

~The St. John's Post~

June 2026 Edition



HELPING HANDS: SERVING CHRIST BY SERVING OTHERS

"It is more blessed to give than receive." Acts 20:35

In Acts 20:35, we are reminded of the words of Jesus: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." When we extend a helping hand to others, we reflect the heart of Christ. True ministry takes place when compassion moves beyond words and becomes action.

Over the past year, members of our church have expressed a desire to serve others through a new ministry called Helping Hands. This ministry is designed to assist members of our church family and community with small household tasks that may be difficult or unsafe for some to complete alone.

You may wonder what qualifies as a small household task. Examples include changing light bulbs, replacing air filters, taking decorations down from the attic, or replacing batteries in smoke detectors. While this list is not exhaustive, it gives an idea of the types of needs the ministry hopes to meet.

The Discovery Class, led by Joe Fisher and Justin Isenhour and supported by many of our youth, is excited to use the gifts and abilities God has given them to share compassion, kindness, and love through acts of service.

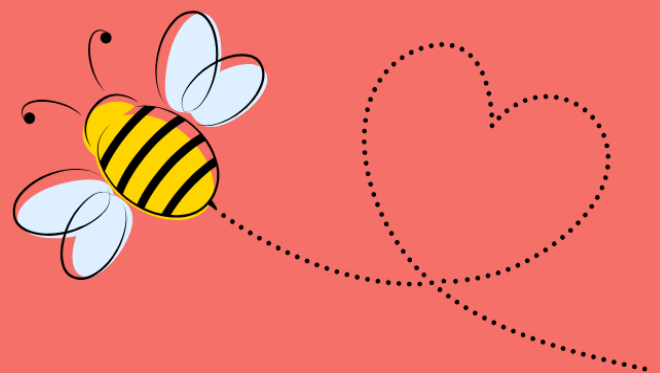
One challenge with a ministry like this is that many of us are hesitant to ask for help. Sometimes pride or the desire to remain independent can stand in the way. Yet allowing others to serve us can also be a blessing. Something as simple as accepting help with a step ladder may prevent an injury, while also creating opportunities to build new friendships and strengthen relationships within our church family.

If you believe the Helping Hands Ministry could assist you or someone you know, please contact Lisa Henley in the church office, and your request will be shared with the Helping Hands Team.

As a church family, may we continue seeking opportunities to serve one another and our community with love and humility. The Helping Hands Ministry reminds us that no act of kindness is ever wasted when it is done in the name of the Lord.

Shalom,

Karen



JUNE CELEBRATIONS

June 1 Buddy Becknell, Jennifer Isenhour & **Reese Williamson**

June 2 Kristi Vandergriff & Jon Young

June 3 Tim & Lisa Burwell - *Happy Anniversary!*

June 4 Ashley Helms

Jack & Tommie Koontz - *Happy Anniversary!*

June 7 Carrie Crocker

June 8 Susan Spencer

Richard & Nancy Stark - *Happy Anniversary!*

June 10 John & Sherry Ede - *Happy Anniversary!*

June 12 Joan Matejka

Ann & Randal Kempka - *Happy Anniversary!*

Larry & Julie Sweatt - *Happy Anniversary!*

Cole & Madison Migliorini - *Happy Anniversary!*

June 13 Judy Tilly

June 14 Ann Hozey & **Ryker Starnes**

June 15 Charles Bridges & Joe Fisher

June 16 **Molly Bonéy**, **Ada Brown**, Jemma Hardinger,
Richard Spilmann & Julie Sweatt

June 17 John Lee

June 18 Perry & Ann Troiano - *Happy Anniversary!*

June 19 **Milton Alexander** & Judy Helms

June 22 Mary Vaughan

Bill & Judy Tilly - *Happy Anniversary!*

June 23 David & Ashley Helms - *Happy Anniversary!*

June 25 Lori Vidonic

Nick & Meaghan Iannoni - *Happy Anniversary!*

Steven & Dawn Smith - *Happy Anniversary!*

June 27 Rhett & Carrie Crocker - *Happy Anniversary!*

June 29 Patrick Edmondson, Joyce Kimbrell & Martha Sides





Harrison Wichmann's Creed:

L- I believe that God made us loving.

