

Mullins Messenger

A Publication of
Mullins United Methodist Church
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This Issue Published as of Wednesday, July 27, 2011



Sunday Morning Worship Service
July 31, 2011

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

Scripture: Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Matthew 14:13-21
Sermon: "Touched by God"



Scottie's Corner

Ever watch the movie, *Field of Dreams*? It was released in 1989 and is the story of an Iowa farmer who dreams of having a baseball diamond in his corn field. It's a terrific movie for summertime. One of the signature quotes from the film surfaced at the Administrative Council meeting that was held on July 18. "If you build it, they will come."

I'm writing to ask your help in building our children's Sunday School program. I dream of Mullins offering three age-grouped classes, led by teams of three adults per class, to be in place and ready for children by Sunday, September 4.

When I shared this dream with Administrative Council, someone asked, "Where you gonna get the children?" Great question, for at this point on any given Sunday morning, we may have between 3 - 8 children in our one classroom... meaning that children ages 4 - 12 are all in one room. And while this 'one room

classroom' approach has been practical for us, and has asked little of us, we are called to do more and do better for our children.

Here's the dream: Our three classes will be preschool, younger elementary and older

elementary. Teams of three adults per class will allow team members to set their own schedules so that two adults are present each week. In addition, the teaching commitment is for three months (one quarter of the



year). The commitment is, of course, renewable for another quarter. However, one of the universal issues in locating adults to teach children is feeling that teaching children may become a multi-year commitment, with no gracious way out, and that causes a disconnect from one's adult Sunday School class. Easy for any church to slide into that pattern! Therefore, our new structure will allow adults much greater flexibility in how they offer their time.

Our curriculum is based on the scriptures that are read in worship on Sunday. Information is available online at www.seasonsonline.ca; it's bible-based and emphasizes the use of creativity and the arts. On August 21, I'll offer an overview of the quarter and training for our new teaching teams.

I began by writing "If you build it, they will come." And with plans already underway on several fronts for increased publicity and outreach, I truly believe that God is already stirring hearts and that more children will soon be on their way to Mullins. Now is our time to build what is needed to offer children a high-quality experience of education and formation.

I'm delighted to share that four of the nine positions are already filled. We need only five more adults, who are willing to serve on a team, from September - November. If God's stirring your heart, please contact me now. Let's talk. Church office (683.8253), Mobile (497.2053), or Scottie@mullinsumc.org.

Thanks, and may God's Blessings surround you this day.

Scottie

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:

Warren E. (Barney) Magargel,
St. Francis ICU 361

Our Sympathy, love, and prayers go out to:

Voline Conlee in the loss of her sister, Jeanette Lanahan



Honoring Our Loved Ones

Gifts have been given to:

BUDGET

In memory of **John R. Barnes** by Kathy Gillespie Earl and Taylor and Mary Beth Richardson

In memory of **Jeanette Lanahan** by Jean and George Sibley

MUSIC FUND/CHOIR ROBES

In honor of **Aaron Foster** by Joyce Simmons



2nd Quarter Financial Statements

are available in the Hall of the Apostles. Please pick up your statements on Sunday, review them carefully, and call the church office, 685-8253, if you have any questions.

Upper Room

Current issues of the *Upper Room* are now available outside the Sanctuary. The cost is \$1 each. Don't miss out on this great devotional material!

Reservations, Please!

Wednesday Fellowship Dinner and activities will resume next week on August 3. A new dinner reservation list is being compiled. Please call the church office, 685-8253, if you would like to be on the permanent list. You may also call weekly for reservations if you prefer.



Newsletter

Although the heat index is still up over 100°F these days, the semi-monthly summer schedule for the *Messenger* (this newsletter) is coming to an end. Beginning in August, **the *Messenger* will once again be published on a weekly basis.**

Please submit to the church office lots of interesting church news, upcoming events, reports of recent events, photos, notes of thanks, etc. We want the *Messenger* to be jam-packed with pertinent information.

PLEASE NOTE: Information for each week's newsletter must be submitted to the church office no later than Monday at 12 Noon. You can email it, fax it, write it on the back of Sunday's bulletin and slide it under the door, or even phone it in if it's really short, but it's all due by Noon on Monday.

St. John's Ministry

Volunteers are needed to help serve the meal at St. John's on Saturday, August 13, at 3:45 p.m. Please contact Ginny Wilcox at 276-8467 if you are interested in helping that day.

