

Sun. 1/31 **LOOKING AHEAD**
 First Sunday after the Epiphany
 10:15a Sunday School
 11:30a Worship
12:30p Church Council Mtg.

Mon. 2/1
 Noon Newsletter Deadline
 6:00p Worship Cmte w/dinner
 6:00p Prayer Walk @ **Asbury**

Tue. 2/2
 No Activities

Wed. 2/3
 10:00a Bible Study @ **Asbury**
 6:45p Choir Rehearsal

Thu. 2/4
 9:00a Food Pantry @ **Asbury**
 10:00a Bible Study

Fri. 2/5
 Offices Closed

Sat. 2/6
 9:00a AFLS
 6:00p Prayer Vigil @
EI Redentor

Sun. 2/7
 10:15a Sunday School
 11:30a Worship

**CHURCH COUNCIL TO MEET
 January 31, 12:30p**

A light lunch will be served for Council Members.



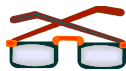
CHURCH WORK DAY CHANGED

Due to the cold, wet, icy weather, the work day planned for January 23 will now take place on Saturday, January 30. Plan to join us as we tidy up around the church and grounds, 9 a.m. to Noon. Bring your gloves, aprons and cleaning rags, an extra broom or rake, and a smile.



2015 CONTRIBUTION RECORDS

...are now available. In our efforts to be good stewards, we will not print them unless requested. If you would like your statement, please call the office and we will happy to send it to you.



SUNGLASSES SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 7

There is a special need this year for adult and children's sunglasses and for reading glasses for the Room In The Inn program, directed especially to the homeless.

You are encouraged to bring any glasses you no longer use or new glasses and sunglasses to church on Feb. 7, and place them in the box outside the office door.

For more information about Project 20/20 or Sunglasses Sunday, you may contact Grace Bonner, 20/20 Coordinator, at grace.bonner@comcast.net.



**LENTEN WORLD HUNGER OFFERING
 "Love Your Neighbor as Yourself"**

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 10th, and with it begins our Lenten World Hunger offering. The beneficiaries of this year's offering are:

Reelfoot Rural Ministries
 ...offering food assistance to thousands in one of the most poverty-stricken areas of the United States.

United Methodist Neighborhood Centers
 ...offering food to the impoverished in the urban Memphis area.

Our Father's House
 ...is a food ministry to street children in Tarime, Tanzania, Africa, run by missionary Eric Soard and his wife, Elizabeth.

Project Peanut Butter
 ...responding to hunger in Seirra Leone, feeding children who are starving due to lack of cooking fuel and electricity.

Feeding Ministry Partners in Mexico
 ...connected with Memphis Conference mission trips.

Memphis Conference Districts
 ...for local Food Pantry feeding ministry grants.

Emergency & Promotional Funds
 ...for emergency situations and a small portion to produce and distribute materials.

UMW NEWS

Metro District Slate of Officers 2016

President: Meredith Bingham, Covenant
 Vice Pres: Lana Solomon, Aldersgate
 Secretary: Cindy Foster, Ellendale
 Treasurer: Beverly Hardin, St. Mark's
 Program Resources: Mary Dill, Raleigh
 Spiritual Growth: Mary Faulkner
 Social Action: Stephanie Sonnenfelt, St. John's
 Ed. & Interp: Lindsey Freeman, Faith
 Communications: Lisa Archer, Christ
 Mbrshp, Nurture, Outr.: Carrie Handerson, Faith
 Nominations Chair: Marilyn Hathaway, Capleville
 Nom. Cmtee:

Laura Meanwell, Germantown
 Frances Williams, Centenary
 Letitia Vaughn McClain, Burdette Chapel
 Carol Ford, Ellendale
 Judith Nyabando, First UMC
 Last Position Remains Open

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The manner in which it is given
 is worth more than the gift.

Pierre Corneille



"Yes, as a matter of fact, these are extra-strength tablets."



SEJ DISASTER ACADEMY

First UMC - Franklin, TN Feb. 28 - March 1

You may now register for the 2016 Disaster Academy. The \$75 Early Bird fee (register by Jan. 30) includes all meals. Regular registration is \$100 (after Jan. 30) and also includes meals. The deadline for registration is February 15. Please contact UMVIM.org or 205-453-9480 for more information including forms, schedule, workshop descriptions, airport and lodging directions, as well as a downloadable brochure.



