

OUR PRAYERS

Health South
Charlene Watkins
(Bill McMullin's Mom)

At Home
Marcelle Farrow
Jeanne Gillis
Gordillo Family
Wayne Lawrence
Frances Molnar
Warren Petty
Audrey Weaver
Terry Williamson

Christian Care Center
Betty Smithmier 230

Special Prayers for
...kidnapped girls/Nigeria
...disaster victims

Our Sympathy, love and prayers go out to
...Family & friends of Lila Frazier (former member)
...Family & friends of Helen McClure

Homebound and Assisted Care

Martha Allen	June Burton	Carolyn Escue
Ray Escue	Mava Dell Fry	Earl Galloway
Helen Griffin	Doris Hight	Marie Hughes
Virginia Jones	Margaret Kenley	Ted Lewis
Doris Palazzini	Betty Ray	Elmer Ray
Bernice Shelby	Chris Simmons	Emmett Smith
Martha Wallace		

OUR PRESENCE - September 25

Sunday School	45
Worship	74
Visitors	4

OUR GIFTS - September 25

Month to Date	\$	9,497
Conference to Date	\$	3,233

OUR SERVICE - October 2

Greeters	None Listed
Liturgist	Rebeca Ernst
Scripture	Rose Oyoo
Children's Time	Ed Stanley
Lock-up	Tom Lockhart

**OUR WITNESS
October Scripture Readers**

9 Judy Stanley
16 Renee Little
23 Warren Petty
30 Andrew Baker

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



«Name»
«Second Line»
«Address»
«City» «State» «Zip_Code»

OUR PRAYERS (con't)

Kristen Boggs	Tom Boillot	Palma Borgognoni
Birdie Boyd	Jim Brazile	Brenda Brazile
Phil Cannon	Melissa Cole	Jaunay Davis
Doug Dennis	Corella Edwards	John Elkins
Gordillo Family	Andrew Hamilton	Diane Harrison
John Hight	Mildred Hight	Jeff Irwin
Mark Jones	Freda Lipford	Ursula Lewis
Martin Family	Bill McClain	Jesse McClerkin
Glenn Moore	Lou Ella Morris	Joe Moseley
Moira Pomije	Claire Rainey	Wade Reeves
Stephanie Roberts		Marie Souder
Cindy Stanfil	David Weaver	Shannon Weaver
John Williams	Margie Williamson	

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Aldersgate United Methodist Church

The



Flame

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September 28, 2016

Volume 61 Issue 39

The Bondage of Separation – Luke 16:19-31

By: [Kayla McClurg](#)

Without noticing, oh so subtly, we drift away. We step around each other, uncertain how to connect, not wanting to interfere, to bear responsibility, to navigate the uncertainties. We feel the chill of increasing distance, and snuggle up closer to our jobs, our worldwide web of acquaintances, our witty and clever opinions. Like adapting to the earth's dizzying spin, we barely notice how we slide, inch by inch by slippery inch, from fundamental human connections that are given to keep us steady in the world. We don't see or value the bridges God puts between us and among us, let alone walk across them. Even among others, we live as though alone.

We think it is the life we prefer, going it alone, making our own private choices, sweet solitude becoming isolation. We place great value on being independent and free. Jesus, not so much. He tells of a rich man, who has everything he wants and more. He dresses in purple and fine linen and feasts sumptuously every day. He has learned not to notice a poor man at his gate. Dressed in rags, longing for food and friendship, his body covered with sores, he is attended to only by the dogs who come to lick him. Both men die, that great leveler, and the scales fall away from the rich man's eyes. From a distance, he sees his poor neighbor Lazarus now being held and soothed by Abraham. Even now the rich man wonders not about his earlier blindness or his calloused treatment of Lazarus, but how Lazarus might serve him in his own distress. "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames."

But a great chasm lies between them, too wide now to be crossed. Such is the bondage of sustained separation, the utter depletion of our souls when we widen the zones of comfort around us and stay blind to each other's need. Our independence strangles us, cutting off our breath and silencing our solidarity. Every choice we make—where we live and shop and with whom we align ourselves, whether we speak up or turn and walk away—either widens or reduces the chasm between us. What we are able to SEE is determined by what we are striving to BE. The places we go, or refuse to go; the words we use, or refuse to use; the actions we take, or choose not to take; these create the condition of our soul. Whether or not anyone walks beside us, we do not journey alone. Moment by moment, choice by choice, we build or bring down bridges of connection. We strengthen the bondage of our separation or we set each other free.

