

**THANK YOU!!**

Hooray! I am back with my family — Mullins UMC! I have missed all of you. My recovery, thanks be to God, has been wonderful. I want to thank each and every one for their prayers, calls and visits.  
Love to all,  
Bill Peck

\* \* \* \* \*

Thanks so much to all who helped make the annual United Methodist Women Craft Fair a huge success! We all worked hard, had great fellowship and did a great job! The UMW Craft Fair Committee truly appreciates YOU!

**NEW ADDRESS FOR THE DEANS**

Mail for Bidwell and Nancy Dean should be sent in care of their son, John, to 1534 Ivy, Memphis, TN 38117. Nancy is currently in St. Francis Nursing Home, in the same room as Bidwell. They appreciate your cards and letters. You may contact John at 335-5595.

**ORNAMENTS FOR SALE!**

The Molly Lipscomb Circle of United Methodist Women will sell homemade dough ornaments before and after the 10:50 worship service on Sunday, Nov. 18. These ornaments are adorable and can be customized! All money received will go to the UMNC Christmas Food Baskets.

**ST. JOHN'S MINISTRY IS NOV. 17**

Give thanks with a grateful heart, and show you care by supporting St. John's Ministry to the homeless of our community. Volunteers are needed to help serve the meal at St. John. Also, donations are needed to help provide this meal — the best attended during the whole year. Your own Thanksgiving experience will be more meaningful by your support of the St. John's Ministry. We'll meet at St. John UMC at 3:30 p.m. to help serve. Contact Ginny Wilcox at 276-8467 and let her know you will help.

**CHURCH HEALTH CENTER**

...is now taking orders for holiday honorarium and memorial cards. This year's card features a watercolor by well-known artist and teacher, Dolph Smith. To send cards to the people on your list and support the work of the Church Health Center, call 272-7170 or visit [www.churchhealthcenter.org](http://www.churchhealthcenter.org)

**HONORING OUR LOVED ONES**

Gifts have been given to:

**ST. JOHN'S MINISTRY**

In honor of Patricia Cooper by Joe Cooper

**NEW WAYS OF PRAYER AND PRAISE**

Beginning Sunday, December 2, we'll be using a new method for prayer requests and praises during worship. During the week, please continue to call the church office, 685-8253, with your prayer requests and praises. On Sunday mornings you will have the opportunity to pick up a prayer card from boxes outside the Sanctuary doors. Please complete the card and give to an usher before the service begins. Ushers will then give the cards to the pastor. This format will allow Dr. Gabriel time to become familiar with prayer requests before the prayer time in the worship service. Needs that occur on Saturday should be noted on the cards on Sunday mornings. Please be assured that all prayer concerns will be voiced during the worship service. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

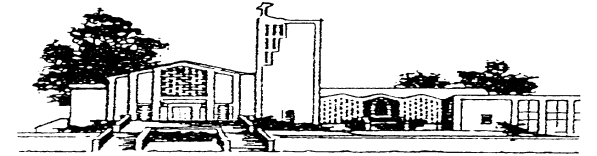
Worship Committee

**MIFA GOODIE BAGS**

On Tuesday, December 4, United Methodist Women will fill Christmas Goodie Bags for MIFA (Metropolitan Interfaith Association) recipients. When Christmas meals are delivered, a bag of goodies is also presented to them. Each decorated bag is filled with 15 items and makes a special surprise for these shut-ins.

We now have larger bags, so items can be bigger than travel size. Some recommended items are: individually wrapped toothbrushes, toothpaste, puzzles, books of crossword puzzles, small flashlights, hard candy (nothing that will melt), lip balm, small pencil sharpeners, non-skid socks, and other things you would enjoy if you were a shut-in. Travel size containers of shampoo, conditioner and lotion are an ongoing need, but we need these other special items to be sure everyone gets 15 items in their bag. You may bring donations to the church office, labeled "MIFA", or give them to Nancy Blankenship, Mullins' MIFA representative. We especially welcome cash or check donations to purchase needed items. Checks should be made out to Mullins UMC and designated for "Goodie Bags". We try to fill at a least 50 bags (more if possible), so we need lots of items! Please bring your donations to the church office by Monday, December 3. THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!

**MULLINS MESSENGER**



**4 North Mendenhall Road  
Memphis, TN 38117-2698  
(901) 685-8253**

Web Address: [www.mullinsumc.org](http://www.mullinsumc.org)

**November 14, 2007**

**Vol. 38 No. 46**

The Rev. Dr. Bradley W. Gabriel, Pastor  
November 18, 2007

Rev. Steve Atkins, Preaching

*Weekly Schedule*

*Sunday Worship* 8:45 & 10:50 a.m.  
*Sunday School* 9:40 am  
*Wednesday Dinner & Program* 5:45 p.m.