FOOD PANTRY FOR JANUARY

Canned Fruit
 Canned or Dried Beans

**ATTENTION!!
 WORSHIP TEAM TO MEET**

...on Monday, February 1, at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be served for Team members.



IRIS PRESENTS "PROJECT TRIO"

A new concerto by Adam Schoenberg, written specifically for "Project Trio", will be presented Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon, February 27 & 28, at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m., respectively, by GPAC at the Duncan-Williams Performance Hall in Germantown. Project Trio is made up of Greg Patillo, flute; Peter Seymour, bass; and Eric Stephenson, cello—brilliant musicians all. Included in this performance will be Mozart's Symphony No. 20 and Dvorak's Symphony No. 7. You may visit www.irisorchestra.org or call 901-751-7669, for all the details.

OUR PRAYERS

Paterson, NJ

Irvin Scheirer

At Home

Brad Weaver

Corinth, MS

Virginia Kemp Jones

Special Prayers for

...kidnapped girls/Nigeria

...disaster victims

Hospice Care

Sylvia Edwards

Homebound and Assisted Care

Martha Allen	June Burton	Jack Eaton
Mava Dell Fry	Earl Galloway	Helen Griffin
Marie Hughes	Margaret Kenley	Doris Palazzini
Betty Ray	Bernice Shelby	Chris Simmons
Emmett Smith	Harold Smith	Betty Smithmier
Martha Wallace	Bill Whitaker	

OUR PRESENCE - January 24

Sunday School	40
Worship	56
Visitors	3

OUR GIFTS - January 24

Offering	\$ 1,020
Month to Date	\$ 9,215

OUR SERVICE - January 31

Greeter	Margaret Ann Ligon Audrey Weaver
Liturgist	Bruce Hughes
Scripture	Faith Gbeneneh
Children's Time	Rev. De la Cruz
Lock-up	Emmett Parrish

OUR WITNESS

February Scripture Readers

7	Jane Hight
14	Barry Mathis
21	Rose Oyoo
28	Judy Stanley



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

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January 27, 2016

Volume 61 Issue 4

Shortcomings

by [Cate Russell-Cole](#)

God made me stop and think recently. I was talking to someone about a local church I am not overly impressed with, and they, while admitting that the church being discussed wasn't perfect, gave a positive, encouraging response about it which countered my negativity.

I was taken aback. The response held such a strong contrast to my frustration. I marveled at the grace this Christian was able to show. They were not naïve or ignorant of the real situation, but they did not sink into judgment the way I had. They responded with grace in such a way, I came home and looked up the definition of grace to learn more about it. It is obviously something I need to work on.

I have used the term 'graceful,' to describe people myself, but often in a feminine sense, rather than a spiritual one. It is one of those words you hear, but don't necessarily understand the meaning and function of. Surprisingly, the answer as to what makes you graceful is very simple. Grace is love, kindness and goodwill. It is an attitude of love that is the opposite of hurt, anger and frustration, and is described beautifully in [1 Corinthians 13:4-7](#) "Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged. It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance."

We're told as Christians to love one another ([1 John 4:7-8](#) "Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is born of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God for God is love.") If we can do that in imitation of God, we'll be more patient with each other's faults, weaknesses and failures. Love does cover a multitude of sins, and can get us through the bumps we experience as we rub each other the wrong way in a church where we are all supposed to be behaving as if we are perfect.

My prayer is that I will be less proud, less self-protective around others, and that the Lord will soften my heart so that I don't further compound the problems I see by my own actions. I want to be a blessing, not a curse to someone else. May God teach us all to be as patient with each other as He is with us. If we are, then church and other Christians will be much less stressful, and that has got to be a good thing.

