

# CARE CONNECT

**The Year of Fulfilled Promises**



## A Message from Congregational Care

By Dr. Wanda Richardson

As we move through the winter season, our hearts are still warmed by the gift of Christmas. It is the holy reminder that God came near, bringing love, hope, and promise into the world. The light of Christ continues to shine, guiding us beyond the manger and into a new year filled with renewed faith and quiet anticipation for what God is preparing to do.

Winter invites us to slow down, to reflect, and to rest in God's presence. At the same time, it calls us forward with hope. As we step into the new year, we do so with gratitude for the journey behind us and trust for the path ahead, believing that God is faithful in every season of our lives.

In this Winter Edition of Care Connect, you will find encouragement, meaningful resources, and stories that remind us we are never alone and that hope continues to rise even in life's colder moments. As we stay connected this winter, may the care we share reflect God's love and bring comfort where it is needed most.

**Inside This Issue:**  
**2026 Care Goals**  
**Testimonials**  
**Tips and Resources**  
**Prayer Corner**

## Upcoming Events

**Day of Prayer**  
Friday, January 30, 2026  
7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Main and West

**Miracles at Midnight**  
10 p.m. - Main

## Care Small Groups

**January - May**  
Sharing with Senior Saints

**February-May**  
GriefShare  
Single and Parenting

**March**  
Widows and Widowers

## TESTIMONIALS

### Your Voices of Hope: Stories from Those We Serve

Here are a few testimonials from those who have experienced support.

### Stephen Ministry: Trained Caregiver

“My dad has Alzheimer’s and I recently arranged a Zoom call with two of my brothers in Pennsylvania so they could see him face to face. They had a great conversation, and although daddy didn’t remember their names at first, he knew they were his sons.

As the call ended, one brother expressed relief as he had been emotionally preparing for the possibility that our dad wouldn’t recognize him at all. I started to interrupt him with my own observations, but instead I chose to listen. He then shared an experience from last year when our dad had flatly denied having another one of my brothers as a son. So my brother had joined this call expecting the same outcome.

By trusting the Holy Spirit and listening, I was able to hear his deeper fear. While that fear may one day materialize, we are both better equipped to understand it’s the progression of the disease and not a father rejecting his son. In that moment, I clearly saw how God has used Stephen Ministry to equip me to walk compassionately with others. These Christ-centered “life skills” are a gift, strengthening not only care receivers, but every relationship God entrusts to us.” ~Gia Hunter~

### Divorce Care: A Story of Healing, Growth, and New Beginnings

“Over the past several weeks, I’ve come to see each session not just as time spent, but as moments of growth. Each week shaped me, strengthened me, and helped me heal in ways I didn’t fully understand at the time. There was a season that felt especially heavy. I wanted my marriage back, and the weight of that desire was real. In that moment, Rev. Richardson connected me with a therapist who, without question, was the best

I’ve ever had. The timing felt divine exactly what I needed, exactly when I needed it. Today, I can say this: I may be divorced in the flesh, but I am whole in the spirit. I’ve done the work. I’ve grown. I’ve healed. This isn’t the end of my story. It’s the beginning of a new chapter one rooted in clarity, peace, and purpose.”

~Travis (Global from Florida)~

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### 2026 Care Goals: The Year of Fulfilled Promises

As we step into 2026, Congregational Care has set intention goals to strengthen connection, expand support, and communicate care more effectively, so that together we can join Pastor Goodman in walking into a year of fulfilled promises.

- Strengthen and unify the Tribal Team Ministry to ensure consistent, connected, and spiritually grounded care
- Expand the Mental Health and Wellness Fair and increase access to counseling resources to support holistic well-being
- Enhance the Care Connect Newsletter to keep our church family informed, encouraged, and engaged

We remain committed to caring well, loving deeply, and trusting God to fulfill every promise among us.

## CARE WINTER GROUPS

### GRIEFSHARE

Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25; March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1, 15, 22, 29; May 6

### SINGLE AND PARENTING

Tuesdays, February 3, 10, 17, 24; March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

### WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS

March 14, 21, 28

### SHARING WITH SENIOR SAINTS GROUP

Wednesdays, January 28; February 25; March 25; April 22; May 27

For all small groups go to [www.tbcaugusta.org](http://www.tbcaugusta.org)

### Prayer Corner

Dear God, we thank you for this season and ask You to continue to cover our pastor, families, and our church family, and all who are blessed by this newsletter. Bless each of us, strengthen our hearts, and guide our steps, Help us all to walk in faith, love deeply, and trust You to fulfill every promise in 2026.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

**Do you have a prayer request? Submit your requests by emailing: [pray4me@tbcaugusta.org](mailto:pray4me@tbcaugusta.org).**

### Tips and Resources

Check out these resources for support including local support groups, online forums, and practical care strategies. You can find full details and links by visiting the Congregational Care page at [www.tbcaugusta.org](http://www.tbcaugusta.org) or by contacting the office at [congregationalcare@tbcaugusta.org](mailto:congregationalcare@tbcaugusta.org).

### Feedback

We value your input! Please share your experiences with Congregational Care, any suggestions, or topics you would like to see covered in the future. Send to [congregationalcare@tbcaugusta.org](mailto:congregationalcare@tbcaugusta.org).

### Congregational Care

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