

PLEASE NOTE!

The Staff/Parish Relations Committee has adopted, on a contingent basis, a Safe Sanctuary Policy specifically designed for Mullins UMC. This will be presented at the next Administrative Council meeting. Copies are available in the church office for review and comment.

NEWSLETTER INFO DEADLINE

Please remember that all information for the church newsletter must be in the church office by noon on Mondays. Thanks for your help with this matter!



The Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 11, at 10:00 a.m. Weather permitting, it will be held outside; if not, we will hunt eggs in Fellowship Hall. We need donations of plastic eggs (pre-stuffed with candy, please!) for the Egg Hunt. **We hope to have lots of children, so that means we need LOTS of candy-filled eggs!!! Please bring the eggs to the church office by Monday, April 6.** Thanks for your help with this event for our children!



Lilies will adorn our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 12. **The cost is \$9 each.** Please complete the form below and return to the church office, with payment, if you would like to order lilies. **Deadline to order is this Sunday, March 29.**

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Given by: _____

of Lilies _____ Amount Paid _____

EASTER CLOTHES FOR CHILDREN

Easter is a special time, and for some children, new clothes are an accepted fact. However, for many children, this is not the norm. Once again, Church Women United is collecting NEW CLOTHES for children in need. They are working with local elementary schools to distribute the clothes to those who really need them. Last year we had a wonderful response to this request! Clothes may be brought to the church office and they will be delivered to the Church Women United meeting on Monday, April 6. When you're shopping, please remember to buy something special for these children. Thank you!

POTLUCK LUNCH APRIL 5TH

Family Life is hosting a Potluck Lunch on Palm Sunday, April 5, immediately following the 10:50 worship service. We hope everyone will plan to bring a dish and join us for good food and fellowship!

UM REPORTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

It's time to renew our subscriptions to the United Methodist Reporter, our Conference newspaper. All subscriptions will begin June 1, 2009 and end May 31, 2010. The cost is \$20 per year. This is a great way to stay up-to-date on all the news from our local Conference as well as United Methodist news from around the world. Call the church office, 685-8253, to sign up.

2009 "UNSUNG HERO" AWARD

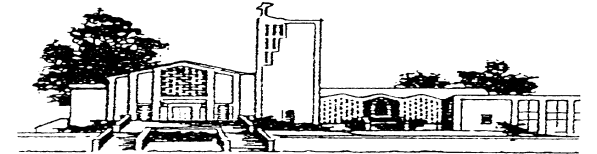
The Asbury District Laity Banquet is April 21, 2009, at 6:15 p.m. at Christ United Methodist Church. Tickets are \$10 each, and reservations must be made in advance. "Unsung Heroes" from each church in the district will be recognized at this event. Past recipients of this award include: Bidwell Dean, Dick Gardner, Gerry Gardner, Louise Harmon, Margaret Brown, Sue McLaughlin, Paul Hausmann. Sue Hausmann, Gwynne May, Charles Griffin, Cyndi Watkins, Larry Nelson, Sandy Scruggs, Bea Manning, Tommy Scruggs, Marcia Taylor and Brenda Carson.

As you consider a nominee for 2009, think of someone who goes "above and beyond" in service to Christ and his church, without thought of recognition and thanks. You may nominate **ONE** person. Please DO NOT nominate previous award winners. **All nominations must be in the church office by Wednesday, April 8.**

Unsung Hero Nominee _____

Nominated by: _____

MULLINS MESSENGER



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

Web Address: www.mullinsumc.org

March 25, 2009

Vol. 40 No. 13

The Rev. Dr. Bradley W. Gabriel, Pastor

Mullins Pulpit - March 29, 2009

Scripture: John 12: 20 - 33

Sermon: 'THAT WONDROUS LOVE'

