

THE TOWER NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 166. NUMBER 2

LOVE GOD, LOVE NEIGHBOR, CHANGE THE WORLD JANUARY 17, 2020

The Best of All



Members of a diverse group of bishops and other United Methodist leaders gather for a group photo in Washington after reaching agreement on a proposal that would maintain The United Methodist Church but allow traditionalist congregations to separate into a new denomination.

If you follow the news media, then you know a diverse group of sixteen United Methodist leaders recently negotiated a proposed protocol (plan) to essentially separate our denomination in a way that allows all parties to continue in ministry for Jesus Christ, according to conscience. This plan, along with others, will be considered at the next General Conference to be held in Minneapolis, May 5-15. While I don't like words like "divorce" or "division" and I prefer "marriages" that last a lifetime, still God is able to work miraculous things in challenging circumstances. This just may be one of those moments.

The United Methodist Church as we know it today is the result of splits and schisms that have taken place over a period of more than 200 years. We are also heirs of the Protestant Reformation that created a divide in the Roman Catholic Church more than 500 years ago. So, in a very real sense, this is nothing new. Like issues the church has faced in the past including slavery, women's rights and racial justice, the issue of full inclusion into Christ's church for our LGBTQIA family members and friends has been of keen interest for Methodists who have always proclaimed the good news that Jesus Christ died and rose for all - not just some, but ALL.

I know you have great concerns about the future. However, at this point, I would simply encourage you to read all relevant material related to this issue, visit with friends on both sides of the theological and philosophical aisle and pray unceasingly! At some point in the future, Pulaski Heights may be required to make important decisions related to this issue, but not now.

For ten years, I have been both honored and humbled to serve as your senior pastor, and I will continue do so through the upcoming General Conference in Minneapolis, as well as through the end of the 2020 Arkansas Annual Conference in Hot Springs. If you would like for me to visit with your Sunday school class or small group about these issues, I would be happy to do so. Simply contact my personal assistant, Cindy Bowden cbowden@phumc.com, and she will make arrangements.

In challenging times like these, I draw personal strength from the comforting words of scripture, as well as from the deathbed words of Methodist founder John Wesley, "The best of all, God is with us." And God IS with us—truly with us!

Thanks be to God!

Britt Skarda Senior Pastor

WORSHIP WITH US

January 17 & 19

STRANGER THINGS: WHEN THE WORDS OF JESUS DON'T MAKE SENSE

"Hate Your Father and Mother" Luke 14:25-33



Worship Services

Friday, January 17, 6 p.m. - Sanctuary · Rev. Britt Skarda

Sunday, January 19, 9 & 11 a.m.

Sanctuary · Rev. Britt Skarda

New Heights · Rev. Betsy Singleton Snyder

Sunday, January 19, 9:30 a.m. - St. Luke Campus Rev. Andrea' Cummings

Food Pantry In Need of Donations

Due to linking the diaper bank distribution day with the food pantry, the ministry could use some help. We have two wooden bins (outside Wesley Hall and in the Gathering Hall) at the church that you can drop off food anytime during the week and on Sunday. The food pantry is open the first Wednesday of each month from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.



COMING UP @ PHUMC



JANUARY PRIMETIMERS AND FRIENDS LUNCHEON

Thursday, January 23 11:30 a.m. in Great Hall

Entertainment will be by the Mount St. Mary's Concert Belles. Cost for lunch is \$8 and reservations are needed by noon Tuesday, January 21. Call the church to RSVP!



NEW WEEKLY BOOK CLUB

Meets Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. starting Feb. 4 in room C239.

Led by Rev. Vic Nixon. The focus of the club will be conception and practice of faith in God from a variety of perspectives – ancient, early church, Reformation and modern. The first book selection will be *Honest to God* by John A.T. Robinson. Call the church to RSVP!



BOARD OF STEWARDS MEETING

Monday, February 10 5:45 pm Dinner, 6:00 pm Meeting Wesley Hall

Please call the church to RSVP!





