

OUR PRAYERS

St. Francis

Bill Whitaker 1017

At Home

Jeanette Leslie
Kitty Strub

Methodist North

Ton Boillot 555

Special Prayers for
....kidnapped girls
from Nigeria

Homebound/Assisted Care

Martha Allen	June Burton	Gerri Colosia
Jack Eaton	Mava Dell Fry	Earl Galloway
Helen Griffin	Marie Hughes	Margaret Kenley
James Matlock	Doris Palazzini	Linda Park
Jane Pifer	Betty Ray	Bernice Shelby
Chris Simmons	Emmett Smith	Harold Smith
Betty Smithmier	Martha Wallace	

OUR PRESENCE

March 8

Church School	59
Worship	65
Visitors	6

OUR GIFTS

March 8

This Week's Offering	\$ 4,498
Month to Date	\$ 9,781

OUR SERVICE

March 15, 2015

Greeters	Faith Gbeneneh Rose Oyoo
Liturgist	Bruce Hughes
Scripture	Judy Stanley
Children's Time	Milton Craft
Lock-up	Tom Lockhart

OUR WITNESS

March Scripture Readers

22	Dean Tutor
29	Lisa Hughes

Scriptures for the week:

Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3,17-22;
Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21



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4459 Willow Road
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Aldersgate United Methodist Church

The



Flame

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THE WRITE REVEREND



I recently heard a pastor share an incident in his experience where he found himself needing to apologize to a member for something he had done. He said he apologized for his behavior and then asked for the member's forgiveness. The member readily gave her forgiveness, but then quickly added: "But I don't forget!" Most of the people in the room at the time laughed with the preacher and by their laughter agreed with his inference that this was most certainly an example of un-forgiveness if there ever was one. But I disagreed (silently as I laughed with the crowd)! I think we have gotten this thing of forgiveness all wrong. You see, memory is the key to human personality; we can only hold on to who we are and whose we are through the tremendous gift of memory.

As an example of this truth, we need only look at the loss of memory that accompanies diseases like dementia and Alzheimer's that make these maladies so difficult for both those needing care and their caregivers alike.

Forgiveness and forgetfulness then are not the two sides of the coin of reconciliation. To be truly forgiving means first that we clearly remember the hurt; we remember the slight; we remember the injury; we remember the wrong, we remember the abuse, we remember the violence. In remembering, however, we also make a commitment to not let the hurt, the slight, the injury, the wrong, the abuse, the violence stand between us and the person who treated us poorly. We refuse to empower evil and wrong to decide how we will feel or how we will act or how we will live. Instead, we love and live like God loves, and in so doing, we deliver ourselves from being the victimized and we become victorious over this circumstance.

We don't try to be God and throw acts of injustice and unkindness into the lake of forgetfulness; we just simply refuse to give them power over us. It does not mean we choose to be abused or mistreated; we instead chose to live free of revenge or the need to retaliate on the one hand, or the need to cower in guilt or unresolved conflict on the other.

This is real love. This is agape love; what William Barclay calls *unconquerable benevolence*. He says: *Agapē* does not mean a feeling of the heart, which we cannot help, and which comes unbidden and unsought; it means a determination of the mind, whereby we achieve this unconquerable goodwill even to those who hurt and injure us. *Agapē*, someone has said, is the power to love those whom we do not like and who may not like us. In point of fact, we can only have *agapē* when Jesus Christ enables us to conquer our natural tendency to anger and bitterness, and to achieve this invincible goodwill to all people.

Herbert

LOOKING AHEAD

Sun. 3/15 4th Sunday in Lent
 10:15a Church School
 11:15a Coffee in Fellowship Hall
 11:30a Worship
 12:30p UMW Unit Meeting

Mon. 3/16 Noon News Deadline

Tue. 3/17 1:00p Gift Wrap open @ Asbury

Wed. 3/18 10:00a UMNC Key Women
 10:00a Bible Study at Asbury
 12:00p Soup & Devotions @ Asbury
 5:30p Youth Fellowship
 6:00p Fellowship & Study
 7:15p Choir Rehearsal

Thu. 3/19 9-12 Food Pantry @ Asbury
 6:00p UMM/Asbury going out to Leonard's BBQ for Dutch Treat Supper

Fri. 3/20 Offices Closed

Sat. 3/21 9:00a AFLS
 10—12 Sewing Guild
 1:00p One Harvest Distribution @ Asbury

Sun. 3/22 9:00a Trustees Meeting
 10:15a Church School
 11:15a Coffee in Fellowship Hall
 11:30a Worship



Family Fun Night

This Friday March 13 5:30 p.m.
 (or when you can get there)

The sign up sheet is on the office window or you may call the office, 683-8861. There is NO COST (unless you wish to make a donation). Supper will be served, so no meal to cook or clean up after. Games will be played, so you can enjoy the fun. Activities are planned for those who want to keep busy. Or, you could just relax and people watch. No matter how you look at it, it will be a great night! Join us.

