

OUR PRAYERS

- Our Ministers Our Church
- Our Leaders Our Ministry Teams
- Our Children & Youth Our Homebound
- Our College Students Our Missionaries
- Our Police Dept Our Fire Dept.
- Our City Our Military

Homebound and Assisted Care

- Martha Allen June Burton Carolyn Escue
- Ray Escue Mava Dell Fry Earl Galloway
- Helen Griffin Doris Hight Marie Hughes
- Virginia Jones Margaret Kenley Ted Lewis
- Betty Ray Bernice Shelby Emmett Smith
- Betty Smithmier Martha Wallace

At Home

- Marcelle Farrow
- Wayne Lawrence
- Terry Williamson

Special Prayers for

- ...kidnapped girls/Nigeria
- ...disaster victims

Our Sympathy, love and prayers go out to ...Dr. Virginia and Jay Finzel and family in the loss of her mother, Virginia Kemp Jones.

OUR PRESENCE - January 1

- Sunday School 47
- Worship 63
- Visitors 3

OUR GIFTS - January 1

- Offering \$ 2,620
- Month to Date \$ 2,620

OUR SERVICE - January 8, 2017

- Greeters**..... Audrey Weaver
 Margaret Ann Ligon
- Liturgist**..... Bruce Hughes
- Scripture**..... Happy Gbeneneh
- Children Time**... Andrew Baker
- Lock-up**..... Henry Blanks

OUR WITNESS

January Scripture Readers

- 15 Jane Hight
- 22 Audrey Weaver
- 29 Tom Lockhart

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



OUR PRAYERS (con't)

- Blumenthal Fam. Kristen Boggs Tom Boillot
- Palma Borgognoni Jim Brazile Brenda Brazile
- Melissa Cole Jaunay Davis Doug Dennis
- Corella Edwards Gordillo Family Andrew Hamilton
- Diane Harrison John Hight Mildred Hight
- Jeff Irwin Mark Jones Freda Lipford
- Ursula Lewis G. Martin Family Bill McClain
- Jesse McClerkin Lillian McDonald Glenn Moore
- Lou Ella Morris Joe Moseley Warren Petty
- Boyd Pilkinton Moira Pomije Claire Rainey
- Wade Reeves Stephanie Roberts Marie Souder
- Cindy Stanfil David Weaver Shannon Weaver
- John Williams Margie Williamson

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Aldersgate United Methodist Church

The



Flame

Phone: (901) 683-8861

E-mail: office@agumc.org

Fax: (901) 683-1374

Website: www.agumc.org

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Volume 62 Issue 1

The Holy Spirit Melts the Heart of a Glacier

by [Greg Miller](#)

Georgia was convinced she was right about the origin of man. "God formed Adam out of the dust of the earth," Georgia told Glacier, a close friend. "Then God put Adam to sleep, took out one of his ribs and made Eve, the world's first woman."

"I don't believe in this Creation nonsense," Glacier said. "I believe a lower form of life, such as a one-celled critter, began gradually changing. Eventually, came the monkey, which evolved into man." Glacier and Georgia rarely got together without discussing the origins of man. "Why is the concept of a creator so foreign to you?," Georgia asked. "If there is a God, he's invisible," said Glacier. "And I have a difficult time believing in a God whom I can't see." "You believe in the wind, don't you?," asked Georgia. "You can't see it either, but you can see the tree branches moving through the air as the wind carries them along." "But the wind doesn't pretend to be alive with the ability to speak and hear," said Glacier. "God doesn't pretend either," Georgia said. "He actually is alive and can speak and hear and do so much more." Georgia continued, "God hears every word we say. He sees everything we do. He speaks to us in many ways. And one day, we will all stand before God to be judged."

Georgia's persistence in witnessing to Glacier paid off. Glacier was moved to tears and asked Georgia, "How can I come to faith in Jesus?" Georgia shared [John 3:16](#), "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." "The Holy Spirit has convicted me that I am a sinner," said Glacier. "Will you pray with me?" The two women prayed together, and Glacier accepted Jesus Christ as her savior.

Right away, Glacier began looking for opportunities to witness of her newfound faith. She worked as a bus driver for the mass transit department of a large city. As passengers boarded and left the bus, she said, "God bless you. Have a great day!" After her conversion, Glacier developed a fondness for children. Georgia explained to her that Jesus, too, loved children.

After work one day, Georgia, Glacier and another friend, Galaxy, went to shoot some hoops at a local gym. Glacier began witnessing to Galaxy, whose nickname was Iceburg, because she kept a large supply of soft drinks in her refrigerator. Galaxy was receptive to the witness about Christ. "I'm warming up to the gospel message, which is unusual for me," she said. "Nothing is too hard for God," said Glacier. "If He can melt the heart of a glacier, He can certainly do the same thing for an iceburg!"

Has your heart melted for Christ?

