



MACON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MESSENGER

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

October 28, 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
9:30 a.m. Elementary Music in the Education Wing
9:45 - 10:35 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 Up lifters praise band and singers. Multimedia supports the entire service. Children's Church is available for children ages 4 through third grade during the sermon.

Every 5th Sunday is a Unity Service at 9:30 a.m.



United Methodist Men's **Ham & Bean and Soup Dinner**

♦ Ham & Beans ♦ Soup
♦ Sandwiches ♦ Dessert ♦ Drinks

Sunday, October 30th
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

in the Multi-Purpose Room
Proceeds go for community and church projects.



Pie Sale

Sunday, October 30th, during the United Methodist Men's soup luncheon, the church will be having a pie sale. All are encouraged to bring a pie to sell and/or buy one to take home. The pies will be sold for a donation, rather than a set price. The Administrative Council has voted to give all proceeds from the pie sale to the Macon County Ministries Compassion Center. In Matthew 25:35 Jesus said, "I was hungry and you fed me." When the disciples asked Jesus, "When did we do that?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, whenever you do this for one of the least important of these brothers of mine, you do it for me!" Thank you for supporting this worthwhile project of our church and community.

Macon United Methodist Church Annual **Fall Rummage Sale**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH

7:00 A.M. - 12:00 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.

Pastor's Column

All Hallows Eve, or what has come to be known as Halloween, is second only to Christmas for merchants. But what is it really about? What is the celebration? What are you going to do "hallows eve" evening? Will you be out having fun, enjoying the traditional holiday, in costume, trick or treating? After all, it's an annual thing, a regular celebration, something everyone does, right? In fact, in the United States, next to Christmas more money is spent on Halloween than any other holiday. Costumes, candy, goblins, ghosts, jack-o-lanterns, haunted houses... all means money in someone's pocket? But wait a minute. What are you really celebrating, ghosts, the Dead? Let's take just a moment, and take an objective look at Halloween from the viewpoint of a Christian and from God's Word. When we celebrate Christmas we celebrate Christ's birth. At Easter we celebrate Christ's death and resurrection. With Thanksgiving, we give thanks for all the blessings our God has shared with us.

So what do we celebrate with Halloween? The Apostle Paul said, "Everything is permissible for me' - but not everything is beneficial." (1 Corinthians 6:12 - NIV) So the question arises - is it "beneficial" for a Christian to participate in the traditional celebration of Halloween? As Christians, everything we do should be done to glorify God. Is there anything about Halloween that glorifies God? The simple answer to that question is "No." It's certain that the origins of Halloween have nothing to do with Jesus, God or Christian growth. The history of Halloween warrants at least a cursory examination. The problem is, you can find almost as many versions of Halloween's origins as you can find blades of grass in your lawn. Which version of Halloween's history is correct? All of the versions have one very important thing in common. Halloween and all its traditional trappings are rooted in paganism, witches and the occult in one way or another. So maybe we should do a little research and know what we're celebrating and teaching our children, before just accepting things as "what we've always done." So what's the answer for the Christian? Paul encourages "making the most of every opportunity, because the **days are evil.**" (Ephesians 5:16) Therefore, teach your children the truth about "Halloween." Dress them in good costumes rather than going to the dark side. Then too we can give out bible tracts with the candy, or make your own uplifting verse to give out. Be creative and let God be praised.

Pastor Julius

Hay Ride & Wiener Roast

Saturday, October 29th from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. our church families are invited to gather and share in an evening of fun at Wayne & Sharon Hackman's farm. Take a hay ride, roast a hot dog and bring along a pumpkin and markers so your family can decorate it together.

The evening will conclude with singing and devotions around the campfire. So bring your lawn chair, an old blanket, and spend some quality time with other church families. In the event of rain, the activities will be cancelled.

Clarence UMC Annual Lord's Hour

The Clarence Methodist Church Annual Lord's Hour Dinner & Auction. Dinner will be held Saturday, November 5th at 4:30 p.m. in the Clarence UMC Fellowship Hall. The menu will be: Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Homemade Rolls, Homemade Desserts and Drinks. The auction will start at 7:00 p.m. Items to be auctioned will be: Handmade Quilt by the Clarence United Methodist Ladies, Whole Hog, Whole Beef, Pies, Thanksgiving Basket, Oil Changes, Handmade Quilts & Baby Quilts, many more items. Everyone is invited to attend!

