sanctuary Choir, and Carillon Handbell Choir will take place. We encourage everyone to watch for more details and join us on Wednesday evenings for community, growth, and fellowship. **No meeting on Wednesday, November 22.**



Join us on Wednesday Nights!



Trenholm Road
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



NOVEMBER

Wednesday Night

Schedule

Wednesday Night Activities

Nursery

5:45 PM - 7:30 PM - LMB Two's 2 Room

Children's Choirs

5:00 PM - 5:45 PM - Parlor/MB110, 112,114

Carillon Handbell Choir

5:30 PM - 6:15 PM - LM 125

Wednesday Night Dinner

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM - TRUMC GYM

Adult Small Group Study - TBA

Children's Discipleship Junior

6:15 PM - 7:15 PM - LM 3rd Floor

Youth/Student Discipleship

6:15 PM - 7:15PM - Youth Lounge

Sanctuary Choir

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM - Choir Room

*Location & Times subject to change

Watch for details in the bulletin or weekly newsletter

For more information about classes and to register for children's and youth opportunities visit

www.TrenholmRoad.org

Wednesday Night Dinner is served in the TRUMC gym at 5:30 PM.

Adults \$10, Kids \$7 & Family \$27.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

November 1

Adults: Orange Chicken, Fried rice, Vegetable, Asian Salad & Dessert

Kids: Pancakes, Hash Rounds, Gogurt/Fruit & Muffin

November 8

Adults: Ham, Sides, Vegetable, Cheese Biscuits & Dessert

Kids: Ham, Green Beans, Cheese Biscuits, Pineapple Tidbits & Dessert

November 15

Adults: Baked Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Vegetable, Salad & Dessert

Kids: Popcorn Chicken or Drumstick, Mac & Cheese, Goldfish, Applesauce & Dessert

November 22 - NO MEETING - Holiday Break

November 29

Adults: Pork Tenderloin, Seasoned Rice, Vegetable, Salad & Dessert

Kids: Mini Corndogs, Fries, String Cheese, Orange Slices & Dessert





Trenholm Road

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3401 Trenholm Road
Columbia, SC 29204

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www.TrenholmRoad.org

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US POSTAGE
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November meetings

- November 2 - Charge Conference - 6pm - Sanctuary
 - November 5 - Congregational Care - 4pm - #113
 - November 6 - TRUMC Book Club - 6:30 pm - #114
 - November 6 - Prayer Team - 11am - #110
 - November 6 - Youth Core - 6pm - #113
 - November 7 - SPRC - 6pm - #113
 - November 11 - Saturday Sisterhood Circle - 10am - #114
 - November 13 - Stephen Ministry - 6pm - #112
 - November 14- United Women in Faith - 10am - #114
 - November 14 - Major Way to Faith - 11:30 am - Dining Room
 - November 14 - Trustees - 6pm - #113
 - November 21 - Finance - 6pm - #114
 - November 28 - Council - 6pm - Dining Room
- *Locations and times subject to change.*