

**OUR PRAYERS**

**The Med** Laurie Losorwith  
**St. Francis** Robert Tabor

**VA** Levester Sumpter  
**Camden Rehab** Gabe Colosia

**Hospice Care**  
Valerie Porterfield Bill Scott

**OUR PRESENCE**

**December 18**  
Church School 43  
Worship 90  
Visitors 11

**OUR GIFTS**

**December 18**  
Total Rec'd \$ 2,837  
MTD \$ 12,232  
Apportionments TD \$ **Paid in Full!!!**

**OUR SERVICE**

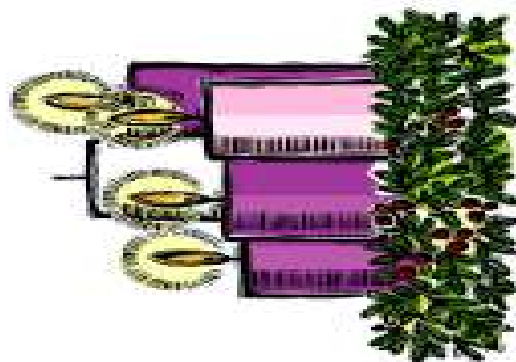
**Assisting December 25**

**Greeters** Frances Coffman  
Keith Coffman  
**Liturgist** Bruce Hughes  
**Scripture** Tom Lockhart  
**Children's Time**  
**Lock-up** Emmett Parrish

**OUR WITNESS**

January Scripture Readers  
1 Brother Paul  
8 Barry Mathis  
15 Earline Gabriel  
22 Renee Little  
29 Brother Paul

ALDERSGATE United Methodist Church  
4459 Willow Road  
Memphis, TN 38117-6917



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The  Flame

*Information for the Family and Friends  
of Aldersgate U.M.C.*

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E-mail: office@agumc.org Website: www.agumc.org

December 21, 2011

Volume 56 Issue 51

**FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN**

What did Christmas cost Mary? It nearly cost her marriage to Joseph. Only the timely intervention of an angel convinced Joseph not to do "the right thing" and send her away, but the loving thing and expose himself to ridicule. What did Christmas cost Mary and Joseph together? It cost them their home. When they learned that Herod's soldiers would soon arrive, their brief trip to Bethlehem stretched into years of exile in Egypt. What did Christmas cost the wise men? Many months, probably years of difficult travel across foreign lands. And the shepherds? They had to risk descending from the high meadows into the town below, where they would likely be subject to ridicule from the town folk for their occupation. What's Christmas likely to cost us? Possibly a high January credit-card statement? Is the cost of our Christmas even in the same league as these others?

Merry Christmas,

Brother Paul & Barbara

Scripture Readings for Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>

Psalm 96  
Luke 2:1-20

Sermon Title  
"A Child is Born"



**LOOKING AHEAD**

- Sun. 12/25 **Merry Christmas!**  
9:45a Church School  
10:55a Worship
- Mon. 12/26 **Offices Closed**
- Tue. 12/27 Noon News Deadline
- Wed. 12/28 Holiday Break - No activities
- Thu. 12/29 Holiday Break - No Activities
- Fri. 12/30 Offices Closed
- Sat. 12/31 No Activities

**Sunday, January 1, 2012  
Happy New Year!**

9:45a Church School  
10:55a Worship

Mon. 1/02 **Offices Closed** in observance of the New Year holiday.

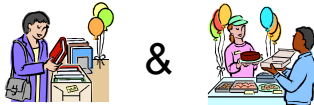


**FIRST FELLOWSHIP TIME OF 2012**

...will be Sunday, Jan. 8, at 9:15, hosted by the Fellowship Class. Plan to join us!

**ADULT/FAMILY TEAM TO MEET**

The Adult & Family Ministries Committee will meet Jan. 8, at 12:15p in the Fellowship Hall. Members—please plan to be present and bring pen & paper and a 2012 calendar. All are welcome to bring new ideas for events for our church family for the coming year.



A Book & Bake Sale to benefit Arts for Life's Sake to be held January 14th. Bring your books to the Exercise Room any time and your delectable baked goods may be brought on



**CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION**

Join us on Dec. 24th at 6:30 p.m.

Your March to the Manger gifts may be brought to the Christmas Day service, or when it is most convenient for you. \$1000 of your gifts will help support the Scholarship Fund and the balance will go to the Emergency Maintenance Fund.

**THANK YOU NOTES**

Dear Church Family,  
Through these months of "one thing after another", your cards & flowers, calls & prayers have helped keep me encouraged and hopeful. Especially hopeful that I will be able to attend church again someday. Wishing you the best of Christmas blessings that follow you into the new year. Thank you for your care.

Marie Hughes

**Let Us Celebrate!**

We are please to announce that Aldersgate has paid 100% of our apportionments for 2011. Your faithfulness and support of the activities at Aldersgate are a tribute to God. We are truly blessed. Thank you.

The Finance Committee

**CHILI LUNCH COMING UP**

How do you like your chili? Mild? Medium? Hot? Ever-so-Hot or "fire hose at the ready"? A Chili Lunch to benefit the Scholarship Fund will be held on January 15th. Now, don't you worry, you won't need a fire hose to cool you off, so come enjoy our "normal" chili and support the Scholarship Fund as well!



**UMW NEWS**



**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all from the United Methodist Women!**

We had a very meaningful Unit meeting with the Installation of Officers and a Service of Remembrance.

Teresa McMullin has joined the Koinonia Group. Please mark her off the At Large page.

Christmas  
Blessings  
to each  
and every one!