C&Y Team Meeting

The Children & Youth Team will meet Wednesday, November 2nd at 6:30 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

November Birthdays and Anniversaries

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Jaina Linsley | 16 Jackie Harrison, Ashley Hunter, Jaxson Mattingly and Roger & Betty Tipton Anniv. |
| 2 Abigail Halley and Sandra Sunderland | 17 Addison Mattingly and Eric Olson |
| 3 Joseph Harrison and Dick Schlanker | 18 Allen & Annie Faught Anniv. and Shane & Jacque Truitt Anniv. |
| 4 Dale Bagley | 19 Audree Butner and Jane Vanderham |
| 5 Arthur Eymann, Grace Fant, Carla Grant and Bob Schoonover | 20 Jennifer Whitaker |
| 6 Kami Mohn and Jessie Shackelford | 21 Jack & Jen Haverfield Anniv. and Jeff & Andrea Simons Anniv. |
| 9 Haylie Bettes, Emilee Butner and Jamie Kauffman | 22 Bob Buzard, Becky Lang, Kathy Vivian and Nathan Wilson |
| 10 Peg Dunn | 23 Jessica Ketsenburg |
| 11 Merlyn Amidei | 25 Zachery Faught |
| 12 Andrew Wyss | 26 Michelle Caszatt and Dick Rector |
| 13 Arthur Claypoole, Lelande Rehard, Jacque Truitt and Hadley & Wanda Grimm Anniv. | 28 Lindsay Burdin and Karma Tucker |
| 14 Lauren Burdin | 29 Bill & Dixie Clapper Anniv. |
| 15 Dorothy Morgan and Don Robertson | 30 Jane Lane |

Daylight Savings Time

Don't forget that Daylight Savings Time Ends Sunday, November 6th. "Fall" your clocks back an hour.

Men's Breakfast

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

Gift of Presence

The "Gift of Presence" Support Group will meet Monday, November 7th and Monday, November 21st at 6:00 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

Praise Dance

Praise Dancers will start practicing on Monday, November 7th! Praise Dance practice will be held on Mondays from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees will meet Monday, November 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

Serving Team Meeting

The Serving Team will meet Wednesday, November 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Center.

Sharing Team Meeting

The Sharing Team will meet Wednesday, November 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room. The Sharing Team will also meet November 30th at 4:00 p.m. to work on the mass mailing.

Commodities Distribution

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

Ad Council Meeting

Ad Council will meet Wednesday, November 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the Cornerstone Conference Room.

Church Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed Thursday, November 24th and 25th to observe the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Charge Conference (Report from Betty Vancil, Lay Leader)

Charge Conference went well this year. Thanks, to all of you who have worked hard to make Macon United Methodist Church a place where people can come to know God and to grow in their relationship with Him.

As required, the SPRC met before the conference to fill out forms and make necessary decisions concerning the coming year. Part of that discussion concerned the pastor's vacation time. The Missouri Annual Conference recommends that all pastors be given four weeks vacation and two weeks continuing education each year. As has historically been true of this church, the SPRC agreed to the Annual Conference recommendation. Our church has no policy concerning emergency or medical leave for the pastor, nor does the conference. That is an issue we need to address at some point.

Because we had no such policy in place, the SPRC, last spring, voted to give our pastor two months medical leave with full salary for his surgery and recovery. We conferred with the district superintendent and our decision was in line with what other churches do in similar situations. The Ad Council unanimously approved the SPRC's recommendation concerning medical leave.

The Annual Conference appointment year runs from July 1 to June 30. The SPRC felt very strongly that our pastor has not abused time granted for vacation, continuing education, and medical leave. We, also, felt that it is important that pastors have adequate time for refueling and recharging their own batteries in order to better minister to others. Therefore, it was the decision of the SPRC to encourage Julius to take vacation time during this Annual Conference year. The Administrative Council unanimously approved the SPRC's action at our September 2011 meeting. Julius plans to be on vacation November 12-19. During his absence, in consultation with me as lay leader, he has made arrangements for **Karen Shearer**, the incoming lay leader, to fill the pulpit. Thank you for your continued support of the Macon United Methodist Church.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Ruby Baskett (*friend of Kathy Vivian, heart condition*)

Paulette Brockmeyer (*Rhonda Smith's aunt, cancer treatments*)

