

THANK YOU NOTES

To My Mullins Family:

Thank you for your prayers, cards, calls and food during my illness and surgery. You are all a true blessing and mean so much to me!

Love,
Whitney Williams

* * * * *

We would like to thank you for all your prayers and thoughts. They have been a blessing during this difficult time since Kendall's death.

In God's love,
Norman, Catherine, Lacey,
Callie, Lee & Kaleigh Kercher

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Thanks to all who came to the Youth Luau on April 24th. A great time was had by all! I want to especially thank those who donated time, money and supplies for this event. A special thanks goes out to Terrye Mastin, Lauren Gam, Heather Evans, Jennifer Mastin, Logan McWhorter, Christy McWhorter and Bryan Dunn for all the time and effort they put into making the event a success. We raised \$450 towards our BigStuf summer youth trip.

Craig Tate
Director of Youth Ministry



2009 GRADUATES

In a few weeks, our high school and college graduates will be honored during the 10:50 worship. If you have a graduate who is not listed below, please contact the church office at 685-8253, so that we may add them to our list. Watch the newsletter for the date for Graduation Sunday.

High School

Colleen Mason - St. Agnes
Jennifer Mastin - Lausanne

College

Heather Evans - University of Memphis
Miranda Rose - Lambuth University
Rachael Scarbrough - Lambuth University
Gail Stratton - University of Arkansas

Congratulations to all our graduates!

HONORING OUR LOVED ONES

Gifts have been given to:

BUDGET

In honor & in memory of Lena & Edward Melsa & Leslie Lee Melsa by Col. Otto Melsa

In memory of Alice Burk by Marion Haynes, Jean & George Sibley, Marjorie Luton

LIBRARY

In memory of Alice Burks by the Lamplighter/Friendship Class

CALLING ALL BREAD BAKERS!!

Our bread shelves need restocking — please help by baking a few loaves of your favorite bread and bring them to the church. Giving a loaf of homemade bread to first-time visitors is a wonderful way to say "Welcome to Mullins UMC"! Thanks to everyone who supports this ministry!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

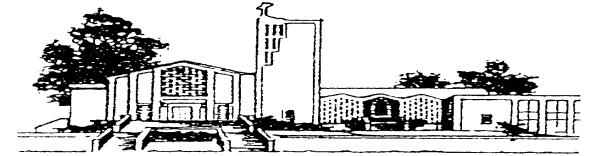
Greetings from the bayou! I am sending out a message to all who want to be blessed by smiling children eager to hear about God's love. Ready? Here it is: You are needed as a volunteer for VBS June 22 - 25, 2009. I need people to help with registration (a sit-down position) in the mornings. I also need group leaders. I promise that our Crocodile Dock VBS will be loads of fun and will be a blessing both for the children and those who participate. I also need supplies: 1 set of green bed sheets, rope, Spanish moss, lanterns, and anything swampy! The sign up poster is right outside the Sanctuary.

Lisa Weaver
VBS Director



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

MULLINS MESSENGER



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Web Address: www.mullinsumc.org

May 6, 2009

Vol. 40 No. 19

The Rev. Dr. Bradley W. Gabriel, Pastor

Mullins Pulpit - May 10, 2009

Scripture: John 15: 1 - 8

Sermon: 'IN OUR MOTHERS' ARMS'

Weekly Schedule

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

Congratulations to all our graduates!



Dear Friends,

Over the years, in different jobs and now different pastoral appointments, I have been blessed to learn some things, and even more blessed to unlearn some other things. Take planning, for example. An old Army saying is that no plan ever survives its first contact with the enemy. Experience has taught me to say that circumstances do not have to be the enemy of a plan in order to change the plan. I might think that a certain vacation plan is perfect, only to have it changed and improved by other members of my family. The same can apply to church, our church of Mullins UMC or any church. Change does not usually come about only by a group making plans, setting action items and giving directions. Rather, in church, like in any healthy family, change comes about more informally by discussion, casual conversation and consensus building. As a result, people who study such things note that while change can be understood, and in some cases led, it is too chaotic to be controlled. I think Jesus knew this very well. He allowed the disciples, the mass who followed him and even the priests and scribes to respond and react to his teaching. He allowed the end result to unfold as it would for our salvation, not trying to control, simply making sure that he understood and that he led whenever and wherever possible. ("My time is not yet come.") As in all things, the example of Jesus in dealing with change is our best example to follow.