O- I believe that God made us with our own opportunities.

R- I believe that God made us responsible.

D- I believe that God made us with our own decisions.

S- I believe that God is always stabilizing us.

Confirmation Class

My Creed

By: Peyson Cooke

I believe in the father God, Savior of Heaven
and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son.

I believe in the Holy Spirit.

I believe God loves us no matter how many
sins we commit.

I believe God is always with all of us.



Creed:

By: Max Powers

I believe in God creating Heaven and Earth.

I believe God forgives my sins.

I believe in the crucifixion of Jesus and that
three days later he rose from the dead.

I believe that we are all made equal.

I believe no matter what we do Jesus will not
leave your side.

I believe that Jesus will return and judge us
in the end.



Creed:

By: Grant Miller

I believe in God Almighty, who made the world and
gave me a life with purpose.

I believe I am loved even when I make mistakes.

I believe God is with me all the time.

I believe my life has a meaning.

2025- 2026



Creed:

By: Luke Crocker

I believe God created heaven and earth.

I believe in Heaven and Hell.

I believe in the resurrection of the soul.

I believe in the holy spirit who guides me every day.

I believe in Jesus Christ the Son of our Lord.

Creed:

By: William Isenhour

I believe God will and has guided me on my
faith journey. I believe that God made
everything we know today, including the earth
and animals.

I believe Jesus came to earth and saved us from
our sins. I believe Jesus will come back and
combine Heaven and Earth together. I believe
Jesus helps me in the challenges I face.

I believe the Holy Spirit is always with me, no
matter where I am. I believe the Holy Spirit
guides me in times of sadness and loneliness.

I believe that the Holy Spirit helps me with
soccer. I believe the Holy Spirit helps me get
better at tuba and piano.



Creed:

By: Will Edwards

I believe in the one Almighty God.

I believe God is the creator of heaven and earth.

I believe that Jesus Christ died for our sins.

I believe in the Holy Trinity.

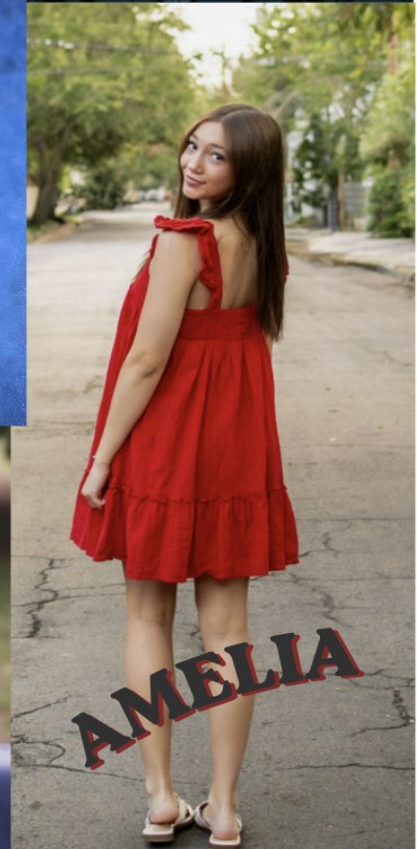
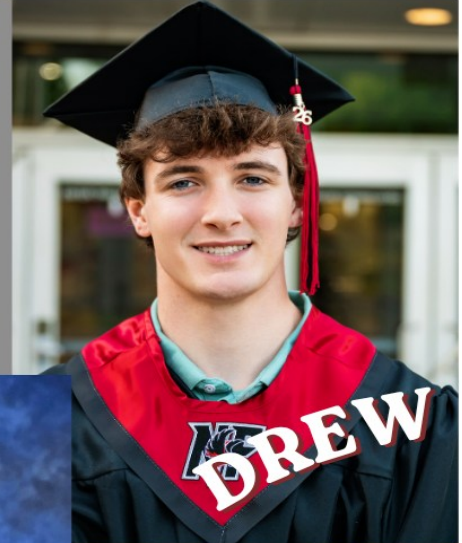
I believe He will come again.



CONGRATULATIONS



Class of
2026



GRADUATES



J.O.Y. “JUST OLDER YOUTH”

Ready to have some fun?

Join a community who will grow, connect, and have fun outings!

