

MULLINS MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF
MULLINS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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“A CHURCH ALIVE AND SERVING CHRIST”
SINCE 1845



Wednesday, June 16, 2010

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



Mullins Pulpit – June 20, 2010

Scripture: Luke 8:26-39
Sermon: “Expectations, Ha!”

PASTOR'S CORNER



Dear Friends,

Ah, the lazy, hazy crazy days of summer have hit Memphis full force. So, where did I find myself one recent Saturday afternoon? I was taking apart the stones that used to constitute our home mailbox. A misguided car bumper had knocked it down some months ago. The neighbors were starting to think I had some sort of Viking cairn there, and it made mowing the lawn difficult. Using a small and large sledge hammer, I separated the stones still mortared together, gathered the fragments of mortar and stone and started trying to rebuild the mailbox. First, I learned that the Humpty-Dumpty rhyme applies to more things than eggs. Second, I decided to re-use the stones by outlining a box around the new metal mailbox I decided to install to take the place of the defunct stone mailbox. A bag of hardwood mulch and two bags of topsoil from the local hardware store (no, not purchased at the same time as the mailbox — this was a work that grew as the day went on) and the area looks not half bad. I'll plant some ground cover later. Third, I was reminded of the importance of staying hydrated. The reminder was brought about by my not staying

hydrated, which always leads to a headache. At the end of the day — re-hydrated, stones re-used, area trimmed and tidied — I felt a sense of accomplishment.

What did I learn? First, as always, I learned to have options, backup plans. Second, I learned to be flexible. If Plan A is, and has all the signs of remaining unachievable, then going to Plan B is not weakness but insight, maybe even leadership. Third, try to think all plans through and be ready to gather needed resources at one time. Fourth, the environment is always a factor and to leave it out of your plan is a mistake. Finally, when you do accomplish something worthwhile, celebrate, even if it is not what you had first envisioned. Good things, good outcomes, that fulfill the needed purpose are good things, good outcomes. Maybe some of those lessons apply here at Mullins? See you Sunday.



Grace for the Way,

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:

John Griffin at Germantown Village Healthcare

Lucille Givens at home (knee surgery June 28)

OUR SYMPATHY, love, and prayers go out to:

Mary Beth and Taylor Richardson and family in the loss of her mother, **Frances Vawter**

Hal and Diana Baker and family in the loss of his step-mother, Peggy Baker

HONORING OUR LOVED ONES

Gifts have been given to:

BUDGET:

In memory of **June Phillips** by Mr. & Mrs. John R. Page

LIBRARY:

In memory of **June Phillips** by the Lamplighter/Friendship Class

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS:

In memory of **Peggy Baker** by Mrs. H. C. Williamson, Jr.

LOOKING FOR ALL ONE WAY SINGERS

We hope to have a reunion of all the ONE WAY SINGERS July 24 and 25, 2010. Please call Sandy Scruggs at 754-4790 if you have contact information for any members of this group.

CEMETERY REPAIR/CLEAN UP



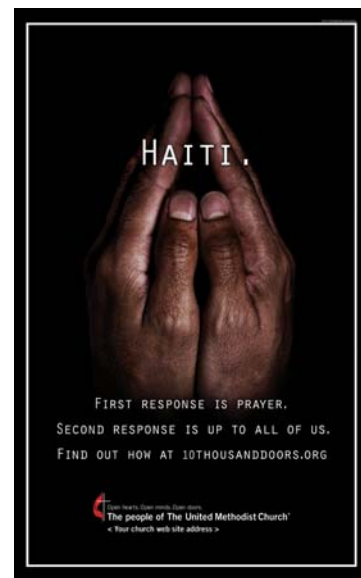
Please make plans to come and help with cemetery repair and clean up on **Saturday, June 19**, from **9 a.m. to noon**. Call Charles Griffin at 685-2880 and let him know you will be here. Lunch will be provided, and Charles needs to know how many will be here to eat.

THANK YOU

Dear Friends in Mission:

A massive earthquake on January 12, devastated Haiti, taking thousands of lives and leaving more than a million in need of water, food, shelter and medical care. Within hours, United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) friends like you responded with prayers and gifts. Because of your support, UMCOR is able to address not only immediate needs, but also the long-term recovery of those whose lives have been shattered. Your contribution is helping UMCOR to be in Haiti for as long as it takes to understand the people's needs, and work to create a sustainable integrated infrastructure and address the psychological impact to a traumatized nation. Thank you for being there. . .for being hope. . .in Haiti. Your generosity offers a spirit of hope in the midst of devastation.

Roland Fernandes, General Treasurer
United Methodist Committee on Relief
General Board of Global Ministries



JESUS IN THE SOUTHLAND: SUMMER SHORT STORIES OF SALVATION, SIN, AND SEEKING

Join us this summer on Sunday mornings at 9:40 in Fellowship Hall for short stories by southern authors. Adults of all ages will read and discuss tales of religion and faith in day-to-day life from well-known southern authors.

MULLINS 165TH BIRTHDAY

In July, Mullins United Methodist Church will celebrate its 165th birthday, and we will have a month long celebration!

