



THE TOWER NEWSLETTER

Volume 163, Number 47

Love God, Love Neighbor, Change the World

March 26, 2017

Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie at PHUMC - April 1 & 2, 2017

Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie serves as the 117th elected and consecrated bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church. Her historic election in 2000 represented the first time in the 200+ year history of the AME Church that a woman had been elected bishop. The firsts continue as she served as the President of the Council of Bishops, Chair of the General Conference Commission, and was the Host Bishop for the 49th Session of the General Conference of the AME Church in June 2012 with more than 30,000 in attendance.

Currently, she is honored to serve as the presiding prelate of the 10th Episcopal District, encompassing Texas. Bishop McKenzie serves as the Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees of Paul Quinn College and a member of the Board of Trustees of the International Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia.

She was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve on the inaugural President's Advisory Council of the White House Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

Bishop McKenzie is the author of the following books: *Not Without A Struggle* and *Strength in the Struggle* concern leadership and professional growth for women. *Journey to the Well* helps women in personal growth and transformation to follow the footsteps of the Biblical Samaritan woman. *Swapping Housewives* tells the stories of Rachel, Jacob, and Leah with 21st century implications for married and unmarried love. In 2013, *Those Sisters Can Preach!* was released containing sermons as pearls of wisdom from nationally known preachers. *The Big Deal of Taking Small Steps to Move Closer to God* will be available May 2017.

Bishop McKenzie was recently named by *Huffington Post* as one of the 50 most powerful women religious leaders in the world. She is humbled and grateful to God for the many opportunities and blessings afforded her as she strives to serve with excellence in the Kingdom of God. www.vashtimckenzie.com

RANEY PREACHING SERIES PRESENTS

APRIL 1 & 2, 2017

Bishop VASHTI MURPHY MCKENZIE
OF THE 10TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
AT PULASKI HEIGHTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
4823 WOODLAWN LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72205

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 5:00 PM

A Certain Sound: Speaking Truth to Power - 1 Corinthians 14:8
"For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?"

PREACHING IN THE SANCTUARY FOLLOWED BY
Q & A WITH BISHOP MCKENZIE
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW IN THE GATHERING HALL
PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS BY MARCH 25 TO PHUMC.COM/RANEY OR CALL 664-3600


SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 9:00 & 11:00 AM

9:00 AM God's Got This - Luke 22:1-6
11:00 AM In Times Like These - Matthew 17:1-6

PREACHING IN THE SANCTUARY SERVICES AND SIMULCAST IN NEW HEIGHTS
RECEPTION IN THE GATHERING HALL AT 10:00 AM

CHILDCARE AVAILABLE FOR ALL EVENTS

www.phumc.com • 501-664-3600



Worship Services - Sermon Series: Witnesses

Soldiers at the Cross: Rejecting Brutality - Luke 23:33-37, 44-47

- Friday, March 24, 6:00 pm - Sanctuary • Rev. Britt Skarda
- Sunday, March 26, 9:00 & 11:00 am - Sanctuary • Rev. Britt Skarda (9:00 am service is Broadcast Sunday on KATV Channel 7 at 10:30 am)
- Sunday, March 26, 9:00 & 11:00 am - New Heights • Rev. Jay Clark
- Sunday, March 26, 9:30 am - St. Luke Campus • Rev. Belinda Price



THE ST. LUKE LEARNING CENTER FOR CHILDREN – WHERE DREAMS COME TRUE!

“Commitment Cards to be received this weekend, March 24 & 26”



Our God-sized dream to create a quality learning center at St. Luke UMC that will serve the children of economically challenged families is moving closer to fruition. With a goal of \$400,000 to begin renovations next month, 30 families have already committed \$221,750 to this effort! Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity!

Now is the time for all of us to make our own commitment to this life-changing endeavor. Prayerfully ask yourself “What God wants to do through me,” fill out a “Called to Community” Commitment Card and place it in the offering plate at one of our five worship services this weekend, March 24 and 26. Cards will be available in all worship spaces.

Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these my brother and sisters, you did it for me.” Together we can change the world! Thank you for your commitment!

Britt Skarda
Senior Pastor

POP UP SUNDAY SCHOOL

The month of April
beginning Sunday, April 2
10:10-10:50 am, Rm. M304

Come engage in conversation about religion and your beliefs. Sessions will be based on the book *Mere Apologetics: How to Help Seekers and Skeptics Find Faith*, led by Rod Lorenzen. Class will not meet Easter Sunday. All are welcome!

COOKING MATTERS FOR KIDS



In response to the Bishop Mueller’s 200,000 Reasons initiative, a group of PHUMC members decided to pursue the Hunger Relief Alliance’s program (Part of the No Kid Hungry Campaign) called Cooking Matters with a group of students at Bale Elementary School. Bale “chose” us after

attending a meeting about the program. They are a partner with St. Luke United Methodist Church.

