



02

TRUNK OR TREAT
UNION DAY SCHOOL

04

THE LIVING CHRISTMAS
STORY

06

FOOD COLLECTION
SHARING GODS LOVE



UNION Connection

Union United Methodist Church Irmo, South Carolina

The Right Attitude

Recently, I was delighted to see postings on my Facebook feed by various proud parents of their children being inducted into the National Honor Society. Several of these were Union youth, and I was proud of them also. Seeing the NHS photos reminded me of a moment with my daughter Kelsey, when she was a member of NHS.

For about three weeks Kelsey carried a large box of chocolate bars back and forth to school, selling them for a NHS fund raiser. This was in addition to the 40 pound backpack of books, supplies, and notes passed during class.

One day she set the box down on the kitchen counter and I saw there were only three bars. "Is that all you have left?" I asked. When she confirmed it, I took out a five dollar bill and said, "Just give those to your friends." That earned me a big hug and a "Thank you." Not bad.

However, the next day she came home with a new, full box of candy bars to sell! "Another fund raiser?" I asked. "Nope," she said, "same one." But I wouldn't leave it at that. "You sold your box, why another one?"

"Dad," she said with tested patience, "the point is not to just sell my box, but to raise money for our project." Ouch, she got me! I'd fallen prey to a common attitude, "Just do what you absolutely have to do, and leave the rest for others to worry about."

How many times in our service to Christ, and to his church have we adopted the wrong attitude? "Just tell me my responsibilities. I'll do my part," we say, with the emphasis on "my part." While embarrassed for my comment to my

KNOW Christ, SHARE Faith, SHOW Grace

November
2021

daughter, I'm thankful she chose the right attitude – willing to do not just what she had to do, but what she could do to make her group successful.

Isn't that how we'd like to be known – as disciples ready to go the second mile? Isn't that what makes Union a great church – members who do and give what's needed, not just what they "have to." Don't we want to be the kind of people who embrace the challenge of living and serving faithfully in a very difficult time? There's nothing to stop us. All we need to do is adopt the right attitude.

Blessings to all, Stephen



Trunk or Treat

Thank you to all who came out to this year's Trunk or Treat celebration and decorated your trunks. It was a huge hit. Approximately 380 children wandered through to look at all of the trunks and participate in a scavenger hunt. We were delighted and thankful to see Union youth come to help the children with pumpkin art, stickers and drawings and other games. Thank you to Suzy and all of the volunteers for generously helping in every way.



CHURCH 2022 DIRECTORY

KNOW Christ, SHARE Faith, SHOW Grace

UNION DIRECTORY
Union United Methodist Church Irmo, South Carolina

7502 Woodrow Street
P.O. Box 705
Irmo, SC 29063-0705
Telephone: 803-781-3013
Fax: 803-781-3034

www.unionirmo.org

Church Directory

The upcoming dates for photos are November 4-6, located in the Chapel.

If you have any questions or are unavailable on those days, please contact Nan Gray 803-917-2259 or nancgray@aol.com.

To sign up go to www.ucdir.com

Enter our church code **sc215**

Enter our church password **photos**



03

Zimbabwe Fundraiser

#Raise the Roof, will be held in the FMC. There will be a dinner, entertainment, and silent auction.

See page 10, for more details.

04

Church Directory

A photographer will be on campus in the Chapel, November 4-6.



05

Martha's Market

A much-anticipated community-wide event hosted by the Martha's UMW Circle to raise funds for local missions.

07

Set Construction for TLCS

If you would like to help with Set Construction, the group will be working on Sunday, Nov. 7 from 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Contact Vic Caldwell (Vrcfour@hotmail.com) or Glenna Dean Wildt (gdwildt@gmail.com)



Pave the Way

The Family Ministry Center (FMC) nursery area is being transformed these next several months into a child centered nursery and toddler classrooms. The rooms will be filled with new child friendly interiors with new furniture, equipment and a playground outside the FMC. Registration will begin in February. With registration approaching, church and community families with babies and toddlers who are looking for childcare will want to visit our new area beginning in mid-January. We need your support Union United Methodist Church!! The furnishing of these rooms and playground is over \$100,000 to meet the DSS regulations and the expectations of Union Church. Please pray about giving to this ministry so our church and community children will have a Christian environment to learn and grow.

