

MULLINS MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF

MULLINS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4 NORTH MENDENHALL ROAD

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WWW.MULLINSUMC.ORG

“A CHURCH ALIVE AND SERVING CHRIST”
SINCE 1845

Wednesday, April 7, 2010

Sunday Morning Worship Services:
8:45 in Mullins' Chapel – 10:50 in Mullins' Sanctuary



Mullins Pulpit – April 11, 2010

Scripture: John 20:19-31

Sermon: “No Doubt”



PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In a recent article, New York Times columnist David Brooks remarked: “The crowds at big time college sporting events do not sit passively, the way they do at a movie

theatre. They roar, suffer and invent chants (especially at Duke basketball games). Mass college sports are the emotional hubs at the center of vast networks of analysis, criticism and conversation. They generate loyalties that are less harmful than ethnic loyalties and emotional morality plays that are at once completely meaningless and totally consuming.”

Mass college sports matter to people. The now-over March Madness cost US business over a billion dollars in lost productivity, it is estimated. I am not sure if anyone can estimate the amount of money lost betting on the games. Friendships have been strained and more than one work place relationships rendered a little frostier than they were in February. Can we get as excited about church as we do about basketball? If we can't, why and what do we do to get there? Is our culture so generically “religious” that most people see no reason to get excited about issues like moral living, ethical

behavior, building strong marriages, developing good parenting skills, learning the stories that have sustained the faithful for over three thousand years and, by the way, discovering that there really are answers to the questions of why are we here, what's it all about and what happens when we die?

Mullins UMC still makes available small groups to tackle those questions and more, teaching that we do not have to re-invent the wheel with every turn of the calendar. Sunday school, women's groups and men's groups, missions work and celebratory worship happen all the time at this corner. As we move through the season of Easter, pick a group or ask help in starting a new one. We will all benefit from the effort.



Grace for the Journey,

Brad

OUR PRAYERS

As members of the body of Christ, we are always in prayer for one another. At this time our thoughts and prayers go out especially for:

Margaret Callihan at Appling Woods Skilled Care, Room 307

June Phillips at Baptist Memorial Hospital, Room 1413

Betty Pickel at home

Lynne Sweatt at Germantown Village Rehab, Room 1129

OUR SYMPATHY,

love, and prayers go out to:

Kimberly McDonald in the loss of her grandmother, Mary Markey

Dow Crews and **Rick Crews** in the loss of their wife and mother, **Jeanne Crews**

HONORING OUR LOVED ONES

Gifts have been given to:

BUDGET

In memory of **Brooxie Newcomb** by Doris Eavenson

In memory of **Jean Phipps** by Ida Sullivan, Barbara Robinson, Harriet Harwell, and Ann Shaw

In memory of **Marjorie Luton** by Mary E. Bruce, Don and Paula Roberson, Lanier and Deena Warbington, Michelle Ferkel, and Gail and Boyd Reeves

EASTER

In memory of **Jean Phipps** by Mrs. Milton Addington

In memory of **Van and Lucille Ball** by Peggy Dennie

In memory of **Jack Dennie** by Peggy Dennie

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

In memory of **Brooxie Newcomb** by Mrs. H. C. Williamson, Jr.

In memory of **Jean Phipps** by Mrs. H. C. Williamson, Jr.

UNsung HERO

We are very pleased to announce that the Mullins United Methodist Church *Unsung Hero* for 2010 is . . . Cecil Harris! Cecil, we cannot thank you enough for your hard work on behalf of Mullins and its finances.

Cecil will be formally honored at the Asbury District Laity Banquet on April 27, 2010, at Christ United Methodist Church in Seabrook Hall; dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. There are a limited number of tickets available for this event, so please contact the Mullins church office as soon as possible (and before April 20) if you would like to attend. The cost of each ticket is \$10, and tickets ARE NOT available at the door.



THE WHEELCHAIR-ACCESSIBLE BATHROOM

. . . is now complete! Our thanks and gratitude to Sally Lehning for spearheading this project. Thanks also to Tommy Scruggs and Gene Hill for their hard work. We appreciate you all!

This facility is located downstairs, across from the Fellowship Hall between the kitchen and the ladies room.

ASBURY DISTRICT WORK DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Asbury District Office will be relocated and needs volunteers to prepare our new office space at Highland Heights United Methodist Church. Volunteers will meet to paint and do minor repairs on Saturday, April 10, from 9 a.m. to Noon.

MULLINS COOKBOOK TO CELEBRATE 165-YEAR HISTORY (1845-2010)

Pull out your best recipes and submit for the new Mullins Cookbook to be published for sale before our month-long celebration in July 2010, being planned by our Family Life Committee.

Recipes may be submitted in handwriting (printed), typed, or in a "Word" document. Please include the following:

1. Your name and phone number
2. Title of recipe, number of servings, cooking temperature
3. Ingredients
4. Directions

The deadline for recipes is April 18.