For five weeks during February and March, 14 volunteers coordinated by Beverly Villines and Kathy Roberts worked with 11 students at Bale to complete this program. The goal of Cooking Matters is to engage low-income children in a series of participatory cooking classes designed to empower them to make their own tasty meals and snacks at home. The children also learn how to make smart choices wherever they go—at school, out to eat, or at the store.

Each week, in addition to providing education and cooking experiences, the children were sent home with the recipes and ingredients to make the same healthy meals and snacks with and for their families. Upon graduation each family received a bin filled with cooking utensils such as pots and pans, mixing bowls, cups and spoons, graters, knives, pot holders, cutting boards, etc. intended to encourage the children’s further involvement with healthy cooking. Several Sunday School classes at PHUMC and the members of St. Luke generously provided these bins.



We believe the program was a huge success and will have a lasting impact on the graduates of this class in improving eating habits, cooking techniques and enjoying cooking. We hope to continue offering this program once per semester at Bale Elementary School. Watch the “Tower” for more information about how to help with this program or contact Kathy Roberts at 993-1378 or Beverly Villines at 350-5053.

EASTER FLOWERS

Colorful flowers will be purchased for Sanctuary and New Heights Worship services to celebrate the resurrection of Christ. To honor or memorialize a loved one, go to phumc.com/easterflowers. Names received by Friday, March 31, will be listed in the Easter bulletin. Make your check payable to PHUMC-Easter Flowers.

CELEBRATE Easter with PULASKI HEIGHTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Palm Sunday Services

April 9, 9 & 11 am • Sunday School, 10:10 am

The Children’s Ministry will have a special re-enactment of Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem during Sunday School with a live donkey.

Maunder Thursday Service

April 13, 6 pm, St. Luke UMC - 6401 W. 32nd St., Little Rock 72204

Good Friday Services “Stations of the Cross”

April 14, 12 Noon & 6 pm, Sanctuary

Easter Sunday Services

April 16, 8:30, 9:45 & 11:00 am, Sanctuary & New Heights Services
Sunday School, 9:45 am

Childcare available at all services.

Easter Egg Hunt at Allsopp Park!

(3700 Cedar Hill Rd., Little Rock)

Saturday, April 15

10:30 am - Kindersongs Concert

11:00 am - Hunt Begins

Family FUN for children 5th grade & under!



Join us for the 29th Annual
Community Easter Sunrise Service - April 16
at First Security Amphitheatre - 7 am

Easter services will be broadcast on KATV Channel 7 at 7:00 am & 10:30 am

Recent Baptisms



Jackson Aaron Gaiser, with parents Jordan & Michael Gaiser, brother Aiden and sister Sullivan



Campbell Snow Cooper, with parents Lindsey & Hunter Cooper



Sophia Rose Doramus, with parents Rachel & Paul Doramus and brother Shepherd



Howard Devone Payne and Reid Charlotte Payne, with parents Margaret & Trey Payne



Addison James Morrissey, with parents Boogie & Aaron Morrissey and sister Marie



Boone Samuel Freeman, with parents Emily & Janet Freeman



Vivian Elizabeth Kalkbrenner, with parents Devon & William Kalkbrenner and brother Henry



Gabriel Patrick Keating and Christian Gregory Keating, with parents Kristi & Ben Keating



Charlie Ames Ellis, with parents Jana & Brian Ellis and brothers Jack, Mark, and Eli



- Summer Meals for Children**
 information/volunteer signup meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 20, at Noon and 5:30 pm in C135 (across from kitchen). Meals will be served from 5:30 - 6:30 pm on Monday and Thursday evenings at St. Luke United Methodist Church during the summer months. A food pantry will be also be available. Questions: Billie Rutherford (580-9132) or Lynn Lindsey (351-5449).

- Guatemala Medical Mission Team**
 The team is in need of a doctor, a dentist, and either a physician's assistant or nurse practitioner. Work will be done July 30–August 6. Contact Emily Erkel at Emily.erkel@yahoo.com or 350-0119 for more information.

- Family Promise**
 PHUMC to host homeless families April 23-30. Please prayerfully consider where you might volunteer in this important mission program which provides support for homeless families. Sign up by Connect Card during worship or contact a coordinator below.

Hosts: Tom & Billie Hatcher
666-9507, billruth411@gmail.com

Dinners: Barbara Barnett
580-4281, barnettbarb@comcast.net

Overnight Hosts: Gwen Efir
666-8446, gwenefird@att.net

Set up and Take down: Leslie May
747-2138, leslie.may@novartis.com

UMCOR SUNDAY
(FORMERLY ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING)

YOUR GENEROUS GIFT TODAY ENSURES UMCOR'S RESPONSE IN TIMES OF CRISIS.

SPECIAL OFFERING THIS WEEKEND

PRAYER REQUESTS

DEATHS: Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Elsie Faye Weaver Bailey in her recent death; and to Laura, Jack and Will Shue and family in the death of their father and grandfather, Philip Leroy Kehler.

