



THE VOICE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SHANDON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 2026 | Volume 67, Issue 4

A Faith Claimed, A Promise Renewed

In sacramental theology, Confirmation is the rite whereby the grace of the Holy Spirit is conveyed in a new or fuller way to those who have already received it in some degree or fashion at baptism.

--The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church



Rev. Smoke Kanipe
Senior Pastor

Confirmation Sunday is always a high and holy celebration at Shandon. Young persons, most of whom were baptized as young children, claim for themselves the faith that their parents have vowed to instill in them. It is a day when those of us who work with the children of our church – teaching Sunday School, coaching basketball, directing choirs, etc. – celebrate their growth in faith and promise to continue supporting them on their journey. On April 19, we will joyfully welcome the 21 students in our Confirmation class into the full membership of the church.

Historically, it was the bishop who performed the rite of Confirmation, though typically in the Methodist tradition, the bishop designates that responsibility to the local pastor. This year, however, we have a special treat in store at Shandon. Bishop Leonard Fairley, resident bishop of the South Carolina Annual Conference, will lead our sanctuary worship services, including our Confirmation service.

Please be in prayer for our 2026 Confirmation class, and please join us for worship on April 19.

Grace and peace,

Smoke



Photo Credit: Karen Addy, Epworth

Fifth Grade Class Supports Epworth Children's Home

On Sunday, March 22, the Fifth Grade Sunday school class went to Epworth Children's Home for a tour and to present a check of \$2,000. Epworth was chosen by the class as the recipient of the funds raised by the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.

IN Memoriam

Ray Milton Kightlinger
October 23, 1931 - March 4, 2026

Wryan Heather Stepp Kralick
October 1, 1971 - February 27, 2026

Graham Lindley Brown
January 18, 1977 - March 8, 2026

Adeline Hite Lundy
January 21, 1939 - March 19, 2026



MEMORIALS *and* HONORARIUMS

In Memory of Sam Reese

George Huggins Upper Room
Sunday School Class
Sally Sue and Brandon Brown
Susan Curran
Jan and Stephen Dudley
Walter Gerald
Sue Haddock
Tracy Jones
Nancy and Warren Mauterer
Harriet and Bob Roof
Martha and Jimmy Sanders
Gera and Dave Singletary
Southern Mutual Church
Insurance Company

In Memory of Ray Kightlinger

Mary Hellams
Pamela and Raymond Wells

In Memory of Libby Kelly

Fran and Chris Allen
Valerie Anthony
Mary Hellams
Ray Kightlinger
Cathy and Lex Knox
Elizabeth and Marion Mason
Betty and Doug Neal
Donna and Major Pearman
Sally and David Seavey
Henry Stuckey

In Memory of Joe Lawrence

The Baldauf Family

In Memory of Mick Epting

Kay Jordan

In Honor of Cal Watson

Mary Hellams

ALTAR *Flowers*

Sunday, April 5

The flowers at the altar are given in memory of **Dr. James H. Blair Jr., James Blair III, and John Blair**. Given by Margaret Blair Miller, and Debbie & Jim Blair.

Sunday, April 12

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ashley's father, **Mark Virgil Dickinson**, by Paul, Ashley, Jack, and Hannah Porter.

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in celebration of **Cindy and Perry Rainey** for their 40th wedding anniversary.

Sunday, April 19

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in the memory of **Kemper Zeigler**, by her family.

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of **Curtis and Mamie Coleman**, and **Marion and Rachel Knox**, by Lex and Cathy Knox.

Sunday, April 26

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of their wedding anniversary by **Rhyne and Twyla Stowe**.

The altar flowers are given in honor of **Bob Roof** for his birthday, and in memory of **Bobbie and Brenda Clarke**, by Harriett Roof and family.

The flowers in the narthex are given in loving memory of **Chad Gibbons**, by Laura, Jordan, Meg, Maura, and Skylar.

Holy Week and Easter Worship Schedule

Holy Thursday, April 2

Communion service at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary with music by the Chancel Choir. Register for childcare at shandonumc.org/events.

Good Friday, April 3

12:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. - Sanctuary open for meditation.

6:30 p.m. - Service in the Sanctuary. The Chancel Choir and soloists will present *The Seven Last Words of Christ*, by Theodore Dubois.

Register for childcare at shandonumc.org/events.

Easter Sunday, April 5

Easter Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m. on the East Lawn. Bring your own lawn chair.