Blessings,
Virginia

Scriptures Readings:

Isaiah 42:1-9

Acts 10: 34-43

Psalm 29

Matthew 3:13-17



- LOOKING AHEAD**
- Sun. 1/8 **Baptism of the Lord**
 10:15a Sunday School
 11:30a Worship & Commissioning of Church Officials
- Mon. 1/9 10:00a Church Women United at Buntyn Presbyterian
 Noon Newsletter Deadline
- Tue. 1/10 10:00a Koinonia UMW Group
 7:00p Love/Hope UMW Group
- Wed. 1/11 **Human Trafficking Awareness Day**
 10:30a Meth. Hospital Auxiliary
 6:45p Choir Rehearsal
- Thu. 1/12 9:00a **Asbury** Food Pantry
 10:00a Golden Cross Key Women
NO Bible Study
 5:00p Girl Scouts
- Fri. 1/13 Offices Closed
- Sat. 1/14 12:00p Non-member Activity
- Sun. 1/15 10:15a Sunday School
 11:30a Worship w/ Dr. Joe Piercey Preaching
- Mon. 1/16 Offices Closed in Observance of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday



SPECIAL CONSECRATION AT WORSHIP SERVICE ON JANUARY 8

We will commission Aldersgate's new and continuing officials for 2017-2019 at our 11:30 service on January 8, 2017. To those holding an office during that time, please plan to join us for a special blessing. If you are not holding an office, please join us as we pray for and encourage those members who will be serving us for 1 to 3 years or longer.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2017

...are available for pick-up on the table outside the Sanctuary. If you would like yours mailed to you, please call the church office, 683-8861.

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Friends,
 Thank you so much for your kind words, your presence, cards and memorials for my mother, Harriet Kicklighter. We appreciate the church's support during these difficult days.

Diana Bedwell

Dear Church Family,
 My heartfelt thanks for your remembrances and the poinsettia. Your cards and prayers continue to uphold me. Wishing each of you a happy and blessed new year!

Betty Ray



ALDERSGATE WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY RESUMES JANUARY 19

...with Adam Hamilton's "Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Day". Learn some simple phrases that sound Christian and hold some element of truth, yet miss the point in important ways. Join us as we search for the whole truth by comparing some common Christian sayings with the wisdom found in Scripture.

NEW ADDRESS FOR THE NASHVILLE AREA EPISCOPAL OFFICE

Beginning January 1, the new address for our Nashville Area (includes the Memphis & Tennessee Conferences) Episcopal Office is 1908 Grand Ave., Nashville, TN 37212. They are moving from their downtown Nashville location to better serve constituents. The phone number will remain the same: 615-742-8834.

HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR CALENDAR?

Order forms are available outside the Sanctuary, in your Sunday School room and in the church office for our 2017 Church Photo Calendar. If you prefer, you may call the church office, 683-8861, to place an order. Calendars are \$15 each.



HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY JANUARY 11, 2017

United Methodist Women have fought human trafficking for more than a decade. This form of modern-day slavery uses threats, force and deception for the purpose of exploitation. Traffickers take advantage of vulnerable persons with false promises or physical abduction, forcing them into contract slavery, forced labor and sexual trafficking. Please help us in raising awareness about this inhumane treatment of girls, women and men.

IT IS THE SECOND LARGEST CRIMINAL INDUSTRY IN THE WORLD
 Check out our Human Trafficking Resource Guide at <http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/human-trafficking> for ways to help!

THINKING OF SENDING YOUR KID TO LAKESHORE THIS SUMMER?

If you register online January thru March, you may pay \$50 when you register and the balance in installments over the next 3 months. Feel free to email them at office@lakeshoreuma.com or call 731-584-6102, with any questions.



NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY MUSIC DEPARTMENT TO PRESENT CONCERT

As part of their annual tour, the NWU Choir will perform on Saturday, January 7, 7:30 p.m., and again on Sunday morning, January 8 at Independent Presbyterian Church, 4738 Walnut Grove Rd. The NWU Choir is a select 49 voice ensemble and has undertaken many national and international tours since 1977.

There is no charge for the concert but a free-will offering will be taken. Come hear "The Masque of Angels" by Dominic Argento, "With a Lily in Your Hand" by Eric Whitacre, and Malcom Sargent's "Silent Night", among others.

HONORING OUR LOVED ONES

Gifts have been given for

Memorial Fund

In memory of Virginia Kemp Jones by Jimmy & Jane Hight The Oxford Class



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED FOR 2017

It is not too late to sign up to be a Worship Assistant for 2017. Sign up sheets are on the office window for Scripture Reader, Liturgist, Children's Time and Greeter.

Liturgists and Greeters should sign up for one month at a time, Children's Time Presenters may sign up for a month, a particular Sunday each month or once or twice only. Scripture Readers will be assigned to the next available date beginning in May or could be called upon if the assigned reader is unavailable.

Be a blessing and be blessed by your time of service.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

...for Trustee Meeting on January 22, 12:30p.



"He's today's greeter."