



NEWSLetter

February 2026

Moncks Corner United Methodist Church

Proclaiming that Jesus Christ is Lord to our community and to the world through worship, mission, discipleship, and service to others.

Dear MCUMC Family,

February is often called the month of love. Everywhere we look, we see hearts, flowers, and reminders to show affection to the people we care about. Store aisles are lined with chocolate, stuffed animals, and lots and lots of hearts! While those are beautiful expressions, I want to invite us to think more deeply about what love truly means for us as followers of Jesus Christ.

The love we celebrate is Christ-like love. Agape love that comes from our Creator, the Triune God. February begins our season of Lent. A time of self-reflection on what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. The love we share as disciples of Jesus Christ serves, forgives, sacrifices, and welcomes. It is the love Jesus showed when He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and reached out to those who felt forgotten. It is the love that led Him all the way to the cross so that we might know grace, hope, and new life.

In 1 Corinthians 13, we are reminded that *love is patient, love is kind, it does not envy or boast, it is not proud or self-seeking*. This month, I encourage us, as a church family, to ask: What would it look like for our church, as disciples of Jesus Christ, individually and as a church family, to love this way? Jesus said, *"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another"* (John 13:35). Our love is our witness. Our love is how the world sees Christ in us. As we move through this month, let us remember that love is not just something we feel; it is something we choose. It is something we live out in our homes, our church, our schools, and our community. When we love like Jesus, we become living reminders of His presence in the world.

Thank you for being a church that continues to show God's love in so many beautiful ways. I am grateful for each of you and for the ways you reflect Christ's heart.

With love in Christ,
Pastor Rebecca

UPCOMING EVENTS:

REVOLUTION!!!

Youth Trip, January 31st-Feb 1st

February MEALS:

Feb 4 Supper & Blessing Bag Project

Feb 8 Soup Lunch after Sunday Service

Feb 17 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Feb 18 Lunch between Lenten Services

Feb 25 Lunch between Lenten Services

FEED Berkeley

Feb 16th at noon & 17th at 8:30am

Finance Committee

Feb 16th at 6pm

ASH Wednesday

Feb 18th

Church Council

Feb 24th at 6pm

2025 FINANCIAL Audit

March 8 at 2:00 in Conference Room



Flowers in the SANCTUARY

**The following upcoming
dates are available for
those who wish to provide
flowers for the altar :**

Feb 22

Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Please contact

Ann Burnette

**(843)709-0794 or
the church office.**



HYMN OF THE MONTH

Charles Wesley, Anglican Priest and itinerant preacher who wrote around 6500 hymns in his life. One of the first and best was "And Can It Be." Likely written shortly after his evangelical conversion in May 1738, it reflects a personal relationship with Jesus through the experience of spiritual rebirth. In the Methodist Church Charles Wesley is no stranger so rather than recite his life story I want to highlight this amazing hymn.

"And Can It Be" first published in *Hymns and Sacred Poems*. Adopted first by the Methodist movement that the Wesleys led, the hymn gradually became common in almost all hymnals, except The Hymnal 1982. It should be in EVERY hymnal of the Christian faith. The hymn is typically sung to SAGINA, by Thomas Campbell which features a refrain of the last two lines:

"Amazing love! How can it be; That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?"

Doesn't that encapsulate the entire gospel message? The tune, Sagina rambles and is rather cumbersome as some scholars have pointed out but congregations generally sing it with energy and delight.

The first verse begins with a motivating question: "And can it be that I should gain an interest in my Savior's blood?" And, continues with a series of questions: "Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?" Notice the individuality of each question, which asks if Christ's sacrifice can really be *for me, a sinner. Too good to be true !!*

The second verse continues with this mystery: "Tis mystery all: the Immortal dies! Who can explore his strange design? In vain the first-born seraph tries. To sound the depths of love divine. Tis mercy all! Let earth adore, let angel minds enquire no more."

Wesley suggests that the angels cannot understand, but he does not end the hymn there; evidently, the human mind is better able to grasp this mystery!

The third verse is especially beautiful and profound. "He left his Father's throne above, So free, so infinite his grace - Emptied himself of all but love and bled for Adam's helpless race. Tis mercy all, immense and free. For, O my God, it found out me!"

A poetic paraphrase of [Philippians 2](#), of the Son not holding onto his divine standing in heaven but instead taking the form of a man in order to die on the cross ([Philippians 2:5-11](#)). Theologians call this the Son's "kenosis," the Greek word means emptying. Wesley captures the idea with a brilliant line, one of the best in all Christian poetry, that Jesus "emptied himself of all but love." Wesley understands that though Jesus emptied himself in his incarnation and passion, it was precisely his incarnation and passion that revealed love as the character of God.

Armed with this understanding of God, in the fourth verse, Wesley applies God's love and free grace to himself: "Long my imprisoned spirit lay, fast bound in sin and nature's night; Thine eye diffused a quickening ray - I woke, the dungeon flamed with light; My chains fell off, my heart was free I rose, went forth, and followed thee."

