



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 15TH

Pastor: Linda Dolby
Associate Pastor: Craig Overman
Choir Director: Mary Lou Clendenning
Pianist: Esther Creamer
Organist: Angie Schilling
Custodian: Sarah Wilson
Nursery: Sherry Gouvan
Admin. Asst: Wendy Simon

Traditional Worship: 8:45 am Sun
Sunday School: 10:00 Sun
Blue Jean Service: 11:00 Sun
Bible Study: Tue at 7:00 pm &
Wed at 10:00 am

Women's Bible Study: Tue at 5:30am at the
Church

Wee Blessings Preschool:
Director: Sarah Wilson
Teacher: Sarah Wilson
Teacher: Mary Kay Finnerty

Church Office: (765) 296-3399
Pastor's Home: (765) 296-3390
Abba's Place: (765) 296-2090
Pastor's Email: lkdolby@mintel.net
Email: mlbymc@mintel.net
Web-site: www.mumc-in.org
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30-1:30

Audit Time Again

John Harden asks all committees with bank accounts to please turn in your records for the yearly audit. Deadline is January 7th. If you miss the deadline we will be calling. ☺

Thank you, in advance for making this process as smooth as possible.

From the Pastor's Heart

Dear friends,

The beginning of a new year is a right time to renew our relationship with God. Our worship services on January 7 will have this focus. Below is the prayer we will pray that day. Between now and then, please read over it several times, taking the words to heart.

A COVENANT PRAYER IN THE WESLEYAN TRADITION

I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low by thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things
to thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

I am so glad that God has "put me" with you. It is such a joy to be in ministry here! This comes with my love and the blessing upon each of you that this new year will be filled with good things from God for you and yours.

Your pastor,

Rev. Linda K. Dolby

Stone Soup Food Pantry would like to thank everyone who helped fill its shelves in 2006! The Boy Scouts had a successful food drive in the spring and the Girl Scouts collected over 600 pounds of food in October. Donations continue to arrive from Trinity and Gloria Dei, as well as from our congregation. The Mulberry Telephone Company raised funds through a golf outing. Praise be to God! Stone Soup has a freezer now and does accept professionally prepared meats; dated & wrapped. Vouchers, redeemable at Frankfort IGA, are still available through Wendy. On average, Stone Soup serves 2-3 families per month on an as-needed and confidential basis. We do ask that all donations have legible expiration dates and any that does not will be taken to Food Finders. Below are items that are still needed.

cleaning products, personal hygiene, paper products, jelly, peanut butter, crackers, baking products, canned meats, coffee, juice, aspirin, now accepting frozen foods
If you or someone you know is hungry, please call Chris Gipson at 296-6632.

"If everyone gives just a little, there will be plenty for all"

January Birthdays

- 1/3 Paul Reddix
- 1/3 Linda Ward
- 1/8 Kara Simon
- 1/10 Jerry Fultz
- 1/10 Ryan Surber
- 1/10 Josh Surber
- 1/11 Terri Lenehan
- 1/12 Zeke Gouvan
- 1/16 Ellen Miller
- 1/17 Julie Percy
- 1/17 Opal Cullom
- 1/18 Macy Kraner
- 1/19 Larry Boyd
- 1/19 Wendy Simon
- 1/20 Cindy Cullom
- 1/21 Randy Cornell
- 1/23 Sharon Maish
- 1/23 Jim Cullom Jr
- 1/25 Marie Myers
- 1/25 Craig Seager
- 1/30 Margarita Gipson

If your birthday is not listed, please call the church office at 296-3399



Wee Blessings Pre School

December was a truly blessed and busy month. We prepared many Christmas crafts and gifts for parents. Both classes had a party the week before Christmas. I want to thank all the parents for all the help they gave and the treats that they donated.

The three year old class began learning shapes and we coordinated these with many Christmas crafts. The four year old class will begin their letters second semester. We didn't start anything new before Christmas, we just worked on some number pages that really made the children think and use their little brains.

The two classes learned of Jesus' birth by interacting with building manger scenes. We use the felt board with felt people from our Bible lessons, played dress-up, built manger scenes with dolls and building blocks, many hands-on centers. They enjoyed this so much.

May each and every one of you have a beautiful, blessed Christmas and a wonderful and safe New Year!
See you January 3rd for second semester.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Sarah Wilson

January 10, 2007
Kid's Club will start meeting again!
K-3 at 5:10 pm in the church basement
4, 5, 6 at 5:00 pm at Abba's Place
Hope to see you there.

Kids Club

Many thanks to the support staff at Kids Club who help BOTH groups during the year: Jerry Fultz, who gets the bread for the sandwiches; Janie Garriott, Jane Leak and Wilma and Dick Howe who make the many, many sandwiches; and Pat Weber who is in charge of chips. We appreciate the time you devote to us!

