Members and friends of Mulberry Street United Methodist Church,

On January 3rd, many national news sources reported on the agreement called “A Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation.” This gathering of United Methodist leaders representing most of the groups that have been at odds regarding how the denomination can be faithful to the call of Jesus Christ and caring for our LGBTQIA siblings in Christ. For the first time ever, an acclaimed secular negotiator was retained (pro bono) to assist these representatives in forging this agreement that endorses separation among the factions but lays the groundwork for gracious parting and intentional work toward maintaining ecumenical communion and mission cooperation. You may read the agreement in its entirety at this link: https://www.unitedmethodistbishops.org/files/websites/www/pdfs/signed+umc+mediation+protocol+statement+-2020.pdf

I commend to you this helpful link to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that anticipated many of the questions that I had about this Protocol. https://www.unitedmethodistbishops.org/newsdetail/frequently-asked-questions-about-the-united-methodist-mediation-team-13133711

Also on January 3rd, Bishop Lawson Bryan, our resident bishop of the South Georgia Conference, published a statement that said in part “It remains to be seen how much traction this new plan will receive across our diverse, global denomination. Ultimately, it is the General Conference delegates who will decide on the adoption of any plan…As the South Georgia Conference, we can make a conscious decision to write our own story. We will respectfully receive and reflect upon whatever comes from General Conference 2020, for it represents the work of our elected delegates and we will evaluate it in terms of what fits best with the story we are writing in South Georgia.”

I agree. In the coming months, we will be writing a similar story at Mulberry and it too will be faithful to God’s call in the life of this church.

The year to come comes with many challenges and opportunities. We are not afraid. We go forward boldly and with confidence knowing that Christ is already present in the future calling us into that future to realize God’s plan for the life of this church.

Your clergy staff and I will continue to keep you apprised of updates as they are known. In the meantime, I ask that you pray for South Georgia delegates, our clergy colleagues, and fellow members of the United Methodist Church. I am your brother…

In Christ,

Matt
Sunday Worship
January 19, 2020
Second Sunday after Epiphany

Worship Times
9:00 am/Chapel
11:00 am/Sanctuary
“The Call”
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery
11:00 am/New Room –
New Room Worship Center/3rd Floor
Rev. Brandon Tolle, Guest Preacher

Assisting with Worship
Nine O’clock Usher
Warren Dunn
Eleven O’clock Ushers
Charlie Bridges, Austin Carter, Katie Griffis,
Ken Heller, Baxter James, Becky Kerner,
Don Ream, Brett Toles & Jim Wilson
Acolytes
Alex Stone, Lead Acolyte
Henry McClure, Crucifer
Campbell McIntyre & Stella McIntyre,
Candlelighters
Children’s Church Leader
Melinda Powell

Altar & Flowers
The flowers in the chapel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mrs. Andrew J. Lyndon.
The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in celebration of their new membership at Mulberry Street United Methodist Church by Pam and Chuck Huber.

Midweek at Mulberry
Love, Care and Share around the Table
Wednesday, January 22
Program: Generation to Generation (G2G) Team recap
Menu: Veggies

Attendance
January 12, 2020
Chapel Worship 27
New Room Worship 50
Sanctuary Worship 172
Total Worship Attendance 249

Methodist 101 Small Group
Wednesdays,
January 15 - February 19
Rev. Jeff Cook will lead a small group that meets on Wednesday nights from 7:05 – 8:00 p.m. in the Daugherty Classroom on the 2nd floor. This 5 to 6 week study will utilize the curriculum Come to the Table: What it Means to be Methodist and will be supplemented with other resources. Please email Jeff at jcook@mulberrymethodist.org to sign up and for any questions.

Souper Bowl of Caring
Sunday, February 2
Mulanberry Street UMC will participate with the Souper Bowl of Caring two ways on February 2.

Sunday morning
Following each of the morning services, youth will be at the door to take your collection – suggesting one dollar or one item of food for people in need. Our morning collection will go to Macon Outreach.

Sunday afternoon, February 2, 3:00 p.m.,
Northminster Presbyterian Church, 565 Wimbish Road
Our congregation is co-hosting a hymn festival with Northminster Presbyterian Church (PCUSA). Entitled Hope: A Vision for 2020, the festival will include a variety of familiar hymns and perhaps some hymns new to you – filled with the message of hope. Tom Granum will be the organist/pianist and director for the hymn festival. Our Ainsworth Choir will provide much of the leadership.
Similar to our morning services, you will have the opportunity to make a donation following the festival. Afternoon proceeds will be divided between Macon Outreach and Loaves & Fishes, both of which serve the needs of the working poor and hungry in Macon.

What is Souper Bowl of Caring?
Souper Bowl of Caring is a national movement of young people working to fight hunger and poverty in their own communities around the time of the Super Bowl football game. In the weeks leading up to or on Super Bowl Sunday, young people take up a collection (many use a soup pot), asking for one dollar or one item of food for people in need. They give 100% of their donation directly to the local hunger-relief charity of their choice.

Mulberry Moments
A Study of Important and Interesting Moments in the History of Our Church. Join Carolyn Kennedy Dominy in the Historical Room on Wednesdays, 4:30-5:30 p.m. as we explore a variety of topics in Mulberry’s History: January 22, January 29, February 5 & February 12. Please email Carolyn Kennedy Dominy to make a reservation: cken@cox.net. Space is limited.

