



## *St. Mark's Remarks*

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*“Live your life in such a way that those who know you but don't know God will know God because they know you”*

**Published Monthly by St. Mark's United Methodist Church  
July, 2014**

**Rev. Dr. Bradley Gabriel**

Dear Friends,

Hard to believe that half the year is gone, isn't it? As I write this, there are only 174 days to Christmas. Does that help with the heat? Regardless, July is a great time to go slow if at all possible. Yes, I know that the lawn needs mowing and the hedges need trimming, and the sales quotas need to be met. But July is hot. Memphis can get dangerously hot. So go slow whenever possible. Use these days to recharge your spiritual batteries. Take in God's goodness of creation. Relax in the knowledge that crops grow, the seasons change, and God remains in charge. Use the extra daylight to spend a bit more time reading the bible. Remember that we are reading one chapter of Luke's Gospel and then one chapter of the Book of Acts, in order this year. For the week of July 6 that means we are reading Acts 3. We need these down times in order to be fully involved in our mission and ministry the rest of the time. And we have missions and ministries coming quickly beginning in September.

St. Mark's marks its 35<sup>th</sup> year in 2014. In September we will invite all present and former members and friends to dinner (maybe with a visit from St. Mark himself) and a service of re-dedication. In October we will celebrate our first "Blessing of the Animals" October 5 and our Second Trunk or Treat at the end of the month. In between, get ready for the UMM annual catfish fry. In November we will celebrate the work carried out by St. Mark's, Capleville and Cross Roads United Methodist Churches through the Capleville Community Food Pantry. Also, plans are developing for a community based family film series here at St. Mark's. "Second Friday Films" is designed to be a low stress, family welcoming activity for everyone in our mission area. Our Wednesday dinner and bible study series starts back up as Fall approaches. We have Table Talk, part II to enjoy.

Well, that is enough. Remember, we have a lot coming our way. For now, though, relax when you can, stay cool, read your bible, and pray daily. See you in church on Sunday.

Grace for the Way,

Brad



## July Birthdays!

Casie Harris	July 1	Monica Donovan	July 3
Chase Youngman	July 5	Mike Nabers	July 8
Sherry Raggett	July 8	Don McKinnon	July 13
Jim Montgomery	July 14	Jade Bryan	July 15
Dot Hager	July 22	Sarah Hughes	July 24
Otto Bracho	July 31		

## Visitors in June

Hazel Conar	Mary Sather
Dennis Hink	Diana Stein-Kabakoff
Ricky Reid	Joyce Ritter
Marie Joiner	Hunter Reid
Jade & Parker Bryan	Sandra Ramawy
Leesa Henderson	LankPELLI Family
Rick & Jane Kirchoff	

## June Average Attendance

Sunday School	21
Morning Worship	74



**Thank you for your faithfulness!**  
**2014 Budget: \$159,532.00**

**Budget Required through 06/30/2014: \$79,764**  
**Budget Received through 06/30/2014: \$76,080\***  
**Budget Disbursed through 06/30/2014: \$73,098**  
 \*Includes Cell Tower Lease Funds

## Memorial Gifts Received

In Memory of Lita Owen's Brother, Calvin  
 By: *Phyllis Folsom*

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for your visits and prayers. I feel blessed with your kindness. I felt them help me through both hospitalizations and rehab.



God is Great!  
 Ann Campbell

## Choir Notes



Our summer choir schedule is here. The choir is completely off for the month of July. We will be hearing soloists and other special music.

The choir will be back in place in August, but more informal and without robes.

By September, the choir, congregation and all of us should be back on a regular schedule.

Check Facebook each week to see what or who the special music will be for the next Sunday. You can also see the hymns we will be singing.

*Jim*



Yoga Classes on Thursday at 6:00 pm and Saturday morning at 9:00 am. Cost is \$3.00 per class.

## God Is So Good

A few Sundays ago someone left an envelope on my director's stand in the choir room. After everyone had gone, I looked at the envelope...the only identification on it was my name, typewritten. Inside there was cash! Great for helping pay bills! But with no donor identified, who was I going to thank? How was I going to show my gratitude?

There are a several homeless people I have come to know over the past few years. Some of their stories I know, and I know they are not "hustlers" just trying to get money for alcohol or drugs. To these few, I often give a sandwich, or snacks which I keep in my truck.

As a way of saying "thank you" to God and to my anonymous donor, I resolved to buy a meal for the homeless ones I know who are honestly trying to get by. Over the course of two weeks I ran across five of them, told them the story of my reason for sharing, and bought them a meal. One asked if I could pay for him to spend the night in the Union Mission so he would have a bed to sleep in. One had a coupon and got two meals for the price of one. Every one of them was grateful for the food, and eager to hear my story.

This experience blessed me. I thank God for someone who made it possible for me to give others a full meal and share with them my story of God's goodness. I have been truly blessed. I AM truly blessed.

