

## APRIL CONTINUED

### Wednesday, April 17

#### Memory, Storytelling, and Archives

*Arleen Fields, Archives Librarian*

When you tell your grandchildren about your days at MU, will you have pictures to show them? This program will discuss ways you can make sure that your important photographs and other records will be accessible in the future. You'll also learn about how and why items are collected and preserved in the MU Archives.

*Enlightened minds and responsible spirits*

#### University Chapel Service

*Rev. Marv Gordner, Pastor, Black's Chapel Methodist Church*

A retired military officer with a heart for students, Rev. Gordner has led one of MU's partner churches since 2019. He has a bachelor's degree from The Citadel, a master's degree from The Joint Military Intelligence College, and a Master of Divinity from Campbell University.

*Owes its origin and values to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ*

#### DEI Lunch and Learn: Diversity Awareness

*Gavin Myrick, Director, Belonging and Inclusion*

All are welcome as we celebrate the diversity of the student population across our campus.

*Respects diversity*

### Wednesday, April 24

#### Closing the CIRCUIT

Join us to celebrate another successful year of CIRCUIT, intertwining the threads of education, inspiration, and community. We'll bask in the glow of newfound knowledge, ignited by inspirational moments, as we forge lasting connections within a vibrant and diverse community. This event encapsulates the transformative power of collective learning, leaving us inspired to carry the torch of education and community-building into our respective spheres this summer.

*Seeks to develop whole persons*

## MISSION STATEMENT

To visit Methodist University's Mission Statement, visit the following web page:

[methodist.edu/about-mu/our-mission/](http://methodist.edu/about-mu/our-mission/)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Ruth Carr**

*Director of Religious Life & Community Service*

[rcarr@methodist.edu](mailto:rcarr@methodist.edu)

910.630.7157



Elevate your skills.  
Broaden your perspectives.  
Nurture your inner growth.  
Live your mission.

**Spring 2024 Programs**  
**Wednesdays, 11 a.m.**

## WELCOME TO CIRCUIT

Are you ready to embark on a transformative personal and academic empowerment journey? Join us for CIRCUIT, a weekly opportunity to elevate your skills, broaden your perspectives, and nurture your inner growth. CIRCUIT is open to all – no grades, no required attendance, no pressure – only opportunity.

CIRCUIT is not just another program; it is a dynamic space where individuals from diverse backgrounds come together to share their stories, learn from one another, and cultivate a deep sense of belonging. Education is not confined to textbooks and classrooms alone; it is a lifelong journey that thrives on exchanging ideas, perspectives, and experiences. CIRCUIT encourages critical thinking, healthy disagreement, intellectual curiosity, and a lifelong love for learning – enabling individuals to contribute actively to living out the University's mission.

CIRCUIT draws its name from the legendary circuit riders in Methodism and their commitment to spreading knowledge, inspiring faith, and building diverse communities. CIRCUIT embodies the spirit of exploration, engagement, and impact demonstrated by Francis Asbury, featured on the Methodist University seal. This spirit translates to today's MU campus in a three-fold weekly CIRCUIT that creates energy by connecting education, inspiration, and community.

Each Wednesday at 11 a.m., CIRCUIT hosts multiple engaging events designed to deepen our community's knowledge of the University mission, spark inspiration, ignite conversations, and encourage personal growth – body, mind, and spirit. From thought-provoking panel discussions to interactive workshops and spiritual practice, we strive to create an environment where you can discover your passion, develop your skills, and probe your unique mission.

