

OUR PRAYERS

St. Francis Henry Blanks ICU	Special Prayers for ...kidnapped girls/Nigeria ...disaster victims
Baptist Memorial (Charles) Richard Morris 3394	At Home Brad Weaver Peggy Brightwell Dorothy Goolsby Terry Williamson Wayne Lawrence
Vanderbilt Marcelle Farrow	
Methodist G'town Ed Caine 303 So.	

Our Sympathy, love and prayers go out to
 ...Daniel Boice in the loss of his paternal grandmother,
 Karen Bray
 ...Family & friends of A.J. Walton

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
Doris Palazzini	Betty Ray	Elmer Ray
Bernice Shelby	Chris Simmons	Emmett Smith
Harold Smith		

OUR PRESENCE - August 7

Sunday School	45
Worship	79
Visitors	8

OUR GIFTS - August 7

Offering	\$ 3,555
Month to Date	\$ 3,555
Conference to Date	\$ 3,233

OUR SERVICE - August 14

Greeters	Joyce Kernodle Frances Molnar
Liturgist	Barry Mathis
Scripture	Dean Tutor
Children's Time	Andrew Baker
Lock-up	Mary Robbins

OUR WITNESS

August Scripture Readers

21 Nubari Deekae
 28 Peggy Brightwell

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



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

The



Flame

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August 10, 2016

Volume 61 Issue 32

Room Service For the Least of These

by Al Boyce

It's Tuesday, and people are literally coming out of the woods to converge on a local motel that usually caters to businessmen. It's not because of the advertised room rates (\$199 per week). It's not because they offer wireless internet access in every room. It's because two rooms have been opened so homeless men and women can take showers.

How this came about is an interesting story in itself. The manager of the motel, a Muslim, was approached by a group of Christians who wanted to provide this service to the homeless. The manager, who had himself once been homeless, agreed to provide one free room every Tuesday as well as towels for everyone. Soon, the number of people coming to the showers grew, and the manager provided two rooms. Christian volunteers brought food and soft drinks every week. A local hairdresser agreed to provide free haircuts once a month. People donated clothing, tents, toiletries and their time to supervise the showers. They offered prayer to anyone in need.

When the manager was offered a promotion that would require him to move to another hotel in the chain, he asked corporate headquarters to make sure his replacement would continue the showers. Officials with the hotel chain were so impressed with the outreach, they decided to have their hotels in other cities offer the same service.

The ministry is anything but tame. Some of those who come for showers are substance abusers. Many have prison records. Others have severe health problems. One week, a police SWAT team stormed past the rooms reserved for the homeless and knocked down the door of a room nearby, looking for drug dealers and uncovering a counterfeiting ring instead. On more than one occasion, volunteers have called 911 for an ambulance.

In these days where so many people are addicted to "reality" TV shows, there is a reality here that makes the rest seem illusory at best -- a reality that treads quite closely to Matthew 25: 35-36: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me ... "And Jesus, like a whisper, is there every Tuesday. We see Him when a Hispanic man helps an injured friend into his walker. We see Him in the smiles and hugs of the volunteers. We see Him when hungry men make sure they leave enough food for those still waiting in line. We all remember the story of the birth of Jesus told in Luke 2:7. "She (Mary) wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. "Every Tuesday, in this modern-day Bethlehem, there is room for Jesus.

Scriptures for the Week:

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalms 80:1-2, 8-19

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Luke 12: 46-56

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



LOOKING AHEAD	
Sun. 8/14	9:00a Scholarship Committee 10:15a Sunday School 11:30a Worship 12:30p Spaghetti Lunch to Benefit the Scholarship Fund 3:00p Metro District Celebration Bartlett UMC 5676 Stage Rd.
Mon. 8/15	Noon Newsletter Deadline
Tue. 8/16	8:30a UMW Mission Study
Wed. 8/17	6:45p Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thu. 8/18	9:00a Food Pantry- Asbury 6:00p UM Men- Asbury
Fri. 8/19	Offices Closed
Sat. 8/20	9:00a UMW Social Action Day @ Aldersgate/Jackson 10:00a Sewing Group 12:00p Girl Scouts 1:00p One Harvest Distribution @ Asbury 6:00p Spanish Service @ El Redentor
Sun. 8/21	10:15a Sunday School 11:00a Worship

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

The Margaret Plant Craft **Scholarship Committee** will meet on Sunday, **August 14**, at 9:00a.m.



PLEASE SIGN UP

...as a Worship Assistant. We still need greeters for September through November, and continue to need Children's Time Leaders. Sign-up sheets are on the office window. If you prefer, you may call the office, 683-8861, and give Kathy your preferences.

