



MACON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MESSENGER

208 Pearl Street ♦ Macon, Missouri 63552-1516 ♦ 660-385-2156 ♦ Web Site: www.maconumc.org
April 1, 2011 Monthly Newsletter

*Our Mission --
The Mission of the Macon
United Methodist Church is
to share the love of Christ.*

WORSHIP SERVICES

*We offer two worship
opportunities on Sunday.
Each service has its own
special character.*

Traditional
at 8:45 a.m. in the
Sanctuary...is a full
traditional service using
hymns and liturgy.

SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
for all Ages

Contemporary
at 10:45 a.m. in the
Multi-Purpose Room....is a
contemporary service where
praise songs are led by the
Uplifters praise band and
singers. Multimedia supports
the entire service. Children's
Church is available for
children ages 4 through fourth
grade during the sermon

Macon United Methodist Church Annual Rummage Sale

Saturday, April 9

7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Donated items can be dropped off at the church beginning Sunday, April 3rd - Friday, April 8th by 1:00 p.m. Please donate clothes for spring/summer and save your fall/winter clothes for the Fall Rummage Sale. Volunteers are needed to set up tables and get out clothing racks after the Sunday service April 3rd. Volunteers are needed to sort and organize items during the week and the day of the sale. Please sign up. Muscle and trucks/vans needed to help with clean up on the day of the sale starting at 2 p.m. Questions or to sign up, call Ginger Mattingly 385-5637 email ginger.bones@gmail.com, Diann Brown 385-3986 rascal1@cvalley.net, Kathy Vivian 385-7494. Proceeds to support Missions.

FOOD N' FELLOWSHIP

Wednesday, April 13th at 5:30 p.m.

in the Multi-purpose Room
Hosted by the Serving "Mission" Team

Menu:

Meatloaf, Baked Potato, Salad, Mixed Fruit and Dessert

YOUR DONATIONS WILL GO FOR LOCAL AND OUTREACH MISSIONS!

Pastor's Column

What does it mean to say I am a Christian?

When I say that 'I am a Christian',
I am not shouting that 'I am clean living.

I'm whispering 'I was lost,
but now I'm found and forgiven.'

When I say 'I am a Christian'
I don't speak of this with pride.

I'm confessing that I stumble
and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say 'I am a Christian'
I'm not trying to be strong.

I'm professing that I'm weak
and need His strength to carry on.

When I say 'I am a Christian'
I'm not bragging of success.

I'm admitting I have failed
and need God to clean my mess.

When I say 'I am a Christian'
I'm not claiming to be perfect.

My flaws are far too visible,
but God believes I am worth it.

When I say 'I am a Christian'
I still feel the sting of pain.

I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.
When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not holier than thou,

I'm just a simple sinner who received
God's good grace, somehow! *Maya Angelou*

The Pharisee even today see faults in others and says:
"Look how good I am!" The Christian says: "Woe is
me a sinner, Jesus please forgive me." *Pastor Julius*

Men's Breakfast

The United Methodist Men will be meeting
Sunday, April 3rd at 7:15 a.m. in the multi-purpose
building for breakfast.

Gift of Presence

The "Gift of Presence" Support Group will meet
Monday, April 4th & April 18th at 6:00 p.m. in the
Cornerstone Conference Room.

Children & Youth Team Meeting

The Children & Youth Team will meet Wednesday,
April 6th at 6:30 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference
Room.

Special Time of Prayer

There will be an early morning special time of prayer
for Pastor Julius and our church on April 7th at 6:00 a.m.
in the sanctuary. Everyone is invited!

Serving Team

The Serving Team will meet Tuesday, April 12th at
6:30 p.m. in the K-5 Alive Classroom.

Board of Trustees Meeting

The Board of Trustees will meet Tuesday, April 12th at
7:00 p.m. in the Library.

Sharing Team

The Sharing Team will meet Wednesday, April 13th at
6:30 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

Commodities Distribution

Commodities Distribution will be held Tuesday, April
19th from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Volunteers needed!

