



St. Mark's Remarks

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

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Rev. Jolinne Downey, pastor



Members of Cub Scout Pack 157 try their hand at archery at the Cub Scout Shoot-o-Ree held this month in Eudora, MS.

Scouting news

Camping @ Camp Currier in Eudora, MS
Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) camp at Camp Currier. More information about this training can be found here: http://www.scouting.org/training/pdf/IOLS_33640_2016.pdf.

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Possibilities to ponder

After carefully reviewing the financial and membership records of St. Mark's UMC, it seems clear that we can no longer afford a full-time elder to serve as pastor. However, our church is a small but vibrant congregation that is active in ministry and needs the supervision of a qualified minister. Fortunately, the connectionalism of The United Methodist Church provides each congregation with a number of appointment options. In some cases, a full-time elder can be asked to serve more than one congregation. This is called a pastoral charge or circuit. Each congregation on the charge operates independently, and the pastor divides his/her time between the churches. Salary and other pastoral expenses are divided among the churches on the charge, and oversight is provided by a charge-wide Staff-Parish Relations Committee. But other options are also available to St. Mark's.

The Wesleyan Movement has always called upon unordained persons for preaching and spiritual leadership. When Methodism first came to America, there was no such thing as trained clergy, unless they came from Europe. There were no seminaries in the New World. Therefore, early Methodist leaders recruited fervent men and women who were not ordained to preach the Word, tend the flock, and start new churches. Ever since then, unordained ministers known as Local Pastors have been an integral part of the Methodist Movement and The United Methodist Church. Local pastors are not ordained but are licensed to preach and conduct

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November Birthdays

Jane Mazer	11/1	Margie Collins	11/8
Shepherd Harkness	11/15	Leland Brown	11/17
Cassidy Carson	11/17	Barbara Jenkins	11/17
Beverly Hardin	11/18	Jean Nabers	11/24
Eddie Johnson	11/25	CJ Carson	11/27

Visitors Last Month

Robert Culpepper	Garry Puck
Ann Roberts	Callie Helton
Shealynn Helton	



United Methodist Men

There will not be a UMM Dinner in November due to Thanksgiving. Plan to attend the Christmas Dinner in December, date to be announced. The pecans should arrive the first week in November in time for your holiday baking!
Terry B. Draughon

United Methodist Women

Giving Thanks for our UMW! We met last month and completed our annual distribution of funds and scheduled our activities for the rest of this year and the beginning of next year. The group also met last month at a District UMW event at Raleigh UMC. We sold jewelry for Golden Cross, and Sherry Raggett and Bonnie Carter created a display showing events and activities along with pictures. I want to say THANK YOU to our UMW for honoring me with this year's Special Mission Recognition. First Sunday lunch will be November 5th! Hope to see you then!
Grace and Peace, Love and Thanksgiving!
Leesa Henderson, UMW President



Food Pantry Cart

Please open your hearts and help fill the St. Mark's grocery cart to help those in need!
ITEMS ESPECIALLY NEEDED: Jelly, Peanut Butter, Soup, Muffin Mix, Dried beans, Rice.

We will be glad to shop for you! Just give your donation to Sherry, Mary Jane, Bonnie or Beverly.

Our annual Thanksgiving service with CrossRoads and Capleville UM churches, who are our partners in the Food Pantry ministry, will be held at Capleville on Tuesday, Nov. 21, at 7 p.m. Pastor Jo will be preaching so please make plans to attend.

In Christ,

Your St. Mark's Pantry Volunteers

Golden Cross Ministry

1. Bottles & Corks:

Due to your amazing response, no more bottles or corks will be needed. We received corks and bottles galore!! The Halloween, Fall, & Christmas creatures have been finished and are ready for sale.

2. Clothing & Other Supplies:

If you have items to be donated, please call Sherry before placing them in the store room at 489-1538.

*Exceptions: Travel size shampoo, lotion, etc.

Thank You!

Thank you to all who helped and participated in Trunk or Treat. This event is an important ministry for our neighborhood. Parents and children enjoy celebrating Halloween in a safe, protected and FUN environment. It takes many people to make this happen, and everyone's participation is greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU!!

Deck the Halls

Mark your calendars! We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Saturday, December 2, at 10:00 a.m. We need all the help we can get, and a few strong men to move the tree and hang the wreath. This is always a fun time, so be sure to come and help out!!

