



MACON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MESSENGER

208 Pearl Street ♦ Macon, Missouri 63552-1516 ♦ 660-385-2156 ♦ Web Site: www.maconumc.org
May 6, 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

Senior Recognition Sunday

Our high school graduating seniors will be recognized Sunday, May 15th. The day will begin with a breakfast hosted by the United Methodist Men for our graduates and their families. Then at the 10:45 worship service our graduates will be presented with a Bible with their name imprinted on it. Scholarships will be given at this time. Please come and join us at the 10:45 worship service to honor these hard working graduates and give them your best wishes. Seniors graduating this year are Jessica Bruno and Jaina Linsley.

CONGRATULATIONS
Jessica Bruno
Jaina Linsley

Staff/Parish Relations Committee Meeting

The Staff/Parish Relations Committee will meet Wednesday, May 11th at 6:00 p.m. in the Library.

Sharing Team

The Sharing Team will meet Wednesday, May 11th at 6:30 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

Men's Breakfast

The United Methodist Men will be meeting Sunday, May 15th at 7:15 a.m. in the multi-purpose building for breakfast. During this breakfast, the men will be honoring our graduating seniors.

Gift of Presence

The "Gift of Presence" Support Group will meet Monday, May 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

Commodities Distribution

Commodities Distribution will be held Tuesday, May 17th from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Volunteers needed!

Ad Council

Ad Council will meet Wednesday, May 18th at 6:00 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed Monday, May 30th to observe the Memorial holiday.

Children & Youth Team Meeting

The Children & Youth Team will meet Wednesday, June 1st at 6:30 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

Serving Saturday

The Serving Team would like to invite you to join us for our next Serving Saturday. We will meet just before 9:00 in the Fellowship Center on Saturday, May 14th for prayer before dividing into 3 work teams. Those with sewing skills will be working in the Cornerstone Room under Sue Wynne's direction on making the washable sanitary pads for women in Africa. This mission is known as Project Patricia and allows women to attend work/school during the time of their menses. Participants are asked to bring their sewing machines. A second group of volunteers will be working at Loch Haven Nursing Home in the gardens outside the Special Care Unit. The work there will include weeding, planting, and spreading mulch. Though some tools will be available, workers are asked to bring gardening supplies such as gloves and small shovels. Contact Kathy Vivian with questions. The third project involves work at Camp Jo-Ota in Clarence. Our church has "adopted" care of the Challenge Course, a trail of teambuilding activities used by most of the groups attending camp. Some construction may be required as well as spreading mulch on the course. Scott Burdin will be leading this team. Please prayerfully consider how God can use you during these local mission projects.

Carolyn & I would like to thank everyone for your prayers, cards, emails, support and understanding. I never fully realized how long two months was. Doing nothing is very hard work. The recovery process is going well; my walking is becoming more stable, riding in a car is still extremely difficult. We are blessed to have our children who have moved in and taken over. Even our grandchildren watch to see that we don't make inappropriate moves. (We call them our daughter's spies).

I appreciate those lay speakers, retired pastors and District Superintendent as well as the staff and others who have stepped up to the plate during my absence. I look forward to returning to the church, however I do understand that I am going to have some limitations.

God Bless Each One Of You, Julius Ketsenburg

Katie Sue Bruno to Graduate!

Katie Sue Bruno will be graduating with an Associate of Arts degree from Moberly Area Community College (MACC) on Thursday, May 19th, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. The graduation ceremony will be held in the MACC Activity Center. There will be a cake and punch reception at the Bruno house immediately following graduation. All church family are invited.

Graduation Invitation

Macon High School's graduation ceremony will take place Sunday, May 22nd, at 2:00 p.m. at Hugh Dunn Field behind the high school. A reception will be held for Jessica Bruno and Jaina Linsley at the Macon United Methodist church in the Multi-Purpose Room following the Commencement Ceremony. Our congregation is warmly welcomed to join the Bruno's and the Linsley's in this great celebration.