For over 48 years our Union Preschool and Kindergarten has provided outstanding part-time Christian child care for many Union and commu-

nity families. This part-time ministry will continue along with now a full-time child care program. All these programs will be under the direction of Mrs. Kathy Horne, who is the Director of Union Preschool and Kindergarten. The combined programs will come under the new name of Union Day School. The name change helps identify the inclusion of our present part-time preschool and kindergarten (toddlers-5 year olds) with a full day childcare ministry of infants to 5 year olds.

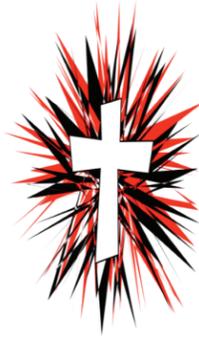
Pave the Way is our fundraiser which will begin in November and we are asking Union and community families whose children have attended Union Preschool over the last 48 years to purchase a brick to honor their children, grandchildren or preschool staff. Also, we invite our Union members to purchase a brick as a memorial or honorarium. Their names will be engraved on a brick to be placed in our walkway to our new playground. The cost is \$100.00 a brick and each brick can contain 3 lines of copy. Pave the Way brochures will be available in bulletins, narthex and church office. Also, all donations are welcome and as you make your gift, please write Day School in the Memo line of your check, church envelope or online. These monies will go towards the funding of our playground and the establishment of our Day School. We are thankful for every gift and every dollar will be used to support our new full day care. May God continue to bless our children and families of Union and the community.

Union Day School Task Force
Marian Hanna, Tim Livingston, Suzy Broadus, Kathy Horne and Ann Copelan



SonZone is back!

We have had a great time during SonZone on Sunday nights with our 4th and 5th graders from 5-6 p.m. We will continue to meet November 7, 14 and 21. We will wrap up this year with our Christmas Party on December 12th from 5- 6:30 p.m. Be sure to meet us at the Education building. Contact Suzy if you have any questions suzy@unionirmo.org.



Save the Dates!

November 13th, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
December 11th, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Children from infant to 1st grade \$10 per child, includes lunch or dinner. (Let us know of any allergies, when you sign up.) RSVP the Wednesday before to: Stacy.burggraf@gmail.com

YAMS

Head out to Clinton Sease Farms with us for a corn maze, fellowship, & fall fun on Sunday, November 14th at 4 p.m. Contact Zoe Ayers (803-920-0929) with questions!



07

Leaps of Faiths Rehearsal
1 & 3 Disciple Bible Study
SunZone
Youth Events

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PEP!
Join us Thursday, November 11th, at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for Bingo and board games.
See page 7, for more events.

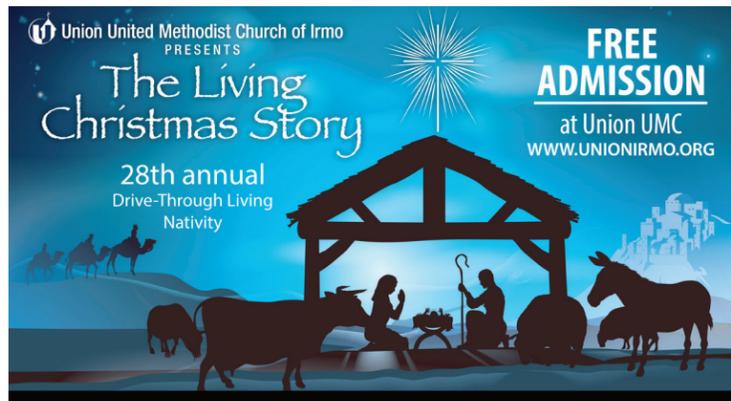


13

Parents Time Out
Children ages infant to 1st grade \$10 per child, includes lunch or dinner. (Let us know of any allergies, when you sign up.)

