

**OUR PRAYERS**

- Our Ministers            Our Church
- Our Leaders            Our Ministry Teams
- Our Children & Youth    Our Homebound
- Our College Students    Our Missionaries
- Our Police Dept        Our Fire Dept.
- Our City                Our Military

**Homebound and Assisted Care**

- Martha Allen    June Burton    Carolyn Escue
- Ray Escue      Marcelle Farrow    Mava Dell Fry
- Earl Galloway    Doris Hight    Marie Hughes
- Margaret Kenley    Wayne Lawrence    Ted Lewis
- Betty Ray        Bernice Shelby    Emmett Smith
- Betty Smithmier    Martha Wallace

**St. Francis**

Tom Boillot    522

**Baptist Memorial**

Doris Bellott    5376

**Vanderbilt Hospital**

Cindy Garner Stanfil

**Hospice Care**

Mildred Hight  
Richie Conrad

**At Home**

Kay Hudak  
Chris Hudak  
Lois Hudak Conrad

**Special Prayers** for

...the Vargas family  
...disaster victims  
...immigrants

**OUR PRESENCE - March 26**

Sunday School    42  
Worship            83

**OUR GIFTS - March 26**

Offering            \$ 1,345  
Month to Date      \$ 15,829  
YTD                 \$ 45,858

**OUR SERVICE - April 2**

- Greeters**..... Lilian Garcia  
                      Audrey Weaver
- Liturgist**..... Rebeca Ernst
- Scripture**..... Dr. Finzel
- Children's Time**..Dr. Finzel
- Lock-up**..... Neil DeLong

**OUR WITNESS**

**April Scripture Reader**

- 2 Dr. Finzel
- 9 Dr. Finzel
- 16 Dr. Finzel
- 23 Andrew Baker
- 30 Jay Finzel

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



**OUR PRAYERS (con't)**

- Kristen Boggs    Palma Borgognoni    Jim Brazile
- Brenda Brazile    Melissa Cole    Jaunay Davis
- Miriam Davis    Corella Edwards    Gordillo Family
- Diane Harrison    John Hight    Jeff Irwin
- Freda Lipford    Ursula Lewis    Bill McClain
- Jesse McClarkin    Lou Ella Morris    Richard Morris
- Joe Moseley    Boyd Pilkinton    Ruth Pilkinton
- Moira Pomije    Wade Reeves    Stephanie Roberts
- David Weaver    Shannon Weaver    Charlie Whitaker
- Margie Williamson

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The



Flame

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March 29, 2017

Volume 62 Issue 13

**All Good or All Bad?**

By [Kayla McClurg](#)

Source: **The Great Story**

Life, contrary to popular theory, is not sometimes very, very good, nearly perfect, and at other times really, really bad. I hear gospel preachers say we are now experiencing a dawning of hope as the new administration takes office, while others say this political change represents the most perilous time in our history. Is one story completely right and the other completely wrong? Does any man or woman have the capacity to alter the nature of our inner and outer worlds and change who we are? Rather than blaming or crediting another for a world we see as either wonderful or perilous, perhaps we need to learn to accept responsibility for a world that is both of these at once.

Soon after Jesus starts to live into his baptism, discovering and deepening his calling by living his gifts for the sake of others—a hopeful period if ever there were one—he hears that John, his baptizer and front man, has been silenced and removed. Wanting to send a clear threat to Jesus, the authorities arrest John, torture him, and threaten him with death. How much worse could things become? The dream surely will die. All hope is lost. At least that's the extreme way we tend to tell our stories. But Jesus, you'll notice, has another way.

Jesus keeps moving forward, step by step, practicing his calling, going where he is sent, doing what he is given to do, honing in on his central purpose which is determined by a force larger than the current conditions.

The news about John does not deter him; it motivates him to share it even more boldly, and to find others who do not think life is either all good or all bad but who see its great potential for being both at once. "Repent!" Jesus cries out, as John had done before him. "Repent" of the idea that all is lost and these present days are perilous and you have been abandoned. "Repent" for shutting your eyes to all the potential and promise of heaven that is right here with you, breaking through in beautiful interconnected patterns that only God could create.

