

**OUR PRAYERS**

**St. Francis**                      **Special Prayers** for  
 Wayne Lawrence 555 ...kidnapped girls  
 from Nigeria  
**Paterson, NJ**  
 Irvin Scheirer                      ...earthquake victims in  
 Nepal  
**Bright Glade NH**                      ...flood victims in Texas  
 Bernard Rainey                      ...hurricane victims in Mexico

**Homebound and Assisted Care**

Martha Allen    June Burton    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 - November 15**

Sunday School                      49  
 Worship                                81  
 Visitors                                 10

**OUR GIFTS - November 15**

Offering                                \$ 7,542  
 Month to Date                        \$ 4,530  
 Apportionments To Date        \$ 6,776

**OUR SERVICE - November 22**

**Greeters**                              Jane Hight  
     Betty Jones  
**Liturgist**                                Bruce Hughes  
**Scripture**                                Judy Stanley  
**Children's Time**                        Dr. Finzel  
**Lock-up**                                 Tom Lockhart

**OUR WITNESS**

**November Scripture Readers**  
 29 Faith Gbeneneh



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

# Aldersgate United Methodist Church

## The



## Flame

Phone: (901) 683-8861  
 E-mail: office@agumc.org

Fax: (901) 683-1374  
 Website: www.agumc.org

November 18, 2015

Volume 60 Issue 46

### Pastor's Ponderings

Thanksgiving is almost here, and as we prepare for a delicious feast with family and friends, we might get caught up organizing, cooking, getting ready, taking advantage of the Black Friday deals that this year have started earlier than ever, or making sure the relatives from out of town are comfortable. However, something very important we shall not forget is to give thanks, which is the whole purpose of Thanksgiving Day. Beyond the historical context of the day, it's important to sit down and reflect on the year that is coming to an end. Give thanks for all the things that have happened, either good or bad, and how those things eventually found their place in the puzzle of your life. Maybe this prayer will help put things in perspective.

### Help Me Thanksgiving Day Prayer

O God, when I have food, help me to remember the hungry;  
 When I have work, help me to remember the jobless;  
 When I have a home, help me to remember those who have no home at all;  
 When I am without pain, help me to remember those who suffer,  
 And remembering, help me to destroy my complacency;  
 bestir my compassion, and be concerned enough to help,  
 By word and deed, those who cry out for what we take for granted. Amen.  
 -Samuel F. Pugh

Blessings Always,  
*Virginia*

**Scriptures:** II Samuel 23:1-7    Psalm 132:1-12    Revelation 1:4b-8    John 18:33-37

Sun. 11/22 **LOOKING AHEAD**  
**Christ the King Sunday**  
**Bible Sunday**  
 10:15a Sunday School  
 11:30a Worship  
 12:30p Church Council Mtg.

Mon. 11/23 Noon Newsletter Deadline  
 6:00p Prayer Walk @ **Asbury**

Tue. 11/24 6:00p Charge Conference

Wed. 11/25 10:00a Bible Study @ **Asbury**

Thu. 11/26 Happy Thanksgiving  
 11—1 Thanksgiving Dinner  
 Served at Aldersgate

Fri. 11/27 Offices Closed

Sat. 11/28 9:00a AFLS  
 6:00p Spanish Service and  
 Children/Youth Fellowship  
 at **El Redentor/Asbury**

Sun. 11/29 **First Sunday of Advent**  
 10:15a Sunday School  
 11:30a Worship/Hanging of  
 the Green

**CHARGE CONFERENCE**

...for Aldersgate is Tuesday, Nov. 24, at 6 p.m. Though open to all, Church Council members are expected to attend.



**— SUPPORT A ST. JUDE HERO —**

“Hero” is what St. Jude calls those who participate in the St. Jude Memphis Marathon. Our own Andrew Baker is participating on Saturday, December 5, and needs sponsors. While helping to ensure that families never pay a bill when their child is undergoing cancer treatment, Andrew is also helping St. Jude continue the push to increase the childhood cancer survival rate. Since their beginning in 1962, the survival rate has increased from 20% to 80%. They are now reaching for 90% and on to 100%, until no child dies of cancer. The sponsor’s sign-up sheet is on the office window. Lets give Andrew a boost and help St. Jude.

**THANK YOU NOTES**

Thank you to all who attended the lunch and Bingo Benefit for Golden Cross Ministries. We collected 93 gifts for the residents. A special thank you to Lana Solomon for her delicious chicken soup and to Duncan Godbold for his special banana pudding.

