



MULLINS MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF
MULLINS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
4 NORTH MENDENHALL ROAD
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38117-2698
901-685-8253

WWW.MULLINSUMC.ORG

“A CHURCH ALIVE AND SERVING CHRIST”
SINCE 1845

Wednesday, November 24, 2010

Sunday Morning Worship Services:
8:45 in Mullins' Chapel – 10:50 in Mullins' Sanctuary



Mullins Pulpit – November 28, 2010

Scripture: Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44
Sermon: “It’s Beginning to Look a Lot”

PASTOR’S CORNER

Dear Brothers and Sisters on the Way,

This Sunday, November 28, we begin a new cycle in the Gospels. This is the start of “Year A” in church worship terms. Since we cycle through the Gospels in a three-year manner, Year A is 2011 (including the four Sundays before Christmas in 2010, the season of Advent). The Gospel passage for most Sundays during Year A is from St. Matthew.

In the Bible we meet St. Matthew only indirectly through the Gospel that bears his name. The Gospel according to Matthew is one of the longer books in the New Testament. What we call Matthew’s Gospel has been most influential over Christian life and practice from the beginning of the church. The congregation that shaped, and was shaped by, Matthew’s Gospel may well have been a mix of Jewish and Gentile Christians. Thus, we have evidence of a primer on Christian living presented within a form that feels like the first five books of the Old Testament. John Wesley found in the book named for Matthew themes that shaped his ministry. Wesley preached that the Sermon on the Mount “. . . contains all we can reasonably or innocently pray for” Plan to spend time with Matthew this coming year.

We have many opportunities to celebrate the birth of Christ coming our way here at Mullins. A partial listing includes:

November 27: “Deck the Halls”—that is, decorate, appoint, and prepare our worship spaces for the Advent and Christmas seasons.

November 28: The first Sunday of **Advent** and lighting the Advent Wreath.

December 5: Confirmation Sunday. We will welcome into Church membership the 2010 Confirmation Class of Mullins United Methodist Church.

December 12: Church-wide Christmas Dinner and Children’s Pageant. We gather in the Fellowship Hall at 6 p.m. to feast, enjoy the children’s take on the birth of our Lord Christ, and possibly have a visit from a particularly jolly old elf.

December 19: Lessons and Carols. Scripture and message yes, but the chancel choir and congregation, through song, carry the weight of the wonderful good news of Christmas.

December 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion at 3 p.m. in the Chapel and 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

There is more, for example: Sunday School Christmas parties, United Methodist Women (UMW) service projects, members organizing for trips to Zoo Lights or Starry Nights. Please call the church office to schedule any event that you want to open to the entire congregation. It is the season for making merry as a church family.

On a personal note, Linda’s and my first-born is graduating on December 11. We will not be here that Sunday. We appreciate the prayers and care you have extended to us as Matthew has progressed through his college years. Thank you.

Grace for the way,

Brad

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:

Jay Phipps at home

Diane Rose at home

OUR SYMPATHY, love, and prayers go out to:

... the family and friends of **Jo Ann Mitchell**

HONORING OUR LOVED ONES

Gifts have been given to:

BUDGET

In memory of **Tom Bell, Sr.** by Mrs. David Moore, Mr. and Mrs. W. Patton Steele, Jr., The Crusader Class, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clayton, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hardee II, Charles and Walterine Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Sims, and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Dunavant

In memory of **June Phillips** by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Griffin

In memory of **Frances Vawter** by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Griffin

In memory of **Marjorie Luton** by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Griffin

In memory of **Jean Phipps** by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Griffin

In memory of **Jane Campbell** by her family

In memory of **Jo Ann Mitchell** by Mr. and Mrs. Norm Kercher



IMPORTANT NOTE:

Help us keep our records up-to-date by notifying the church office of changes in your address, telephone number, and email address. Thank you for your help in this important matter.

