



The Messenger

The Monthly Newsletter of the MOREHEAD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

227 West Main Street, Morehead, KY 40351 (606) 784-5626 email: moreheadumc@gmail.com

January/February
2010

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Church Staff

PASTOR

Reverend Bruce Nettleton

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Nathan Howard

SECRETARY

Janie Strunk

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Jane Miller

DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL AND CHILD CARE

Tierra Blevins

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Lesley Lewis

ORGANIST

Larry Keenan

PIANIST

Angela Lyon

CUSTODIAN/LAWN CARE

Dave Martinat

NURSERY COORDINATOR

Sara Peyton

From the Pastor

The snow days over the last couple of weeks, in combination with Kim spending some time out of town, has placed me at home watching the boys for several days. This, in turn, has me using e-mail to communicate with the staff when I ordinarily might just pop down the hall. In Janie's case, our usual mode of communication is a muffled shout from the next room. Just a few minutes ago I got a polite reminder, via the information super highway, that my newsletter article was due, which raised a number of questions:

1. Just exactly who is in charge around here, anyway?
2. Does anybody actually *read* the church newsletter?
3. Last, but not most troubling: what the heck am I going to write about this month?

I stared off into space for a few moments to ponder this great unponderable, and my eyes came to rest on an ad that had attached itself to Janie's e-mail.

I use Gmail, which is a free web-based e-mail program chock full of neat features, including a massive filing system for keeping track of old e-mails. I love it. The only catch is that this "free" service is supported by advertising that runs down a narrow column to the right of every e-mail.

I'm a bit of a gadget freak, and I find the technology that major corporations like Google have at their disposal really fascinating. My Gmail program has something called "context sensitive advertising," which means that some computer program somewhere scans the content of my emails for key words and attaches ads to the email accordingly. At Christmas time, while the family was emailing gift lists back and forth, I got several emails from family members making gift suggestions that Google had managed to recognize. Ads were attached to these e-mails telling me where I could buy the products and who might have the best price. It's amazing, really.

Janie's e-mail had words like "overdue" and "friendly reminder" peppered through it. The Google ads program weighed all this carefully and sent me several ads for consumer credit agencies.

I thought this was really funny, so I checked a few more. I had an email from a church member talking about evangelism, evangelizing, and including the word "workshop" in it. An ad for presentation software and one for a book on "Closing the Deal" had magically attached to it.

The next one I opened, though, was my favorite. The email was a notice for a Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting, and attached to it was an ad for Martial Arts training. It's like they were reading my mind!

It got me to wondering if anybody is working on a "context sensitive" Bible app. Wouldn't it be neat if, just when you came to a really thorny ethical dilemma, your iPhone or Blackberry would chime a little Hallelujah Chorus ring-tone, and there'd be this text message on the screen with the PERFECT Bible verse... just exactly what you needed to know in that particular life situation.

(Continued on page 7)



January 17:

Psalter: Psalm 36
 Scripture: Isaiah 62:1-7
 Sermon: **Can't Keep Silent**
 Isaiah (under God's inspiration) refuses to settle for less than all that Israel has been called to be.

January 24:

Psalter: Psalm 148
 Scripture: Luke 4:14-30
 Sermon: **Slipped Away**
 Jesus' miraculous escape from an angry crowd highlights dangers we face in today's church.

January 31:

We will celebrate Fifth Sunday this week by having a church wide service and pot-luck meal in the church's Wesley Hall. Services will begin at 10:30.

February 7:

Psalter: Psalm 138
 Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-13
 Sermon: **Fire in the Temple**
 Isaiah's call is accompanied by and consummated in fire.

February 14 (Transfiguration Sunday):

Psalter: Psalm 99
 Scripture: Luke 9:28-36
 Sermon: **Listen**
 Christ's Glory is revealed to his disciples in the Transfiguration. What is the proper response to this revelation?

WEDNESDAYS
Koinonia Kafé
 5:30 PM, Wesley Hall
 Bible Study following the meal.

Kids Koinonia
 6:00 PM—Room 205
 For children through fifth grade.
 Nursery care for the little ones.
Everyone welcome!

Flower Calendar

Please help grace our sanctuary by providing flowers for the altar. The flower calendar is posted on the wall outside the secretary's office. The flowers may be a plant, a silk, or a fresh arrangement. If you would like the arrangement to be in memory of a loved one, in honor of a loved one, or to the glory of God, you should notify Janie the week before at 784-5626.