## LEGEND

Use the corresponding icons to better understand the type of CIRCUIT events offered throughout the semester:



### EDUCATION

Meets in the Seminar Room of Davis Memorial Library (unless otherwise noted)



### INSPIRATION

Meets in Hensdale Chapel



### COMMUNITY

Meets in the Alumni Dining Room (first floor of Berns Student Center)

*Italicized words and phrases indicate the missional value from the Methodist University Mission Statement (mentioned on back of booklet) connected to the event.*

## Wednesday, March 27



### + Living What Matters: A Journey through Holy Week

Holy Week in the Christian Church, the week between Palm Sunday and Easter, observed with services of worship and devotion on the Passion (suffering) of Jesus Christ. Join us for a walking journey through the days of Holy Week as we move toward Good Friday and Easter. Note: This is the single CIRCUIT program in several movements, beginning and ending at Hensdale Chapel, with stations located around the Quad.  
*Owes its origin and values to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ*

## APRIL

## Wednesday, April 3



### Executive Functioning: Tips & Strategies for Success with Collegiate Expectations

*Alisha Meyers, Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy; OTA Academic Fieldwork Coordinator & Dr. Melissa Gibson, OTA Program Director, Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy*

Executive functioning is a term used to describe the many tasks our brains perform that are necessary to think, act, and solve problems. The types of executive functioning skills are the initiation-ability to stop, think, plan, and then act, sustained attention-maintain a consistent attention, shifting attention, emotional control, initiation-ability to initiate a task without procrastination, working memory-remembering things for immediate use, planning, organization, and time management. Come and learn about how occupational therapy assists with these skills and obtain real time strategies in these areas for successful performance in meaningful activities that occupy your work and school life.  
*To prepare students for a variety of careers and educational pursuits.*



### University Chapel Service

*Rufus Autry, MU Plumbing Supervisor and Pastor, Tabor Methodist Church*

Pastor Autry has an extensive knowledge of both plumbing issues and the Word of God, with a heart for rural ministry. As both a pastor and an MU employee, Rufus believes that as disciples of Christ, we are to work and live by faith, to be known by love, and to be a light of hope wherever we are.

*Owes its origin and values to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ*



### I Am Somebody

*Justin Malloy, One Stop Coordinator for Student Success*

Learn how to start small and overcome giants on the path to finding hope through the powerful and inspiring Biblical story of David.  
*Seeks to develop whole persons*

## Wednesday, April 10



### + Embodiment and the Cross: How Reflecting on the Crucifixion Can Inform the Work of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (CRC Symposium)

*Dr. Kyrstin Krist, Associate Professor of Kinesiology & Rev. Dr. Kelli Taylor, University Chaplain*  
Using responses from persons in the campus community, presenters explore the profound intersection of embodiment and religious symbolism by examining depictions of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Through thoughtful reflection on these representations, participants gain insights that can enrich and inform the practices of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, fostering a deeper understanding of empathy, compassion, and unity within diverse communities.

*Recognizes the dignity and worth of all persons*

## MARCH

### Wednesday, March 6

#### Honey Bees, Teamwork, and Organizational Success

*Dr. Doris Munoz, Assistant Provost for Student Retention & Persistence*

One of our greatest teachers in life is Mother Nature. In a world where we are moving in lots of directions, it is necessary for us to take a moment to learn from the blessings around us. Honey bees are one of those blessings. In this session, attendees will learn how honeybees work together to maintain a healthy hive and discover ways they can take lessons from bees to enhance our organization's success.

*To prepare students for a variety of careers and educational pursuits*

#### University Chapel Service

*Rev. Becky Durham, Pastor, Peace Presbyterian Church*

Worship through a message from MU's Adjunct Chaplain and pastor of one of MU's partner churches. Rev. Durham is on campus every Tuesday and Wednesday and available to students, faculty, and staff at other times by appointment.

*Owes its origin and values to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ*

#### Voting: A Right, a Privilege, or a Responsibility?

*Ruth Carr, Director of Religious Life and Student Volunteer Services & Dr. Christopher Cronin, Professor of Political Science*

The United States of America is an indivisible union of 50 sovereign States. It is a democracy because people govern themselves; it is representative because people choose elected officials by free and secret ballot; and a republic because the government derives its power from the people. Join us as we walk through the voting process and talk about when to vote, how to vote, and why it matters.

