

The Quick Source

Central United Methodist Church

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MEN AND BOYS FIND FISH, FRIENDS AND FUN

By Robert Rowe
Photos by Saied Murphy



On July 23rd, the **United Methodist Men** hosted their annual **Men's & Boys' Outing** at the home of Melanese and Willace McGee. Twenty-one boys and 28 men attended the event. We were also honored to have one young lady – Dani LeePow – as our certified lifeguard.



Outdoor and indoor activities entertained everyone from fishing, swimming and basketball to pool, ping pong and video games. Central to these activities was the grilling and fish frying by capable "Gourmet Chefs". The menu consisted of fresh fish, baked beans, hot dogs, coleslaw, chips, and cookies. Punch and plenty of water kept everyone hydrated on one of our hottest days.

The event began with an opening prayer. We thanked God for the opportunity for men and boys to come together, in the ideal location and environment, and for the protection of all involved.

The Men's & Boys' Outing continued

The event itself was a mentoring opportunity for us, as Christian men, to demonstrate to our youth that a great social activity can be fun without the vulgarity and violence seen far too often in movies, on TV and in the neighborhood.



We wanted the boys to know that it's alright to emulate Black Christian men who are not necessarily athletes or entertainers. As Jesus taught his disciples how to become fishers of men, we taught our boys how to fish, and also taught them the same principles.

If you've ever had the opportunity to see the joy on a young boy's face when he catches his first fish, you begin to understand how Jesus must have felt as he took regular people and taught them how to fish for men.



This lesson also became an excellent learning experience for the men.



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The **Five Books** every Methodist leader should read, according to Bishop Woodie W. White are:

- 1. The Bible** is foundational to exploring our relationship with God and to our ongoing understanding of faith.
- 2. The Book Of Discipline** constitutes the law and doctrine of the United Methodist Church
- 3. The Book Of Hymns** is a prescriptive document to shape and mold worship and prescribes what is sung and done.
- 4. The Book Of Worship** has five parts:
 - GENERAL SERVICES - orders of worship, and the rituals of baptism, confirmation, the Lord's Supper, marriage, burial and the ordination.
 - AIDS FOR THE ORDERING OF WORSHIP - The Christian Year: a one-year **lectionary**, **collects**, **invocations** and calls to worship for the various liturgical seasons.
 - ACTS OF PRAISE -The **Psalter** and **Canticles**.
 - THE OCCASIONAL SERVICES OF THE CHURCH includes 18 services among which are laying of the cornerstone of a church, blessing of a dwelling, and recognition of officials in the church.
 - SERVICES IN THE METHODIST TRADITION contains the historic services the **love feast**, the **covenant service** and the Order for Morning Prayer
- 5. The Book Of Resolutions** contains current social policies adopted by the General Conference. The *Resolutions* guide the work and ministry of the church on 200 subjects including official statements on abortion, alcohol, capital punishment, gambling, homosexuality, military service, pornography, stem cell research, and war.