

St. Mark's Remarks

8255 Winchester Road * Memphis, Tennessee 38125 * (901) 754-8185 * www.stmarksmemphis.org

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Rev. Jolinne Downey, pastor

An update from the Council of Bishops

According to [The United Methodist Reporter](#), the Executive Committee of the Council of Bishops, which met last week in Chicago, approved a framework for implementing the Commission on a Way Forward and took a step toward a called session of the General Conference in 2018. The Council acknowledged that the landscape of the church has changed dramatically since May, but they remain committed to leading the church forward.

“The reported declarations of non-compliance from several annual conferences, the intention to convene a Wesleyan Covenant Association and the election of the Rev. Karen Oliveto as a bishop of the church have opened deep wounds and fissures within The United Methodist Church and fanned fears of schism,” said Bishop Bruce R. Ough, Council president, in a detailed statement outlining the actions taken. “The church finds itself in an extremely fragile, highly contested season.” The statement further reads, “We affirm that, as disciples of Jesus, we are all called to maintain unity in the bond of peace. As a Council, we re-affirm our commitment to lead the church in discerning and charting a way forward. We intend to do so with prayerful attention to both urgency and thoughtful preparation.”

The Council adopted a purpose statement for the Commission, including its mission, vision and scope, and determined that it will be composed of 20-25 mem-

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Cancer Support Group

FOR PATIENTS, CAREGIVERS & SURVIVORS

Mondays at 6 pm



St. Mark's UMC

a small church with a big heart
8255 Winchester Road * Memphis TN 38125
stmarksmemphis.org * 901.754.8185

Women to begin study of Revelation

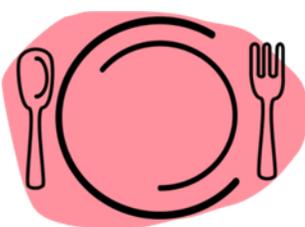
Last spring, Pastor Jo asked the Women's Bible Study group what they would like to study. Many expressed an interest in the Book of Revelation, so we will take it up when we resume our weekly meetings on Thursday, August 11, at 10 am. Women of all ages are invited to join us.

August Birthdays

Carol Johnson	08/07	Becky Rawlins	08/26
Jeff Hink	08/29	Faith Graff	08/30
Mike Donovan	08/31		

Visitors Last Month

Bitsy Pou	Mary Sather
Jill Swift	Charles Breitbart
Sonya Breitbart	Tarra DeBerry
Aaron Foster	23 Scouts & Families
Otto Bracho	Makenzie Howard
Sierra Howard	Lauren Ulseth
Myra Finch	Madison Pettenger



United Methodist Men

Our next “steak or chicken” dinner meeting will be Tuesday, August 19, at 6:30 p.m. Please join us for great food and great fellowship! Steak is \$10 and chicken is \$8. Please confirm your reservation with Terry either at church or by calling 901-359-7342. We look forward to seeing you there!

Terry B. Draughon

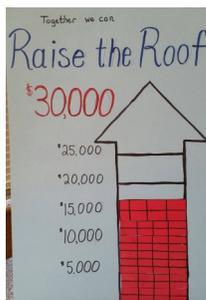
United Methodist Women

We took a little bit of a break this summer, although we did return to the Graceland Gardens Golden Cross facility for a 4th of July Celebration with them. Our mini-retreat on the 28th was a great getaway. We had a great quarterly meeting in July and appreciate all who attended. We are gearing up again, so be on the lookout for more activities and opportunities to support these missions, including our Fall Fundraiser, Golden Cross, and Trunk or Treat! We appreciate all the participation and support you give your UMW. We will be electing officers in the next couple of months; if you would like to serve in any capacity, please let one of us know. We need YOU!

Grace, Peace, and Blessings to you,
Sheila and Shelly

Together we can

Raise the Roof



Way to go! We are halfway to our goal! Together, we CAN raise the roof! Mail your gift to St. Mark's at 8255 Winchester; Memphis, TN 38125, or you can use the blue Building Fund envelopes in the sanctuary pews, or simply write “roof” at the bottom of your check. All gifts are tax deductible.

