



# MACON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MESSENGER

208 Pearl Street ♦ Macon, Missouri 63552-1516 ♦ 660-385-2156 ♦ Web Site: [www.maconumc.org](http://www.maconumc.org)  
March 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

# **CAMPER FUNDRAISING MEALS**

**Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>  
at 5:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>  
at 12 Noon**

**in the Multi-Purpose Room**



### *March 9<sup>th</sup> Menu:*

*Sherwin Dent's BBQ Brisket,  
Ham Balls, Hashbrown Casserole,  
Baked Beans, Lettuce Salad,  
Chocolate Cake, Cobbler*

### *March 13<sup>th</sup> Menu:*

*Lasagna, Green Beans,  
Breadsticks,  
Apple or Cherry Dump Cake*

**EVERYONE IS INVITED ~ FREE WILL DONATION**  
*100% of the proceeds will go towards helping  
defray the costs for children attending camp.*

# **DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS SUNDAY, MARCH 13**

*Don't forget to spring  
your clocks forward!*



## Pastor's Column

### Growing Closer To God

Lent is a forty-day period before Easter, beginning on Ash Wednesday. We skip Sundays when we count the forty days, because Sundays commemorate the Resurrection of Jesus. This year, lent begins on March 9<sup>th</sup> and ends on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, which is the day before Easter. Lent reminds us that we are mortal and one day will stand before Jesus Christ, who was born to this earth to show us how to live, and died to give us eternal life. Lent calls us to deny the physical so as to take on more of the spiritual.

Through Lent we have the opportunity to deny the flesh, and take in more of God. There are a variety of ways one can draw near to God - Two are through Prayer and Fasting. Through prayer we seek God, as we seek to do His will. Through fasting, we say; "God I am serious about serving You. I desire to see Your vision for my life and understand Your plan in accomplishing it."

The Bible teaches us about fasting, even that there is more than one method of fasting. Jesus (and others) fasted from all food and drink for 40 days. Others fasted from food for 3 days. Many today fast for a day, and some even fast one meal. Still the end result is to see a greater portion of God. As pastor, I'm calling each of you to pray and fast for the ministry of Macon UMC. I believe God desires to do a work so large, it will not be accomplished without the sacrifice of God's people. I believe God is doing a great work, but something greater is about to unfold. Our prayer and our fasting, shows God we desire to be part of His plan, and want to see it become reality.

**Isaiah 43:19** *"Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."*  
**Pastor**

## Women's Event

Live, Laugh, Love Ladies Event will be held at Mt. Olivet United Methodist Church in Taylor, MO on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. Speaker for the day will be Mary Schrock. Mary had grown up a devout insider in the cloistered world of the Old Order Amish. Strictly abiding by the rules and regulations of the Amish church, it wasn't until the light of God's truth pierced through to the darkest regions of her soul that she discovered salvation through Christ alone. Doors prizes, lunch and praise music will be offered throughout the event.

## Men's Breakfast

The United Methodist Men will be meeting Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 a.m. in the multi-purpose building for breakfast.

## Gift of Presence

The "Gift of Presence" Support Group will meet Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> & March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

## Sharing Team

The Sharing Team will meet Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

## Ash Wednesday Service

An Ash Wednesday Service will be held Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

## "Cultivating Service"

Central Christian College of the Bible presents a Men's Banquet at Moberly, MO on Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. \$15 per person. Speaker for the evening will be Earl Ferguson.