Scriptures for the Week:

Lamentations 1:1-6

Psalm 137

II Timothy 1:1-14

Luke 17:5-10



- LOOKING AHEAD**
- Sun. 10/2 **World Communion Sunday
Festival of Cultures**
NO Sunday School
11:30a-3p Worship & Festival
- Mon. 10/3 10:00a Church Women United @
Buntyn Presbyterian
Noon Newsletter Deadline
- Tue. 10/4 No Activities
- Wed. 10/5 10:00a Bible Study -**Asbury**
6:00p Finance Committee
6:45p Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- Thu. 10/6 9:00a Food Pantry-**Asbury**
10:00a Bible Study
- Fri. 10/7 Offices Closed
- Sat. 10/8 11:00a Girl Scout Career Fair -
Open to the Community
12:00p Golf Tournament @ The
Links of Audubon Park
- Sun. 10/9 10:15a Sunday School
11:30a Worship

THANK YOU NOTE

To our Dear Family at Aldersgate,
Your cards, calls and visits helped raise our spirits
through some difficult times and your prayers sur-
rounded us with your love and concern for our
family. There's nothing quite like that feeling of
warmth and caring when the need is great. Thank
you, dear ones. You are friends of the most spe-
cial kind.

Love & blessings.
Tom & Kathy



THE FINCHERS IN CONCERT

At St. Luke's UMC
480 S. Highland
452-6262

Saturday, Oct. 8 at 5:15 pm
Bar-b-que Dinner at 4:00 pm
Featuring the famous
"Wall of Dessert"
\$10 per person
Reservations by Oct. 2, please.



IN THE WORDS OF WESLEY
"Vice does not lose its character by
becoming fashionable."
~ John Wesley ~



Moses and the water hazard

TAAUMCUMMGT
Thirty-seventh Annual Aldersgate
United Methodist Church
United Methodist Men's (& ladies)
Golf Tournament

...is scheduled for Saturday, October 8, at Noon at
The Links at Audubon, 4160 Park Ave. **AND LA-**
DIES, any of you who are interested in joining the
fun are more than welcome!
Call Dean Tutor, 274-0089, for details and to sign
up and call your friends and invite them to join us!



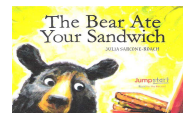
Ladies, our 2016 Mission Outreach Retreat is com-
ing up November 5-6, at Lakeshore. Mark your
calendars now!

UMW Reading Program

It's time, once again, for our Reading Program.
There are many interesting and exciting books
available for 2017. Try this one from Social Action:
Class Lives

Stories From Across Our Economic Divide

We are living in a period of extraordinary economic
insecurity and inequality—an inequality that
crushes the poor, drains the working class, elimi-
nates the middle class, simultaneously glorifies
and dehumanizes the rich and guts democracy.
This book provides insight into social issues and
how we are all affected.



READ FOR THE RECORD

At Willow Oaks Elementary
Please help us celebrate childhood literacy by
coming to our school and reading "The Bear Ate
Your Sandwich" with our students. Thursday, Oc-
tober 27 is the day. 10:00 a.m. is the time. You
may reply to Liz Kerr at kerrea@scsk12.org. or call
901-416-2196. A response is requested by Sep-
tember 30. Thank you.



PLEASE TAKE NOTE!!!

Chairpersons: Please submit your budget re-
quests for 2017 by October 15, 2016. Budget
forms are available from the Church Office. If you
need information about current year budget or
spending, please contact Warren Petty.



CONGRATULATIONS TO TYLER PILKINTON!!!
...for winning the Outstanding Cinematography
Award for his film "Last Hope", at the Junior Indie
Film Festival. Well Done!

HONORING OUR LOVED ONES

Gifts have been given for
Memorial Fund

In memory of Dorothy Goolsby by
Dorothy Christiansen
Linda & John Grills
Jeanette Leslie
Libby Wortham
Joy Mitchell
Johnny Mitchell
Keith Coffman

In Memory of Greg Walters by
Frances Molnar

In memory of Edward Caine by
Keith Coffman

In memory of Carrie Sanders by
Keith Coffman

Scholarship Fund

In memory of Dorothy Goolsby by
Carolyn McDougal
Jeanette Leslie

In Memory of Edward Caine by
Jeanette Leslie

JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY
On Thursdays

Thursday mornings, September through May,
all are invited to Bible Study, at 10 a.m.

