



# WIGHTMAN ALERT

Issued to Alert You to Church Matters

## From the Pastor

In last month's newsletter, I spoke briefly about the "Disaffiliation Process" that is consuming so much time, energy and money for many United Methodist Churches across our denomination. In that newsletter, I urged all of us who call ourselves "United Methodists" to be lifting these matters up to God in prayer, and to make sure that all our thoughts and conversations regarding this issue be shaped by the spirit of Christ, with the love of God and neighbor as our aim. I write this month to repeat and reinforce this sentiment. John Wesley once said, "Proceed with much prayer and your way will be made plain."

This Sunday, April 30, at 5:30 PM in the Sanctuary, we will have our 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Prayer and Healing Service, and our time will be dedicated to taking all these matters to the Lord, in prayer. I hope you will join us in bathing our church in prayer as we navigate these unknown and uncertain waters before us.

As we seek God's will to be made plain for us as a congregation, we will undoubtedly have different opinions on what our course of action should be, going forward. For now, our next faithful step is to have our Congregational Specialist, Rev. Jim Arant, come to inform us on the Disaffiliation Process as laid out before us by our Bishop and Conference Trustees. This will take place on May 21 at 12:30 PM, so mark your calendar and plan to join us for this important learning session in our Christian Life Center. A snack lunch will be provided for those who may need one.

Alexander Pope is credited with the phrase, "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread." And several biblical proverbs speak to the wisdom of carefully contemplating one's steps, rather than rushing forward impetuously without thinking. So, with that in mind, let's all do our homework, doing all we can to inform ourselves. And, let's make sure that we also "proceed with much prayer" asking that our "way will be made plain". Our church's future is ultimately in God's hands, but each of us are a part of the decision-making process that will determine what that future will look like.

Joining hands and hearts with you in prayer,  
Pastor B



### Epworth Offering



Each year, Epworth Children's Home provides care to children in our own communities who have experienced abuse, neglect, and loss. Epworth's care breaks the destructive cycle and encourages children to aim higher in life. The physical, emotional, academic, and spiritual care they receive transforms their lives. On Sunday, May 14, our congregation will support Epworth by collecting the annual Epworth Mother's Day Offering. Epworth does not receive apportionments from the United Methodist Conference. This offering is our opportunity to support this vital ministry. For more information, please visit Epworth online [www.epworthchildrenshome.org](http://www.epworthchildrenshome.org).



### Graduate Recognition

May 21, 2023



Our graduates will be recognized during the worship services on May 21. If you are aware of members who are graduating from high school, tech school, college, or who are receiving other degrees, please inform the church office (364-2340) by May 12.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

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May 1 - Al Farmer, Jared Parnell, Mason Wise  
2 - Brenda Perry, Philip Taylor  
3 - Ron Wood  
4 - Eddie Killian, Griffin Scofield  
5 - Johnette Kinard, Susan Lowder,  
Ryan Studer  
6 - Pam Martin, Debra Weatherly,  
Blake Cantrell  
7 - Christy Bouknight, Silas Dominick  
8 - Madison Butler 9 - Kandy Dameron  
10 - Audra Guy  
11 - Neva Caldwell, Hannah DeVall,  
12 - Darrell Beckham 13 - Jane Broughton  
14 - Ron Charette, Hailey Roach  
16 - Rita DeVall  
17 - Jackson Owens, Whitney Wadsworth  
18 - Karon Hazel, Landon Hamm  
20 - Henry Dominick, Penn Engen,  
Eric Nolting  
21 - Nick Counts 23 - Stone Beckham  
25 - Hudson Defreeze, Cindy Pitts,  
JonAnn Lemoine 26 - Victoria Shealy  
27 - Emily Caudill, Brandon Wood, Paxton Joiner

28 - Adleigh Hamm, Brooks Hamm  
29 - Ronnie Summer  
30 - Tiara Bradburn  
31 - Levi Joiner, Ashley Moore

*Happy Anniversary!*

May 2 - Gary and Tina Hooker  
2 - Tommy and Jackie Bowers  
4 - Bert and Camille Dixon  
7 - Joe and Ruby Miller  
11 - James and Zadean Bouknight  
15 - Glenn and Kim Hamm  
16 - Bennett and Angie Garner  
19 - Robbie and Jennifer Amick  
21 - Joshua and Brooke Pressley  
22 - Eric and Candace Nolting  
23 - Ken and Emily Cope  
Tyler and Elizabeth Turner  
25 - Jonathan and Emily Metts  
28 - David and Helen Mitchell  
30 - Nick and Cayce Scofield  
31 - Woody and Mary Wilkie  
31 - Ron and Jan Wood

