



MACON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MESSENGER

208 Pearl Street ♦ Macon, Missouri 63552-1516 ♦ 660-385-2156 ♦ Web Site: www.maconumc.org
February 4, 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

CAMP FUNDRAISING MEAL

Sunday, February 6th
at 12:00 Noon
in the Multi-Purpose Room



Menu:
Roast Beef,
Potatoes & Carrots,
Corn, Rolls, Pudding Cake

**EVERYONE IS INVITED
FREE WILL DONATION**

**A snowflake is one of God's most fragile
creations, but look what they can do when
they stick together! ~Author Unknown**

United Methodist Men's Annual

Valentine's Dinner

**Sunday, February 13th
at 12:00 Noon**

in the Multi-Purpose Room

**MENU: PORK LOIN & ALL THE FIXIN'S
EVERYONE IS INVITED!**

Pastor's Column

Blessed are the Pure In Heart

Matthew 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God."

The pure in heart are those whose minds, motives, and principles are not self serving. It is those who seek not only to have the proper external actions, but who desire to be holy in the center of their being. The Word of God tells us man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks on the heart. To be pure in heart, comes with the blessing, they shall see God. Everyone will behold Jesus as a Judge. Still what is suggested here is to behold Jesus as a friend. To be a friend of God as was Abraham, Moses, John, Paul and a host of others. David prayed: "As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness." (Psalm 17:15) We too will see God's face in the face of a child being taught to know God. Or in the face of one lost in the world, that is found in relationship with Jesus. To see God, means to be his friend, and to live with Him in His Kingdom. Think for a moment. Would God consider you to be "pure in heart"?

Pastor Julius

Gift of Presence

The "Gift of Presence" Loss study will meet Monday, February 7th at 6:00 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

Women's Study

Have you ever needed something to hold on to? Been afraid and felt alone? Unable to see God's plan in your struggle? Have you wondered if anyone could love you? Felt like things are crashing down around you? Do you ever feel as though God has forgotten you or think that there has to be something better? A new Women's Bible Study will be starting on Tuesday, February 8th at noon and 6:30 p.m. Providing enough sign up. We will be studying "The Shelter of God's Promises" by Sheila Walsh. She will help us find God's joy, hope and shelter. The cost for the study book is \$10. Please sign up or call the office, so that we can be sure to have enough books. "Christ's promise to us is not that He will give us shelter but that He will be our Shelter." Carolyn K.

Sharing Team

The Sharing Team will meet Wednesday, February 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

Scholarship Committee Meeting

The Scholarship Committee will meet Wednesday, February 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the Library.

Wednesday Meal

There will be no Wednesday Fellowship meal for February. We are in need of Teams signing up to sponsor this important time. Please call the office if you would like to prepare a meal.

Commodities Distribution

Commodities Distribution will be held Tuesday, February 15th from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Volunteers needed!

Ad Council

Ad Council will meet Wednesday, February 16th at 6:30 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

February Birthdays and Anniversaries

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Mary Mechlin and Lance Olson | 17 Rheeann Linsley |
| 3 Josh Seward | 19 Jim Cole |
| 4 Bill Figg | 20 Matt Meisner, Rona Nelson and Bettye Rector |
| 5 Thomas Lane and Michael Trumper | 21 Betty Vancil |
| 6 Eddie Carl Brown and Susan Kohl | 22 Betty Buster and Dr. Mark Maddox |
| 8 Allen Faught and Olin Gottman | 23 Dana Bagley, Hugh Dunn, Jr., and Sherry Robertson |
| 9 Bailey Baker, David Johnson and Dorothy Krueel | 25 Wanda Grimm, Patty Halley and Arnie Shearer |
| 10 Scott Coleman | 26 Anthony Ferguson, Ben Kauffman and Marti Luzader |
| 11 Caleb Butner, Roger Kohl, Kattie Peyton and Judy Wilson | |
| 12 Jen Haverfield, Tim Slover and Charlie & Marianne Burkhardt Anniv. | |
| 13 Jacque Schmidt | |
| 14 Ryan Brown, Russell Kohl, Aletha Luther and Tom Nelson | |

Serving Team Meeting

The Serving Team will meet Monday, February 28th at 6:30 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

Lay Ministry/Speaking

Saturday, March 5th at Camp Jo-Ota, Clarence, MO. Basic and advance courses are being offered. Pick up your application in the church office. Cost is \$35. Anyone having financial assistance should contact the your church or the District office. Dead line to register is Feb. 9, 2011. This year there will be no exceptions due to the material getting to the leaders for evaluation. **Tom Bannon, District Lay Leader/registrar**

Sunday Morning Changes

As most of you have probably heard, the Administrative Council has made the decision to go from three Sunday morning worship services to two with a designated Sunday School hour between the two services. The council first considered this last fall while Pastor Julius was on vacation which means the idea was initiated by the council, not the pastor. It is the council's unanimous conclusion that this move is in the best interest of our church and its mission.