Ad Council

Ad Council will meet Wednesday, April 20th at 6:00
p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Cody Donelson, Stan Grant and David Masten | 16 Will Butner |
| 2 Shirley Mangelsen | 17 Wesley Ray |
| 3 Carroll Lea | 18 Megan Halley |
| 4 Ellen Gehringer | 20 Kim Strange |
| 5 T.G. Maddox and Margaret Renie | 21 David Rehard and David & Hilary Lemon Anniv. |
| 6 Barron Roth | 22 J.W. Haverfield |
| 7 Abby Pogue and Rhett Pollard | 23 Rayce Truitt |
| 9 Wayne Shannon | 25 Emily Bettes and Blake Claas |
| 11 Stephanie Israel and Drake Lewis | 27 Megan Cashatt |
| 13 Regiland Baker, Laurie Dunn, Linda Gentry and Scott Nelson | 28 Brody Masten |
| 14 Sarah Jorgenson | 30 Jo Schnell and Karen Shearer |
| 15 Alan Carney and Carter Lucas | |

Maundy Service

A Maundy Thursday Service will be held April 21st at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

5th Annual Good Friday Hike!

5th Annual Good Friday Hike is scheduled for April 22nd. We plan to hike a five mile loop at Big Creek Conservation Area near Kirksville and have a great time in God's creation. We plan to leave the church parking lot at 1:30 p.m. and should return around 5:30 p.m. All are welcome, contact Matt Kauffman for more details.

Annual Family Fun Fest

The Annual Family Fun Fest will be held June 12th from 11:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Silent auction, meal/concession, bake sale, entertainment, games, baby show, hourly drawings, crafts, and more. Many opportunities to serve and enjoy. Proceeds also support Missions. More details to come.

Facebook

We are on Facebook! The Macon United Methodist Church has a Facebook account and page. If you haven't already, sign-up for a Facebook account and then do a search within Facebook for Macon United Methodist Church and then click "Like" to get the latest on the Macon UMC.

New Members

We are excited to welcome Matt & Kristen Burks. We thank God for your dedication to the Macon UMC.



Pastoral Absence

Due to my surgery and recovery, I will be out of the pulpit for an extended time. In consultation with the SPRC, District Superintendent and the Ad Council the following schedule has been created. Please see the schedule below. As your pastor I ask each of you to continue to pray for the vision God has for the Macon UMC. Additionally, keep the supply speaker sheet handy and pray for each person as they prepare to bring God's Message to the church called Macon United Methodist.

April 3rd - Matt Kauffman & Pastor Julius

April 10th - Matt Kauffman

April 17th - Matt Kauffman

Maundy Thursday, April 21st - Rev. Nadine Thurman (in the Sanctuary)

Easter April 24th - Matt Kauffman

May 1st - Rev Nadine Thurman

May 8th - Karen Shearer

May 15th - Sue Wynne

May 22nd - Mark Truitt

Unity Sunday, May 29th - D.S. Rev. Dale Stone

June 5th - Rev Virgil Clow

Any emergency, please call **SPRC Chairman Mark Truitt 660-676-2370, Rev Nadine Thurman 660-651-3090** or **D.S. Rev. Dale Stone 660-216-9685**.

I will be in surgery in Kansas City on April 7th, and for three days following. Then I will spend an additional seven days in Kansas City to be checked repeatedly before coming to our home near Columbia. After being flat on my back, with limited time up, we'll work at returning to Macon.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Kaleb Bettes (*Peggy Chalgren's grandson, surgery March 31st to remove tonsils & adnoids*)

Amiya Brown (*Luella & Eddie Brown's granddaughter, health issues*)

Pastor Larry DeSpain (*recovering from knee surgery*)

Colleen Ganske (*health issues*)

J.W. Hayes (*hospice care*)

Pastor Julius (*surgery April 7th*)

Law Enforcement

Brody Masten (*Dawn's 6 yr. old son, fell and broke his elbow*)

Ginger Mattingly's brother

Martha McDowell (*cancer*)

Military separated from their families

Gary Olson (*friend of Shari Dye, cancer*)

Those in Libya

Those in Japan

Those in Prison

Jo Schnell (*LBD*)

Jessie Shackelford (*tests*)

Janina Snell (*Megan Pollard's mother, cancer*)

Jessica Wellman & Family (*Jessica's 21 yr. old brother was found dead*)



So What Do We Do? Where Do We Go From Here?