Traditional Services at 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and 11:05 a.m. LifeLine Contemporary Service in the Gym.



On Easter Sunday, help us bring the cross to life by adding your fresh flowers as we celebrate the risen Savior together. Photographers will be available on Easter Sunday before and after the 8:45 and 11 a.m. services to take family photos in front of the living cross.

Join the Book Club

The Shandon UMC Book Club meets on the third Thursday of each month. Our next meeting is **Thursday, April 16**, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Room 223 on the second floor of the Bruner Building. We are reading *Theo of Golden*, by Allen Levi.

Our selections span a wide range and are chosen six months at a time. Newcomers are welcome. To receive reminders, email Gera Singletary at davegera4@icloud.com.

Chrismon Workshop

Join us around the table on **Sunday, April 19**, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. in Room 223 of the Bruner Building for our Spring Chrismon Workshop. While getting to know fellow church members, you'll learn the meaning and craft of Chrismon making. In this session, we'll create a butterfly Chrismon and help you finish any Chrismon from earlier workshops. All materials are provided, but space is limited. Sign up at shandonumc.org/events. For questions, contact Susan Wheeler at susanleewheeler@me.com

Seekers: Community for Young Professionals

Young professionals ages 23–30 are invited to join the Seekers, a group centered on connection and community. The next monthly gathering will be held on **Sunday, April 26**, at 12:15 p.m. at Taziki's. To learn more or join the email list, contact Rev. Maggie or complete the interest form at shandonumc.org/seekers.

Allen Educational Fund Offers Student Assistance: Apply by April 30

The Allen Educational Fund honors Dr. Harvey A. Allen and Mrs. Judy M. Allen, who together devoted 90 years to teaching Christian Education at Shandon UMC. Established by the JOY Class and grateful church members, the fund provides educational assistance to students connected to Shandon for expenses associated with higher education for students attending college, university, or trade school.

Grants of up to \$1,000 may be awarded to Shandon members, Epworth Children's Home students, and children of Methodist foreign missionaries supported by Shandon UMC. Please note that, unlike years past, the next awards will be made only once for the academic year of 2026-2027, but may be applied to either the fall or spring semester. Applications open April 1 and close April 30. Apply at shandonumc.org/allenfund.

Wild Game Dinner Draws More Than 70 Men



More than 70 men gathered last month for the Men's Ministry's Wild Game Dinner, an evening of good food, fellowship, and faith. The spread featured over 40 wild game dishes, including quail poppers, venison steaks, and mole-pheasant dip, with no shortage of variety or appetite. Major Billy Downer of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources led the devotional, offering a meaningful close to the evening.



Men's Prayer Breakfast

All men are invited to our men's prayer breakfast on **Thursday, April 16**, from 7:30 to 8:15 a.m. in Player Hall.

Chef Tim will provide a delicious full breakfast, and there will be a short program.

Please join us and bring a friend to be filled with food, fellowship, and faith.

Men's Golf Outing

Join us for a round of golf at Northwoods Golf Club on the afternoon of **Thursday, May 14**. Pick your playing partner, and you will be paired with another twosome to help you get to know a couple of new guys and build greater community within our church. Cost will be \$45 per golfer, and participants can register at shandonumc.org/events by May 1.

For more information, contact Pastor James (jgrubb@shandonumc.org), Hunter Griffin (hgriffin2@gmail.com), or Charlee Rose (close2008@yahoo.com).



GriefShare: Finding Hope After the Loss of a Spouse

Losing a spouse is one of life's most painful experiences, and no one should have to walk that road alone. Shandon UMC invites you to a special GriefShare session designed to offer comfort, community, and hope to those navigating life after the loss of a life partner. Join us on **Sunday, May 3**, in Knox 214 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The cost is \$10 for materials. To register, visit griefshare.org or contact Lilla Ann Briggs at forjivento7@gmail.com.

Find Your Place at Shandon: Take the TREK

TREK is a three-session journey designed to help those new to Shandon connect with others, explore our campus, and learn more about the Christian faith and the United Methodist Church. Along the way, participants discover opportunities to serve and to be supported as they grow in faith.

May 2026 Course Schedule

Sunday, May 3, 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. • Wednesday, May 13, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. • Sunday, May 17, 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Childcare is available. Sign up at shandonumc.org/trek. For more information about TREK, please contact Rev. James Grubb at jgrubb@shandonumc.org.