## March Birthdays and Anniversaries

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 2 Betty Tipton  | 19 Darlene Smith  |
| 3 Sherwin Dent, Skyler Huntsman,<br>Suzy Thompson and<br>John & Ruth Meisner Anniv. | 20 Jim & Brenda Cole Anniv.,<br>Gabe & Sandy Gabriel Anniv. and<br>Mark & Wilma Maddox Anniv. |
| 4 Justin Pollard and<br>Dale & Pat Bagley Anniv.                                    | 21 Heather Brown, Wayne Hackman,<br>Tiffany Lee and<br>Scott & Lisa Hamilton Anniv.           |
| 5 Roger Tipton  | 23 Marc Palmer and Alan Spencer   |
| 7 Alan & Sharon Carney Anniv.   | 24 Kaleb Bettes, Melody Morrison<br>and Clarimae Wood   |
| 8 Brent Johnston and Jeff Nelson  | 25 Gracee Butner and<br>Eddie Carl & Luella Brown Anniv.                                      |
| 11 Rodney Brown, Bill Cason and Ricky Truitt  | 26 Rose Masten and Deana Quinly   |
| 12 Joan Schlanker   | 27 Valerie Ray and Emily Rehard   |
| 13 Lesley Baker   | 29 Ty Middleton   |
| 14 Chris & Julia Faughn Anniv.  | 30 Leah Nickerson   |
| 15 Hugh Dunn and Shane Truitt   |   |
| 16 Walt Slover  |   |
| 17 Erik VanDelft  |   |

## Daylight Savings Time

Daylight Saving Time begins March 13<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to spring your clocks forward at 2:00 a.m.

## Serving Team Meeting

The Serving Team will meet Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

## Praise Dance Rehearsal

There will be Praise Dance Rehearsals on Mondays from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room.

## Commodities Distribution

Commodities Distribution will be held Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Volunteers needed!

## Ad Council

Ad Council will meet Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

## Caring Connection Team Meeting

The Caring Connection Team will meet Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

## Simulcast Event at Macon First Baptist

The ladies of the church are invited to a special Simulcast Event at the Macon First Baptist Church in Macon on April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Thousands of women across the nation will gather to see Priscilla Shirer, one of the nation's best-loved female Christian authors and speakers, as she presents "Going Beyond: Life Interrupted Simulcast", an extraordinary intimate and inspiring event. The event utilizes live streaming video via the internet to bring teachings to life as she offers insights that touch the hearts of all women. Make plans to join in on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> from 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Refreshments will be available and a light continental breakfast served on Saturday morning at 8:15 a.m. \$20 per person. Seating is limited. Tickets need to be ordered before March 24<sup>th</sup>. For more information, call 385-3714.

## "Blooming for Christ"

Central Christian College of the Bible presents a Women's Day and Luncheon in Moberly on Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. \$15 per person. Speakers include: Karen Dye, Tessa Rexrode and Jan Green.

## Quilt Show

The Macon Piecemakers will present a "Sew Many Memories" Quilt Show on April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the First Christian Church in Macon. Admission is \$4.00. Lunchroom open from 11:00 - 2:00 p.m. A beautiful "Springtime" quilt will be raffled. Drawing at 4:00 p.m. (need not to be present to win.) All proceeds will be used for local charitable projects. For further information, call 395-4166.

## Rummage Sale

A Rummage Sale will be held Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. More details to come.

## Volunteers & Donations Needed!

Clean your closets for donations. Think about where you are called to help with these missions. We will need volunteers to donate items, for setting up/taking down and working the rummage sale. For the Family Fun Fest, we will need volunteers to donate items for the bake sale and silent auction, setting up/working games, kitchen/concession, soliciting businesses for the silent auction, entertainment, etc. For anyone interested in helping directly with either of these events, our next Serving meeting is scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Bridgette Bailey (*friend of Megan Pollard, brain surgery*)

Charlotte Cross (*cancer*)

Regina Foster (*cancer*)

Carol and Ted Harrell & Family (*friends of Megan Pollard, house caught on fire and lost all belongings*)

Law Enforcement

Mike Leonard's daughter (*health problems*)

Martha McDowell (*cancer*)

Military separated from their families

Steve Olinger's Dad (*friend of JoAnn Dille, cancer*)

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

Those in Prison

Hobs Schlanker (*Dick Schlanker's father, health issues*)

Larry Shaver (*Bobbi Lucas uncle, fell and may have broken his back*)

Beth Skjivcond (*friend of Julie Burdin, health concerns*)

