



From Dave's Desk...

We have arrived, emptied boxes and have found a place for almost everything. Now if we could just remember where we put it all! Do you know how that is? Sometimes life is like that. Everything seems to be going along smoothly and then something changes. Situations seem to turn life upside down. Then you try your best to put it together and it doesn't quite fit like it should.

Moves can be like that. We tried to mark the contents of the boxes properly, write the room they go in the new parsonage and then unpack them. Each move makes us prioritize what we have. Preparation is the key to making a successful move. In fact, preparation is the key to living life the way God wants.

Advent is a time of preparation. Most of the world does not see it that way. They view Advent as the time of buying, wrapping, partying, and celebrating. Then when Christmas comes, they are done in. For Christians, Advent is the time of preparing our hearts and souls for Jesus' coming to us in a new and exciting way. It is the time for us to make more room in our hearts for Jesus.

By the time you get this newsletter, Advent will have come and gone, but the Christmas season will just be beginning. Yes, you heard me correctly; the Christmas season will just be beginning. The Church, many years ago, set the Christmas season from Christmas Eve until January 6th. January 6th is the celebration of the visit of the Magi-the three kings. So for twelve days we can celebrate. Mary Alys and I take the time to exchange gifts with our pastor friends during this time because the rush and busyness of the season is over and we can enjoy Christmas.

We were concerned whether or not we could truly prepare ourselves for Advent and Christmas with the move coming. Your prayers and care helped us to make the preparations in our hearts as well as in our move. I want to thank you for making us feel welcomed and for all the delicious food you made for us. It was so very much appreciated.



Pastor Dave

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 15TH of Each Month

Pastor: David Hummel
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 am Sun
Blue Jean Service: 11:00 am Sun

Bible Study: Tues. 7 pm
Women's Bible Study: Tue at 6 am at the Church
P.S. Jesus Women's 7:15 pm
Thursday Study Group in Vickie Brose's home
Men's Bible Study 7 am 2nd & 4th Sat.
Wee Blessings Preschool:
Director & Teacher: Patty Wright
Teacher: Donna Kirkpatrick
Assistant Teacher: Mary Kay Finnerty

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

Kid's Club 4th-6th

4th,5th and 6th grade Kids Club had a great time at Abba's Place this semester. Some of our activities included: Meeting at the church with the younger group to listen to the Mission Group from our church that went to Costa Rica this summer; tie-dying t-shirts to wear as our "official" kids club shirts- we got some very interesting designs and everybody (including the adults!) enjoyed making them; our Fall Party at the Mulberry Park which included a scavenger hunt, weenie roast, s-mores and games; our service project of collecting shoebox items for "Operation Christmas Child". Our lessons were about respecting others, especially those in authority and respecting each other. We looked up verses in the Bible about God wanting us to do this. We had lessons on "what God is like" and looked up verses that showed us this too. We had a Halloween lesson on "letting our light shine into a dark world" and likened it to carving a jack-o-lantern and lighting it up for everyone to see. The kids learned a lot of verses this semester and practiced looking them up in the Bible. We also had a fun Christmas Party where the kids were able to "spend" their points earned on cool prizes. They earned their points by attendance, bible verse memorization.

Cathy Harden

January Birthdays

1/3	Paul Reddix	1/18	Macy Kraner
1/3	Deb Turner	1/19	Larry Boyd
1/3	Linda Ward	1/19	Wendy Simon
1/8	Kara Simon	1/20	Cindi Cullom
1/10	Jerry Fultz	1/21	Randy Cornell
1/10	Joshua Surber	1/23	Sharon Maish
1/10	Ryan Surber	1/23	Jim Cullom
1/12	Zeke Gouvan	1/25	Marie Myers
1/16	Ellen Miller	1/25	Craig Seager
1/17	Julie Percy	1/26	Kaleb Fultz
1/17	Opal Cullom	1/30	Margarita Gipson

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



UMW Christmas Auction

The United Methodist Women met at the Church for their annual Christmas Auction. The money raised from the large mixed crowd, who were in a competitive bidding mode, helped three local families enjoy the holidays.

Auctioneer John Harden was real "pro" and his efforts helped raise just over \$600 ☺ Delicious refreshments were served by sisters Suzie Kelsey, Sarah Wilson and Cathy Harden. Our capable treasurer for the evening was Charles Hastings.

A big "thank you" to ALL who participated in the fun evening!