May Birthdays and Anniversaries

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Allyson Bramer, Luke Bramer,
Trent Gabriel and Sasha Spencer | 19 Ethan Schoonover |
| 2 Kodie Masten | 20 Gloria Rogers |
| 4 Marc Johnson and Gunner Mohn | 21 J.D. Israel |
| 5 Sarah Vieker | 22 Kristen Burks, Karen Butner,
Emily Schoonover and
Jamie & Kallie Baker Anniv. |
| 6 Thad Johnson | 23 Wilma Hempen |
| 7 Fred Brandeberry, Sr., Brenda Cole and Elayna Doctorian | 24 Katie Sue Bruno, Norma Esry, Lorna Faught,
Garett Olson, Sam Schmidt,
Christopher Shannon and
Doug & Cara Hackman Anniv. |
| 8 Helen Neff, Ethan Prewitt,
Victoria Tucker | 27 Elizabeth Dwigins |
| 9 Shannon Baker | 28 Lindsey Bettes, Matthew Mattingly
and Megan Rehard |
| 10 Dale Dille, Brandi Dye, Lindsay Lawrence
and Jack & Edith Hearrold Anniv. | 29 John & Carol Sutton Anniv. |
| 11 Julie Burdin, Beth Wells
and Ron & Diann Brown Anniv. | 30 Trent Abeln, Rhonda Linsley
and Jaden Schmidt |
| 13 Cleo & Lorna Faught Anniv. | 31 Donna Ayers and
Matthew & Sarah Jorgenson Anniv. |
| 15 Eleya Kohl and Ginger Mattingly | |
| 16 Dale DeLarm Sr., JoVaughn Kelly,
Lisa Clark and Patrick Quinly | |
| 18 Claire Prewitt | |

Baby Shower

A baby shower for Chris & Julia (Chaney) Faughn will be held Sunday, June 12th at 2:00 p.m. in the Comfort Inn. The church is invited.

Family Fun Fest

The Family Fun Fest is set for Sunday, June 12th, 2011 from 11:30 to 4:00. Come prepared to have lunch, enjoy the entertainment, and volunteer to work a shift throughout the day. Donate baked goods for the bake sale. There will be games, entertainment, crafts, baby show, hourly drawings, and more. Interested in setting up a craft booth? That's available too. We invite you to get involved and create a basket or donate an item for the Silent Auction. Have your item at the church no later than Friday, May 27th, 2011. Be sure to label the basket or item with your name and approximate cost so we can put on an appropriate beginning bid. There are a few available empty baskets we can supply, first come, first served. Some possible suggestions are : Date Night – dinner and a movie; Picnic or BBQ basket; Auto Car Care Kit; Children's Books; Children's Games; Movie Night-movies or rental coupons, soda, popcorn, etc.; Baby Basket; Gardening Kit. Father's Day Basket; Pool Party; Skating Party; Craft items; a weekend vacation to an unused vacation property, sports tickets, Gift Certificates, etc. Let your imagination go! Values of the baskets should range from as little as \$5 or \$10 and up. If you have questions, please contact Valerie Ray, 395-9778 ; Shari Dye 651-5086; Diann Brown, 385-3986; Julie Burdin 385-1717, or any member of the Serving Team, as well as the church office. Proceeds go to support local and outreach missions. Interested in being part of a mission trip? Next trip scheduled for The Henderson Settlement, Frakes, Kentucky, set for July 17th-23rd. Thanks!

Tupperware & Pampered Chef Booth

There will be a Tupperware and Pampered Chef booth at the Family Fun Fest. The proceeds from this fundraiser will go to the Sharing Team to help "Share the Love of Christ" which is our mission statement. We will again have a booth at the Fly Wheel in July. We have purchased Bibles, Crosses in the Pocket, ink pens and the Video's. We present new visitors with a coffee mug with goodies in it along with information about our church. We also take coffee mugs to the Chamber to give to new people in our community. This is just some things that our team does. To place an order or be willing to take a book to work contact Jo Vaughn at 395-3929 or cell 660-591-5022.