THANK YOU NOTES

Muchas gracias por su atento detalle! Thank you for the delicious meal. May God bless you always.
 Goyo, Luz, Cusi & Lucy

Our grateful thanks to Jimmie Bedwell for cleaning up the ice and snow around the church, making it so much easier for all of us. Thanks, Jimmie!



SHARING OUR DAILY BREAD

We will be printing a 60th Anniversary edition Cook Book soon and want many, many of your favorite recipes. You may turn them in at the office or to Aleita Tutor, either by hand or by email.

Office email: office@agumc.org
 Aleita email: rdeantutor@bellsouth.net

THE UPPER ROOM

...for Mar/Apr is available outside the Sanctuary.



EGGS AND CANDY WILL BE DANDY

The Easter Bunny needs plastic eggs and lots of individually wrapped candy, or cash to purchase same, for the Easter Egg Hunt on April 4th at 1:00 p.m. Please leave your gifts in the basket outside the church office. THANK YOU!



BRIDGE PLAYERS WANTED

We are still looking for 2 more players to get together weekly for a friendly day of bridge. Interested? Call Carolyn at 861-0841 or email her at cbmtravel@bellsouth.net.

UMW NEWS

Please remember our Unit Meeting Sunday, March 15, immediately after the worship service. Bring a dish to share for our salad pot luck.



Easter Baskets for UMNC

The Key Women of the United Methodist Neighborhood Centers hope to collect at least 85 Easter baskets this year. Baskets are to be comprised of the following items: Basket with colored grass, plastic eggs, small box of jumbo crayons, coloring book, small stuffed animal, individually wrapped soft candy (no nuts), small book (preferably Bible stories), and two small packages of Kleenex. Baskets should be wrapped in cellophane and tied with a ribbon.

If you wish to make and/or donate for a basket, please be sure to have items or cash to Sharon Lockhart by March 15. Thank you.

'72 plus U'

The registration deadline for the Spiritual Growth Retreat at Lakeshore, April 17-18, is March 28. Forms are available in the church office. The program: '72 plus U', will be lead by Rev. Sue Engle. The fee of \$65 includes 1 night's lodging, 3 meals and materials.

Forms and fees are to be sent to Pat Dunker, 220 Frankie Lane, South Fulton, TN 38257.

Want more info before signing up? You may contact Barbara Christopher at home: 901-465-2350; or by cell: 901-484-0517 or by email: barbchris49@hotmail.com.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Do you wait in faithful knowing that your prayers will be answered?



FOOD PANTRY FOR MARCH

Peanut Butter Soup Crackers
 Cash is always appreciated.

(Make checks out to Aldersgate and write 'food pantry' in the memo line.)

HONORING OUR LOVED ONES

Gifts have been given for

Memorial Fund

In memory of Alexander Smith, Sr. by
 Joy Mitchell
 Johnny Mitchell



TRUSTEES TO MEET

...on Sunday, March 22nd, at 9 a.m. Open to all if you wish to attend.

NEWS FROM LAKESHORE

Terrific Tuesday - Senior Adult Day at Camp

Tuesday, April 14 - 10:00a to 3:30p
 \$15 per person

A fun day at camp with all the traditional favorites. Please register by Friday April 10, by calling 731-584-6102 or emailing office@lakeshoreuma.com.

Lakeshore Open House

Sunday, April 19 - 2 to 5 p.m.
 FREE

Get a taste of what we do. Ask questions about our ministry. Roast some hot dogs & s'mores. R.S.V.P. to office@lakeshoreuma.com or 731-584-6102. All are welcome.

TRAVEL TIME

We have scheduled the following tours with Collette Travel that might be of interest to you, especially after the cold, winter weather:

Jul. 12-20 California Coast—San Fran, Yosemite, Monterey, 17 Mile Drive, Big Sur, Hearst Castle, Santa Barbara, LA and San Diego

Jul. 19-26 Pacific Northwest and California—Seattle, Mt. St. Helens, Portland, OR, Redwood Nat'l. Park, Eureka & San Francisco

Aug. 21-29 Islands of New England—Providence, Newport, Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, Hyannis and Provincetown

Sep. 19-29 Spain—Madrid, Toledo, Cordoba, Seville, Granada, The Alhambra, Valencia, Lladro and Barcelona

Borchures are available on the bulletin board near the kitchen or you may call Carolyn McDougal, 861-0841, for more information.