



The Leaflet

...a Weekly Newsletter of SOPC, Columbia, SC

April 8, 2026 edition



Rejoice! He is Risen!



- Fellowship Meal Our next churchwide Fellowship Luncheon will be **NEXT Sunday, April 19th, after worship in the Fellowship Hall.** The menu is salad, chicken alfredo, broccoli, and dessert. Yum!



Our youth are taking orders for casseroles and sweet treats (that they will help prepare) for you to either take home and enjoy or donate to Love Revolution. All proceeds will help defray their cost of attending Montreat and Camp Fellowship this summer. These camps are wonderful opportunities for them to grow in their faith and to strengthen the bonds of fellowship with one another and with other Presbyterian young people. Order forms are available below, attached to this email, in the narthex, and from the church office.

SOPC YOUTH ORDER FORM



NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

OPTIONS	QUANTITY	SUGGESTED DONATION	TOTAL	FOR LOVE REVOLUTION OR TAKE HOME
CHICKEN CASSEROLE		\$25		
RIGATONI WITH MEAT SAUCE CASSEROLE		\$25		
CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES		\$12 (1 dozen) \$22 (2 dozen)		
OATMEAL RAISIN COOKIES		\$12 (1 dozen) \$22 (2 dozen)		
SWEET BREAD (pumpkin, gingerbread or banana)		\$15 (1 Loaf)		
DONATION ONLY: If you would like to sponsor a student's registration (or a portion of it) by simply donating, please specify the amount.				

SOPC AND WESTMINSTER YOUTH WILL BE PREPARING THESE CASSEROLES AND BAKED GOODS! IF YOU ARE PURCHASING THEM TO BE DONATED TO LOVE REVOLUTION, WE WILL COORDINATE WITH THEM TO FIND OUT WHEN THEY WILL NEED THEM DELIVERED. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HELPING OUR YOUTH EXPERIENCE THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH THAT HAPPENS AT CAMP FELLOWSHIP AND MONTREAT!! PLEASE CONTACT JULIE OR ERNIE BUSSELLS, 803-622-9509 WITH ANY QUESTIONS.



- Our next gathering of the SOPC Book Group will be at Loveland Coffee on the last Thursday in March, 3/26/26, at 3:00 pm. We will discuss *The Radium Girls* by Kate Moore. We'd love to see you just to catch up on what you've been doing! Questions? Call or Text Kitsie Miller. 803-463-6958.



- Our next Ladies' Luncheon will be Monday, April 20th at noon at Tupelo Honey, 2138 Pickens St., Columbia. Please let Margaret Royals know if you plan to attend. mroyals052@gmail.com or 803-608-1434
- **A Note of Thanks & Information from one of SOPC's partner organizations:**

THE COOPERATIVE MINISTRY

Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2026

Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church
Attention: Pastor
530 Saint Andrews Road
Columbia, SC 29210

Dear Pastor,

On behalf of our clients, thank you for your church's 2025 gifts totaling \$1,100.

These valuable funds support our Immediate Needs and Empowerment services, which help people focus on economic self-sufficiency. In 2025, The Cooperative Ministry served 15,593 people through all services — an increase over 2024. For more on our 2025 impact, I've included our most recent brochure.

For 43 years, The Cooperative Ministry has partnered with local churches to serve others in our community. Through your financial giving, volunteerism, food and clothing, and book collections, we value our partnership with your church. Scott supports our church relationships. You may call on him at any time to schedule volunteerism (groups and individuals), arrange an exhibit for a missions conference, or invite a speaker for your church staff or small groups. Our conference room is also available for your church's groups. Scott can be reached at (803) 799-2428 or svaughan@coopmin.org.

Thank you again for believing in our mission,

Beth H. Irick
Chief Executive Officer

OUR 2025 IMPACT

15,593 PEOPLE received help.

757 PEOPLE benefited from Financial Empowerment Coaching. (This service often includes Financial Assistance for rent and utilities. Counseling is available through The Christian Counseling Center at First Presbyterian Church.)

3,810 PEOPLE benefited from free clothing for work and school.