FOOD PANTRY FOR OCTOBER

Peanut Butter & Crackers

Cash is also welcome.



Cash is used to purchase goods by the pound, at a great dis-
count.

Please make checks out to Aldersgate
and note 'Food Pantry' in the memo line.

Aldersgate UMC

October 2016

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY







SATURDAY

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Virginia Jones Finzel
 Outreach Min: Rev. Goyo De la Cruz
 Choir Director: Lisa Hughes
 Organist: Lana Solomom
 Pianist: Lynn Coffman



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1
 UMW Conference Annual Day
 "Rollin' on the River"
 Milan 1st UMC

<p>2 World Communion Sunday Festival of Cultures NO Sunday School 11:30a Worship Service/ Festival</p>	<p>3 10:00a Church Women United @ Buntyn Presbyterian Noon News Deadline</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 10:00a Bible Study @ Asbury 6:00p Finance Committee 6:45p Choir Rehearsal </p>	<p>6 9-12 Food Pantry at Asbury 10:00a Bible Study @ Aldersgate</p>	<p>7 Offices Closed</p>	<p>8 11:00a Girl Scout Career Fair-Open to the Community 12 Noon Golf Tournament @ Audubon Park </p>
<p>9 10:15a Church School 11:30a Worship Service</p>	<p>10 Columbus Day  Noon News Deadline 7:00p Church Council</p>	<p>11 10:00a Koinonia 7:00p Love/Hope</p>	<p>12 10:00a Bible Study @ Asbury 10:30a Meth. Hosp. Aux. 6:45p Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>13 9-12 Food Pantry at Asbury 10:00a Bible Study @ Aldersgate 5:00p Girl Scouts</p>	<p>14  10:30a Senior Game Day @ Asbury Offices Closed</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 Children's Sabbath 10:15a Church School 11:30a Worship Service 12:30p Homebound Ministry Team</p>	<p>17 Noon News Deadline</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 10:00a Bible Study @ Asbury 10:00a UMNC Key Women 6:45p Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>20 9-12 Food Pantry at Asbury 10:00a Bible Study @ Aldersgate 6:00p UM Men @ Asbury</p>	<p>21 Offices Closed</p>	<p>22 10:00a Girl Scout Fall Festival Open to the Community (Rain Date - Oct. 5)</p>
<p>23 10:15a Church School 11:30a Worship Service 12:30p UMW Exec. Meeting</p>	<p>24 Noon News Deadline</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 10:00a Bible Study @ Asbury 6:45p Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>27 9-12 Food Pantry at Asbury  10:00a Bible Study @ Aldersgate 5:00p Girl Scouts</p>	<p>28 11:30a Young at Heart Group @ Asbury Offices Closed</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30 10:15a Church School 11:30a Worship Service</p>	<p>31 All Hallows' Eve Noon News </p>					



Happy Birthday

Oct	1	Joyce Kernodle Teresa McMullin Keith Wilson
	2	Kathy Haggard Clifford Watson
	3	Kathryn Ragan
	4	Don Speraw
	7	Frances Molnar Betty Ray
	10	Tucker Schneider
	11	Keith Coffman
	13	Karl Hughes
	15	Jamie Craft
	16	Sharon Lockhart
	19	Ben Bedwell Nova Bedwell
	20	Dixie Bradsher
	22	Tonya Mabry
	23	Michael Fergie Yobani Hernandez Rhonda Hicks Marsha Lewis
	26	Earl Galloway
	27	Virginia Finzel



Happy Anniversary

Oct.	18	Gary & Laura Schneider
	19	Barry & Cindy Pilkinton
	26	Tom & Sharon Lockhart

ASSISTING IN OCTOBER

Greeters	None Listed
Liturgist	Rebeca Ernst
Scripture	2 Rose Oyoo 9 Judy Stanley 16 Renee Little 23 Warren Petty 30 Andrew Baker
Children's Time	2 Ed Stanley 9 Ed Stanley 16 Ed Stanley 23 Ed Stanley 30 Ed Stanley
Lock-up	Tom 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