## May Assistants Traditional Service (9:00)

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### **ACOLYTES**

May 7 - Kyle Graham  
14 - Jayden Kinard  
21 - Ethan Counts-Wohnig  
28 - Nolan Amick

### **CROSS BEARERS**

May 7 - Madison Graham  
14 - Helen Mitchell  
21 - Charlotte Hargreaves  
28 - Jennifer Amick

### **USHERS**

Frank Harmon, Ken Cope,  
Eddy Richardson, Leonard May

### **GREETERS**

Tommy and Jackie Bowers

### **TRUSTEE**

Lee Boozer

### **LAY READER**

May 7 - Dianne Cotney  
14 - Mitch Lowder  
21 - Madison Graham  
28 - David Mitchell

## May Assistants Contemporary Service (11:15)

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### **GREETERS**

Chris and Madison Butler

### **USHERS**

Todd Studer, Jared Jones,  
Daniel Floyd, Joe Palmer

### **LAY READERS**

May 7 - Josh Meetze  
14 - Tristan Lever  
21 - Laura Kneece  
28 - Daniel Floyd

## Memorial Gifts

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### **Operating Budget**

In memory of Von Hiller by Karen Bowers  
In memory of Von Hiller by Joan Mills  
In memory of Eddie Graham by Georgie Faye Fulmer

## Thank You

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The family of Von Hiller would like to thank you for taking the time to provide a meal for our family. Your kindness was sincerely appreciated. Mary, Brandie, Jeremy

# Mystery Dinner Theater

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Wightman's very first Mystery Dinner production will be held May 20th at 12:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.! While watching the play, "I Wed Three Wives," the audience will be served a delicious chicken dinner with cheesecake for dessert. Tables of 6 will work together in an effort to solve the mystery and win a prize. The tickets are \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children twelve years and younger. They must be purchased in advance from Ruby Point Miller, Linda Richardson, Lucy Thompson, Daniel Floyd, or the church office. Make checks out to Wightman UMC, marked "Mystery Dinner." All proceeds will benefit our summer Youth mission trip and future adult mission trips. Thanks for your enthusiastic support of this ministry to engage our community and help fund our church's missional outreach.



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## Monthly Financial Summary

General Funds (total)	\$ 152,165.61
Designated Funds	66,865.34
General Funds Available	85,300.27
Capital Improvement Fund	<u>176,214.29</u>
Total Funds	\$328,379.90

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## Average Attendance for April

9:00 Worship	- 147
11:15 Worship	- 100
Combined Worship	- 247
Church School	- 120

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## Coffee Ministry

Do you enjoy having coffee available at Wightman on Sunday mornings? If so, you may like helping the Coffee Team so that the coffee is always available for everyone to enjoy. There are many things you can do and they take very little time as long as we have plenty of people to help. Please contact Marquerite Palmer if you are able to help with any of the following jobs. Cannot help every Sunday? That is okay! Just let Marquerite know what you can do.

Sunday coffee help needed at the following times:

Task 1: 8:15 AM -9:00 AM - Make 4-8 carafes of coffee and set up the coffee station before first service. Once this is done, another team member can do the next task.

Task 2: 9:45 AM - 10:10AM - Check on the carafes to see if more coffee needs to be made or if empty carafes need to be cleaned and put away. Also check to see if more creamer and sugar need to be put at the coffee station.

Task 3: 12:15 PM. At the end of the second service, empty, clean, and put away coffee carafes. Put away the coffee station items and wipe down the countertop or table where the coffee is served.

The Coffee Team Coordinator makes sure there is coffee, sugar, creamer, and other supplies available for the team to use. They also check in with the rest of the team before Sunday to make sure all the jobs are covered for the upcoming Sunday. We are so thankful for the folks who faithfully help with getting the coffee made and ready for all to enjoy. We are excited to add some new members to our team! One of the team members will show you what to do and how to do it. To reach Marquerite you can email her at [mppottery@gmail.com](mailto:mppottery@gmail.com). Text or call her cell at 803-924-6028. Please leave a message if she is unavailable to answer.

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## Mark Your Calendars

Reverend Jim Arant, our district congregational specialist, will be at Wightman Sunday, May 21, at 12:30 p.m. in the Christian Life Center. He will make a presentation to the congregation on the disaffiliation process. This is open to the entire congregation.