WOMEN'S MINISTRY DECLUTTERING: INSIDE & OUT

2020 is the year of decluttering, and there's still room to join us! January was our first meeting of our new women's ministry "Decluttering: Inside and Out." Over 60 women met to explore ways to declutter their physical surroundings as well as their minds and souls. **The next meeting will be on Sunday, February 2 at noon!**



In Memory Of

Anna Louise Adamson by Arline Jackson Ernest Edward Adamson by Arline Jackson Lorna Bailey by Amber Read-Zamilpa Alice & Hal Beard by Mary Ruth Price Brown

Jacque Briley by Nancy & Lee Archer **Mauleene Broadwater** by Sue Ellen & Danny Wilkerson

Bess Hester Campbell by George Campbell

Judy Emmet Campbell by George Campbell

Ted Crabtree by Bud & Joy Dillahunty
Doug Detrick by Susan Detrick
Floy Jean Dietz by Fred & Kathie Osborne
E. Gardner Dietz by Kearney Dietz
Floy Jean Dietz by Kearney Dietz
Floy Jean Dietz by Dee & Susan Dietz
Guy Dillahunty by Bud & Joy Dillahunty
Mary Kay East by Susanne McGee
Imogene Ellison by Carole Ann Provin
Lloyd Fulton by Bud & Joy Dillahunty
Anne Hansen by BFF

Anne Hansen by Lynn & Wayne Lindsey **Dr. Anne Hansen** by Mary Ruth Price Brown

Johnnie Holcomb by Kathryn Griffin Chris Hunter by Pam Hunter Martha Sue Jefferies by Jo Knight Stephen A. Knoll by Richard Knoll Wilma G. Knoll by Richard Knoll Marian Lacey by Louise & Andre Rollefson Vadena Lunsford by Bev & Buddy Villines Tom McBee by Mary Catherine & Rusty Armstrong

Elsie Mears-Bailey by Joann Martin Robert Mitcham by Taylor, Brooke, Harper, McColl, & Blair Mitcham

JeJo Mobley by Bev & Buddy Villines **Jane Virginia Osborne** by Fred & Kathie Osborne

Carol Ann Penick by Bud & Joy Dillahunty Ricky Joe Platt by Larry & Cecile Kimmer Michael Rail by Sue Ellen & Danny Wilkerson Cancer Friends
Honor and Memorials



Rev. Charles E. Read by Amber Read-Zamilpa

Marian Reed by Louise & Andre Rollefson John Roberts by Elaine McNiece John Roberts by Mary Ruth Price Brown John Roberts by Larry & Cecile Kimmer Dan Ross by Cynthia Buehling Cathy Sanders by Shari Sanders Dr. Tom Smith by Mary Ruth Price Brown Alice Rumph Smith by Bev & Buddy Villines

Tommye Wright Sr. by Bobbie Wright

In Honor Of

Jo Adcock by Bud & Joy Dillahunty Argue Class Survisors by Bev & Buddy Villines

Bill Arthurs by Jane Arthurs **George Campbell** by Elaine McNiece **George Campbell** by Joann Martin **Sarah Clem** by Christian, Sadie & Scarlett Harris

Ann Currie by Doe
Pam Cyphers by Elaine McNiece
Kearney Dietz by George Campbell
Bud Dillahunty by Joy Dillahunty
Bud Dillahunty by Mary Lou Billingsley
Louise Fox by Elaine McNiece
Louise Fox by Mary Boyce

Mary Garay by Louise & Andre Rollefson Will Griffin by Kathryn Griffin Jack & Mary Lou Halford by Mary Ruth

Price Brown **Dr. Jeff Hampton** by Mary Ruth Price

Brown **Dr. Jeff Hampton** by Bud & Joy Dillahunty **Dr. Jeff Hampton** by Mary Lou Billingsley

Dr. Jeff Hampton by Mary Lou Billingsley **Jeane Harris** by Christian, Sarah, Sadie & Scarlett Harris

Rachel Hawkins by Richard & Carolyn Johnson

Richard Johnson by Carolyn Johnson Linda Jones by Bud & Joy Dillahunty Jo Ann Knight by Dorothy Morey Nikki Lawson by Kathryn Griffin Rev. Lynn Lindsey by Mary Ruth Price Brown

Linda Machen by Mary Boyce Johnny McGraw by The Pond Family Nancy McGraw by The Pond Family Vic & Freddie Nixon by Lynn & Wayne Lindsey

Blake Pond by The Pond Family **Robbie Pond** by The Pond Family **Rev. Belinda Price** by Mary Ruth Price Brown