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

Herman Spencer & Family (*Betty Fink's uncle*)

Wayne Streight (*Jacque Truitt's grandfather, cancer*)

Kim Thollander (*Betty Fink's niece, recovering from surgery*)

Judy Wilson's sister (*recovering from accident*)

## Safe Sanctuary Training

The congregation of the Macon United Methodist Church is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children, youth and volunteers who participate in ministries and activities sponsored by the church. We require all teachers and helpers (age 15 and older) who work with our children and youth to complete the Safe Sanctuaries Training that is provided to the churches by the Missouri Methodist Conference Office. The cost is \$25 for the processing and certification. We do pay the fee for paid staff and eligible youth helpers who work in the nursery. We ask volunteers to please consider paying the fee. If unable to, please bring your credit card or pay-pal receipt to Rhonda Linsley for reimbursement. Ad Council has set a \$200 yearly budget for safe sanctuaries certifications. The training is provided online at [www.maconumc.org/safe](http://www.maconumc.org/safe) and then clicking on the safe sanctuaries training link.

## “Ray of Hope” Pregnancy Care Ministries

The “Ray of Hope” Pregnancy Care Ministries in Macon are in need for the following: Postage stamps, size 4 diapers, first-aid items for babies, pacifiers, and baby lotion. You can drop your donations by the church office.

## Family Fun Fest

This year’s Family Fun Fest will be held Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. More details to come.

## Hospice Volunteers Needed!

Would you like to make a difference in someone’s life? Hospice Compassus is seeking compassionate, non-medical volunteers to serve terminally ill patients and their families in your community. Through friendly visits to the home or nursing care center, volunteers provide companionship and emotional support. Volunteers give as much or as little time as they want. Training is provided. If interested, call Dale Willis at 1-877-700-1070.

## New Members

We are excited to welcome the following as new members: Marianne Burkhardt, Katie Nelson, Sherwin Dent and Donald & Terry Ross. We thank God for your dedication to the Macon UMC.



**Katie Nelson & Marianne Burkhardt**



**Sherwin Dent**



**Terry & Donald Ross**

## NOTES OF SHARING

United Methodist Prayer Group,

Raymond and I want to thank everyone for the prayers, emotional support and gift cards that each of you have given us. It helps so much to have such faithful support. I have finished the 4<sup>th</sup> round of chemo and see the oncologist on March 3<sup>rd</sup> to begin phase two of the cancer regimen. I am glad winter is finally coming to an end and spring is coming soon. Thanks again to everyone for all the blessings that you have given to me and to Raymond. I am still required to stay at home and not get out into crowds, but since I had the last round of chemo, I hope to be able to get out more.

**Sincerely, Cheryl Blodgett, Macon**

# Kidstuff

By Rhonda Linsley

## K-5 Alive Children are Reaching Out to Others (Hats, Scarves and Mittens Were Greatly Appreciated by Head Start)



The K-5 Alive Wednesday After-School Program collected winter items for the Head Start Program here in Macon the end of January. When Rhonda delivered the winter items, the Head Start staff was delighted with the donations. This is something they could use every year, so K-5 Alive will be taking this on as a yearly project. We should all be looking for those clearance sales as winter comes to an end, so we can maybe help out other local child care facilities next year, as well.

In February, the K-5 Alive children made Valentines cards for Loch Haven Nursing Home. Due to on-going illness among the children that month, Rhonda chose to deliver the cards to the nursing home and have them distributed by the staff. The kids made around 60 cards.

The children also voted to help out our friends in Haiti, with the aftermath of the earthquake. The children are collecting money to purchase Hydrad Pure Water Filters. This project is coordinated through the Office of Creative Ministries, at the Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church in Columbia, MO. The children have set a goal of \$35, which will provide drinking water for one family for ten years.

There is a collection jar sitting in the Multi-Purpose Building each Sunday morning, for anyone wishing to participate in this mission project with us. So far, we have collected \$24.21.