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## Ellen Stephens

Ellen Stephens has been moved to White Oak Estate, room 108. The address is 400 Webber Road, Spartanburg, SC 29037. If you'd like to call her, you can reach her at (803)924-1042.

## Baptisms



The sacrament of Holy Baptism was administered to Kaysen Alexander Floyd and Jensen Elizabeth Floyd, son and daughter of Rosemary and Daniel Floyd, on April 23.

## Welcome New Members!



We are happy to welcome Brent and Amanda Jones to our church family. Brent joined by Profession of Faith and Amanda by Reaffirmation of Faith and transfer from Warren Baptist Church in Augusta, Georgia. Brent is an Southeast Area insurance adjuster, a subsidiary of State Farm, and Amanda is an on-line kindergarten teacher for the state of Georgia. They attend the 11:15 AM Worship Service.

## JOY Group

The upcoming JOY Group meeting is Monday, June 12, and it will be an Italian Day! Games and entertainment begin at 11:00 followed by a spaghetti and salad lunch at 12:00 p.m. noon.

## United Women In Faith



United Women in Faith

South Carolina Conference

United Women in Faith will meet on Tuesday, May 2 in the Old Fellowship Hall at 3:00 pm. Maryanne Atkinson will provide the snack for the social part of the meeting. Bebe Way will have the program - "Bold Women of Faith". Bring some items for the Shoebox Ministry. All women of the church who are wanting to provide mission for children, youth & women are invited to attend.



# UMKIDS



### Children's Sermons

May 7 - Communion  
14 - Anna Farmer  
21 - Madison Graham  
28 - Rosemary Bowers



### Children's Church

May 7 - Jesus is the Way  
14 - Jesus gives us the Comforter  
21 - Up Up and Away  
28 - Filled with the Holy Spirit

## Thank You!

Thank you to all who came to our Easter Eggstravaganza!!! Despite the weather, there were plenty of volunteers to help, as well as those who came to enjoy all the fun activities! We had approximately 45 children for the Easter story and egg hunt.



**Vacation Bible School**  
**July 9 - 13, 2023**

It's going to be  
**STELLAR!!**

## VBS Volunteer Meeting



VBS theme is STELLAR!!! We will have a meeting for VBS for ALL volunteers on Tuesday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m. Please make sure you let Jennifer Boozer know if you have a conflict.



# May 2023

<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> United Women in Faith - 3:00 pm	<b>3</b> Bible Study - 6:30 am  M&Ms - 11:00  Choir - 6:30 pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> Holy Communion - 9:00 and 11:15 am Emmaus Luncheon - 12:30 pm  Youth - 4:30-6:00	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Bible Study - 6:30 am  M&Ms - 11:00  Choir - 6:30 pm	<b>11</b>  Staff Meeting - 7:00 pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Mother's Day Epworth Offering	<b>15</b>  UMMen & SOS - 7:00 pm	<b>16</b>  VBS Volunteer Meeting - 7:00 pm	<b>17</b> Bible Study - 6:30 am  M&Ms - 11:00  Choir - 6:30 pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  Mystery Dinner Theater - 12:00 noon & 5:30 pm
<b>21</b> Graduate Sunday  Congregational Specialist - 12:30 pm in CLC	<b>22</b> Newsletter Deadline-12:00 pm  Loaves and Fishes - 5:30-7:00 pm	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Bible Study - 6:30 am M&Ms - 11:00 Newsletter Staff - 2:30 pm Choir - 6:30 pm	<b>25</b>  Friends of God (FOG) - 5:00 pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Memorial Day  Church Offices Closed	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Bible Study - 6:30 am  M&Ms - 11:00  Choir - 6:30 pm			

**WIGHTMAN UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH**

Rev. Ben L. Barnett, Pastor  
P. O. Box 376  
Prosperity, South Carolina 29127

Phone: 364-2340  
Pastor's Cell Phone: 843-274-0898  
Church E-Mail: [secretary@wightmanumc.org](mailto:secretary@wightmanumc.org)  
Pastor's E-Mail: [blbarnett@umcsc.org](mailto:blbarnett@umcsc.org)  
Web Site: [www.wightmanumc.org](http://www.wightmanumc.org)

**Sunday Schedule**

**Traditional Worship – 9:00 a.m.**  
**Sunday School – 10:15 a.m.**  
**Contemporary Service – 11:15 a.m.**



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