Kids Club Directors and Staff

Healing prayers for...

Healing prayers for:

Evelyn Troxell

Max Coffman

Cleve Shields

Steve Pearcy, who will have knee replacement surgery on Jan. 29.

Matt Simon

Bill Fultz (Jerry Fultz's brother), heart surgery

Bud Newhart, (Mark's dad), eye surgery

Larry Garriott

We are praying for:

Craig Overman, upon the death of his step-brother, Douglas Page

Alice, Gene and Linda Marshall, upon the death of Fred Marshall.

Phyllis Huffer, upon the death of her brother-in-law

Thank you to...

All who helped to hang the greens this year.

Didn't our church look beautiful?

All the singers of our Cantata this year. Special thanks to Angie Schilling, Mary Lou Clendenning, Esther Creamer and Jim Cullom.

We also presented the Cantata to the residents of the Mulberry Health and Retirement Home.

The ladies who prepared dinner for MHRH's Villa Apartments.

Everyone who attended the UMW Auction and all who gave funds to provide gifts for our Christmas families this year.

Our carolers, who brightened the season for several of our shut-in members.

Thank you to our Financial Secretaries, Deb Shultz and Deb Turner who have completed their terms of service.

Your pastors thank you for the many gifts, greetings and goodies given to us in December!

Ad Council Position Needing to be Filled

Recording secretary is needed for the Ad Council meetings. Anyone that can take notes and attend the meetings is welcome to talk with Rita Cornell. The meetings are held the second Monday of almost every month. Thank you.

Kid's Club is Looking for Staff

Kid's Club K-3rd grade has staff positions open. We want YOU! If you like being around kids and leading a small group, we NEED YOU! The materials are prepared for you each week. See Wendy Simon for more information. ☺

United Methodist Women

We would like to thank all those who helped with the Church dinner in December. Those who provided food were: Wilma Fultz, Claudia Timmons, Jan Dyer, Janie Garriott, Wilma Howe, Marie Myers, Betty (Eldon) Skiles, Jean Sutton, Marlene Boyd, Rita Cornell, Nancy Doyle, Betty (Perry) Skiles, Mary Fultz, Jane Leak, Barbara Lee, and Elaine Simon. The workers were: Wilma Howe, Barb Seager, Janie Garriott and Marlene Boyd. Thanks to Jean Sutton for doing all the calling. The Marshall family was most appreciative. Thanks also to the United Methodist Men who helped set up tables and chairs for the meal.

A Word From the Congregation

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! to the choir and others for giving us the GIFT of the Christmas cantata The Great Light. The music was awesome! As we anticipate the celebration of the Birth of the Baby Jesus our hearts were stirred by the message of this musical presentation. We appreciate all the time and effort by devoted people to bring us the good news: Christ is born!

Thank you, Mulberry Telephone Company

For your donations to the Stone Soup Food Pantry fund. Because of the nice donation many hungry people will be helped. If anyone knows of someone in need of food please call Chris Gipson at 296-6632.

Want to know more about the UMC?

Join the next session of UM101 for free. It is usually \$12. UM101 is an online, interactive multi-media course about the basics of the UMC. Participants can access the class any time until Feb. 15 on their own time schedule. The course can be completed in three hours, but most participants prefer to take more time in order to participate in activities and the discussion board. For more information and to register, please go to <http://training.umcom.org>. UM101 is offered by UM Communications.

Grief Workshop

First United Methodist Church West Lafayette will offer an eight-session workshop, "Understanding Your Grief: Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart." This workshop will combine elements of education and support using materials developed by educator and grief counselor Dr. Alan Wolfelt.

The facilitator for this group will be Reverend Denise Frank. Beginning January 16th, 2007, this group will meet on alternate Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

For additional information or to register, please call Rev. Frank at 765-463-7926 or 765-714-1149 or call the church office (765-743-1285) and ask to speak with program secretary Rhonda Todd. All inquiries are held in confidence. The church is located at 1700 State Road 26 West, West Lafayette, IN

"Un-hang The Greens"

We could use your help putting away all of the Christmas decorations following 2nd service on January 7th. Lunch will be provided. Hope to see you there!