Memorial Concert, September 11, 2011, 4:30 p.m.

This year as we remember the pain and struggles we have been through over the past ten years since the attacks of September 11, 2001, we seek to find peace, forgiveness, and reconciliation. In honor and memory of what we as a people have been through, Mullins United Methodist Church, in



conjunction with First United Methodist Church, Kosciusko, Mississippi, will be performing a concert.

The concert features the soprano voice of Elizabeth Birger of Leawood, Kansas, and will include works by John Rutter, Eleanor Daley, and Mack Wilberg. The music will take us on a journey of remembrance and of looking forward, of pain and hope. As we go through our journey, we will have readings from various scriptures, reminding us of the spirit that dwells among us and within us.

Bring a friend. Bring a loved one. Bring an open mind and an open heart.

Proceeds will go to the United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR).

Reimbursements and Receipts

For your convenience, the blue forms for reimbursement of expenses are now available on the table outside the church office. Please complete the form, with your name clearly printed on the top line, and sign at the bottom of the form. Remember to attach your receipts to the back.

You may leave your completed copy in the tray or bring it by the office weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Art Show (and Open Gym Night)



Terrific art! And a great display! And a great crowd of admirers? Wow – what a fun event! Mullins' Summer Show of Children's Art was held in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, July 23, to the delight of many parents, children, and Mullins members who attended. The works were created by elementary-aged children under the instruction of Beth Hale, who led the

two-week Art Camp offered through Boredom Busters. The show was organized and displayed by Emily Hightower, Mullins' Children's Ministry Intern, and featured self-portrait bobble-heads, collages, wax-resist, watercolor blow-paintings, pop art portraits in the style of Andy Warhol, print making and multi-media.

Those attending munched on refreshments thanks to Helen Addington, Carol Griffin, Julia Howell, and Bea Manning, as the music of Michael Buble played in the background. Very cool. Thanks to all who worked to make it happen and to those who attended.



Thanks to our volunteer chaperones, Wayne Brafford, Miranda Byrd, Martha Harmon, Julia Howell, Katie Wallace, and James Williams, for their time and enthusiasm at Mullins' Open Gym Night for Kids on Saturday, July 23. It was a fun and safe evening for kids, organized by Emily Hightower. Thanks all 'round, folks!

Read More About It

Several have asked about the book Rev. Brafford referenced during the sermon on July 24. It is *Seven Spiritual Gifts of Waiting*, by Holly W. Whitcomb, copyright 2005, Augsburg Books. It's written for use either by individuals or with small groups, and includes "Questions to Ponder" at the end of each chapter along with a suggested plan for using the book with small groups or as a day-retreat.

Whitcomb identifies the seven gifts as Patience, Loss of Control, Living in the Present, Compassion, Gratitude, Humility, and Trust in God.

*Do you have the patience to wait
till your mud settles and the water is clear?
Can you remain unmoving
Till the right action arises by itself?
Lao-tzu, Tao Te Ching*

*Let nothing trouble you,
Let nothing scare you,
All is fleeting,
God alone is unchanging.
Patience
Everything obtains.
Who possesses God
Nothing wants.
God alone suffices.*

Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)

Members in Service for July 31:

Liturgist: Cyndi Watkins

Ushers and Greeters: Harriet Montgomery (Head Usher), John Montgomery, Jan Canfield, Melissa Johnson, Margaret Methvin, and Angie Smith

Children's Church:

Children's Message: Rachael Scarbrough

Chancel Flowers for July 31

are being placed to the glory of God and arranged by the Worship Arts Team.

Gluten-Free!

Gluten-free communion wafers are now available for those with special dietary needs. The gluten-free wafers will be in a bowl on the communion tray on first Sundays when we celebrate communion.

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 August 3:

*Fried chicken
Potato salad
Fruit salad
Dessert*

*Adults-\$6, Children 12 and under-\$4,
Family Max-\$23*

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.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Fall Soccer



Register by July 31 for boys and girls soccer, ages 4–6. Registration forms are available in the church office. For more information, call Julie Tolbert, 757-2239.

From the Finance Committee

On behalf of the Finance Committee, I would like to encourage each one of you to bring your pledges up to date to help the church through these slow summer months. While we have been doing well, financial speaking, for the year to date, the past couple of months have been slower, and the church needs your help in bringing your pledges current.

