

THE CORNERSTONE CONNECTION



*Reaching Up To Christ and Out To Each Other
October, 2024*

From the Pastor:

We're finally getting some cooler fall weather and it is nice. To go along with that, Church attendance has come up some, which is wonderful to see. We had a full choir in worship last Sunday which was awesome! Thanks to all who serve during worship!

Commensurate with increased Church attendance has been an increase in giving. Currently we have 36 folks who give regularly. The average monthly gift among those who give on a regular basis is \$300/month or \$3600/year. Of course, some give more than \$300/month (some significantly more), while others give less. The top four givers contribute almost 30% of the total, averaging more than \$800/month. We also have folks who are not Church members who send Cornerstone significant gifts each year.

But there are a number of folks who do not give on a regular basis. Sadly, some members give nothing at all. Currently we are significantly below meeting our monthly and annual budget (\$178,000) and haven't been able to pay apportionments since March. Not meeting apportionments will have an impact on our Church in the future, especially when the time comes for a pastoral change. District grants for capital improvements and new church ministry programs are also impacted by apportionment giving. We would like to have the ability to do far more in missions service than we are presently able to at current giving levels. On the next page is a breakdown of where apportionment money goes for 2024 (*from UMC Connectional Ministries*).

Typically the burden seems to fall on those who give significantly more to enable the Church to strive to meet budget. Remember that ratio, 30% of our total giving is from four people in an active membership of over 60. It would be nice if more folks could help share the load. Please remember as UMC members we vowed to support Cornerstone with our prayers, presence, gifts and service. We do membership audits based on maintaining these vows and where we see no activity, have to make very difficult decisions regarding who remains on the roll. The next audit is upcoming in 2025.

The Biblical basis for giving is the tithe or 10%. "Your first fruits shall be a tithe unto the Lord." Giving back to God before anything else is a sign of our trust in the Lord. It tells us where we place God in our life.

Financial stewardship is one of the least favorite subjects pastors have to write and preach about. I hope you understand my need to do so at this time. Please consider the needs of our Church and give as you are able in response to God's Grace.

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Peace, Duvin

connectional giving

makes a difference

South Carolina Conference

Conference Benevolences

\$2,339,964 (2023) | \$2,083,451 (2024)

Nurture and outreach arm of our Annual Conference. Largest portion supports congregational specialists and the administration and programs of Connectional Ministries, as well as the Board of Ordained Ministry, Archives and History, Cabinet emergency fund, the South Carolina United Methodist Advocate and the Episcopal residence.

Retiree Health/Transition/Contingency

\$800,000 (2023) | \$200,000 (2024)

Provides subsidy for health insurance premiums for retired clergy, and grant funds for those in significant transitions, such as disability.

District Superintendent Compensation

\$1,292,176 (2023) | \$1,292,176 (2024)

Provides salary of \$107,681 for each of the 12 superintendents.

Equitable Compensation Fund

\$565,000 (2023) | \$365,000 (2024)

Helps pay salaries of pastors serving churches that are not able to meet the minimum standards set by the Annual Conference. Also provides primary support for new church start pastors.

Conference Pass-Through to Affiliates

Senior College Scholarships

\$950,000 (2023) | \$850,000 (2024)

Helps provide quality education in a Christian setting for students at Claflin University and Columbia and Wofford colleges; 1/3 of total receipts goes to each institution.

Spartanburg Methodist College

\$588,018 (2023) | \$488,000 (2024)

Support fund for the college, providing academic programs, work-study opportunities and programs for those with special academic needs.

What is connectional giving?

The main way United Methodists support the ministries of the church is through our apportioned funds, a method of giving that proportionally allocates the church-wide budget to conferences and local churches.

District Administration

\$821,822 (2023) | \$746,822 (2024)

Provides for district office operations, secretary's salary, District Connectional Ministries, institutional share of the superintendent's pension and insurance, continuing education and travel.

Conference Administration

\$1,647,514 (2023) | \$1,435,814 (2024)

Covers expenses of the Annual Conference session, the Journal, conference secretary, treasurer's office, clergy services coordinator, other administrative expenses.

Congregational Development

\$955,708 (2023) | \$855,000 (2024)

Assists in the purchase of land for new church sites, helps newly organized churches and assists in revitalization programs for existing churches.

Campus Ministry

\$672,729 (2023) | \$600,000 (2024)

Supports full-time campus ministries in Charleston, Clemson, Columbia, Greenville, Orangeburg and Rock Hill, and part-time ministers in Florence and Greenwood.