We are excited to introduce a brand-new ministry at our church: J.O.Y. – Just Older Youth!

We will meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month for a variety of activities and adventures throughout the year.

We already have several exciting outings planned:

- June 18 – Trip to Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden for the Chinese Lantern Festival
- July 16 – Visit to the Billy Graham Library
- August 20 – Tour of The Alphabet Museum with JAARS

More details about each outing, including times and transportation information, will be shared soon.

We hope you will come be part of the joy!

June Events & Reminders

*If you have need of use of our facilities, please contact the church office
for a full list of availabilities

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

8:30 am Worship Service
9:30 am Hospitality
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

June 7 @ 12:15pm (Zone)
Care Team Meeting
June 28 @ 12:15pm (MBC)
Finance Committee Meeting
June 30 @ 6:30pm (Loft)
Trustees Meeting

CIRCLE MEETINGS:

June 2 @ 10:30am (MBC)
Morning Glory Circle Meeting
June 8 @ 5:00pm (handbell room)
Clara Phillips Circle Meeting

SUNDAY, JUNE 7: We will have a combined Adult Sunday school class in the Fellowship Center at 10am due to all rooms being decorated for VBS. Hospitality will be coffee service only through the fellowship hall window.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: June 8 - June 12 (9:00am - 12:30pm)

SALKEHATCHIE:

Salkehatchie Camp will be June 13 - June 20 at Edisto Island.

J.O.Y. "JUST OLDER YOUTH"

June 18 - Trip to Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden to view the Chinese Latern Festival

LUNCH BUDDIES:

Lunch Buddies will be savoring the flavors of Italy as we gather at the Olive Garden, Rock Hill, on Tuesday, June 16 at our usual time of 11:30am. Their address is 519 John Ross Parkway, just off Dave Lyle Boulevard. Please join us for good food and fun times and sign up on REALM or the sign-up board by Sunday, June 14.

THE SATURDAY PROJECT:

Our Saturday Project will be cleaning and restocking at the Bethel Shelters on June 20. See our Missions page for more information.
The Missions team will be preparing for Kindness Week (July 18-July 25).

KINDNESS WEEK

DON'T MISS OUT

JULY 17-

JULY 25, 2026

July 22 (Wednesday):

9:00am-Lunch for NAFO Band

1:00pm-Unload Food Truck at Pilgrims Inn

1:00pm-Blood Drive

5:00pm-Deliver to FMCC

6:00pm-Flash Cards for Classroom Central

July 23 (Thursday):

9:00am-Humble Cup Coffee Giveaway

8:00am-Snacks for CRHS Band

4:00pm- Fort Mill First Responders Meal

6:00pm-Paint Rocks for Encouragement

6:00pm-Paint Tote Bags for Defend the Fatherless

July 24 (Friday):

10:00am- Deliver to Lifehouse Women's Shelter

1:00pm- Sewing ER

4:00pm-Meal at Bethel Shelter

July 25 (Saturday):

10:00am- Card Making

10:00am- Lemonade Stand

11:00am- Free Car Wash

2:00pm- MaxAblities

July 12th (Sunday):

6:00pm-Kick Off and Worship Night!

July 17 (Friday):

3:30pm-Snacks for FMHS Community Band Performance

July 18 (Saturday):

9:00-1:30pm- Day of Giving Back

1:00pm-Deliver Items to Tender Hearts

July 19 (Sunday):

4:00pm-Set up for Rise Against Hunger

6:00pm-Rise Against Hunger Event

July 20 (Monday):

10:00am- York County Council of Aging Crafts and Games

1:30pm- Fort Mill Care Center: Meal Kits

6:00pm- Operation Gratitude: Paracord Lanyard Making for Veterans and Military

July 21 (Tuesday):

10:00am-Roof Above- 400 Sandwiches

1:30pm- Back to School Bags for Teachers

6:00pm- Operation Christmas Child



Please scan the QR code to register for Kindness Week or sign up in the Communication Center!! If you need help with signing up for one of our many Kindness events, contact the church office!!

WEE SCHOOL NEWS

Beth Meador, Director

Our preschool year is over and what a great year it was! The W.E.E. School staff would like to thank the entire congregation for their support this school year! Your prayers have helped us be a blessing to the children that came through our doors each week! It has been a wonderful and exciting school year!