**A GREENER CHRISTMAS**

The good news is you can help reduce the impact the holidays have on our environment.

- ~ Shopping this season can be very stressful. Try doing it in a "green" way—on line.
- ~ Or, if you're going to the stores, take along reusable bags and save our landfills from all those plastic store bags.
- ~ Consider eco-friendly gift cards. Many stores offer cards made of bio-plastic and you get exactly what "they" want.
- ~ If your gift is already in a "decorated" box or bag, don't over-wrap it, using still more gift wrapping to be thrown away.
- ~ Don't forget to recycle those Christmas cards.

**HONORING OUR LOVED ONES**

Gifts have been given for

**Memorial Fund**

In memory of Jean McCarty

by Michael & Mary Ann McCarty

In memory of Bill Coffman

by Betty Smithmier

In memory of Beatrice & Johnny Harris

by their daughters,

Martha Klepzig

Barbara Sutherland

Mary Blackburn

Nancy Kellon

**Pew Cushions**

In memory of Bill Carlisle

By Joyce Kernodle

In memory of Bill Coffman

By Joyce Kernodle

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

How shall they hear the story of His glory?

**THE UPPER ROOM**

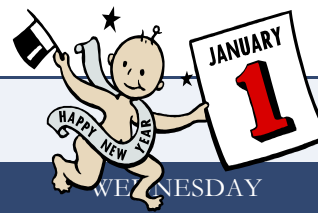
...for January/February is available on the tables outside the Sanctuary. Pick up your copy now. Its the perfect way to start each day.



**ORDER CALENDARS NOW**

Hurry! You may still order Aldersgate photo calendars by calling the church office, 683-8861. Payment may be made later. Just let us know how many you'll need at \$12 each.

# Aldersgate UMC



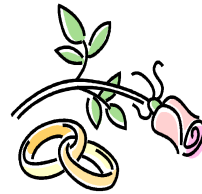
# January 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<b>1 Epiphany Sunday</b> 9:45a Church School 10:55a Worship Service 	<b>2</b> Offices closed in observance of the New Year holiday	<b>3</b> 12:00 News Deadline	<b>4</b> NO Fellowship & Study 7:30p Choir Rehearsal 	<b>5</b> 10:00a Adult Bible Study	<b>6 Epiphany of the Lord</b>  Offices Closed	<b>7</b> 9:00a Arts For Life's Sake	
<b>8 Baptism of the Lord</b> 9:15a Fellowship Time 9:45a Church School 10:55a Worship Service 12:15p Adult/Family Life Cmte. 6:00p Women of Zion	<b>9</b> 12:00 News Deadline	<b>10</b> 10:00a Koinonia Group 7:00p Love/Hope	<b>11 Human Trafficking Awareness Day</b> 6:00p Fellowship & Study 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b> 10:00a Adult Bible Study	<b>13</b> Offices Closed	<b>14</b> 9:00a Arts For Life's Sake 8a-1p Book & Bake Sale to benefit AFLS 	
<b>15</b> 9:00a Trustees 9:45a Church School 10:55a Worship Service 12:15p Chili Lunch 12:15p UMW Exec. Cmte. 	<b>16</b> 12:00 News Deadline	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 6:00p Fellowship & Study 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b> 10:00a Adult Bible Study ← Week of Prayer for Christian Unity January 18-25	<b>20</b> Offices Closed	<b>21</b> 9:00a Arts For Life's Sake	
<b>22</b> 9:45a Church School 10:55a Worship Service 12:15p Staff/Parish Relations Committee	<b>23</b> 12:00 News Deadline	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 6:00p Fellowship & Study 7:30p Choir Rehearsal →	<b>26</b> 10:00a Adult Bible Study 11:15a White Beans & Bingo 	<b>27</b> Offices Closed	<b>28</b> 9:00a Arts For Life's Sake	
<b>29</b> 9:45a Church School 10:55a Worship Service	<b>30</b> 12:00 News Deadline 	<b>31</b>	<b>Aldersgate United Methodist Church</b> 4459 Willow Road Memphis, TN 38117 Pastor: Rev. Paul Scheirer Director of Music: Perry Wilson Organist: Lana Solomon				Phone: 901.683.8861 Fax: 901.683.1374 Email: office@agumc.org Website: www.agumc.org



## Happy Birthday

Jan . 1 Leslie Blythe  
 David Craft  
 Kevin Dunn  
 Greg Head  
 Bob Moseley  
 Sue Swett  
 4 Joan Clark  
 Margaret Luna  
 5 Kendal Campbell  
 7 Hollie Robertson  
 8 Ben Carr  
 Duncan Godbold  
 9 Tom Priddy  
 13 Roger Umnuss  
 14 Tilford Woodard  
 15 Margaret Moseley  
 19 June Burton  
 Bill McMullin  
 21 Barry Florow  
 24 Mary Robbins  
 Pam Young  
 25 Peggy Brightwell  
 28 Tillie Speraw  
 30 Gary Graves



## Happy Anniversary

Jan ? Jamie & Stacey Craft  
 21 Don & Tillie Speraw  
 27 Wayne & Ginny Lawrence  
 28 Dean & Aleita Tutor

### ASSISTING IN JANUARY

**Greeters** ..... Mary Robbins  
 Audrey Weaver  
**Liturgist** ..... Bruce Hughes  
**Scripture** ..... Brother Paul  
 Barry Mathis  
 Earline Gabriel  
 Renee Little  
 Brother Paul  
**Children's Time**.....  
**Lock-up** ..... Neil DeLong

Please help us keep our records current. If there are any omissions or errors, please call the church office, 683-8861.