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The parents will learn different skills that they can help assist the boys with these skills in different patrols. The boys will learn different skills in different patrols. The event begins on Friday, November 3rd, at 6p.m. through Saturday, November 4th, ending around 7p.m. Our Troop will continue camping into Sunday, November 5th.

Friday, November 3, 2017-Sunday, November 5, 2017. NOTE: We will need at least two (2) parents to accompany the scouts on this camping trip.

2018 Merit Badge College @ Delta State University, Cleveland, MS (Union Bldg) Saturday, January 6, 2018, from 8:00a.m.-4:00p.m. Cost: \$25.00 and the registration opened on October 1, 2017; Leaders & Family members \$8.00 for lunch which is optional. Register through Doublenot at: WWW.chickasaw.org. The classes being offered are: Art, Architecture, Auto Maintenance, Aviation, Chemistry, Citizenship in Nation, Citizenship in World, Coin Collecting, Crime Prevention, Electricity, Emergency Prep, Engineering, Environmental Science, Fire Safety, Geocaching/Orienteering, Graphic Art, Law, Life Saving, Medicine, Metal Works/Welding, Music, plus more.

Some Merit Badges have pre-requisites which should be completed prior to attending class.

November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:00p Bible Study	2 10:00a Ladies Bible Study 6:00p Yoga	3	4 9:00a Yoga
5 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service Communion to Food Pantry First Sunday Lunch Church Council Meeting	6 6-9p Scouts	7 6:00p Yoga 7:15p Cub Scouts	8 6:00p Bible Study	9 10:00a Ladies Bible Study 6:00p Yoga	10	11 9:00a Yoga 2-5:00p Benefit Concert
12 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Choir Practice 2:00p Heritage Worship	13 6-9:00p Scouts	14 6:00p Yoga 7:15p Cub Scouts	15 6:00p Bible Study	16 9 10:00a Ladies Bible Study 6:00p Yoga	17	18 9:00a Yoga
19 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Choir Practice 5:00p Charge Conference at Emmanuel	20 6-9:00p Scouts	21 11-1p Food Pantry 7:00p Thanksgiving Service at Capleville UMC 6:00p Yoga 7:15p Cub	22	23 Happy Thanksgiving 	24	25 9:00a Yoga
26 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Choir Practice	27 6-9:00p Scouts	28 6:00p Yoga 7:15p Cub Scouts	29 6:00p Bible Study	30 10:00a Ladies Bibles Study 6:00p Yoga		

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worship and perform the duties of a pastor. Ronnie Ward, who served St. Mark's faithfully from 2002-2012, was a full-time local pastor. So, as you know, a local pastor performs the usual duties of a pastor, including preaching and teaching; leading in worship and liturgy; receiving new members; performing the sacraments of baptism and The Lord's Supper; and performing the services of marriage, burial, and confirmation. Each local pastor has been examined and recommended by the district committee on ordained ministry, and each is reviewed annually by the district committee. Basic training is provided by the conference's licensing school, and Course of Study or seminary training are required to maintain a local pastor's license. Local pastors can be appointed to serve either full time or part time. Some part-time local pastors also work in vocations outside of the church. These are called bi-vocational pastors. In some instances, ordained elders may also serve as bi-vocational pastors. Students enrolled as pre-theological or theological students in a college, university, or school of theology may be appointed as part-time or full-time local pastors.

Another option that may be available to St. Mark's is to serve as the host site for a new church start. If the bishop and cabinet of the Memphis Annual Conference determine that a new ministry in this community is feasible, a pastor could be appointed to the new church start. The Conference would provide funds to start the new ministry, including that pastor's salary. While this would not reduce pastoral expenses for St. Mark's, the new church start would share financial responsibility for maintaining the building and grounds of St. Mark's.

Our District Superintendent would like the people of St. Mark's to prayerfully consider our mission and ministry and to offer some guidance as to what type of pastoral appointment we believe will help us fulfill our calling. So I hope you will study this information and come to our council meeting on November 5 prepared to discuss the possibilities for our future. Please keep in mind that no changes in pastoral leadership are expected here at St. Mark's until the end of June 2018. I am here and am excited to be here serving among you for as long as God ordains it. Of course, change is always a little unsettling, especially when we do not know for sure what is coming, but let us claim the promise that God made to his people in Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Grace & Peace & Joy!

Pastor Jo

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