

OUR PRAYERS

Allenbrooke Rehab

Bill Whitaker

At Home

Earl Galloway

Lynda Park

Forest Cove NH

Chris Simmons 129

Becky Roberts

Jeanette Leslie

Hospice Care

Mary Stanley

Linda Ann Gullick

Jesse McClerkin

Lorene Nance

Marcelle Farrow

Judy Stanley

(cataract surg. 11/19)

Special Prayers for

...kidnapped girls from Nigeria

Homebound/Assisted Care

Martha Allen	June Burton	Gerri Colosia
Jack Eaton	Mava Dell Fry	Helen Griffin
Marie Hughes	James Matlock	Doris Palazzini
Jane Pifer	Betty Ray	Bernice Shelby
Emmett Smith	Harold Smith	Betty Smithmier
	Martha Wallace	

OUR PRESENCE

November 16		
Church School		44
Worship		78
Visitors		21

OUR GIFTS

November 16		
This Week's Offering	\$	1,803
MTD	\$	6,964
Apportionments TD	\$	7,090

OUR SERVICE

November 23, 2014

Greeters	Margie Williamson Lorelle Woodard
Liturgist	Bruce Hughes
Scripture	Judy Stanley
Children's Time	Lisa Hughes
Lock-up	Barry Mathis

OUR WITNESS

November Scripture Readers

30 Dean Tutor



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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November 19, 2014

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THE WRITE REVEREND



"But he's already made it plain how to live, what to do, what GOD is looking for in men and women. It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, and don't take yourself too seriously— take God seriously." Micah 6:8 The Message (MSG)

As I got ready for work Monday morning, the news announced that a grand jury decision on whether to issue and indictment of the police officer who shot and killed Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo. recently might be forthcoming. While our Pledge of Allegiance claims we are "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all," the racial and social and economic and gender and class divides among us say otherwise. But, thanks be to God, we don't have these problems in the church! In the words of a familiar hymn, "we are one in the spirit, we are one in the Lord, and they know we are Christians by our love." In the church, we know how to treat each other, and how to respect each other, and how to be open and honest with each other regardless of race or class or gender or economic status; that is, if this was a perfect world.

We all also know, however, that ours is not a perfect world; not even in church. In the church, like in so many other places, we struggle to be all that God calls us to be, and to do all that we are called to do. The difference is that in the Church, we have the spirit of God who calls us to be our higher and better selves often in spite of ourselves.

Take our worship last Sunday as an example. While the service progressed in English, one Spanish-speaking family heard our worship in their own language as Pastor Goyo de la Cruz served as translator. Barry Pilkinton has been gathering parts and pieces and putting together a wireless system for translation that works side by side with our hearing assistance system to meet the needs of our diverse congregation.

On next Sunday, we will baptize infant Sofia Hernandez, and her father into our faith and accept that family into our church, with a welcoming reception for all our new members to follow. Will it change the world? Yes it will! It will bring our world just a little bit closer to what God wants our world to be.

Lectionary Readings: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100 (United Methodist Hymnal 821)
Ephesians 1:15-23, Matthew 25:31-46

LÖÖKING AHEAD

Sun. 11/23 9:15a Koffee in the Kitchen
 9:45a Sunday School
 11:00a Worship
 12:15p Lunch & Celebration with our New Members

Mon. 11/24 Noon News Deadline
7:00p Parish Charge Conference @ Asbury UMC

Tue. 11/25 6:00p Cub Scouts

Wed. 11/26 **10:00a Bible Study at Asbury**
 NO Fellowship & Study
 NO Children/Youth
 NO Choir Rehearsal

Thu. 11/27 Happy Thanksgiving
 11a-1p Dinner Served in FH

Fri. 11/28 Offices Closed

Sat. 11/29 9:00a AFLS

Sun. 11/30 9:15a Koffee in the Kitchen
 9:45a Sunday School
 11:00a Worship
 12:15p Baby Shower for Mireya Ramos and baby, Sofia



NEW MEMBER CELEBRATION

Join us on Sunday, Nov. 23, for lunch and to celebrate with our new members. We will recognize all our new friends from 2012-2014.

† Nubari & Anna Deekae, Sobari, Barine, Joy & David

† Andrew Baker † JoAnn Shelton
 † Barry Pilkinton † Dorothy Goolsby
 † Henry & Nancy Blanks
 † Milton & Synolve Craft, Alexandria & Evan
 † Yobani Hernandez Ruiz & Mireya Ramos, Alexis, Milogros & Sofia

Looking forward to seeing you there!



HANGING OF THE GREEN SERVICE

Be sure to join us on November 30 at 11:00 a.m. for our Hanging of the Green service.

REMEMBER!

