

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

My family has always loved celebrating Christmas, but one Christmas stands out in my mind. . .

The year I learned what Christmas was truly about. . .

The strangest Christmas I ever spent. . .

While on a trip to visit my grandparents for Christmas. . .

When I was a child, we walked six miles through the snow, uphill, to pick out a Christmas tree. . .

How will your Christmas story for the Advent Devotional begin? Have you started to write it yet?

Use one of the above essay starters (or make up one of your own) to write a very short Christmas story (think *Upper Room*). You can include scripture or a prayer, but it is not necessary to do so. These need to be submitted by November 15, 2009, but CAN be turned in early. We need 27 essays and yours is one of them.

Mail submissions to the church office, give them to Terry Durham, Rachael Scarbrough or Cyndi Watkins, or email them to tinnalee@bellsouth.net.

CRAFT FAIR NOV. 14

The annual UMW Craft Fair is upon us and we need you! This is a wonderful opportunity to work at a fun event, fellowship with church friends, and raise money for missions. We also need baked goods for the Bake Sale. You can volunteer to help by calling Sandy Scruggs at 754-4790, or sign up this Sunday before or after worship.



Turn on the oven, get out your recipes, put on your aprons and BAKE, BAKE, BAKE!!! Phone calls are flooding the church office about Craft Fair, so we know there'll be lots of folks lined up for the Bake Sale when the doors open at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 14. We need everyone to bake at least three of your favorite items — cakes, cookies, pies, bread, jams, jellies, candies — all are in great demand. No custards, please, due to Health Dept. regulations! You may drop off items in the Choir Room on Friday afternoon or early Saturday morning. A successful Bake Sale depends on having enough items to sell, so please bake lots and lots of goodies!

HONORING OUR LOVED ONES

Gifts have been given to:

In memory of Cole Meredith by Bill & Lavinia Skinner
In memory of Betty Simpson by Mr. & Mrs. Norman Kercher

ST. JOHN'S MINISTRY

In memory of Betty Simpson by Mr. Aaron Foster, Phillip & Ginny Wilcox, Betty Williams

MUSIC

In memory of Betty Simpson by Mrs. Milton Addington, Mrs. David Moore

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

In honor of Carol & Michael Doyle by the Faith Sharers Class

FLU SHOTS

The flu shots scheduled to be given November 4, have been canceled by Methodist Healthcare due to the fact that they are out of the seasonal flu vaccine, and have no guarantee that they will receive any additional doses. If you have not received your seasonal flu vaccine at this time, and still wish to get it, I urge you to make other arrangements as soon as possible.

If the situation changes or we are contacted about giving the H1N1 vaccine, it will be announced as soon as we know.

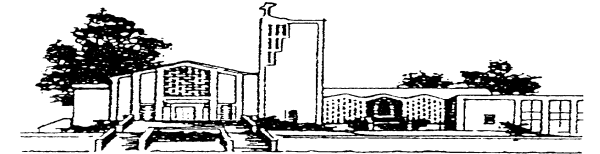
Scott Campbell



BOX CITY

On Saturday, Nov. 7, at 4:00 p.m. Mullins' youth will participate in Box City, to raise awareness of the homeless in our community. You can help by bringing donations of blankets, coats, gloves, hats, scarves, sleeping bags, pillows, etc. We also need adults to donate meals, hot chocolate and time! The youth will spend the night on the church lawn, with only your donations of blankets and coats to keep them warm. They will also stand on the sidewalk with buckets and posters, asking people to donate to this cause. All items and monetary donations will be given to a homeless shelter or a development center.

MULLINS MESSENGER



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

Web Address: www.mullinsumc.org

October 28, 2009

The Rev. Dr. Bradley W. Gabriel, Pastor

Mullins Pulpit - November 1, 2009

ALL SAINTS DAY

Scripture: Luke 12: 13 - 21

Sermon: 'SERVING SAINTS'

Weekly Schedule

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

WHAT IS EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY?

Forty percent of the American people spend 110 percent of their annual income each year. People sustain their lifestyles through ever-increasing auto loans, credit card debt, and mortgages. When people with different incomes are asked, "How much more income would it take for you to be happy?" they answer, saying that 20 percent more would ease their burdens, help them buy all they needed, and bring security.