## It's Time to Pick Your Camp and Get Registered



- **Early Bird Deadline** - Register by April 15, 2011 and receive \$25 off for each registration.
- **Bring a Friend Discount** - \$25 off your registration if you bring someone who has not attended a MO UMC Camp in at least 3 years.
- **Multiple Sibling Discount** – \$15 for 2<sup>nd</sup> child, \$30 for 3<sup>rd</sup>, \$40 for 4<sup>th</sup> and so on.
- **Macon UMC, Mark Twain District and Conference Scholarships**— Macon UMC will again pay 50% of the cost of camp from our scholarship fund. The District and Conference will also provide scholarships, but are limited. They will be available upon first come, first served basis. The District is offering ten \$50 scholarships per church, so we are giving one per family.

Macon UMC is hosting fundraising meals to help parents with their out-of-pocket expenses. Monies will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. We have set a goal of reaching \$4,000 in our fundraising funds, which includes the leftover money from last year. It is our goal to get each campers out-of-pocket expense below \$100.00.

Camps will fill up fast, so please contact Rhonda Linsley for the Macon UMC and District Voucher Codes. We encourage you to register yourself online. See instructions on next page.

**PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES DURING REGISTRATION:**

- ◆ Go to [www.moumethodist.org](http://www.moumethodist.org). If you have problems or questions, please call Rhonda Linsley at 385-2156 or 651-1613, or email her at [maconumcrhonda@cvalley.net](mailto:maconumcrhonda@cvalley.net).
- ◆ Have your completed Payment Sheet with the needed Voucher Codes from Rhonda. (Payment Sheets are available in the camp flyer that you received and on the bulletin board in the Assembly Room at church).
- ◆ Have your immunization dates and insurance available before you start.
- ◆ Register any Parent/Child Camp first then other siblings next. **This is crucial to receive family discounts on your 2<sup>nd</sup> camper.**
- ◆ You may use last year’s user name and password, if you remember it. If not, set up a new one and write it down in case you need to quit and come back later to finish.
- ◆ Grade levels for camp are the grade you are going into in the Fall 2011.
- ◆ Please print the Camper and Parent/Guardian Covenants and read them to your children and youth prior to their camp. With on-line registration, this unfortunately tends to get missed.
- ◆ Please bring to Rhonda a copy of your credit card or paypal receipt when you complete registration. This will be what Rhonda uses to track camper registrations and disburse fund-raising money.

**Sunday School Spring Quarter Starts This Sunday**

The March, April, May curriculum starts this Sunday in our elementary Sunday School Classrooms. A biggggg thank you to those safe sanctuaries certified teachers stepping up for the quarter. Our “Buzz” curriculum, from Group Publishing, is working well again this year. Everything you need to teach the class is in the box! No more running errands for supplies. The Buzz Journals allow the teachers to read the Bible Story and prepare their hearts for ministry in just a few short minutes. The Quick Start Card guides the teachers along on Sunday Morning with the same flow and procedures each week. Anyone who loves God, loves children and wants to plant the seed can easily teach with this awesome material. Safe Sanctuary is required.

**New Book in the Library**

Rhonda received a free publication with a recent order from David C. Cook Ministries. The book is entitled, “Spiritual Parenting,” by Michelle Anthony, and it has been placed in the church library for anyone to check out and read. Michelle Anthony, Ed D, is Pastor of Family Ministries at ROCKHARBOR Church in Costa Mesa, California. A former professor at Biola University and Talbot School of Theology, Anthony has written over a dozen resources for Christian Education and Family/Youth Ministries. Here’s what’s on the back cover of the book: It’s hard enough to train kids to behave, but good behavior isn’t what Jesus calls for in the Bible. God wants hearts and souls that are shaped in vibrant faith and love toward Himself and others. In “Spiritual Parenting,” Michelle Anthony calls us as parents to depend upon God for our children’s spiritual and moral development, urging us toward a heart posture of surrender and faithfulness. The end goal is a vibrant faith that is passed on from one generation to another. Larry Fowler, executive director of Global Training says, “Read this book, and you will change who you are as a family, not merely what you do. Trust me—when you finish, you will know what being a spiritual parent looks like!”