Methodist Homes Resident Assistance

\$400,000 (2023) | \$375,000 (2024)

Supports residents of three retirement communities around the conference

Camps & Retreat Ministries

\$319,800 (2023) | \$284,000 (2024)

Provides for the development, operations and maintenance of facilities operated by South Carolina Camps & Retreat Ministries across the conference.

General & Jurisdictional

World Service

\$2,176,172 (2023) | \$1,849,746 (2024)

Lifeline of our connection. Supports the programs, resources and materials of the general boards and agencies at home and around the world.

Episcopal Fund

\$644,453 (2023) | \$547,785 (2024)

Funds our share of support for all active and retired bishops (salary, housing, travel, pensions, office expenses).

General Conference Administration

\$258,403 (2023) | \$219,643 (2024)

Covers expenses of the General Conference, Judicial Council, other General Church administrative agencies.

Ministerial Education

\$735,010 (2023) | \$624,759 (2024)

75% of receipts support United Methodist seminaries and 25% remains in South Carolina for scholarships and grants to seminary students.

Interdenominational Cooperation Fund

\$57,483 (2023) | \$48,861 (2024)

Supports church activities in mission with other Christian communions (the World and National Councils of Churches and the Consultation on Church Union).

Black College Fund

\$293,189 (2023) | \$249,211 (2024)

Support for 10 historically black United Methodist colleges (including Claflin University) and one medical school in the United States.

Africa University Fund

\$65,614 (2023) | \$55,772 (2024)

Continues development of the United Methodist university in Zimbabwe.

Jurisdiction Mission/Ministry

\$29,328 (2023) | \$29,328 (2024)

Covers expenses of Jurisdictional Conference, missions, programs and administration of the SEJ.

A PDF version of this publication can be downloaded at umcsc.org/treasurer.

Lectionary Study for October:



Sunday, Oct. 6th:

Job 1:1; 2:1-10
Ps 26 or Ps 25 (UMH 756)
Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12
Mark 10:2-16

Sunday, Oct. 20th:

Job 38:1-7 (34-41)
Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c (UMH 826)
Hebrew 5:1-10
Mark 10:35-45

Sunday, Oct. 13th:

Job 23:1-9, 16-17
Psalm 22:1-15 (UMH 752)
Hebrew 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31

Sunday, Oct. 27th:

Job 42:1-6, 10-17
Psalm 34:1-8 (19-22) (UMH 769)
Hebrew 7:23-28
Mark 10:46-52

October Birthdays:

4th Kim Williams
13th Carol Painter
18th Jakob McClain
26th Roxy McClain
28th Maria Corley
29th Robert Smith
30th Irish Mae Haldeman
31st Carol Bennett

October Anniversary:

29th Dan & Crystal Sliva

Coming up Next Month:

November Birthdays:

1st Marty Monahan
2nd Patrick Stovall
3rd Lisa Starnes
8th Crystal Sliva
18th Linda Waites
23rd Carol Martin
25th Bill Fincher
25th Ellen Helms
25th Matt Starnes
27th Sharron Jones

November Anniversaries:

11th Robert & Billie Smith
21st Mark & Irish Haldeman

Please contact Church office if there are any additions or corrections to the birthday & anniversary list.

For prayer e-mail and/or bulletin prayer list requests please notify the church office, 328-1496 or crnrstone@comporium.net (office hours are Mon-Thurs 9-2 p.m.). When the church office is closed, leave a voice mail on office phone or you may also email, call or text church secretary, Cary Bartelmo, cbartelmo@comporium.net; 803-372-7923.

Debbie Jackson has a Card Ministry—please contact her if you would like someone to receive a greeting card. 803-417-3510

Cornerstone's *Instagram* page: [Cornerstone UMC Rock Hill, SC \(@umc.cornerstone\)](https://www.instagram.com/umc.cornerstone) • [Instagram photos and videos](#)

To view the worship service each Sunday on Cornerstone's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CornerstoneUMCRockHill/>

Scripture reader schedule for Oct.:

Oct. 6th: Diane Brewer
 Oct. 13th: Steph Pilecki
 Oct. 20th: Steve Pilecki
 Oct. 27th: Randy Hayes

If you are interested in being a scripture reader for worship services, contact church office.