Scriptures for the week:

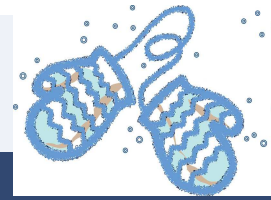
Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalms 71:1-6

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30

ALDERSGATE United Methodist Church



February 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>February 7 is Sunglasses Sunday</p>  <p>African-American History Month</p>	<p>1 10:00a Church Women United @ Buntyn Presbyterian</p> <p>Noon News Deadline</p> <p>6:00p Worship Committee w/dinner</p> <p>6:00p Prayer Walk/Asbury</p>	<p>2 Presentation of the Lord Candlemas</p>	<p>3 10:00a Bible Study @ Asbury</p> <p>6:45p Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>4 9-12 Food Pantry at Asbury</p> <p>10:00a Bible Study</p>	<p>5 Offices Closed</p> <p>6 9:00a AFLS</p> <p>6:00p Spanish Worship Srvc.</p>
<p>7 Transfiguration of the Lord</p>  <p>10:15a Sunday School</p> <p>11:30a Worship</p> <p>Sunglasses Sunday </p>	<p>8 Noon News Deadline</p> <p>6:00p Prayer Walk/Asbury</p>	<p>9 10a Koinonia</p> <p>7:00p Love/Hope</p>	<p>10 Ash Wednesday </p> <p>10:00a Bible Study @ Asbury</p> <p>10:30a Meth. Hospital Auxiliary</p> <p>????? Service of Ashes</p> <p>6:45p Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10:59p One Harvest Order DDL</p>	<p>11 9-12 Food Pantry at Asbury</p> <p>10:00a Lenten Bible Study Begins</p>	<p>12 Offices Closed</p> <p>10:30a Sr. Adult Game Day @ Asbury</p> <p>13 9:00a AFLS</p> <p>6:00p Spanish Worship Srvc.</p>
<p>14 1st Sunday in Lent</p> <p>10:15a Sunday School</p> <p>11:30a Worship</p> <p>12:30p Valentine's Day Lunch</p>  <p>Happy Valentine's Day</p>	<p>15 President's Day</p> <p>Noon News Deadline</p> <p>6:00p Prayer Walk/Asbury</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 10:00a Bible Study @ Asbury</p> <p>6:45p Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>18 9-12 Food Pantry at Asbury</p> <p>10:00a Bible Study</p> <p>6:00p UM Men @ Asbury</p>	<p>19 Offices Closed</p> <p>20 9:00a AFLS</p> <p>10:00a Sewing Grpup</p> <p>1:00p One Harvest Distribution</p> <p>6:00p Spanish Worship Srvc.</p>
<p>21 2nd Sunday in Lent</p> <p>10:15a Sunday School</p> <p>11:00a Worship</p>	<p>22 Noon News Deadline</p> <p>6:00p Prayer Walk/Asbury</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 10:00a Bible Study @ Asbury</p> <p>6:45p Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>25 9-12 Food Pantry at Asbury</p> <p>10:00a Bible Study</p> <p>11:30a Young at Heart @ Asbury</p>	<p>26 Offices Closed</p> <p>27 9:00a AFLS</p> <p>6:00p AFLS Concert</p> <p>6:00p Spanish Worship Srvc.</p>
<p>28 3rd Sunday in Lent</p> <p>10:15a Sunday School</p> <p>11:30a Worship</p>	<p>29 Noon News Deadline</p> <p>6:00p Prayer Walk/Asbury</p>		<p>Aldersgate United Methodist Church</p> <p>Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Virginia Jones Finzel Outreach Ministries: The Rev. Goyo De la Cruz</p> <p>Choir Director: Lisa Hughes Organist: Lana Solomon Pianist: Lynn Coffman</p> <p>4459 Willow Road Phone: (901) 683-8861</p> <p>Memphis, TN 38117 Fax: (901) 683-1374</p> <p>Website: www.agumc.org Email: office@agumc.org</p>		

Food Pantry for February



Pastas and Red Spaghetti Sauce

Cash is always appreciated.
(Make checks out to Aldersgate and write 'food pantry' in the memo line.)
Thank you.



