



ASHLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A STEPHEN MINISTRY CONGREGATION

Joining Together on a Christian Journey of Love and Service

April 2024

2600 Ashland Rd
Columbia, SC 29210
ashlandumc.org

The Reverend Scott Efird, Pastor

pastor@ashlandumc.org

Phone Ext. 15

The Path: 8:45 AM Traditional: 11:00 AM Sunday School: 10:00 AM

Office Hours: M-Th: 8 am-3:30 pm

Telephone: (803) 798-5350

Prayer

General Conference will begin session this month, April 23rd, and ending May 3rd. Prior to this conference, Ashland's administrative church council has recommended each church member to be educated about what issues are on the agenda and what to include in prayers. Just about every Sunday School class has viewed the video series offered by the Revs. Rob Renfroe and Adam Hamilton. The church has also posted this video series as well as other information, easily accessible on the church's website and will remain accessible for several months. My door continues to be open if you need to further your interest and if you have any questions or concerns.

Now is the time for prayer. I ask each and every one of you either add to your personal prayer list or to set aside time in your day to offer up a special prayer for the General Conference. If you find difficulty starting, I offer the following outline:

1. Seek first the Kingdom (Matthew 6:33, Luke 12:31).
2. Recognize God's Holiness (Matthew 6:9-10, Luke 11:2).
3. Confess your struggle and shortcomings (Isaiah 6:5).
4. Submit to God's grace (Isaiah 6:6).
5. Honestly offer what is on your heart (Philippians 3:6)
6. Know that God responds (Philippians 3:7)

Prayer is a powerful response to anything that effects the head, heart, soul, and body. My prayer for you is to find the strength and courage to be diligent in prayer and steadfast in service. Throughout all of this, no matter the outcome, "Love the Lord our God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." (Mark 12:30) And, "Love your neighbor as yourself." (Mark 12:31).

Blessings,
Scott

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Jack Holladay
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The Path, Ashland Youth Choir

Karen Zobel
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Maria Anderson
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Robert Neese
music@ashlandumc.org
Traditional Worship Choir, Organist

Rev. Reggie Rowell
nurture@ashlandumc.org
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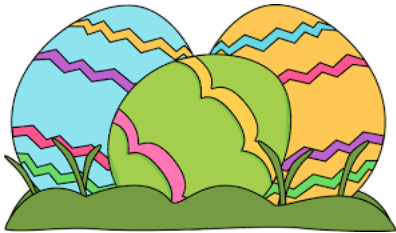
Laura Siddons
Pianist

Lenten Schedule

Thursday, March 28th, 6:00 PM, Family Ministry
Covered Dish Dinner followed by the Seder Meal.

Friday, March 29th, 5:00 PM, Easter Egg Hunt Set-Up. Come help transform the church grounds and Ashland Hall for our annual egg hunt. We'll be setting up craft stations, the Bible story station, and games. If you're available to help, please contact Ryan at youth@ashlandumc.org or 803-798-5350 ext. 12.

Saturday, March 30th, 10:00 AM-Noon, Easter Egg Hunt. Join the festivities as Ashland welcomes hundreds of people from the community onto our campus for a morning of fun, candy, and sharing the resurrection story. We need all hands on deck to help finalize the hunt and make sure everything runs smoothly. Contact Ryan if you plan to help with crafts, eggs, or anything else! We're excited to see everyone come out!



Sunday, March 31st, Easter Sunday
8:45 AM, The Path Worship Service
10:00 AM, Sunday School
11:00 AM, Traditional Worship Service

Prayer Dinner

Hosted by Ashland Family Ministries
Tuesday, April 23rd
6:30 PM
Ashland Hall

Join us for dinner and a time of prayer. The church will provide protein for dinner, everyone is invited to bring a side dish or dessert. After a dinner and fellowship, we will gather together and pray for the United Methodist Church as the 2024 General Conference begins.

Come Celebrate Our 10 Year Anniversary!!

Family Promise's annual gala is being held on April 26th at Junction 800 in the Vista. Dawn Staley will be the guest of honor. Tickets are \$100 and we will collect through Ashland and then submit to Family Promise for our reserved table. See Ann Smoak or Jim Newcomb for additional information.

