



INSPIRE



KIDTRICITY NEWS CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The children's ministry hosted Carols & Cookies on Dec. 8. They celebrated the Christmas season with group performances by each of the Sunday School classes. Children showcased their special talents through Christmas-themed solos and small ensembles. The afternoon concluded with the song "Silent Night" by candlelight and refreshments and fellowship.



MISSIONS NEWS COMMUNITY MINISTRY

Christmas Eve gifts totaling \$6,500 will support Turning Point Day Center at Wilkes Boulevard United Methodist Church and Room at the Inn. Turning Point offers dignity and hope for those experiencing homelessness. Room at the Inn is a collaborative effort between local congregations, including Community UMC, to provide a winter warming shelter for the homeless population in Columbia. To volunteer for Room at the Inn, please go to roomattheinn.com.org/volunteer or to support Turning Point, go to wilkesblvdumc.org/get_involved.



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Meet Director of Children's Ministries Nancy Cooper. She began her work at Community UMC on Dec. 9 after being retired from children and youth ministry for two years. She was attracted to the part-time hours and the opportunity to work with a community that cares so much about children and discipleship. She enjoys handi-crafts—crocheting, sewing, building and doing arts and crafts—as hobbies. She also loves outdoor recreation and camping. As she puts it, “God created us to be creative. It’s part of who we are.” Her home is located south of Columbia in proximity to several of her family members. Her own household includes one dog (a Vizsla), six cats and one rabbit. And a fun fact: her favorite food is the Darwin Special from Shakespeare’s Pizza. We welcome her to the Community UMC staff!



CONNECTIONS NEWS ADULT MINISTRY

Moms InterMission kicked off Jan. 15. Guest speaker, TJ Sweet, shared his thoughts on joy. Other fruits of the spirit will be explored on first and third Wednesdays this year through speakers, crafts and service projects. Women of all ages are invited. Go to communityumc.net/connect/moms-intermission for all the details.

Church Building Improvements

In this new year, Community UMC celebrates improvements to the church building. Using funds from an insurance claim, all shingles on the roof have been replaced and additional reinforcements to the flat areas are coming soon. Also, new walls have been built in the basement to separate the youth area from the storage area. Hand-made barn doors, built by Director of Facilities Eric Peterson, add beauty and security to these areas.