Safe Sanctuary Reminder of the Month - Line of Sight Rule

"Line of Sight Rule" - Each room or space on the church campus designated for children or youth will have a completely uncovered window in the door or a glass window in the room wall that allows the view of the inside of the room from the hallway.



Friday Night Fun at a Live Auction

Looking for something fun to do on a Friday night? Connections is heading to Bill Mishoe's Auction House in North Columbia for a fun evening of live bidding and great company. With auction lots that change weekly, there is always something new to discover. The group will meet at church at 5:00 p.m. and return by 9:00 p.m. Dinner options are available at the auction house. Trip dates will be announced on the Monday before each Friday auction. Contact Susan Curran at scurran@shandonumc.org to receive email notifications on the weeks the group will go.

Inaugural Trip to Artfields in Lake City • Tuesday, April 21

Join us for our inaugural trip to Artfields in Lake City, SC, where a small agricultural community is transformed into a living art gallery. Nearly 400 works of art will be on display in locally owned venues, renovated warehouses, the history museum, restaurants, boutiques, and shops throughout the city. This will be a longer day with lots of walking, so dress comfortably. The group will meet at church at 8:00 a.m. and return by 6:00 p.m. There is no cost for the trip, though lunch and any purchases are on your own. Friends are welcome, but space is limited. Please contact Susan Curran at scurran@shandonumc.org or sign up at the table across from the reception desk in the Great Hall of the Bruner Building.

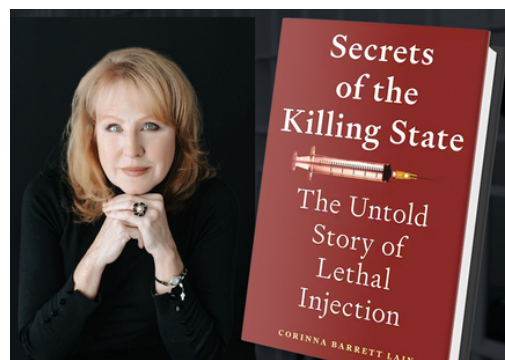
Afternoon Tea at Laura's Tea Room in Ridgeway • Thursday, May 7

Join us for a charming afternoon tea experience at Laura's Tea Room in Ridgeway, SC. The three-course tea includes an assortment of sweet and savory items, homemade scones, and a pot of tea. Meet at church at 10:30 a.m. and return by 2:30 p.m. The cost is \$40 per person. Friends are welcome, but space is limited. Please contact Susan Curran at scurran@shandonumc.org or sign up at the table across from the reception desk in the Great Hall of the Bruner Building.

Corinna Barrett Lain: An Unexpected Calling

Adults are invited to join us in Player Hall during the Sunday school hour beginning at **9:45 a.m., Sunday, April 26**, as we host Corinna Barrett Lain for her personal story of Faith, Redemption, and Death Row. Lain is the George E. Allen Chair in Law at the University of Richmond School of Law, and the author of *Secrets of the Killing State*. Join us as Lain shares how God called, encouraged, paused, and led her to write a book that she didn't desire to write.

Lain will remain after the presentation to answer questions about the book, but the presentation will focus on God's hand in guiding her to write the book and in growing her faith through that journey.



Inspired to Give? Your RMD Could Work Harder for You

By Doug Neal, Church Treasurer

BEFORE TAKING REQUIRED DISTRIBUTION THIS YEAR FROM YOUR INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNT, CONSIDER CONSULTING YOUR TAX ADVISOR ABOUT A QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION ("QCD").

IRA owners, age 73 or older, are required to take annual distributions from their tax-deferred IRAs based on IRS guidelines/instructions (tax-free Roth IRAs are excluded), and certain owners of inherited IRAs may have Required Minimum Distributions ("RMDs") in 2026. Generally, these distributions are taxable as income and may cause a loss of other tax benefits and/or increase Medicare premiums. Ouch!

As stewards of the financial resources God has entrusted to us, it is not only wise but prudent to use these resources in the most tax and cost-efficient manner possible. So, if you are required to take a minimum distribution this year and plan to contribute to Shandon UMC, consider a QCD.

To do that, you should consult your tax advisor, but here's how it generally works if properly done: the amount of the QCD can count towards the amount of the RMD but without being taxed as income, but the QCD must be made before making the RMD. Excluding the QCD from taxable income essentially saves the giver income taxes at their marginal tax rate. Of course, since the QCD is not included as taxable income, it is not deductible on the giver's tax return (that would be "double dipping").