**MULLINS MESSENGER** (USPS 882-060) is published weekly by Mullins UMC, 4 N. Mendenhall Rd., Memphis, TN 38117. Periodicals postage paid at Memphis, TN 38117. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Mullins Messenger, 4 N. Mendenhall Rd., Memphis, TN 38117-2698.

Dear Friends,

Recently I was talking with a friend who had attended a conference at our mutual alma mater. He reported that the poet, Wendell Barry, was a speaker at a conference there. Barry looks and speaks like one's image of an old style southern gentleman farmer, poet and novelist. He is that, and more. I have enjoyed his poetry. In one article, Mr. Barry wrote, "The movements which deal with single issues or single solutions are bound to fail because they cannot control effects while leaving causes in place." There we have a secular expression of a profound Christian truth. The church has known for all time, for example, that exploitation of children is wrong, that war is usually a bad idea, and that marriage is meant to be a covenant that lasts a lifetime. The church (at Her best) has avoided being a single issue body precisely because we have kept the cause of our ills before us while working to remove the effects when and where we can. The cause of social and economic and political ills is rebellion against God (called sin), a heart turned in on itself and away from God. The effects of that sin are all of the bad things we lament about, weep over and work against. Here is another of the many ways the church is different from all other bodies in society; we know that our work will probably be continued by our great-grandchildren's great-grandchildren. The reason is simple — too many people do not wish to, and will oppose any attempt to, address the original cause of human problems — that rebellion against God. Too many people are so comfortable in a rebellion that gives small and passing benefits, to see the immeasurable gifts that come with a right relationship with God. So as the year winds down, let us be thankful that the church is the church, not a single issue agency. The church is the Body of Christ alive in the world today, combating and correcting the effects of human wrongdoing. In God's good time, the causes as well as the effects will be cured and Eden will be once more. For now, though, we give thanks that God provides us this family of faith wherein we may be sheltered from the storm, healed from injuries and prepared to carry the cure to each person we meet in each place we find ourselves.

In His Service,  
Brad

**WHAT WE HAVE**

When we look at what we want, and then compare that with what we have, we shall be unhappy.

When we think about what we really deserve, and then compare that with what we actually have, we shall thank God.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18 - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24**

**SUNDAY** 8:45 a.m. Worship - Chapel  
9:40 a.m. Sunday School  
10:50 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary  
12:00 Noon Crossroads out to lunch  
5:00 p.m. Youth

**MONDAY** 9:30 a.m. Yoga  
10:00 a.m. Ladies Prayer Group  
6:00 p.m. Bible Study - 212  
6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts - FH  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts  
7:00 p.m. Administrative Council - Chapel

**TUESDAY** 8:30 a.m. Walking in Gym  
6:15 p.m. Core Ball Class - Gym  
6:30 p.m. Handbells  
7:00 p.m. Yoga Class  
7:00 p.m. Bowling  
7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Service - Sanctuary

**WEDNESDAY** Church Offices & Parents Day Out Closed

**THURSDAY** Happy Thanksgiving!  
Church Offices & Parents Day Out Closed

**FRIDAY** Church Offices & Parents Day Out Closed

**SATURDAY** 8:15 a.m. Yoga - Gym

**MEMBERS IN SERVICE FOR NOVEMBER 18**

Children's Message: Terrye Mastin  
Children's Church: Play Practice

**To schedule a nursery for church meetings, please contact Stephanie Bowen, 483-4747, or the church office, 685-8253.**

**OUR PRAYERS**

At Home  
George Balas

St. Francis Nursing Home  
Nancy Dean 313

**OUR SYMPATHY**

love and prayers go out to

...Kevin and Anna Rushing and family in the loss of Kevin's father, Bobby Rushing

...Bryan Dunn in the loss of his grandmother, Georgene Dunn

**OUR PRESENCE**

8:45 a.m.	46
Sunday School	110
10:50 Service	153
Prayer Breakfast	12
Prayer Service	93



**CHANCEL FLOWERS**

for this Sunday are being placed to the Glory of God

...in honor of all those who worked in the Fellowship Hall Kitchen during the Craft Fair. Your help is sincerely appreciated. Given by Charles and Kathy Carter.

...in loving memory of Dorothea Barnes by John Barnes

...in loving memory of Sidney Jones by his family

**UNITED METHODIST NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS  
NEED YOUR HELP!**

UMNC needs your help to provide food, toys and gifts for those in need this Christmas. Food donations should be brought to 3000 Walnut Grove Road, Ground Floor. For more information, call Dan at 323-4993, ext. 239.