CONCORD ACADEMY'S 1ST CHILLY CHILI WALK-FUNDRAISER

Concord Academy will have its first ever Chilly Chili Walk on **December 11** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St. Mary's High School track. Mullins members are invited to help our friends of Concord raise money for this event. I am challenging the congregation to make a pledge or donation to all 50 children who attend the school. You can make a one-time donation in honor of a student (donations to be evenly distributed across all 50 students) or make a pledge per lap.

The sign-up sheet is located outside the sanctuary. See Lisa Weaver for details.



HANGING OF THE GREENS

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, **November 27**, 10 a.m., as we "Deck the Halls." Lots of helping hands are needed to decorate the church for Advent and Christmas. Make plans to join the fun!

A DECEMBER EVENT FOR EVERYONE!



Mark your calendars for **December 17**, 5:45 p.m. We'll have a Potluck Soup Dinner in the Fellowship Hall and then go see Zoo Lights at the Memphis Zoo. This event is open to everyone—all ages welcome!

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR DECEMBER 5

Our Confirmation Class will be received into full membership at the 10:50 worship service. Holy Communion will be celebrated at the 8:45 worship service **ONLY** on this date.

GRACE NOTES CONCERT

One of the highlights of the Christmas season here at Mullins United Methodist Church is the Grace Notes Concert. The date for this year's concert is Tuesday, December 7, at 7 p.m. in the Chapel. A Reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall after the concert. Bring family and friends for a wonderful evening of music!

END OF YEAR GIVING

Each year Mullins members call the church office and ask how they can maximize their giving to benefit Mullins. What a wonderful question! End of year gifts of stocks, property, cash and other items of value should be discussed with your lawyer, banker or estate planner to gain the most benefit for the church and the giver. All end-of-year gifts must be in the church office or postmarked by the last business day of the year.

CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS!

Make plans now to join us for the Young Adult kick-off on January 8, at 6:30 in the Gym.

GOURDS AND PUMPKINS AND CORN, OH MY!

Have you seen the magnificent display of fall vegetation on our altars and decorating various parts of the church for Thanksgiving? Those were sold to us by Country Gardens Nursery at the Agricenter for the crazy amount of \$25 for a truckload. Now that is a generous nursery!

Country Gardens Nursery (and Eden Gift Shop) is having a Christmas Open House on **December 3, 4, and 5**. Stop by and pick up lovely things to decorate your home for Christmas!



CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Ellen Weaver, Cecelia Cordera, and Cy Leist will be singing in Westminster Academy's Children's Choir on Friday, **December 3**, at 7 p.m. The concert will be held at Ridgeway Baptist Church, 2500 Ridgeway Road, in the sanctuary. Refreshments will be served afterwards. All are welcome to come enjoy a real treat! See Lisa Weaver

for any questions.

NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION

All new members who have joined our congregation in 2010 will be recognized at the Fellowship Dinner on **December 8**, at 5:45 p.m. Please plan to come as our guests that evening. Make sure to call the church office at 685-8253 for reservations if you are not on the permanent list.

POINSETTIAS

... will adorn our Sanctuary on December 19. If you would like to order poinsettias in honor or in memory of loved ones, complete the form and return, with payment, to the church office by **Sunday, December 5**.



In honor of _____

In memory of _____

By: _____

Number of Poinsettias: _____ Cost Per Poinsettia: \$9.00 Amount Paid: \$ _____

MEMBERS IN SERVICE FOR NOVEMBER 28:

Liturgist: Ginny Wilcox

Ushers and Greeters: Andy Mastin (Head Usher), Scott Campbell, Brenda Carson, Jennifer Mastin, Rachael Scarbrough

Children's Church: Emily Parker

Children's Time: Terrye Mastin

CHANCEL FLOWERS

are being placed to the glory of God

... in honor of my loving husband Norm in celebration of his birthday, November 30, by Barbara Kercher.