Do you have a church cookbook that dates before the UMW's 1988 "Our Daily Bread" book? We would like to borrow it/them for a *Mullins Old Timers' Recipes* section. You may leave recipes and books in our church office or email Margaret Brown at mbrown@dbrown.com or fax to 386-0557. For more information, call Margaret Brown at 388-9190.

NEW "TWEEN" GROUP BEGINS!!

If you are the parent of a "tween" (10-, 11-, or 12-year-olds who are in the 5th, 6th, or 7th grade), then this is for you! A new group is forming, and we want your tween to be part of it! The first meeting is on Saturday, April 10, at 4 p.m. in the gym. This will be a Potluck for parents and tweens, so bring your favorite dish and join us as we discuss future plans. Regular meetings will be held on Sundays from 4 to 7:15 p.m.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Are you willing to represent Mullins United Methodist Church for emergency/disaster preparedness? Do we want Shelby County to have to face the uncertainty and lack of resources like residents of New Orleans did during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, or the people of Haiti after the recent earthquake? Many Shelby County residents look to their places of worship in times of need or when they need valuable information or resources. We need your help to educate and inform all Shelby County residents about the proper supplies and procedures that can save lives.

On April 28, 2010, at 12 noon, there will be several Kick-Off Meetings in the Memphis community. The locations are:

- Koinonia Baptist Church, 4340 Millbranch Road in Whitehaven
- Ed Rice Community Center, 2907 Watkins Street in Frayser
- Church Health Center Wellness, 1115 Union Avenue in Midtown
- Hope Presbyterian Church, 8500 Walnut Grove Road in Cordova

Contact the church office if you are willing!

VBS UPDATE:

The volunteer sign-up sheets are in the Hall of the Apostles and online under Children's Ministries (<http://mullinsumc.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/VBS-REGISTRATION-FORM-2010.pdf>). We need people of all ages to sign-up to help with the many opportunities available.

Also, we are in need of the following items:

- large baskets
- large ceramic planters or urns
- palm tree house plants
- large area rugs (won't need until the week of VBS)
- monetary donations to cover decorating expenses
- PRAYER



VBS will be held June 14–17, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. There will be a Family Night on the 17th at 6:30 p.m. Ages for VBS participants are 4 (by June 1) through 11.

Contact Lisa Weaver for more information. It's going to be a great week!!!

THANK YOU

United Methodist Neighborhood Centers of Memphis, Inc. is grateful for the recent donation to the food pantry. Through your continued and prayerful works, the UMNC is once again becoming a vibrant and vital part of this community. We are hopeful that this is a permanent financial turnaround of UMNC. We invite your continued support and prayers.

If you have further interests volunteering or other ways in assisting us in our outreach to help those who need a helping hand, please visit our website at www.umnc.org or contact Elvernice "Sonny" Davis, Executive Director at 323-4993 or edavis@umnc.org

ARMED FORCES DAY

If you have served, or are currently serving, in the Armed Forces of the United States, please contact the church office. We would like to celebrate this special group by having you serve as ushers on Sunday, May 16, 2010.

MEMBERS IN SERVICE FOR APRIL 11:

Liturgist: Rev. Scottie Brafford

Ushers and Greeters:

Andy Mastin (Head Usher), Terrye Mastin, Paula McGoldrick, Ann Smith, Barney Magargel, Brenda Carson

Children's Church Leader: Debi Gray

CHANCEL FLOWERS

are being placed to the glory of God in honor of the Worship Committee for all their hard work by Linda Morris and Rita Hilgenhold

THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE

invites you to join us on Sunday mornings in the Narthex for coffee and conversation following the 10:50 worship service.



THE MENU FOR APRIL 14:

Potato Bar
Salad
Bread
Dessert

Adults \$5, Children 12 and under \$3,
Family Max \$20

Dinner is held on Wednesday nights at 5:45 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, followed by a brief prayer service and an interesting program. Everyone is invited to attend and to enjoy the fellowship. Your first dinner is complimentary!

If you're not already on the list, please call the church office to let us know you're coming so we'll be sure to have plenty of food.



ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Covenant UMC is now a host site for Angel Food Ministries, a monthly ministry offering high-quality food at affordable prices. This is a ministry for everyone. There are no qualifications for ordering, as well as no commitment to order every month. All information about this program can be found at www.angelfoodministries.com. Ordering deadlines and distribution dates are posted on the Angel Food website each month.

The best way to order is with a debit or credit card at www.angelfoodministries.com. Volunteers will be at Covenant UMC one day each month to take orders paid for with exact cash or EBT Food Stamp Cards. In April volunteers will take orders in the Smith Covenant Center at Covenant UMC on Friday, April 9, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Online ordering deadline is Tuesday, April 13, at 4 p.m.

For more information or if you have questions, call Debby Michael, Host Site Director, at 481-2031. (An April 2010 Menu List is available in the church office at Mullins.)