On Sunday, July 4, we will celebrate with MULLINS IN AMERICA from 6 p.m. until dark. Make plans to enjoy a picnic of grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, baked beans, slaw, homemade ice cream, watermelon, water, soft drinks, and lemonade. Prepare your favorite homemade ice cream for the ice cream contest. Bring your lawn chairs to sit and visit, enjoy the games (Mullins trivia and more), and there will be fireworks and patriotic music! We'll have face painting and a moon bounce for the kids as well as other fun activities.

Be sure to wear red, white, and blue to the worship service on Sunday morning.

Watch the newsletter for more information in the coming weeks regarding the other birthday celebration events coming in July!

MULLINS SUMMER FILM SERIES—WIZARDS AND WARDROBES AND WOOKIES, OH MY!

Invite your friends and family to a free and fun-filled summer film series. Seating is limited so register early. Deadline: One week before each film. Remember, an adult family member should attend with each child. Children younger than 8 years of age will be cared for in our free nursery. For more information, please contact Margaret Carbaugh.

June 20, 2:00 pm	The Wizard of Oz
June 27, 2:00 pm	Star Wars
July 4, 2:00 pm	The Empire Strikes Back
July 11, 2:00 pm	Return of the Jedi
July 18, 2:00 pm	Lion, Witch and Wardrobe
July 25, 2:00 pm	Prince Caspian

NOTE TO MULLINS EMMAUS PARTICIPANTS

EMMAUS GATHERING SPECIAL EVENT!

Family Potluck, June 26, 6:00 pm (note different time!)
Lindenwood Christian Church
2400 Union Avenue, Phone: 458-8506

This event will be held INSIDE so don't let the hot weather keep you away! Bring extra food & drinks. Lots of singing, food, fellowship & fun! Communion Meditation. No 4th Day Talk.

If there is interest in this, Mullins' participants can gather and go as a group in the church van. Please contact Brenda Carson or the church office.

MEMBERS IN SERVICE FOR JUNE 20:

Liturgist: Colleen Mason

Ushers and Greeters:

Charles Carter (Head Usher),
Kathy Carter, Norm and Barbara
Kercher, Tommy and Sandy
Scruggs

Children's Church: Angie Smith

Children's Message: Cyndi Watkins

CHANCEL FLOWERS

are being placed to the glory of God

. . . in loving memory of my wife,
Clara, in remembrance of her birthday,
June 24, by Don Dunavant.

THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE

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

IMPORTANT NOTE!

Wednesday Fellowship
Dinners and Men's Prayer
Breakfasts will resume on
August 11, 2010.

COKE ZERO FANS, TAKE NOTE!

The soft drink machine
in the gym is now stocked
with Coke Zero. Enjoy!!!



BREAD BAKERS, TAKE A BREAK

Thanks to all our wonderful bread bakers, our shelves are full! So, take a much-deserved break, and we'll restock shelves in a few weeks!

MULLINS' HISTORY

In anticipation of our church's 165th anniversary, portions of Y. M Quinn, Jr.'s 1978 book, *History of Mullins United Methodist Church*, are being republished in *The Messenger*. (Bracketed material has been added by the 2010 typist.) Here is the second installment:

The 1897 Church, The Third Building on this Site

The white frame, one-room church erected in 1876 served the congregation until 1897, a period of twenty-one years. The third church was an early New England design building erected under the supervision of Pastor G. W. Evans. This building faced west toward Mendenhall Road, and was known for its wooded setting and beautiful but simple architectural lines. The Officers and Trustees of this new church were Dr. N. C. Perkins, Ed B. Barton and John Mendenhall. This church had no running water and was heated with pot-bellied stoves.

People have the tendency so often to think of a church, such as Mullins, as merely a building, forgetting the people that comprise its congregation. This would particularly be a tragedy in considering Mullins during the early part of the 20th century, for some extremely colorful characters attended and loved this country chapel, knowing it as the church in which they grew up. The Masons were such a family. . . . The 1897 church building had a very high pointed ceiling and was heated with pot-bellied stoves. The long stove pipe extended through the roof and was held in place by guy wire. Soot would fall from this long stove pipe, so a shorter pipe was installed from the stove to an opening at the side of the building. The old fluehole in the ceiling was covered by stuffing with paper and a cheap metal flue stopper. On one bright, windy Sunday morning, Mr. John Mason, who was toothless, and immaculately dressed in his white suit, was standing under this old stove pipe hole, singing with the rest of the congregation. All of a sudden the wind blew the paper out of the hole, and down came the accumulated soot, which landed in Mr. Mason's toothless mouth, and all over his white hair and suit. He tried to spit it out of his mouth and brush off his head, face and suit, but his hands were soon covered with soot. He was soon one big mess.

Things like that just happened. Wasps used to dive-bomb the people when they came in through the open windows in droves (the wasps came in through the windows, not the people) and the congregation fought them off with fans and folded paper. This building was strictly a real country church.