OUR PARISH CHARGE CONFERENCE

...is at Asbury UMC, 2969 S. Mendenhall Rd., on Monday, November 24, 7:00 p.m.

PHOTO OP AT ALDRSGATE

No appointments to make. No trips to the studio. Just be at church after service on the 23rd, and our very own Andrew Baker will take your photos. Dress up like a turkey or Santa or an elf or even a reindeer. Bring a favorite toy or sports item. Have friends who want to have family portraits taken? Bring them along.

THANK YOU

...to everyone who donated to our Thanksgiving Basket collection. We wound up with 4 complete baskets, 10 Kroger gift cards and quite a bit of individual food items. We appreciate your support of this project every year.

Asbury is struggling to maintain their Food Pantry. They had to close early last week because they ran out of food. We will continue to support UMNC by donating to Asbury's Food pantry. Please continue your support because the number of people visiting the UMNC food pantries has not decreased in several years.

FOOD PANTRY FOR NOVEMBER

As we have completed our baskets for Thanksgiving, we will start collecting for the Food Pantry for December:

Peanut Butter Soup Crackers
 Peanut butter toast is a good way to start the day and soup & crackers will warm you up later.

ANNUAL OXFORD CLASS

CHRISTMAS CARD PROJECT IS UNDERWAY

This year's project will support 'Santa's Sack', benefiting the children in Miriam Daycare, Pre-K and After School Care. Save money, stamps and a tree by wishing your church family a Merry Christmas and helping underprivileged children as well. Donations may be given to Terry Williamson or dropped off in the church office. Please make checks out to Aldersgate UMC and note 'Christmas Card' in the memo line. This will guarantee your name will be put on the BIG church-wide Christmas card.

UMW NEWS

More books for the Reading Program:

The Seven Paths (Spiritual Growth) This moving story presents 7 ways of walking your path, each symbolized by an element of the natural world.

The Well Women (Spiritual Growth) Crossing the boundaries between a stylish veneer and being broken by life, 9 women share their journey.

What Ever Happened to Dinner (Nurturing for Community) will give you recipes and reflections for family mealtime.

Across Many Mountains (Nurturing for Community) is the memoir of a Tibetan family's journey to freedom, on foot, across the Himalayas.

The Golden Cage (Education for Mission) is the story of three brothers, as told by their sister, who each subscribes to a different ideology.

Chasing Chaos (Education for Mission) The honest and irreverent memoir of Jessica Alexander, aid worker, struggling to do good where suffering has long been endured.

We hope you will take advantage of these compelling reading choices.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

...to each of you who attended our famous Harvest Dinner, to Mary Proctor for the delicious food, to Perri Mathis, our 'decorator in house', and to Margie Williamson, our cashier of the day. It was great to see so many of our former members here!

HELP STILL WELCOME FOR THANKSGIVING DAY

You won't have to cook (unless you bake a pie). There are many other ways to help. You could donate a coat, scarf, jacket, gloves, sweater or hat. You could be a driver and help with transportation. If any of this appeals to you, please contact Judy Stanley at judy@crumpmortgage.com or 901-652-4821 or Barry Mathis at 901-683-7050, 901-299-2746 or bamathis@att.net, to sign up.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The more you look for blessings, the more blessings you will find!

ADVENT BEGINS NOV. 30

We will begin our Advent Study for adults at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All adults in the church are welcome and encouraged to attend, whether or not you are in a Sunday School class. We will have a different teacher each of the five weeks: Lana, Warren, D.L., Sharon & Bruce. If you would like to order a study book, please call the church office. The cost is \$11.

GOLDEN CROSS MINISTRIES NEEDS WINTER WEAR

New or gently used & laundered winter coats are needed for the senior residents of Wesley Living Communities. Men's and women's coats in all sizes are welcome. There is a special need for larger sizes. New hats, gloves, mittens, scarves and thermal wear would also be most welcome. Items may be brought to the Golden Cross office at 1615 Appling Road in Cordova, or to the Aldersgate office.

FREE DENTAL CARE AT ALDRSGATE
Courtesy of Bellevue Baptist

FREE dental care will be available to those who qualify:

- ~ Clients must live in the 38117 zip code and provide proof of residence
- ~ Clients must NOT have dental insurance
- ~ There are NO income limits

Cleanings done on Wednesday, Dec. 3, from 7 a.m. to Noon. Extractions and fillings done on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 7 to 10 a.m. There will be a waiting list for cancellations

Space is limited. If you are interested, please call the church office at 901-683-0130 to make an appointment.

POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY



Honor your loved ones this Christmas

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Given By _____

Cost: \$12 each # Ordered _____

Please complete this form and return, with payment, to the church office.