

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”



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Rev. Dr. Bradley Gabriel

Dear Brothers and Sisters on the Way,

The following is a portion of an article by Jonathan K. Dodson that I find to have some solid wisdom for us as we seek to be part of expanding the kingdom of God by growing St. Mark's UMC. Why does so much of our evangelism seem to bear no fruit?

1. It isn't done in grace for each person.”

“Have you ever been on the other end of an evangelistic project? Perhaps from a Jehovah's Witness or Mormon at your door. Or a pushy pluralist at work? You don't feel loved; you feel used, like a pressure sale. Paul says “know how you ought to answer each person.” This means that most of your gospel explanations will be different, not canned. It also implies a listening evangelism. How can we know how to respond to each person if we don't know each person?”

2. Our evangelism is foolish.

Believable evangelism is wise evangelism. “Wisdom possesses more than knowledge; it expresses knowledge through understanding. It considers life circumstances and applies knowledge with skill. Another word for this is love. Love is inefficient. It slows down long enough to understand people and their objections to the gospel. Love recognizes people are complex, and meets them in their need: suffering, despair, indifference, cynicism, confusion.... Rehearsing a memorized fact, “Jesus died on the cross for your sins,” isn't walking in wisdom. Many people don't know what we mean when we say “Jesus,” “sin” or “cross.” While much of America still has cultural memory of these things, they are often misunderstood and confused with “moral teacher,” “be good” and “irrelevant suffering.” We have to slow down long enough to explore what they mean, and why they have trouble with these words and concepts. Often they are tied to some kind of pain.

We need to explain these important truths (and more), not simply assert them. When we discerningly separate cultural misunderstanding from a true understanding of the gospel, we move forward in wisdom. But getting to that point typically doesn't happen overnight. We need to see evangelism as a long-term endeavor... Slow down and practice listening and love. Most conversions are not the result of a single, point-in-time conversation, but the culmination of a personal process that includes doubt, reflection, gospel witness, love and the work of the Holy Spirit. And remember, don't put pressure on yourself; conversion is in God's hands. We just get to share the incomparable news of Jesus. In sum, *how* you communicate the gospel matters.

Grace for the Way,

Brad

Happy Birthday!



Margie Collins	11/08
Shepherd Harkness	11/15
Leland Brown	11/17
Cassidy Carson	11/17
Barbara Jenkins	11/17
Beverly Hardin	11/18
Sharon Brown	11/20
Jean Nabers	11/24
Eddie Johnson	11/25

Visitors in October

Hazel Conar	Reilly Burge
Knox Pettinger	Tom Campbell
Jim Bullifin	Harold Gwatney
Ricky & Linda Reid	Shirley Allcock
Pearleye Harkness	Liza Southerton
Pat Levine	Diana Stein
Kevin, Anna, Grace, & Vivian Rushing	

October Average Attendance

Sunday School	16
Morning Worship	69

Communitywide Thanksgiving Service



St. Mark's, Capleville, and Crossroads United Methodist Churches will come together on Tuesday, November 25th at 7:00 p.m. to celebrate Thanksgiving in service and song.

We will meet at Capleville UMC, located at 4725 Riverdale Road. Our pastor, Brad Gabriel will be delivering the message that evening.

Hanging of the Greens



Mark your calendars! We will gather on Saturday, November 29th beginning at 10:00 am to decorate our buildings as we prepare for the Advent Season. All are welcome to come, decorate, fellowship, and have some fun.



The family of Rev. Ronnie Ward is in our thoughts and prayers as we mourn the sudden death of Ronnie earlier in October. Ronnie faithfully served as pastor at St. Mark's before his retirement in June 2012.

Please join us in prayers for the family of Jewell Raggett (Tom & Sherry Raggett) as they go through a time of grief

and loss with the death of Tom's mother.

Memorial Gifts Received

In Memory of: Susan Sisk
Given by Dianne Hudnall

In Memory of: Rev. Ronnie Ward
Given by Scarlett Rose

In Memory of: Jewel Raggett
Given by Carolyn J. Rogers

September 21, 2014



To the Members of St. Mark's,

Charles and I want to thank you for a wonderful night of fellowship, music, wonderful food, inspiration and fun! What a joy to enjoy these things with friends and old friends as well. Thank you again for a nearly perfect evening and know that you people at St. Mark's will always hold a special place in our hearts

Charles and Barbara Schuette

November Communion Offering

Retired Clergy Fund

Through our commitment to paying our portion of the general church's budget, St. Mark's supports the Retired Clergy Fund. For 2014 our direct retirement related apportionments total is \$5,080. Our second mile communion offering in November will go toward meeting this worthy and important ministry as it helps support our retired clergy and surviving spouses.

