



St. Mark's Remarks

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

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Rev. Jolinne Downey, pastor

Pastor's report on the state of our church

It has been a challenging year. Death and disease have taken a toll on us individually and collectively. We are grieving. Normal life changes have impacted us, and conflicts outside the walls of St. Mark's have shaken our confidence in the Church. Worship attendance is down, and so is giving.

AND YET we remain debt free.

AND we have about \$100,000 in the bank.

AND we successfully launched a new reading program for preschoolers.

AND we assembled 10 flood buckets for local victims of spring floods.

AND we collected food for the pantry at Capleville UMC.

AND we sent a team to distribute food each month at the Capleville pantry.

AND we sponsor a thriving Boy Scout troop and Cub Scout program.

AND we have a UM Men's group that meets monthly for dinner and fellowship.

AND we have a UM Women's group that meets quarterly for missions and spiritual growth.

AND we have an adult chancel choir that leads us in worship through music each week.

AND we continue to be one of the largest supporters of the Golden Cross Ministry, providing welcome baskets and move-in kits as well as sponsoring holiday gatherings at Wesley Graceland Gardens.

AND we introduced a Blue Christmas service for those who struggle with the holidays.

AND we produced an Advent Devotional.

AND we prayed for 15 dogs and their human families at a Blessing of the Animals.

AND we started a Cancer Support Facebook Group.

AND we celebrated with worship World Communion Sunday, Children's Sabbath, Blue Sunday to support local law enforcement, Scout Sunday, Pentecost, Easter, Maundy Thursday, Baptism of the Lord, Advent, and other special moments.

AND we have two mid-week Bible studies for adults.

AND we hosted a concert by the Baddour Center Miracles.

AND we took up special offerings for Grace Place, World Hunger, Lakeshore United Methodist Assembly, Golden Cross, the 2016 Memphis Annual Conference mission project, World Service Fund, the American Cancer Society, the Ministerial Education Fund, and World Communion.

Cont'd on page 3

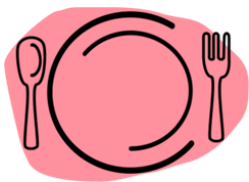
October Birthdays

Jane Mazer	11/01	Shepherd Harkness	11/15
Leland Brown	11/17	Barbara Jenkins	11/17
Beverly Hardin	11/18	Sharon Brown	11/20
Jean Nabers	11/24	Eddie Johnson	11/25

Visitors Last Month

Bitsy Pou	Sean Ye
Sierra Howard	Karla McKinnon
Katie Swofford	Amanda Holder

United Methodist Men



No meeting in November!

The UMM will not be meeting in November due to Thanksgiving. The Christmas Dinner will be December 13th, when all are welcome, and the single ladies of

the church eat free. The Pecans should be in by the second Sunday in November at \$10.00 a bag.

Terry B. Draughon

United Methodist Women

While we should be giving thanks each day, every month, this is the month we celebrate Thanksgiving! In October, UMW provided the hot dog supper for Trunk or Treat. Sunday, November 6th will be our First Sunday Lunch and our Fall Fundraiser. Please plan to attend both—and to have a good time and support your UMW. The church will be hosting the 4th Joint Thanksgiving Service with Crossroads and Capleville. UMW will be coordinating the refreshments after the service. Our Christmas lunch will be Saturday, December 3rd at 11:30 a.m. at the beautiful home of Carol Johnson in Collierville. All Ladies of the church are invited! Carol will provide the drinks and each lady is asked to bring a dish to share. We will NOT be exchanging gifts—just good food and great fellowship! Please plan to attend. We will be having a Chili Fundraiser on Sunday, January 15th. We did this for the first time last year and everyone enjoyed it, and asked that we do it again!

Grace, Peace, and Giving Thanks for each of you!
Sheila and Shelly

Communitywide Thanksgiving Service



St. Mark's is hosting this year's Thanksgiving Service Tuesday, November 22nd, at 7:00 p.m. Please try to attend. As always, this is held in conjunction with

Capleville and Crossroads United Methodist churches.

Golden Cross

As the season changes, don't forget to give your coats & jackets to Golden Cross. Please hang them on the clothes rack in the Fields Hall Golden Cross room. When traveling: Remember to save your hotel shampoo, conditioner, lotion, coffee packs, etc. for our Golden Cross BINGO baskets.

Thank you, Sherry Raggett

Hanging of the Greens



It will soon be time to deck the halls for the holidays. Men and women are needed on Saturday, November 26, at 10:00 a.m. to put up our Christmas tree and other decorations. The more the merrier! And the lighter and the faster the work will go. Then we will begin the Advent season with a Hanging of the Greens service of worship on Sunday, November 27, at 10 a.m.

Poinsettias

Poinsettia order forms will be in your Sunday Bulletin later this month. Be sure to fill them out and return them to the church office as soon as possible so that we may get a correct order.

Christmas train

A Christmas Train display will ride into St. Mark's on Saturday, December 10, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Cliff Downey will provide the train layout. Others are invited to add on other Christmas delights such as caroling, food, crafts, stories, etc. And it sure would be nice if kids could get a chance to visit with Santa! The UM Men, UM Women and Boy Scouts are already talking about ideas. It would be great to get everyone involved. We pray it will be a great time of fun and fellowship that will draw new people to our church

Pastor's report Cont'd from page 1

AND we reached out to our community with an Easter Egg Hunt, Trunk or Treat, a Christmas cantata, Easter Sunrise service, Easter cantata, and other activities.

AND we were nurtured in faith by Sunday School classes and art displays in the narthex.

AND we have stood together with one another through many life challenges.

BECAUSE we are a small church with a great big heart. We love the Lord, and we love serving the Lord together. Our greatest asset always has been and continues to be our members. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 12:12-21, 26-27 that the Church is a body with many members, and each member has a different AND vital role to play in the work of the Church. We need each other. God has blessed St. Mark's with a wonderfully gifted group of individuals who have differing gifts and who work together very well. That is a great blessing

for which we can all give thanks.

Pastor Jo

November 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:00p Yoga 6-8:00p Weight Watchers 7:15p Cub Scouts	2 6:00p Bible Study	3 9:00a Reading Team 10:15a Ladies Bible Study 6:00p Yoga	4	5 9:00a Yoga
6 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a First Sunday Lunch followed by Choir Practice Holy Communion to Food Pantry 2:00p Charge Conf.	7 6:00p Cancer Support Group 6-9:00p Scouts	8 6:00p Yoga 6-8:00p Weight Watchers 7:15p Cub Scouts	9 6:00p Bible Study	10 9:00a Reading Team 10:15a Ladies Bible Study 10:00a Kitchen Clean Up 6:00p Yoga	11	12 9:00a Yoga
13 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Choir Practice Veterans Day Observed 2:00p Finance Committee Meeting	14 6:00p Cancer Support Group 6-9:00p Scouts	15 6:00p Yoga 6-8:00p Weight Watchers 7:15p Cub Scouts	16 6:00p Bible Study	17 9:00a Reading Team 10:15a Ladies Bible Study 6:00p Yoga	18	19 9:00a Yoga
20 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Choir Practice	21 6:00p Cancer Support Group 6-9:00p Scouts	22 7:00p Thanksgiving Service	23	24 Thanksgiving	25	26 9:00a Yoga 10:00a Deck the Halls
27 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Choir Practice Hanging of the Greens	28 6:00p Cancer Support Group 6-9:00p Scouts	29	30			

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