



MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

June 7, 2020

www.mulberrymethodist.org

RACISM IN THE UNITED STATES

Recent events from Brunswick, GA to Minneapolis, MN illustrate again we are tragically stricken with the sin of racism in the United States. These are not isolated, infrequent incidents. Minorities in this country tell a sad litany of being stopped, insulted, accused, or worse because of the color of one's skin. Sometimes this sin comes from the hands of law enforcement officers; most often it comes from ordinary citizens. No matter the source the result of the sin is deep and humiliating. It even leads to cruel, brazen murder.

The rioting and looting in our nation are wrong, but it's been a long time coming. Lawless people will use any occasion and take any recourse to hijack a movement. Now our divided nation will argue over whether the lawlessness was perpetrated by conservatives or liberals. Meanwhile our president grimly holds a Bible over his head and uses a church as a photo-op.

We have so very far to go before we can be an inclusive society where all people are respected, valued and loved as God's children in all their beautiful color. Sadly, many Caucasian persons still believe that we've done too much talking about race, a stance which really means, "I'm tired of hearing about our unjust and oppressive society."

Of course we must turn to faith. But that must be fully formed faith. Telling people to "turn your heart over to Jesus" comes across as trite. Justice must roll down like waters and righteousness like ever flowing streams. The oppressed must be heard and respected. The poor must be treated with dignity. This is basic. Georgia is one of the only states in our nation with no hate crime law.

"My thoughts and prayers are with you" is another hollow sentiment. What it will take to change our country is a cadre of committed Americans, Christian, Jew, Muslim and non-religious people who rise up and demand one concrete step at a time so this nation can make a real commitment at every level to live up to the pledge that we make every time we put our hand over our heart and say "...with liberty and justice for all."

I am now reading *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander. When I finish, I'll start on Ta-Nehisi Coates *Between the World and Me*. I want to better understand race in America. I hope our congregation can become more aligned with justice issues right here in Bibb County.

Crude



Congratulations to Blane and Mercy Dunnam upon the birth of their daughter, River Olivia Dunnam born on May 27, 2020.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We are hoping to begin a Prayer Shawl Ministry at Mulberry Street and are looking for those who can knit or crochet to help create the shawls or small sized blankets to be given to those in need of prayer. When we are able to meet in person it will be wonderful to get together occasionally for prayer, fellowship and yarn crafting, but we also can knit and crochet while we are socially distancing. All ages, skill levels and abilities welcome! If you want to volunteer or need more information, please contact Rev. Julia Norman (jnorman@mulberrymethodist.org or 919-323-6626).

Recording Schedule for Worship Services

Our staff records each week's worship services on Wednesday afternoons. This gives Sarah Pounds and Steve Moretti the time they need to produce such a professionally edited worship service. It also means, however, that events (world, nation or community) that happen between Wednesday and Sunday will not be addressed in that week's worship service.

The Link

Below is the link to "The Link", a way to keep you informed and connected with what's happening in South Georgia United Methodism and beyond! The Link is published every two weeks, full of Conference news, resources, and event information to keep you up to date and in the know.

<http://sgaumc-email.brtapp.com/viewinsite/ba21d861666304044a08ee8617e078fb?>

South Georgia Advocate

The South Georgia Advocate, a twice monthly online news publication, is the official news source of the South Georgia Annual Conference and a ministry of the Office of Connectional Ministries.

Here is the link.

<http://sgaumc-email.brtapp.com/viewinsite/e6df10e030a106bdf9dd01446088c9db?>

Family and Children's Ministry for Summer 2020:

We have great Summer Sunday School resources that we'll be sending out each Sunday morning for your family with children to do at home!

Please make sure you are signed up for the Family and Children's Newsletter so you can receive these resources. To sign up click here and fill out the

form: <https://www.mulberrymethodist.org/community/children>

We will also send information to that email list with Vacation Bible School resources in July and when we come back for regular scheduled programs it is used for information monthly. Everyone is welcome to sign up and see what the children are learning each week. You can also share it with your family members or neighbors who want updates about Mulberry St. UMC Family and Children's Ministry activities.



Tony Long
2832 Northwoods Dr. N
Macon, GA 31204

Michael Stewart
2832 Northwoods Dr. N
Macon, GA 31204



Memorial Fund

In memory of Gloria Wynn by

- Holly & McKenzie Swanson Mr. & Mrs. Albert W McKay, Jr.*
- Mr. & Mrs. William H. Epps Dr. & Mrs. Ferdinand V. Kay*
- Rita Horne & Family Mrs. Betty W. Sheehan Mrs. Julie Yates*
- Mrs. Anne White Mrs. Kathy Muller*
- Mr. & Mrs. F. W. Golson, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. Gene Strouss*
- Mrs. Laura Blankenship Strange Mr. & Mrs. E. Daniel Swanson*
- Mr. & Mrs. G. Boone Smith III Mr. & Mrs. E. W. Aldridge*
- Mr. & Mrs. Neil Struby Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Wyche*
- Mr. & Mrs. Roy W. Wyche, Jr. Mrs. Margaret E. Clay*
- Mr. & Mrs. John F. Stewart Mr. & Mrs. John Willingham*
- Mrs. Leigh Pendas Mr. & Mrs. Samuel K. Henley*
- Mr. & Mrs. Mortimer F. Meadors Ms. Becky Bowdre*
- Mrs. Edyth M. Snow*

In memory of Scott Causey by Mr. & Mrs. Clark H. Sauls

In memory of Alice Mullins by Mr. Harold Downs

In memory of Cliff Wallace by Mr. & Mrs. James Weatherford

In honor of Katie Griffis by Mr. & Mrs. Samuel K. Henley

General Fund

In honor of Curtis Barnes for Father's Day by

Mr. & Mrs. Byron Lowe

Music Fund

In memory of Gloria Wynn by Mrs. Frances H. Inzer

Mulberry Community Garden

In honor of Curtis Barnes' Birthday by Mr. & Mrs. Byron Lowe

SEEKING A PART TIME MINISTRY POSITION

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is seeking one more part time position (15-20 hours/week) to fill Jeff Cook's role. This will be an interim (6-12 months) job. This would involve organization of small groups, developing congregational care teams and prayer teams, coordinating Wednesday Night Suppers, etc. Applicants could be church members. If you are interested, contact Dr. Warren Dunn, Staff Parish Relations Committee, or Creede Hinshaw.

Opportunity to Join

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church

Are you interested in joining Mulberry Street United Methodist Church? Even during these challenging times with online worship, you may join MSUMC. Please contact the Reverend Creede Hinshaw if you're interested.