



MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 29, 2020

www.mulberrymethodist.org

OUR LABYRINTH, CHRIST THE KING AND SOCIAL DISTANCING

Last Sunday's worship setting in the sanctuary was unlike anything Mulberry Street UMC has seen in 194 years. Around a dozen persons in a sanctuary that can hold over 600 people conducted a 30-minute worship service. Immediately following that service six persons recorded a 30-minute service in the equally empty NewRoom. The recordings were made on Friday. Our church was completely empty on Sunday.

As I sat in an armchair (!) to deliver my sermon I looked across the empty, darkened sanctuary to the Christ the King Window above our balcony. There, in all his glory, with the nations and peoples kneeling and angels hovering, sat Jesus, victorious, radiant and crowned in glory. That window gave me great comfort in these troubled times.

Sunday afternoon Bonnie and I drove to the church, because the corner of Mulberry and First Street is where I want to be on Sunday. We each walked the labyrinth. I very highly recommend this spiritual exercise for you in the days and weeks ahead. It will take you, depending on your pace, approximately **30 minutes to walk, contemplate and pray. You will soak in God's love, have time to pray for friends** and the world, and find a sense of calm as you escape the isolation of your home. We will place some brochures about the labyrinth in a box on the courtyard steps.

We need to maintain proper distance from each other in these virus days, but God is always near! I **encourage you to draw near to the God who draws you to the Divine Heart. Let's remain faithful and faith-filled.**

Cude



It is impossible to put into words the gratitude Carol and I feel for your gracious farewell culminating on February 23. We are thankful for those who organized, decorated, and cooked for the elegant reception following the 11 o'clock services, and we are humbled by your generous financial gifts.

There will forever be a special place in our hearts for Mulberry, and for each of you faithful, dedicated, talented, warm, spirited, just, merciful, beloved, joyful, beautiful brothers and sisters in Christ. Hold on to the promise that God delights in you.

We leave you with the words of John Rutter's "A Gaelic Blessing":

Deep peace of the running wave to you
 Deep peace of the flowing air to you
 Deep peace of the quiet earth to you
 Deep peace of the shining stars to you
 Deep peace of the gentle night to you
 Moon and stars pour their healing light on you
 Deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you
 Deep peace of Christ to you

With love,
 Matt and Carol



Memorial Fund

In memory of Bill Sparks by

Mrs. Edyth Snow Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Stanfield
 Mr. & Mrs. Lowell Belk Mr. & Mrs. W. Hampton Dowling

In memory of Carolyn Barber by

Mr. & Mrs. Lowell Belk Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Kersey
 Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Wood, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. Russell Lipford

In memory of Dr. Edsel Davis by Ms. Kaye Wansley

In honor of Dawn Shields by Mr. John Ellis

In memory of Mrs. Rachel Bishop by Mrs. Elizabeth Drinnon

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!

<http://sgaumc->

[email.brtapp.com/viewinsite/540316f7395cc07a651bacae22ff9e34?](http://sgaumc-mail.brtapp.com/viewinsite/540316f7395cc07a651bacae22ff9e34?)

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/2b94455c047cfa064070f22dd103e1aa?](http://sgaumc-mail.brtapp.com/viewinsite/2b94455c047cfa064070f22dd103e1aa?)

Postponement of General Conference 2020

Wednesday, [the Commission on General Conference announced that the 2020 session of General Conference, The United Methodist Church's top legislative body, has been postponed](#) and will not occur May 5-15, 2020, as planned. The Minneapolis Convention Center notified the commission that they are restricting events involving 50+ people at the venue through May 10, 2020, following recommendations by the [Minnesota Department of Health](#), the Governor of Minnesota, and the Mayor of Minneapolis. In addition to the obvious public health concerns, the travel restrictions in place would prevent delegates from Africa, Europe, and the Philippines from attending and representing their areas.

The Commission on General Conference will now begin the process of assessing when it will be safe to hold General Conference and in what location. The logistics of such a global gathering are extremely complex. Let us pray for the members of the Commission as they undertake this enormous responsibility.



To Harold and Freeda Chapman upon the death of Freeda's brother-in-law, Wiley Sloan of Highland, SC on March 6, 2020.



Iris Jones

March 21, 2020

A funeral service will be held at a later time.

Cards can be sent to her daughter:

Katherine J. Hoskins

4015 W. Cooper Lake Dr. SE

Smyrna, GA 30082

Dot Dye

March 23, 2020

Funeral arrangements are incomplete at this time.

Cards can be sent to her daughter:

Dottie Nix

1504 Mariners Circle

St Simons Island, GA 31522

CONGREGATIONAL CARE NETWORK

Thanks to Jeff Cook for creating a congregational care network so our membership is able to stay in contact with each other in these unsettling times. We appreciate those who have agreed to contact our membership. If you receive a phone call or email contact, **please know that it is our effort to assure you of God's love and the care of our church.**

REGULAR GIVING IS IMPORTANT

Georgia Power and other utilities are still expecting monthly checks from our church. Our staff salaries must still be paid. Please continue to support our church with your contributions. Many of you give by automatic bank draft. Snail mail still works very well. **In the next week we'll have an updated method for online giving.**



Daybreak Needs the following:

Most urgent:

Milk/eggs: If you bring this needs to come straight from the store and have receipt -- health department rules

Gloves: latex gloves and gloves for food service, disinfectant wipes/spray/pine cleaner,

Cleaning agents: spic-n-span, pine cleaner tall kitchen trash bags, air fresheners

Getting short on: Disposable: plates, bowls, to-go plates, spoons, forks, cups, snack bars/chips/cookies, snack bars, canned fruit.

Pop up cans of things ready to eat: sausage, spaghetti, fruit, trail mix, beef jerky.