Mission Trip to Kentucky

We are called to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our community, country and world. This summer, we have an opportunity to serve our brothers and sisters in Appalachia. We will be taking a team of missionaries to the Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky. We plan to leave approximately mid-day on Saturday, July 16th and return late in the evening on Saturday, July 23rd. The cost to participate is \$50 to assist with meals, lodging and transportation, though most of the trip expense will be covered by the Serving Team. This trip is available to mature youth and adults of all skill levels. Jobs our team will select based on the skill level and interest of our members range from fence building on the Settlement farm; to light or heavy construction on the campus or in the community; to working in the thrift store, greenhouse, or food pantry to cutting soup labels. Participants will be lodged in the facility dormitories, which do contain showers. Meals are scheduled and provided by the facility as well. Each morning begins with a time of devotion and work days conclude with a program each evening. The Henderson Settlement was started in the 1920s by a Methodist minister hoping to improve the lives of the poor living in that area. Today, the Settlement offers educational opportunities, daycare, care for the elderly, parenting assistance, a thrift store, a food pantry, home improvement and many other services. To learn more about this incredible community, visit their website at www.hendersonsettlement.com. The Settlement will be able to accommodate only 15 participants from our church so contact Julie Burdin as soon as possible if you feel God leading you to this important and exciting mission opportunity.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Martha Baker (*Karen Butner's great aunt, recovering from back surgery*)

Bonnie Becker (*friend of Vicki Buster, cancer*)

Hilda Mae Dienst (*Nancy Coleman's mother, in Loch Haven with health issues*)

Vincent Elrod & Family (*struggling with health issues*)

Kathy Epperson (*relative of Diann Brown, cancer*)

Pastor Julius (*recovering from surgery*)

Carolyn Ketsenburg (*back problems*)

Law Enforcement

Martha McDowell (*cancer*)

Matt (*Brenda Dobbs son-in-law, road side bomb hit his convey in Kuwait injuring him*)

Cherryl Medina (*friend of Kathy Vivian, recovering from knee surgery*)

Military separated from their families

Those in Libya

Those in Japan

Those in Prison

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

Velma Vivian (*Kathy Vivian's mother-in-law, health issues*)

Kennedy Weydert (*friend of Sue Wynne, 21 month old recovering from lung surgery*)

Betty & George Williams (*friend of Brenda Cole, both having heart problems*)

Dawn Masten Attends PAUMCS Conference

Dawn attended the 29th Annual Conference of the Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries (PAUMCS) which was held in Knoxville, Tennessee, April 7 - 11, 2011. More than 300 professionals representing United Methodist offices on various levels, both nationally and internationally, were in attendance.

Blossoming in God's Love was the theme for this conference which included ten hours of continuing education on a variety of subjects beneficial to church employees. Maryville, TN Chief of Police Tony Crisp and his staff provided training in "Office Safety" and "Identity Theft." Participants learned from Cherrie Graham of United Methodist Reporter ways in which church offices can utilize the services of UMR. Attorney and Chair of the Holston Conference Domestic Violence Task Force, Deborah Yeomans, shared ways church employees can recognize the signs of Domestic Violence and assist those affected. "Cyber Safety" was the topic of a seminar led by Holston Conference Multimedia Director Donna Hankins. The Reverend Mary Parsons led a seminar entitled "Sexual Ethics" which focused on setting healthy boundaries in order to prevent sexual misconduct before it occurs.

Each year, the PAUMCS Annual Conference is sponsored by one of the local chapters of PAUMCS. In addition to providing continuing education, these conferences include worship and the opportunity to network with church professionals from across the denomination. The organization, established in 1982 under the General Council on Finance and Administration of The United Methodist Church, fosters individual growth, professional development and spiritual enrichment for members from the United States, Russia, and Africa.

Dawn is a member of the District, State and National Chapters of the Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries and a member of the National PAUMCS Choir.

A Note From Our Lay Leader

As your lay leader, I want to thank each of you who have helped in any way to keep the church going while Julius is recovering from his surgery. It is a slow recovery, but from what I hear, things are moving mostly in a positive direction.