St. Mark's United Methodist Women

The next quarterly meeting of the UMW will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 10:00 a.m. All ladies of the church are invited and urged to attend. We will be dispersing money raised throughout the year to our local missions. Another date to put on your calendar is the annual UMW Christmas party which will be held on Saturday, Dec. 6th at 11:30 a.m. This special time of fellowship will be held at a local restaurant to be named later. Please don't forget our ongoing projects: the First Sunday luncheons, the Food Pantry, and The Golden Cross baskets! If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact Barbara Jenkins at: (901) 752-1128 or jenkinsba3@gmail.com.

First Sunday Luncheon - Nov. 2
Quarterly Meeting - Nov. 11
Christmas Party - Dec. 6
First Sunday Luncheon - Dec. 7

Golden Cross News



Faithful Friends,
What a beautiful blessing you all are to Golden Cross and the senior residents we serve. Your continued love and support of our mission is heartwarming. The move in kit you provided found a home with a resident in Humboldt, TN. I received a call from the manager who was in tears because of the love, kindness, and generosity others show to her residents who face daily struggles. We all thank you for being the amazing people you are.

Kristi H. Owens
Golden Cross Ministries

Capleville Community Food Pantry



Food Pantry Grocery Cart

Thank you to everyone at St. Mark's that made our Food Bank Grocery Cart over flow! Seven members of our congregation delivered, stocked shelves, and filled orders on Tuesday, October 28th at the Capleville Community Food Pantry. Thanks!!

St. Mark's United Methodist Men

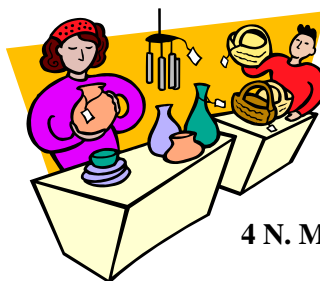
Monthly Dinner Meeting



Tuesday
November 18, 2014

6:30 p.m.
Fields Hall

The *Holiday Season* is approaching and the Methodist Men of St. Mark's will have available **pecans** to meet your cooking and entertaining needs! Make plans to buy your pecans from us and help support this fundraising effort!



Craft Fair

Mullins United Methodist
Church

4 N. Mendenhall (At Walnut Grove)

Saturday, November 8th

9am – 4pm

Thanksgiving

An opportunity for special giving will be given to all who worship with us. Special Thanksgiving envelopes will be placed in the pews November 16 and November 23rd. Our Thanksgiving Offering will be designated for two things: ½ to our Building & Grounds Maintenance and ½ to Ministry Beyond Our Buildings.

Visit our website at

www.stmarksmemphis.org



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

November 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a 1 st Sun Lunch followed by Choir Practice	3 6-7p NA Meeting 6-7:30p Boy Scouts 6:30-8p Cub Scouts	4 6:00-8p Weight Watchers	5 7:00a Emmaus 6:00p Fellowship Dinner 6:30p Charge Conference	6 10:00a Ladies Bible Study 6:00p Yoga	7	1 9:00a Yoga 8 9:00a Yoga
9 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Choir Practice	10 6-7p NA Meeting 6-7:30p Boy Scouts 6:30-8p Cub Scouts	11 6:00-8p Weight Watchers	12 7:00a Emmaus 6:00p Fellowship Dinner Followed by Bible Study at 6:30p	13 10:00a Ladies Bible Study 6:00p Yoga	14	15 9:00a Yoga
16 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Choir Practice Thanksgiving Offering	17 6-7p NA Meeting 6-7:30p Boy Scouts 6:30-8p Cub Scouts	18 6:00-8p Weight Watchers 6:30p UMM Meeting	19 7:00a Emmaus 6:00p Fellowship Dinner Followed by Bible Study at 6:30p	20 No Ladies Bible Study 6:00p Yoga	21	22 9:00a Yoga
23 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Choir Practice Thanksgiving Offering	24 6-7p NA Meeting 6-7:30p Boy Scouts 6:30-8p Cub Scouts	25 6:00-8p Weight Watchers 7:00p Community Thanksgiving Service @ Capleville UMC	26 7:00a Emmaus 6:00p Fellowship Dinner Followed by Bible Study at 6:30p	27 No Ladies Bible Study 6:00p Yoga	28	29 9:00a Yoga 10:00a Decorating in Preparation of the Advent Season – All are welcome!
30 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Choir Practice						