

OUTREACH

participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy

{Outward}

IT IS TIME to talk 2017. We have a monthly mission calendar: Thoughts about building upon 2016 initiatives or just an urge to do something for or with our neighbors? Join Rachel for coffee/tea/whatever suits your palate on Saturday, January 14, 10:00 am at Panera in Carytown. We'll use forty-five minutes or so to imagine/outline the coming year in terms of outreach.

Boulevard United Methodist Church



Anxious people choose strange things to fixate on. Herod, inexplicably, decides that he must know the “exact time” of the star’s appearance. Herod’s asking about the *chronos*, completely clueless to the fact that he’s in the thick of *kairos*. As if “the exact time” will illuminate anything.

- MaryAnn McKibben Dana

January 1, 2017

On the Cover: Guatemalan Sculpture (wood) The Three Kings

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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

A Service of Holy Communion on Epiphany Sunday

11:00 AM

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

* Please stand, as able.

Gathering

Opening Words

Introit

*Call to Worship Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 UMH 795

*Hymn *Jesus The Light of the World* Insert

Prayer

Everlasting God, the radiance of faithful souls,
you brought the nations to your light
and kings to the brightness of your rising.
Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself once more;
through him who is the true light and the bright and morning star,
even Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

[LATIN SACRAMENTARY, 5TH- 7TH CENT., ALT.]

Proclamation and Response

Time with Children

First Reading Isaiah 60:1-6
 Ephesians 3:1-12

*Hymn *Arise Your Light is Come* Insert

Gospel Lesson Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon Rev. Rachel G. May

Interlude

Thanksgiving and Communion

Our Service of Word and Table continues with the liturgy included in the hymnal on page 12. You are invited to offer tithes and gifts as you come forward to celebrate the sacrament by intinction.

Offertory *Glory in the Highest*
Prayer

Sending Forth

*Hymn *This is a Day of New Beginnings* UMH 383

*Dismissal with Blessing

*Parting Music

NURTURE

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

{Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for Grayson Foy, the family of David Bradley McConnell, the Talton family, Sissie Kerns, and Jay McKinney. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate or the church's e-mail address.

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

GUESTS: Before worship begins or during the offering time, consider sending a text message to boulevardumc@gmail.com. Include your name and snail-mail address and we will do our best to acknowledge your gift (of presence) to us. What you share we handle with care!

MONDAY MORNING PRAYER: January 9. Join in prayer and lunch thereafter, if you'd like, at Westminster Canterbury (1600 Westbrook Ave.). We gather at 11:30 in the 6th floor common room.

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.