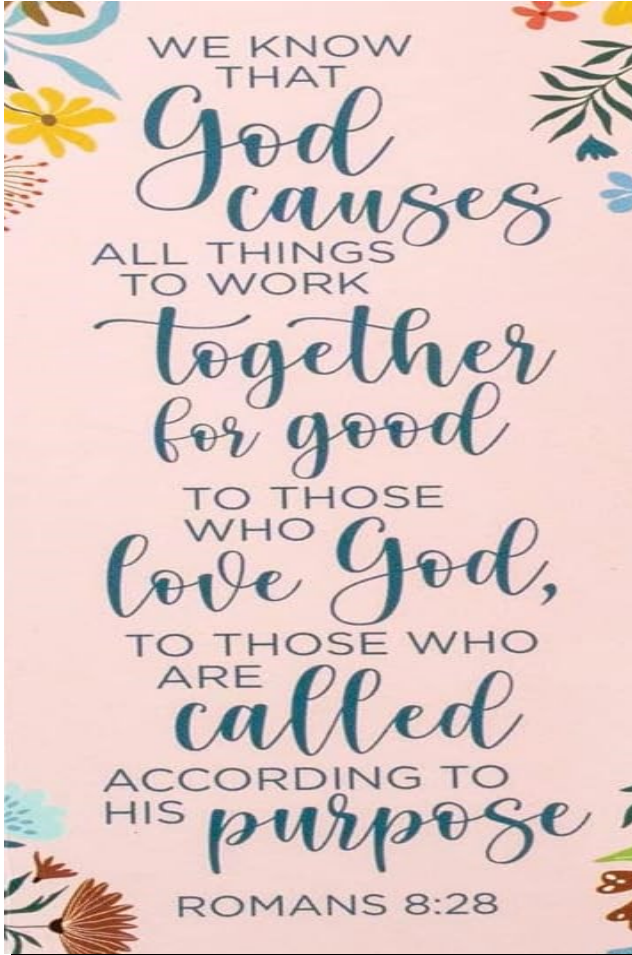




The Mustard Seed

If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed...Matt. 17:20



Holding Space for Others

by Rev. Courtney Bowen

Recently, I listened to a guided meditation by Tamara Levitt, in which she discussed the importance of “holding space” for others. By this she meant creating a safe space for another person to feel and process whatever emotion they may be currently experiencing, particularly sentiments such as sorrow, grief, and anxiety. All too often, when someone we care about is feeling sad, we rush in with pep talks and solutions and we neglect to actually listen to that person. Even worse, sometimes in our hurry to make things better, we minimize what our loved one is feeling. Levitt’s reminder was that sometimes the best thing we can do for a person who is hurting is to just sit with them, listen, and give them the space they need to explore their experience.

In one of my favorite scriptures - the Walk to Emmaus in Luke 24:13-35 - Jesus does just that. In this story, Jesus has risen from the dead only earlier that morning, but his disciples do not yet know that. Two of the disciples are walking to the village of Emmaus and are distraught over Jesus’ death. Jesus meets them on the road, but they are unable to recognize him. He asks them what they are discussing and Cleopas answers, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?”

I love Jesus’ response. He asks them, “What things?” Jesus knows better than anyone what “things” have happened - after all, they happened to him! But, Jesus, instead of rushing to reassure the disciples or to make everything better, gives the disciples the space they need to process and share their experience and feelings. They tell him about Jesus’ mighty works, about his unjust and brutal death, that there are rumors of an empty tomb, that they don’t know what to believe. They share all they have been through and the confusion and grief they have felt.

Something interesting has happened during this conversation. We

Continued on page 2

~ MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In Memory of Ann Cross

by

Mike & Marcia Eaton

Linda & Hatim Hajj

Meredith Hall

Kim McMichael

Andy & Scott Brady

Harrell & Connie Jeanes

Hollis & Karen Wimpee

Margaret Hewitt

Danny & Anne Germany

are told that when Jesus first asks the disciples what they are discussing, "They stood still, looking sad." They stopped moving forward - physically as well as emotionally. They found themselves stuck. Yet, after Jesus creates space for them to share what they have been through, they begin to walk again, once again moving forward as they resume their journey to Emmaus, where they will recognize Jesus, and then, overcome with joy, will rush back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples they have seen their Lord. They go from standing still, to moving forward, to rushing with excitement to share the good news and move into a new space, a new chapter.

How might we practice holding space for others? This will be especially important as we begin the work of moving forward into a new chapter. We will have much to process. We will have a wide variety of emotions - relief, grief, anxiety, hope, and more. So, how might we as the Body of Christ, hold space for another to share and process our experiences of this past year?

