

OUTREACH

participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy

{Outward}

2015 MISSION CALENDAR-ING is calling. Have some thoughts about building upon 2014 initiatives or just an urge to do something for or with our neighbors? Join Rachel at the N. Robinson Starbucks, Saturday, January 3, 10:00 am. We'll take forty-five minutes or so to outline the coming year in terms of outreach.

THE FINAL FOCUS FOR 2014 was United Methodist Family Services (UMFS). This organization identifies the unmet needs of area children and develops partnerships to provide residential treatment, specialized education, foster care, adoption services, mentoring, and more. To bring the holidays to care-receivers, UMFS depends on the generosity that flows from the likes of Boulevard. Your gifts totaled \$1,414. Wow!

A STOCKING WAS PASSED and a hometown theater production brought in a whopping \$375. And what do you know? These folks decided to help us help others. Janet Rodgers and friends' "A Christmas Memory" was not only a lovely offering of the arts to those in attendance, but a means of grace too.

WITNESS

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

{Together}

AN HOUR ON CHRISTMAS EVE could be spent many places. Consider coming to Boulevard at 10:00 am for a cross between a service of worship and fellowship. Think of it as a casual and yet holy waiting with others outside the delivery room.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Boulevard United Methodist Church



Luke's portrait of Mary cracks open the snow dome and lets Mary out to stand flesh and blood, life-size, before us...Luke portrays her in a startling role—one that shakes up the way we've been brought up to think of her and invites us to stop observing her and start imitating her. For Luke, Mary is first a prophet.

Alyce McKenzie

December 21, 2014

321 N Boulevard
Richmond, Virginia 23220
www.boulevardumc.org

Order of Worship

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

* Please stand, as able.

Gathering

Introit

Christmas Time's a-Comin

*Call to Worship

*Hymn

All Earth Is Waiting

UMH 210

Words of Welcome

Prayers of the People

Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer
Interlude

Proclamation and Response

Time with Children

First Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

Anthem

To a Maid Engaged to Joseph

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:47-55

Sermon

“That’s What She Sang”

Rev. Rachel Gene May

*Hymn

My Soul Gives Glory to My God

UMH 198

Offering Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

Tell Out My Soul

*Doxology (94 UMH)

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

Sending Forth

*Hymn

O Come All Ye Faithful

UMH 234

*Advent Dismissal with Blessing

NURTURE

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

{Inward}

GOD WITH US is an “O Antiphon”—the final of seven names for God incarnated. These are an ancient Advent tradition, based on an even older vision; that of the prophet Isaiah. Today, the O Antiphons are often spoken instead of sung (in Latin):

<i>O Sapientia</i>	Wisdom	November 9
<i>O Adonai</i>	Lord	November 16
<i>O Rex Gentium</i>	Ruler of nations	November 23
<i>O Radix Jesse</i>	Root of Jesse	November 30
<i>O Clavis David</i>	Key of David	December 7
<i>O Oriens</i>	Light from the East	December 14
<i>O Emmanuel</i>	God with us	December 21

“O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver, the Expected of the nations and their Savior. Come and save us, O Lord our God.”

WE ARE PRAYING for Joshua Allen, Maria, Bill Rice and Debbie Bassett, Jamie and Lanier May, Shane, those in contact with Ebola, and Irene Wagner. Here, per your request, we publish a prayer list. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate. Or, leave a message with the main office.

REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY READINGS typically shape our order of service, including the sermon. Next Sunday, the 1st Sunday after Christmas Day: Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Psalm 148 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40.

SEEKING AN ANGEL, more specifically a flower angel. Can you give the gift of flowers for Christmas Eve? These will bring beauty to the following Sunday's service as well. Contact our main office to express interest.

Luke 1:47-55

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

THE GIVING TREE is back. Here is how it works:

The Giving Tree
for
Christmas 2014

1. If you see something you would like to give the church for Christmas or to wish us Happy Epiphany, claim the ornament. A list of options is available (over).
2. Claiming can happen by way of the clipboard near the tree or by contacting the main office. Use the flipside to indicate intent.
3. Gifts can be placed under the tree on Wednesday, December 24 or Sunday, December 28 or Sunday, January 4. There are twelve days of Christmas, remember!



4. If you wish to participate but cannot fetch an ornament or simply prefer to give an amount other than what is listed to go toward any one of these needs, you may do so.
5. Because some like to shop and others loathe it, we are happy to help with purchasing. Contact the main office.

<u># & \$</u>	<u>Gift description</u>	<u>For our</u>	<u>Specifics</u>
1. \$70	trash can	kitchen	50-gal rollout with lid
2. \$45	black ink	printer	Epson 676XL
3. \$30	cyan ink	printer	Epson 676XL
4. \$30	magenta ink	printer	Epson 676XL
5. \$30	yellow ink	printer	Epson 676XL
6. \$10	book of 20 stamps	main office	Songbird or Liberty Bell
7. \$10	book of 20 stamps	main office	Songbird or Liberty Bell
8. \$20	dishtowels	kitchen	cotton commercial set
9. \$100	folding chair 4-pack	multipurpose	Flex One Black/Gray
10.	100% grape juice (2)	Communion	Welch's singles 6pk
11.	not decaf coffee	hospitality	Starbucks or local roast
12.	not decaf coffee	hospitality	Starbucks or local roast
*13. \$90	½ folding roundtable	indoor/outdoor social hall, classroom	Flash Furniture 72"
*14. \$90	½ folding roundtable	indoor/outdoor social hall, classroom	Flash Furniture 72"
*15. \$570	½ <u>week</u> of fuel oil	main building heat	cold weather average
*16. \$80	1 <u>day</u> of fuel oil	main building heat	cold weather average

Most items are available at Staples and/or Amazon.com. Prices will vary and are rounded, above. The church can order bulkier items (often free of shipping charges and sales tax). * Indicates those items that have to be ordered by the church.