Missions Committee Meeting Report

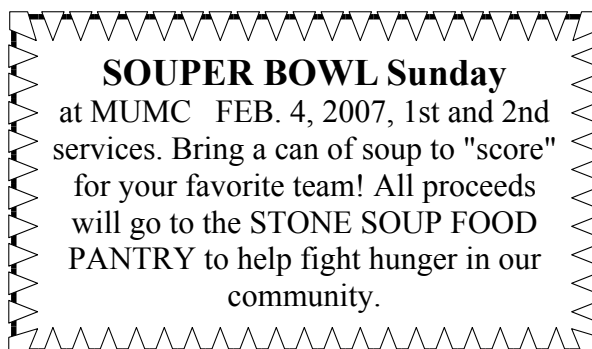
The Missions Committee met on Nov. 30 to plan for the upcoming year. The budget was discussed and it was decided to support the following organizations: Grace Children's Hospital in Haiti, Heifer International, Henderson Settlement in Kentucky, IN UM Children's Home, Crisis Pregnancy Center in Frankfort, Rainbow Haven in Frankfort, Wesley Foundation at Purdue University, MUMC Kids Club and Youth, and Stone Soup Pantry.

These choices will make an impact internationally, nationally and locally. There will also be a miscellaneous fund to support other causes as we hear of need.

Plans are being made for a missions trip to Mississippi to help victims and clean-up from hurricane Katrina. At this time we are planning for Spring Break, which is the last week of March. We hope to have a group of 12-15 youth and adults to go. The group will stay at the new Heritage UMC Dormitory in D'Iberville, MS, which we helped fund earlier this year. More information will follow as we receive updates. Discussion of other types of events to help bring more interest to missions followed. Some ideas were the upcoming "Souper Bowl Sunday", a covenant relationship with one specific missionary, possible speakers, movie nights, and other mission trips. Next meeting is planned for Jan. 11, 2007 at 7:00.

Until then, please remember what John Wesley has instructed us to do: "DO ALL THE GOOD YOU CAN, IN ALL THE PLACES YOU CAN, TO ALL THE PEOPLE YOU CAN"

Submitted by Deb Schutz



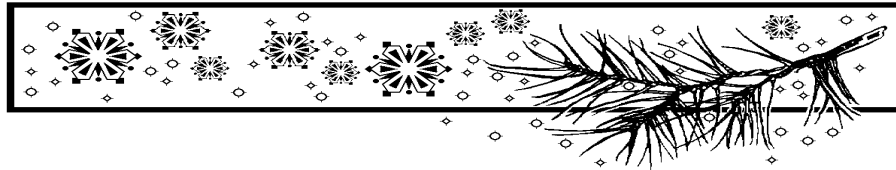
Service Assistance

MUMC Vital Signs

The list for Greeters, Communion Stewards, Acolytes, Worship Leaders, Scripture Readers and Children's Church will be issued soon.

If you feel called to serve in any of these ways please let the office know.

	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Attend.</u>	<u>S.S. Attend.</u>
Nov. 19	\$2,911	\$787.57	167	73
Nov. 26	\$2,005.61	\$10.50	125	69
Dec. 3	\$3,645	\$83.16	143	71
Dec. 10	\$2,638	\$2.90	140	50
Dec. 17	\$3,807	\$236.35	159	20



Mulberry United Methodist Church Administrative Board Meeting

Date/Time: 11/13/2006, 7:00 – 9:30 p.m.

Members Present: Myron Chezem, Rita Cornell, Linda Dolby, Nancy Doyle, Jerry Fultz, Chris Gipson, Margarita Gipson, John Harden, Cathy Harden, Vicki Hastings, Coralee Judge, Dave Miller, Craig Overman, Barb Seager, Ryan Turner

Non-Members Present: Lori Alsop

The meeting began with prayer. The October minutes were read and amended as follows: Under Wee Blessings, we have 15 kids not 14. Under Missions, correct misspelling of van. Coralee made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Vicki seconded. John provided the Finance Report. John said that as long as November and December go well, we will be well within budget. The Finance Report was approved as written by consensus.

Jerry received a 15-page fax from the attorney for the Texas property last week. There are four properties – valued at up to \$400,000. Our share may be as high as \$240,000. We had agreed to accept the properties, and we would not pursue further litigation. Jerry signed that acceptance and faxed it back today. John said Consecration Sunday went very well - facility was great; food was good; turnout was good; pledges were outstanding. Charge Conference is Sunday at 5 p.m. in Flora.

Bridge Builders (Barb Seager) – We sent 29 cards. Used \$19.46 from budget and received donations in kind of \$1.58. Upper Room was sent to 15 college kids.

Java Jam Committee (Cathy Harden) – Held Java Jam in November with the Payton Brotherhood. They need a committee meeting soon to plan 2007. They may skip Java Jam in December. They held a Halloween Trick or Treat night at Abba's Place. They handed out 100 bags in about an hour. Thank you to Missions and Linda for providing candy bags and refreshments.

Wee Blessings (Barb Seager) – They had a Halloween party and are preparing for Thanksgiving.

Worship (Craig Overman for Cheryl Overman) – Worship Committee is meeting Thursday night at 7:30 p.m.

