

**MEET OUR CHURCH STAFF:**

Rev. Mack McDowell, Senior Pastor  
[jsmcdowell@umcsc.org](mailto:jsmcdowell@umcsc.org)  
Rev. Meegian Gossard, Assoc. Pastor  
[magossard@umcsc.org](mailto:magossard@umcsc.org)  
Todd Handell, Youth Pastor  
[todd@lexumcsc.com](mailto:todd@lexumcsc.com)  
Laura Henrickson, Children’s Minister  
[laura@lexumcsc.com](mailto:laura@lexumcsc.com)  
Bonnie Pruitt, Director, Chancel Choir  
[Bonniepruittlexumc@gmail.com](mailto:Bonniepruittlexumc@gmail.com)  
Taylor Glomb, Organist  
[trglomb@gmail.com](mailto:trglomb@gmail.com)  
Lessie Polk, Children/Youth Choir Director  
[lespolk@aol.com](mailto:lespolk@aol.com)  
Diane Crosby, CUMCA, Administrator  
[dcrosby@lexumcsc.com](mailto:dcrosby@lexumcsc.com)  
Katie Meche, Preschool Director  
[preschool@lexumcsc.com](mailto:preschool@lexumcsc.com)



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A Nursery is available for children ages 4 and under during Sunday School and the 10:00am service.



**WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER!**

Wednesday Night Suppers will resume in January! Your hosts are Matt & Becky Goudelock! Volunteers are appreciated! Meals will be **\$8/person**. Please pay at the door. We hope to see everyone there!!

**DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Dec. 21:** Combined 10am worship service in Wesley Hall; Moravian Love Feast at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary.  
**Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service in Wesley Hall at **4:30pm**. Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service in the Sanctuary at **7:00pm**.  
**Dec. 28:** Combined 10am worship service in the Sanctuary.

**2026 PLANNING MEETING**

A planning meeting for the 2026 Christmas Festival will take place on **Thurs., Jan. 22 @ 5:30pm** in Asbury Hall. If you are interested in volunteering for the 2026 Christmas Festival, please attend. If anyone is interested but is not able to attend contact Lorri Yarborough (803-351-0772) or [lorri@teamia.com](mailto:lorri@teamia.com) and she will plan a follow up meeting. There are also sign up links available in the churchwide Tues./Thurs. emails. Let's make this a great event!! Thank you!!

**MEN’S PRAYER BREAKFAST**

Start your day off right and join the men of the church each Wednesday morning from 7:00am-8:00am in Asbury Hall for a time of prayer while enjoying a continental style breakfast. Contact Tim Chandler with any questions-803-360-6226. \*Men WILL NOT meet again until Jan. 7.

**BLESSING BOX**

Please don’t forget about our needy community over the holidays! High-need items: instant oatmeal, canned tuna or chicken, snack items, fruit cups, toothpaste, toothbrushes, female care items, cooking oil [small bottles], basic seasonings, and pet food. Thank you!!

**LOVE’S PURE LIGHT**

**BY THE REV. TIFFANY McDONALD**

The magi, or wise men, observed a star in the East ([Matthew 2:1-12](#)). They interpreted it as a fulfilling of prophecy that the King of the Jews had been born. Unfortunately, they went to King Herod, who became frightened by their belief. Yet, Herod encouraged them to follow the star, so that he might learn of his future rival.

“When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy” ([Matthew 2:9-10](#)).

The star stopped over Bethlehem. The magi followed the light and found Jesus. We, too, are called to not only follow the light, but also to shine the light of Christ in the world. In the northern hemisphere, Advent coincides with shorter days and longer nights. The darkness of the longest night mirrors much of the heaviness we carry. We ask for healing for ourselves, but also for all of those who are hurting in our broken world.

Because God’s love for us is unconditional, we do not have to earn it. We open our hearts to divine grace and mercy as we pray [Psalm 80:7](#): “Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.”

God is faithful. God’s steadfast love endures forever. We may not believe in looking for a new star or watching the sky for signs as the Magi did, but we can be inspired by the stars who continue to shine every night through the darkness.

**Prayer:** O God Who Is Love, thank you for your unconditional love. We want to be just as generous with the acts of love we give to others. May your love shine brightly through us. Amen.

**SPRC TRAINING**

If you are or will be a member of the Staff Parish Relations Committee, training will be held on Sunday, Jan. 18th from 3-5pm at Washington Street UMC in Columbia. Registration will be coming soon! Details to follow. All SPRC members are encouraged to attend this important training.