Weekly Schedule

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

PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear Friends,

I am writing this for the week that leads to Passion/Palm Sunday. The story we have of the end of Jesus' earthly ministry is always so compelling. Even people who think Jesus was only a good man are rightly appalled at his lynching. Jesus is honest in warning us, though, that following him, following the Gospel, means accepting a cross. We don't have to go looking for trouble when we walk the gospel path. Trouble will surely find us. Jesus did not go looking for trouble, but it found him with a vengeance. For some in the crowd that week, he was not fiery enough, not intolerant enough of Rome and the established ways of doing things. Those people were willing to see him crucified in order to advance their agenda. Such people are still with us. For some in the crowd, he was not willing to follow the formal, institutionalized rules that demand they take priority over acts of human kindness and expressions of grace. Those people were willing to see him crucified in order to preserve the structure they trusted more than God. Such people are still with us. For some in the crowd, he was too willing to allow the wheat and the weeds to grow together until we could see clearly their true nature. In their haste and arrogance they were willing to see him crucified so as to validate their self-importance. Such people are still with us. Rome eventually agrees with all those who would see Jesus crucified. Raw, unvarnished power is let loose on the man. For Rome, for those in the crowd who heard Jesus but never understood him, the love of power trumps the power of love. Such people are still with us. I am writing this for the week that leads to Passion/Palm Sunday. I will spend time each day praying that God protects me from falling into one of those groups in the crowd who would see Jesus crucified in order to advance my agenda, or show my trust in structures more than my trust in God, or to validate my self-importance at the cost of God's plan. May God protect each of us from such an error, and may we humbly pray "Not my will, but Thine be done."

Blessings,
Brad

OPPORTUNITY FOR MINISTRY

Dear Friends at Mullins:

I have incredible opportunity to participate in the Missions and Retreat trip for The Wesley Foundation at the University of Memphis. It is because of Wesley and my involvement there that I heard the call of Christ in my life. In May, 2009, the trip is to Denver, where we will work with Denver Urban Ministries (food banks, homeless shelters, home repair ministries, HIV/AIDS children, etc.) This will not be a trip of luxury. We will also spend some time at Rocky Mountain National Park. Recent cuts to the Wesley budget means that we now have to help fundraise for these trips. Knowing your heart for ministry and missions, I am asking your help to make this trip a reality. Any amount will help and all donations are tax deductible (a substantiation letter will be sent to you). **Please make checks payable to: The Wesley Foundation.** Checks may be left in the church office at Mullins. Thank you for your support.

Lauren Gam
Youth Ministries Assistant

SUNDAY, MARCH 29 - SATURDAY, APRIL 4

- SUNDAY 8:45 a.m. Worship - Chapel
9:40 a.m. Sunday School Gathering - FH
10:50 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
4:00 p.m. Confirmation - Pastor's Office
5:00 p.m. Youth
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
- TUESDAY 6:30 a.m. Career Support Group - Lamplighter Rm.
9:00 a.m. Walking in Gym
6:01 p.m. Handbells Rehearsal
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
6:15 p.m. Beading Group - 209
6:30 p.m. Program: Chris Todd - FH
7:17 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- THURSDAY 9:00 a.m. Walking in Gym
6:30 p.m. UMW Night Circle - 117
- FRIDAY 9:00 a.m. Walking in Gym
7:30 p.m. Youth Lock-In - Gym
- SATURDAY 8:15 a.m. Yoga - FH

MEMBERS IN SERVICE FOR MARCH 29

Children's Message - Debi Gray

THE MENU FOR APRIL 1

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

Adults: Turkey & Dressing, Potatoes, Peas, Salad, Bread, Dessert

Kids: Pizza or adult menu

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The regular church office hours are Monday — Thursday, from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

OUR PRAYERS

Methodist University Hospital **Delta Medical Center**
Julia Ettman 515 Thomas David Knott ICU

Baptist Memorial **Outpatient Surgery 3/26**
Evelyn Vowell 3422 Betty Pickel - eyelid

Methodist North **At Home**
Lucille Carson 366 Paul Hausmann

OUR SYMPATHY

love and prayers go out to

Paul & Nancy Blankenship
in the loss of his cousin, Martha Ferguson

.....

Amber & Britt Mock & family
in the loss of her grandfather, Lt. Col. E. L. Scharff

OUR PRESENCE

8:45 a.m.	28
Sunday School	73
10:50 Service	143
Prayer Breakfast	8
Prayer Service	79

HATS FOR WESLEY MANOR

Wesley Manor residents need hats for their Easter Parade. If you have any old hats you'd like to donate, please call Barbara Kercher at 337-5964, as soon as possible.

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.