Community Volunteering

The Crisis Center welcomes volunteers from all walks of life (must be at least 18 years old). Participants are expected to attend all training dates. Becoming a volunteer does require time and effort, but the rewards of personal growth, satisfaction from helping others, and sharing experiences with other committed people makes the Crisis Center experience well worth it. For more information or to apply, call (765) 742-0244, check out the web page www.lafayettecrisiscenter.org or e-mail to ashley@lafayettecrisiscenter.org. Don't miss out on this valuable opportunity; apply today!

Partners In Prayer

We're looking for a few GOOD (dedicated) men----- Partners in Prayer, also known as Prayer Partners, is a group of people who are dedicated to praying for our church and its ministries. It is a blessing to those who pray, and for those who receive, as the committee members, and their chairs, are lifted up. Special concerns are covered, not only at our meeting, they are covered daily by one or more Prayer Partners. We meet the 2nd Sunday of the month, and also for Corporate Prayer on the 4th Sunday. Once a quarter, there will be a Prayer Breakfast, with a lesson about prayer.

We all know that when the men of a church come together and stand in leadership positions, the church and families are blessed with growth, both spiritual and physical. If you are hungry to draw closer to God, see our church grow in miraculous ways, and become a true prayer warrior, please contact Cindi Cullom or Rita Cornell. WE NEED YOU! OUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU! THANK YOU!

Rita Cornell

Kids Club Family Night K-3rd

Our first semester of Kids Club concluded with our “family night”. Many parents, grandparents and friends attended our evening program. Carol Nagy, Director K-3 and Cathy Harden, Director 4-6 opened the evening with a review of all the lessons and activities the kids have participated in during these first few months. The staff at the Church and ABBA’s Place were recognized for their dedication to the kids and to the program. We appreciate their faithfulness. ☺

The children K-3 sang some of the favorite songs and then were given prizes for the points they earned by attending, bringing guests, memorizing Bible verses and participating in special projects. Those receiving prizes were: Dylan McKinney, Autumn Anes, Shelby Butler, Nathan Elliott, Molly Thomas, Jalen Lane, Drew Schilling, Aaron Carson, Haley Cornell, Lauren Kollar, Elizabeth Koors, Steven Stoops, Olivia Waugh, Taylor McKinney, Taylor Gracie McKinney, Emily Jones, Marissa Kraner, Michelle Neidigh, Ian Newhart and Coridan Schilling. Those recognized for perfect attendance were: Aaron Carson and Ian Newhart.

A short movie about children in foreign countries receiving packages from the program Samaritan’s Purse was shown. Our Kids Club participated in the program this year, so it was very interesting for us to see how we could make a difference! Thanks to Steve & Julie Percy for sharing this video with us.

K-3rd Directors

Wee Blessings Preschool

Let me begin by thanking a few people. The children and the staff of Wee Blessings would like to thank Pastor David for the wonderful book and sharing the story with the children; Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Fezzer for donating the two wonderful books to our classroom library; Ronnette Peden for the beautiful Christmas tree cookie; and Barb Seager for the wonderful gingerbread men cookies. The children enjoyed every bite of the treats! In addition, the children loved the Noah that appeared in our classroom last Friday! ☺ We are so blessed to have you all involved in our lives.

I hope that you have visited our classroom in the last three weeks. The children have worked so hard on all the crafts that adorned the room. They have made gingerbread men and houses, candy canes, peppermints, ornaments, wreaths, colored Nativity pictures, made parents gifts and so much more. We have amazing children!!! Please feel free to come, look and enjoy!

In addition to all the crafts, the children have been working on learning their Bible Verses, songs, finger plays, letters, and positional words. Next month we will work on letters, shapes, numbers, learning our addresses, writing their first and last names, and so much more. Progress reports went out this month and the children did so well. We are very proud of them!

Donna, Mary Kay and I would like to thank you again for all that you do for the children! We wish each of you a New Year filled with love, family, good health and fun! God Bless!

Fondly,
The Staff of Wee Blessings

Patty Wright



Service Assistance January

Traditional Service

Prayer With Pastors:

1/6 Wayne Walker

1/13 Rita Cornell

1/20 Mark Newhart

1/27 Linda Marshall

Communion Steward: TBA

Worship Leader: TBA

Acolyte: TBA

Greeters:

1/6 TBA

1/13 Roger Lewis

1/20 Dan & Dania Remaly

1/27 Randy & Rita Cornell

Blue Jean Service

Worship Leaders: Mark & Beth Newhart

Children's Church: TBA

Greeters:

1/6 Brose family

1/13 Trish McDonell

1/20 Steve & Julie Percy

1/27 Brett & Ronnette Peden

*If you are listed and unavailable on the date listed, please call the office at 296-3399.