Congratulations to all of our 4-year-old preschool graduates! They have grown physically, academically and spiritually this year. We will miss seeing their smiling faces but wish them all the best as they begin kindergarten in August.

Ms. Amy and Ms. Liza's class



Ms. Janelle and Ms. Melanie's class



W.E.E. SCHOOL SPIRIT/FUNDRAISER NIGHTS

Thank you to everyone who came out to our spirit/fundraiser nights this school year. We will be taking a break this summer but we will begin once again in September.

Look for more information in the September newsletter.

As always, thank you for your support of our W.E.E. School.

W.E.E. SCHOOL 2026-2027

We have a few spots currently available for the upcoming school year.

If you would like more information, please contact Beth Meador

(803)548-6557 or sjumcweeschool@gmail.com



St. John's UMC



Children & Youth Sunday 2026



SUMMER TIME IN CHILDREN AND YOUTH

This year has been a meaningful and exciting one for our Children and Youth Ministry! From Sunday mornings and confirmation classes to youth group gatherings and special events, we have continued growing together in faith, friendship, and service.

Our children have learned Bible stories, participated in hands-on activities, and shared joyful moments through REAL Kids, Children's Church, and Sunday School. The youth have explored deeper conversations about faith, supported one another through fellowship, and served both within the church and the community. We celebrated milestones together throughout the year, including Easter traditions, service projects, and special family events.

Our Vacation Bible School and summer activities will bring energy, laughter, and new friendships to our ministry programs.

We are grateful for the volunteers, parents, and church family members who help make these ministries possible each week. Their care, leadership, and encouragement continue to shape the lives of our young people in powerful ways.



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

submitted by Joyce Kimbrell

The Vision of the UWF

The vision of the UWF is to turn faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

This month, some UWF members were asked to remember the friend who first encouraged or invited them to attend a circle meeting. Here are a few of the responses: Mary Garlathy, Donna Voss, Elaine Cryderman, Jean Schwerin, Cathy Matson, Sarah Blair, Brenda Stowe, Mary Patterson, Judy Odom, Gwen Rhinehardt, Beth Moore and Polly Collins.

The friendship and love shown by these ladies will long be remembered.

SJUMC currently has two circles, The Clara Phillips Circle and The Morning Glory Circle. It is a time of fellowship with old friends and a time to make some new friends. You are invited to join us as we work together and serve.

Morning Glory Circle

WHEN: Tuesday, June 2

WHERE: SJUMC (MBC)

TIME: 10:30 AM

Clara Phillips Circle

WHEN: Monday, June 8

WHERE: SJUMC (Handbell room)

TIME: 5:00 PM



Stewardship Committee

Melissa Morse, Committee Chair



These are the guiding principles of the Stewardship Committee:

GIVE. SERVE. ATTEND. GROW.

GIVE AS YOU ARE ABLE

We all have different budgets for our lives. As you plan your expenses please remember St. John's, in any amount that works for you.

SERVE THE CHURCH

Volunteer for one or some of the many activities in the church. We have a wide variety of programs available to our members and the overall community. Even if it's only one activity, please participate where you could be of help. A variety of talents are always needed; offer your time and help where you can.

ATTEND SERVICES

Please strive to be at Sunday services as much as possible. This shows support for the church, and allows you to network with other attendees, develop friendships and connections, learn more about a Christian life. There are many benefits of regularly attending services.

GROW THE CHURCH

We need to grow and develop to make sure there is always a St. John's. Do you have a neighbor or friend or even a family member who doesn't already attend our church? Invite them to a Sunday service, offer to stop by and pick them up on your way, so they don't have to come into the church alone. Show them the warmth and hospitality that is always offered by our members.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Our next meeting of the Stewardship Committee is Sunday, July 26th at 12:15 after Sunday service that day. Please join us if you would like to hear more about our activities or have new ideas for discussion.

NEW MEMBER DOCUMENT

Are you a new member of St. John's? Is there information about our church that you would like to receive? Our committee is in the process of developing a document for new members and we would love to get your feedback so that we make it as helpful as possible.



If you have any questions or ideas for our committee we would love to hear from you.

