

MULLINS MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF

MULLINS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4 NORTH MENDENHALL ROAD

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 381 17-2698

901.685.8253

WWW.MULLINSUMC.ORG

“A CHURCH ALIVE AND SERVING CHRIST”
SINCE 1845

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Sunday Morning Worship Services:

8:45 in Mullins' Chapel – 10:50 in Mullins' Sanctuary



Mullins Pulpit – February 28, 2010

Scripture: Luke 13:31-35

Sermon: “Look Out for Yourself”



Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

One of the lessons that we learned as children was not to tell “stories.” Stories in that meaning were lies, I suppose, but we were too polite to suggest that anyone in the family might lie. So they warned us away from untruths by use of the word “story.” Even as a child that confused me a little, because we often asked adults to “tell us a story.” Stories in that case were fun, entertaining, possibly instructive, and maybe exciting (castles, knights, giants, trolls and the like—you know).

Since those childhood days, I have learned that stories can be many things. Today when I hear (or hear about) stories, I think, “What truth is being conveyed in this special way?” Stories of William Tell and Nathan Hale are stories of national pride and patriotism. Stories of faithful church members are stories that help shape souls with encouragement and direction. Stories of people “gone bad” are warnings to make wise choices, to “stay on the path, don’t talk to wolves, and get to grandmother’s house and back before dark.” Stories can be true without necessarily being 100% factual.

What stories on television capture your attention? How many of you have ever heard someone speak of a doctor or businessman from a daytime drama as if that person were real? So called “reality TV” is anything but, as the editing process creates a drama, a narrative with some people cast as villains and others as heroes. Certainly the national media across the board try to gear down political issues that are complex and thorny and present them as rather simple stories of ins and outs, us and them, or good guys and bad guys. The reason that happens is because people know that story is a powerful way to get the message, the point, the issue across and have people accept the truth, whether it is or not.

The Bible, of course, is full of stories that tell the truth. This Lent, as we hear and reflect on the stories from Genesis or the prophets, please remember that they are true. Details may be negotiable, but the message of the story is true, and the message gives life and gives meaning. The question is what truth is behind or underneath the words.

See you in church as we unfold the word of God once again.

Blessings,

Brad

Honoring Our Loved Ones

Gifts have been given to:

BUDGET

In memory of *Virgil Foster* by
George and Betty Cook, Suzie
Morris

In memory of *Jim Bland* by Tom
and Alyce Guthrie

ST. JOHN'S MINISTRY

In memory of *Joe Wright* by
Lyndall Jones

In memory of *Jim Bland* by
Lyndall Jones

In memory of *Marjorie Luton* by
Lyndall Jones

Our Prayers

As members of the body of Christ,
we are always in prayer for one
another. At this time our thoughts
and prayers go out especially for:

Margaret Callihan, Room 4107,
Baptist Memorial Hospital

June Phillips, Room 2925 ICU,
Baptist Memorial Hospital

Lynne Sweatt, scheduled for
surgery February 25 at Baptist
Collierville

Marion Haynes, at home

Bea Manning, at home

Our Sympathy,

love, and prayers go out to:

the family and friends of **Jim
Bland**

the family and friends of **Marjorie
Luton**

St. John's Ministry

This Saturday, February 27, is our day to
serve the meal at St. John's United Methodist
Church. We will meet there at 3:30 p.m. If
you would like to be part of this wonderful
ministry, please call Ginny Wilcox at
276-8467.



United Methodist Women Meet March 2

On Tuesday, March 2, Mullins UMW will hold our General Meeting at
10:30 a.m. in the Chapel.

Following the meeting we will carpool to Calvary Episcopal Church to
hear the message from Phyllis Tickle, author and founding editor of the
Religion Department of Publishers Weekly. Phyllis is a storyteller and
author of some two dozen books on religion and spirituality. Reservations
will be made to have lunch after the message.

We invite ALL women of the church to fellowship with us for the
message and lunch. The carpool will leave church at 10:30 a.m. Please call
Margaret Brown at 388-9190, or email mbrown@dbrown.com to make your
reservation.

Valentine's Super Bowl Luncheon Benefits Maanza a Leza

On Sunday, February 7, the Crossroads Sunday School Class undertook
their first service project fundraiser for 2010. The proceeds from the
homemade soup and sandwich lunch will go to Maanza a Leza.