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USC Men's and Womens Choir Performance
Leaps of Faiths Rehearsal
1 & 3 Disciple Bible Study



The Living Christmas Story December 3-5, 6:30-9 p.m.

Join in the celebration of the 28th presentation of Union's Christmas gift to our community! The Living Christmas Story (TLCS) is the perfect setup for the audience to enjoy the performance from the safety of individual vehicles. Bethlehem Set construction will take place every Saturday in November. To ensure participant safety during the performance, cast members and supporting roles will be split between two indoor locations when not on Set and everyone will be required to wear a mask while indoors. It is even more important than in previous years to sign up to reflect your commitment to participate in Scene Construction and Performances.

To offer this special performance of TLCS 2021, we need help in the following areas: scene construction and take down, cast members, scene coordinators, and traffic. To sign up, please see the link listed below or reach out to Vic Caldwell (Vrcfour@hotmail.com) or Glenna Dean Wildt (gdwildt@gmail.com) as soon as possible. Thank you!

TLCS SIGN UP: www.shorturl.at/lmsJ6

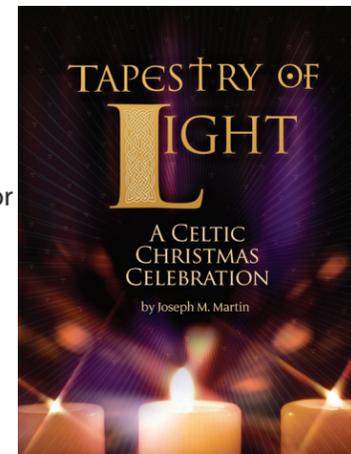
IMPORTANT: The first TLCS Set Construction date has been moved from Saturday to Sunday, November 7th, starting at 2:00 p.m. We need several pickup trucks and a lot of extra hands ready to help! No special skills are required!

Tapestry of Light A Celtic Christmas Celebration

December 19, 2021, 4:00 p.m.

The joy and hope of Christmas are celebrated in this Celtic-styled cantata for choir and orchestra.

We hope that you will mark your calendars and join us for this Christmas Celebration Concert.

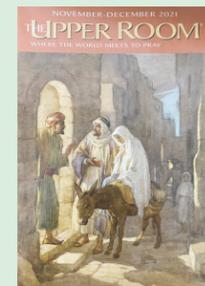


The Blessing Box

The presence of the Blessing Box continues to be a needed resource for our community. Thank you for the donation of food items. A collection box has been placed in the Narthex for your convenience. As the weather turns cool, please think of chicken n' dumplings, ravioli with meat, hearty soups and canned fruit.

Children's Sunday School!

Our children have been meeting in person and have a great time each week. We taking precautions to keep our kids and teachers safe, such as social distancing, masks, and hand sanitizers. We are so excited to have more and more families coming in person, that we are trying to open our four age levels Sunday school classes again. This means we need more teachers too. If you have been thinking about wanting to get involved now is a great time. Contact Suzy Broadus if you are interested. suzy@unionirmo.org



UPPER ROOM Books are available in the Church Office Reception Area and the sanctuary narthex for anyone who would like one. Cost is \$1.00 for large print or small print.



Youth Events

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

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

Middle School Students should report to the Underground to sign in. High School Students should report to the FMC Gym to sign in.

See more upcoming events on UnionIrmo.org. Type "Youth" in the search bar.

**Note that the LAST Sunday of each month is Pancake Breakfast in the Underground at 10 a.m.
**Friends are always welcome at EVERY event!

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!

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

Youth Mission Project: Sharing God's Love Christmas Toy Drive

Please support the Youth of Union mission project to build Santa's Toy Shop at Sharing God's Love for families who are unable to manage Christmas for kids without help. Please bring new and UNWRAPPED toys for any age to the collection bins in the Narthex or Underground now thru November 14. Donations will be delivered to SGL on the week of November 15th to put in Santa's Shop for families.
For questions, contact Eleanor Cannon at Eleanor@unionirmo.org or 912-332-2606.



People Enjoying People

Join us Thursday, November 11th, at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for Bingo and board games.