For November:

Nov. 3rd: Steve Pilecki
 Nov. 10th: Diane Brewer
 Nov. 17th: Steph Pilecki
 Nov. 24th: Randy Hayes

Acolyte Schedule for Oct.:

Oct. 6th: Teresa Boehme
 Oct. 13th: DeeDee Anthony
 Oct. 20th: Elijah Henke
 Oct. 27th: Gavin Sliva

For November:

Nov. 3rd: Emery Sliva
 Nov. 10th: Elijah Henke
 Nov. 17th: Steph Pilecki
 Nov. 24th: Ken Jones

Schedule for offering counters (Sunday mornings):

Oct. 6th: Linda McCallum; Dan Sliva
 Oct. 13th: Debbie Jackson; Diana Deyton
 Oct. 20th: Dale Williams; Randy Hayes
 Oct. 27th: Debbie Jackson; Howard McCallum

Nov. 3rd: Linda McCallum; Dan Sliva
 Nov. 10th: Debbie Jackson; Diana Deyton
 Nov. 17th: Dale Williams; Randy Hayes
 Nov. 24th: D. Jackson; H. McCallum

Youth Group will begin meets the 3rd Sunday of each month from 5-7 p.m.

This month we will meet at Striker's Bowling alley at 5:00 for bowling with the children!

Mission Project:

Christmas Stockings for Children in Jeremie, Haiti

These Christmas stockings will be distributed by the Methodist Church of Haiti in the Jeremie region to the needy children at Christmas, who otherwise would not have a gift.

These stockings should include the following items:

- Large tube of toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Bath size bar of soap (such as Dial)
- Large plastic bottle of shampoo
- One washcloth
- One comb
- One pair of child's underwear (girls or boys)
- One toy (e.g.: stuffed animal)
- One bag of candy (mints or hard)

All of the above should be packaged in a 2-gallon sized Ziploc bag. Please put a large decorative Christmas sticker on the outside of each bag. Please send \$1.00 for each Christmas stocking to help cover the shipping expenses. Deadline to have in at church is Oct. 24.

Memorials*In Memory Of:*

Rick Hasenjaeger
Rick Hasenjaeger
Rick Hasenjaeger
Rick Hasenjaeger
Rick Hasenjaeger
Leoda Starnes
Leoda Starnes
Leoda Starnes
Leoda Starnes
Rick Hasenjaeger
Leoda Starnes
Rick Hasenjaeger
Mark Rodman
Leoda Starnes
Leoda Starnes
Rick Hasenjaeger

Given By:

Debbie Jackson
Ken & Sharron Jones
Randy & Lynn Hayes
Joe & Gail Lee
Greg & Val Lytton
Brenda & Leon Yard
Susan Vinson
Joe & Gail Lee
Linda Grant
Mike & Carol Painter
Bob & Sherry McElrath
Cindy Tucker
Lynda Rodman
Lynda Rodman
Carol Martin
Johnny & Kathy Starnes

Honorariums*In Honor of:*

Pastor Irvin Plowden, Jr.
Pastor Irvin Plowden, Jr.
Pastor Irvin Plowden, Jr.

Given By:

Ken & Sharron Jones
Anne Price
Linda & Howard McCallum

(Memorials and Honorariums shown are through October 13th)

From Don Stafford's family:

Dear Cornerstone family:

Words cannot express our gratitude for all of your thoughts and kindness. Your support during this time will forever be appreciated.

Your prayers were felt! Thank you for all these years.

The Stafford Family

Charge Conference will be held Sunday, November 3rd at Epworth UMC.

COMING UP SATURDAY, NOV. 2nd: Senior group (GPS) will be traveling to Charlotte to visit the Sullenberger Aviation Museum and then go to lunch afterward. Contact Debbie Jackson with questions. Sign up sheet in back of Sanctuary.

If you would like to help the UMM feed breakfast at the Bethel Men's Shelter Christmas morning, there is a sign-up sheet in back of the Sanctuary.



Volunteers are welcome to provide a trunk for the Trunk-or-Treat on October 31st, from 5:00-6:30 p.m.! Candy donations are also welcome—bring to church Sanctuary.

Individual snack items and k-cups are collected and taken to the hospice house each month by JoAnn Till and Marlene Dial. The collection basket is in the Wesley fellowship room.

If you are not a member of the choir, but would like to participate in the Christmas Cantata on December 14th, please come to the choir practices, held every Wednesday evening at 6:00 p.m. We'd love to have the extra voices!

