

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

Visit us on the Web at www.unionunitedmethodist.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

June/July Volume 36, Issue 5

Parents' Time Out



June 12: 11:00 am—2:00pm
July 17: 11:00am –2:00pm
Aug. 14: 3:00-6:00pm
Sept. 18: 11:00am –2:00pm
Oct. 16: 3:00– 6:00pm
Nov. 13: 11:00am—2:00pm
Dec. 11: 11:00am—2:00pm

Children ages infant to 1st grade \$10/child,
 includes lunch or dinner.

(Let us know of any allergies, when you sign up)

RSVP the Wednesday before to: Stacy.burggraf@gmail.com

Sunday Worship

Sanctuary
 9:00 am
 and
 11:00 am

Sunday School
 10:00 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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Welcome to Rev. Sara Relaford.

The Reverend Sara Relaford has been appointed by Bishop Jonathan Holston as the Associate Pastor for Union UMC. Her appointment will take effect July 1.

Rev. Relaford will be moving from St. Matthews, SC. She has been the pastor there of St. Paul United Methodist Church and St. Matthew United Methodist Church for the past 5 ½ years.

Originally from Atlanta, Sara holds a degree in Communications from Georgia State University and a Masters of Divinity from Emory University. Before entering seminary she worked as the Assistant Clerk for Bill Status for the Georgia House of Representatives.



Rev. Sara Relaford is married to the Rev. Jon Hoin, who has been appointed as the pastor of Platt Springs UMC. They are expecting their first child in September.

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Reverend Jeri Katherine Sipes will be leaving Union to become the Assistant Chaplain at Heathwood Hall Episcopal School. She will also teach Bible courses and coach cross-country running.

A reception for Rev. Sipes and her family will be held in the Family Ministry Center at 3:00 pm on Sunday, June 27, her last Sunday at Union as the Associate Pastor.

We ask you to be in prayer for Rev. Sipes and Rev. Relaford, and all those who will be preparing for new appointments this year.

Reverend Sipes

Love offering

As SPRC has previously announced Rev. Sipes' last Sunday with Union will be June 27. We would like to show our gratitude for Jeri Katherine's service by taking up a Love offering. Beginning May 30 and throughout the month of June, if you would like to contribute, you can use any of Union's donation mechanisms: with your offering envelope (designate an amount as "Love Offering") or electronically on the line "Rev. Sipes Love Offering").

Goodbye Reception

Please join us at a goodbye drop-in reception for Rev. Sipes in the FMC gymnasium on **Sunday June 27 from 3:00-4:00 PM.** Please come and let Jeri Katherine know how much she has meant to Union and wish her well in her new position.



Hurting or lonely and need a Stephen Minister's care?

Please contact the Church Office at 781-3013 to be connected with a Stephen Minister.



UPPER ROOMS

Are available in the Church Office Reception Area for anyone who would like one. Cost is \$1.00 for large print or small print



The 2021 flower calendar for 9:00 am worship is now in the Narthex. Cost is \$42.50 per vase.



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

IN MEMORIAM
Mildred (Millie) Turner
March 25, 1927-May 6, 2021

SYMPATHY

Richard Kent Wilfong
Father of Renee Pippin

Arlene Maguire
Mother of Sandy Bringley

Paul D. Price, Jr.
Father of Connie Turner

Kenneth F. Brockington
Brother-in-law of Judy Livingston



Macie Kate Parrott,
daughter of Amelia and Cullen Parrott,
granddaughter of Ronnie and Laurie Jackson,
great-granddaughter of Jane Wilkie, and niece
of Alex, Adam, and Austin Jackson.

Emerson Davis Warren,
daughter of Victoria and Jackson Warren,
granddaughter of Michelle and Rob Woods

Monroe Lynlee Plyler,
daughter of Jonathan and Rebecca Plyler,
granddaughter of Glenn and Phyllis Plyler



Welcome
Our New
Members

Doris and Jay Hershberger

Amanda and Trace Parker
children: **Bo, Jack and Tripp**
Carol Roy



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.

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

Asst. Facilities Manager
Steve Ragan

Finance
Barbara Tanner

Kindergarten
Kathy Horne

Director of Ministries to Children & Families
Suzy Broadus

Nursery Coordinator
Stacy Burggraf

Production Manager
Jake Cosentino

Organist
Joey Rothfuss

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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 the 15th of each month via email liz@unionirmo.org or placed in the box outside the Communications Office (F 210).