As most of you know, Pastor Julius will be undergoing complicated spinal surgery on April 7th at Research Hospital in Kansas City. Many times, I have asked myself what will it be like going to church each Sunday while the pastor is away recuperating from surgery, getting therapy, and regaining his strength. What should I do? What will happen to the church while Julius is gone.

The answer, of course, is that the church will survive. The Staff Parish Relations Committee has been working with Julius and in consultation with the District Superintendent to arrange for pulpit supply and other ministry that will need special attention during Julius' absence. So what should we do?

It will be our responsibility, with God's help, to carry on the work of the church. One of my favorite verses in the Bible is Deuteronomy 33:27 "The eternal God is our refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms." While Julius will be away, God will still be here supporting us and providing us with strength and guidance as we continue to worship and carry on the mission of the church.

While it is sometimes tempting to take a vacation from church while the pastor is away, **the church needs your support now more than ever.** So continue to support your church in your usual way but volunteer to do a little extra. Ask the staff and leaders frequently, "What needs to be done this week? How can I help?"

Where do we go from here? We go forward. During Julius' recovery time, we will be diligent in re-affirming our vows to be loyal to the Macon United Methodist Church and uphold it with our **prayers**, our **presence**, our **gifts**, our **service**, and our **witness**. By working together with God, great things can happen as we go forth "to share the love of Christ."

Your Lay Leader, Betty Vancil

Loch Haven Special Care

LOCH HAVEN SPECIAL CARE GARDEN will be needing tender loving care April through October. If you like gardening, your skills are very much needed. The Serving Team will be planting flowers, weeding, watering, and doing some minor landscaping. Keeping the plants watered during the summer is a major concern. ANY AMOUNT OF TIME you can spare (even just one time) will help. If you would like to participate in this worthwhile community service, please contact Kathy Vivian at 385-7494 or Dawn at the church office. If you have a soaker hose or any gardening tools you would like to donate, there will be a box in Dawn's office to collect them.

Hospice Volunteers Needed!

Hospice of Northeast Missouri, your local non-profit hospice, is seeking compassionate, warm hearted people to serve as non-medical volunteers for our terminally ill patients and their families in our community. They provide companionship and respite visits to the home or nursing care center. If you want to make a difference, please call Terrill Roberts at 660-627-9711.

FYI!

Because we care, last Sunday a love offering was taken for Pastor Julius and Carolyn to help defray medical and other extra expenses related to his surgery. Several were unaware of this and have asked how they can participate. Within the next couple of weeks, just write out a check to the Macon United Methodist Church stating what it's for in the memo line or put cash in an envelope and clearly mark it "**Ketsenburg Love Offering**", drop it in the Sunday offering plate or take it by the church office, and your offering will get to its proper destination.

On the day of surgery, April 7th, the sanctuary will be open at 6:00 a.m. for any who wishes to come and be in prayer for Pastor Julius and Carolyn during his surgery.

NOTES OF SHARING

Carolyn and I would like to thank each of you for the Love offering and prayers offered for us! I'm not accustomed to being in the hospital, as I have viewed it my ministry to visit others. I suppose I will see what it's like to be in the bed, rather than beside it. I (we) do thank you for any act of kindness that has been extended our way.

I will ask that you give the speakers on Sunday your attention as they have graciously agreed to fill in for me. I know the church is in good hands, which makes the short term absence easier to take. Again, thank you for your expressions of kindness and support.

Pastor Julius & Carolyn Ketsenburg

Thanks for all the prayers while Addison was in hospital and she is doing well. Thank you for all the goodies stuff in the basket for the baby.