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 DEC. 1:

*Round Steak
Mashed 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.

HOT NEWS ITEM FROM SICHIBEYA, ZAMBIA:

Here are some pictures that Mukanyanga Muzyamba just emailed me, of the desks and textbooks purchased and delivered with \$7,00 that Maanza sent last month (80 2-person desks, 5 teachers desks and chairs, 121 textbooks).

I've copied and pasted the following from the written report that Muka emailed me:



Sichibeya Community sent their gratitude towards this huge donation. Some of the teachers said:

“This is unbelievable and not common in our country. I don't know how we can thank Maanza A Leza for their amazing support to Sichibeya Community especially School. We don't know the right words to use to make Maanza A Leza people know that we are very grateful for everything they are doing in our community. The students were using their laps while sitting on the floor when writing and doing their school work which was very difficult even for the teacher to monitor and evaluate the student's handwriting work. Even us teachers, we had no where to put our books and pieces of chalk when teaching due to the absence of tables and we would stand the whole period since we had to nowhere to sit and we had to use the student's desk to do the marking. This was so difficult, but with this new



furniture, work will be easy for both us teachers and students. Thank you very much Maanza A

Leza, these are really “Hands of God” doing all this for our community. The 80 desks will accommodate all our students in our classrooms and all the five classrooms

will have a teacher's table and chair”. (Deputy Head teacher)

“Our students have not been able to perform very well in class due to lack of books. We only had a copy for each subject and therefore could only be used by us teachers. Now, we have a number of copies for each subject, what else would one ask for? These books will cater for our students and they will be able to share among themselves while we safeguard them.



Oh my God, we are proper teachers now and we will have a normal classroom management. To God be the glory forever and ever. God bless you people of God for all your sacrifices. We have nothing to offer you to show our gratitude and even if we had it would not be enough, but we will just continue praying to God of heavens, the great Rewarder to reward you immeasurably and exceedingly.” (Ms. Phiri, teacher)



“The students were very happy, I could see them jumping and shouting when they saw the desks and books.” (Mukanyanga)

What a beautiful lesson they give us for Thanksgiving.

Debi Gray



REMEMBER TO ORDER YOUR COOKBOOKS!

MULLINS 165TH ANNIVERSARY
COOKBOOK 1845 – 2010

Name: _____

Phone No.: _____

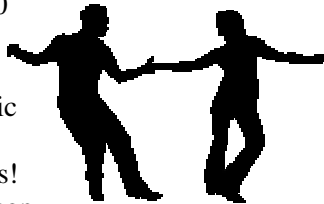
Email
Address: _____

Please reserve _____ cookbooks.

Payment enclosed in the amount of \$_____.

“FOOTLOOSE” NEW YEAR’S EVE GALA

Join the fun on December 31, at the Bert Ferguson Community Center. Dinner is served at 7:30 p.m. with dancing from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. A catered dinner buffet will be served along with refreshments and a non-alcoholic bubbly toast at midnight. There will also be fabulous door prizes!



The music will definitely keep your feet steppin’ with nothing but “the best of the best” ‘Footloose’ faves played by none other than DJ Russ Vaiden. Music: Ballroom, Country, Rock and Roll/Bop. The dress code should be “Holiday best.”

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Tickets will be limited to 200 and will be sold at Footloose, Bootscoot, and MESA dances. For tickets or more information, call Russ Vaiden at 624-3535, 674-4129; Eva Eldred 619-8526; or Ray Fleming 748-1256.

BLOOD DRIVE RESCHEDULED

The Blood Drive scheduled for December 8 has been rescheduled by Lifeblood for January 5, 2011. The sign-up sheets will be in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday evenings, December 1 and 8, and in the Hall of the Apostles on Sundays once we receive our materials from Lifeblood.

THANK YOU

We really appreciate the shower in celebration of our marriage that the church threw for us last Wednesday night. It really makes us feel like a welcome and loved part of the Mullins church family.