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As stewards of the financial resources God has entrusted to us, **it is not only wise but prudent** to use these resources in the most tax and cost-efficient manner possible.

In short, the QCD allows givers to use their donation to Shandon UMC (or another charity) to help satisfy their RMDs, save on taxes, and, as mentioned above, may have other benefits. What a great way to satisfy your RMDs while giving to Shandon UMC!

***Note:** This article is for general information only and is not intended to give personal, specific, or any other tax advice to any reader. There are limits and rules that apply to QCDs depending on your personal situation, so be sure to consult your tax adviser before proceeding or taking any action based on this article.

Our full calendar of events can be found on our website: shandonumc.org/calendar



United Women In Faith Circles

Augusta Beckman Circle

Monday after the 1st Tuesday of the month at 3:00 p.m. in Player Hall.
Contact: Mary Parker (843) 364-8553; mpark446@gmail.com

Mary Campbell Circle

2nd Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. in Player Hall.
Contact: Angie Moore (803) 261-4464; amhmoore4@gmail.com

Naomi & Ruth Circle

2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in Committed Disciples Classroom (Knox building)
Contact: Sara Roberts Ruzensky (803) 280-0558; s.roberts.ruzensky@gmail.com

Susanna Wesley Circle

2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:00 p.m. at different locations.
Contact: Jennifer Davis (803) 920-6527; jadjcd@gmail.com



United Women in Faith Reading Program

All women of Shandon UMC, members of United Women in Faith circles, and guests are invited to join Susan Brant on Wednesday, **April 15**, from 10:30–11:30 a.m. in the Parlor for a discussion of *Women Rise Up* by Katey Zeh. *Women Rise Up* shares the stories of biblical women and connects them to contemporary issues. This gathering is part of the United Women in Faith Reading Program with a focus on social action.

United Women in Faith: Mission Recognition Dinner

All circle members are invited to join United Women in Faith for a Special Mission Recognition Dinner and General Meeting on **Tuesday, May 5**, at 6:30 p.m. in Player Hall.

Please consider nominating a Shandon member who has given their time, talent, and energy to serve others in our church, community, and beyond. Nomination forms are available in the UWF yearbook and online at shandonumc.org/events and are due to Jennifer Parker by April 14.

Dinner reservations are due by May 1. The cost is \$10 and can be paid at the door. To reserve your spot, contact Jennifer Parker at jpclemsongirl@gmail.com.

STEWARDSHIP: *Thank You For Your Faithfulness!*

GIFTS - OPERATING BUDGET

Month of February 2026		Year-To-Date 2026	
Revenues:	\$187,716	Revenues:	\$449,162
Expenses:	\$258,052	Expenses:	\$502,469
Net:	\$(70,336)	Net:	\$(53,307)



- 1 IN PERSON**
Give during service or during office hours
- 2 ONLINE**
shandonumc.org/give
- 3 REALM APP**
Find Realm Connect in the app store
- 4 TEXT**
Text 73256 and enter SUMC

QUESTIONS? Contact nprobst@shandonumc.org

Good Neighbors

Shandon's House - A Blessing for a Family!

There's a lot of discouraging news in the world, but we wanted to share a happy story from one of our refugee families. We welcomed this family to the Midlands about two years ago. They had been living in a refugee camp in an African country for 20 years. During that time of waiting, they were "doing the work of God" (their own words) — doing their best to bless those around them. This family was blessed with a wonderful Circle of Welcome, and a local church (Shandon UMC) offered them a wonderful housing opportunity in a good area. The community poured into this family with love and connection, and this family has been good stewards of any opportunities offered to them. We are so glad to see them flourish, become financially independent, and become such wonderful contributors to their new community in the Midlands. Shandon UMC has continued to offer them the wonderful housing opportunity in a good school district for the third year in a row, and we are so grateful for the welcome they have experienced!

From Lutheran Family Services

Volunteers Needed for Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School at Shandon UMC is coming (Monday, June 1, to Friday, June 5), and we need amazing adult and youth volunteers to help make it a fun and faith-filled adventure for our children. Whether you can serve all week, a few days, or behind the scenes, we'd love to have you! Volunteer roles available include science, crafts, Bible story, recreation, snacks, and more. Volunteers with younger children: if your child is not old enough for VBS, you must register them for childcare during your volunteer shifts.

Visit shandonumc.org/register to sign up as a volunteer.