God Bless with Love, The Strange Family

Kidstuff

By Rhonda Linsley

K-5 Alive Kids Help Families in Haiti

The children in our K-5 Alive Wednesday After-School Program voted in March to participate in the Haiti Pure Water Filters Mission Project coordinated through the Office of Creative Ministries, at the Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church in Columbia, MO. The children set a goal of collecting \$35, which would provide a family in Haiti with pure water for ten years. We exceeded our goal and collected \$50. That money has been sent off to UMCOR, and we greatly appreciate our church's involvement and generosity. What a wonderful example we are setting for our young people in reaching out to others around the world.



Keep Your Eyes on the Cards!

The elementary children played bells and sang some songs for us during our worship services and Church Camp Promotion Program on March 13th. We have a wonderful group of kids who love to ring and sing for Jesus! Thank you parents and grandparents for getting your kids to the church for practices and worship services. May the King take joy in what he hears!!

Church Camp – Here We Come!!

With the carry-over money from last year, the three fund-raising meals we had this year and congregational donations, we are sitting at about \$3,670 for reimbursement funds for parent's out-of-pocket expenses for church camp. THANK YOU to everyone who is supporting our camp ministries, and I do hope many of you will take advantage of our AWESOME facilities at Camp Jo-Ota. What a blessing to have a church camp so close to us. We are giving middle school and high school campers \$75 for out-of-pocket reimbursements and elementary campers \$45. This is in addition to the 50% Scholarship Program that Macon UMC provides. If additional help is needed, please don't hesitate to call Rhonda Linsley at the church office or at 660-651-1613.

PLEASE DON'T DELAY IN REGISTERING FOR CAMP! Register before April 15 and save \$25. Please call Rhonda to get the Macon UMC Voucher Code or grab one of the Camp Tracking Documents from the Camp Bulletin Board. The Voucher Code is at the top left-hand corner of that sheet. Also contact Rhonda to see about using a "Bring A Friend Discount." We have several new campers this year, which will allow for another \$25 discount for campers. Multiple sibling discounts are \$15 for 2nd child, \$30 for 3rd, \$40 for 4th and so on. **Please note there are no more District Vouchers available. All 50 have been claimed.**

Camp registration may be done on-line at www.moumethodist.org. **Please register any child/parent camps first, and then additional camps.**

Submit your Pay Pal Receipt to Rhonda and she will immediately request reimbursement from our church treasurer.

Hope you all can go to camp, and I look forward to hearing about your experience and finding out if you "Got Spirit?"

Palm Sunday Music Special

Rhonda, Karen and Caleb are working on some special music for both services on Palm Sunday, April 17th. We would like to invite middle school and high school youth to join us for this special Sunday so our music can be even more powerful. Please let Rhonda know if you are interested in singing with us. We practice music at 9:30 every Sunday morning in the large corner Sunday School classroom just before the start of Sunday School. We also practice toward the end of K-5 Alive each Wednesday at about 4:30 p.m. Please consider joining us. It will be a great time of CELEBRATION!



Rhonda Needs Help Making Palm Leaves

Rhonda needs 3-4 adults willing to help wrap florist tape around plastic fern leaves for use on Palm Sunday. With three or four people working together, it shouldn't take long to prepare 60 leaves. Please indicate your willingness to help on the attendance sheet, and Rhonda will set a time to get together. Thanks so much!

The Funny Side of Parenting

Mom heard her son and daughter playing Hide and Seek.

Kevin said, "You cover your eyes. I'll go hide and text you when I'm ready."

Mom thought that was pretty ingenious of her son but was even more surprised when her daughter got the text and raced straight for the computer.

"What are you doing?" Mom asked.

"I'm tracking his location with his GPS."

[Boy, haven't things changed over the past few years!!]

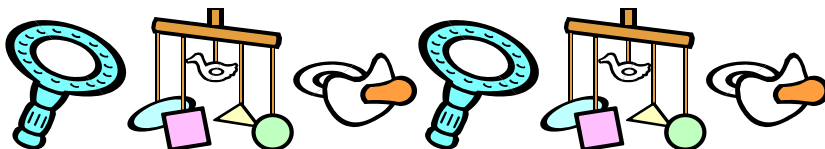
Birth Announcements



Tucker Anthony Ferguson, son of Anthony & Michelle Ferguson, was born at 2:30 a.m. February 13th at Northeast Regional Medical Center in Kirksville. He weighed 9 lbs. 7 oz. and was 22.25 inches long. Tucker has one sibling, Sita Bell Ferguson, age 2. He is the grandson of Marsha Brower of Macon.