Year-to-date financial status as of 9/30/24:

Undesignated donations: \$116,702.07

Overhead distributions: \$120,052.21

Bottom line for year: \$ (3,350.14)

Apportionments past due: March, April, May, June, July, August, September:

Balance due: \$9,297.75

*Sharron Jones, Finance Chair
Johnny Starnes, Treasurer*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <i>Pastor Irvin - vacation</i>	2 <i>6:00 Choir practice</i> <i>Pastor Irvin - vacation</i>	3 <i>6:00 pm Addie McClintock Circle</i> <i>Pastor Irvin - vacation</i>	4 <i>Pastor Irvin - vacation</i>	5 <i>Pastor Irvin - vacation</i>
6 <i>No Communion</i> <i>-9:30 Good Eats</i> <i>-9:45 S.S.</i> <i>-11 am Worship</i> <i>-12:15 pm Trustee meeting</i> <i>Pastor Irvin - vacation</i>	7 <i>10:30 am Devotional study at CUMC</i>	8	9 <i>6:00 pm Choir practice</i>	10	11	12 <i>Church picnic at Chester State Park</i>
13 Communion <i>-9:30 Good Eats</i> <i>-9:45 Sunday Sch</i> <i>-11 am Worship</i> <i>5:15 pm Finance</i> <i>6:00 pm Church Council mtg</i>	14 <i>10:30 am Devotional study at CUMC</i>	15 <i>6:00 pm Wings of Faith Circle meeting</i>	16 <i>6:00 pm Choir practice</i>	17	18	19
20 <i>-9:30 am Good Eats fellowship</i> <i>-9:45 am S.S.</i> <i>-11 am Worship</i> <i>-5-7 pm Youth group</i>	21 <i>10:30 am Devotional study at Cornerstone</i> <i>6:30 pm UMM meeting</i>	22 <i>Charge Conference reports due in to church office</i>	23 <i>6:00 pm Choir practice</i>	24 <i>Haiti Christmas stockings due in</i>	25	26
27 <i>-9:30 am Good Eats fellowship</i> <i>-9:45 am Sunday School</i> <i>-11 am Worship</i>	28 <i>10:30 am Devotional study at Cornerstone</i>	29	30 <i>6:00 pm Choir practice</i>	31 Halloween <i>Trunk or Treat at Cornerstone 5:00-6:30 pm</i>		
		<u>Offering Counters</u> <i>6th: L. McCallum Dan Sliva</i> <i>13th: Debbie J.; Diana Deyton</i> <i>20th: D. WilliamsRandy Hayes</i> <i>27th: Debbie J.; H. McCallum</i>	<u>Scripture Readers</u> <i>6th: Diane Brewer</i> <i>13th: Steph Pilecki</i> <i>20th: Ken Jones</i> <i>27th: Randy Hayes</i>	<u>Acolytes:</u> <i>6th: Teresa Boehme</i> <i>13th: DeeDee Anthony</i> <i>20th: Eli Henke</i> <i>27th: G. Sliva</i>	<u>Opening & Closing:</u> <i>Johnny Starnes</i> <u>Altar Guild</u> <i>Maxine Smith</i>	<u>Sunday Worship Schedule:</u> <i>9:30 am Good Eats fellowship</i> <i>9:45 am Sunday School</i> <i>11 a.m. Worship Service</i>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Senior group (GPS) trip to museum in Charlotte (set clocks back 1 hour before bed)
3 Communion All Saints Sunday -9:30 Good Eats -9:45 S.S. -11 am Worship -12:15 pm Trustee mtg -3 pm Charge Conf. at Epworth Daylight Saving Time ends	4 10:30 am Devotional study at CUMC	5 (General election voting at CUMC)	6 6:00 pm Choir practice	7 6:00 pm Addie McClintock Circle	8	9
10 -9:30 Good Eats -9:45 Sunday Sch -11 am Worship 5:15 pm Finance 6:00 pm Church Council mtg	11 Veterans Day 10:30 am Devotional study at CUMC UWF feeding Winthrop Wesley	12 6:00 pm Wings of Faith Circle meeting	13 6:00 pm Choir practice	14	15	16
17 -9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 am S.S. -11 am Worship -5-7 pm Youth group	18 10:30 am Devotional study at Cornerstone 6:30 pm UMM meeting	19	20 6:00 pm Choir practice	21	22	23
24 Christ the King Sunday -9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 am Sunday School -11 am Worship	25 10:30 am Devotional study at Cornerstone	26	27 No Choir practice	28 Thanksgiving Day (Office closed)	29	30
		Offering Counters 3rd: L. McCallum Dan Sliva 10th: Debbie J.; Diana Deyton 17th: D. Williams Randy Hayes 24th: Debbie J.; H. McCallum	Scripture Readers 3rd: Steve Pilecki 10th: Diane Brewer 17th: Steph Pilecki 24th: Randy Hayes	Acolytes: 3rd: Emery Sliva 10th: Elijah Henke 17th: Steph Pilecki 24th: Ken Jones	Opening & Closing: Johnny Starnes Altar Guild Maxine Smith	Sunday Worship Schedule: 9:30 am Good Eats fellowship 9:45 am Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Service