Please know that the *service assistants* are a very important part of Sunday worship. The church needs **YOU** to help make each Sunday special. Sign up to help out where you can. We love to see a new face greeting each Sunday. This is a great way to get to know each other and be apart of church.

If you have questions please call Vicki Hastings for more information.
296-4690

Consecration Sunday

Our day began with a *delicious* breakfast planned by the Finance Committee and assisted by the Sunday School Classes. In a combined Church service we rededicated ourselves to God and His plans for Mulberry United Methodist Church. What an awesome day! Thanks to ALL of you for helping make this Sunday a special time in the life of our Church ☺

Thank You!

Pastor's Bible Study to Begin

**Tuesday, January 8th
7pm in the Hope classroom**

Hope to see you there!

●●Heads up for February●●

Ash Wednesday Service Planned

Wednesday February 6th at 7 pm. Keep watching for more information in the next newsletter.

Ad. Council Chairs Please Note:

Mark your calendars-Charge Conference is the first Monday in *February, 4th at 7 pm*. Chair holders on Ad. Council are strongly encouraged to attend. If you have questions please see Pastor Dave. This is in addition to our normal Ad. Council Meeting on the second Monday. Thank you.

Thank you ...

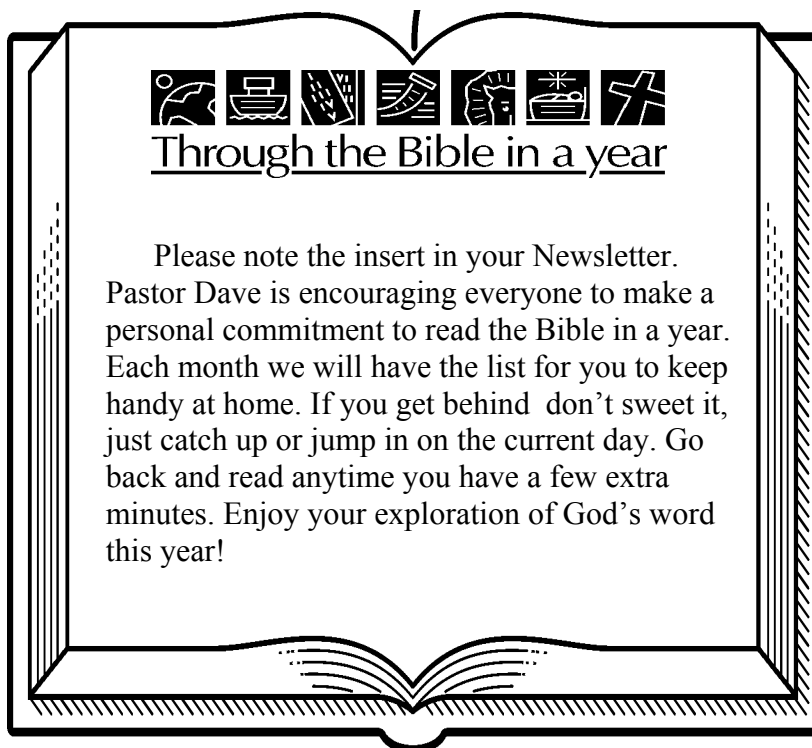
Dear Mulberry UMC Family,

I want to extend my sincere thanks for the kindness that you extended to my parents, Bill and Ella Kathryn Davis, in their recent loss of their home and my father in the passing of his brother and sister. The food, furniture, and poinsettia were outward examples of your caring.

A special thank you goes to Coralee Judge who immediately took my parents into her home and who continued to act as a liaison between the church, the Village and my parents. She served as the hands and feet of God in a difficult time.

I wish you a blessed Christmas as you celebrate the true gift of the season, realizing how quickly earthly "gifts" can vanish.

-Nancy Davis Cottrell



DIRECTIONS TO OUR FATHER'S HOUSE.

Make a Right onto Believeth Blvd.

Keep straight and go through the Green Light, which is Jesus Christ. There, you must turn onto the Bridge of Faith, which is over troubled water. When you get off the bridge, make a Right turn and Keep Straight. You are on the King's Highway -Heaven-bound.

Keep going for three miles: One for the Father, One for the Son, and One for the Holy Ghost. Then exit off onto Grace Blvd.

