



Congratulations to Jennifer Mastin, whose school bowling team (Lausanne Collegiate School) came in Third in the city, and made their way to the State play-offs this past week. Way to go, Jennifer!! Let us know what is going on in your life, so that we might celebrate with you!

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THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Friends,
Thanks to everyone for their prayers and concern during my recent hospitalization. I am home and slowly getting better. I look forward to being able to worship with you soon.

Sincerely,
Joe Wright

A great big thanks to my extended family at Mullins for your phone calls, cards and concern during my recent eye surgery. I'm doing well and will be back soon.

JoAnn Mitchell

It is impossible to separate the memory of our parents from their love of Mullins and their church family. Because of their health these last few years, they were unable to attend regularly, but were there in spirit. Thank you for all you have meant to them, and for all your calls, cards and prayers. We miss them so much. They were gone too quickly, but never forgotten.

The Dean Families

Many thanks to the eleven Mullins members who volunteered to give blood on January 23. We had ten units donated that evening. LifeBlood appreciates every donation made. The next drive is scheduled for May 21.

Tina & Scott Campbell
Health & Welfare Committee

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**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MAKE BIRTHDAYS
BRIGHTER AT WESLEY MANOR**

Thanks to Mullins United Methodist Women, nine residents of Wesley Manor who have February birthdays will enjoy the birthday party and celebration on Friday, February 1. Nine colorful decorative bags filled with gifts and a birthday card, have been delivered to the Manor for the birthday celebration. This is just one of many missions supported by our United Methodist Women!



BAKED GOODS AUCTION FUNDRAISER!

No one's sweetheart (or sweet tooth) should be neglected on St. Valentine's Day! That's why our Mullins family will be hosting a St. Valentine's Eve Cake and Bake Auction on the night of February 13. Get out your cookbooks, don your apron and rush to the kitchen to concoct your most delectable, delightful Valentine treat! After Fellowship Dinner that evening, Dr. Brad Gabriel will pick up his gavel and open the bidding. Each person should include a description of the item, along with their name and an opening bid. Prizes will be awarded for best Valentine theme. It's going to be fun as well as delicious! All proceeds will benefit the church library for children's books and materials.

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NEW EASTER CLOTHES FOR CHILDREN

Church Women United is collecting new clothes for school age boys and girls to wear for Easter. Pretty dresses for girls, nice shirts and pants for boys and socks, shoes and underwear for both, are needed. These items will be taken to the March 3rd meeting of Church Women United, and will be distributed by the Memphis City Schools to those they know have special needs. Please bring donations to the church office at Mullins, or give to Nancy Blankenship, United Methodist Women representative to Church Women United, by March 2. Thanks so much for your support of this project!

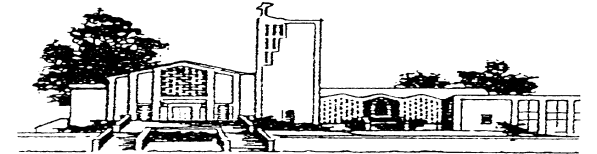
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WHY ASH WEDNESDAY?

Traditionally, the Christian church has observed the seven weeks before Easter as a time of penitence and spiritual self-examination.

Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent, derives its name from the ancient practice of marking the foreheads of worshipers with ashes from the palm branches of the previous year. Ashes historically have had dual significance. First, they are Old Testament symbols of sadness and humility. Job, in the midst of all his troubles, cried out to God from the ash heap. The second symbolic meaning of ashes is as a reminder of our mortality. Each of us faces the inevitability of physical death. Our bodies and material possessions eventually will turn to dust and ashes. This is a reminder that we dare not trust in things that crumble. But Lent does not leave us on the ash heap. It begins with Ash Wednesday, but ends with Easter. And Easter proclaims that, through Christ, God resurrects us from our dust and ashes, makes us new creatures and brings life out of death!

