

**THANK YOU NOTES!**

Dear Church Family,

The visits, cards, calls and food during and after my recent surgery are much appreciated. I felt the love and prayers, and it means more than you know.

Bet Hendon

A huge "THANK YOU" to everyone who helped with Vacation Bible School this year. The kids had a wonderful time, and so did the adults! It took many hours of preparation and hard work, but it was well worth the effort. Once again, VBS at Mullins UMC was a big success!

Amber Mock



**MULLINS UMC IS HAVING A BIRTHDAY!**

The event of the season is almost here! Mullins United Methodist Church will be 163 years old on July 15. We will celebrate this grand occasion with a church birthday party on Saturday, July 12, at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. There will be lots of food, fun, and entertainment for all! Adults will enjoy food from Texas Roadhouse — Steak Tips, Grilled Chicken, Salad, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans and those delicious rolls! We will have hot dogs for the kids as well. It wouldn't be a birthday party without cake and ice cream, so be sure to save room for dessert!

Please call in your reservations to the church office, 685-8253, by July 9, so we'll know how many to prepare for. We hope to see you there!

The Family Life Committee

**ONLY YOU CAN HELP!**

Demographics are big in today's society. Please help us update church records by completing the following information and returning it to the church office. Thanks!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home #: \_\_\_\_\_ Work #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdays: \_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary: \_\_\_\_\_

**LITERATURE RECYCLING**

Share the Gospel with others and be a good steward, caring for our planet by recycling materials that would otherwise go into landfills. Grace Place Ministries would like to have: used Sunday School literature, copies of the Upper Room, copies of Today's Christian, copies of Guideposts, and other devotional material. Please bring your devotional books and magazines to the church and deposit them in the recycling box in the hall or drop them by the church office. Thank you for your help with this outreach ministry!

**MIFA CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF SERVICE**

MIFA (Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association) is celebrating 40 years of service to our community. Every day over 100 families in crisis seek help with utility bills, mortgages, food and clothing. The needs are endless, but thanks to MIFA volunteers, the work goes on. Volunteers deliver meals (Meals on Wheels) during the week from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Some Saturday dates are also open: Aug. 23, Nov. 22, Dec. 13, as well as Christmas Day. Other volunteer opportunities include: serving as an Ombudsman, advocating for the rights of nursing home residents; participating in the Plus-1 program, which teams with MLGW for \$1 or more added to your utility bill each month to assist families in financial crisis; "Love Caps" — those who knit or crochet make hats, lap robes, scarves and other warm items to be distributed to MIFA clients and other area agencies; and, of course, "Goodie Bags" each with 15 small items for Christmas and birthdays delivered with meals to shut-ins. Mullins UMC has been an active participant in this program with "Goodie Bags" for many years!

MIFA's mission has not changed in 40 years. A job loss or serious illness often causes the need for assistance. You can help — just call 527-0208, to volunteer and donate.

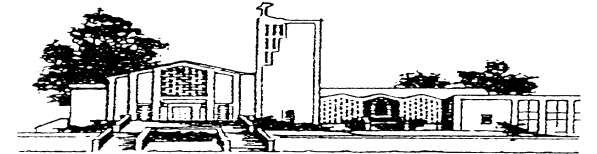
Nancy Blankenship  
MIFA Representative



**JUNE, 2008**

**Budget Needs to Date: \$288,714**  
**Budget Received to Date: \$254,236**

**MULLINS MESSENGER**



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

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

**July 2, 2008**

**Vol. 39 No. 27**

The Rev. Dr. Bradley W. Gabriel, Pastor

Mullins Pulpit - July 6, 2008

Scripture: I Corinthians 11: 17 - 26; Matthew 11: 16 -19, 25 - 30

Sermon: 'WHEN SAINTS COMMUNE'

Dr. Paul Blankenship, Preaching

*Weekly Schedule*

*Sunday Worship 8:45 & 10:50 a.m.*  
*Sunday School 9:40 am*

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Dear Friends,

A colleague of mine often starts his blogs (!) by saying, "I am a FILL IN THE BLANK guy." He means that he is a dog or cat guy, a Braves or Cubs guy, that sort of thing. Well, I am a nationalist guy. I love the land of my birth. Given that on one side of my family there have been Gabriels here since the 1600s, I'd better love my native land, or those ancestors might haunt me! Even without threats, though, I can proudly claim that I am a nationalist, a patriot.