~ ~ ~

Thank you to all who enjoyed our Harvest Dinner. Your support is appreciated. Ms. Mary Proctor, our special caterer, was made and “honorary member” of Aldersgate for all the wonderful food that she prepares for our church functions. Another thank you goes to each of you who contributed food for the Thanksgiving Baskets for Neighborhood Centers. And a special thank you to Perri Mathis for the festive decorations in our Fellowship Hall.



**THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER**

Will you or someone you know be spending Thanksgiving Day alone? You are invited to join us from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a great meal. Aldersgate will again offer Thanksgiving Day dinner to guests as a ministry to the Memphis community.

Dinner will be prepared by Mary Proctor but all other areas: set-up, serving, greeting, transportation, clean-up, and desserts, will depend on us. We ask you to prepare your favorite dessert and bring it to church on Sunday or any time before 10:30 on Thursday. Helpers will be needed on Wednesday night and on Thanksgiving Day in 2 hour shifts (or for the entire time—your choice). Please contact Judy Stanley at [judy@crumpmortgage.com](mailto:judy@crumpmortgage.com) or 901-652-4821 or Barry Mathis at 901-683-7050, 901-299-2746 or [bamathis@att.net](mailto:bamathis@att.net), to sign up. You can help us fill lonely hearts as well as empty tummies by volunteering your assistance.

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

The abundance of the universe is yours through the grace and goodness of God. Give Thanks!

**UMW NEWS**

Our next Unit Meeting will be on December 6. Installation of Officers for 2016 will be the program for the day. Mark your calendar now. All are invited to attend.



**A NEW OXFORD CLASS TRADITION**

Alas, there will be no more Oxford Class Christmas Card to gather donations for the Toy Store at UMNC. Last year it was decided to cease operation of the Toy Store. Instead, the Key Women chose a child or children in either the Miriam Day Care, the Shelby County Preschool or the After School Program, and filled a “bag” for each, spending \$50 on each child. The Oxford Class will do that this year. We have 3 children to buy for. If you would like to help by shopping for an item(s), donating an item(s), or donating cash to purchase an item, please see Wayne Quarles, Lorelle Woodard, Peggy Brightwell, Dean or Aleita Tutor, Mary Robbins, Warren Petty or Tom or Sharon Lockhart.

**ADVENT BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES**

Our Advent study is “Sent: Delivering the Gift of Hope at Christmas”. “Jesus’ birth was not a one-time occurrence. Every Christmas has the possibility of Jesus being born again in our lives and in our world.”

— Jorge Acevedo, author  
 You will be challenged through story, art and Bible study to discover how, where and why we are “Sent”. God is calling us to be signposts for others! Join us on Thursday mornings at 10am for this 5 week journey.

**MAKE IT A GOLDEN CROSS HOLIDAY**  
 Below are a few suggestions to bring smiles to the faces of Wesley residents:

- combs & brushes, lotion, deodorant, shampoo, shower caps, tooth brushes, toothpaste, hand soap, peanut butter, soup, juice, canned meat, fruits and vegetables, paper goods and household cleaners, postage stamps, aspirin and Tylenol.

Please leave your gifts in the Golden Cross basket near the Sunday School office. Thank you.



**BIBLE SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 22**

If you have or know a child in 3rd grade or higher, who is attending our church, and has NOT yet received a Bible, please call the office with all the details, as soon as possible. We certainly don’t want to leave any one out. Currently on our list to receive Bibles are Sorbari Deekae, Kimberly Bonilla, Byron Gudiel, Faith Gbeneneh, Alex and Millie Hernandez-Ramos, and Atticus and Amadeus Santana.



**MUSIC OR DANCE ENSEMBLES SOUGHT FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE**

United Methodist choirs and worship ensembles from around the world may now audition on line for an invitation to perform at the 2016 General Conference, to be held May 10-20, in Portland, Oregon. A letter of application should include the name of the group, contact person with email and phone, brief history/bio including number of members, general age range, location, any unique characteristics, and a link to a private YouTube video of the group performing. Performance opportunities include morning worship and/or a showcase venue. Applications should be emailed to [gc2016worshipdirector@gmail.com](mailto:gc2016worshipdirector@gmail.com), prior to January 12, 2015 Further information is available from Diane Degnan, media contact, at [ddegnan@umcom.org](mailto:ddegnan@umcom.org), or by phone at 615-742-5406 or 615-483-1765.