Derald Butner (*Jon Butner's father, pneumonia*)

Colin Campbell (*Sue Wynne's grandson, broken arm & surgery October 26th*)

Sherry Dollins (*Jessica Ketsenburg's cousin, complications from cancer treatments*)

Courtney Doty (*Sue Wynne's granddaughter, teenager with struggles*)

Sharon Hackman (*gallbladder surgery*)

Lisa Hall (*Jessica Ketsenburg's sister, health & healing*)

Nation of Israel

Those in Joplin, MO

Jesse Kensy (*friend of Sherry Robertson, God's peace*)

Law Enforcement

All our Military

Nancy Miller (*awaiting liver transplant*)

Those in Prison

Darryl Ridgeway (*co-worker of Vicki Buster, cancer*)

Velma Vivian (*Kathy Vivian's mother-in-law, inoperable heart condition*)



New Worship Service

November 6th will be the start of an evening worship opportunity each Sunday at 6:00 p.m. Music will be led by the Praise Band, made up of youth and others alike. This will be a somewhat informal/blended service to which all are invited. Since this is planned to be a fast pace / interactive service, no nursery care will be offered. This will also give our nursery workers an opportunity to attend a worship service.

Vacation

With the persistence of the SPRC, and approval of the Ad Council, I will be taking off November 12th - 16th, for a little R&R, which means hopefully some deer hunting. God has blessed me and I'm healing ahead of schedule, even as I am growing accustomed to standing. I'm not where I want to be, but plan to be soon. I've noticed less pain and more energy, but still require daily time on a "TENS" unit and mid-day rest. I call it my recharging time. On November 13th, our new Lay Leader Karen Shearer will be speaking in both morning services and Jim Cole will be sharing that evening. Pastor Julius

Advent

Advent begins November 27th and some have questioned if we were going to have the Advent wreath and reading in morning worship. Last year we did not do this because those asked said no, and we became weary of asking. So this year I'm asking you to contact the office early, as to what Sunday you would be available and willing. We'll need couples or families for each Sunday in the Sanctuary and Contemporary Worship. The Sundays are: November 27th, December 4th, December 11th, December 18th and December 25th. I will have the readings, we only need volunteers to read and light the candles.

Anniversary Celebration

Betty and Raymond Buster (Diann Brown's parents) will be celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary November 2nd. No formal celebration, but cards would be appreciated. Raymond & Betty's mailing address: 29209 Lake St., Macon MO.

Charge Conference

October 9th, marked the date of this year's Charge Conference. It was here that Chairpersons, and teams were elected, salaries and budgets set, as we look forward to the ministry God has called us to for the coming year. It was here that we heard of the extravagant generosity of God's people here at Macon UMC. THANK YOU to all who have worked hard in 2011 to reach our goals as we lift up the name of Jesus Christ. Two years ago the Ad Council adopted a three year model for all offices. This simply means that all chairpersons on teams are asked to serve for three years before cycling off. The purpose of this is to keep all teams fresh and bring new ideas to the ministry of the Macon UMC. Charge Conference 2012 will be a pivotal time, as it will end a 3 year term for some. Too many times our request to serve becomes a life sentence without parole. Therefore, as you are relieved from one area or ministry, I'm asking everyone to consider what God is calling you too. What new ministry would you like to be a part of. Yes it will be a year before we begin the process again, yet now is the time to consider how to hand off your area to another, while hearing where God would have you. Let's pray, play, plan and work toward the high calling of God through Jesus Christ here at Macon UMC.

NOTES OF SHARING

Thank you to my church family! The prayers and expressions of kindness helped us through this sad time. My family is truly blessed to be members of such a caring congregation.

Many Thanks, Shari Dye & Family

Your special ways and generous heart make a beautiful difference. Thank you so much for your support during the loss of our beloved Anthony.

Tony, Nancy & Michelle Tella, Bevier, MO

Thank you for the use of your dining facility and kitchen area for the Brenz Family Tuesday. It was so very convenient. We appreciate your generosity.

With Love & Prayers, Mt. Zion East UMW



M.U.M.Y. CONNECTION

By Karen Butner

“Our youth ministry exists to reach non-believing students, to connect with other Christians, to help them grow in their faith, and to challenge the growing to discover their ministry and to worship God with their lives.”

YOUTH GROUP TIME CHANGE!!!