Thanks very much for your cooperation in this regard.

Patrick Mason, Chairperson of Finance Committee

Interest for a Ladies' Prayer Group

Virginia Lawson is interested in developing a Ladies' Prayer Group to meet weekly at her home. If you are interested in such a group, please contact Virginia's daughter, Melissa Galloway, at 482-0427.

Choir News

Have you seen what's changing here at Mullins—New music! New Worship Arts! New Spirit! And many other new things!

The Chancel Choir is changing also—our song is the same, but our façade is about to undergo renovation. We're getting new choir robes, but we need your help to purchase the new robes. The new contemporary robes are black with stand-up collar and cuffed sleeves. They will have the UMC Cross and Flame logo on the left shoulder. In addition, the ensemble includes a full length reversible tunic that can be worn for special occasions or every Sunday.

If you want to honor or memorialize a friend or loved one, please send your check to Mullins UMC, music/choir robe fund. The cost of one ensemble (includes shipping costs) is \$100. However, any donation is greatly appreciated. We hope to debut the robes on Sunday, September 11, 2011, at the 9-11 tenth anniversary memorial concert.

Mullins Wind Ensemble

The Mullins Wind Ensemble is looking for new members to join their group. If you play or have played an instrument in the past, this may be just the spot for you! The Wind Ensemble rehearses on Thursdays at 6:15 in the Choir Room. We would love to have you join us!

Also, donations of musical instruments are needed. If you have an instrument to donate, please contact Kent Stratton or the church office.

August Birthdays and Anniversaries

Here is a list of Mullins members with birthdays and anniversaries in August. If you know of someone who is not on this list and who should be, have that person call the church office. We want to celebrate EVERYBODY!



Birthdays:

<u>Name</u>	<u>July:</u>
Ruth Meyer	1
Franklin Moore	1
Gregg Carmichael	3
Harriet Montgomery.....	6
Carolyn Irvin.....	9
Frank Bradley	10
Jack Ruleman.....	12
David Williams.....	12
Evelyn Walden.....	12
Evelyn Vowell.....	15
Judy Johnston.....	15
Sandy Scruggs.....	15
David Eddins	15
Addison Furst	15
Sheila Ihle.....	16

Otto Melsa	17
Zach Carmichael.....	17
Phil Wilcox	18
Jimmy Williams	18
Kent Stratton (Jr.)	20
Shelley Lacaden.....	21
Sean Cheshire.....	22
Anna Grace Mock	22
Marguerite Cooper.....	22
Robert Newcomb	22
Byron Vowell.....	23
Mary Beth Richardson	26
Brenda Smith	26
Whitney Williams.....	27
Anna Rushing.....	27

Regina Fausett	28
Jeff Maness.....	28
Annie Rea Houston.....	29
Maggie VanLandingham	30
Stephanie Maynard	31

Anniversaries:

Bill and Sara Oaks	7
Kent and Pam Stratton	11
Hal Baker	14
Judy and Larry Clayton	19
Cathy and Major Philpot.....	22
Diane and Greg Rose	23
Barbara and Cecil Harris.....	26

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

Summer Intern, Children's Ministries:

Emily Hightower
ekhightower@gmail.com

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

Sunday, July 31

8:45 a.m. Worship—Chapel
9:40 a.m. Sunday School
10:50 a.m. Worship—Sanctuary
4:00 p.m. Jump Start!
5:00 p.m. Yoga—Fellowship Hall

Monday, August 1

9:00 a.m. Walking in Gym

Tuesday, August 2

6:30 a.m. Career Support Group—Gym
9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym
6:30 p.m. Private Event—Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, August 3

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym
5:45 p.m. Fellowship Dinner—Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m. Adult Program—Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, August 4

9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym
10:00 a.m. Bible Study—Parlor
7:00 a.m. Soul-ful Reading—Parlor

Friday, August 5

9:00 a.m. Walking in the Gym

Saturday, August 6

11:00 p.m. Yoga—Fellowship Hall



OUR PRESENCE (LAST WEEK):

Sunday:

8:45 Worship Service 15
10:50 Worship Service 102

Thank You

Our thanks to Bea Manning, Macy Williamson, Carolyn Carter, Carol and Charles Griffin, Martha Harmon, and Julia Howell for cleaning the kitchen and ice room. It looks great, and we appreciate all your hard work.

