



ASHLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Joining Together on a Christian Journey of Love and Service

March 2026

2600 Ashland Rd
Columbia, SC 29210
ashlandumc.org

The Rev. Jonathan Harris, 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

Ashland family,

It continues to bring me joy to see the ways God is at work through you! I celebrate the hard work that Ashland's ASAP team put into planning, decorating, and creating a meaningful fellowship time on Valentine's Day. I celebrate the Faith Development team's planning (and Ed Spratt's cooking!) for a well-attended, meaningful Shrove Tuesday dinner. I celebrate your hospitality as you welcomed students from the Irmo High Jazz Band, along with their families, making them feel at home. Thank you!

This month, I celebrate Ashland's missional generosity. As I shared last month, Ashland has a goal that 10 percent of its expenditures will be for missions. Between the budget, missional parts of our apportionments, special offerings, and other gifts made by the church or by groups within the church, Ashland spent \$3,440 on missions in January, which was 9.7% of total expenditures. I will continue to share these numbers each month, both to celebrate your generosity and to help us stay accountable for ensuring that missional giving continues to be a priority.

Another celebration this month is the new sign! As I write, we expect to hear the outcome of the second grant request for the sign within the week, which would offset part of the cost. In the meantime, please consider attending a training from 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 4 for making updates to the content on the sign so that as many people as possible are equipped to support the important work of communicating with our neighbors.

I celebrate the many volunteers who continue to give leadership to technology and to children's, youth, and adult ministries while I continue working with the Staff-Parish Relations Committee on longer-term staff support for these ministries. We have a group of twelve children and youth who consistently participate on Sunday mornings and/or evenings. I celebrate the relationships they are forming with one another, and I invite you to come see them on Sundays at 4:30. I also invite you to show up at any plays, games, concerts, and other performances for Ashland's children and youth, which we have started adding to the weekly calendar in the bulletin.

I celebrate the Lenten study Hal Clarkson has begun leading, the great response the congregation has shown, and the ways people are growing closer to one another, closer to God, and in their knowledge and understanding of Scripture.

Last, but not least, I celebrate Ashland's hardworking staff: Alena, Hao, Karen, Maria, and Robert. These servants work hard behind the scenes, sharing their gifts, graces, and time to strengthen Ashland's ministry. When you have a chance, thank them for their service to God's Church!

In Christ, Pastor Jonathan

Karen Zobel
finance@ashlandumc.org
Ext. 13

Maria Anderson
office@ashlandumc.org
Ext. 10

Robert Neese
music@ashlandumc.org
Ext. 11

Short-term grief support for those who have lost a child or grandchild

Erin Koeske from Live Oak Counseling Center will be leading a short-term grief support group for those who have experienced the loss of a child or grandchild. These sessions will take place in Room 138 from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. on the following Sundays: April 19 and May 3, 17, and 31. Participants are asked to commit to attend all four sessions. To help with planning, please let Maria know if you plan to attend at office@ashlandumc.org by Sunday, April 5.

Electronic Sign Training

Wednesday, March 4 from 6-8 p.m.

Signs Unlimited (the company that built and installed Ashland's new sign) will be leading a training for any members of Ashland who would like to learn how to create and share announcements on the new sign. It would be great to have as many people trained as possible, just in case. This is also a great way to learn how to create eye-catching and informative content that can be shared with our surrounding community. The training will be held in room 138.

Easter Lilies, Palm Trees, Monetary Donations

It's time to place your order for Palm trees, or make a monetary donation.

Palm trees - \$24.00 Easter Lilies - \$16.00

Payment must accompany order.

Make checks payable to Ashland UMC.

Deadline: March 22, 2026

Palm Tree # _____ @ \$24.00 = Total \$ _____

Easter Lily # _____ @ \$16.00 = Total \$ _____

Designate for Path _____ or Traditional _____

Monetary donation \$ _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Given by _____

Family Ministries

Thoughts? Questions? Ideas? Want to join our email list?
803.798.5350 x 10 (office@ashlandumc.org)

Sunday, March 1st	ACME & MYF 4:30-6:00 PM
Sunday, March 8th	ACME & MYF 4:30-6:00 PM
Sunday, March 15th	No ACME & MYF
Sunday, March 22nd	ACME & MYF 4:30-6:00 PM
Saturday, March 28th	Easter Egg Hunt 10:00 AM
Sunday, March 29th	ACME & MYF 4:30-6:00 PM
Sunday, April 5th	No youth activities (Easter/Spring Break)

The Ashland Congregation is invited to attend
Tristen Lotter's Eagle Scout
Court of Honor
Ashland Hall
March 14th 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Lunch included
RSVP: 803-917-7238

The Trustee Committee would like to thank Duncan McClive for his help with the beautiful new countertops for the rolling table storage units in Ashland Hall.

The March-April Upper Room Booklets are on the rack across from the Cornerstone classroom. Large and regular print editions are available.

Social Media

Facebook – Follow the Facebook posts for Ashland United Methodist Church. Be sure to share the posts when they appear so more people can know what is going on at Ashland UMC.

Website – Our weekly worship bulletins and monthly newsletter are posted on the website. The homepage is a good resource for upcoming events. Review the calendar on the website to ensure your meeting/event is listed.

Ashland Readers

The next meeting of Ashland Readers will be Sunday, March 15, 2026, at 3:00 PM in room #111. Below are the upcoming books:

March 15, 2026: The Clinic, by Cate Quinn

April 19, 2026: A Painted House: A Novel, by John Grisham

May 17, 2026: Broken Country, by Clare Leslie Hall

Ashland Children/Youth Activities

Ashland has a lot of loving, caring adults who are willing to care for your children. Many of them like to know when kids' games, concerts, plays, and other performances are so they can try to support them when possible. If you would like the church to share your child's sports/concert/performance schedule with the church family, please send the schedule to Maria Anderson at office@ashlandumc.org so she can share that in the church's weekly calendar. What a great opportunity for kids to see friendly, caring people supporting them!

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Ashland will once again sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt for our ESL students. We will also be providing some refreshments and, most importantly, conversation circles. More details will be forthcoming.

Upcoming Events

Revolution (United Methodist conference for youth in SC)

Friday, March 27th – Sunday, March 29th -- DoubleTree Hotel and Convention Center

Easter Egg Hunt for Children, March 28th at 10:00 AM

Traditional Choir Lessons and Hymns, March 29th at 11:00 AM

Maundy Thursday Service, April 2nd at 6:00 PM

Good Friday Service, April 3rd at 6:00 PM

Easter Sunday, April 5th

8:45 AM – The Path Worship Service

10:00 AM – Sunday School for All Ages

11:00 AM – Traditional Worship

Covered Dish Dinner followed by

Steel Band Music

Friday, May 1st, 6:00 PM

Vacation Bible School, June 15-19

Columbia Salkehatchie Camp, July 11-18

**Ashland United Methodist Church
2600 Ashland Rd
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