*Develop whole persons that will contribute substantially to... civic life.*

### Wednesday, March 13

Spring Break: No CIRCUIT

### Wednesday, March 20

#### Love, Sacrifice, and the Poetry of Robert Hayden

*Jason Canady, Writer, Graphic Designer, and Educator*

Poet Jason Canady will showcase the work of Black poet Robert Hayden, primarily on sacrifice and how love really appears in life. Finally, as we are in the season of Lent, Hayden's work leads us to reflect on Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.

*Opportunities for social growth*

#### University Chapel Service

*Rev. Glenn Meadows, Pastor, Cedar Falls Baptist Church*

Pastor Glenn, a Buncombe County native, is a community-oriented person who believes that there is much more to church than a building and a Sunday morning service. He serves as lead pastor at one of MU's partner churches on Ramsey Street.

*Owes its origin and values to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ*

#### DEI Lunch and Learn: Women in Power Positions

*Gavin Myrick, Director, Student Belonging & Inclusion*

A look at women in leadership and the importance of female representation in positions of power throughout society.

*Recognize the dignity and worth of all persons*

## JANUARY

### Wednesday, January 17

#### Let's Celebrate! CIRCUIT Turns Three!

Join us for an electrifying all-campus birthday bash as we mark a significant milestone – CIRCUIT is turning three! We'll light up the Quad with music, laughter, and the vibrant energy that has powered us for three incredible years. Blow out the candles with fellow students, faculty, and staff and make a wish for the semester ahead. Bring your spark, and let's amplify the joy together at CIRCUIT's Third Birthday Party!

*Opportunities for social growth*

### Wednesday, January 24

#### Is God a Mathematician?

*Dr. Kathleen Fick, Chair and Professor of Mathematics*

Was mathematics invented or discovered, and how is it that mathematics so effectively and precisely describes every element of the world surrounding us? This question is central to an ageless, ongoing debate amongst reputable mathematical philosophers.

*Intellectual values and ethical principles such as truth*

#### University Chapel Service

*Kevin Duffy, Pastor, Village Baptist Church*

Pastor of Discipleship, Missions, College & Young Adults, Singles, & VCA Campus Ministries at one of MU's partner churches, Rev. Duffy is an energetic teacher of scripture, passionate about encouraging people to "live sent" in our world and community.

*Owes its origin and values to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ*

#### Breaking Chains: Facts and Freedom from Human Trafficking

*Joe and Maryanne Hickson, North Star Ministries*

Human trafficking is a complex yet often hidden enterprise. Joe and Maryanne Hickson have a vision to see a world where there is respect for all human life and no human trafficking. In this session, the Hicksons will show how compassion and strategy combine at North Star Ministry to provide assistance to victims of human trafficking and sexual abuse in cooperation with law enforcement and other organizations.

*Recognizes the dignity and worth of all persons*

### Wednesday, January 31

#### Can Money Buy Happiness?

*Dr. Robert Gmeiner, Assistant Professor of Financial Economics*

Are one-word answers correct? There's your perhaps uncertain answer. We'll discuss what makes people happy from the perspective of economics and religion, and how money does and does not fit into both.

*Develop fully the mind and its intellectual value*

#### University Chapel Service

*Tre'vone McNeill, College Pastor, TrueVine Ministries*

Adjunct Pastor and dynamic leader of the Sunday evening Gospel Service on campus, Pastor Tre is an alumnus of MU and passionate about connecting with students and explaining how scripture applies to everyday life situations.

*Owes its origin and values to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ*

## JANUARY CONTINUED

### Wednesday, January 31

#### Beyond Athletics

TJ Gill, Resident Coordinator

Join us for a panel discussion about life beyond college sports featuring senior MU student-athletes. The program is open to all, and student-athletes are especially encouraged to attend.

*Acquire enlightened minds and responsible spirits*

## FEBRUARY

### Wednesday, February 7

#### Transcultural Nursing Perspectives

MU Nursing Students

Join students from the Methodist University Nursing Program as they share perspectives on providing care that is respectful of diverse beliefs and customs.