It takes courage to listen, especially when someone we care about shares feelings of grief and anxiety. It takes patience to ask someone, "what things" they've experienced and to truly hear their response, especially when we think we already know the answer. It takes a willingness to share our time and to give a person other than ourselves our complete attention. It takes vulnerability. It takes love.

After the disciples have their space to process and share what they've experienced, they begin to move forward again. And then, when they recognize Jesus' presence among them, they rush to Jerusalem to share the good news and begin a new chapter together. This new life won't look like the old one. But they have seen the Lord. They know he is present with them. And they know what we can also be sure of: Jesus holds space for us, just as he did for the disciples, so that we can share our feelings, experiences, and our very lives with him.

Thanks be to God. Amen.



~ STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As of July 22, 2024

YTD Income: \$33,829
YTD Expenses: \$35,708
YTD Net Income: (\$1,879)

Parenthesis indicate negative number.

*Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you.
Deuteronomy 16:17*

~ PRESBYTERY PRAYER CONCERNS



Below are prayer concerns from the Presbytery of the Mid-South for this month. Please add these to your prayers for the week:

- Week of 8/4: Liberation Community Church
College & Young Adults
- Week of 8/11: Parkway Garden United Church
Youth Leaders/Youth Ministry/
Youth Groups
- Week of 8/18: Shady Grove Church
Public Education
- Week of 8/25: Kerrville Presbyterian

As always, pray for CPC and its members.

[Click here to find out what's happening at your library!](#)



Collierville
BURCH
LIBRARY



Town of
Collierville

[Click here to find out what's happening in your town!](#)

it's always FUN **AUG. 30 - SEPT. 8**
at the
Delta Fair

Senior American Day
Wednesday, Sept. 4th

AGRICENTER WING A
Memphis, TN

SCHEDULE

DELTA FEST.COM



9:30 AM - MPD Presents Colors

10:00 AM - Delta Fair Senior American Spelling Bee

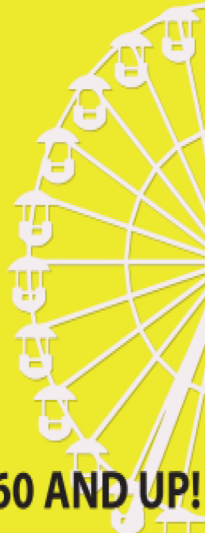
10:45 AM - The Memphis Police Department Peacemakers

11:30 AM - Senior Talent Contest

1-3 PM - Annual Delta Fair Tea Dance with Jim Mahannah, Jr., Band

ALL DAY - Senior Vendors

FREE ADMISSION AND FREE PARKING SEPT 4th 9AM - NOON FOR AGES 60 AND UP!





A purple safari hat with a red butterfly flying to the right. The hat's brim is replaced by a pair of large, white, circular eyes with yellow pupils, set against a patch of green grass.

SENIOR SAFARI

At the Memphis Zoo

Wednesday, October 2 • 9am–2pm

- Free Zoo Entry
- Free Tram Rides
- Free Parking
- Free Exhibits
- Free Entertainment

Plus access to information on healthy living, financial planning, housing, insurance, caregiving, hospice, home health and more from sponsors who help the Professional Network on Aging and the Memphis Zoo make this free day possible to our 55+ community here in Memphis! **For more information, visit www.pnamidsouth.org.**



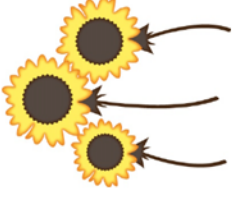


© Birthday ♥ Anniversary



August 2024

Collierville Presbyterian Church



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 11th Sunday after Pentecost ♦ ELC Meeting (10am) ♦ Worship Service (10:30am) ♦ Hopefuls AA (3pm)	5 ♦ Boy Scouts (7pm)	6 ♦ Hopefuls AA (5:30pm)	7	8	9 ♥ Hollis & Karen Wimpee	10 © Price Patton
11 12th Sunday after Pentecost ♦ Worship Service (10:30am) ♦ Hopefuls AA (3pm)	12 ♦ Boy Scouts (7pm)	13 ♦ Hopefuls AA (5:30pm)	14	15	16	17
18 13th Sunday after Pentecost ♦ Worship Service (10:30am) ♦ Hopefuls AA (3pm) © Darren Arant	19 ♦ Boy Scouts (7pm)	20 ♦ Hopefuls AA (5:30pm)	21	22	23	24
25 14th Sunday after Pentecost ♦ Worship Service (10:30am) ♦ Hopefuls AA (3pm)	26 ♦ Boy Scouts (7pm)	27 ♦ Hopefuls AA (5:30pm)	28	29	30	31