The hard part of the change was deciding on the hours. The Administrative Council after much prayer and consideration has agreed on the following: Traditional service in the sanctuary at 8:45, Sunday School at 9:45; and Contemporary service in the multi-purpose room at 10:45. This change starts Sunday, February 6th. Unity services on the fifth Sundays will continue. While we realize that these times are not what many of us would choose for ourselves, the council felt that they would be best for helping all of us become more unified and get to know each other better. By working together we can go forward fulfilling our mission of "Sharing the Lord of Christ".

Betty Vancil, Lay Leader

\$7,000 Check Presented to Nicaragua Housing



Hannibal Mission Team Receives \$7000 check for the Rainbow Network, building houses in El Paraiso, Nicaragua.

This family want to live in village El Paraiso. Currently their house belongs to the owner of the farm near El Paraiso and the family works for him. There are 6 members in their family. They do not own any land or any property. Leyla's husband Alejandro is 36 he is a farmer. All of his work only brings food to the family. Their monthly income is \$72.00. If you would like to donate to this cause please contact the serving team, or church office.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Kallie Baker (*neck pain*)

Betty Butner (*Jon Butner's mother, recovering from surgery*)

Hilda Mae Dienst (*Nancy Coleman's mother, health issues*)

Kelly Glossip (*friend of Betty Jackson, cancer*)

Melba Hays (*gallbladder surgery*)

Lydia Johnston (*friend of Kallie Baker, cancer*)

Jean Jones (*friend of Kathy Vivian, recovering from a stroke*)

Law Enforcement

Ginger Mattingly's brother (*cancer*)

Ray Mayfield (*cancer*)

Martha McDowell (*cancer*)

Military separated from their families

Gladys & Jim Myers (*JoVaughn Kelly's aunt & uncle, health issues*)

Those in Prison

Jo Schnell (*LBD*), Scott Schnell (*caregiver*)

Elizabeth Schrader (*friend of Julie Burdin, recovering from surgery*)

Brian Shoemaker (*Brenda Cole's son, liver*)

Janina Snell (*Megan Pollard's mother, radiation & chemo*)

Josh Turner (*friend of Tanya Schmidt, heart surgery in February*)



UMM Breakfast a Success!

There were approximate 100 in attendance. The food was delicious and the fellowship was awesome!

NOTES OF SHARING

Thank You, Dale Bagley

We appreciate all the years (30+) that you have taught our class that took much dedication from both you and Pat. We could always look forward to a time of learning, prayer and good fellowship—we shall miss it.

Members of the Searches Class (AKA) Cornerstone

Thank you so much for attending my meal, and for your generous donations and for the support for my PAUMCS trip to Knoxville, TN. A special thank you to Alan Spencer and Kathy Vivian for their help and donation for this meal and for their continued support.

Dawn Masten

Special thanks to our church family for the many acts of kindness shown to Kelley during his illness and death. Your prayers and comforting words are greatly appreciated.

Gloria Rogers, Traci & Trent

Dear Marilyn, Rita, Lois, Anne, Tricia, and Rose Ann,

What a great letter came from you when I needed it most! Not only the letter, but I could feel the guiding presence you were praying for in my behalf.

Thanks and with love, Ida Hull, Clarence, MO

Happy Valentine's Day!!!!

Kidstuff

By Rhonda Linsley

K-5 Alive Is Enjoying Wild Bible Adventures

Since October, the K-5 Alive Wednesday after-school program has been learning all about Joseph from Genesis 37 - 41. We have learned how God is with us, even when life is unfair, and how God helps us to stand strong and do the right thing in the face of temptation. Through the stories about Joseph, we learn how we can serve God anywhere, just as Joseph faithfully served God in the most adverse circumstances.

Through interactive drama on January 19th, the kids experienced how God helped Joseph interpret important dreams. As Rhonda, Cheynne Morrison, McKenna Nelson and Emily Bettes brought the story to life, the kids intently listened to what would happen to the Cupbearer and the Baker.



Our studies will continue through Genesis 41-42 for a couple of weeks. Then we will dig into Acts, Ephesians and Galatians to learn about Saul's turn-around when he answered the call of Jesus, and learn how God did amazing things when Paul and Silas worshiped him in prison. Kids will be encouraged to develop an attitude of worship in their own lives. Learning about the spiritual armor God provides, our kids will be equipped to cope with negative things that our enemy throws in their path.