*Is sensitive to the needs and rights of others*

#### University Chapel

Rev. Scott Foster, Lead Pastor, St. Andrews UMC

Pastor of one of MU's partner churches just a few miles from campus, Rev. Foster also serves as the Alumni Advisor for Lambda Chi Alpha and has become a familiar face around campus through his work with NC Immigration Law & Justice Center (formerly JFON) addressing immigration issues impacting students.

*Owes its origin and values to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ*

#### The Story behind "The Mark You Made"

Andrew Prieto, Assistant Professor of Art; Visual Art Exhibition Coordinator

For the most recent exhibition in the McKune international gallery, Prieto's curatorial intention analyzed the personal themes of isolation, dispossession, and ennui, focusing on the small works of Tuscarora artist Marcus Dunn. As a painter, Dunn works from the photographic archives of the Native American boarding school project of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Taking the concept of mark making as a metaphor for relationships, history, and memory, Prieto will illustrate how painting is more than painting, art is more than art, while providing insight into contemporary curatorial practice.

*A liberally educated person is sensitive to the needs and rights of others*

### Wednesday, February 14

#### Love is All You Need

Dr. Laura Mars, Assistant Professor of Psychology

An exploration of love and kindness and the role they play in our life satisfaction and overall happiness.

*Love*

#### A Service of the Imposition of Ashes for Ash Wednesday

MU Chaplains

Ash Wednesday emphasizes a dual encounter: we confront our own mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith. The form and content of the service focus on the dual themes of sin and death in the light of God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ.

*Owes its origin and values to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ*

#### Safe Zone Training

Sarah Kress, Counselor & Psychotherapist

Safe Zone training provides an opportunity to learn about LGBTQ+ identities, explore the concepts of sexuality and gender, and examine prejudice, assumptions, and privilege.

*Seeks to develop whole persons*

### Wednesday, February 21

#### Living, Learning, and Building Community in Digital Spaces

Dr. Erica Hilton, Visiting Assistant Professor of Communication & Media

Communities gather in digital spaces to build, connect, and grow. Hear how different community groups use social and digital media to advocate, create safe spaces, and strengthen their relationship, and learn how we can use these digital spaces to create cross-cultural connections.

*The conviction that a liberally educated person is sensitive to the needs and rights of others.*

#### University Chapel Service

Pastor Sharrean McCrimmon, The Life Center

The Life Center is a non-denominational MU partner church with a multicultural congregation. Pastor McCrimmon is passionate about sharing the love of Christ by caring for others and positively impacting the community through worship and ministry.

*Owes its origin and values to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ*

#### Preparing for Interviews: Employer Panel

Dr. Taylor Vann, Director of Academic and Career Advising in partnership with NC Works

Select employers on campus for the Spring 2024 Career Fair will take time from 11 a.m. -

Noon to answer students' questions regarding interview best-practices.

*To prepare students for a variety of careers and educational pursuits*

### Wednesday, February 28

#### Wealth and Purpose

Dr. Mark Regensburg, Assistant Professor of Management

Why are you here? Where are you going? What is the point of all this? Drawing on multiple cultural and religious traditions, explore different approaches to answering these questions, and different ways of measuring whether you've "made it."

*Seeks to develop whole persons*

#### University Chapel Service

Craig Morrison, Executive Director, Fayetteville Operation Inasmuch

Operation Inasmuch is a Christian nonprofit organization that has served homeless and struggling people a hot, nourishing, home-cooked breakfast each week-day morning since its founding in 2007. OIAM also provides a wide variety of human, health and educational services tailored to the needs of the homeless community and a 40-bed men's facility.

*Owes its origin and values to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ*

#### DEI Lunch and Learn: Black History Month

Gavin Myrick, Director, Belonging & Inclusion

Join us for a focus on prominent African Americans and their contributions to society both past and present.

*Acquire enlightened minds and responsible spirits*