Giving and attendance has been down a little in April. The teams are all meeting and going forward with their programs and projects. A special thanks to all the Lay Speakers for giving of their time and talents to "fill the pulpit" on Sunday mornings. One area that could use a little more help is the Caring Connection Team. When Julius was appointed to Macon, we had asked the conference to send a pastor who cared about people—one who would visit and make person contacts with parishioners. We got what we asked for. We have several in the nursing home and other shut-ins who are currently in need of a visit. If you would be willing to give an afternoon or two a month to help out with this, please call me at 385-4998 or leave your name at the office. I will see that you get the names of people needing visits. Also, please let me or the office know if there are members who are in the hospital or have a special need and the Caring Connection Team will try to find someone to meet those needs.

Again, thank you for stepping up to the plate to do a little extra until our pastor regains his strength. We are the church and by working together, we can do great things for the Kingdom of God as we "share the love of Christ."
Betty Vancil, Lay Leader



*"Happy Mother's Day" means more
than have a happy day.
Within those words lie lots of things
we never get to say.*

*It means I love you first of all,
then thanks for all you do.
It means you mean a lot to me,
and that I honor you.*

*But most of all, I guess it means that I am thinking of
Your happiness on this, your day,
with pleasure and with love.*

NOTES OF SHARING

Dear Church Family,

Thank you to all those who donated money to the Praise Dancers for the liturgical dancewear. All donations, big or small, are greatly appreciated. Also, a huge thank you to Janina Snell, Rona Nelson, Peggy Chalgren, and Rhonda Smith for taking time out of their busy schedule to make the praise dance skirts. We truly appreciate your time and talent. To the entire church, thank you for your support of this new ministry.

Sincerely, Megan Pollard & Praise Dancers

Thank you for the concerns and prayers when I broke my elbow. I really liked the yellow, sunny letter.

Brody Masten

Thank you for your prayers and concerns during my recovery from knee surgery. I thought the prayer letter was awesome.

Thanks, Cheryl Madina

To the Scholarship Committee and Church Family,

Thank you for helping fund my college education. This money has been very helpful and I really appreciate all the support.

In Christ's Love, Katie Sue Bruno

Thank you for all the prayers for Allen's health. His leg is much better than it was. The color is coming back and the swelling has gone down. He got a stent and a balloon put in his leg to open up the blood vessels. Thank you again!

Annie & Allen Faught

Dear Ladies,

Thank you and your prayer group for your prayers and concerns. The comfort of prayer is so great. It has kept me going when I thought I couldn't bend those knees again. But they would bend and limber up. I am doing better. I am going to church, had to get my hair fixed and walking outside when possible. Thank you again for your prayers and may God Bless each and everyone of you.

Barbara Schaeffer

Dear Friends,

Throughout Hob's illness and since his death, we have received many expressions of kindness and support from our church family. As a result of Julius' Christian outreach, Hob requested that Julius perform his funeral. In doing so, the prayers and kind words by Julius brought us much comfort.

Our church's mission of "sharing the love of Christ" was truly reflected in the delicious meal and fellowship offered to our extended family prior to the funeral. Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who was involved.

Gratefully, Joan, Dick & Alan Schlanker

I want to thank you so much for your gift of \$7,000 to The Rainbow Network received on February 7th, 2011 for the construction of homes in the community of El Parasio in rural Nicaragua.

In only a few days I will be headed to El Parasio along with some of those who have given to make this dream of new homes a reality. I have received word today that materials have arrived on site and the preparation of the housing sites has begun! So things are rolling!

Your gift is a dramatic one and I thank you not only for the generosity and Christian love that inspired it but also the trust you have shown Rainbow Network in empowering us in this way. I promise we will work diligently until the new homes have been completed.

Thank you for your support and I am truly proud to say we have you as partners in ministry!

Ryan Owen, US Director

Dear Macon United Methodist Church,

Thank you very much for allowing the Northeast Region 4-H'ers to use your facilities for the day. We really appreciate your willingness and hospitality. Everything worked great, and this year's energizer was a great success! Thanks again, and we look forward to working with you next year about the same time!

Thanks, Jessie, Jeff, Kristen, Andre, Northeast Regional Reps & State 4-H Sec.