WE REJOICE IN THE BIRTH OF Thomas Elliot Adams, child of Vanessa and Bryan Adams.

MARRIAGE: Our congratulations to Anne-Elise Hawkins and Brad Parker on their recent marriage.

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

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Call church office: 501.664.3600

Text: 501.529.0323

Email: phumc@phumc.com

Connect Card: Complete in worship

Emergency Pager: 501.688.9533

HILLCREST LENTEN SERVICES

Theme: #Blessed

DATE	LOCATION	SPEAKER
March 24	PH Christian	John Marconi
March 31	PH Presbyterian	Jay Clark
April 7	PHUMC	Randy Hyde

All services are 30 minutes at participating churches on Fridays at 12 noon, followed by a light lunch. Make plans to join us as we unite during the Lent season!

Contact Information

Website: www.phumc.com

(501) 664-3600 Fax: (501) 664-4835

After Hours Emergency: (501) 688-9533

Email: phumc@phumc.com

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Sunday School - Get Connected! 10:10 am

All Things Considered, M314 (all ages)

Argue (Named for Dr. James Argue), (reconciling) M318 (ages 45+) "Creed"

Beatitudes, M316 (ages 30-45+)

Bible Study, C239 (all ages) "Genesis," Tim Fox

Coffee Talk, M313 (women all ages)

Dietz Dialogue, C135 (ages 70+) "The Faith of a Mockingbird," Kearney Dietz

Fathomers, C235 (ages 55+) "What Christians Believe and Why," Jan Sullivan

Foundations, C236 (couples ages 20s-40s) "Creed"

Journey, D366 (ages 20s-40s)

Koinonia, M307 (ages 50+) "Creed," Sheree Laakman (Chapter 4)

Newton Good News, M101 (ages 50+) "Half Truths" (Chapter 3)

New Class, M308 (all ages)

Pairs and Spares, D277 East (young couples/young singles)

Roundtable, M312 (ages 50+) "God's Love Restores," Christian Harris

Tower, C237 (ages 40+) "Creed"

Wesley, (reconciling) M320 All are welcome. Please come share your views.

(All youth meet at 10 am in the phyouth Assembly Area for fellowship before class)

Agape Class, D385 Youth with Special Needs, Carol Blann

12 Grade, D368 Youth Bible Study, Leslie & Tim Taylor

9-11 Grades, D379 Youth Bible Study

7-8 Grades, D377 Youth Bible Study

Confirmation, 6th Grade, phyouth Assembly Area, Rev. Jay Clark

Early Christian Awareness (ECA) Infants/Toddlers, Norma Story Bldg.

March Lessons: Insects - Lady Bug, Butterfly, Honey Bee

Preschool Lions (age 2-3), **Tigers** (age 3-4), **Bears** (age 4-5)

K-4th Grade, Rotation Sunday School

5th Grade, Bible Study

Malone Phone Class: Sundays at 3 pm by phone at home

Shepherd's Cove: Lynn Lindsey

M=Main Building

C=Christian Life Center (Argue Great Hall/gym/Fellowship Central)

D=Disciple Center (Wesley Hall, Youth)

S=Norma Story Children's Building

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY

Baptism Orientation (Sanctuary) 10:10 - 10:50 am (1st Sun.)

PHkids Open Gym *(Great Hall) 12:30 - 2:30 pm

MONDAY

PHkids Open Gym *(Great Hall) 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Midday Prayer (Chapel) 11:00 - 12:00 pm

TUESDAY

Helping Hands (Wesley Hall) 9:30 am - 2:30 pm

PHkids Open Gym *(Great Hall) 5:00 - 8:00 pm

Yoga (Rm. C236) 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Memory Loss Caregivers (C135)

5:30 - 6:30 pm (2nd Tues.)

1:00 - 2:00 pm (3rd Tues.)

WEDNESDAY

Cancer Friends Support Group (C236) 5 pm (2nd Wed.)

Al Anon (C237) 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Men's Basketball Open Gym (Great Hall) 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Chancel Choir Rehearsal (M110) 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

THURSDAY

Labyrinth (Wesley Hall) 8:00 am - 8:00 pm

Men's Al Anon (C237) 7:30 - 8:30 pm

Primetimers Luncheon (Parlor)

11:30 am - 1:00 pm (4th Thurs.)

FRIDAY

PHUMC Book Club (C239) 7:00 - 8:00 am

PHkids Open Gym *(Great Hall) 3:00 - 6:00 pm

Parents' Night Out (Children's Building)

6:00 - 9:00 pm (4th Fri.)

The Chapel is available Wed. - Fri., 8:30 am - 4:30 pm for personal prayer time.

*PHkids Open Gym is subject to change if other activities are scheduled.

Fellowship Stations for Coffee & Refreshments

Sundays from 8 - 11 am | Gathering Hall & New Heights Lobby