The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to provide a revenue stream to enhance and expand the ministries of Union UMC. This could be funds for facilities improvements which draw people to our campus or funds to enable a new community outreach ministry; we are only limited by our imagination. A gift to the Endowment Fund is a permanent gift which means the principal gift cannot be spent. The gift will maintain its buying power because the principal will grow by the inflation rate. The income from the principal, as well as the appreciation of the principal, provide the revenue stream to enhance and expand Union's ministries. There are many ways for you to remember the Endowment Fund in your estate planning. If you would like to know more about how you can make a gift to the Endowment Fund, then please speak to one of the Endowment Committee members below or contact the Church office at susan@unionirmo.org and request that one of the Committee members reaches out to you.

Endowment Committee members

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Charles Ayers | David Elam | Lewis Milligan |
| Tony Chapman | Ken Hubbard | Jon Rychener |
| Becky Dixon | John Mendenhall | Rob Thompson |



MEMORIALS

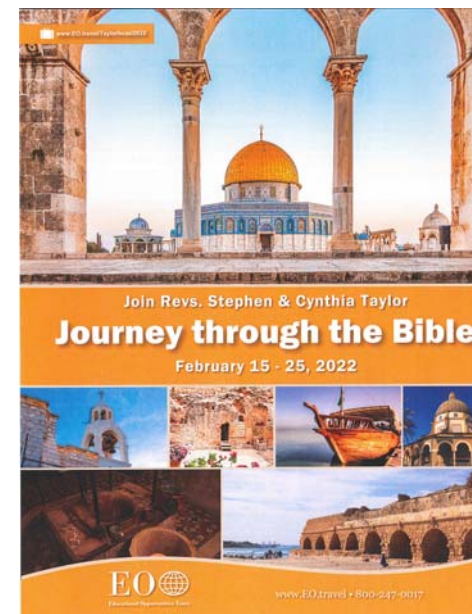
Given in memory of Jean Munn
by: Gay and Tony Rawls

Given in memory of Peggy Williams
by: Janet and Gene Zentz

**MEMORIALS
&
HONORARIUMS**

April 25-May 24, 2021

FOLLOW US: @unionumcirmo



Brochures with more information on the trip are available in the Church Office Reception Area.



BLESSING BOX

The Blessing Box can always use a few items. 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.



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: 15th of each month

Please email your information to

Susan Vinson

Susan@unionirmo.org



OUR MINISTERS AND DELEGATES
WILL ATTEND VIRTUAL
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JUNE 6-7

If you want to keep up with the activity of Annual Conference, you can follow on social media using Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram or go to www.umcsc.org for updates and to live stream sessions and worship services.

**RUN
FOR
GOD.**

Meets every **Sunday through June 20 from 4:00pm-5:15pm** in the back parking lot of the church. Whether you walk, jog or run, come get moving with people of all ages and abilities. RFG is a free 12-week small group that will get you in shape to walk or run The Hewitt 5k in Irmo on June 26. Nursery will be available on Sunday evenings for Run for God participants.



THE ZIMBABWE PROJECT TEAM is requesting 70 adult masks and 70 kids masks to take to Zimbabwe. We are seeking volunteers to make the masks. Please reach out to Stuart Hope if you are interested:
stuart.hope@dominionenergy.com.
Thanks for your help.

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.

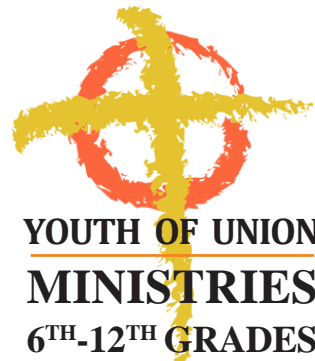


JUNE 13
CONFIRMATION
SUNDAY

ONE

WORSHIP SERVICE
at 10:30 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:30 am



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

CONTACT:

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

EVENTS

Join us weekly on Sunday evenings for
fellowship, ministry, food & fun!

The new schedule is as follows:
Middle School Students - 5-6 pm
Dinner for ALL Youth - 6-6:30 pm
High School Students - 6:30-7:30 pm

Middle School Students should report to the
Underground to sign in. High School Students
should report to the FMC Gym to sign in.
All students are required to wear a mask.
We request that parents be extra diligent about
checking on the health
(and temperature) of their students prior to
sending them to church activities.

YOUTH OF UNION CALENDAR

June 6 – Regular Sunday School,
but NO EVENING YOUTH!

June 13 – Confirmation Sunday:
No Sunday School, Sunday Evening GAME NITE
& ICE CREAM SUNDAES

June 20 – Graduate Sunday & Grad Luncheon,
NO EVENING YOUTH

June 27 & July 4 – NO EVENING YOUTH

July 11 - 16 – HIGH SCHOOL MISSIONS TRIP TO
THE HINTON CENTER

July 18 & 25 – Regular Sunday School,
but NO EVENING YOUTH!