Dear Congregation,

The Children's Division in Macon and Shelby Counties and the Family Support Division in Macon County wants to offer out heartfelt thank you to everyone in your congregation. The Children's Division has been especially blessed with the work that your outreach program undertook in the Macon County Office. Macon County Children's Division has a Family Visitation room in which children who are in foster care and their parents are able to visit in. The room was lacking in appropriate aged toys and reading material for children as well as storage areas. We were very excited when Sara Brammer contacted us regarding any help or assistance that the Children's Division needed.

The volunteers from your congregation upgraded our Family Visitation Room in Macon County with new and clean toys, a wall cabinet and floor cabinet for storage. The extra storage space in the room was very much needed. The Children's Division also has an office in which supplies were stored in. These supplies range from clothing for children who come into care, to baby food, blankets, and duffle bags. Sometimes when children are moved from their parents or legal guardians, they do not have time to put a suitcase together or have very little to take with them to the resource homes. The Children's Division employees utilize the clothing that we keep at the office for those children. A disadvantage to this is that up until this point, there was little storage space for all the items that we had. Again, your volunteers put up shelving units in the office and now the supplies are all in one place, and they are easily accessible.

Not only did you all do a fantastic job with the rooms at the Children's Division office, but the cookies, Bibles, book marks, pens and bears were very much appreciated. Everyone in the Macon office really enjoyed the cookies on Monday morning.

The Macon and Shelby Counties Children's Division has been truly blessed by your ministry. The time, resources and care that your congregation shown to us this last weekend made us realize again why we do this job, to protect and ensure that safety of children in Macon and Shelby Counties.

Once again, we want to thank everyone who provided these services to the Children's Division and Family Support Division; it was truly a blessing for us and the families that we work with.

Yvette Collins, Circuit Manager of the 41st Circuit in Macon & Shelby Counties

Macon UMC,

Just wanted to send a note to tell you thank you for the time and supplies you donated to Children's Division and the sweet gift bags you gave to each one of us workers. It was truly a blessing and I was touched by your ministry to the community. The "How to Find God" New Testaments were a wonderful way to share Christ. Thank you again. I was truly inspired by your gift to us and the creative outreach.

Kim Stevenson, Shelby County Children's Division

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and hard work at our office. It is appreciated.

Jennifer Gunnels, Children's Division

Thank you for your hard work at our office. The rooms look great!! I also appreciate those awesome cookies! Your generosity warms my heart!

Bethany Butner, Children's Division

The hard work you all put into improving our office is greatly appreciated. It is wonderful to have community support! The cookies and gifts for the workers were also appreciated. Thank you!

Amity Waldron, Children's Division

Thank you everyone for all the hard work that was put in to the CD offices. God truly blessed us!

Yvette Collins, Children's Division

Thank you for everything. The work you did looks great, cookies were great as well.

Shanna Baker, Children's Division

Thanks so much for all the work you guys put in for our office! We are so lucky to have wonderful friends in the community like you!

Megan Downing, Children's Division

A Big thank you from **Amber Browning and Becky Coe from the Children's Division**

Kidstuff

By Rhonda Linsley

HE IS EXALTED!

The elementary children did an awesome job glorifying God on Palm Sunday, with the accompaniment of Caleb Butner on guitar. A special thank you to the parents and adult SS teachers who worked with their kids to learn the songs and for helping with crowd control. There is incredible talent among these young children. I welcome input, suggestions and involvement from the leaders of our church in coordinating and bringing the children into our worship services. As our lay leaders are preparing sermons, if a song pops into your head that would be fitting with the sermon, please don't hesitate to talk with me about it.

EASTER SPECIAL – “I Will Rise”



What a wonderful job the Praise Dances did on Easter Sunday. They certainly arose to the occasion, didn't they? We thank you, Megan, for your special gifts and talents in working with these young girls and for teaching them the honor and glory of praising our Lord and Savior.

CHURCH CAMP IS FAST APPROACHING!

We currently have 34 campers registered for Camp Jo-Ota. Some of the camps are getting full. My camp, Teddy Bear Extreme, is close to maxing out. AWESOME! Though the early bird registration is past, campers can still register and are encouraged to do so asap. PLEASE DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE AND RISK MISSING OUT ON A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE THIS SUMMER!

