



# MULLINS MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF  
MULLINS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
4 NORTH MENDENHALL ROAD  
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38117-2698  
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[WWW.MULLINSUMC.ORG](http://WWW.MULLINSUMC.ORG)

“A CHURCH ALIVE AND SERVING CHRIST”  
SINCE 1845

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Wednesday, July 21, 2010

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



Mullins Pulpit – July 25, 2010

Scripture: Luke 11:1-13  
Sermon: “Fridge Magnets”

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## PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

One of the newsletters I read is from a group called the Alban Institute. In a recent newsletter, I read the following:

*A November 2009 issue of The Week featured a story, “Losing our Religion,” that focused on the rapidly growing numbers of the religiously unaffiliated in the United States, the so called Nones, and asked if organized religion is fading. Younger than the general population, many Nones believe in God yet are skeptical about organized religion. The article quotes recent statistics suggesting that if this trend continues, cohorts of nonreligious young people will replace older religious people and account for one-quarter of the American population. Another recent article in USA Today concluded that young adults born in the 1980s and 1990s, approximately 72 million people, want to make an impact and are socially-conscious yet do not relate to traditional institutional structures. A decreasing number of these young adults view churches as places to make a difference or to develop their leadership skills.*

*The fact that nearly every major denomination is aging and losing members has been a concern for the last thirty years, yet institutional efforts to reverse these trends and to capture the religious imagination of young adults have been limited. Mainline denominations, historically and culturally self-conscious about evangelism, are further challenged to proclaim the good news in today's religiously pluralistic nation and world. What then is the role of evangelism with young adults today? What are some of the ways that the Christian church can better respond to the spiritual questions of young adults in a religiously pluralistic age? How might congregations better respond to the gifts and skills young adults have to offer?*

*“One of the reasons many churches don't do evangelism well is that their motivation is self-serving,” says Tom Brackett, church planting specialist for the Episcopal Church. Brackett believes that a focus on evangelism primarily as a church growth strategy is counterproductive, especially with young adults, and at a time when the world is longing for evidence that God is with us. A more positive approach to evangelism for many, he suggests, lies “in pointing out the ways that God is already active, transforming lives, and connecting us to each other.”*

The article continues with:

*...based in the virtues of Christian spirituality, simple living, and forming community. The project is also based in the belief that young adults generally relate more freely to individuals than to institutions and focuses on three interrelated groups: young adults who have no relationship to the institutional church, those who have a peripheral relationship with the church, and those already involved but who are seeking more support regarding their leadership role in the church.*

So, long term, authentic relationships with other people and allowing God to do the work of conversion may be the key to real growth in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This means no easy “seven steps to salvation” or “three spiritual laws you must know.” Rather, this means faithful and enthusiastic living every day, trusting that God is with us as we prepare the table for the newcomer. It's worth a conversation.



Blessings,

*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:

**Lucille Givens** at home

## HONORING OUR LOVED ONES

Gifts have been given to:

### BUDGET:

In memory of *Frances Vawter* by Anita Moore

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

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## THE GIDEONS

**INTERNATIONAL** is a Christian Business and Professional Men's Association. We are grateful for your church's steadfast labor in the Lord and past support of the Gideon ministry. In an effort to show our appreciation, we would like to invite dedicated Christian laymen from the Mullins congregation to be our special guests at a dinner meeting. The dinner meeting is set for Monday evening, August 9, or Tuesday evening, August 10, whichever date is most convenient for the prospective Gideon. At this meeting, we will share with them in detail what God is doing through this ministry and testimonies of lives transformed by the power of the Gospel. If interested, please contact the Mullins church office, 685-8253.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Evangelism Team will meet Tuesday, July 27, at 7 p.m. in Room 209.

The Nurture Committee will meet Wednesday, July 28, at 5:30 p.m. in Room 117.

## ONE WAY SINGERS

Our 165<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration continues with special music from the One Way Singers at the 10:50 worship service on July 25. The group will gather in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday at 6 p.m. for dinner and rehearsal. For more information or questions, please call Sandy Scruggs at 754-4790.

Don't miss the reunion of this singing group—join us on Sunday!

## LETTER FROM A FORMER PASTOR

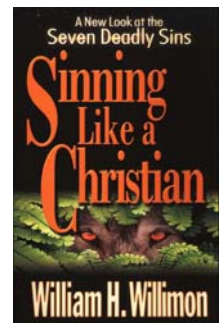
Thank you for your invitation to participate in the 165<sup>th</sup> birthday of Mullins UMC. I remember well the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration that occurred during the time I was Pastor there. I am unable to attend, since I live on the east side of Nashville and travel would be difficult for me. I am still in pretty good health, but I try to limit what I do and how far I travel. My regrets to the Planning Committee and the whole congregation. I hope you have a great celebration.