Please contact me at melissa.kay.morse@gmail.com



MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Amy Bartholomew, Committee Chair

Saturday Projects

We have had great success with our Saturday Projects this year. We will only be visiting the Bethel Day Shelter for the next two months as we prepare for Kindness Week.

Bethel Shelter

On Saturday, June 20 we will have our monthly visit to clean and restock the donation closets at the Bethel Day Shelter. You can meet Shawne Heeren in the church parking lot at 9:30am to carpool or meet her at the shelter at 10:00am: 546 S. Cherry Road, Suite S, Rock Hill. Please let Shawne know if you plan to attend. Everyone is welcome and it can be a good experience for families.

Please check the lists of donation requests in the donation center outside the door to the fellowship hall. We are focusing on the current needs for the Bethel Shelter this month.

May Mission Spotlight York County Council on Aging

The York County Council on Aging offers numerous services aimed at keeping the senior citizens of York and Chester counties living independently and productively. Their goal is to promote health and wellness for all senior citizens by the coordination of key services to provide the priceless gift of independence.

Their services include Senior Centers for adults 60+ to go to during the day for hot meals and fun, educational activities. We will be visiting one of these during Kindness Week to make crafts and play games. They also provide home delivery of hot meals five days a week. Perhaps most importantly, they provide a social connection for those who may be lonely.

Other services include Homemaker Services that assist in maintaining clean, safe environments for homebound seniors. They offer transportation services for medical appointments. They provide service guides for topics such as adult advocacy, assisted living and nursing homes, caregiver support, dementia services, emergency financial assistance, in-home care, insurance counseling (Medicaid/Medicare), and food insecurity.

You can call 1-800-868-9095 to connect to resources in our area.



B i b l e Q u i z

YOU ARE PART OF THE STORY

When I was preparing sermons, I would sometimes imagine what it would have been like to be a reporter writing for *The Jerusalem Post* informing the readers about things that Jesus said or did. One sermon title was “Picking Up the Mantle Of Jesus” preached to challenge the people in the pew to be the witnesses in the world we are called to be.

Now I am in the pew and on Pentecost Sunday my fellow listeners and I were challenged to realize and live out the truth that ‘We are part of the story still being written.’

You find that challenge and the spiritual power to answer in Acts 1:8. My question for you is: “Will you accept the challenge to be part of the story still being written?” (Acts 1:8 ESV)

Fill in the blanks.

But you will receive _____ when the _____ has come upon you, and _____ will be my _____ in _____ and in all _____ and _____, and to the end of the earth.

Fill in words: Holy Spirit, witnesses, power, Jerusalem, you, Judea, Samaria.

Are we up to the challenge Jesus placed before his disciples and before us?

Remember: You are part of the story!

submitted by Rev. Bob Romanello



EPWORTH CHILDREN'S HOME

Fostering Family Ties: Kinship Care

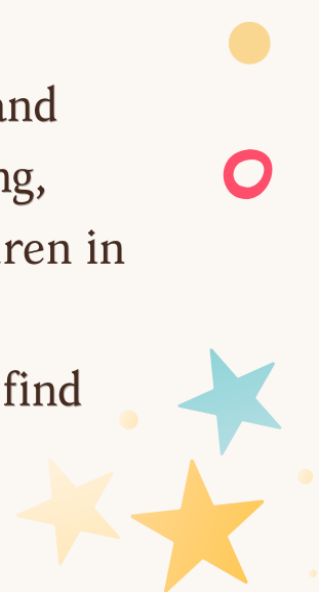


Gina and Albert, a South Carolina couple, welcomed their teenage relative Amelia into their home in 2021 after difficult family circumstances left her needing a stable place to live.

When Amelia first arrived, she was struggling in school, but with the couple's love and support, she improved dramatically and is now making the honor roll. She plans to attend cosmetology school after graduation and eventually hopes to become a social worker.

The couple later opened their home to three additional young relatives, even though it created financial and space challenges for their family. Determined to keep the children together and in a safe environment, Gina and Albert adjusted their home and daily lives to meet the children's needs. Their willingness to step in reflects the love and sacrifice often shown by kinship caregivers.