Record of Faithfulness

**Attendance for Faithfulness
 for January 3, 2010**

Sunday School.....	94
Worship (8:45).....	45
Worship (11:00).....	154
Hispanic Ministries.....	16

**Financial Faithfulness
 as of January 3, 2010**

Budget:	\$435,508.00
Needed Per Week:	\$8,375.15
Needed to Date:	\$8,375.15
Received to Date:	\$9,435.25
Difference	\$1,060.10

how can we help you find
e-Faith?

Can you feel God embracing you... the *real* you... for who you truly are?

Is your relationship with God **empowering** you to overcome the obstacles life throws at you?

Does your faith have you **engaging** the world to make it a better place?

Join us as we wrestle with these and other questions

Sunday, January 31
 10:30 am

Wesley Hall
 Morehead United Methodist Church

.....

eFaith: an exploration of passionate spirituality



There will be two mission opportunities this spring and summer. First, Sonata Bohlen will be leading a trip to Oaxaca, Mexico in May. The focus will be on cottage industries, construction, and mission.

Second, we have been invited to join the Roswell United Methodist Church for their 2010 medical-dental-optical mission to Peru. The age limit they have imposed is fifteen years of age. If you are interested in either, please let Pastor Bruce, Sonata Bohlen, or Bob Grueninger know.

UMW General Meeting

All women of the church are invited to come together for the UMW General Meeting on Sunday, January 24, from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM in the Sanctuary. This is an opportunity to get to know one another better and learn of the many ways UMW works to help with local and national missions.

Mark Your Calendar: April 11 and September 12 for other general meetings.

Sustainable Morehead

Sustainable Morehead will hold its first annual board meeting on **Sunday, January 31, at 4:00 PM, in the Conference Room**. The not-for-profit organization was formed recently to promote sustainable living in the Morehead and surrounding Appalachian region through education, demonstration projects, and activities that are based on the relationship between personal, social, and environmental health. Sustainable living is defined as a lifestyle that attempts to reduce the consumption of natural resources through stressing conservation, recycling, efficient transportation, and other behaviors that now are becoming associated with "living green."

The agenda at the meeting will include a review of by-laws, election of board members, and plans for spring and summer activities: planting trees representative of a portion of Morehead's carbon footprint, gardening through a program targeted principally towards lower-income residents, and collecting bicycles as part of a "borrow and leave" program within city limits.

The group also is requesting donations of tools and bicycles for the program. Interested persons call 606-776-0162.

Fifth Sunday Congregation-wide Worship Service January 31, 10:30 AM

Every fifth Sunday there will be a congregation-wide worship service at 10:30 AM in Wesley Hall. This service will include a variety of musical offerings and will be followed by a pot luck fellowship meal. You are invited to bring a dish. If your last name begins with:

A - E Main Dish
F - N Salad
O - Z Dessert

Bring enough for your family plus a little extra. The church will provide lemonade and rolls.

Mark your calendar now for the fifth Sundays in March, May, August, and October.

Administrative Council

February 8, 2010

6:30 PM

Fellowship Hall

All members are encouraged to attend.



Habitat for Humanity
and
Christian Social Services
"Beans and Tators"
Luncheon
Friday, February 12,
11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Wesley Hall

Come and enjoy great food, fabulous desserts, and wonderful music. Cost for the luncheon is \$5.00.

Builders Class

The Builders Class will meet on Friday, February 19, for its regular scheduled monthly meeting. The pot luck will begin at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Methodist Men's Prayer Breakfast

Guys please remember our monthly prayer breakfast on Saturday, February 20. It is a great time for delicious food, lots of coffee, a devotion, and fellowship. Please invite others to join us. The breakfast time is 8:00 AM. We meet in the Fellowship Hall. Nate Howard will give the devotion and David Saxon will provide the breakfast. This group supports and participates in numerous mission and ministry activities throughout the year.

Please call the church office (784-5626) or email the church office (moreheadumc@gmail.com) about any additions, deletions, or corrections that need to be made.