Fourth Annual Clothing and Book Sale Raises Over \$26,000

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who made this year's fourth annual Clothing and Book Sale such a success. Through your donations, organization, and hands-on help, the event raised over \$26,000, every penny of which supports our missions and nonprofit charities.

There is no way to name everyone, but you know who you are. From those who donated clothing and books, to those who stayed to hang, organize, and clean up on Saturday, your time and generosity made a lasting difference for many. A special thank you as well to those who donated clothing on hangers and jewelry in individual bags. That thoughtfulness saved considerable time and effort.

Sponsored by United Women in Faith, this event has truly become a church-wide effort, and it would not be possible without you. Many have been blessed by your generosity.



INTERESTED IN SERVING AT SHANDON?

Explore current volunteer opportunities and find a place to use your gifts at shandonumc.org/servewithus

“Buds in Seats” – Your Presence Makes a Difference

We are often shortsighted in recognizing the power of “presence” – physical presence. We show up and fill a void in a hospital waiting room, on a pew at a wedding or funeral, at the arrival gate at the airport, and on the front step of a new neighbor because these are intimate spaces for people we know and want to know. When we recognize that our physical presence is important, we show up. There is another place, however, where your presence is incredibly impactful and needed by many people you may never know.



On **Monday, April 27, at 6:00 p.m.** at the Pastides Alumni Center (900 Senate Street), our congregation's MORE Justice Team invites you to the Nehemiah Action meeting, at which your physical presence will be noted by local politicians as we advocate for more local, affordable housing and other positive changes to social injustices in our community. Mark your calendar and prayerfully invite a buddy to join you. To effect change, we need to be counted as a large group. We need many “buds” in seats. For information about a carpool to the event, contact Biff Sowell (bsowell@sowelldurant.com), or Claire Manning (clairemanning01@gmail.com). We'll save a seat for you because your seat counts.

Food Donations Needed

The Cooperative Ministry's Food Bank is low, so please consider donating non-perishable food items. There are designated containers in the Great Hall and in the entrance of the Dunn-Smith Center.

Calling All Bread Bakers: Support Manna Refreshed

Manna Refreshed was a wonderful success! Thank you to all who enjoyed Tim's wonderful meals and to many Shandon members who shared their culinary talents: Daphne Blackstone, Mallory Campbell, Susan Curran, Jennifer Davis, Mary Hellams, Stefanie Hughes, Joanna Kleckley, Bobbie Moore, Debra Rountree, Steve Smith, Liz Thomas, and Lori Yandle.

If you are willing to bake bread or provide a homemade dessert on any Wednesday from September through December, please contact Ruthie Taylor at (803) 318-7484 or Susan Curran at scurran@shandonumc.org.



Volunteer to Serve at Transitions

Shandon UMC's serving team is looking for five volunteers on **the fourth Monday of each month** to help serve dinner at Transitions from 5:15 to 6:00 p.m. Volunteers will serve prepared meals, greet residents, and hand out desserts and beverages.

Parking is available in the Transitions parking lot, accessible off Calhoun Street between Main and Assembly Streets. Upon arrival, sign in at the Calhoun Street entrance and proceed to the Dining Facility. Aprons, gloves, and hairnets are provided, and a baseball cap may be worn in place of a hairnet. Staff will orient volunteers to the serving process. To sign up, visit shandonumc.org/servewithus.



Mahjong for Missions Raises Nearly \$6,000 for El Salvador

On Saturday, February 28, our church hosted Mahjong for Missions, and what a joyful and impactful day it was. Players of all ages gathered for friendly competition, fellowship, and a shared purpose. The room reflected something beautiful about our church family, with multiple generations playing side by side. We were also blessed to welcome a wonderful mix of church members and community guests, many of whom were stepping into our building for the very first time. Nearly half of those who participated had never played in an organized tournament, making the day even more special as new players jumped in with enthusiasm.

Because of this incredible turnout, we raised close to \$6,000 to provide direct support to the Ahuachapán community in El Salvador. Funds will help support construction projects, a weeklong Vacation Bible School, and food bags for families in need through our partnership with Salvadoran Mission Projects.

Mahjong for Missions was more than a tournament. It was fellowship across generations, outreach to our community, and a tangible expression of God's love in action.

Thank you for being a church that shows up, builds relationships, and lives out its mission in creative and meaningful ways.