Blessings,  
Dr. L. A. Doyle

## YOU'RE INVITED

. . . to join the New Directions adult Sunday school class for *Sinning Like a Christian*, a new look at the Seven Deadly Sins by William H. Willimon. This series will begin on July 25 during the Sunday school hour. New Directions class members invite all who are interested to join them for this series. Everyone is welcome!

The New Directions class meets Sunday mornings at 9:40 in Room 117.



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

**UPDATED INFORMATION:** Despite what you might have heard last Sunday, this group will continue to meet in the FELLOWSHIP HALL.

Join us this summer on Sunday mornings at 9:40 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. If you are interested, please contact the church office at 685-8253 so that copies of the stories may be available for all.

You can find a link to this week's short story in the bottom right-hand corner of the home page of our church's website.

## CEMETERY PLOTS FOR SALE

Two cemetery plots in our Mullins' cemetery are available for sale. For information concerning this, please contact Larry Clayton at 761-1490.

## THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Mullins United Methodist Women want to say thank you to everyone who contributed, and all the ladies who assembled, Health Kits for UMCOR on July 20. We were able to complete 71 kits, which will be distributed to disaster areas throughout the world. Thank you for your support of this mission.



Thanks to all my Mullins friends for your concern, prayers, and many expressions of your good wishes. Special thanks to Dr. Gabriel for visiting me and praying with me. I am home and hope to be back at church soon.

Lucille Givens

## UNITED METHODIST NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

There are many different needs at the United Methodist Neighborhood Centers (UMNC). For the next several weeks, we will list some of these needs in our church newsletter. For more information, please contact Lyndall Jones, UMNC Representative.

### Playground Equipment:

- Small tricycles/riding toys (4)
- Hula Hoops (8)
- Balls (5)
- Jump ropes (8)
- Air pump for balls (1)
- Bubbles (10)
- Umbrellas (2)—already have bases
- Hand sanitizer and baby wipes
- Bottled water (several cases)



### Center-Wide Needs:

- Pencils
- Ink pens (any colors)
- Staplers
- Dry erase markers
- Laminating pouches
- Masking tapes
- Crayons
- Markers (washable)
- Glue
- Construction paper
- Batteries (all sizes)

## MEMBERS IN SERVICE FOR JULY 25:

**Liturgist:** Rachael Scarbrough

**Ushers and Greeters:** John

Montgomery (Head Usher), Harriet Montgomery, Jan Canfield, Melissa Johnson, Margaret Methvin, Angie Smith

**Children's Church:** April Riley

**Children's Message:** Debi Gray

## CHANCEL FLOWERS

are being placed to the glory of God

. . . in honor of the Family Life Committee, Crossroads Class, and everyone who helped plan the 165<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration at Mullins.

## 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 NOTES!

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

We are compiling a new **Reservation List** for everyone who wants to be included on the Wednesday Night Dinner permanent list. Please call the church office at 685-8253 and ask to have your name placed on the list.

## ASLAN IS ON THE MOVE!

Come Join the Adventure this Sunday at 2 p.m. when we conclude our summer film series with the dazzling Disney re-creation of book one in *The Chronicles of Narnia* series.

Join the adventure as Lucy, Edmund, Susan, and Peter step through the wardrobe doors and into the land of Narnia. There they encounter a world where it's always winter but never Christmas.

To celebrate the end of the series, we will have samples of homemade Turkish Delight, the confection given to Edmund by the White Witch. We also encourage everyone to dress in a costume depicting their favorite character.

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

On Friday, July 30, Summer Stage will present their play, *Walk Like an Egyptian*. There will be approximately 50 children performing this original play. Performances will be held at 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



Ticket sales are going great—we expect over 200 people from the community to attend this production. We are asking for some help from the members of Mullins.

1. We need some plates of yummy cookies to be delivered to the gym on Friday, July 30.
2. We need several volunteers to serve at the receptions which will be held immediately following the 5:30 performance and the 7:00 performance.
3. We need warm and friendly hospitality that the Mullins family gives to the community.

Also we invite you to attend the show. Tickets are \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door.