Beginning Sunday, November 6th, we will meet from 4:45 to 5:45 p.m.!!

Jr. High Pizza & a Movie Outreach with the Butner’s

Wednesday, November 9th

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Cost is free - BRING A FRIEND!!!

The address is: 56 S. Rubey St., Macon

High School/Young Adult Bible Study

On Wednesday, November 16th, we will be beginning an Old Testament Bible study for High School students & young adults. Please contact Karen Butner at 660-346-8571 or karenbutnermumy@yahoo.com for more information.

Dare 2 Share

March 16th & 17th, 2012 in St. Louis, MO

Registration begins November 1st with only a \$10 deposit!!

Dare 2 Share is an evangelism training conference for Jr. High & High School teens.

***What did the mother turkey say to her disobedient children?
If your father could see you now,
he'd be rolling over in his gravy!***

Kid stuff

By Rhonda Linsley

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

It has been a blessing to be able to float and be a helper in the elementary classes since I'm not "teaching" this quarter. I am very impressed at what I see and hear happening in our classrooms. It is apparent that our teachers are following God's guidance and leadership and pouring their love of Christ into these children. Never underestimate what God can do with you. That brings to mind the scripture 1 Peter 5:2: "Just as shepherds watch over their sheep, you must watch over everyone God has placed in your care. Do it willingly in order to please God, and not simply because you think you must."

Thank you to all the teachers and helpers who are ministering out of passion for God and for the children of our church and community.

Fall Quarter Sunday School Teachers

- o Ages 4 & 5 - Kindergarten: Matt Kauffman
Helpers: Sandy Bruno, Cheyenne Morrison & Peggy Chalgren
- o Grades 1st – 2nd: Judy Headley
Helpers: Kristen Burks, Susan Leathers, Jeff Linsley & Stephanie Prewitt
- o Grades 3rd – 5th: Kathy Vivian & either Jeff or Rhonda Linsley

K-5 Alive for 2011-2012 for Kindergarten - 5th Grade

Our Wednesday After-school program started October 5, and will run through April 25, 2012. Our Fitness and Nutrition curriculum is working very well. We are enjoying new games and exercise activities, learning from the Bible examples of how God intended for us to live. We are learning that we are God's masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God planned at the beginning of time for us to do. If we take care of our bodies, we will be able to do this work. We are learning about proper nutrition, exercise, rest and proper time to worship God.

The following scriptures are what the kids will be memorizing throughout the program. I challenge all of us to learn these and implement them into our lives.

- ◆ Whatever you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. (1 Corinthians 10:31)
- ◆ Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body. (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20)
- ◆ When the Holy Spirit controls our lives, He will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23)
- ◆ Be very careful then how you live – not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. (Ephesians 5:15-17)
- ◆ Submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. (James 4:7)

Hanging of the Greens

This program that kicks off the Advent Season and decorates the sanctuary has been set for December 4 in the 8:45 worship service. In the 10:45 service, the children will sing "O Come All Ye Faithful" while they hang decorations on the multi-purpose room Christmas tree. Practices for this program will be:

- Sunday, November 20, during Children's Church (with MS and HS students)
- Wednesday, November 30, during K-5 Alive
- Sunday, November 27 during Children's Church (if we don't go home to Iowa)

Jeff and I will be putting up the Christmas trees sometime between November 28 – Dec 3. If you would like to help with that, we would certainly appreciate it. It is quite a task to fluff the branches on both trees, especially the tall one in the sanctuary. Please sign the sheet in the attendance clip boards in November if you are available, and we will contact you, or come in while the office is open and fluff away at your convenience.

Christmas Musical "A Lamb's Tale"

The elementary and middle school kids will put on a Christmas musical Wednesday, Dec. 14. We will start the evening off with a campers fundraising meal at 5:30, followed by the 30 - 40 minute musical. The menu will be meatloaf, baked potato, green beans, fruit cocktail, and a variety of desserts. (We will be asking volunteers to mark the sheet in the attendance clip boards to bring their favorite dessert.) We also will be asking church members to let us know how many from their families will be in attendance for this meal through the Sunday morning attendance clip boards. The fundraising meal will be a free-will offering. The money collected will help families with the out-of-pocket expenses for summer church camps.

