

**OUR PRAYERS**

**Hospice Care**

Tina Gift

**In the Hospital**

Samantha Marie Andersen  
Gene Finger  
Earl Galloway

**At Home**

Martha Ruth Allen  
Kathy Earl

**OUR PRESENCE**

**January 6**

Church School      45  
Worship              77  
Visitors              2

**OUR GIFTS**

**January 6**

This Week's Offering      \$ 5125  
MTD                              \$ 5125

**OUR SERVICE**

**Assisting January 13**

**Greeters**              Audrey Weaver  
                                Peggy Brightwell  
**Liturgist**              Bruce Hughes  
**Scripture**              Dean Tutor  
**Children's Time**      Brother Paul  
**Lock-up**                Neil DeLong

**January Scripture Readers**

20 Happy Gbeneneh  
27 Jane Hight



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

THE FLAME is a publication of Aldersgate United Methodist Church. The newsletter is published weekly. Please contact your local Postmaster if you are having difficulty with delivery

# The Flame

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

Phone: (901) 683-8861

Fax: (901) 683-1374

E-mail: [office@agumc.org](mailto:office@agumc.org)

Website: [www.agumc.org](http://www.agumc.org)

January 9, 2013

Volume 58 Issue 2

### **FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN**

As someone who has been intrigued by the tale of vampire stories since my childhood days of watching Dark Shadows, I found this interesting. Hopefully you will as well?

Anyone who's watched old horror movies knows that, in most vampire yarns, mirrors have a special role to play. Count Dracula has no reflection. He's visible everywhere, except in a mirror. There's a peculiar logic to that. The Count, in the old movies and in Bram Stoker's novel, is something close to evil incarnate. Evil has no reflection at all, nor does it need one. Its forces are all too visible. They fairly clamor for attention.

Not so with the forces of good. God is not instantly visible in our world. The only place most of us experience God's love is as we see it reflected in other people, as we come to know them and learn their stories.

May we be mirrors to reflect God's love to others.

Peace and Grace,  
Brother Paul

Scripture Readings for Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>  
Psalm 29  
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sermon Title  
"I Am Not, He"

## LOOKING AHEAD

Sun. 1/13	9:45a Church School 10:55a Worship 3:00p SPRC Training Emmanuel UMC
Mon. 1/14	Noon News Deadline
Tue. 1/15	
Wed. 1/16	6:00p Fellowship & Study 7:30p Choir Rehearsal
Thu. 1/17	10:00a Bible Study followed by White Beans and Bingo
Fri. 1/18	Offices Closed
Sat. 1/19	9:00a AFLS
Sun. 1/20	9:45a Church School 10:55a Worship

---

Brother Paul is filling in for Kathy Earl this week. So please excuse any mistakes or omissions in this week's newsletter. Continue to pray for Kathy's recovery from surgery.



## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Do relationships work best by cooperation or dictatorship?

## A BIG THANK YOU

To the Fellowship Class for providing the breakfast treats for last week's fellowship time. Brother Paul apologizes for being late to the festivities.

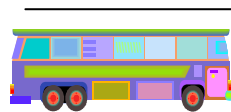
---

## FOR THE FOOD PANTRY IN JANUARY Soup & Crackers



## WHITE BEANS AND BINGO COMING UP

...on January 17. A sign-up sheet is on the office window. Seating is limited so register soon! Its going to be a grand time!



## BUS TOUR TO TUPELO MISS.

On March 19 take a trip to see Elvis Presley's boyhood home and church at the newly renovated Elvis Presley Museum. Contact Carolyn McDougal for more information at (901) 861-0841

## UMW NEWS

On January 19, 9am at Burdett Chapel UMC President and Vice President Day will be held. Contact one of our UMW officers for more information on the event.

---

## FRIENDSHIPS ARE ONE OF THE FEW THINGS THAT IMPROVE WITH AGE

The family of **Norris Gabriel** invites you to celebrate his 90th birthday and a lifetime of good friendships on Saturday, February 2, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Aldersgate United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall 4459 Willow Road Memphis, TN.

Cards are welcome, but no gifts, please. Your presence will be gift enough.

---

## DISCIPLINE FOR DISCIPLES

### Articles of Religion of the Methodist Church Article VII—Of Original or Birth Sin

Original sin standeth not in the following of Adam (as the Pelagians do vainly talk), but it is the corruption of the nature of every man, that naturally is engendered of the offspring of Adam, whereby man is very far gone from original righteousness, and of his own nature inclined to evil, and that continually.

### Article VIII—Of Free Will

The condition of man after the fall of Adam is such that he cannot turn and prepare himself, by his own natural strength and works, to faith, and calling upon God; wherefore we have no power to do good works, pleasant and acceptable to God, without the grace of God by Christ preventing us, that we may have a good will, and working with us, when we have that good will.

The Articles of Religion are reprinted from the Discipline of 1808

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CHURCH HEALTH CENTER

The Church Health Center's next free Congregational Health Promoter class, which helps people start or strengthen a health ministry in their congregation, begins March 5 and meets for eight consecutive Tuesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. For information or to sign up, call (901) 261-8833, or visit [www.ChurchHealthCenter.org](http://www.ChurchHealthCenter.org).

Healthy Communities, Communities of Faith, a conference hosted by the Church Health Center focused on encouraging, educating and equipping people to be health leaders in their faith communities, is set for April 4-7 at the Cook Convention Center. Noted author and civil rights leader Ambassador Andrew Young will be the keynote speaker. Early-bird registration is now open for \$240. The price increases to \$300 on Feb. 1. For more information about Healthy Communities, Communities of Faith, call (901) 272-0010, Ext. 2096 or visit [ChurchHealthCenter.org](http://ChurchHealthCenter.org).

The Church Health Center is offering a free, four-week course on diabetes education, helping people to take control of their diabetes. Classes are Mondays at 11 a.m. or Thursdays at 6 p.m. at Church Health Center Wellness, 1115 Union Avenue. Registration is not required, there is no cost to attend, and those interested may start at any time during the month. For more information, call (901) 259-4673.

Free cooking classes open to the community are offered in the demonstration kitchen at 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. every Thursday at Church Health Center Wellness, 1115 Union Ave. Participants with attendants are invited to attend the 3 p.m. class on Thursdays. For more information, call (901) 259-4673, or visit [www.ChurchHealthCenter.org](http://www.ChurchHealthCenter.org)