MAHJONG FOR MISSIONS TEAM:

Pamela Adams
 Mandie Ingram
 Andy Morris
 Candler Rhodes
 Twyla Stowe
 Camlin Talbot

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS:

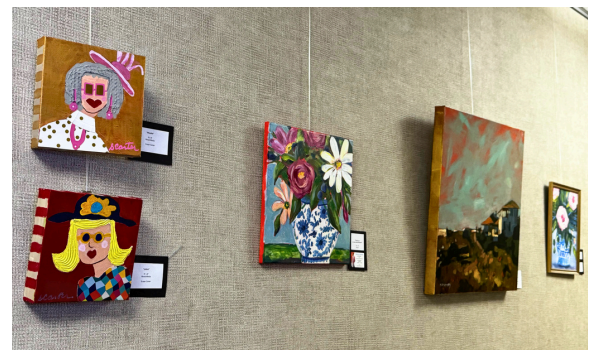
A Little Happy
 Belleville BirdBam - Twyla Stowe
 Jaybo Art - Jay Talbot
 Candler Rhodes
 Daily Bread by Jennifer Davis

*Salvadoran Mission Projects is a partnership between the Evangelical Methodist Church in El Salvador and United Methodist Volunteers in Mission in the US whose purpose is to improve the spiritual and physical lives of economically disadvantaged people living in El Salvador.

New Art Exhibit in the Beckler Art Gallery

Many thanks to the artists whose paintings are on display at the Beckler Art Gallery this spring: Susan Carter, Katie Free, Marion Hornsby, Rebecca Penland, Przskop Smith, Sandra Pappas, and Susan Rice. The exhibit is located on the first floor of the Bruner Building. Everyone is welcome to stop by.

A reception is planned for April 15 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Great Hall of the Bruner Building.



LIONS AND GIANTS

3 & 4K (Age 3 by September 1, 2025): Join Ms. Cari for a fun-filled preschool version of “Lions and Giants” on Sunday, May 3, from 2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. in the gym! We will play games and have a special Bible time designed for little ones.

5K-5TH GRADE: Join Ms. Cari for “Lions and Giants” on Sunday, May 3, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Children in grades 5K-5th are invited for an exciting time of fellowship, games, and Bible time. Noodle Tag, Gaga Ball, and Four Square are just some of the games we may play.

Both events are drop-off, and no registration is required. We hope to see you there!

ASBURY HILLS

Summer 2026 registration is now open for elementary, junior high, and senior high camps. Operated by SC United Methodist Camps and Retreat Ministries, Asbury Hills is a place for Christian birth, growth, and renewal in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Camp session details and registration are online at asburyhills.org or scan the QR code.

Why Summer Camp Matters:

- **Confidence:** Camp builds confidence for kids to try new things
- **Curiosity:** Camp gives kids a chance to explore in a safe, hands-on environment
- **Character:** Camp develops character through fostering respect for others, creating a sense of community and cultivating problem-solving skills.



The Power of Camp at Asbury Hills:

- 97% Felt closer in their relationship with God
- 95% Will use what they learned at home
- 92% Tried something new

Applications are also being accepted for summer camp staff. Please visit asburyhills.org for details.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: REGISTRATION CLOSES ON APRIL 15

Join us for Vacation Bible School on **Monday, June 1, to Friday, June 5**, from 8:45 a.m. to 12:00 noon each day. This year's theme is “Snowball Mountain Challenge”, an exciting winter sports event, where children will find their strength in God through frosty games, snowy surprises, and hands-on lessons about resilience and faith.

Mountain Motto (Theme Verse): “I can do all things through him who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:13, NRSV)



Who: VBS is open to children who have completed 3-year-old preschool (age 3 by September 1, 2025) through children who have completed 2nd grade in the 2025–2026 school year. IF YOU ARE A VOLUNTEER with a younger child, you must register for childcare on the days you volunteer.

Fee: \$25 per child (non-refundable). Shandon UMC members receive priority registration. Non-members will be placed on a waitlist. After April 15, if space is available, those on the waitlist will be contacted to complete registration. Register at shandonumc.org/events.

Space availability varies by age group. Don't miss this exciting journey of faith! We can't wait to see you there!

METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (MYF)

Methodist Youth Fellowship is the place for 7th through 12th graders to fellowship, play games, and grow in their relationship with Christ. Our usual meeting time is 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Zone at church. However, please refer to our schedule below to see what special events we have planned for each night.