Practices for this musical will be at 4:30 - 5:00 each Wednesday in K-5 Alive. Rhonda Smith will be directing the musical, with the help of Rona Nelson, Grace Smith and McKenna Nelson. Music will also be practiced each Sunday morning at 9:30 - 9:45 in the 3rd - 5th Grade Sunday School Room and again in Children's Church.

Children's Church During Advent

We will be using the "Count Down to Christmas Activity Kit," from CTA Ministries for a four-week Advent study in Children's Church. Each lesson has a classroom devotion and a family devotion that will be sent home each Sunday. Each family will receive a Christmas tree on November 27 and each week will receive a set of stickers to do a daily devotion and add stickers to their tree during the Advent-Christmas season.

***Asked to write a composition entitled,
"What I'm thankful for on Thanksgiving," little Timothy wrote,
"I am thankful that I'm not a turkey."***

Important Dates to Remember in Children's Ministry:

- November 9** 4:00 p.m. K-5 Alive kids to Food Pantry for plastic bags mission project.
- November 20** Hanging of the Greens Practice for all children & youth during Children's Church.
- November 23** No K-5 Alive due to Thanksgiving break.
- November 30** Hanging of the Greens Practice for younger elementary children during K-5 Alive.
- November 27** Hanging of the Greens Practice for all children & youth during Children's Church
(Only if the Macon Tigers play in the State Finals keeping the Linsley's from going to Iowa.)
- December 4** Hanging of the Greens Program in 8:45 service and hanging of the ornaments on the Christmas tree in the 10:45 service.
- December 14** 5:30 p.m. Campers Fundraising meal, followed by "A Lamb's Tale" Christmas Musical.
- December 18** Praise Dancers in both 8:45 and 10:45 services

PARENTING TIP

Do You Need Some Personalized Help for your Family?

All parents have good and bad moments. Sometimes those bad moments become worse without some kind of lifeline to pull on.

We, at the National Center for Biblical Parenting have three ways that you can get specific, personalized help for your family.

Sure, we have plenty of books, MP3s, videos, and development programs for parents and their kids. But sometimes you need more than that.

If you want to give your parenting a boost or need some practical personalized support and encouragement, check out these ideas:

1) Become a member.

Just last week a woman called our office crying because of a crisis with her nine-year-old. She was a member so the message went through to Dr. Turansky who was on the road. He called her right away to help get her back on track. We treasure those who financially support our ministry and we support them in practical ways. Your gift of \$25 a month goes a long way to help us do what we do and we, in turn, look for personalized ways to support and encourage you as well. [Learn more at http://www.biblicalparenting.org/member/memberlogin.asp](http://www.biblicalparenting.org/member/memberlogin.asp)

2) Be a featured parent in a webinar.

Dr. Turansky can help you develop an action plan for your child. In a one-hour webinar, you'll leave with specific strategies to put into practice. Just look at the webinar topics from the last few months. Being a featured parent costs \$30 and you receive personalized solutions for your family that you can implement right away. [Email Joanne Miller today](mailto:joanne@biblicalparenting.org) at joanne@biblicalparenting.org if you're interested in being a featured parent.

3) Call us for a free phone consultation today.

We have a lot of resources and we know which chapters in what books and which MP3s might be best when we listen to the issues you're facing in your home. The recommendation is free. Just give us a call and we'll help you know what's best to move to the next step. Here's the number to call now: 800-771-8334.

Please know that we're available and willing to help you with your parenting needs. All children are different and a tailored action plan will get you on track.

May God richly bless you and your family.

Attendance and Offering Summary

Weekly Average for Oct.	2010	2011	Year To Date Average	2010	2011
Worship Attendance	191	195	Worship Attendance	200	194
Sunday School	71	71	Sunday School	54	70
Offering	\$5,238.27	\$5,246.614	Offering	\$5,323.93	\$5,409.49



Welcome New Members

We welcome Harold and Martha McVay into the membership of Macon UMC. They transferred from Clarence UMC and we pray they will continue to grow in God's Love and Grace as well as our Love.

Emergency Food Pantry Items Needed!

The Emergency Food Pantry is in desperate need of canned meat, soups, laundry detergents, paper towels, canned fruit, jelly, pudding, Jell-O, dry beans, spaghetti, dish detergents, toilet paper, and shampoo. Monetary donations are also being taken to help with the processing fee for donated meat and to help purchase food that is needed for the pantry.

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

Return Service Requested

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Macon, MO

Macon United Methodist Church
208 Pearl Street
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