From there, make a Right turn on Gospel Lane Keep Straight and then make another Right on Prayer Road As you go on your way, Yield Not to the traffic on Temptation Ave.

Also, avoid SIN STREET because it is a DEAD END.

Pass up Envy Drive, and Hate Avenue

Also, pass Hypocrisy Street, Gossiping Lane, and Back-biting Blvd.

However, you have to go down Long-suffering Lane, Persecution Blvd. And Trials and Tribulations Ave. But that's all right, because VICTORY Street is straight ahead! AMEN!!!!

SEND THESE DIRECTIONS TO YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY SO THEY WILL NOT GET LOST. Life is God's gift to you.

The way you live it.....is your gift to God

Diabetic Fair

It is never too late to learn about your health care or to improve your health.

January 14,2008

4-6 pm

St. Vincent Frankfort

Hospital 3rd floor

FREE blood pressure and Cholesterol Screening

Glucose monitor representatives will give our coupons for a free meter.

Learning Center, Pharmacist and lots of free information

Mulberry United Methodist Church Administrative Council November 13, 2007

Attending were: Brett Peden, John Harden, Myron Chezem, Coralee Judge, Steve Percy, Kristen Gould, Wendy Simon, Vicki Hastings, Jerry Fultz, Barb Seager, Andrea Burke, Rita Cornell, and Nancy Doyle.

Rita called the meeting to order with the reading of a poem.

We had no regular treasurer's report, but Wendy reported that giving is up somewhat, and since we've not paid a pastor's salary for the last month, we have some money in the checking account. After discussion on the payment of our apportionments, a motion was made by John to pay the General Church Apportionment and the District Apportionment to the end of the year. Motion carried.

Finance and Stewardship Committee has met and Consecration Sunday will be on the 18th with an all-church breakfast with a combined service to follow. Andrea is looking at new software for use in finances and likes Quick Book-Non Profit.

John has also been working on who can sign checks for the different groups with in the church.

Jerry gave Trustee's report...everyone (especially Jerry) has been very busy on the parsonage. Carpet has been laid in the upstairs bedroom, painting, repairs, and general clean up is being done. Jerry has also been doing some things at Abba's place—lighting, etc. He purchased dividers from the Purdue surplus store to be used there. Everyone expressed appreciation for the work he has been doing. Jerry has signed more papers concerning the Texas property. He was told that it is hoped that this will all be settled in 2008. Jerry also reported that the sign in front of the church is in very bad repair and he will be talking to sign companies to see what kind of signs are available. He also said that the basement steps will be painted during Christmas vacation.

Coralee said the Nominations Committee is working on the nominations for next year. Also, that this year the Building Needs and Assessment Committee would not be filled this year.

Nancy reported no changes in the membership.

Steve Percy said the PPRC will have a meeting in December, and it was discussed having the pastor's welcome on the 16th after the choir cantata. No decision was made about that.

Barb reported that Bridge Builders had sent out 40 cards last month and is giving 12 college students the Upper Room. Monies spent were \$21.58 from the budget and \$1.37 in donations. Barb also reported that we are having 8 children on a consistent basis for Super Sunday and that is the most in a long time. Also, Wee Blessings is going well.

Missions committee is meeting at the same time we are, and report that pie sales have gone very well. Matt Simon sold more than 100 pies.

Vicki reported for the Worship Comm. that everything is going well. For UMW she reported over \$1600 was made at the Boutique and that the Christmas auction will be held at the December meeting, starting at 6:30pm.

Myron gave a report on the new Community Youth Outreach Program at Abba's Place. We received a \$20,000 grant from the Indiana Youth Institute. A board has been established to plan programs for children of the community. The board has hired a director, Carly Yandell, who will help with developing programs and the raising of more funds that will be needed. Four computers have been purchased for use of the children, there will be a study and craft table also. Current plans are for the center to be open for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders from after school until 5:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The grant provided money for 4 people to go a training session, all expenses paid. We may need to hire an assistant to be paid for hours worked only, and may need volunteers at times. The mission committee will contribute \$2000.00 for next year to be used for payroll. Target date for opening is mid January 2008. Web site is www.cyopatabbas.org.

Lay Leader, Coralee reported that everyone is working to keep things going while we are without a pastor, and that the Christmas Cantata will be December 16 with one service

John said over 200 bags of candy were given out at Abba's on Halloween night.

Meeting adjourned.

Nancy Doyle
Acting Secretary