No matter what dire situations you see as monopolizing the world, the greater truth is that a light has already dawned in the regions of death. Announce it. Invite others to live in it with you. All is not lost. Now go prove it.

Blessings,  
*Virginia*

**Scriptures Readings:**

Ezekiel 47:1-14

Romans 8:6-11

Psalm 130

John 11:1-45



Sun. 4/2 **LOOKING AHEAD**  
**Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
 10:15a Sunday School  
 11:30a Worship

Mon. 4/3 12:00p News Deadline

Tue. 4/4 No Activities

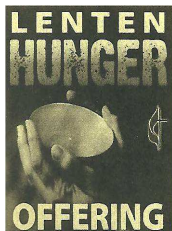
Wed. 4/5 10:00a **Asbury** Bible Study  
 Noon Devotional by Perri Mathis & Lunch @ **Asbury**  
 6:45p Choir Rehearsal

Thu. 4/6 9:00a **Asbury** Food Pantry  
 10:00a Aldersgate Lenten Bible Study  
 5:45p Girl Scouts

Fri. 4/7 Offices Closed  
 5p-9p Girl Scouts Activity

Sat. 4/8 11:00a Choir Rehearsal  
 1:00p Easter Egg Hunt

Sun. 4/9 **Sixth Sunday in Lent**  
**Palm/Passion Sunday**  
**NO Sunday School**  
 10:00a Asbury Worship/Cantata  
 11:30a Worship/Easter Cantata



Hunger continues to plague the human population. Even though great strides are being made to resolve hunger and hunger-related disease, thousands die each day from hunger related problems. In the United States alone, the world's wealthiest nation, 49 million Americans, including nearly 16 million children, struggle to have enough food on a daily basis. Your commitment to the Lenten Hunger Offering is needed to make it successful. Please bring your gifts anytime between Palm Sunday, April 9, and the Sunday after Easter, April 23. Simply place your gifts in the offering plate and please note for "Lenten Hunger".

**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

April 9 **Palm/Passion Sunday**  
 10:00a Asbury Worship/Cantata  
 11:30a Aldersgate Worship/Cantata

April 12 10:00a Asbury Bible Study  
 Noon Devotional (Nancy Murdock) and Lunch at Asbury

April 13 **Holy Thursday**  
 10:00a Aldersgate Bible Study  
 6:30p Communion Service at Asbury

April 14 **Good Friday**  
 4-7 p Come & Go Stations of the Cross at Aldersgate

April 15 **Holy Saturday**  
 Egg Hunt **Rain Date** 1:00p

April 16 **Easter Sunday**  
 10:15a Sunday School  
 11:30a Worship

**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL AND LUNCH AT ASBURY EACH WEDNESDAY DURING LENT**

Wednesday, April 5, will have Perri Mathis giving the devotional prior to lunch at Asbury UMC. Be there by Noon for the devotional then stay for lunch of soup and sandwiches. Please call Asbury if you plan to attend, 363-1135.



**EASTER EGG HUNT**

Our Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 8th (rain date, April 15), at 1 p.m. Toddlers through 5th graders are invited to hunt. All other family members and friends are invited to come cheer them on. We are excited to have Asbury UMC join us this year and we are expecting lots of kids. Your gifts of individually wrapped candy for the Hunt will ensure big smiles. **NO plastic eggs** are needed. Please leave your candy donations in the baskets outside the church office by April 5. Thanks for your help!!!!



**NOW IS THE TIME**

Any time is a good time, and now is great, to work on your Reading Program list. 4 Reading Plans make it easy for everyone to participate. Non-UMW members: Your reading counts, too! Even if you read only 1 or 2 books from any category.