Why do we feel discontent with what we have? Happiness based on possession causes people to pursue a receding goal, leaving them dissatisfied, wanting more, and never able to satiate their desires. At root, these are spiritual problems, not merely financial planning issues. They reveal value systems that are spiritually corrosive and that lead to continuing discontent, discouragement, and unhappiness. We can never earn enough to be happy when we believe that satisfaction, self-definition and meaning derive principally from possessions and we can never trust our sense of self-worth when it rests on treasures that are material and temporal.

A philosophy based principally upon materialism, acquisition, and possessions is not sufficient to live by, or to die by. At some point, followers of Jesus must decide whether they will listen to the wisdom of the world or to the wisdom of God.

Proportional giving and tithing force people to look at their earning, saving, and spending through God's eyes. It reminds them that their ultimate worth is derived from the assurance that they are children of God, created by God, and infinitely loved by God. God's eternal love revealed in Christ is the source of self-worth; true happiness and meaning are found in growing in grace and in the knowledge and love of God.

Giving generously reprioritizes lives and helps people distinguish what is lasting, eternal, and of infinite value from what is temporary, illusory and untrustworthy. The discipline of generous giving places people on the balcony, helping them look out at the consumerist society with new perspective, better able to see its traps, deceptions, and myths. The practice of generosity is a means by which God builds people up, strengthens their spirits, and equips them to serve God's purposes.

Tithing helps the followers of Jesus understand that all things belong to God and that, during their days on earth, followers are entrusted as stewards to use all they have and all they are in ways that glorify God:

- 1) What Christians *earn* belongs to God, and they should earn it honestly and in ways that serve purposes consistent with being followers of Christ.
- 2) What Christians *spend* belongs to God, and they should use it wisely, not foolishly, on things that enhance life and do not diminish it.
- 3) What Christians *save* belongs to God, and they should invest in ways that strengthen society.
- 4) What Christians *give* belongs to God, and they need to give generously, extravagantly, and conscientiously in ways that strengthen the body of Christ.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1 - SATURDAY,
ALL SAINTS DAY**

SUNDAY	8:45 a.m. Worship - Chapel 9:39 a.m. College & Career Class - Parlor 9:40 a.m. Sunday School 10:50 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary 4:00 p.m. District Charge Conference - Bartlett UMC 4:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 p.m. Yoga Class
MONDAY	9:00 a.m. Walking in Gym 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 - Gym 9:00 a.m. Walking in Gym 10:30 a.m. United Methodist Women Mtg. - Chapel 6:15 p.m. Core Ball Class - Gym 7:00 p.m. Yoga Class - Gym
WEDNESDAY	7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast - FH 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 - FH 7:17 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
THURSDAY	9:00 a.m. Walking in Gym 7:00 p.m. Companions in Christ - 212
FRIDAY	9:00 Walking in Gym
SATURDAY	8:15 a.m. Yoga 4:00 p.m. Box City

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

...at 2:00 a.m. Sunday, November 1st. Remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday night!

THE MENU FOR NOVEMBER 4

Adults \$5, 12 & Under \$3, Family Max \$20
Round Steak, Creamed Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad,
Bread, Dessert

MEMBERS IN SERVICE FOR NOVEMBER 1

No Children's Message - Communion
Children's Church Leader: Tammy Williamson

OUR PRAYERS

Baptist Memorial
Brooxie Newcomb 5387

Signature at St. Francis
Helen Russell 9316 Bed 2

At Home
Sandy Scruggs

OUR SYMPATHY

love and prayers go out to

...the family and friends of Trudie Ryland

OUR PRESENCE

8:45 Service	30
Sunday School	70
10:50 Service	151
Prayer Breakfast	9
Prayer Service	73



CHANCEL FLOWERS

for this Sunday are being placed to the Glory of God

...in loving memory of Buddy & Louise Harmon,
in remembrance of their anniversary,
by Martha Harmon, Nina & Jerry Elmore

A DISTRICT-WIDE CHARGE CONFERENCE

...hosted by the Asbury District, will be held on **Sunday, November 1, at 4:00 p.m. at Bartlett United Methodist Church.** Clergy and Laity from all 44 churches of the Asbury District are invited and encouraged to attend. Charge Conference reports will be presented in a altar call during one big service of worship that day. We will install Rev. Kevin Conrad as our new District Superintendent. As mass choir will also perform, and you're sure to receive a blessing! Don't miss this great opportunity to gather with other churches in the district for one great day of celebration!