## MEMPHIS CONFERENCE METHODISTS GIVE MORE THAN \$267,000 FOR EARTHQUAKE DISASTER RELIEF IN HAITI

Gifts received from the Memphis Conference for relief to Haiti after the Jan. 12 earthquake total \$267,040.34 as of June 29, according to The Advance office of the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM).

Gifts have been received from 415 individuals and churches in The Memphis Conference.

In a letter to Bishop Richard J. (Dick) Wills in May, the GMGM presidents wrote about the “tangible generosity” of the people of Memphis Annual Conference.

“While we are grateful for the support that has been given to date, we know that the work is far from over. This recovery will take years to complete. You can be assured that through our connectional church, support given through The Advance to UMCOR makes a United Methodist presence in Haiti possible through many years of recovery.

“You are very much a part of this ministry of love. Whether the work is about the physical rebuilding of structures, the healing and nourishment of wounded and hungry people, or the spiritual restoration of souls facing fearsome challenges, The United Methodist Church and all its members are there as God leads us,” wrote Bishops Bruce R. Ough, Hope Morgan Ward and Janice Riggle Huie.

## AGING AND BABY BOOMER MINISTRY IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

Older Adult Ministries Training will be held Tuesday, September 21, 2010, from 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 200 South Church Street, Jackson, Tennessee. The cost of \$15 per person includes lunch (scholarships available). The registration deadline is Monday, September 13 (no walk-ins please).



Our speaker, Rev. Dr. Richard H. (“Rick”) Gentzler, Jr., Director of the Center on Aging and Older Adult Ministries for the General Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church, is a nationally recognized teacher, writer, and leader in the field of aging and older ministries.

### Session I: Myths and Realities of Aging

- Images of Aging
- Our Culture and Aging
- Kinds of Older Adults

### Session II: Baby Boomer Ministry

- Who are Boomers?
- What are Their Needs?
- Intentional Boomer Ministry

### Session III: Designing an Older Adult Ministry:

- Why Older Adult Ministries
- S.E.N.I.O.R.S. Ministry and Ministry Models
- Intentional Older Adult Ministry

Please contact the church office, 685-8253, for more information or for registration forms.

## SOCKS PROVIDE COMFORT AFTER SPRING FLOODS

When early May flooding forced residents of Wesley Highland Meadows out of their homes, clean, dry socks were a welcome treat. Wesley Highland Meadows is an independent living facility in Memphis that is part of Wesley Senior Ministries.

Selena Henson, right, president of Wesley Senior Ministries Foundation, places socks on a grateful resident, one of many whose feet were wet from walking through water. “In the midst of tornado sirens blasting and water rising, Golden Cross Funds were at work touching people’s lives in difficult moments,” said Henson.



## MULLINS' HISTORY

In celebration of our church's 165<sup>th</sup> 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 sixth installment:

### Description of the Sanctuary (Continued):

The interior of the church was designed so that the undivided attention of the worshippers is focused to the Cross and the Lord's Table. For this purpose, the open chancel was chosen. To the back of the chancel, the Cross hangs full length. "The Cross is an emblem of our Lord." It is made of holly wood, which is associated with the passion of Jesus Christ. The descending dove with the tri-radian nimbus is the only



authentic symbol of the Holy Spirit. In the Gospel according to St. Luke 3:22 we read of the account of our Lord's baptism "and the Holy Spirit descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him." By this sign John the

Baptist recognized the Messiah. The dove is a most appropriate symbol of the Holy Spirit for it is the embodiment of motion and swiftness, just as the spirit is the image of powerful motion and life. The tri-radiant nimbus is used entirely for the representation of one of the persons of the Godhead, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This exquisite symbol should remind us that God's Holy Spirit ever abides in the Church.

The two sides of the wreath are identical. Beginning at the lower part of the wreath is the red ribbon which ties the wreath together. Red is the symbol of the Holy Spirit and is used on the days which mark the great events in the life of Christ. Adjacent to the ribbon are twelve bunches of grapes, which signify the twelve apostles. One bunch in the center below the ribbon represents Judas Iscariot, and the other above in the center below the ribbon represents John, the Beloved Disciple. Back of the grapes, out of sight, are bulrushes, representing Moses. [These can be seen from the bass and tenor sections of the choir loft. Join the choir and enjoy the bulrushes.] Above the grapes are sheaves of wheat which, combined with the grapes, represent the Lord's Supper. Wheat stands for the "Bread of Life."