Maanza's main project now is to get Mukanyanga Muzyamba to attend
the University of Memphis with the goal of getting a Master's Degree in
Public Health. This would enable her
to open a clinic in Zambia, where
health care is definitely substandard.
The plan is for her to live with Wayne
and Brenda Carson, and Debi Gray.
"Muka" is applying for an would
cover one-half of her cost for school
for the first year of graduate school.

The other one-half of her schooling
needs to be funded. The luncheon, which netted over \$1,500 will be a huge
help toward her education expenses.

To date, Maanza a Leza ("Hands of God" in the Tonga language) has
seen many changes happen in the remote village of Sichibeya, Zambia. A
fifth grade classroom has been completed, largely with funds raised from
Maanza a Leza jewelry sales. Sixth and seventh grade classrooms have been
funded with the help of Maanza and another church in the Midwest. The
Zambian government was so impressed with the emphasis that the village
had put on education, that it funded a house for one of the government-
provided teachers. One more house has been erected for a public school
teacher.

Mullins has been most supportive of this mission project. God has
blessed Maanza a Leza with the labor of love given by the Crossroads Class.



February is Food Pantry Month

In a long-standing tradition, February is the month Mullins UMC helps stock the Food Pantry shelves at United Methodist Neighborhood Center. The need is greater than ever—please help by bringing donations of canned goods and non-perishable items to the church during the month of February. Monetary donations are welcome as well! Make checks payable to Mullins UMC and designate “Food Pantry UMNC.” Your neighbors will be very grateful!

Unsung Heroine/Hero

One person from each church will be honored as the “Unsung Heroine/Hero” at the Asbury District Laity Banquet on April 27, 2010, at Christ United Methodist Church. The dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. (cost \$10), and childcare will not be provided. You may nominate only ONE PERSON. Please do not nominate former recipients of this award. For a complete list of award winners, please contact the church office. All nominations must be in the church office by Tuesday, April 6.

Official Nomination Form

I nominate _____ for the
2010 Unsung Heroine/Hero Award

Nominated by: _____

Thank You!

Thanks to Mullins United Methodist Church for the gift of \$1,450 to the Africa University Direct Scholarship Fund. We appreciate your continued interest and support of our students. We understand that your contribution is designated to Mukanyanga Muzyamba for the second semester of the 2009/2010 academic year. Ms. Deborah Gray forwarded your contribution to our office.

Classes for the second semester of this academic year started in mid-January. As Africa University’s curriculum and campus structure continues to expand, we continue to educate students who will make a positive impact on the communities for which they will return.

God Bless,
Yours sincerely for:
AFRICA UNIVERSITY
James H. Salley,
Associate Vice- Chancellor for
Institutional Advancement

MEMBERS IN SERVICE FOR FEBRUARY 28:

Liturgist: Cyndi Watkins

Ushers: Phillip, Ginny and Jesse Wilcox
David Williams
Joe Wyrick

Greeters: Betty Williams
Marilyn Williams

Children’s Church Leader: Lisa Weaver

Children’s Message: Miranda Byrd

CHANCEL FLOWERS

... in honor of Jim Thomas, son of J. R. Thomas, in celebration of his retirement, by Marjorie Luton

The Worship Committee invites you to join us on Sunday mornings in the Narthex for coffee and conversation following the 10:50 worship service.



THE MENU FOR MARCH 3:

Chicken
Creamed Potatoes
Green Beans
Salad
Bread
Dessert

*Adults \$5, Children 12 and under \$3,
Family Max \$20*

Dinner is held on Wednesday nights at 5:45 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, followed by a brief prayer service and an interesting program. Everyone is invited to attend and to enjoy the fellowship. Your first dinner is complimentary!

If you’re not already on the list, please call the church office to let us know you’re coming so we’ll be sure to have plenty of food.



SPRING SPORTS SIGN UPS

Interested in playing volleyball, soccer, or baseball/softball??? Contact Lauren Gam at 685-8253.

Bread Needed

Our shelves are almost empty! Please support our bread ministry to first-time visitors by baking a loaf of your favorite bread, double wrap for freezing, and bring it to the church. Many, many thanks for your continued support!