The church voucher is available through the church office. This voucher pays for 50% of camp cost for those children actively involved in our church. Log onto www.moumethodist.org to register. If you have computer experience, it is not too confusing. However, if you need help with registration, Rhonda is available by appointment at 385-2156 to assist you. Please register any child/parent camps first, and then additional camps. Multiple sibling discounts are \$15 for 2nd child, \$30 for 3rd, \$40 for 4th and so on. Parents should then forward their credit card or pay pal receipts to Rhonda for reimbursement of \$45 for elementary and \$75 for MS and HS. If additional assistance is needed, please talk to Rhonda. Our church has done a wonderful job this year in supporting our camping ministry.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED!

Our summer quarter is coming up in June, July and August. Matt Kauffman is committed to the Preschool Class – thank you so much, Matt! We are looking for commitments for the K-2nd Grade and 3rd-5th Grade classes.

The Missouri Conference Safe Sanctuaries ministry is recognized throughout the United Methodist Jurisdiction as a leader in the area of child abuse prevention program. Macon UMC is a safe sanctuaries church; therefore, it is a requirement to be



WE WANT YOU!

safe sanctuaries certified to teach Sunday School, attend mission trips, and to be a church camp counselor. This is easily done on-line at www.moumethodist.org. It only takes an hour or so, and the cost is \$25. Those who desire reimbursement may do so by submitting their pay pal or credit card receipt to Rhonda Linsley or Dawn Masten at the church office.

We will continue to use Group's Buzz curriculum in our elementary classrooms. Buzz redefines the way you'll prepare for lessons. With the exception of classroom basics (Bibles, a CD player, scissors, glue, crayons, pencils, paper and tape), if a supply is in the lesson, it's in the kit. Guaranteed!

Because the lessons come ready to use, you can spend your valuable prep time doing what matters most—preparing your heart to be with kids. With no need to run errands looking for supplies or props, you'll have time to soak in God's Word, enjoy inspirational devotions, and pray for the kids in your group. Each kit comes with a "Buzz Journal for Leaders" to prepare your heart, and watch for transformation in your kids' lives—and in your life too!

Please give this some prayerful thought and talk to Rhonda or Karen about your desire to be a Sunday School Teacher. Three-month rotations seem to be working well. We have substitutes to fill in if you have to be gone any given Sunday. Getting more adults involved with our children's ministry programs, helps to build a stronger intergenerational connection within our church. Rhonda will meet with you prior to the start of the quarter to explain the curriculum and get you ready for a wonderful experience in the lives of our most precious assets...our children!

VBS – BETHLEHEM VILLAGE

VBS will be held here at Macon UMC from 6-8:30 p.m., July 25-29. It will be set up very much like last year when we did Jerusalem. We are going back in time this year to the birth of Jesus. We will again have a Marketplace and will be in need of Shopkeepers. We will wear costumes and live out the experiences that took place in Bethlehem around the birth of Jesus. We have picked out four of our five crafts for the week, which will be as follows:

Day 1 Money Pouches – We will need a Dye Shop. This shop may be set up outside if we choose to do tie-dye. Or we may choose to use markers and just explain to the children with samples of actual plants and berries how natural materials were used to create color.

Day 2 Nativity Ornament – This cardboard nativity scene that the kids will assemble represents the upcoming birth of Jesus Christ.

Day 3 Clay Mangers & Baby Jesus – These crafts will be made in the Toy-Making Shop, where we will use the same clay recipe that we used last year.

Day 4 Magic Scratch Angels. The Bible Story is from Luke 2:8-20 where the angels tell the shepherds the good news of Jesus.

Day 5 Star Shape Necklaces – On day 5, we will talk about the wise men seeking Jesus. The children will assemble a precut yellow foam star, with cord and beads and insert their picture and bible verse on the inside.

We will have a Mosaic Shop where kids can make a Paper Mosaic Cross. This should be a fun and exciting craft for the kids using 1" squares of tissue paper and glue sticks.