**Plan 1:** 5 Books per year, 1 from each category—Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action and Spiritual Growth

**Plan 2:** 10 books per year (2 from each category), plus regular reading of **response** and **New World Outlook**.

**Plan 3:** 15 books per year (2 from each category), plus 5 additional books from any category, plus regular reading of **response** and **New World Outlook**

**Plan 4:** 20 books per year (2 from each category), plus 10 additional books from any category plus regular reading of **response** and **New World Outlook**.

Stop by the church library and see what a great selection we have.

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

Be an expression of God!  
 Contribute to peace, harmony and tranquility in your home and the world.



**'HE'S STILL THE LAMB' OUR CANTATA FOR EASTER**

On Palm Sunday, April 9th, at 11:30 a.m., the Chancel Choir will present, "He's Still the Lamb", by Dave Clark and Russell Mauldin. Please plan to join us!

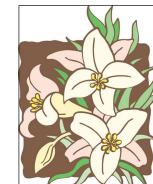


Men, mark your calendars for Tuesday, April 18, for the annual Memphis Conference United Methodist Men's Fish Fry at Archer's Chapel in Frog Jump, TN. The speaker will be Bishop L. Jonathan Holston of the South Carolina Conference with our own Bishop Bill McAllilly as special guest. Food service begins at 4:30p. The program starts at 7p. Music by The Finchers. The cost is \$15 per person. Please call Archer's Chapel, 731-656-2237, for reservations.



**APRIL FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

Canned Vegetables  
 (NO glass jars, please)  
 Cash is also welcome.  
 Thank you.



**EASTER LILIES**

Honor your loved ones this Easter by placing lilies in the Sanctuary. Please complete the form below and return it, with payment, to the office or place in the offering plate.

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

The cost is \$15 each. Make checks to Aldersgate UMC and designate "Easter Flowers" or "Lilies" in the memo line. The deadline is April 10th.

# Aldersgate UMC



## April 2017

SUNDAY		MONDAY	TUESDAY	THURSDAY		FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Virginia Jones Finzel Associate Min: Rev. Goyo De la Cruz Choir Director: Lisa Hughes Organist: Lana Solomom Pianist: Lynn Coffman						4459 Willow Road Memphis, TN 38117 Phone: 901-683-8861 Email: office@agumc.org Website: www.agumc.org	1
<b>2 5th Sunday in Lent</b> 10:15a Church School 11:30a Worship Service	<b>3</b> Noon News Deadline	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 10:00a Bible Study @ Asbury 12 Noon Devotional by Perri Mathis & Lunch @ Asbury 6:45p Choir Rehearsal	<b>6</b> 9-12 Food Pantry at Asbury 10:00a Bible Study @ Aldersgate 5:45p Girl Scouts	<b>7</b> Offices Closed 6-9p Girl Scouts Class	<b>8</b> 11:00a Choir Rehearsal 1:00p Easter Egg Hunt @ Aldersgate 	
<b>9 Palm/Passion Sunday</b> NO Church School 10:00a Cantata @ Asbury 11:30a Worship/Cantata	<b>10 Monday of Holy Week</b> 10:00a Church Women United @ Buntyn Presbyterian Noon News Deadline	<b>11 Tuesday of Holy Week</b> 10:00a Koinonia  7:00p Love/Hope	<b>12 Wednesday of Holy Week</b> 10:00a Bible Study @ Asbury 10:30a Meth. Hosp. Aux. 12 Noon Devotional by Nancy Murdock & Lunch @ Asbury No Choir Rehearsal	<b>13 Maundy Thursday</b> 9-12 Food Pantry at Asbury 10:00a Bible Study @ Aldersgate 5:45p Girl Scouts 6:30p Communion Service @ Asbury	<b>14 Good Friday</b> Offices Closed 4 to 7p 'Come & Go' Stations of the Cross 5:45p Girl Scouts	<b>15 Holy Saturday</b> 1:00p <b>Rain Date</b> for Egg Hunt	
<b>16 Easter Sunday</b> 10:15a Church School 11:30a Worship Service 	<b>17</b> Noon News Deadline	<b>18</b> 4:30p Men's Fish Fry @ Archer's Chapel Frog Jump, TN	<b>19</b> 10:00a Bible Study @ Asbury  NO Choir Rehearsal	<b>20</b> 9-12 Food Pantry at Asbury 10:00a Bible Study @ Aldersgate 5:45p Girl Scouts 6:00p UM Men @ Asbury	<b>21</b> Offices Closed 5:45p Girl Scouts	<b>22 Earth Day</b> 12:30p Non-member Event-FH	
<b>23 Festival of God's Creation</b> 9:00a Trustees Mtg. 10:15a Church School 11:30a Worship Service 12:30p Spaghetti Lunch to benefit Scholarship Fund	<b>24</b> Noon News Deadline	<b>25 World Malaria Day</b>	<b>26</b> 10:00a Bible Study @ Asbury  6:45p Choir Rehearsal	<b>27</b> 9-12 Food Pantry at Asbury 10:00a Bible Study @ Aldersgate 5:45p Girl Scouts	<b>28</b> 11:30a Young at Heart Group @ Asbury  Offices Closed 5:45p Girl Scouts	<b>29</b>	
<b>30</b> 9:30a Fellowship Time hosted by the Oxford Class 10:30a 5th Sunday Combined Church School Classes-FH 11:30a Worship Service							



