

Giving is an act of worship and makes our ministry possible. In addition to offerings given through the offering plate, there are other ways to give:

1. Online Donations or Bank EPay

Anyone can set up EPay through their personal bank or you can set up one-time or recurring payments using Vanco, our online system for contributions, which can be setup through our church website www.lsumc.net It's a secure and convenient way to make contributions!

2. Mail

You can always mail any donation to the church office: Lyttleton Street UMC, 1206 Lyttleton Street, Camden, SC 29020.

3. Endowment – Is God's Will in Your Will?

Outright Gifts

- cash
- publicly traded securities
- real property
- tangible personal property
- other property

Planned Gifts

- will bequests
- estates
- insurance policies
- income programs
- retirement plan gifts



You don't have to be wealthy to give. Gifts offer certain tax advantages to donors and may be made in honor or memory of friends or family. Give a **lasting legacy gift** that will sustain and grow Lyttleton Street UMC's ministries for years to come.

Sunday, December 23

9 a.m. Traditional Service
11:15 a.m. Blended Service with the elevate! Band in the Sanctuary

Monday, December 24

3 p.m. Family Service (children participation)
5 p.m. Lessons & Carols Communion & Candlelight

7:30 p.m. Blended Service Communion & Candlelight

Christmas Poinsettias



It's time to order your poinsettia in honor or in memory of loved ones. Call the church at 803-432-3191 to place your order. The cost is \$18 each. The poinsettias will be placed in the church on December 16th. You may pick them up **after** the Christmas Eve services.



Pastor Michael Arant michael@lsumc.net	Pastor Meegian Gossard meegian@lsumc.net	Pastor Emeritus Frank J. Griffith, Jr.	Dir. Youth & Children Mary Abbott mary@lsumc.net	Director of Music Jason N. Brown lsumcmusic@gmail.com
Organist Ike Pitts ikepittsmusic@gmail.com	Office Manager Anita K. Crowley anita@lsumc.net	LLP Directors April Kidd & Kathi Hunter llp@lsumc.net	Administrative Asst. Christa DeMare christa@lsumc.net	Sextons Leon Boyd Sarah Nelson

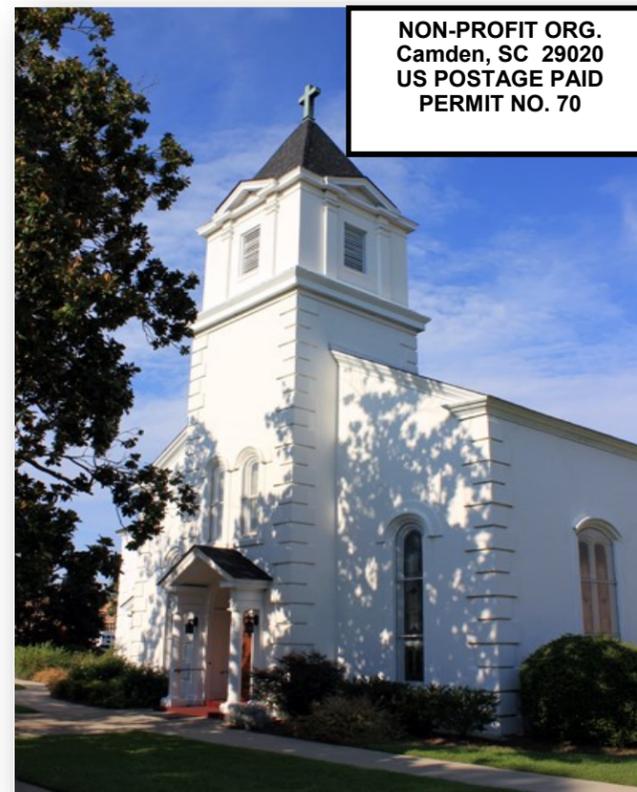
Lyttleton Street

United Methodist Church

1206 Lyttleton Street, Camden, SC 29020

Mission: To help establish God's Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven through *Nurture, Outreach and Witness.*

Michael Arant & Meegian Gossard, Pastors
December 2018 Newsletter
Return Service Requested



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Musical Musings

By Jason N. Brown
Director of Music

It's been a great year at LSUCM! We've witnessed several baptisms, received new members, celebrated lives well lived, transitioned between pastors, and grown in Christian love. This year will mark my third Christmas Eve at LSUCM. As I reminisce on Christmases past, I thought I'd share with you a verse of Trinidadian Christmas carol...

We haven't got snow, and the cold don't blow,
but we've got Christmas sun.
We haven't got fog or fireside logs,
but we've got Christmas fun.
We've got the Christmas spirit and all that goes with it
on our sun-kissed island shores.
Our absent folks we're toasting while the turkey is a-roasting,
as we see old friends once more.



Well, I was surprised to learn how much the cold *does* blow here in SC. But fret not! Your music ministry will bring some of the warmth of the Caribbean in our sanctuary on December 9th! Come hear our Chancel Choir, along with some singers from the community, present a Christmas concert at 6:00pm with steel drums! (Or steelpan, as we called them on the island.) This concert is one you certainly don't want to miss. I've arranged a piece for the steel drums and organ, and as a bonus, it's another opportunity to sing some of your favorite Christmas carols!