July 23 – Mission Day Serving at
Washington Street UMC Soup Cellar

August 1-4 – Vacation Bible School

August 8 – Youth Kayaking on Lake Murray

**Friends are always welcome at EVERY event!



Join Rev. Jeri-Katherine for
a special June Sunday
School class, meeting in
the Wesley Center every
Sunday in June from 10:00-
10:50 discussing the book
*Staying Awake: The Gospel
for Changemakers* by
Rev. Tyler Sit, a United
Methodist minister in
the Minneapolis-St. Paul
area. The book can be
ordered on: [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)
and [ChalicePress.com](https://www.ChalicePress.com)

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

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

We will continue to meet over
the summer. Check the bulletin
or follow us on Instagram or
Facebook @unionyam for
upcoming events!



To be good stewards by
turning off all lights and
making sure all doors are
locked and completely
closed when you leave
the building.



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

Friday
9:00 am - 12:00 pm



PAULINE LEITNER BIBLE STUDY CLASS

On Sunday, May 16, several of the members of the Pauline Leitner Bible study class met for a final session in which they reflected on the history, service and personalities of the class, and then officially disbanded with a ritual of thanksgiving led by Rev. Taylor. The Pauline Leitner class has played a vital role in the life of Union, but now the remaining members have elected to join other adult classes. Thanks be to God for their service and faithfulness.



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
Joy Downs
elymay2@aol.com

Nancy Nelson-Embler
nancy.realtyagent@gmail.com

Secretary
Judy Livingston
judyblivingston@gmail.com

Communications
Joy Downs
elymay2@aol.com

Treasurer
Gail Miller
timandgailm@aol.com

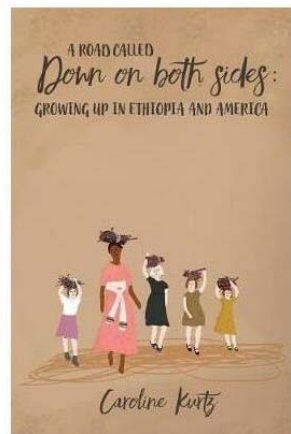
Social Action/Special Mission Recognition
Gail Elfert
celfert@aol.com

Education & Interpretation
Jane Davis
Janesdavis@yahoo.com

Secretary of Program Resources (Reading Program)
Connie Warren
connieswarren33@gmail.com

Spiritual Growth/Historian
Gail Elfert
celfert@aol.com

Membership, Nurture and Outreach
TBD



United Methodist Women Reading Program

Education for Mission

A Road Called Down Both Sides by Caroline Kurtz

Caroline can speak and read Amharic, and spearheads development in Ethiopia’s Maji District, introducing apples, solar energy, and women’s cottage industries.



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



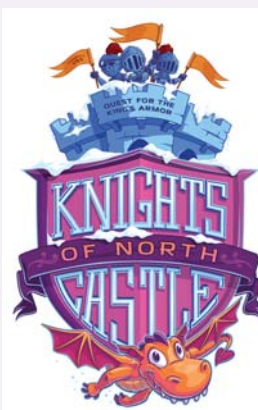
Children’s Sunday School

Children 3-10 are meeting in the Education building on the 2nd floor for in person Sunday school. All precautions are being taken to keep our children safe. Help us by signing your kids in at the check in table and wearing masks.

Children’s Church is available during each worship service for our children 3 thru Kindergarten age. Our volunteers will meet the children at the front side door of the Sanctuary. The first Sunday of each month children are invited to stay with their parents so they can participate in communion together.

SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING

Anyone new to helping with our children or youth or if it’s been 3 years, it’s time to go through our volunteer screening process. We will hold a Safe Sanctuary training on **Sunday, June 6th at 10:00 am** in the FMC Multipurpose room. Please let us know if you will attend so we can be sure to have enough space and copies of forms. Call the office (803.781.3013) or email : **Suzy@unionirmo.org**.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

August 1-4 6:30pm – 8pm

Go to the website (**unionirmo.org**) and click on the register button and fill out a registration form for each child. Registration is open for children 4-10 years old. Some of our safety protocols will include wearing masks, social distancing by small groups, and staying in their same small groups. We need volunteers too!

To limit interactions we are planning to have volunteers to rotate into rooms rather than kids moving from place to place. Help us make this a great VBS for everyone!!!

Can you help us acquire some refrigerator, washer, dryer, TV or other BIG boxes for VBS? If you can please let Suzy know.

Contact:

Gayle Puckett or Annette Nash to join the Knights of North Castle!

Other Questions Contact:

Suzy Broadus in the church office:
803.781.3013 or **suzy@unionirmo.org**.