Vibrant Ministry Event
On Thursday, February 20, join the Vibrant Ministry (for adults 55 and older) for a lunch trip to Social Circle to eat lunch at the Blue Willow Inn. We will meet at Mulberry at 10:00 a.m. If we have enough interest, we will rent a van to travel together. R.S.V.P. by Monday, February 10 to Linda at lparker@mulberrymethodist.org.
Family & Children’s Council
Sunday, January 26
8:30 a.m. in the Blue Room

Confirmation Class
Begins, Sunday, January 26 @ 5:00 p.m.

Macon Outreach Pantry is Low
Here is a list of needed food donations:

CANNED FOOD
- green beans, potatoes, sweet peas, black-eye peas, field peas, corn,
- turnip greens, pork & beans, soups, fruit, spaghetti sauce

DRY GOODS
- powdered milk, spaghetti pasta, cereal, pop tarts, cereal bars,
- cake mix & frosting, brownie mix, instant potatoes, rice ramen noodles, cornbread mix, hamburger helper, rice or pasta sides

CANNED MEATS
- spam, salmon, tuna, chicken, beef stew, chili, Vienna sausages,
- Campbell’s Chunky soups, Chef Boyardee pasta

EXTRAS
- jelly, mayo, mustard, ketchup, coffee, tea

Mulberry’s Community Garden
Volunteers welcome on Mondays and Fridays at 9:00 am.

There is a bucket in the atrium to receive donations for Daybreak.

Latest Daybreak Needs:
- Washing Machine – they are looking for a gently-used washing machine.
- Bleach, Canned Fruit, Snack Bars/cookies/chips
- plastic gloves
- all purpose pine floor cleaner
- Mop & Glow/Spic & Span
- Gift Cards: Kroger, McDonald’s, Waffle House
- powdered lemonade, jelly, dried fruit, snack bars

Latest Daybreak Clinic Needs:
- Mucinex 12 hours Cough Medicine – Sugar Free Cough Drops

Daybreak has a fun fundraiser coming up for their charity to aid the homeless.

Greater Macon Sleepout will be on February 27, 2020. Teams are forming at Mulberry! They need donations from those who aren’t sleeping out! Go to www.MaconSleepout.com for more info.

Summer Mission Trip to Dominican Republic
June 15-22, 2020
Details soon.
This Week at Mulberry

Sunday, January 19
8:30 am Family & Children’s Council Mtg/Blue Rm
9:00 am Worship/Chapel
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am New Room Worship/Youth Room
11:00 am Worship/Sanctuary
5:00 pm Women’s Bible Study/ Home of Molly Walker

Monday, January 20
Church Office Closed

Tuesday, January 21
9:30 am Staff Meeting
12:00 pm Kiwanis/F-Hall
5:00 pm Trustees Mtg/Conf Rm
6:30 pm Small Group/Lamback’s

Wednesday, January 22
9:30 am CCM Chapel
10:30 am M/O Worship/Chapel
4:30 pm Mulberry Moments Study/Historical Rm
4:30 pm Social Principles Study
5:30 pm Wednesday Night Supper
6:15 pm Children’s Choirs
6:15 pm Youth Fellowship
7:05 pm Methodist 101/Daughtery Cls
7:15 pm Ainsworth Choir

Thursday, January 23
9:30 am Sewing Group/Rm 232
1:00 pm Carlyle Place Communion

Sunday, January 26
9:00 am Worship/Chapel
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am New Room Worship/Youth Room
11:00 am Worship/Sanctuary
5:00 pm Confirmation Class
5:00 pm Women’s Bible Study/ Home of Molly Walker

Social Principles Book Study
Wednesdays at 4:30–5:30 p.m.
beginning January 15
The Social Principles of the UMC are the product of more than a century of legislative decisions made by lay and clergy members at General Conference. Studying the Social Principles provides opportunities to examine your own approach to the topics included in the Social Principles and to deepen your discipleship.
Books are $5, please contact the church office to sign up and receive your book by January 8. Contact Rev. Julia Norman with questions or to sign up.

Women’s Bible Study
Sunday Evenings @ 5:00 p.m.
Home of Molly Walker
Verse by verse Study of Hebrews
Contact Molly Walker, 731-7175 for more information.

Macon Outreach Cold Weather Drive
We are collecting gloves, hats, and foot warmers for our Macon Outreach for the cold weather months. Please drop off your donation in the atrium.

Pastoral Care Weekly Rotation
Monday – Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery (478-733-0877)
Tuesday – Rev. Julia Norman (919-323-6626)
Wednesday – Rev. Trevor Ward (478-607-9003)
Thursday – Rev. Jeff Cook (229-886-7032)
Pastoral Care Weekend Rotation (Friday-Sunday)
January 17-19 – Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery
January 24-26 – Rev. Julia Norman
January 31-February 2 – Rev. Trevor Ward

Mulberry Street UMC Staff
Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery, Lead Pastor
Rev. Jeff Cook, Associate Pastor
Rev. Julia Norman, Minister for Families and Children
Rev. Trevor Ward, Minister for Families and Youth
Tom Granum, Director of Music/Organist
Blane Dunnam, New Room Worship Leader
Karen Carter, Church Administrator
Sarah Pounds, Director of Communications
Betsy Abbott, Director of Hospitality
Linda Parker, Administrative Secretary
Doris Anderson, Church Cook/Custodian
Clifton Carswell & Michael Washington, Custodians
Tshanghi Corey, Director, Children’s Center