3,072 PEOPLE benefited from emergency food boxes and snack packs.

7,805 FREE tax returns were prepared through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program.

92 PEOPLE received help toward a GED, license or certificate necessary for a better job.

340 VOLUNTEERS served **14,300** hours through individual and group service.

HOW WE SERVE

- **Financial Empowerment Coaching** (May include Financial Assistance. Counseling is available through The Christian Counseling Center at First Presbyterian Church.)
- **Free Clothing & Furniture** (Donation Hours: M-T, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to Noon)
- **Emergency Food**
- **Career Improvement Aid**
- **Free Tax Preparation**
- **Insurance Counseling / Assistance**



Services of The Cooperative Ministry are often supported by Richland County, the City of Columbia, and United Way of the Midlands.



WHO IS OUR CLIENT?

Many of our clients work at least 27 weeks per year, but their cash income still falls below the federal poverty level, measured by the family's size.

Clients of The Cooperative Ministry are housekeepers, retail cashiers and assistant managers, laborers and warehouse workers, nursing and medical assistants, food service employees, state government employees, and customer service representatives. Most of our client households are headed by a woman caring for two others in the household.

Based on the 2024 SC Self-Sufficiency Standard, a single adult in Richland County can meet basic needs with \$37,581 annually. Clients receiving Financial Assistance generally earn less than \$23,616 annually.



GET INVOLVED!

BE A FRIEND

Your recurring financial gift helps us serve more people, getting them on the road to self-sufficiency. You can give online at our website - coopmin.org.

BE A VOLUNTEER

Individuals and groups can interview clients, prepare tax returns, serve in our clothing bank, and help with reception and data entry. coopmin.org/volunteer.

DONATE YOUR CAR

We accept cars in all conditions and sell them at auction for much-needed cash to help clients. Towing is free and we also assist with paperwork. (803) 799-2428 or visit www.coopmin.org/donate-your-car.



BOOK DONATIONS WELCOME

We now accept books, which are recycled to support client services. Please bring boxed books to our clothing bank entrance, Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, 9 a.m. to Noon.



NEED A SPEAKER?

Does your group need a speaker at its next meeting? We have several professional speakers on staff and they love to visit with groups. Please call (803) 799-2428.

THE COOPERATIVE MINISTRY



**SERVING
THE
MIDLANDS
FOR
43 YEARS**

THE COOPERATIVE MINISTRY

3821 W. Beltline Blvd.,
Columbia, SC 29204
Email: info@coopmin.org
(803) 799-3853
coopmin.org

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday, 9 a.m. to Noon

Congratulations!

- Grace Tharp, the granddaughter of Jeanne LeBoeuf, will soon be graduating with honors from Spring Hill High School. She will attend Wofford College in the fall, where she plans to major in Biology & Environmental Science as part of the Wofford Scholars program.



- If anyone in our church family would benefit from wheelchair service from the car into worship, we would be happy to assist you! When you arrive Sunday morning, have whoever is driving you enter the narthex and inform the usher that you are in the parking lot. The usher or a greeter will then bring a wheelchair out to your car to get you. They will also take you out to your car after worship. It is our pleasure to do this! If you need a ride to church, please contact your shepherd or the church office.
- We can train folks so that we can show videos with our Minutes for Missions before worship. This training with Karl will take several weeks before the desired event, and needs to be scheduled well in advance. Thanks!
- If you would like to volunteer in the sanctuary's sound booth occasionally, please contact the church office. Training provided!
- We're Collecting: cans' pop tops! So far, we have donated 7 gallon-sized Ziploc bags FULL of pop tops to the Ronald McDonald House in Columbia.
 - Save the Date:
 - April 19: Churchwide Fellowship Luncheon
 - April 22: Caring for God's Creation—Earth Day
 - May 7: National Day of Prayer
 - May 10: Mother's Day; PCSC Offering
 - May 24: Pentecost
 - May 25: Memorial Day
 - If you have information to go out to our church family in the Leaflet and/or bulletin, please get it to Annah by the Tuesday before. Thanks!