Mullins' Library

The library has the following children's resources for Lent and Easter:

The First Easter
Journey Easter Journey
The Tale of Three Threes
The Easter Carol (Veggie Tales)
Easter A Pictoral Pilgrimage
Velveteen Rabbit
I am a bunny (board book)

Videos:

An Easter Carol
The Easter Story
Easter is ...



Middle School-Junior High Explosion!

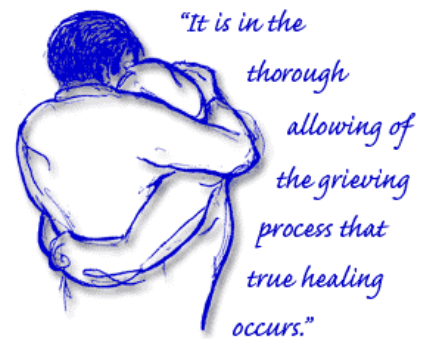
Mullins United Methodist Church has a growing group of students in, or approaching, Junior High/Middle School ages. As this school year winds down and we live throughout the summer, we will be developing a new emphasis to provide for those students.

Youth ministries invites YOU to be a part! Please contact our Director of Youth and Recreation Ministries, Lauren Gam, to find out what you can do to shape and guide another generation of Christians.

Grief Support

"Forward" is a grief support program for those who have lost a spouse and is conducted by professional counselors. Classes deal with subjects ranging from the physical aspects of grief to methods for taking charge of your new life. Forward recognizes that learning to find a new way of living without one's spouse is not easy. But with the support of Forward, many have found healing and new growth.

This series is free and open to the public. Sessions begin Thursday, March 4, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in Room 342 at Germantown United Methodist Church. For more information, call Laura Meanwell, Evangelism and Outreach Support, at 758-6528.



Lenten World Hunger Offering

The money raised by the Lenten World Hunter Offering will be distributed to the following international, national, regional, and local organizations:

UMCOR World Hunger/Poverty
Heifer Project International
Peanut Butter Project (Sierra Leone, Africa)
Africa University Dream Farm (Zimbabwe)
Society of St. Andrew/Potato Project
Hunters for the Hungry
Reelfoot Rural Ministries
United Methodist Neighborhood Centers of Memphis
Memphis Food Bank
Martin We Care
RIFA Food Depot
Paducah Cooperative Ministry
District Projects

CHURCH STAFF:

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Bradley W. Gabriel
bwgmullins@bellsouth.net

Director of Music Ministries:

Bryan R. Dunn
bryan.r.dunn@gmail.com

Director of Youth and Recreation Ministries:

Lauren Gam
lauren@mullinsumc.org

Director of Parents Day Out:

Kimberly Dunigan
kimberly@mullinsumc.org

Church Secretary:

Susan Tutt
susmullins@bellsouth.net

Organist:

Aaron Foster
aaron@mullinsumc.org

Custodians:

Geraldine Finley
David Campbell



OUR PRESENCE (LAST WEEK):

Sunday:

8:45 Worship Service..... 31
Sunday School 65
10:50 Worship Service..... 138

Wednesday:

Prayer Breakfast..... 7
Prayer Service 60

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sunday, February 28

- 8:45 a.m. Worship—Chapel
- 9:40 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:50 a.m. Worship—Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Youth
- 5:00 p.m. Yoga Class

Monday, March 1

- 9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym
- 6:15 p.m. Woodwinds Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts—Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts—Gym

Tuesday, March 2

- 6:30 a.m. Career Support Group—Gym
- 9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym
- 10:30 a.m. UMW General Meeting—Chapel
- 6:15 p.m. Core Ball Class—Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Yoga Class—Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 3

- 7:00 a.m. Men’s Prayer Breakfast—Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym
- 5:45 a.m. Fellowship Dinner—Fellowship Hall
- 6:15 p.m. Children/Youth Programs
- 6:15 p.m. Maanza a Leza Beading—Room 209
- 6:30 p.m. Program
- 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 4

- 9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym
- 7:00 p.m. Companions in Christ—Room 212

Friday, March 5

- 9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym

Saturday, March 6

- 8:00 a.m. Beethoven Club’s Young Artists Competition