Please be praying about our upcoming VBS and where God would like to use you. Besides Shopkeepers, we will need a Census Taker, which the children will visit every night. The Census Taker will be playing the role of a government official—and a non-Jewish citizen—so you will talk to the children as if they're foreigners, visiting Bethlehem for the mandatory census. This person will need to familiarize themselves with the rituals and traditions of the Roman Empire.

We will also need Tribe Leaders. Tribe Leaders are the heart and soul of Bethlehem Village. You will travel with your tribes from station to station, and you will reinforce the Bible Stories that the kids are learning.

We will need a Drama Leader and team that will act out the Bible Story each day and get the crowd involved, a Village Playground Leader for games and Gathering leaders that will lead us in song and dance. Lots of fun to be had as we prepare for another exciting and heavily involved ministry that will help mold the lives of our children, youth and adults.



M.U.M.Y. CONNECTION

By Karen Butner

Crazy Days - Friday, April 15th & Saturday, April 16th

Jon and I took a group of Middle School students to Central Christian College of the Bible for "Crazy Days." Friday evening included supper, worship and team building games lead by Central students. Our youth's team won each of the competitions and won the title of "Most Enthusiastic!" During games, all youth leaders were invited to a leadership class taught by Rory Christensen, professor of youth and family ministry. It was very encouraging hearing the importance of youth ministry in the church.

On Saturday we had two worship services, two breakout classes (you could choose 2 of the 4 offered) and a team building time with our youth group to debrief the weekend and everything we learned. It was a very powerful weekend. Clarence Hogan, a 2008 Central graduate, was the main speaker for the worship services. He is truly on fire for the Lord and challenged the youth and adults that it wasn't enough to simply believe in God, but to grow in Him and witness to others. Clarence shared his personal testimony of growing up in an abusive home with a drug addicted mother.

1 BY YOUTH Servant Event



Rhonda and Rheann Linsley, and McKenna Nelson attended a one-day mission trip to North St. Louis on April 16th. There were 500 youth and adults in attendance that day from the Missouri and Illinois area. They were split into 13 or so groups and scattered around the Church Hill area cleaning up trash, landscaping and planting, cleaning a school, tackling minor home repairs and painting fire hydrants. It was a cold and rainy day, but these girls worked through it all with no complaints. We were warmly welcomed into the St Paul's Lutheran Church at 2137 E. John, St. Louis for hot cocoa and a chance to warm up. This beautiful church had a congregation of 500 ten years ago, but is hanging on with just 25 current members.

This community was very appreciative of our hard work and efforts in bringing beauty back to an area that is greatly in need. This event was sponsored and coordinated by Group Workcamps, which provides local and affordable one-day mission experiences for youth groups. They completely revitalize entire neighborhoods....in just one day!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

PRAISE-A-PALOOZA

WHO: ALL AGES!!

WHEN: FRIDAY MAY 6th - 6:00 TO 11:00 p.m. at MACON UMC

COST: \$5 PER PERSON

LIVE MUSIC: FINDING BETHEL, NEVER BLUE AVENUE, SONS, FORBIDDEN EVIDENCE & PIERCED

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

FAMILY FUN & FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, May 15th - 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Macon Skate Center

Cost: Donation for the food pantry

Please come as a family and enjoy some fun & fellowship with your church family!

No Youth Group: Sunday, May 8th (Mother's Day);

Sunday, May 22nd (Macon Graduation); Sunday, May 29th (Memorial Weekend);

Sunday, June 12th (Family Fun Fest) and Sunday, June 19th (Father's Day).


Attendance and Offering Summary

Weekly Average for April	2010	2011	Year To Date Average	2010	2011
Worship Attendance	<u>242.25</u>	<u>233.0</u>	Worship Attendance	<u>210.35</u>	<u>199.47</u>
Sunday School	<u>72.25</u>	<u>84.00</u>	Sunday School	<u>67.90</u>	<u>76.80</u>
Offering	<u>\$5,909.07</u>	<u>\$5,334.43</u>	Offering	<u>\$4,113.60</u>	<u>\$5,336.97</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