



Hurricane Update Newsletter

October 2, 2024

OPEN HEARTS

OPEN MINDS

OPEN DOORS

Beloved community,

Hurricane Helene will be remembered as the storm that took us all by surprise, and it will take time to fully recover from the injuries and damage it caused. Yet, I believe we have weathered the storm with remarkable kindness, grace, and generosity. It has been heartening to hear stories of neighbors helping neighbors—sharing food, hot water, and even electricity where possible. I am deeply grateful for the many ways you've cared for one another and for how our CARES Committee swiftly reached out to our homebound and vulnerable members. This isn't just about being in community; this is truly being the church. Bless you for your faithful witness and service to the world.

Your Partner in Ministry,
Rev. Karen Jones

SCHEDULE UPDATES

Wednesday, October 2

- *Office closed*
- *Activities at church are canceled*

Thursday, October 3

- *Office is closed*
- *Activities at church are canceled*

- *“Let Us Break Bread Together” Simpsonville meal is meeting as scheduled*

Sunday, October 6

- *The following Sunday School classes will be meeting: Open Hearts, New Adult Class, and Seekers*
- *CommUNITY Coffee will be available in Trinity Hall during Sunday School*
- *11:00 AM Worship (Communion and Leadership Commissioning)*
- *12:00 PM Leadership Luncheon and Retreat in Trinity Hall*



We anticipate returning to our regular office hours (Monday – Thursday, 9 AM to 1 PM) and all scheduled church activities to resume.

We will reschedule Bishop William Willimon to join us as guest preacher at a future date. Please stay tuned for that announcement.

As we continue to assess damages and patiently wait for power to be completely restored, here are some ways we can continue to be faithful disciples.

Pray. Lift up prayers of thanksgiving – for safety, well-being, community, and comforts that we take for granted every day. Pray for the people who are working day and night to restore health, safety, and normalcy back to our community. Pray for those who are severely impacted by the power outages beyond modern comforts, such as those who need electricity to charge medical equipment and keep medications cold, or those who are unable to receive their scheduled medical treatments.

Give. United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is already on the ground with local relief efforts. To support their work, consider donating to <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/901670/> . Apportionment dollars through the UMC ensure that 100% of your donation goes to work in the community.

Check on Each Other. Continue to check on each other and your neighbors.

If you are in need of disaster response assistance, you can contact our SC UMC Annual Conference Disaster Response at disasterresponse@umcsc.org .



Church Property Work Day October 12, 2024

Join us in sprucing up our lovely building and grounds. Sign up link [here](#).

OPEN HEARTS UMC FALL FEST

TRUNK OR TREAT - INFLATABLES - GAMES - BALLOON ART
CRAFTS - FACE PAINTING - SHAVED ICE* (\$3/serving)

October 26th, 2024 at 10:00 am

Special
thanks
to our
vendors:



Join us for Trunk-or-Treat and a Fall Festival on October 26th at 10:00 am here at Open Hearts UMC! Spread the word and invite a friend to enjoy inflatables, shaved ice (\$3/serving), lawn games, balloon animals, crafts, face painting and a petting zoo! **THIS EVENT IS FREE!**

Sign up to volunteer to provide a trunk with candy
or to assist with the event [here](#).

*Remember to check our Amazon wish list to
support our church needs as we grow!
There are new items added all of the time!*

[Click Here](#)



Website : openheartsumcsc.org



Open Hearts United Methodist Church | 2703 Augusta Street | Greenville, SC 29605 US

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