April 5: He is Risen indeed! We will not have MYF on April 5th in celebration of Easter Sunday.

April 12: Out to Eat! Join us for dinner at Groucho's from 6:00 -7:00 p.m.

April 19: EX-CON Night! Invite a friend and help us welcome our newly confirmed 6th graders to their first MYF. We will have dinner, then head to our black-light-covered gym for glow-in-the-dark Nerf and silent disco! It's going to be unforgettable, so join us in the Youth Zone from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

April 26: Easter is over, but what are followers of Jesus supposed to do now? Let's look at what the disciples did after the resurrection. Join us for dinner, open gym, and Bible study from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Zone.

GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY

To honor our graduating high school seniors at Shandon UMC, we will hold a unique service for them on **Sunday, May 10**, at the 8:45 a.m. traditional service. After the service, we will hold a brunch in Player Hall for our seniors and their families.

If you have a student who would like to participate, please contact Andy Morris at amorris@shandonumc.org to complete an information form. All information needs to be submitted by April 29th.

DAY CAMP: REGISTRATION CLOSES APRIL 15

Students who have completed any of the grades 3rd through 12th by the summer of 2026 are invited to join us for Shandon UMC Day Camp, held on the Heathwood Hall School campus from **Monday, June 1, to Friday, June 5**. Students are invited to join us for the week as we enjoy art, music and songs, Bible study, paddling, ropes courses, Gaga Ball, and initiative games. Current eighth-grade students and older will serve as counselors.



Registration Details

- Registration is open until Wednesday, April 15.
- Registration cost is \$125 per camper (grades 3rd-7th)
- Shandon UMC members receive priority registration. Non-members will be placed on a waitlist and will receive spots based on grade-level availability at the close of registration.
- Register at shandonumc.org/events.

Three-Year-Olds Receive Their Bibles

On Sunday, March 1, the Three-Year-Old Sunday School class received their Bibles, continuing a cherished tradition at Shandon UMC.



Lent Lab: Family Easter Event

Pretzels, prayers, cookies, and more — families came together for a sweet and meaningful Lent and Easter celebration!



March Moments

From the Children's Choirs' Spring Concert to time studying and bonding together, March reminded us that when we gather, something beautiful happens.





STAFF DIRECTORY

C.E. "Smoke" Kanipe, Jr., Senior Pastor
(803) 722-1063 • skanipe@shandonumc.org

James Grubb, Associate Pastor
(803) 722-1045 • jgrubb@shandonumc.org

Maggie Cantey, Associate Pastor
(803) 722-1035 • mcantey@shandonumc.org

Eddie Huss, Minister of Music & Arts
(803) 722-1034 • ehuss@shandonumc.org

Kipp Gill, Music Associate/Organist
(803) 722-1053 • kgill@shandonumc.org

Tim Scott, Director of Kitchen Ministries
(803) 722-1057 • kitchen@shandonumc.org

Lesli Wood, Director of Christian Education and Programs
(803) 722-1043 • lwood@shandonumc.org

Susan Curran, Director of Connection Ministries
(803) 722-1059 • scurran@shandonumc.org

Ruthie Taylor, Director of Adult Studies
(803) 318-7484 • rtaylor@shandonumc.org

Andy Morris, Director of Student Ministries
(803) 722-1050 • amorris@shandonumc.org

Cari Treece, Director of Children & Family Ministries
(803) 722-1048 • ctreece@shandonumc.org

Carla Graf, Director of Preschool/Kindergarten
(803) 722-1055 • sumpk@shandonumc.org

Katy Tevepaugh, Child Care Coordinator
ktevepaugh@shandonumc.org

Mandie Ingram, Youth Assistant
mingram@shandonumc.org

Nancy Probst, Business Administrator
(803) 722-1037 • nprobst@shandonumc.org

Amy Buddin, Accounting Assistant
(803) 722-1047 • abuddin@shandonumc.org

Sarah Conrad, Administrative Assistant
(803) 722-1032 • sconrad@shandonumc.org

Tanesha Anding, Director of Communications
(803) 722-1044 • tanding@shandonumc.org

Communications/Photography Support:
Jamie Collins, Lisa Gibbs, Lily Stricklin, Mark McWilliams, Cari Treece

Custodial Staff:
Travis Brown, Willie Brown, Sr., Tori Gregg

Security:
Cedrick Finney, Lisa Gibbs, Tori Gregg, Michael White

Maintenance:
Jim Morrow