## Happy Birthday

Apr. 1	Aleita Tutor
2	Lisa Matlock Aaron Wheat
3	Brian Dunn
5	Dustin Craft Neil DeLong Ricky Mann
6	Judy Babb
7	Joy Mitchell
8	Diane Pierce
10	Laurie Howell
13	Lucy De la Cruz
15	Ledis Flores
17	Emily Gift Tyson Petty
20	Keo Bueford
24	Alan Mathis
26	Pam Parrish
27	Beth Baker
28	Lindsay Weaver



## Happy Anniversary

Apr. 14	Chet & Gail Wilson
17	Rick & Rebeca Ernst
20	Mike & Regina Robbins
30	David & Shannon Weaver

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR APRIL

<b>Greeters</b> .....	Audrey Weaver Lilian Garcia
<b>Liturgist</b> .....	Rebeca Ernst
<b>Scripture</b> .....	2 Dr. Finzel 9 Dr. Finzel 16 Dr. Finzel 23 Andrew Baker 30 Jay Finzel
<b>Children's Time</b> .....	2 Dr. Finzel 9 Andrew Baker 16 Peggy Brightwell 23 Dr. Finzel 30 Rebeca Ernst
<b>Lock-up</b> .....	Neil DeLong



### FOOD PANTRY FOR APRIL

Canned Vegetables

Cash is always appreciated.

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

Thank you.

### SAVE THE DATE

Wed., April 5	10:00a Bible Study @ Asbury 12 Noon Devotional by Perri Mathis & Lunch @ Asbury
Thur., April 6	10:00a Bible Study @ Aldersgate
Sat., April 8	1:00p Easter Egg Hunt Asbury UMC will join us.
Sun., April 9	10:00a Asbury Easter Cantata 11:30a Aldersgate Easter Cantata
Tues., April 11	10:00a Koinonia Group 7:00p Love/Hope Group
Wed., April 12	10:00a Bible Study @ Asbury 10:30 a Hospital Auxiliary Key Women 12 Noon Devotional by Nancy Murdock & Lunch @ Asbury
Holy Thur., Apr. 13	9—12 Food Pantry @ Asbury 10:00a Bible Study @ Aldersgate 6:30p Communion Service @ Asbury
Good Fri., Apr. 14	4p-7p 'Come & Go' Stations of the Cross @ Aldersgate
Easter Sun., Apr.16	10:15a Sunday School 11:30a Easter Worship
Tues., April 18	4:30p Men's Fish Fry at Archer's Chapel in Frog Jump, TN
Sun., April 23	12:30p Spaghetti Lunch to benefit the Plant Scholarship Fund

Please help us keep our records current. If there are any omissions or errors, please call the church office, 683-8861, or email [office@agumc.org](mailto:office@agumc.org)