.....  
**Sunday School Second Quarter Attendance Awards** will be presented March 20<sup>th</sup> during the 10:45 service, to those students who did not miss more than two Sundays during the months of December, January and February. The awards this quarter are a “Salvation Story” bracelet with laminated card for the elementary aged children. The package comes with two bracelets and cards so they can give one to a friend. The middle school and high school students each get a lifesaver-style pewter necklace that says “To Save a Life” on it.

Those with perfect attendance also will receive a Certificate of Recognition.

High School

- Seth Butner
- Jaina Linsley
- Rheean Linsley
- Sheldon Linsley—Perfect Attendance
- McKenna Nelson
- Grace Smith

Middle School

- Allyson Bramer—Perfect Attendance

Grades 3rd - 5th

- Emilee Butner—Perfect Attendance
- Evie Nelson
- Kattie Peyton

K – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

- Dakota Bettes
- Lauren Burdin
- Audree Butner—Perfect Attendance
- Gracee Butner—Perfect Attendance
- Levi Butner
- Will Butner—Perfect Attendance
- Elise Nelson
- Jacob Nelson

Preschool

- Jacob Bettes—Perfect Attendance
- Lindsay Burdin
- Zachery Faught
- Tyler Robertson

# M.U.M.Y. CONNECTION

By Karen Butner

## MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE OUTREACH EVENTS

The Children & Youth Team has hosted three Middle School Dances with an average attendance of 100 - January 14<sup>th</sup>, January 28<sup>th</sup> & February 11<sup>th</sup>. Our team is sharing the love of Christ and connecting to youth in our community by offering an uplifting Christian event for 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Our last event on Feb. 11 included live music with the band "Never Blue Avenue." I've had very good feedback from the youth & we plan to have them back for a future event.

## UGANDA MISSION PROJECT



There are over 250,000 orphans living in Uganda, many of them living in the streets with no one to provide even their basic needs, such as food, shelter, clothing & clean water. Our Youth have partnered with Team GO out of Colorado to provide sets of clothing for street boys living in Kampala Uganda. Over 200 street orphans have been invited to the wedding of missionaries serving in Kampala. Team GO is taking dress shirts, ties, shorts & underwear for each boy. The boys will be picked up by bus by the Team, taken to shower & given their new clothes. They will be served at the wedding banquet as honored guests. We included a picture of our Youth for the boys, so they could see smiling faces every day of those who are praying for them & love them. Each of the Youth also wrote a note to be included. We ask that you add the orphans of Uganda to your prayers!

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### **CRAZY DAYS**

WHO: Jr. High students in 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade

WHEN: Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>

COST: \$10 if registered by Sunday March 20<sup>th</sup>

### **1 BY YOUTH ST. LOUIS MISSION TRIP**

WHO: High School students in 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade

WHEN: Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> (possibly go to St. Louis on the evening of Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>)

COST: \$10 if registered by Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>

**YOUTH GROUP!!! EACH SUNDAY FROM 3:30 PM TO 4:45 PM!!!**


# Attendance and Offering Summary

Weekly Average for Feb.	2010	2011	Year To Date Average	2010	2011
Worship Attendance	<u>209.00</u>	<u>199.75</u>	Worship Attendance	<u>199.89</u>	<u>186.78</u>
Sunday School	<u>69.25</u>	<u>79.75</u>	Sunday School	<u>60.40</u>	<u>70.60</u>
Offering	<u>\$6,017.79</u>	<u>\$5,708.14</u>	Offering	<u>\$6,028.10</u>	<u>\$5,182.05</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  
Permit No. 23  
Macon, MO

  
**Macon United Methodist Church**  
 208 Pearl Street  
 Macon, MO 63552-1516  
 660-385-2156