



# MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

May 17, 2020

[www.mulberrymethodist.org](http://www.mulberrymethodist.org)

## WISHING I COULD HUG ON YOUR NECK!

Bishop William R. Cannon sent me to my first appointment in 1977. I served 3 congregations in Harris County (right above Columbus): Ellerslie, Waverly Hall and Shiloh. In Methodist parlance this is known as a 3-point charge. Each church met for worship every Sunday.

One of the most vital roles in the small membership church back then was pastoral visitation. People expected their pastor to knock on their door and because my churches were small, there was plenty of time to do so.

Visit I did. I purchased a map of the county showing every dirt road and pig trail, and I drove down most of them. I played checkers with the old men (now I'm one of them!) in Shiloh, drank Choc-cola with teenagers in a small country store in Ellerslie, fished for bream and catfish with a retired naval man and his wife at their pond, picked blueberries at the farm of a church member in Ellerslie, shelled peas on the front porch of many members...the list goes on and on.

One of the things I was most anticipating in my four months as your Interim Senior Pastor was the visitation. There would have been plenty of time for me to visit with you because of the nature of this appointment.

I was making a good start on it. But then came the virus. Your staff is still preaching and teaching and meeting via zoom and phone calls. But we can't visit! I can't speak for the rest of the staff, but this is a huge loss for me.

The pastoral role has been really tough to let go. Pastors are used to visiting hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, emergency room, funeral homes and cemeteries. We are used to knocking on doors and visiting church members. We are used to calling on those seeking to join the church. I miss this.

We are all looking forward to seeing each other's faces again...really seeing them! But until that time, keep on loving creatively. This virus can't conquer the love of God and we can still love each other even if we can't "hug on each other's neck".

*Cruce*



### Memorial Fund

*In memory of Rachel Bishop by Mr. & Mrs. William Walker*

*In memory of Carolyn Barber by Mr. & Mrs. William Walker*

### 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.



Thank you to all who have been there for us during this COVID-19 pandemic! We have received an abundance of love and the community continues to strengthen around us. The support in the past few weeks have enabled us to keep safely serving our brothers and sisters safely.

Here is this week's needs list:

**\*Gloves: latex free gloves and food service gloves\***

Disinfectant sprays/wipes/cleaners -- spic-n-span, pine cleaner

Vinegar Gatorade Raisins/dry cranberry

Canned and fresh fruit 8 ounce cold drink cups

**INSTANT** Grits

Disposable bowls/spoons/forks

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

Sturdy Backpacks

Please consider adding these items to your shopping list! Curbside donation available during operating hours, just call (478) 216-9119.

### 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.brtaapp.com/viewinsite/21a04c47ec07a7750de8dc4154fc79b5?>

### 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.brtaapp.com/viewinsite/8020b74e13427886ec71b0a11aeb42e5?>