Why do I bring this up at this time? Mullins UMC is changing. We all know that change has been a part of our church family for at least two decades. We have some obvious instances of change at the moment, though. Our church family has lost, to illness or death, several members who had been active, visible, and who added much to our life together. Our church family has welcomed several new people who bring their own activity and vitality to the family. We have made needed physical changes to our campus. We are looking to introduce more small groups for spiritual formation and exploration. These will influence the spiritual part of who we are and may lead to physical change. Many of these changes have come about through informal process, casual conversation and consensus building within the congregation. My prayer, and my invitation to you here in these last days of the Easter season, is that you never fail to express your hopes for Mullins, offer your vision for who we are and who we might be, and most important, allow the Spirit to lead you into life-long service to our church family. If change is inevitable, messy and more organic than mechanical, then all of us are needed to ensure that the change is Godly, good and healthy. I'll write more on this later.

See you Sunday.

Blessings,
Brad

SUNDAY, MAY 10 - SATURDAY, MAY 16

Happy Mother's Day!

SUNDAY 8:45 a.m. Worship - Chapel
9:40 a.m. Sunday School
10:50 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
No Youth Today
5:00 p.m. Yoga Class
5:00 p.m. Jesus in the Gospels - 212

MONDAY 9:00 a.m. Walking in Gym
10:00 a.m. Ladies Prayer Group
6:13 p.m. Woodwinds Rehearsal
6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts - FH
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
7:00 p.m. Finance Com. - 212

TUESDAY 6:30 a.m. Career Support Group - Lamplighter Rm.
9:00 a.m. Walking in Gym
6:15 p.m. Core Ball Class - FH
7:00 p.m. Yoga Class - FH
7:00 p.m. Bowling

WEDNESDAY 7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Walking in Gym
5:45 p.m. Fellowship Dinner - FH
6:15 p.m. Children/Youth Programs
6:30 p.m. Program: Dr. Gabriel
7:17 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY 9:00 a.m. Walking in Gym

FRIDAY 9:00 a.m. Walking in Gym
2:00 p.m. PDO Graduation - Sanctuary/FH

SATURDAY 8:15 a.m. Yoga - FH
10:00 a.m. Concord Graduation - Sanctuary/FH

MEMBERS IN SERVICE FOR MAY 10

Children's Message - Dr. Gabriel
Children's Church Leader: Melissa Johnson

THE MENU FOR MAY 13

Adults \$5, 12 & Under \$3, Family Max \$20
Adults: Beef Brisket, Rice & Gravy, Broccoli, Salad, Bread, Dessert
Kids: Pizza or adult menu

OUR PRAYERS

St. Francis
Elmer Wrobley 672

Baptist East
Martha Watson
(surgery 5/6/09)

Allen Morgan Healthcare
Julia Ettman 141

Spring Gate
Lucille Carson 118

OUR PRESENCE

8:45 Service	28
Sunday School	78
10:50 Service	140
Prayer Breakfast	10
Prayer Service	56



CHANCEL FLOWERS

for this Sunday are being placed to the Glory of God

...in honor of Tom & Meredith Coupe,
in celebration of their 1st anniversary,
by Tom & Marcia Taylor

...in loving memory of my husband, Judge William H. Williams,
in remembrance of his birthday,
by Betty Williams

CRAFT FAIR BOOTHS

All church members interested in having a booth at this year's United Methodist Women Craft Fair on Saturday, November 14, please call Marcia Taylor at 624-0257, to reserve your space.

PLEASE NOTE!!!

At the present time you may access your church newsletter each week by going to the church website: www.mullinsumc.org. Newsletters will also be available at the church.