Although intensely autobiographical, shortly after Wesley's conversion it also works as a conversion narrative for anyone who sings the hymn with a deep awareness of the bondage of sin and the true hope of the gospel. It draws on the imagery of [Acts 16](#), where Paul and Silas are imprisoned, singing hymns and having their chains fall off and to convert their jailor.

The final verse offers a declarative answer to the hymn's initial question and a triumphant conclusion: "No condemnation now I dread; Jesus and all in him is mine! Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine, bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own."

The key source here is [Romans 8](#), which gives a strong sense of forgiveness and assurance of salvation: "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" ([Romans 8:1](#)). Where the hymn began with hesitance, now the singer is "bold" to "approach the eternal throne." In the end, the hymn is still personal, but it is no longer individual. Through God's mysterious grace, "Christ" has become "my own."

EVERY Methodist ought to be very familiar with this hymn, not because it is a Wesley hymn but because it details the Christian experience via Charles Wesley's own personal experience. It is foundational to the Christian experience based on scripture. As stated earlier, it is one of the first and best of Wesley's 6500 hymns.



Children's MINISTRIES

The Blessing Bag Project

Following our Wednesday night supper on February 4th, the children will help pack hygiene bags to support The Blessing Bag project. I invite your family to join us for supper and to participate in packing the bags.

Souper Bowl Sunday

We will have soup, cornbread and desserts after our church service on Super Bowl Sunday, February 8th. The children will collect donations at the door using soup pots. This is part of Tackle Hunger, donations go to local food banks or organizations that help fight food insecurity

YOUTH EVENTS SCHEDULE

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL
Every Sunday • 10 AM
In the Youth Room

BIBLE BREAKFAST
6 AM at Chick-fil-A

- Thursday, Feb 12
- Thursday, March 12
- Thursday, April 9
- Thursday, May 7

YOUTH SUNDAY NIGHTS
5:00 - 6:30 PM
In the Fellowship Hall

Feb 8th • Feb 22nd
March 8th • March 22nd
April 19th • April 26th
May 3rd • May 17th

REVOLUTION
JAN 30 - FEB 1ST

Our Gifts: December: 2025 Totals:

Received	\$65,444.99	\$389,542.96
Dispersed	\$36,556.76	\$348,847.94
Difference	\$28,888.23	\$ 40,695.02

2025 Financial Audit

The Finance Committee will be conducting their annual audit of the 2025 financials on March 8, 2026 at 2:00 in the conference room. Any member of the congregation (except counters and employees of MCUMC) is eligible to serve on the audit committee. If you are interested in participating please contact Butch Volf.

MCUMC Staff:

Rev. Rebecca Rowell	Pastor
VACANT Position	Youth Director
Sue Hagan & Brenda Ayers	Secretary
Molly Purvis	Children's Ministries
Earle Johnson	Director of Music
Mary Miller	Custodian
Lori Glover	Financial Secretary
Mike Holtsclaw	Maintenance
Bobby Rozier	Grounds Maintenance
Jennifer Barnhill	Nursery

PRAYER List: Iris Austin, Barbara Bates, Delette Dupree, Rhae West Dupree, Betty Lou Hanna, Sammy Harrelson, Betty Jean Harvey, Frankie Herndon, Janie Langley, Leila Matkovich, Danny McLaurin, Penny Metts, Betty Milner, Kay Murray, Carol Sisson, Mavis Solley, Sydney Solley, Charles Staley, Miriam Talley, Maxine & Robert Tanner, Donna Tucker and our Military Service Personnel.

Moncks Corner United Methodist Church
106 Church St
Moncks Corner, SC 29461

(843) 761-8547

Visit our website: MoncksCornerUMC.org

Email: office@MoncksCornerUMC.org

*To be added or removed from this mailing,
please contact the church office.*

Moncks Corner United Methodist Church
Non-Profit Organization

Permit # 14

Moncks Corner, SC 29461

Address Service Requested

MCUMC Missions Update

"Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat." Rev. Brad Smith. **Souper Bowl of Caring** started from this simple prayer at a Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC in 1990. It has grown to a national event under the umbrella of Tackle Hunger, a nationwide effort to fight food insecurity in local communities.

We will be having our Souper Bowl of Caring Event after the church service on February 8th, Super Bowl Sunday. Donations will be used to fight food insecurity in our community through **Feed Berkeley**. Donations can be made in the church office (designate Souper Bowl of Caring on the For line) and will also be taken at the door.

Cleaning out your linen closet? Please consider donating any towels and washcloths to the church. Boxes will be in the Narthex and in the Church Office. We will be packing hygiene bags after Wednesday night supper on February 4th. The hygiene bags will be given to **The Blessing Bag Project** to support their shower events for the homeless. The Local Missions funds will purchase the hygiene kits to go in the bag with the towels. Monetary donations are appreciated as well to buy small propane bottles for heating for the homeless. Donations should be designated as Homeless Mission.