Thank You

I want to thank our Ashland family for the words of encouragement, cards, prayers, and delicious food and meals sent to us during my recent surgery/recovery.
~Karen McClive

Thanks to the Ashland family for all acts of kindnesses shown to me and my family during the loss of my son, Tommy Suddeth. ~June Suddeth

My thanks to my church family for the prayers, good wishes, cards, calls, the prayer square, and the hugs. ~BJ Bickers

Dear Ashland United Methodist Church: Thank you so very much for your prayers and support during Ryan's hospital stay. It meant a lot to us knowing that you were praying for Ryan and our family during this time. We know God had a hand on Ryan and helped guide him through his ordeal. Your thoughtfulness helped lift our spirits. ~Love, the Fournier Family (Jessica, Allen, Allyson, Nick, Ryan)



Ashland Readers

Ashland Readers will meet on April 21, 2024, at 3:00 in the Faithwalkers classroom. Please bring your suggestions for future books. Below are the upcoming discussions:

April 21, 2024: Grandma Gatewood's Walk
by Ben Montgomery

May 19, 2024: The Caretaker
by Ron Rash

June 23, 2024: Trust
by Hernan Diaz

July 21, 2024: The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo
by Taylor Jenkins Reid

Trustee Accomplishments

- Although our church workday was cancelled due to rain, some clean-up was able to be completed with more to come.
- Seesaw on playground repaired.
- Photo cell on exterior light of picnic shelter replaced.
- Contacted Insurance Company to review church policy to determine if updates are needed.
- Obtained bids for new roofing company for biannual maintenance as well as repairs.
- Obtained bids to have access control panel added to front doors to increase security.
- Caulked several windows to stop leaks during rainstorms.
- Cut down re-grown trees in grass parking lot- chemically treated to prevent re-growth.
- Janitorial closet had initial clean out with a follow up purge to be scheduled.



Our new florist is Lexington Florist. We are using smaller vases to keep the price down. The current prices are: 1 vase - \$75.00, 2 vases - \$105.00.

Sign up for flowers on the flower calendar beside room 138. You may give flowers in one of three ways:

- 1) Order from Lexington Florist through Maria - they will deliver.
- 2) Make your own arrangement and place in the sanctuary.
- 3) Have someone or another florist make an arrangement. Donor is responsible for placing in the sanctuary.

When Maria calls you about the flowers, please tell her which option you are choosing.

United Methodist Youth

All 6th - 12th graders welcome!

Thoughts? Questions? Ideas? Want to join our email list?

803.798.5350 x 12 youth@ashlandumc.org

March 22-24th	Spring Retreat
Sunday, March 24th	NO MYF
Friday, March 29th	6:30 PM MYF Bible Study
	8:00 PM 5 th Quarter
Saturday, March 30th	10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday, March 31st	No MYF – Happy Easter
Sunday, April 7th	4:30 PM – Youth Music
	5:30 PM - MYF
Sunday, April 14th	4:30 PM – Youth Music
	5:30 PM - MYF
Sunday, April 21st	4:30 PM – Youth Music
	5:30 PM – MYF
Friday, April 26th	6:00 PM – Mercy Me/Newsboys Concert
Sunday, April 28th	4:30 PM – Youth Music
	5:30 PM - MYF



Come join Mrs. Haley and Mrs. Sara in room #105 for ACME on Sunday Nights at 5:30 PM. ACME will not meet on March 24th or March 31st.



Mark your calendars! You're invited to Camp Firelight June 17-21st. VBS is based on Psalm 56:3: "Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in you." This verse reminds us that we can trust God no matter what challenges we face in life. Camp Firelight invites us to put our trust in God in every situation, including during times when we might be afraid. Camp registration opens March 30th!

**Ashland United Methodist Church
2600 Ashland Rd
Columbia, SC 29210**

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Remember in Prayer

Bud Graczyk

Ladd Harrelson

McClive & Monts Families

The Suddeth Family

United Methodist Church as it approaches

General Conference

April 23-May 3, 2024

Charlotte, NC

For pastoral care after office hours, below is the ministers' contact information:



Rev. Scott Efird
(843) 714-7699

Rev. Reggie Rowell
(843) 697-6967