Another interesting story is one of the Jenkins family. Reverend James Jenkins was the son of Reverend W. D. Jenkins, a very handsome man, and was the pastor of both Buntyn and Mullins, as they were on the same circuit. He and his family lived in Buntyn, and he came to Mullins once per month to preach. His family consisted of his wife and four daughters, Pansy, Metile, Sarah and Mary Sam. Mrs. Jenkins was expecting the fifth child, and they wanted a little son very much. She was in labor on a Sunday morning, but Reverend Jenkins came on to Mullins to hold services.

It was the custom in those days for the women to go on in to the church before the service started and gossip among themselves, and the men would sit or stand around the steps, and discuss farming, hunting, fishing, etc. (and gossip among themselves). When the organist started to play the little pump organ, the men filed in, took their seats and church service began. On this Sunday, when the men were still out on the steps, a courier rode up on horseback and said, "There is the finest little boy at the parsonage." The men came into the church, took their seats, it was whispered among the congregation that the minister had a little boy, and everyone in the church knew about it except the preacher. As was customary in those days, a layman was called on to say the opening prayer, rather than the minister to pray. So the layman first thanked God for the little baby boy at the parsonage, and Brother Jenkins stepped out the side door, jumped on his horse, and rode home as fast as he could. The people just sang a few songs and went home, as they had no one to preach to them.

This old church served Mullins congregation for a period of fifty years and saw its members increase from thirty five to eighty in 1942 and one hundred and forty-five in 1945. It had withstood the yellow fever epidemic, the Spanish-American War, the Great Depression, and World War II. It was located in the area of the beginning of other rapidly expanding subdivisions and the truck farms and floral establishments were disappearing. However hard times hit the church before all this residential expansion took place. Difficulties proved so great that on Sunday after Pearl Harbor in December, 1941, nine members of the church met to discuss closing of the church. I wish we knew the names of these nine people, as the decision made by the majority saved the church. (According to J. O. Ray and Mary F. Ray's 1995 150 Years with Mullins Methodist Church, four of those members were Mrs. Ida Byrne, Mr. & Mrs. Parks Walker, Sr., and Dr. Parks Walker, Jr.). The members were slumped morosely in the pews of the old ramshackle, fifty-year old building, which was without water and heated by potbellied and oil stoves. Soon after the meeting came to order the expected motion was made and seconded: Mullins Methodist Church being of no further use to the community was to be abandoned. Had a vote been taken then, finis would almost certainly have been written for the church. But Dr. C. C. Grimes, the former District Superintendent in charge of the discussion, called for discussion. One man raised his hand. "Dr. Grimes," he said, "I was born in this community, and I was baptized in this church. I believe Mullins will again be a thriving rural church and I, for one, am anxious to see it continued..." The Superintendent asked if any others felt this way. Five people raised their hands. It was then Dr. Grimes made his great decision: "If even these few have that much faith in Mullins Chapel," he declared, "the church will not be abandoned."



CHURCH STAFF:

Senior Pastor:

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

Minister of Spiritual Formation:

Scottie Brafford
dscotbr@aol.com

Director of Music Ministries:

Bryan R. Dunn
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Director of Children’s Ministries:

April Riley
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Director of Parents Day Out:

Kimberly Alston
ihavejoy43@gmail.com

Church Secretary:

Susan Tutt
susmullins@bellsouth.net

Organist:

Aaron Foster
aaron@mullinsumc.org

Custodians:

Geraldine Finley
David Campbell

OUR PRESENCE (LAST WEEK):

Sunday:

8:45 Service 28
Sunday School 78
10:50 Worship Service..... 141

Wednesday:

Prayer Breakfast..... 8
Prayer Service 79

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Thursday, June 17

8:30 a.m. Summer Stage
9:00 a.m. VBS
9:15 a.m. Walking in the Gym
6:00 p.m. VBS Family Night

Friday, June 18

8:30 a.m. Summer Stage
9:15 a.m. Walking in Gym
6:00 p.m. Scrapbooking—Fellowship Hall

Saturday, June 19

9:00 a.m. Cemetery Repair/Clean Up—see page 2
11:00 a.m. Yoga—Fellowship Hall

Sunday, June 20

8:45 a.m. Worship—Chapel
9:40 a.m. Sunday School
10:50 a.m. Worship—Sanctuary
2:00 p.m. Summer Film Series
4:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group—Gym

Monday, June 21

8:30 a.m. Summer Stage
9:15 a.m. Walking in Gym
6:00 p.m. Lipscomb Scholarship Committee—Office
6:15 p.m. Woodwind Ensemble

Tuesday, June 22

6:30 a.m. Career Support Group—Gym
8:30 a.m. Summer Stage
9:15 a.m. Walking in the Gym

Wednesday, June 23

8:30 a.m. Summer Stage
9:15 a.m. Walking in the Gym
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, June 24

8:30 a.m. Summer Stage
9:15 a.m. Walking in the Gym
6:30 p.m. UMW Night Circle—Room 117

Friday, June 25

8:30 a.m. Summer Stage
9:15 a.m. Walking in Gym

Saturday, June 26

11:00 a.m. Yoga—Fellowship Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, July 4

6:00 p.m. Mullins in America Celebration—see page 4

Saturday and Sunday, July 24 and 25

One Way Singers Reunion