NEW FIRE AT EASTER

Fire is one of the most expressive and most ancient of symbols used in worship. As we have done in many other situations, early Christianity both adopted the symbol of fire and adapted the pre-Christian understanding of the importance of fire. Christians certainly denied the pagan belief that fire was somehow divine while using it as a symbol of divinity, which both graciously enlightens and warms humanity.

The symbolism of fire, in the days before easy electricity, natural gas and the like, led to a worship or liturgical practice among the Irish and Scots as early as the sixth century of kindling “new fire”. Symbolizing the death and resurrection of our Lord Christ, the new fires were started by use of lens to focus the rays of the dawning sun on Easter day or by use of flint and steel to strike sparks. The fires then were considered “new” as Christ makes the world new on Easter, the “eighth day of creation”.

This is what Reverend Gabriel was about as he applied flint and steel over the fire pit during our Sunrise service this past Sunday.



DOROTHY AND KEMMONS WILSON SPEAKER SERIES

John MacArthur is a fifth-generation pastor, a popular author and conference speaker, and has served as the pastor-teacher of Grace Community Church in Sun Valley, California since 1969, and as the President of The Master's College in Santa Clarita, California. He is the host of the national radio program, *Grace to You* aired locally on WCRV AM 640. Rev. MacArthur has authored or edited more than 150 books, most notably the *MacArthur Study Bible*, which has sold more than 1 million copies. His topic for the event to be held on April 12, 2010, 7 p.m. at Christ UMC will be “God: The Reconciler.” This event is free and open to the public.

SINGLES MINISTRY

MCSAM (Memphis Conference Singles Ministry) is for adults of all ages. Singleness is not age specific. MCSAM is not a divorce group or a single-parent group. We are comprised of singles of all status—not married yet, never married, divorced, and widowed.

MCSAM holds two retreats a year at Lakeshore. The next retreat is scheduled for May 14, 15, and 16. You will sign in after 6 p.m. on Friday evening and stay through lunch on Sunday. The cost is \$80, which includes meals and lodging. This will be a weekend of great food, fellowship, music meeting lots of new people, worship, fun, games, and more. For a registration form and for more information please call the Conference office at 731-664-8480, or visit us on the Web at <http://www.memphis-umc.org/mcsamorg/>.

CHURCH STAFF:

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Bradley W. Gabriel
bwgmullins@bellsouth.net

Director of Music Ministries:

Bryan R. Dunn
bryan.r.dunn@gmail.com

Director of Youth and Recreation Ministries:

Lauren Gam
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Director of Parents Day Out:

Kimberly Dunigan
kimberly@mullinsumc.org

Church Secretary:

Susan Tutt
susmullins@bellsouth.net

Organist:

Aaron Foster
aaron@mullinsumc.org

Custodians:

Geraldine Finley
David Campbell



OUR PRESENCE (LAST WEEK):

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| 6:45 Sunrise Service | 65 |
| Sunday School | 51 |
| 10:50 Worship Service..... | 252 |
| Prayer Breakfast..... | 7 |
| Prayer Service | 73 |

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sunday, April 11

- 8:45 a.m. Worship—Chapel
- 9:40 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:50 a.m. Worship—Sanctuary
- 2:30 p.m. Bible Study—Room 212
- 4:00 p.m. Dunigan/Alston Wedding—Chapel/Fellowship Hall

Monday, April 12

- 9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym
- 6:00 p.m. Caregivers Support Group—Parlor
- 6:15 p.m. Woodwinds Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts—Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
- 7:00 p.m. Missions/Outreach Committee Meeting—Room 117
- 7:00 p.m. John MacArthur to speak at Christ UMC

Tuesday, April 13

- 6:30 a.m. Career Support Group—Gym
- 9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym
- 6:15 p.m. Core Ball Class—Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Yoga—Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, April 14

- 7:00 a.m. Men’s Prayer Breakfast—Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym
- 5:45 a.m. Fellowship Dinner—Fellowship Hall
- 6:15 p.m. Children/Youth Programs
- 6:15 p.m. Beading Group—Room 209
- 6:30 p.m. Program—Presentation by Programming Committees
- 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 15

- 9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym
- 7:00 p.m. Companions in Christ—Room 209

Friday, April 16

- 9:00 a.m. Walking in Gym
- 3:00 p.m. Concord Academy Dessert Night—Fellowship Hall

Saturday, April 17

- 11:00 a.m. Yoga—Fellowship Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, April 18, 2010

12:00 noon Recipe Deadline for the New Mullins Cookbook

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

12:00 noon Disaster Preparedness Kickoff in Various Locations

Sunday, May 2, 2010

2:00 p.m. Golden Cross Awareness Day—Fellowship Hall

Friday, May 14–Sunday May 16, 2010

6:00 p.m. Singles Retreat at Lakeshore

Sunday, May 16, 2010

10:50 a.m. Armed Forces Day Recognition

Week of June 14-17

9:00 a.m. VBS—Egypt: Joseph’s Journey from Prison to Palace