Through Epworth's Kinship Navigator program, Gina and Albert received help finding financial assistance, clothing, supplies, and community resources to support the children in their care. The program also provides emotional encouragement and guidance to families who suddenly find themselves raising children unexpectedly.



Kinship care continues to grow across South Carolina and throughout the country as relatives and close family friends step in to care for children when parents are unable to do so. Many caregivers face financial hardship, health concerns, and the challenges of adjusting to a new stage of life, yet they willingly open their homes to provide stability and love.

For Gina and Albert, caring for these children has become more than an obligation — it has become a calling. They remain grateful for the support they have received and are committed to giving the children a safe, loving home and a brighter future.

To read the article in full, visit the link below:

<https://www.epworthchildrenshome.org/carestories/fostering-family-ties-kinship-care/>

Epworth Children's Home
2900 Millwood Avenue
Columbia, SC 29205



Katherine Burns, St. John's UMC - Epworth Representative

MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

Sarah Ochoa-Hughey, Interim Music Director

Dear St. Johns UMC Family,

As pentecost and summer approaches, we want to share a few updates and opportunities to celebrate the music and ministry of our Chancel Choir.

SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Do you play an instrument, sing, or know someone who does? We are looking for **volunteers to provide special music for summer services**. If you'd like to share your talents, please contact Sarah Ochoa-Hughey sarahchoamusic@gmail.com, or sign up in the hallway outside the sanctuary. Let us know what you'll be playing or singing, and how to best reach you (email or phone).

We'd love to fill the summer with beautiful music that uplifts our worship and community!

END-OF-YEAR CHOIR POTLUCK

Date: June 14, 2026

Location: Fellowship Hall (following the 11 am service)

Details: All Chancel Choir members are invited to a potluck celebration! Bring your favorite goodies, finger foods, or desserts to share. This is a chance to reflect on the year, enjoy fellowship, and honor the incredible music we've made together.

A decorative graphic featuring a wavy musical staff with several eighth and quarter notes. Below the staff, there are illustrations of various musical instruments: a violin, a guitar, a banjo, a drum set, and a trumpet.

LAST SUNDAY FOR CHOIR

Date: June 21, 2026

This will be our final Sunday to sing together until the fall.

NEW FOR 2026

Esports Minecraft Academy
Scratch Jr. Video Game Maker

K-Pop Demon Hunters
Vex Robotics Battle Bots

Visit Our Website
to See Our NEW
Daily Schedule!

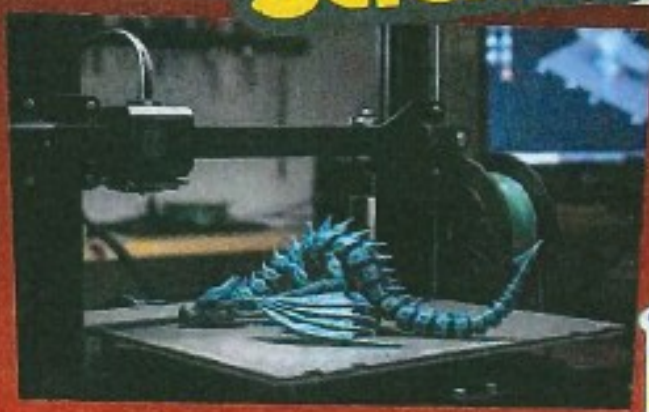
Go To Find a Camp
on

Charlottesouth.ClubSciKidz.com
for a location near you!



SUMMER CAMP!

Science and Fun!



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Lisa Henley Administrative Coordinator
Mallory Capps Director of Church Ministries
Beth Meador W.E.E. School Director
Minda Siebert Finance Coordinator
Terry Helms Building Administrator
Sarah Ochoa-Hughey..... Interim Director of Music
Lauren Harris Accompanist
Nancy Rivers Handbell Director
Suzanne Fisher Kitchen Coordinator
Maggie Helms Custodian
Katherine Burns Music Makers Director
Amber Boan Golden Rings Director
Oriana Gilmore Nursery Worker
Jenna Barino Nursery Worker

...TO BE CHRIST TO ALL PEOPLE BY LIVING OUT GOD'S CALL
TO LOVE, SERVE, AND TRANSFORM THE WORLD.