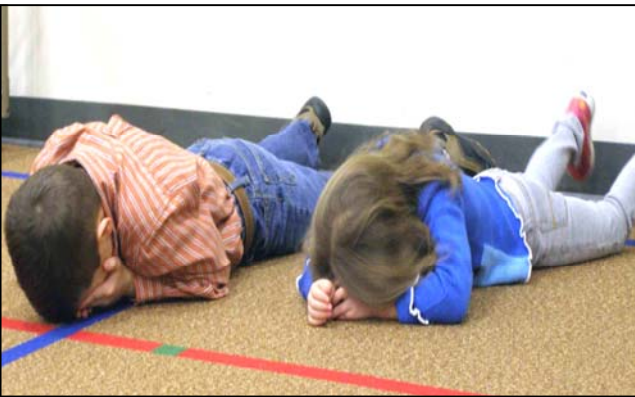
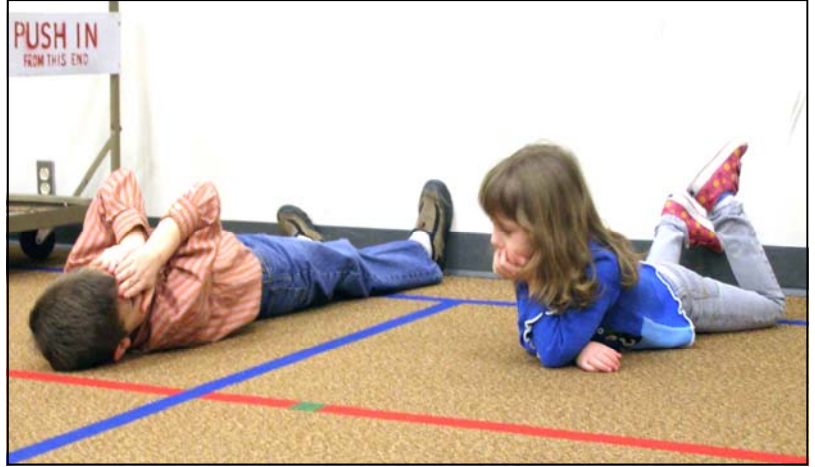
Mark your calendars for VBS

VBS will take place here at Macon UMC July 25-29, from 6 – 8:30 p.m. We had a wonderful team of enthusiastic participants last year, and it is my plan to do a very similar VBS this year called "Bethlehem." This is another VBS program that I found in the closet so we will have to put our heads together to plan it, especially since there is no director's guide. We will again be divided into Tribes so will need Tribe leaders, a Gathering Leader for the opening and closing music, a Drama Team, a Census Taker, a game leader for Village Playground and marketplace shop keepers. We can choose from a variety of shops such as the following: Toy-Making Shop using clay, Dye Shop where we will actually be dyeing muslin pouches...possibly with natural dyes, Grain Mill, Perfume Shop, Bakery, Musical Instruments Shop, Coin-Making Shop, Farmers Market, Mosaic Shop, and if we are really brave and creative...a barnyard!!

The daily Bible Point and stories will be 1) Prophets predict Jesus' birth, 2) Mary and Joseph come to Bethlehem, 3) Jesus is born, 4) Angels tell the shepherds the good news of Jesus' birth, and 5) Wise men seek Jesus.

Please be sure to pray about your special gifts and where God could use you for this upcoming fun and exciting week of ministry. If you would like to know more about what will be needed, please call or stop by and see me. The more people that come forward early on with interest and ideas, the easier it is to plan and pull it all together.

What's on the Minds of our Children



The Spring quarter in Sunday School will be starting March 6. It's possible that the children are already talking about it. What if their conversation went something like this:

"Hey, a new Sunday School quarter is going to start in March, who do you think you'll have as a teacher?"

"I don't know....we've had Mrs. Headley and Mrs. Linsley for two quarters and Mrs. Headley said she would be taking the spring and summer off." "I'll bet Mrs. Linsley will teach again." "Oh no....not her AGAIN!!!"

"Maybe we should pray about it...there's got to be lots of other people willing to teach Sunday School."

"Dear God, we love you know so and enjoy coming to Sunday School to learn about your love for us. Be with this church, God, and allow its people to think about the many ways they can serve you and minister to the children. Help them to understand what the Bible teaches and that the children need to hear about how you move in their lives. In Jesus' name we pray." Amen.

What does the scripture mean to you?