CHURCH FAMILY REQUESTS

Bob Gould
Helen Wentz
Isabel Stiner
Teresa Hardman
Bill Pierce
Myrtle Derrickson
John and Nan Holbrook
John and Dot Collis

Cleo Baker, mother of JoAnne McBrayer
Eddie and Jenny Hill, uncle and aunt of Kathy Lewis
Sue Brown and family and friends
Janie Hord, sister-in-law of Lois Vice
Larry Arbaugh
Alexis Howard, age six, requested by Carol Rose
Mildred Pack
Angie Britton, niece of Phil Martin
Justina Hess
Wayne Bailey, great-uncle of Catherine Rogers
Sammy Alexander, Billy, Becky, & Leah Alexander,
requested by Janet Helvey
Lavone Napier, mother of Debbie Stinson
Mickey Wells
Edith Hall, sister of Jim Bell
Shirley Marcum, requested by Shirley Hamilton
Jackie Kuhns, sister of Russ Ward
Evelyn Banks, cousin of Susan Neff
Becky Dodson
Milburn Wheeler
Evelyn Brigham, aunt of Carol Rose
Mary Thomas, aunt of Connie Kibbey
Ernest Green
The Methodist Church in Oaxaca, Mexico
Christian Social Services
Kathy Herzog (Mission work in Kazakhstan)
Peter Lindsay

OTHER PRAYER REQUESTS

Leah Crawford, Shelley Hatcher Jones,
requested by Rhonda Whelan
Corena Keeton, Dan Markwell's mother
Harold Newsome
Richard Maughon
Gary Cox, husband of Jo Cox
Deborah King (friend); Florence Schultz, mother of
Steve Schultz
Joan Cakre and Tommy Little, requested by
Martha Evans
Anna Higgins, requested by Kelly Ward
Bradley Blunt
Jamie Mason
Pauline Perkins, grandmother of Tierra Blevins
Conrad Rowland, father of Dean Rowland
Rachel Tate, sister of Mary Camille Dummer
Ruthlane Roush
Josh Paxson, grandson of Joan and Bob Meadows
Steve and Davita Smith, daughter and son-in-law of
June Keenan
Shawnee Allen, daughter of Alfred and Joan Grubb
Maureen Sweeney Butterworth, Catherine's
Roger's cousin
Mrs. Don "Tootie" Olver, Debbie Ellis' mother
Nancy and Dan Linker, aunt and uncle of
Catherine Smith
Alice Harrison, mother of Frances Weaver
Sharon R. Walker of Ashland, friend of the Sextons
Gail Hendrickson
Sonna Smith, cousin of Julia Martin
Linda Epperhart, mother of Jessie Johnson
Connie Neiswender, cousin of Angela Lyon;
Venda Lee Lyon, Angela's stepmother

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY

Jeffery Brown	Adam Stetson
Jim Gould	Jason Ikerd
Sean Kuhn	David L Wilcox
Becky Stevens	Allan Fiel
Logan Butts	Kenneth Morris
Ryan Gabbard	Jimmy Fuller
Daryl Sheets	Gregory Todd (Iraq)
Kevin Adams	



Prayer Ministry—Prayer cards, on which you may indicate a praise or a request for prayer, have been placed in the pew racks. They may be marked *for pastor* or *for prayer ministry*. The card may be placed in the offering plate or prayer boxes located in the vestibule or lobby. Other requests may still be directed to the prayer chain (606-784-5626).



Children's Ministries

The new year brings some exciting news for children's ministries. A new and permanent official council group called the *Children's Ministries Team* is being organized. Its purpose is to help focus the children's programs on the goal of serving the children and their families in guiding them toward a personal relationship with Christ.

Gearing Up for Spring

Children's Fellowship - The Children's Fellowship and Choir are gearing up for the spring semester. On Sunday, January 31 immediately following the Fifth Sunday Worship Service and meal, a *kick-off event* is planned for all children ages three through fifth grade. At this time, the children will turn in their collection of loose change for missions. Plan now to join us for fun, games, and fellowship.

Children's Worship is expanding to include the summer months. Koinonia Kids will be taking the children on a tour of the places where Jesus lived and taught. Acolyte training has taken place; some new children were added to the group. Vacation Bible School materials are coming in and decisions about which to use are soon to be made.

All of the children's programs are an important part of the church's ministry. Volunteers are needed to work with the children and to work behind the scenes preparing materials, maintaining facilities, deciding on programs and keeping families informed of the opportunities. We hope that each of the church members regardless of age will pray for guidance for the programs and for how they can become involved in the lives of these precious members of or church family.

The most immediate need for volunteers is for woodworkers with jigsaws to make figures for the expanded children's worship lessons and for volunteers to work with the children's worship program during the summer months. Volunteers to help with the programs during Sunday afternoon children's fellowship and choir are also needed. Please pray for God to guide you in how to share your special skills or knowledge or talents with the children's programs. And remember that VBS is coming soon and plenty of prayers and volunteers will be needed at that time as well. God bless us all in this ministry to His children.

