

St. Francis
Doris Babb 802

OUR PRAYERS



OUR PRESENCE

December 13
Church School 55
Worship 78
Visitors 2



OUR GIFTS

December 13
Tithes & Plate Offering \$ 4631
Church School \$ 29
Total Rec'd \$ 4660
November MTD \$ 11319
YTD Conf. payments \$ 25783



OUR SERVICE

Assisting December 20

Greeters Keith & Frances Coffman
Liturgist Bruce Hughes
Scripture Earline Gabriel
Children's Time Rebeca Ernst
Lock-up Jimmie Bedwell



December Scripture Readers
27 Renee Little

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

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The Flame

*Information for the Family and Friends
of Aldersgate U.M.C.*

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December 16, 2009

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FROM THE PASTOR

One Christmas Eve, as late Christmas shoppers hurried along the street, a crippled newsboy stood on his crutches offering his papers to the passersby. He looked happy, and his crutches were decorated with evergreens. One man greeted him with a cheerful smile, "My boy, you surely have the Christmas spirit." The boy replied "What's the use of putting on a sour face? Sure, I am poor and lame, but that's no reason for looking glum. I won't get presents like other boys at Christmas, but I can have fun, too. So I decorated my crutches just to make them seem special for Christmas."

If we go out to seek joy, it will elude us. If we go out to impart joy, we will find it. This Christmas, whether you have little or much, it makes no difference, but I do hope you find the joy of the season in which we celebrate our Savior's birth.

Peace and Grace,
Brother Paul

Scripture Reading for Dec. 20
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45

Sermon Title
"Promises Kept"

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun., Dec. 20 - Sat., Dec. 26

Sun. 12/20	9:15a Prayer Room 9:45a Church School 10:55a Worship
Mon. 12/21	Noon Newsletter Deadline
Tue. 12/22	No Activities
Wed. 12/23	No Activities
Thu. 12/24	Christmas Eve 6:30p Communion
Fri. 12/25	Christmas Day Blessings to One and All
Sat. 12/26	No Activities



A SENSE OF VALUE

During college our professor gave us a pop quiz. I breezed through the questions until I read the last one. "What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?"

Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times, but how would I know her name?

I handed in the paper, leaving the last question blank. Before the class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward our grade.

"Absolutely," the professor said. "In your careers you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if you only smile and say hello."

I've never forgotten that lesson. I also learned her name was Dorothy.

Joann Jones, Guideposts

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Friends,
We want to thank Rev. Paul and the entire congregation for your cards, calls, food and prayers. Although we are deeply saddened by mother's passing we have rich memories of her life. Your friendships along with your sympathy and support have been a great comfort.

Gene Lester and daughters,
Tempe Crunk & Dianne Martin

~ ~ ~

Dear Aldersgate Family,
Your cards and prayers mean so much to me. Thinking of my church family makes me feel so much better. Thank you for keeping me in your thoughts and prayers.

Doris Babb

~ ~ ~

Wasn't Touched by a Child, Touched by a King just wonderful? Thank you to Perry, Lana, Lynn and our choir for your presentation. It was truly a blessing for all!

~ ~ ~

Our "Breakfast With Santa" and the "Book & Bake Sale" were great successes! Thanks! Thanks! Thanks! And thanks again to all who baked, volunteered and participated in these efforts in support of UM Neighborhood Centers, Arts for Life's Sake and Grace Place Ministries. It's true—it couldn't have happen without YOU!



LAY LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Collierville UMC will host McKendree District's 2010 Lay Leadership Training Event on January 17. This event is free and requires NO reservations. If you are interested in becoming or continuing to be a Lay Leader, this is for you. All are welcome!

Seven choices are available:

SPRC & PPRC— Roles and Responsibilities

Using What's Available— Web/Social Networks, etc.

Working/Volunteering—Survival Hints for paid staff and volunteers

Intentional Faith Dev. For Clergy Treasurer/Benefits Officer/Statistician

- Everything financial

Potential Liability Issues—for Trustees

Role of the Church Lay Leader—What it is & what it isn't.

Questions??? Call Liz Clayton, 685-6246, ext. 2, or email her at :

lclayton@umcmemphis.org



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Lord, transform my life by renewing my mind. Show me your ways and teach me your paths so that my hope might be in you. Let me walk in the light of your love. In Jesus' precious name. Amen.

HONORING OUR LOVED ONES

Gifts have been given to:

Designated Gifts

In honor of Mom, Jean McCarty

By Michael & Mary Ann McCarty

In honor of Wanda Tabor

By Kathryn Clark

Memorial Fund

In memory of Glenda Lester

By Pauline Nolen

By Doris Bellott

By Neighbors and Friends on Cedar Creek Rd.



CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION

6:30 p.m. December 24



JOIN THE FUN!!!

Do you know what's happening on January 21st? There will be fun in store. Mark your calendar now! Stay tuned for more info.