MULLINS MESSENGER



**4 North Mendenhall Road
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Vol. 39 No. 5

The Rev. Dr. Bradley W. Gabriel, Pastor

February 3, 2008

Scripture: Matthew 17: 1 - 9

Sermon: 'MOUNTAINTOPS'

Weekly Schedule

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

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Dear Friends,

How often is a team unbeaten? The University of Memphis Tigers Basketball Team is unbeaten as of today. Given that as an alumnus I am more than a little biased in favor of the Tigers, I bend over backwards not to be out of place with praise for the team. Still — my, oh my — do those guys play excellent basketball!!!! The players came to the University with of a lot of individual talent, no question. Talent alone, and tough, is not all there is. History is filled with talented people and groups who failed to achieve their goals. The players of the University of Memphis team have been excellently trained, drilled, and most importantly, coached, beginning indisputably with the head coach, John Calipari, and including all the people who work with them. The result is that the team is greater than the sum of the individuals on it. No matter what happens from this point on — and I would rejoice to see the Tigers win every game from here to the Championship — they are unbeaten now. Their student leaders and adult coaches have led them to become more than a collection of talented individuals. They can act with one goal, focused and directed to the goal they share.

Obviously a church can learn from this team. Mullins UMC is full of talented, devoted, worthy individuals. As a group, we look to those church members who not only have certain skills and abilities, but a willingness to teach, train and lead. As we support, resource and respond to these lay leaders, we act with one goal in mind, and become focused and directed to achieve that goal.

In return, all of us who are not involved in active leadership have a vital role to play in the life of Mullins. While everyone does not have to do everything, Christian faithfulness requires that everyone does something. Your interests may lie in teaching Sunday school, singing in the choir or learning to play handbells. Your abilities may move you to want to be involved in communicating the Mullins story to the greater community, getting your hands dirty with yard work or building maintenance. All of us are called to be involved in some part of the life of our church. We are thankful that God has led so many members of Mullins to accept leadership roles so that we as a church will be a greater witness for Christ than the sum of our individual abilities might suggest.

This Sunday, February 3, during our 10:50 worship service, we will recognize and install the 2008 officers of the church and our local unit of United Methodist Women. I know that you will want to know those with whom you will be working this year. I look forward to seeing you Sunday.

In His Service,
Brad Gabriel

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3 - SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

SUNDAY	8:45 a.m. Worship - Chapel 9:40 a.m. Sunday School 10:50 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class - Pastor's Office 5:00 p.m. Youth
MONDAY	9:30 a.m. Church Women United - Buntyn Pres. 10:00 a.m. Ladies Prayer Group 6:15 p.m. Woodwinds Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts - FH 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
TUESDAY	8:30 a.m. Walking in Gym 6:00 p.m. Handbells Rehearsal 6:15 p.m. Core Ball Class - Gym 7:00 p.m. Yoga Class 7:00 p.m. Bowling 7:00 p.m. Education/Nurture Com. - 117-T
WEDNESDAY	7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast - FH 8:30 a.m. Walking in Gym 5:45 p.m. Fellowship Dinner - FH 6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service - Chapel 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
THURSDAY	8:30 a.m. Walking in Gym 11:30 a.m. Women Clergy Mtg. - Rm. 209
FRIDAY	8:30 a.m. Walking in Gym
SATURDAY	8:15 a.m. Yoga - Gym 10:00 a.m. Basketball

MEMBERS IN SERVICE FOR FEBRUARY 3

Children's Message: None (Communion Sunday)
Children's Church: Lisa Weaver, Daniel Gabriel

THE MENU FOR FEBRUARY 6

Adults \$5, 12 & Under \$3, Family Max \$20

Adults: Baked Ham, Candied Sweet Potatoes, Green Peas,
Salad, Bread, Dessert
Kids: Pizza or adult menu

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

OUR PRAYERS

Please remember our homebound, those in nursing homes, world leaders and our military in your prayers.

OUR SYMPATHY

love and prayers go out to
...the family and friends of Bess Browne

...family and friends of J. W. Lawson

...Major and Cathy Philpot in the loss of his step-father,
Chancey Crawford

...Betty L. Smith in the loss of her aunt, Wanda May Butcher

OUR PRESENCE

8:45 a.m.	31
Sunday School	102
10:50 Service	148
Prayer Breakfast	12
Prayer Service	78



CHANCEL FLOWERS

for this Sunday are being placed to the Glory of God

...in loving memory of Dr. J. W. Lawson by the Lamplighter-Friendship Class. Dr. Lawson was a gifted teacher in our class for many years. He was loved and respected by all who knew him.

“AT THE HOP!”

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, March 8, 5:00 p.m. as we gather for a night filled with food, fun and dancing! This Sock Hop fundraiser is co-sponsored by our Youth and Recreation Department. Donations will be gladly accepted!! Save the date, and watch for more info to follow in coming weeks!