

## OUR PRAYERS

### Baptist Memorial

Bernard Rainey 4423

### Special Prayers for

...kidnapped girls  
from Nigeria

...earthquake victims in  
Nepal

...flood victims in Texas

...Taylor Watts & Jordan

Meeks-study trip to  
Spain

### Methodist University

Michael Solomon ICU

Rev. Joe Moseley 503 Th.

Rev. Jeff Irwin 910 Th.

### Methodist Hospice

Jack Baker 107

### Homebound and Assisted Care

Martha Allen	June Burton	Gerri Colosia
Jack Eaton	Mava Dell Fry	Earl Galloway
Helen Griffin	Marie Hughes	Margaret Kenley
Doris Palazzini	Mary Grace Petty	Jane Pifer
Betty Ray	Bernice Shelby	Chris Simmons
Emmett Smith	Harold Smith	Betty Smithmier
Martha Wallace	Bill Whitaker	

### **OUR PRESENCE - July 12**

Sunday School	41
Worship	61
Visitors	6
Spanish Service	10

### **OUR GIFTS - July 12**

Offering	\$ 2,157
Month to Date	\$ 6,277

### **OUR SERVICE - July 19**

<b>Greeter</b>	Rose Oyoo Faith Gbeneneh
<b>Liturgist</b>	Bruce Hughes
<b>Scripture</b>	Warren Petty
<b>Children's Time</b>	Milton Craft
<b>Lock-up</b>	Tom Lockhart

### **OUR WITNESS**

#### **July Scripture Readers**

26 Judy Stanley



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



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# Aldersgate United Methodist Church

# The



# Flame

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## Pastor's Ponderings

This past week, a clergy colleague posted this on Facebook:

“When you come to the edge of all the light you have known, and are about to step out into darkness, faith is knowing that one of two things will happen: there will be something to stand on, or you will be taught to fly.”

— Richard Bach, Jonathan Livingston Seagull

When I read that quote, I thought of our study of Barbara Brown Taylor's book, *Learning to Walk in the Dark*, which we are embarking on this week. Most of us tend to avoid the dark - at all costs. In fact, as Taylor points out, fear of the dark is common to humans across time and space. We associate darkness with negative thoughts, images, and activities. And not just physical darkness, but metaphysical darkness, as well - including psychological, emotional, relational and spiritual. Some of us don't really even know what we mean by darkness, except that we want to stay out of it.

Taylor says, “No one had ever taught me to talk back to the dark or even to breathe into it. The idea that it might be friendly was absurd. The only strategy I had ever been taught for dealing with my fear of the dark was to turn on the lights and yell for help.”

You see, we don't know if we can survive the darkness in whatever way it presents in our lives, and so we fear it. Yet, darkness is a part of life, and all of us have experienced it in some way or another.

Here's the good news: when, despite our best efforts, the lights have gone out in our lives, we have not died. In fact, sometimes we have learned valuable life lessons in the darkness. Taylor draws the only one, logical conclusion: We need darkness as much as we need light. Okay....if she says so.

Come at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Asbury or Thursday at Aldersgate, as we begin this study and take steps to learn how to befriend the dark.

Blessings always,

*Virginia*

## Scriptures for the week:

II Samuel 7:1-14a; Psalm 89:20-37;  
Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

**LOOKING AHEAD**  
 Sun. 7/19 10:15a Sunday School  
 11:15a Coffee in Fellowship Hall  
 11:30a Worship

Mon. 7/20 Noon Newsletter Deadline  
 6:00p Prayer Walk @ Asbury

Tue. 7/21 1:00p Gift Wrap open @ Asbury

Wed. 7/22 10:00a Bible Study @ **Asbury**  
 5:30p Youth  
 NO Fellowship & Study  
 6:30p Choir Rehearsal

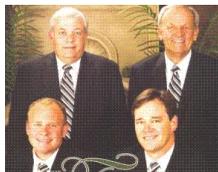
Thu. 7/23 9-Noon Food Pantry @ Asbury  
 10:00a Bible Study @ **Aldersgate**

Fri. 7/24 Offices Closed

Sat. 7/25 12:00p AFLS Concert—Sanctuary  
 6:00p Spanish Worship Service

Sun. 7/26 10:15a Sunday School  
 11:15a Coffee in Fellowship Hall  
 11:30a Worship  
 5:00p Finchers Concert and  
 Church Family Picnic

The  
 Finchers Are  
 Coming



July 26  
 5:00 p.m.

**CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC - JULY 26 - 6:00PM**  
 Drinks and fried chicken will be furnished by the church, the Sunday School Classes will provide finger sandwiches, fruit and vegetable trays. If you are not in a Sunday School Class, please bring cookies, brownies or pick-up type desserts.

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

If someone asked you, "Who is Jesus?", what would you say?