IN THE WORDS OF WESLEY

Pray always, pray, and never faint.
Pray without ceasing, pray.
~ Charles Wesley ~



Aldersgate put on a wonderful lunch last Wednesday for the Willow Oaks teachers and staff, thanks to Rick Ernst, Jane Hight, Mary Robbins, Judy Stanley, Lana Solomon, Lorelle Woodard and Aleita Tutor, who provided the food, and Perri Mathis, who did double duty with food and decorations. This lunch followed a hearty breakfast on Monday cooked by Neil DeLong, Barry Mathis and Ed Stanley. Perri, Judy and Sharon served up scrambled eggs, pancakes and bacon. Both events were thankfully received and very much appreciated. Some time in the near future, the new principal, Angela Nichols and her family will join us in church, at her request, so she can be introduced and thank everyone in person for our support of Willow Oaks.

METRO DISTRICT CELEBRATION

Join us at Bartlett UMC on Sunday, August 14th, at 3 p.m. as we celebrate our new "Metro" District with worship, introductions and fellowship. A Metro-wide choir is desired, so, choir members, call Todd Wilson at Bartlett, 386-4563, to join.



SPAGHETTI LUNCH TO BENEFIT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

and BIBLE PRESENTATION TO OUR SCHOLARS

Plan to stay after church on Sunday for the Spaghetti Luncheon Fund-Raiser as we also present our two scholars with Bibles for their college years. There is no charge for lunch but a donation to benefit the Margaret Plant Scholarship Fund will be greatly appreciated! If you have any questions please contact Renee Little at relittlepd@yahoo.com or 901-634-7342. If you know you can attend lunch, please sign up on the office window. If you're not sure, please come anyway! It will be a great time for fellowship and I'll bet you will see two very grateful and good-looking boys serving you!



ALDERSGATE UMW MISSION STUDY

...will be on Tuesday, August 16th. Registration and treats at 8:30a, program begins at 9a. United Methodist Women's national office has made Climate Justice one of its four social justice priorities. We will look at climate justice, along with the environmental justice steps that some communities most affected by injustices are taking to address the concern. As we continue to explore this important issue, we want everyone to be aware of the ways policy and law have created a multiplicity of environmental pressures on some "sacrificed" communities. Lana will be leading us in this study of international concern. You may order the study book, "*Climate Justice — A Call to Hope and Action*", at 1-800-305-9857 or on line at www.umwmissionresources.org for \$10. Ladies, please bring a **breakfast item**: Muffins, Fruit, Juice, Coffee Cake, Other, or a **lunch item**: Chicken Salad, Pimento Cheese, Tuna Salad, Pasta Salad, Tossed Salad, to share with our guests.



"Is God at dot com or dot org?"

HONORING OUR LOVED ONES

Gifts have been given for **Memorial Fund**

In memory of Michael LeClear by Michele Lockhart Watts



SUPPLIES FOR WILLOW OAKS

We are collecting supplies until August 15 for our adopted school, Willow Oaks Elementary. This year you may purchase a Pre-Pack, gift any amount to help purchase pre-packs, as well as donate individual items.

If you would prefer to purchase a 'pre-pack' for grades K-5, these are the prices: K-\$55; 1st-\$52; 2nd-\$50; 3rd-\$57; 4th-\$48 and 5th-\$54. Items NOT covered in the packs are:

- Underwear for boys and girls
- Belts for boys

Please make checks out to Aldersgate and note Willow Oaks in the memo line. Thank you!



FOOD PANTRY FOR AUGUST

Soup & Crackers
Jiffy Corn Bread Mix

Cash is also welcome.

Cash is used to purchase goods by the pound, at a great discount. Please make checks out to Aldersgate and note 'Food Pantry' in the memo line.

Thank you!

OUR PRAYERS (con't)

Kristen Boggs	Tom Boillot	Palma Borgognoni
Birdie Boyd	Jim Brazile	Brenda Brazile
Phil Cannon	Melissa Cole	Jaunay Davis
Sonny Davis	Goyo De la Cruz	Doug Dennis
Corella Edwards	John Elkins	Andrew Hamilton
Diane Harrison	John Hight	Mildred Hight
Jeff Irwin	Mark Jones	Freda Lipford
Ursula Lewis	The Martin Family	Bill McClain
Jesse McClerkin	Eloise Miller	Lorraine Mitchell
Glenn Moore	Lou Ella Morris	Joe Moseley
Moiria Pomije	Claire Rainey	Wade Reeves
Stephanie Roberts	Marie Souder	Cindy Stanfil
David Weaver	Shannon Weaver	John Williams
Margie Williamson		