

# OUTREACH

*participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy*

**{Outward}**

2013 MISSIONAL FOCUS CALENDAR		
<b>July</b> SHELTER/PRIMARY ED Local  CARITAS School Supplies	<b>August</b> PRIMARY ED Local  School Supplies	<b>September</b> URBAN MINISTRIES Regional  <b>Shalom Farms</b>
<b>October</b> WORLD HEALTH National/Global *  ImagineNoMalaria Pan American Health	<b>November/December</b> FAMILY SERVICES Local  UMFS Christmas	

SHALOM FARMS is a community development project of United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond. It is a farm with a focus; namely, food security in our region. The project is: 1) providing fresh produce to underserved communities; 2) providing educational training to children and adults on growing food and food-based entrepreneurship; and 3) linking community groups to a wide range of food security resources and partners.

# WITNESS

*telling our stories, offering expressions of faith, being Christ-like*

**{Together}**

**SAVE THE DATE:** The Richmond Marathon and Half-marathon is on November 16. Last year, friends of Boulevard posted up out front to cheer on runners and to offer hospitality to the passer-bys. It is an opportunity to give the cold cup of water and the encouragement Christ commends (Matt 10:43; 1 Thess 5:11). Who can lead us?

**IT IS A MATTER OF DAYS.** The new site – a renewed presence on the web – the going-live announcement for [www.boulevardumc.org](http://www.boulevardumc.org) is forthcoming.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world (Matthew 28).

# Boulevard United Methodist Church



Jesus is not calling his followers to hate their families in terms of emotional response; instead, he calls for undivided loyalty...above family loyalties.

Jeannine K. Brown, Bethel Seminary

September 8, 2013

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# Order of Worship for the 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

(UMH) - The United Methodist Hymnal  
(TFWS) - The Faith We Sing

\* Please stand, as able.

## Gathering

Words of Welcome

Introit *Here in This Place*

\*Call to Worship

\*Hymn *Maker, in Whom We Live* 88 UMH

Prayers of the People

Joys and Concerns  
Pastoral Prayer  
Interlude

## Proclamation and Response

Time with Children

First Readings *Jeremiah 18:1-11*  
*Philemon 1-21*

Anthem *He's Still Workin' on Me*

Gospel Lesson *Luke 14:25-33*

Sermon "Offloading" Rev. Rachel G. May

\*Hymn *Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone* 424 UMH

Offering Tithes and Gifts

Offertory *Lord, You Have Searched*

\*Doxology (94 UMH)

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer (895 UMH)

## Sending Forth

\*Hymn *And Are We Yet Alive* 553 UMH

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

## NURTURE

*caring for one another, for our space, and for our growth as disciples*

**{Inward}**

REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY READINGS typically shape our order of service, including the sermon. If you'd like to prepare:

Next Sunday—17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28*

*Psalms 14:1-7*

*1 Timothy 1:12-17*

*Luke 15:1-10*

WE ARE PRAYING for the Carels, the Mays, the Seipps, Kimberly, Donna, Sheldon, Doris Leonard, Nancy Tate, Patricia Stansbury, Roy Burgess, Tonya Toney, David Johnson, John McConnell, Katie Anderson, William Wagner, Wilmer Chipiwalt, Wendy McClellan, Porter Anderson, Buster Riddell, and June Robinson. Want to add someone? Say so via the offering plate or call the office.

OUR NURSERY is not staffed. However, the door to "Noah's Ark" is an open one. This space is on the first floor. Please feel free to exit and return at any point during this morning's service. We welcome infants and young children in the sanctuary. With them, we are more complete.

NEXT MONDAY MORNING PRAYER: September 9. You are invited to join in prayer and lunch thereafter, if you'd like, at Westminster Canterbury. All are welcome. Our focus is on lifting the names of our members and friends to God. We typically gather at 11:30 on the first Monday of each month.

GIVING GROWS US. Clicking "like" on our Facebook page and visiting SignUp Genius to offer your time? These count too.

August 25 - 31

Ministry Costs  
3118

Your Contributions  
2945



FLOWERS are given to glorify God by Marjorie, in memory of Gerald O. Lyons.



## Crossing Boulevard

with Rev. Rachel

### <sup>18</sup> CHARGE THAT TO MY ACCOUNT Philemon

It was my second year of div school. Our Homiletics professor had assigned a day to each of us, the day that we would preach. We anticipated surprises. But no one expected Teddy to come out swinging like he did.

By swinging, I do not mean to evoke images of aggression but rather how several sentences in, the Teddy we knew had gone to a whole 'nother level. This man was talking about Judge Judy. And we were laughing—borderline hysterically.

It was no passing reference. No, for the polite and sensitive middle-aged man before us, it had not been a first rodeo. Teddy watched Judge Judy. And he was preaching her.

Of course, he would not ultimately preach *her*. True to his MO, Teddy would shed light on the mighty ways of God and the grace that does not quit. What Judge Judy provided was a lesson on co-signing.

Evidently, people come to Judy over and again with complaints that stem from one person bailing on what another had perceived to be a joint venture. A plaintiff shares how he/she is left with the burden of payment and a downgraded credit score. A defendant appears baffled by this other's description of their agreement.

Again, evidently, because this is all second-hand, the television judge greets these cases with an impatient and aggravated spirit. I suppose she has seen it one too many times. Judy wears her disbelief on the sleeve of her robe. She wants to know why in the world people act as a co-signer when all indicators suggest a mess will come of it.

It is what Teddy said next that I now treasure. Following Christ means giving Judy no more than her due. It means stepping back far enough and long enough to consider how the virtues of this world may not be synonymous God's will. God. Disciples ask: Who has God shown God's self to be and how will that our starting point?

Paul writes: *Put it on my tab*. He did so for reasons beyond the circumstances surrounding Philemon. Out of allegiance to grace and through Christ whom he experienced as an outpouring to all kinds of unreliable characters, Paul says: "Charge that to my account,"

Judy would not have approved. But God may have. I hear you, Teddy. I hear you. A belated but hearty Amen~