Happy Birthday

- Feb. 1 Richard Morris
- 2 Lorelle Woodard
- 6 Selvin Lopez
- 7 Goyo De la Cruz
- Mike Robbins
- 11 Emma Fergie
- Donna Gallagher
- 12 Gary Schneider
- 13 Billy Washington
- 15 Matt Rhea
- 18 Happy Gbeneneh
- 19 Helen Griffin
- 20 Nancy Blanks
- Mike Bosi
- 21 Brandon Martin
- 22 Alex Hernandez
- Amy Smith
- 25 Emily Schneider
- Joey Tschume
- 27 Dean Shipley
- 28 Oscar Bonilla



Happy Anniversary

Feb. 14 Ed & Judy Stanley

ASSISTING IN FEBRUARY

Greeters Anna Deekae
Nubari Deekae

Liturgist Bruce Hughes

Scripture 7 Jane Hight
14 Barry Mathis
21 Rose Oyoo
28 Judy Stanley

Children's Sermons.. 7 Perri Mathis
14 Andrew Baker
21 Perri Mathis
28 Gaby Gordillo

Lock-up Henry Blanks

Aldersgate UMC Church Officials for 2016

Members of Church Council:

Pastor.....	Virginia Jones Finzel	Safe Sanctuaries Coordinator.....	_____
Church Council Chair.....	Diana Bedwell	Staff/Parish Relations Chair.....	Barry Mathis
Church School Supt.....	Duncan Godbold	Treasurer.....	Warren Petty
Finance Chair.....	Dean Tutor	Trustees President.....	TBE
Lay Leader.....	Bruce Hughes	Trustees Vice President.....	TBE
Lay Member of Ann. Conf...	Jimmy Hight	United Methodist Men President.....	Bruce Hughes
Lay Member Alternate	Henry Blanks	United Methodist Women President.....	Lana Solomon
Outreach Ministries Dr.....	Goyo de la Cruz	Recording Secretary.....	Peggy Brightwell

At Large Members of Church Council:

Class of 2016	Class of 2017	Class of 2018
Andrew Baker	Fortune Gbeneneh	Cathy Boice
Marcelle Farrow	Gabriella Gordillo	Lisa Matlock
Lana Solomon		Henry Blanks

Ministry Team Coordinators:

Nurture/Education...	Lisa Hughes	Outreach/Missions.....	Goyo De la Cruz
Witness/Evan.....	_____	Worship/Music	Perri Mathis

Finance Committee Chair: Dean Tutor; Treasurer: Warren Petty; Council Chair: Diana Bedwell;
Lay Leader: Bruce Hughes; Lay Member AC: Jimmy Hight; Staff/Parish Rep.: Barry Mathis

Class of 2016	Class of 2017	Class of 2018
Cathy Boice	Cindy Pilkinton	Judy Stanley
Mary Robbins		

Lay Leadership/Nominating Chair: Virginia Jones Finzel; Lay Leader: Bruce Hughes

Class of 2016	Class of 2017	Class of 2018
		Barry Mathis
		Cindy Pilkinton
		Mary Robbins
		Lana Solomon
		Aleita Tutor
		Audrey Weaver

Staff/Parish Relations Committee: Chair: Barry Mathis; Lay Leader: Bruce Hughes; Lay Member AC: Jimmy Hight

Class of 2016	Class of 2017	Class of 2018
Cathy Boice	Nancy Blanks	Andrew Baker
	Aleita Tutor	Peggy Brightwell
		Lynn Coffman
		Barry Pilkinton

Trustees *Pres.: Mary Robbins VP: Tom Lockhart, Jimmy Bedwell

Class of 2016	Class of 2017	Class of 2018
Tom Lockhart	Neil DeLong	Jimmy Bedwell
Emmett Parrish		Henry Blanks
Mary Robbins		Aleita Tutor

Other Church Officials: (Non-Council Positions)

Disaster Response Representative.....	Dean Tutor	Interim Music Director.....	Lisa Hughes
Golden Cross Representative.....	Audrey Weaver	Lakeshore Representative.....	Aleita Tutor
Hannah's Hope Representative.....	Aleita Tutor	Prayer Advocate.....	Marcelle Farrow
Head Usher.....	Jimmie Bedwell	Plant Scholarship.....	Renee Little
Homebound Min.....	_____	UM Neighborhood Centers Rep.....	Sharon Lockhart

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