Happy Birthday to children celebrating in January and February: Joe Ammons (Jan. 2), Holly Newton (Jan. 8), Kalle Eldridge (Feb. 2), Michael Nettleton (Feb.11), Zack Watkins (Feb. 16), Jack Ellis (Feb.17), Candace Markwell (Feb. 21), Gabe Markwell (Feb.22), Garrison Markwell (Feb.22).

Jane Miller

Preschool/Childcare Notes

There is great deal of exciting things happening here at MUMC Preschool. The New Year brought some changes for the preschool, including combining the three rooms into two rooms, as well as a new employee, Kayla Kelly. The kids are thriving in their environments and are adjusting well to the changes. The staff is looking forward to planning upcoming events and parties, hopefully to include a Spring Fling. Look for more information about the Spring Fling in the near future. We would love for everyone to come and support our preschool. Additionally, we just finished new parent handbooks and brochures. If you know of anyone interested in Preschool feel free to get them a brochure or have them stop by.

Tierra Blevins

Music Notes



I'd like to begin this article by saying thank you to every person that contributed to the music ministry during the holidays. I especially want to thank those of you who participated in our Christmas cantata, The Mystery and the Majesty. So much goes into doing a cantata and I was very pleased with how everything came together. I hope you were blessed in our efforts.

So, it's a new year and choir is back in full swing, if only I had more ringers and singers! Those of you who have been in the choirs, please come back! Those of you who haven't, you are most welcome to join us! I know it's just January but we'll need to rehearse for the Easter season soon! The start of Lent is February 17th!

Children's choir will resume in February in conjunction with Children's Fellowship. As always, if you would like to provide special music for any of our services, please let me know. There is a great need for specials during our Lenten breakfasts which take place during Holy Week.

I know that God has great blessings in store for all of us in this new year. I pray that we all take the time to recognize them and give God the thanks and praise!

-Lesley

Youth Scoop

There's about to be a change in the direction of the youth program at MUMC. In the past few months, there has been a little spark in the back of my head that has been being fanned to flame by God's Holy Spirit. That spark is the idea that youth group should be a REFUGE. You see, even though our students are great, there are times when they pick on each other, or leave somebody out or become somewhat selfish. I would venture to say that we all are guilty of any of these things at times. Anyway, I've felt lead to place a greater emphasis on our group being such a place where these kinds of things do not happen. Our group is going to be a place where teens can come and know that they will not be picked on, made fun of, and won't be left out. Group will be a REFUGE.

In scripture, especially in the Psalms, the word "refuge" is often paired with "fortress." The Psalmist speaks many times of God being his fortress and his refuge; his source of strength. It is my desire (and I pray God's will), that youth group could also be this source of strength for our students. I would love to see students leaving group energized and ready to go into their schools, homes and communities ready to be different and set apart from others—being different in such a way that they are positive witnesses of the Gospel of Christ to those around them.

Does this sound good to you? When I ran it by our students, it sounded good to them and they are excited about it. If this is something you think you could join in on, let me know. I'm always looking for volunteers to help with the group. Maybe you would like to lead a small group of some kind. Maybe you could pray for our students on a regular basis. Maybe you would like to come and be a part of our Sunday afternoon or Wednesday night program. Maybe you just love students and want to be a part of what's going on here at MUMC. Let's be creative and think of ways that you can be involved. It's easiest to contact me via email at hownat@me.com. Please feel free to let me know what you are thinking about all this and ways that you think you could help.

Upcoming Youth Activities

January 29-31	-	Winter Blitz
February 19-20	-	Laser Tag Lock-in
March 6-7	-	30 Hour Famine
April 16-17	-	Amazing Race

As these events get closer more details can be found at www.moreheadumcyouth.net
 Become our Fan on Facebook by searching for Morehead UMC Student Ministries
 Follow us on Twitter: MUMCYouth

NATE

Share and Prayer (Continued)

Births



Nate and Mykie Howard are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Ainsley Rose, born on January 3 weighing five pounds and eight ounces and measuring 18 inches long. Big brother, Tommy (age 4) is very excited about his little sister.

On Sunday, January 10, the youth group hosted a church-wide baby shower for the Howards' new daughter, Ainsley Rose. The shower was well attended and the lucky attendees got to get the first peek at Ainsley. She is precious. Thank you to all those that attended and a big thanks to all the youth that helped make this event a fun-filled day.



Welcome New Members

Max and Joyce Ammons - November 29, 2009

In Loving Memory



Dana Greenfield
December 20, 2009

Elixir

Our heartfelt sympathy surrounds the Greenfield family: Pat, Rich, Dee (Walter), and all the Greenfield family.