Bryan and Sarah Dunn

MARCH TO THE MANGER: DECEMBER 19

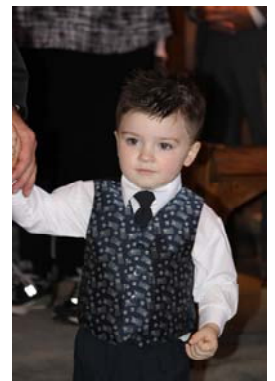
Mullins UMC’s annual “March to the Manger” is set for Sunday, **December 19**. As part of our service of Lessons and Carols, members of the congregation are invited to come forward and place their 2010 Christmas offering in the manger provided at the front of the sanctuary.

This special offering is used, as it has been for several years, to reduce the building debt we still have. Once we eliminate that debt, barring other capital needs that arrive, we should be able once again to pay 100% of our apportionments, especially the first benevolent priorities of the church, the mission and ministry of the United Methodist Church in general.

Please consider your coming Christmas letter and give generously.

BAPTISM

This past Sunday, November 21, 2010, we celebrated the baptism of our new brother in Christ, Dylan Dexter Tolbert, son of Steven and Julie Tolbert, at the 10:50 worship service.



THIS WEEK AT MULLINS:

CHURCH STAFF:

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Bradley W. Gabriel
brad@mullinsumc.org

Minister of Spiritual Formation:

Rev. Scottie Brafford
scottie@mullinsumc.org

Director of Music Ministries:

Bryan R. Dunn
bryan@mullinsumc.org

Director of Children's Ministries:

April Riley
april@mullinsumc.org

Director of Parents Day Out:

Kimberly Alston
kimberly@mullinsumc.org

Church Secretary:

Susan Tutt
susmullins@bellsouth.net

Organist:

Aaron Foster
aaronf@bellsouth.net

Custodians:

Geraldine Finley
 David Campbell



OUR PRESENCE (LAST WEEK):

Sunday:

8:45 Service	24
Sunday School	66
10:50 Worship Service.....	142
Prayer Breakfast.....	9
Prayer Service	70

Sunday, November 28

- 8:45 a.m. Worship—Chapel
- 9:40 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:40 a.m. Confirmation Class—Room 101
- 10:50 a.m. Worship—Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. *The Connection*—Friends, Family, and Fellowship
- 4:00 p.m. Youth
- 5:00 p.m. Yoga—Fellowship Hall

Monday, November 29

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

Tuesday, November 30

- 6:30 a.m. Career Support Group—Gym
- 9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym
- 7:00 p.m. Yoga—Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 1

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast (All Men Welcome)—Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym
- 5:45 p.m. Fellowship Dinner—Fellowship Hall
- 6:15 p.m. Children/Youth Programs
- 6:30 p.m. Program
- 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 2

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

Friday, December 3

- 9:00 a.m. Walking in Gym

Saturday, December 4

- 11:00 a.m. Yoga—Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Crossroads Class Party—Ann Smith's house

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, December 5

- 12:00 noon Beading Group—Room 209

Monday, December 6

- 9:30 a.m. Church Women United—Buntyn Presbyterian Church

Tuesday, December 7

- 10:30 a.m. UMW to prepare MIFA Goodie Bags
- 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes Concert in the Chapel and Fellowship Hall

Thursday, December 9

- Lamplighter/Friendship Party at Bill Phillips' house

Saturday, December 11

- 5:00 p.m. Parents' Night Out

Sunday, December 12

- 6:00 p.m. Church Christmas Dinner—Fellowship Hall

Friday, December 17

- 5:00 p.m. Parents' Night Out
- 5:45 p.m. Potluck and then to see Zoo Lights—see page 2

Sunday, December 19

- 10:50 a.m. **One** Worship Service today in the Sanctuary

Friday, December 24

- 3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service in the Chapel
- 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service in the Sanctuary