Tuesday, November 16th We will leave the Church at 8 a.m. on a bus trip to Mepkin Abbey in Moncks Corner, SC for a Dutch Treat Lunch and tour of the grounds and crèche (minimum cost for gas)

Thursday, November 18th, at 6:30 p.m. in the FMC - Our meal will be Catered by The Peanut Man for \$15 per person with entertainment by the group, "For Heaven Sake"

Sign ups are due by November 7th and the \$15 fee for catering the meal on November 18th.

For more info, or with any Event please contact Phyllis at Phyllisplyler@gmail.com or for Travel Excursions Linda Fogle at Lshfogle@att.net



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Youth Mission Project: Sharing God's Love Christmas Toy Drive

Donations will be delivered to SGL on the week of November 15th to put in Santa's Shop for families.

See page 7, for more details.

PEP! Trip to Mepkin Abbey

16

We will leave the Church at 8 a.m. on a bus trip to Mepkin Abbey in Moncks Corner, SC for a Dutch Treat Lunch and tour of the grounds and crèche (minimum cost for gas)



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Sarah Circle

Will be meeting in the LL Fellowship Hall from 12-2 p.m.

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Adult handbell practice

Youth Leaps of Faith practice

Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Food Collection for Sharing God's Love

Fall brings to mind cooler weather, harvest, and Thanksgiving! Tables and altars are often decorated with cornucopias overflowing with food during this time of year, too. Cornucopias symbolize abundance, a bountiful harvest, and an appreciation for those blessings! However, many in our own community are struggling to provide food for their families. Sharing God's Love can provide food to many in need, but only if we share our abundance with this Christian ministry!
A large box to collect non-perishable food items for Sharing God's Love will be located in the UUMC Narthex and the church office from November 7- November 21, 2021. You can also drop off items at Sharing God's Love from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm M-F

All items are greatly appreciated but most-needed include:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Macaroni and Cheese | Instant Mashed Potatoes | Noodles |
| Canned Fruits | Gravy | Peanut Butter |
| Canned Vegetables | 1 to 5 lb. bags of rice, sugar, flour, &/or dried beans | Jelly |
| Canned Cranberry Sauce | Instant Grits/Oatmeal | Granola Bars |
| Canned Yams or Sweet Potatoes | Pancake Mix | Raisins |
| Canned Tuna/Salmon/Chicken | Syrup | Microwave Popcorn |
| Canned Stew/Chili/Ravioli | Biscuit or Cornbread mix | Coco |
| Stuffing Mix | Spaghetti sauce | Coffee |
| | | Tea |

Special Requests:

\$25 Grocery Gift Cards for Turkeys or Hams and Pumpkin Pie

Easy open, single serving food items like Cup O Soup, Beanie Weanies, Ramen Noodle Cups, Fruit Cups, Snack Crackers, Protein Bars, Protein Drinks
Toilet Paper

In Matthew 25, Christ told us "I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.....Anything you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

We give thanks for the opportunity to share Christ's love through the gift of food at this time!

UUMC Traditional Worship Team



YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS THROUGH DECEMBER 2021

- November 7, 14 and 21 - Standard Sunday Youth Morning & Evening Schedule will be in place
- Pancake breakfast will be held at 10 a.m. on Sunday, November 28th, but there is NO Sunday evening Youth.
- NO Evening Youth on Sunday, December 5th. Students are encouraged to participate throughout the weekend with their families in The Living Christmas Story.
- YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY is Sunday, December 12th at 5-7 p.m. in the FMC Gym.
- YOUTH CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT is Sunday, December 19th at 6:00 p.m. (immediately following the 4:30 p.m. worship service) in the FMC Gym. Dinner, Snacks, Candy & Drinks will be provided. Wear a fun Christmas costume or Pajamas & bring a pillow or sleeping bag to crash on the floor.
- NO Youth Sunday gatherings on Sunday, December 26th.



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TLCS Costume Repair

Be sure to sign up to help with The Living Christmas Story. See where to sign up on page 7.

