



St. Mark's Remarks

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

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Rev. Greg Taylor, pastor



Introductions

When tested by the Pharisee in Matthew 22:34-40 and asked what the Greatest Commandment is, Jesus responded with not one, but two greatest commandments:

- 1) You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.
- 2) You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

What does loving the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind and loving your neighbor look like? John Wesley, the man be-

hind Methodism, created what he believed to be the best ways to live an inward and outward life of faith. He called them the Means of Grace. These are the means, or vessels, by which God reveals God's self more fully in and through humanity.

The inward means of grace are called Acts of Piety. These constitute ways in which we personally grow closer to God through worship and devotion. We grow closer to God through public and family prayer, taking Holy Communion, being in public worship, reading and studying Scripture, Christian conferencing, and fasting or abstinence. These are the inward ways that, when we seek to live them out, we continually love the Lord our God with all our hearts, and souls, and mind and work toward having a deeper relationship with God.

Jesus also realized that inward devotion to God is only half of the picture of faith. We must also look outward to our neighbor, our fellow passengers on this journey of life.

So, Jesus presented us with an outward approach to faith. If you love your neighbor as yourself, your desire will then be for others to love God with all their hearts and souls and minds. You want them to build an amazing relationship with God as well. When you have something great deep inside of you like a deep, inward relationship with God, why would you hide it? We are called to share our inward faith in a very real and outward way as we live out that faith in the life of the church, the community, and the world.

These outward means of grace are Acts of Mercy. These constitute ways in which we show compassion and justice for others. We love our neighbors when we: feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the jails and prisons, shelter the homeless, welcome the stranger, make peace with others, and act for the common good.

When we live this two-fold, inward-outward, approach to faith, we accept what Jesus shares with us that we cannot just be inwardly religious or outwardly missional. We must be both at the same time. We must be willing to live a holistic faith if we are going to fully live into the life Christ modelled.

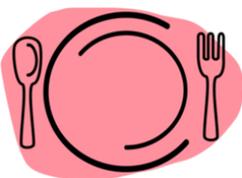
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July Birthdays

Casie Healy	7/1	Chase Youngman	7/5
Mike Nabers	7/8	Sherry Raggett	7/8
Patty Ward	7/12	Don McKinnon	7/13
Lisa Fehrs	7/23	Sarah Hughes	7/24

Visitors Last Month

The Bishop Family	Derrick Chenault
Fred Frazier	Kenneth Hardin
Patricia McKinney	Janice Thornton
Joe & DeWanna Oliver	Jackson Baker
Rose Baker	



United Methodist Men

Come join us on Tuesday, July 17, for our monthly “steak or chicken” dinner, at 6:30 p.m., in Fields Hall. Please join us for great food and great fellowship and a chance to get to know our new pastor! Steak is \$10 and chicken is \$8. Please call me at (901) 412-9125 to confirm your steak or chicken! See you there!

Mike Graff

United Methodist Women

We will be having a First Sunday Potluck on July 1st to welcome Pastor Greg Taylor and his family. Our next unit meeting will be Saturday, July 7th, at 10:00 in the conference room. Please plan to attend-you are needed! We will be making plans for mission activities and fundraisers for the remainder of the year. We will have our annual mini-retreat in July. Our Vice-president, Bonnie Carter, is planning our retreat and more information on the date and location will be communicated shortly.

Grace and Peace,

Leesa Henderson, UMW President

Welcome!!!

While we will miss our Pastor Jo, we want to extend a hearty welcome to Rev. Greg Taylor and his wife, Amanda and two sons. Greg comes to us from Shiloh United Methodist Church in Somerville, and looks forward to serving at St. Mark's.

Please welcome Greg and his family into our St. Mark's family!!



Choir Notes

The choir will be taking a well deserved vacation during the month of July. We will be back in August!

Jim

Food Pantry

Don't forget! St. Mark's day to work the Food Pantry at Capleville UMC is Tuesday, July 24.

Thank You from Golden Cross

Friends, What a glorious site of red, white and blue goodies for the senior residents Golden Cross faithfully serves. These patriotic bundles will certainly bring a smile to faces! Thank you all for everything you do to help support those in their times of need. You are truly helping to transform lives one need at a time. We wouldn't be able to serve as many as we do without all of you. On behalf of all the lives you touch through your kindness, generosity, love and support, Thank you!

Kristi Owens, Golden Cross Senior Ministries

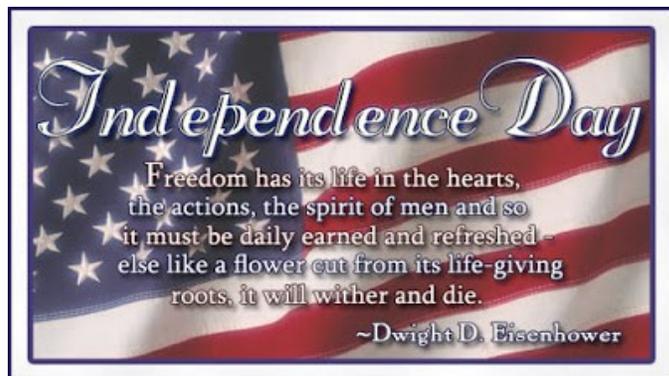
Nursery

Our Nursery is open on Sunday from 9:30 a.m. til 11:30 a.m. Tell your family and friends to bring their little ones and join us!

July 4th

Wishing everyone a safe and joyful 4th of July.

The following can also be applied to the practice of our religion.



Introductions...Cont'd

Love God and Love your neighbor; this two-fold approach to faith, mission, and ministry is also my statement of faith, mission and ministry. This inward– outward showing of love for God and for neighbor will be the ministry I share with you while I am here. Love God and Love neighbor. These two commandments are the foundation of my faith, mission, and ministry I will use to guide our work here at St. Mark's United Methodist Church.

I am excited about making further introductions with all of you. I bring with me a love for mission, teaching, prayer, and compassion. I bring a passion for service and a desire to expand our understanding of overcoming barriers and boundaries. I also bring a weakness for Taco Bell bean burritos—it is truly wonderful I don't have to drive 25 minutes to get one anymore.

With all this in mind, I look forward to a Christ-filled, and Spirit-led, time with you as we seek to transform lives around St. Mark's UMC.

In Christ's love,
Rev. Greg Taylor

July 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship 11:30a First Sunday Lunch Communion to Board of Pensions	2	3 6:00p Yoga	4 	5 6:00p Yoga	6	7 9:00a Yoga 10:00a UMW MTG.
8 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service	9	10 6:00p Yoga	11	12 6:00p Yoga	13	14 9:00a Yoga
15 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service	16 6-9:00p Scouts	17 6:30p UMM Dinner	18	19 6:00p Yoga	20	21 9:00a Yoga 5-9:00p Cub Scouts
22 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service	23	24 11-1:00 Food Pantry 6:00p Yoga	25	26 6:00p Yoga	27	28 9:00a Yoga
29 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service	30 6-9:00p Scouts	31				

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