**FOOD PANTRY FOR JULY**

Juice, Cereal, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Pasta & Sauces.



**SHARE A MEMORY—SHARE A SMILE  
 ...for our 60th Anniversary Booklet.**

Over the last 60 years, there has been a lot of ministry, outreach and fellowship going on in our little corner of the world called Aldersgate. We know there are stories out there. If you have a memory to share about 60 years ago, 20 years ago, last month, or any time in between, please submit your writing to Sharon Lockhart or Margaret Ann Ligon, to be included in our Anniversary Booklet.

**STILL LOOKING!**

**Do you have a 1 gallon jar?**

We are still looking for 1 gallon glass jars with lids? Please bring them to the church kitchen at your convenience. Thank You!

**Do you have a nice sunny window?**

3 large plants are still in need of a loving home. If you are interested in adopting them, please call Mary Robbins, 683-0281.



**THE BIG, RED BACKPACK IS BACK!**

We are now collecting supplies for our adopted school. Below is a list of needed items to help you with your shopping.

- Undies for Girls & Boys Belts for Boys
- .74 oz. Glue Sticks Ticonderoga #2 pencils
- 8 ct. Crayola Crayons 24 ct. Crayola Crayons
- Large Boxes Facial Tissue
- Poly Brad and Pocket Folders (any color)
- Notebook Filler Paper-Wide Ruled-200 count
- D'Nealian Tablets— Wide Ruled, Blue Baseline
- Standard 1 Subj. Wide Ruled, 70 Count Ntbks.

Please leave your gifts in the red backpack near the office. You have no idea how much your gifts mean to the children in need. Thank you!

**UMW NEWS  
 Reading Program Deadline is July 26**

**UMW Candle Burning Program**

Help United Methodist Women make a significant difference in the lives of individuals and communities around the world with your support. For \$5 per name, you may honor or memorialize someone special or a special event **and** assist with literacy programs, anti-human trafficking initiatives, human relations actions, disability issues, and so much more.



Please give your gifts and names/events honored to Margaret Ann Ligon. Forms are available on the tables outside the Sanctuary for your convenience.

**TEACHER APPRECIATION POT LUCK**

set for August 16, 12:30p



**BIBLE STUDY AT ALDERSGATE**

...on Thursdays at 10 a.m.

...beginning July 16. Study books may be purchased in the church office for \$11.

**ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION OFFERS  
 CAREGIVER CLASSES**

If you or someone you know is caring for a dementia patient, The Alzheimer's Association is offering some help.

They are offering a free webinar on July 21, 11 a.m. to Noon. Registration is required by emailing [bmedina@alz.org](mailto:bmedina@alz.org).

On July 22, 10-11 a.m., "Understanding and Responding to Dementia-related Behaviors" will be held at Luther Terrace, 3907 James Road.

July 30, The Gardens of Germantown, 3179 Professional Plaza Dr., will host "The Basics of Alzheimer's", from 4-5 p.m.

The 2015 Walk to End Alzheimer's is coming October 10, to the Memphis Botanic Gardens. Please attend any sessions you think helpful.

**HONORING OUR LOVED ONES**

Gifts have been given for

**Memorial Fund**

In memory of James Goolsby, in remembrance of his birthday by

Bonnie Rosenthal and Sandra

**HOT DOG!!! FUN DAY FOR UMNC**

Iletha Washington, director of the Miriam Day Care Center and Acting Director of United Methodist Neighborhood Centers, is planning a community event on July 25 from 10a to 3p, for the Binghampton community.

There will be community agencies on hand to offer information on their programs and Day Care teachers will be signing up new students and giving tours of the center. A Talent Contest is also planned with free hot dogs.



She has asked churches and Key Women for help with donations of hot dogs, cookies, hot dog buns, individual bags of chips and/or monetary donations. If you would like to volunteer to help during the event, that would be a big help, too.

Please let me know if you can help and thanks for your past support.

Sharon Lockhart

901-754-3429

901-412-9304

[jtomlockhart@bellsouth.net](mailto:jtomlockhart@bellsouth.net)

**2nd PRESBYTERIAN OFFERS 5 DAY CAMP**

RhythumU-Adventures in Art is being offered for kids entering 2-6 grades at 2nd Presbyterian Church, 4055 Poplar Ave., July 20-24, 9a to 1p, offering an opportunity to develop skills in drama, art and music. The fee is \$50 for the week. For more information and to register, visit [www.2pc.org/rhythumu](http://www.2pc.org/rhythumu).

**TRAVEL TIME**

Make your reservation now for the upcoming tours:  
 October 12-15 - Arkansas Fall Foliage  
 December 1-4 - Christmas in Branson  
 Brochures are available on the bulletin board or call Carolyn for more information, 861-0841.