Korbin Hadley Koch was born March 19th, 2011, at 9:41 p.m. He weighed 9 lb. 1 oz. and was 21.5 inches long. His parents are Brent & Allie (Grimm) Koch. Grandparents are Hadley & Wanda Grimm, Tom Koch & the late Peggy Koch.

Addison Claire Strange, daughter of John & Kim Strange, was born Saturday, March 5th, 2011. She weighed 7 lbs. 1 oz.



M.U.M.Y. CONNECTION

By Karen Butner

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS!

Crazy Days

WHO: All Jr. High Students (6th-8th grades)

WHEN: Friday, April 15th to Saturday, April 16th

WHERE: Central Christian College of the Bible, Moberly, MO

Call Karen if you are interested in attending this Crazy weekend event!

1 by Youth Mission Trip

WHO: All High School Students (9th-12th grades)

WHEN: Saturday, April 16th

WHERE: St. Louis, MO

Call Karen if you are interested in joining other youth to be the hands & feet of Jesus!

Youth Food & Fellowship- Sunday, April 17th

We will meet at the China Garden at 5:00 p.m. for Food & Fellowship. Parents can pick up at 6:00 p.m. Thank you Stan & Carla Grant!! This will take the place of our regular youth group time.

No Youth Group Sunday, April 24th. Enjoy Easter with your families!!

PRAISE-A-PALOOZA

WHO: ALL AGES!!

WHEN: FRIDAY, MAY 6th BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M.

WHERE: MACON UMC

COST: \$5 PER PERSON

LIVE MUSIC WITH NEVER BLUE AVENUE, WALKING DUST & PIERCED

SPEAKER: ROCKY CHRISTENSEN (Speaker from Snow Day 2011!!)

Jumping out of planes, scuba-diving, mountain biking, camping & hanging out with his amazing wife Emily are just some of the things you can find Rocky doing. One thing he hasn't stopped doing since he was very young... living every moment to reach people for Christ. His commitment to the Gospel led him to study for ministry, earning both a Bachelor's degree in Biblical Literature and a Bachelor's of Theology, with a major in New Testament Studies. Rocky earned his Master's Degree in Christian Apologetics and a Graduate's Certificate in Clinical Bio-Ethics. Rocky has a passion for equipping students to give everything for the Kingdom's sake. His message is both relevant and Biblically grounded, straight to the heart. We will need several adult sponsors. Please pray about where you can volunteer to serve!

**JESUS SAID TO HER, I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE
LIFE. HE WHO BELIEVES IN ME WILL LIVE, EVEN THOUGH
HE DIES; AND WHOEVER LIVES AND BELIEVES IN ME
WILL NEVER DIE. ~ JOHN 11:25-26.**

Attendance and Offering Summary

| Weekly Average for March | 2010 | 2011 | Year To Date Average | 2010 | 2011 |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Worship Attendance | <u>202.00</u> | <u>144.75</u> | Worship Attendance | <u>212.00</u> | <u>184.00</u> |
| Sunday School | <u>77.50</u> | <u>79.75</u> | Sunday School | <u>66.50</u> | <u>74.40</u> |
| Offering | <u>\$5,511.58</u> | <u>\$5,815.55</u> | Offering | <u>\$5,224.30</u> | <u>\$5,376.98</u> |

Macon UMC Staff: Julius Ketsenburg, Pastor; Pastor; Dawn Masten, Administrative Assistant; Rhonda Linsley, Director of Children’s Ministries;
Karen Butner, Director of Youth Ministries; Beth Dixon, Organist; Kari Truitt, Nursery Attendant; Annie Faught, Toddler Room Attendant.

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
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Macon, MO

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