Jim Lovelace

## **St. Mark's United Methodist Men**

Colonel Mike Ryall, Commander of the Ridgeway Station of the Memphis Police Department (3840 Ridgeway) will be our guest speaker on July 15. Colonel Ryall will discuss the "Community Outreach Program (C.O.P), a proactive initiative developed by the Memphis Police Department, to improve the quality of life of citizens and reduce juvenile violence, utilizing crime prevention techniques through identification, enforcement and education within the community."



Dinner starts at 6:30 PM and Colonel Ryall will speak at 7:00 PM. Be sure to make your reservations soon.

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With many thanks and much appreciation I would like to thank you all for your prayers. The surgery went well; I still have my jaw bone and teeth. The doctor said that it wasn't as bad as they thought. I'm feeling better as the days go by. Now I just need to take it easy, because I have chemo coming around. Thank you again for everything. I'll see you soon.

Love you all,  
Susan Britt

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## **St. Mark's United Methodist Women**

The UMW held their quarterly meeting June 17th in Fields Hall. Thanks to all the ladies who attended. We discussed our plans for Vacation Bible School which was held the following week. Several of our members assisted including the chairperson, Beverly Hardin. Thanks to all of the help from all church members, the VBS was a huge success. We also discussed our continued support of Reelfoot Rural Ministries with a possible trip there in the fall, and our continued support of The Golden Cross welcome baskets. Our next big project will be the 35th Anniversary Celebration in September. The next quarterly meeting will be held Wednesday, September 3rd at 4:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. We will NOT have our monthly first Sunday luncheon in July, but will continue with the next one in August. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Barbara Jenkins 901752-1128 or [jenkinsba3@gmail.com](mailto:jenkinsba3@gmail.com).

August 3: First Sunday Luncheon  
September 3: Quarterly UMW Meeting  
September 7: First Sunday Luncheon

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## **Golden Cross Senior Ministry**

St. Mark's Friends,

Your continued love and support of the Golden Cross ministry is simply heartwarming. Over 150 "thank you's" for the adorably creative, fun, and festive 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration goodies made and donated to the residents who call a Wesley living community home. The smiles on their faces and the joy in their hearts will speak volumes. We are grateful for all you do to support Golden Cross. Every shipment of Welcome Baskets is a welcomed and needed gift. We are thrilled to extend the baskets to all 29 Wesley Living Communities. Our hearts are full with appreciation.

Kristi Henson Owens  
Golden Cross Ministry

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Welcome to our newest member!

Jane Mazer  
3982 Muirfield Drive  
Memphis, TN 38125

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## **A Report on our Wesley Senior Ministry Project**

We have now given a total of **205** baskets to new residents at the Wesley Senior Communities! Thank you! Thank you!

We are working on making up Bingo Baskets for the communities featuring donated items from our congregation. Items like soaps, lotions (those unused items from hotel stays), mugs, various and sundry items collecting in cabinets and drawers that are good, but have not been used, small gift bags/baskets are all welcome donations to be used for this project!

On a far larger note, we have even received furniture items plus those things that make a room more of a "home." If you have things you think a senior could use as they furnish their place, give me a call and if we can use the donation we'll arrange a pick up.

Sherry Raggett  
499-1538

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# July 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:30-8p Cub Scouts	2 7:00a Emmaus	3 6:00p Yoga Class	4	5 9:00a Yoga Class
6 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a 1st Sun Lunch	7 6-7p NA2 6-7:30p Boy Scouts	8 6:30-8p Cub Scouts	9 7:00a Emmaus	10 6:00p Yoga Class	11	12 9:00a Yoga Class
13 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service	14 6-7p NA2 6-7:30p Boy Scouts	15 <b>6:30p UMM Meeting</b>	16 7:00a Emmaus	17 6:00p Yoga Class	18	19 9:00a Yoga Class
20 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service	21 6-7p NA2 6-7:30p Boy Scouts	22 6:30-8p Cub Scouts	23 7:00a Emmaus  <b>6:00p Finance Committee</b>	24 6:00p Yoga Class	25	26 9:00a Yoga Class
27 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service	28 6-7p NA2 6-7:30p Boy Scouts	29 6:30-8p Cub Scouts	30 7:00a Emmaus  <b>6:00p Church Council</b>	31 6:00p Yoga Class		



**Bishop Robert Schnase will join Bishop Bill McAlilly** to discuss Schnase's 2014 book:

*Seven Levers: Missional Strategies for Conferences.*

*We must pry loose the many 'stuck' places in our connectional system, so that the church structure supports positive movement. Meaningful, sustainable, significant change in the Church must start with our bishops, district superintendents and conferences. Bishop Schnase writes from experience and offers seven strategies (levers) to get things moving again.*

**WHO:** all laity and clergy

**WHEN:** Saturday, Aug. 23, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch included with registration.

**WHERE:** [Collierville UMC](#), 454 W. Poplar Ave., Collierville, Tenn.

**COST:** \$10 per person

Questions: Rev. Tom Hazelwood, Director of Connectional Ministries - [thazelwood@memphis-umc.org](mailto:thazelwood@memphis-umc.org); 731-664-8480