Choir Notes

Wow! What a response to our men's and women's choirs! Thank you to our men, the scouts and their leaders. Thank you to our women. Maybe we should have a volunteer choir every week! Back to reality... our choir will be back in place in August. We'll not wear robes while it's still so hot. This would be a good time for some of you who volunteered to keep volunteering!!! Thank you again. This has been a good example of how St. Mark's people stand together.



UMCOR

UMCOR is accepting donations for the Mayfield, KY tornado and the West Virginia flooding. If you wish to donate to either of these causes, just specify that on your check before placing it in the offering plate. The church will forward your gift to the Memphis Treasurer's Office.

Four More Years

Bishop Bill McAlilly and his wife, Lynn are delighted to be reassigned to the Nashville Area, which includes the Tennessee and Memphis Conferences. “During the first four years we have been laying the foundation upon which we can build. In the coming four years I am committed to leading the Nashville Area of the UMC in ministry that is centered in our call to discover, connect, equip and send lay and clergy leaders who shape congregations that offer Christ to a hurting world one neighborhood at a time.”

Expecting Greater Things,
Bishop Bill McAlilly

Thank You

Friends,

The Lord does work in mysterious ways indeed. Just when we are running low on needed items or a move-in kit for a new senior resident who has nothing, Ms. Bonnie Carter and Jack or Mrs. Sherry Raggett magically appear at our door.

Thank you all for everything you do. You are truly helping to make a difference in lives daily.

Kristi Owens

Executive Director,

Golden Cross Senior Residents Fund

Dear Friends,

Cliff and I cannot begin to express our deep gratitude for all that you have done and continue to do to support our family in the recent illness and death of my mother Linda Baker. The many cards, meals, flowers, phone calls, and prayers have meant so much to us. And to be able to offer our church as a place where we could gather to celebrate her life was a great blessing indeed. My mother was deeply touched by your kindness, and so are we.

Grace, peace & joy!

Pastor Jo

August 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:00p Cancer Support Group 6-9:00p Scouts	2 6:00p Yoga 6-8:00p Weight Watchers	3 7:00a Emmaus	4 10:30a Staff Mtg. 6:00p Yoga	5	6 9:00a Yoga
7 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a First Sunday Lunch Holy Communion to American Cancer Society	8 6:00p Cancer Support Group 6-9:00p Scouts	9 6:00p Yoga 6-8:00p Weight Watchers	10 7:00a Emmaus	11 10:00a Ladies Bible Study 6:00p Yoga 6:00p SPRC Mtg.	12	13 9:00a Yoga
14 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service	15 6:00p Cancer Support Group 6-9:00p Scouts	16 6:30p UMM Dinner 6-8:00p Weight Watchers	17 7:00a Emmaus	18 10:00a Ladies Bible Study 6:00p Yoga	19	20
21 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service	22 6:00p Cancer Support Group 6-9:00p Scouts	23 6:00p Yoga 6-8:00p Weight Watchers	24 7:00a Emmaus	25 10:00a Ladies Bible Study 6:00p Yoga	26	27 9:00a Yoga
28 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service	29 6:00p Cancer Support Group 6-9:00p Scouts	30 6:00p Yoga 6-8:00p Weight Watchers	31 7:00a Emmaus			

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bers to be identified by August 31 with a target of October for an initial meeting. Each bishop will nominate up to five persons, and names that have previously been submitted to either the president or executive secretary of the Council will be considered as well.

A search is already underway for a professional facilitator to design and guide the Commission's discernment process. Bishops Ken Carter, Sandra Steiner Ball and David Yemba have been selected to serve as a team of moderators to preside, provide spiritual guidance and pastoral care.

An invitation to prayer for the Commission involving the entire church, called "Praying Our Way Forward," will be launched in October. More details regarding that initiative will be forthcoming.

In November, the Executive Committee will bring the matter of a called special session to the full Council for consideration. Only the full Council could authorize such a session.

In a related action, the Council further voted to urge the Judicial Council to include the South Central Jurisdictional Conference's request regarding the election of Bishop Karen Oliveto on the docket for their fall meeting on October 25-28.

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