Many Detours, But One Faithful God

In June of 1990, my father was appointed to Gordon Memorial and Greenbrier United Methodist Churches in Winnsboro, SC. At this time I was fifteen, I started attending Fairfield Central HS in Winnsboro, and I was struggling with a lot of things. However, God changed my life for the better through this move. To understand the change in my life, I will share with you my journey to Winnsboro.

When I was born my heart stopped, the doctor had to use a neonatal defibrillator and my first week of life was in an infant incubator. For a number of years all seemed well, but by three years of age my parents had my hearing tested and learned that I was deaf in one ear and had only 10% hearing in the other. After reconstructive surgery I regained my hearing. However, I was deaf long enough as a child that I had to spend a great deal of my life catching up and in speech therapy.

In 1981 my mother's best friend and her daughter Christy were both murdered. Christy and I were born two weeks apart. We both had dark hair and blue eyes; we could have passed for twins. We went to church together and played together. At just six years old, I watched my friend Christy be buried in a single coffin with her mother.

In 1984 my brother broke his neck while playing football. He had two major surgeries; each one failed, and the result was him breaking his neck again in the same location (Today he is doing well but will always have problems). Understandably my parents no longer allowed me to play any sports. When we moved to Greenwood in 1988, I was in junior high school and struggling in *many ways!* Grasping at straws, my parents reluctantly allowed me to play football again.

When I was fourteen, God changed my life for the better when we moved to Winnsboro. That first summer there I started playing football under Dr. Jerry Brown. Coach Brown was strict; he taught me about goals, how to study and about personal discipline. During my first year in Winnsboro, God also put Tara Branham in my life. From day one, I knew Tara to be a Christian and a person of great faith. Between Coach Brown and Tara, I matured greatly. Through their impact on my life, by my senior year, I answered God's call to ordained ministry.

After graduating high school, Tara and I went to Spartanburg Methodist College. Because of Coach Brown's training, Tara's guidance, and assurance of my purpose for ministry, I excelled academically. In the Summer of 1995, I started preaching at the Rembert-St. John Charge, married Tara and started school at Coker College.

In the words of John Newton "I once was lost, but now am found." I know now that God used the detours that were outside of my control to bring me to faith. From personal experience, I know that God is at work and God is faithful! Today Tara and I have been serving God together for over twenty-three years, and I know that God is good!

"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." –Jeremiah 29:11

Blessings & Peace,



Michael Arant / michael@lsumc.net



During the past 15 years, we have been blessed with a clergy person who served our older adults. With David's much deserved retirement, an area of need has opened up. We are pleased to announce this area of need will be filled by two of our own,

Debbie Bonek & Debbie Riley. Debbie Bonek is our new senior visitation guardian and she will be visiting our members in the nursing homes. Debbie Riley is our new shut-in care guardian and she will be visiting our homebound seniors. Both come with a depth of experience but even more importantly, they come to these ministry roles with a *passion* for those they serve. We are grateful and excited they have volunteered to serve and each will be a significant part of our LSUMC Team!



Author Gretchen Rubin is quoted as saying, "The days are long, but the years are short". Boy, is that true! It's hard to fathom that 2018 is quickly coming to a close, but December is full ministry opportunities and listed below are a few of them:

Advent Children's Church (Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23). We will be studying The Wonder of Christmas by Ed Robb & Rob Renfroe, an Advent experience that explores the true wonder of Christmas through the lens of four elements of the Christmas story: a star, a name, a manger and a promise. Children will be invited to the Education Building after children's time to enjoy this hands-on curriculum!

December 2 / Advent Party: Come celebrate the beginning of the Advent season at this annual tradition! A pot luck dinner will take place first, followed by ornament-making in the gym. The church will provide the meat, drinks and paper products. Please bring side dishes and desserts to share!

December 16 / Birthday Party for Jesus: The party will take place during the Sunday School hour. We will celebrate with cake, games and activities!

December 16 / Our youth will go Christmas Caroling: We will visit the homes of members who are shut-ins during another of our annual traditions.

December 23 / Our annual Live Nativity Scene: presented by our youth. This year's event includes a petting zoo beginning at 4:30, followed by the Live Nativity Scene at 6:00 p.m. Cookies & Hot Chocolate will be served in the fellowship hall afterwards.

December 24: We will have three **Christmas Eve** services, with the **3:00 service being geared toward children.** An impromptu manger scene unfolds to include any children who want to participate.

I look forward to sharing these ministry opportunities with all of you!

Mary mary@lsumc.net



By: Rev. Meegian Gossard

I passed my interview with the Board of Ordination!

So, what's next? I will be ordained as an elder in full connection on Monday, June 3, 2019, at the TD Convention Center in Greenville. We are planning on reserving the church buses for anyone who would like to attend and will be providing more information the closer we get to June. Since I will be ordained, does that mean I will be moving in 2019? Maybe. There's a chance every year I could move. However, I don't think I'll be moving next year. I want to say **thank you** to everyone for all your prayers, support, and grace you have shown me during this ordination process.

Meegian meegian@lsumc.net



Meegian,
All of us at Lyttleton Street UMC are so excited that you passed the interview process and are now on your way to ordination! We praise God for His guidance and call on your life. Congratulations and God's blessings on you as you continue to grow in wisdom and understanding of those you are to shepherd along the way.
Love,
Your Lyttleton Family