Pastor (Continued)

Or you've got this friend who is not a Christian, but you know they're seeking, trying to figure it all out. And they came to you with this question. You know what I'm talking about. It's THE question. You know that if you can answer this one question it will make all the difference in the world. So your phone rings, and you answer it. Then you hold it out to your friend and say: "Here. It's for you."

Of course it would probably mess up, sometimes, too. You have a new baby in the house and nobody has slept for three nights and now the diaper is full again, even though you just changed it. The phone chimes and you get a text advising: "Behold, I tell you a mystery. We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed."

Or you've been working trying to balance the checkbook for three hours. The phone chimes, and the only words on the screen are "CHAPTER 11."

But even with a few glitches in it, it would still be really cool, wouldn't it? We'd have no more excuses for not knowing the right thing to do, or the right thing to say. No more pleading ignorance in the face of sin. No conceivable reason to disobey the good and perfect will of God.

Barbara Nettleton



Kroger Gift Card

Seventeen months ago our church took advantage of a program Kroger offers to nonprofit organizations--the Kroger Gift Card Sharing Program.

Since then we have received \$3,098.99 from Kroger for those who have used their MUMC Kroger Gift Card to purchase groceries, gasoline, or prescription drugs.

Kroger sends the church a rebate check for four percent of the total that has been "reloaded" - amount of money added to the cards during the month. (This is like giving the church almost eleven cents for each gallon of gasoline we purchase.) If you are a Kroger shopper and do not have a card or want an extra one for another family member, they are available in the church office.

*Note--Even though you can reload your card in the checkout line, it takes about five minutes for the card to process; so you should reload at the customer service center before you shop for that particular shopping trip. The cards can be used or reloaded at any Kroger in the US.

A Note of Thanks

Dear Church Family: Thank you for your cards, prayers, visits, food, and concern during the past two years of Byron's life. You have provided love and encouragement for the entire family and we are very grateful. Without your love and support, it would have been impossible to honor Byron's wishes to remain home until the end. Thank you so much.

We also want to thank you for the dinner for the family after the funeral. The food was delicious and very much appreciated.

Helen, Carol, and Linda Wentz



Methodist Mountain Mission

The truck from the Methodist Mountain Mission will be at the church on January 20. If you have household items such as dishes, silverware, pots and pans, small kitchen appliances, or good used clothing that you would like to give to the mission, please bring them to the church before this date. Notice: socks and shoes is especially needed.



On Haiti ... The people of Haiti have suffered a devastating earthquake, and it is already clear that many have died and many more are injured. Even under "normal" circumstances, Haiti struggles to care for her nine million people. The nation is the poorest in the western hemisphere, and this latest disaster will set back many recent efforts at development. Please be in prayer for those who have died, been injured, and are searching for loved ones.

You can help!!!
You may put your gift in the offering plate on Sunday, and mark your check Haiti. One hundred percent of gifts made will go to support relief and development efforts due to the Haiti emergency.



Let us look at the definition of stewardship.

Stewardship:

1. the office, duties, and obligations of a steward
2. the conducting, supervising, or managing of something; especially: the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care, stewardship of our natural resources.

The *managing of something*. This implies that we have decisions to make and are responsible for that which we are stewards over.

What are we stewards over? Everything we have been given. Our time, our money, our God given gifts and abilities, our influence, it all comes from God.

The Parable of the Talents is a good illustration of what a good steward does. The good stewards were the ones who took "risk" and action in order to multiply what they had been given. The bad steward was the one who out of fear decided not to take a risk and was called lazy as well.

Remember, we came into this world with nothing and we will take nothing when we leave. Therefore, our possessions are "on loan." Thus, we are a "steward" and not a "possessor."

Luke 12:48—From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.

The year 2009 has passed. We can not erase our stewardship record for that year. We can only ask forgiveness for our shortcomings. But, we have a clean slate to begin 2010. What will we write on its pages in terms of our prayers, our gifts, our service, and our witness in the months to come? Let us be good STEWARDS.



Morehead United
Methodist Church
227 West Main Street
Morehead, KY 40351
(606) 784-5626

Office Hours: Monday - Friday
7:00 AM - 3:00 PM

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 8:45 AM Morning Worship
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Morning Worship
- 12:00 PM Hispanic Ministries
- 3:00 PM Children's Fellowship
and Children's Choir
- 3:00 PM *Refuge* (Youth Bible
Study/Discipleship Time)
- 4:00 PM *Express* (Youth Creative
Ministry)
- 6:30 PM Pastor's Study

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227 West Main Street
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

...the heart and soul of the mountains.