

A note from the Pastor...

Half of 2024 is in the books, and it is hard to believe we are in July! I want to update you on things happening in the UMC. I appreciate those who attended the meeting with our District Superintendent. We had a meaningful conversation, and I know more is happening. The South Carolina Annual Conference met June 9-12 in Greenville. Most "controversial" resolutions were ruled out of order; only one was presented and adopted offering debt forgiveness. Anna Barton and Mary Bolt represented Broad Street and have prepared a brief report in the newsletter. Some highlights include:

- It was a heavy moment when the Conference approved 112 churches leaving the denomination. These churches voted to leave before the General Conference met in April.
- One notable decision was a decrease in the budget. This adjustment was made in response to the changing needs.
- A motion was passed recommending the Trustees stop allowing churches to leave. The Annual Conference cannot direct the Trustees in their policies, therefore, not binding. The Trustees will not meet until September to discuss upcoming changes to the 2025 process since it is reviewed and renewed yearly.

I understand that various pieces of information may be circulating within the church, and I have had people ask me questions. If you have any doubts or need more information, please don't hesitate to ask. I'm here to provide you with accurate information and address any concerns you may have.

As we celebrate our freedom as a nation on the 4th, let us renew our commitment to promoting unity and understanding. Let us strive to be a community where love and respect guide our interactions, where differences are welcomed, and where we support one another in our faith journey. Let us also remember our freedom in Christ and our calling to love one another as He loves us. Together, let us continue to be a beacon of hope and compassion in our community and beyond. May God continue to bless you! Happy 4th of July!

Love you all, Justin