"So love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and strength. Memorize his laws and tell them to your children over and over again. Talk about them all the time, whether you're at home or walking along the road or going to bed at night, or getting up in the morning. Write down copies and tie them to your wrists and foreheads to help you obey them. Write these laws on the door frames of your homes and on your town gates." (Deuteronomy 6:5-7)

"We announce the message about Christ, and we use all our wisdom to warn and teach everyone, so that all of Christ's followers will grow and become mature. That's why I work so hard and use the mighty power he gives me." (from Paul's letter in Colossians 1:28-29)

"If you teach these things to other followers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus." (Paul's advice to Timothy, 1 Timothy 4:6)

Leading Sunday School is a sure-fire way to dig deeper into the Bible, make a difference in the lives of today's children and bring you to a closer relationship with your Lord and Savior! Think about it, pray about it and come talk to Rhonda Linsley. She would love to have a pool of teachers to rotate quarters so our children can learn from numerous people within our church. In the elementary classes for the Spring quarter, we have Matt Kauffman teaching preschool, Shane & Jacque Truitt teaching Grades 3rd-5th, and we are looking for a commitment for the K-2nd Grade class.

Are You Ready? Summer Camp 2011 is Coming Our Way!

Missouri United Methodist Conference, Camping and Retreat Ministries theme for summer 2011 is "Got Spirit, Finding God in the Every Day!"

At our camps, not only will children and adults of all ages enjoy canoeing, swimming, fishing, hiking, music, roasting marshmallows at a camp fire, crafts and much more, but they will also experience how God's Wonder, Gratitude, Hospitality, Generosity, Worship and Living in Christ's Love makes God real every day! Come experience the love and joy of God's great outdoors!

You should have received a poster in the mail which lists the camps and dates for each of our four Methodist Camp locations. Rhonda is also working on putting together a packet from the print-off of the UM Missouri Camp Book, that she will soon post on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Center. You may also visit www.mocamps.org for more information about summer camp. We will soon have a camp promotion Sunday, so be thinking about your summer plans and where you might be able to fit in a summer camp at Camp Jo-Ota or one of our other camp locations. Registration is now OPEN!

Fundraising meals for out-of-pocket expenses are set for February 6th, March 9th and March 13th. Please write these down and plan to support our families in helping them send their kids to camp. Anyone who wants to attend camp should not be discouraged if money is an issue. We have scholarships available to get you there! Please come in and talk to Rhonda anytime, or send her an email at maconumcrhonda@cvalley.net. Got Spirit? You bet!!! Camp Jo-Ota ROCKS!!!

M.U.M.Y. CONNECTION

By Karen Butner



SNOW DAY 2011: CENTER

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts."

Deuteronomy 6:5 & 6

Keeping Christ at the center of our minds, hearts, souls & bodies was this year's theme for Snow Day.

We spent our morning playing volleyball, basketball, Wii & hanging out in the lodge playing board games & listening to Open Mic. Breakout sessions were offered in the afternoon- Centered Heart, Centered Mind, Centered Soul & Centered Body.

Students were challenged to focus on keeping Christ at the Center of our lives. Evening worship by "I Am Analog" was followed by Rocky Christianson. Rocky is a dynamic speaker, speaking to the hearts of the youth about keeping it real and keeping God a real part of our lives.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE OUTREACH EVENTS

The Children & Youth Team has hosted two Middle School Dances on January 14th & January 28th, with another scheduled for Friday, February 11th. Our team is sharing the love of Christ to youth in our community by offering an uplifting Christian event for 6th to 8th grade students.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Middle School Dance Outreach: Friday, February 11th
WHO: 6th to 8th Grade Students
COST: \$3 (includes admission, popcorn, snacks & soda)
LIVE MUSIC WITH NEVER BLUE AVENUE!!!
- Trivia Night: Saturday, February 12th
Cost: FREE due to a generous sponsor! Includes supper!
Call or e-mail Karen to sign up

Youth Group Time Change!!

- 3:30 PM: Doors open for Open Gym
- 3:45 PM: Snacks/Fellowship
- 4:00 PM: Worship led by the Youth Praise Band
- 4:15 PM: Small Group Lesson
- 4:45 PM: Dismiss- Parents Pick Up


Attendance and Offering Summary

Weekly Average for Jan.	2010	2011	Year To Date Average	2010	2011
Worship Attendance	<u>192.60</u>	<u>176.40</u>	Worship Attendance	<u>192.60</u>	<u>176.40</u>
Sunday School	<u>60.40</u>	<u>51.00</u>	Sunday School	<u>60.40</u>	<u>51.00</u>
Offering	<u>\$3,148.33</u>	<u>\$3,831.41</u>	Offering	<u>\$3,148.33</u>	<u>\$3,831.41</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

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Macon, MO


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