Mary Ruth Price-Brown by Lynn & Wayne Lindsey

Carole Ann Provin by Bud & Joy Dillahunty

Greg Provin by Carole Ann Provin **Yifei Provin** by Carole Ann Provin **Karen McNiece Redwine** by Elaine McNiece

Dan Robinson by Mary Ruth Price Brown Bill Ross by Cynthia Buehling Ed Ross by Cynthia Buehling Roundtable Class by Bud & Joy Dillahunty Cheryl Sessions by Jennifer, Mike, Alex, Claire, Robert & Beth Shannon

Wanda L. Smith by Rae Lena Linda Story by Mary Boyce Linda Todd by Dorothy Morey

Beverly Villines by Mary Ruth Price Brown **Joe Woods** by Elaine McNiece

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church 4823 Woodlawn Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #738 LITTLE ROCK, AR

10:10-10:50 am

All Things Considered, M314 (all ages) **Argue** Named for Dr. Argue M318 (ages 45+) **Beatitudes**, M316 (ages 30-45+) Coffee Talk, M313 (women all ages) Deeper Connections, D371 (ages 20s-30s) Drop-In Class, Wesley Hall Fathomers, C235 (ages 55+) Foundations, C236 (couples ages 20s-40s) G.I.F.T. Class, M308 (all ages) **Journey**, D366 (ages 20s-40s) Koinonia Dialogue, C135 (ages 50+) Newton Good News, M101 (ages 50+) Pairs and Spares, D277 East Pop-Up Class, M304 (all ages) Roundtable, M312 (ages 50+) **Tower**, C237 (ages 40+) Turning Point, M311 (Young adults) Wesley M320 (all ages, Reconciling)

Early Christian Awareness (ECA) Infants/ Toddlers, Norma Story Children's Building **Preschool Lions** (ages 2-3), **Tigers** (ages 3-4), **Bears** (ages 4-5)

Grades K-3, Rotation Sunday School **4th Grade**-Bible Adventures

5th Grade-Bible Study

Grades 6-12, phyouth Sunday School

(All youth meet at 10 a.m. in the phyouth Assembly Area.)



@pulaskihe ight sun it ed method is tchurch



youtube.com/pulaskiheightsumc



Twitter: @pulaskiheights



astlukecampus

Contact Information

Website: www.phumc.com • (501) 664-3600 Fax: 664-4835 • Email: phumc@phumc.com

Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The church is also available seven days a week, beyond regular office hours, for special events or meetings.

St. Luke Campus ● 6401 W. 32nd St. ● Little Rock

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GET THE SCOOP ON UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP

SPECIAL OFFERING THIS SUNDAY: HUMAN RELATIONS DAY. All of God's children are important. On Human Relations Day, we join other UMC congregations in a special offering to support neighborhood ministries through Community Developers, community advocacy through United Methodist Voluntary Services and work with at-risk youth through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Programs.

MLK MARADE. Mon., Jan. 20. March with us on the day of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Marade! Shuttle available to and from event. Leave by 8:00 am. Meet in the Lee St. Parking Deck.

CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED on Monday, January 20 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

PERKINS SUMMIT FOR FAITH AND LEARNING. March 26-28, 2020. Formerly known as Perkins Theological School for Laity, Perkins Summit for Faith and Learning is an annual event offering continuing education courses on the Bible, theology, and spirituality to help students grow in knowledge and faith practices. See Rev. Belinda Price for registration.



2019 Poinsettias

n Honor

My St. Luke Sunday School Class by Brenda Mize

In Memory

John McDowell by Wilma Womack and Carolyn Counts My father, Dale Mize by Brenda Mize My parents, Howard and Jean Reynolds by Lanita Reynolds

Jewel Womack by Wilma Womack and Carolyn Counts

Joys and Concerns

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED to the family and friends of Kay Embrey in her recent death; to Jack Halford and family in the death of his wife, Mary Lou Halford; to Alicia Hughes and family in the death of her grandmother, Kathleen Savory Whitehead; to Blanche Moore and family in the death of her husband, Beadle Moore; to Mark Norwine and Family in the death of his mother, Helen Norwine; And to Cathy Alexander and family in the death of her mother, Florence Cahan.

WE REJOICE IN THE BIRTH of

Mark Daniel Grinnan, Jr. child of Jennifer and Daniel Grinnan, and grandchild of Leslie and Mark Lee.