Above the sheaves of wheat are palm leaves, the symbol of our Lord's triumphal entry into Jerusalem and of the victorious Christian's reward when life is over. Above the palm leaves we have the bursting pomegranate, which stands for the resurrection of Christ and also for the resurrection of His followers. When the pomegranate ripens, the seeds burst out. Just as the jacket is not able to hold the seed, neither was the grave able to hold Jesus. Above the pomegranates are the lilies. The lily, white and gold, is the flower of the Virgin Mary and typifies purity and humility. The Easter lily is the symbol of Easter. Blooming at Eastertide, it is an exquisite symbol of the resurrection. The olive branches at the top represent Gethsemane and are an emblem of Jesus' peach, healing, and faith. They denote deliverance from anxiety and hardships of life and the gift of peaceful life with God in the world to come.

To the left and right of the Cross are oak wood and [fabric] mesh grills fashioned to screen the organ loft. at the foot of the Cross on the upper chancel is the communion table. The choir is arranged in semi-circular and tiered fashion to the back and sides of the organ console and inside the rail placed back of the communion table. In the upper chancel the lectern is placed to the left of the worshippers and the pulpit to the right. On the lower level of the Chancel is the Baptismal Font and the Communion Rail. The Chancel wall, the Choir rail, the Organ console, the Communion table, the Lectern, the Pulpit and the Communion rail are made of oak wood and oak plywood. Natural light is received on the Chancel through large cathedral glass windows to the east and west.

The Sanctuary seats 600 worshippers, the nave has three aisles—center, east and west. The seating area measures ninety feet in length and fifty-seven feet in width. The arches reach a height of thirty-four feet above floor level and give an impression of greater height.



To the north of the Sanctuary is the Pastor's study, and the executive offices of the Church. East of the Chancel is the Choir Room, measuring twenty-seven feet by eighteen and one half feet, complete with wardrobes. [This room now is now called the Helen Potter Reception Room, and the choir rooms are currently located in the Fisher Wing.] The entire structure is air-conditioned. [That was a big deal in 1978!]

**CHURCH STAFF:**

**Senior Pastor:**

Rev. Dr. Bradley W. Gabriel  
[bwgmullins@bellsouth.net](mailto:bwgmullins@bellsouth.net)

**Minister of Spiritual Formation:**

Scottie Brafford  
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**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](mailto:ihavejoy43@gmail.com)

**Church Secretary:**

Susan Tutt  
[susmullins@bellsouth.net](mailto:susmullins@bellsouth.net)

**Organist:**

Aaron Foster  
[aaron@mullinsumc.org](mailto:aaron@mullinsumc.org)

**Custodians:**

Geraldine Finley  
David Campbell



Kimberly McDonald played the handbells **all by herself** on Sunday, July 14, accompanied by Aaron Foster on the piano.

**OUR PRESENCE (LAST WEEK):**

Sunday:

8:45 Service .....  
Sunday School .....  
10:50 Worship Service.....



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

**Thursday, July 22**

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

**Friday, July 23**

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

**Saturday, July 24**

11:00 a.m. Yoga—Fellowship Hall  
Dinner and Rehearsal for One Way Singers

**Sunday, July 25**

8:45 a.m. Worship—Chapel  
9:40 a.m. Sunday School  
10:50 a.m. Worship—Sanctuary—**One Way Singers Perform!**  
2:00 p.m. Summer Film Series—see page 3  
4:00 p.m. Youth—Gym  
5:00 p.m. Yoga

**Monday, July 26**

8:30 a.m. Summer Stage  
9:15 a.m. Walking in the Gym  
9:30 a.m. Church Women United Bible Study at Buntyn Presbyterian

**Tuesday, July 27**

6:30 a.m. Career Support Group—Gym  
8:30 a.m. Summer Stage  
9:15 a.m. Walking in the Gym  
10:00 a.m. Bridge Group—Parlor  
6:15 p.m. Core Ball—Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m. Jr. High Bible Study—Youth Room  
7:00 p.m. Yoga—Fellowship Hall  
7:00 p.m. Evangelism—Room 209

**Wednesday, July 28**

8:30 a.m. Summer Stage  
9:15 a.m. Walking in the Gym  
5:00 p.m. Sr. High Bible Study—Youth Room  
5:30 p.m. Nurture Meeting—Room 117

**Thursday, July 29**

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

**Friday, July 30**

8:30 a.m. Summer Stage  
9:15 a.m. Walking in Gym  
5:30 p.m.  
and 7:00 p.m. Summer Stage Production—Fellowship Hall and Gym

**Saturday, July 31**

11:00 a.m. Yoga—Fellowship Hall

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Wednesday, August 25**

6:30 p.m. All work areas meet in the Fellowship Hall after dinner