20

Youth of Union's First Basketball Game

Come out and support our Youth at their first Basketball Game at Union. From 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

The Living Nativity

The Living Nativity will be presented by the Union Praise Band on Sunday, December 19th at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. We are looking for children and youth ages 4-18 to participate. If your child or youth are interested please contact Michelle Cochcroft for more details: mgcochcroft@gmail.com or 803-463-1586. There will not be rehearsals prior to this year's service in order to adhere to covid guidelines, so we will be assigning roles and giving instructions by December 12, 2021.



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Adult handbell practice

Youth Leaps of Faith practice

Chancel Choir Rehearsal

25
and
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The Church Office Will Be Closed for Thanksgiving.

We hope that you have a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving and if you have family in town, we welcome them to join us at church Sunday!



United Methodist Women

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

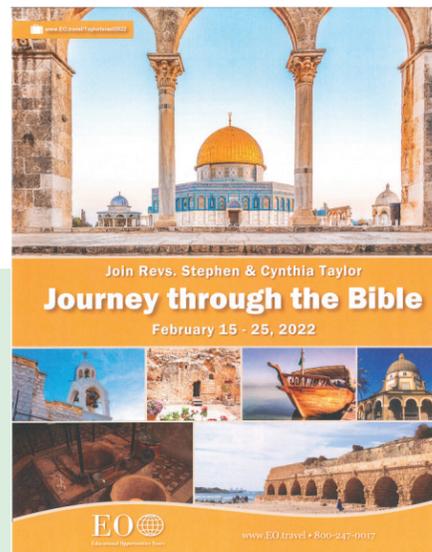
Spiritual Growth/Historian
Gail Elfert, celfert@aol.com

Education & Interpretation

Jane Davis, Janesdavis@yahoo.com

Secretary of Program Resources

Connie Warren, connieswarren33@gmail.com



For more Information, contact Rev. Taylor at stephen@unionirmo.org Brochures with more information on the trip are available in the Church Office Reception Area.

Leaving a Legacy for Union's Future: Union United Methodist Church Endowment Fund

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
Tony Chapman
Becky Dixon

David Elam
Ken Hubbard
John Mendenhall

Lewis Milligan
Jon Rychener
Rob Thompson



The 2022 flower calendar for 9:00 a.m. worship is now in the Narthex. Cost is \$42.50 per vase.

Memorials - Sept. 25th- Oct. 24th 2021

Given in memory of

Peggy Cureton: Llewellyn and Herb Hamas

Jarrett Davitte: Janelle and Dooley Womack

Frances Gunter: Rea Brown, Doris G. Latour, Ann and Tom Moore, Jane and John Brooks, Kathy Boland, Virginia and Gene Divers, Dorothy and Cyril Busbee, The Soul Sisters, Charles Belhassen, Jean and George How, Catherine and William Treacy, Kathy and Leon Hogan

Pam Head: Phil and Brenda Teague, Emily Faulkenberry, Phyllis and Zonnie Pendarvis, Arlene and Lewis Milligan, Gail and Charles Elfert, Terry and Steven Davitte, Lisa and Larry Bryant, Bob and Kathy Weathers, Mary and Edward Pool, Venice and Leon McCall, Suzie and Tom Gammon, Lora McKinney, Joyce and Morgan Stokely, Lee and Jean Hook, Erin and William Roberts, Dr. and Mrs. Marsh and Lynn Willis, Genie and Wendy Frontz, Barbara and Mike Watson, Jennifer and Mitchell Metts, The Joy Sunday

School Class, Barbara and William Hammett, Jean and George How, Mary and Robert Gillespie, Nancy and Gray Burdette, Kathy and Leon Hogan

Ted Olmstead: Meredith and Jon Rychener, Mr. and Mrs. William R. Hall

Don Pertl: Roberta and Robert Ferrell, Donna and William McElveen, Barry and Billy Lide, Greta and Marion Hawkins, Melanie and J. Lamar Lake, Arlene and Lewis Milligan, Llewellyn and Herb Hamas, Deb and Jeff Childs, Betsy and Silas Amick, Jean and Kenneth Peaden, Jonnie Mitchell, Ruth and Delano Jenkins, Dr. David Gotti and Etta Cornelia Parker, Etta C. Parker, John M. Stock, Kathy and Leon Hogan, The John Rowland Sunday School Class, Pamela and Lewis Knudsen, Margy Wood, Irene Banwart Goff, Mr. and Mrs. Miller, Jean Jeter, Addison Graves Wilson