United Methodist Women (Vicki Hastings) – Boutique went very well. Vicki thanked everyone for their help. Next meeting is December 7th and will be the annual auction. Everyone thanked Wendy, Vicki, and Lori for their efforts with the Boutique.

Kids' Club – K-3 (Barb Seager for Wendy Simon) – Family Night at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

Kids' Club (Cathy Harden) – 4-5 – They are having a Christmas party for their kids in December.

Youth (Craig Overman) – Meeting at Abba's on Sunday afternoon.

Membership (Nancy Doyle) – No change – 232 members.

Audio/Visual (Myron Chezem) – Craig said that Dick from Pro Audio will be here on December 2nd – from 9 – 11 a.m. to provide training for anyone who wants to learn about the sound system.

Trustees (Jerry Fultz) – Water hole fixed at end of driveway; two outdoor outlets installed. Forms need to be filled out to add Jerry and others to the Trustees checking account. The bank wants a copy of the minutes from tonight's meeting.

Pastor Parish Relations Committee (Coralee Judge) – Coralee said three members went to a very informative work session for staff/parish people at Trinity Church in Lafayette led by Michelle Cobb. She said the information will be helpful for people coming onto the committee.

Missions Committee (Ryan Turner) – Ryan provided a year-to-date report. Ryan will get with Chris to determine the greatest need for the Food Pantry as Missions planned a \$200 donation. Attempting to organize mission trip to Mississippi between Christmas and New Year's. Linda requested a Missions Committee meeting. She asked to have an article in the December newsletter about the mission trip.

Finance Committee (John Harden) – John walked everyone through the proposed budget for 2007. Coralee will talk to the PPRC to correct the expenses for the music-related positions. Coralee made a motion to accept the Pastoral Support section, Myron seconded, and the Council approved. The following amendments were suggested: change Tithe Expense to \$20,000; make corrections to the music-related expenses based on PPRC input; and adjust the FICA and Workers Compensation expenses. Chris made the motion to adopt the budget with the amendments discussed, and with the expectation that the final expense number not be over \$226,000, as a preliminary budget until it can be reviewed and adjusted as necessary in January. Jerry seconded, and the Council approved.

Food Pantry (Chris Gipson) – Helped two families. Frozen food donation went well. They are well stocked right now but could use more donations of toiletries and paper products. The group discussed taking undated items to Food Finders. The group thanked Chris and Margarita for their work with the Food Pantry.

No Reports Given-Lay Leader (Coralee Judge), Needs and Assessments, Sunday School, United Methodist Men, Memorials, Children's Church

New Business – We were awarded a Grant from the Indiana Youth Institute of \$20-25K and 125 hours of consulting assistance. The Council wants to pursue having an article in the paper to announce the grant. Thank you to Craig, Linda, and Cleve for their work on the grant. Thanks to Coralee for her vision for Abba's Place. The proof for the directory looked good, so Becki is going to sign it and send it back.

-Linda said the Worship Committee would decide about the services for Christmas Eve. Nancy made a motion to sponsor one page, preferably the FCA page, in the Clinton Prairie Yearbook for \$60. Ryan seconded, and the group approved.

-The Nominating Committee met on Saturday morning. Linda made a motion on behalf of the Nominating Committee that all church members who attend the Ad Council meeting have voice and vote. The group approved the motion. Linda is recommending that certain positions be removed from Ad Council. She said that Abba's Place and Wee Blessings should have representatives, so she will have that added to the worksheet. Communion Stewards and Liturgist need to be added as well. The list should be published in the January newsletter.

-Myron made a motion to authorize John, Ryan, and Linda to meet to discuss distribution of the Christmas Eve offerings. Initial discussion is that the money should be going to Benevolence, Missions, and the Bishop's Fund for Children. Barb seconded, and the Council approved.

-Barb met with Luther Villa people, and UMW will be serving dinner to residents on December 18, 2006.

-Barb said that there were issues with the newsletter not being delivered in a timely manner. She said we need to abide by Wendy's deadline of the 15th of the month for the newsletter. Barb said the newsletter needs to be in the mail by the 25th. The group agreed that we need to be more diligent about getting articles turned in on time.

-Jerry said the video projector was left on again Sunday before last. The bulbs are \$500 each. Wendy is working on a shut down procedure for the church.

-No meeting in December. The next Ad Board meeting is January 8, 2007.

Meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Minutes by Lori Alsop

11/14/2006

Mulberry United Methodist Church

206 Jefferson Road
Box 339
Mulberry, IN 46058
Pastor Linda K. Dolby
(765) 296-3399 *church*
(765) 296-3390 *parsonage*

Non-Profit Org.
Mulberry, IN
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 1

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Worship Services

Traditional	8:45 AM
Sunday School	10:00 AM
Blue Jean/Contemporary	11:00 AM
Youth Group at Abba's Place	4-5:30 PM