This week we celebrate the birth of this nation. Friday is Independence Day. Good and faithful Christians will once again be all over the map on the issue of what role, if any, does Independence Day play in the life of Christians. There is no lack of conversation about the relationship between, or separation of, church and state, religion and nation, God and government. The discussion isn't new. Abraham, Ruth and David, Peter and Paul all had to deal with similar subject matter. Perhaps something we can do to shed more light and less heat on the conversation is to remember the deep spiritual foundations of our country. The American experiment has as an essential foundation, the belief that every human being is created in the image and likeness of God. Every human being, in light of our great enterprise, then, is to be valued, cherished, cared for and cared about. Every human being, in light of our great enterprise, is equally deserving of a social, political, religious and economic condition that honors the divine image in which we are created. For believers the issue is not that some of us believe those statements and others do not. The issue has always been, how do we act in such a way as to take those beliefs into reality? As a nation, our understanding of those truths has grown over the generations. When the Founders wrote that "all men are created equal", the social, political, religious and economic conditions did not include everyone we mean today when we say "man". The Civil War changed and expanded our understanding. The struggles of the World Wars and the Civil Rights movement also expanded our understandings. The American experiment continues to be developed. Thanks be to God!

This Friday I hope that you will enjoy food and fun, and that you will have the chance to sing the songs we love. My prayer is that you will remember that all our good gifts come from God, who blesses us so that we might be a blessing to others. In such a way, the spiritual foundations of our land will be more fully understood on this Independence Day.

In His Service,  
Brad Gabriel

**SUNDAY, JULY 6 - SATURDAY, JULY 12**

- SUNDAY**  
**Day Camps Monday - Friday**  
 8:45 a.m. Worship - Chapel  
 9:40 a.m. Sunday School  
 10:50 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary  
 5:00 p.m. Yoga Class - 117-T  
 6:00 p.m. MOMs Group at the Dougans'
- MONDAY**  
 10:00 a.m. Ladies Prayer Group  
 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
- TUESDAY**  
 8:30 a.m. Walking in Gym  
 2:30 p.m. Kids Karate  
 6:15 p.m. Core Ball Class - Gym  
 7:00 p.m. Yoga Class  
 7:00 p.m. Bowling
- WEDNESDAY**  
 6:01 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- THURSDAY**  
 8:30 a.m. Walking in Gym  
 2:30 p.m. Kids Karate
- FRIDAY**  
 8:30 a.m. Walking in Gym
- SATURDAY**  
 8:15 a.m. Yoga - Gym  
 6:00 p.m. Church Birthday Party - FH  
 7:30 p.m. AA Mtg. - Lamplighter Rm.

**Everyone CAN Help!!**

Let's help restock United Methodist Neighborhood Centers  
Food Pantries

Bring just one can or any non-perishable item  
to church each Sunday in

**JULY-AUGUST**

and Everyone CAN make a difference!!

No one should be turned away or go hungry  
in our community.

**PLEASE DO YOUR PART!**

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

**OUR PRAYERS**

**St. Francis**

Elizabeth Burns 1113

**Baptist Memorial**

Marguerite F. Higginbotham ICU

**At Home**

Evelyn Walden

**OUR SYMPATHY**

love and prayers go out to

....Carrie Likley and family in the loss of her father-in-law, Glen Likley.

**OUR PRESENCE**

8:45 a.m.	35
Sunday School	91
10:50 Service	177
Prayer Breakfast	11
Prayer Service	58



**CHANCEL FLOWERS**

for this Sunday are being placed to the Glory of God

...in honor of Andy Mastin for his birthday,  
by Terry and Jennifer

...in loving memory of Louise Harmon  
by Martha Harmon

**CHANCEL FLOWERS NEEDED!**

There are many open dates on our Flower Calendar for the remainder of this year! The calendar is posted outside the church office, or you may call the church office at 685-8253, and we will be glad to help you. The cost is \$30 per arrangement