Harriet Simpson's Brother Bob Spencer: Anna Bess Tisdale

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

Daughter of Mary Katherine Isbell Gramoskas, **Ann-Claire Isbell (Pippy)**
Jonnie Mitchell's sister, **Sandra Matthews**
Lisa O'Donnell's Father, **Belton Livingston**
Harriet Simpson's brother, **Bob Spencer**
Barbara Tanner's Mother-in-law, **Rosa Jacqueline "Jackie" Tanner**

NEW MEMBER
Oct. 3-Jenni and Drew Farmer and their two children Max(13) and Charlie (10)
Oct. 24-Betty Doggett

BAPTISM-Aug. 29th

Kristofer Nolan Masinsky, Parents: Gerald Steven Masinsky & Erika Veletto Masinsky

ROSEBUDS-Celebrate the births of
Wyatt Raymond Davidson, son of Ben and Kate Davidson of Folly Beach, grandson of Judy and Donnie Humphries, born August 27, 2021.

Our Ministry Team

Senior Minister
Rev. Stephen P. Taylor

Associate Minister
Rev. Sara Relaford

Minister of Visitation
Rev. David Anderson

Church Administrator
Susan Vinson

Administrative Assistant
Erin Schoolmeester

Finance
Barbara Tanner

Director of Communications and Promotions
Amanda Lovett

Director of Music Ministries
Don Kirkindoll

Coordinator of Contemporary Worship
Michelle Cochcroft

Facilities Manager
Ned Calvert

Asst. Facilities Manager
Steve Ragan

Director of Preschool/Kindergarten
Kathy Horne

Director of Ministries to Children & Families
Suzu Broadus

Director of Youth and Leisure Ministries
Eleanor Cannon

Nursery Coordinator
Stacy Burggraf

Production Manager
Jake Cosentino

Organist
Joey Rothfuss



02

PEP! trip to Newberry Opera House

For more info, or with any Event please contact Phyllis at Phyllisplyler@gmail.com or for Travel Excursions Linda Fogle at lshfogle@att.net

03

The Living Christmas Story Dec. 3-5

Join in the celebration of the 28th presentation of Union's Christmas gift to our community!

Read more on page 7.



11

Parents Time Out

Children ages infant to 1st grade \$10 per child, includes lunch or dinner. (Let us know of any allergies, when you sign up.)

Save the date: Nov. 3rd at 5:30 p.m. Union Returns to Zimbabwe March 26-April 8, 2022

Return to Zimbabwe fundraiser, #Raise the Roof, will be held in the FMC. There will be a dinner, entertainment, and a silent auction. Bring your family and friends. Tickets will be on sale in the Narthex before and after both services on Oct. 17, 24, and 31. If you have any questions, please email Lora McKinney At lrmckunc@gmail.com

Where is the Need?

Chitenderano UMC, Nyazura, Zimbabwe - Completion of their church which is a vital resource to the community for worship, refuge, and community outreach.

Hartzell High School, Old Mutare Mission Centre, Old Mutare, Zimbabwe. Hartzell is rebuilding after a fire in 2019 destroyed 8 classrooms and their library.

Ishe Anesu, Mutare, Zimbabwe - Afterschool Program that serves 70 children living in extreme poverty.



The Union Connection Deadline: 15th of each month

The Union Connection is a monthly publication of Union United Methodist Church.

Articles should be submitted to **Amanda Lovett, Director of Communications and Promotions, by the 15th of each month via email; Amanda@unionirmo.org.**



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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CUNION Connection

Union United Methodist Church Irmo, South Carolina

Sunday worship times:
9 a.m. Traditional worship
11 a.m. Contemporary worship
Telephone: 803-781-3013
Fax: 803-781-3034

www.unionirmo.org

Ministers:
Rev. Stephen P. Taylor, Senior Minister
Rev. Sara Relaford, Associate Minister

