



From Dave's Desk...

It's the start of the year 2010—a time for new beginnings. One thing that I do not understand is the making of resolutions that are impossible to keep. I mean, can't we make them a little more reasonable. Take for instance, "I will not eat a piece of pie this year." Now the only way to keep that resolution is not to eat a piece of pie or to eat the whole pie since it is not a piece. Why can't a person say, "I will limit myself to one piece of pie a month." Now that is something that a person could keep.

Part of the problem with resolutions is that we try to make the changes ourselves instead of asking for God's help. God is the creator of new beginnings. He has made us new creatures in Christ. He forgives our sins and washes us white as snow. We need God's help in looking at ourselves and helping us to make good choices whether they are in the form of resolutions or not.

Following is a story from a magazine that makes the point of needing God's help:

Late one December, an elementary school principal said to his teachers: "Let's all write our New Year's Resolutions about how we can be better teachers, and I'll put them on the staff bulletin board. In that way, we can be mutually supportive in our efforts to keep those resolutions." The teachers agreed, and when the resolutions were posted, they all crowded around the

bulletin board to read them. One of the young teachers in the group suddenly went into a fit of anger. She said, "He didn't put up my resolutions. It was one of the first ones in. He doesn't care about me. That just shows what it's like around here." On and on she ranted and raved. The principal, who overheard this from his office was mortified. He hadn't meant to exclude her resolution. Quickly rummaging through the papers on his desk, he found it and immediately went to the bulletin board and tacked it up. The resolutions read: "I resolve not to let little things upset me anymore."

(Pulpit Helps, Jan. 1985)

If we allow God to make changes in us, then we are able to change how we relate to others. It comes from inside us, not from outside. Maybe our New Year's resolutions could be to allow God to have more of an influence in our lives!

If you do make the "normal" kind of resolutions and have problems doing them, heed what I read in an article— "Don't worry about those New Year's resolutions. You only have to deal with them until February and then you can give them up for Lent."

Worship This Month

- 3rd:** Communion-Matthew 2:1-12 "Kings"
- 10th:** Isaiah 43:1-7 & Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 "Sons and Daughters"
- 17th:** To Be Announced
- 24th:** Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 & Luke 4:14-21
"The Power of the Word"
- 31st:** Jeremiah 1:4-10 & Luke 4:21-30 "Is God on Our Side?"

Kids Under Construction

Many thanks to the people who work every week to help us prepare for our night with kids. They are the glue that keep us going! The Support staff for ABBA's is: Tom Simon, kitchen; Pastor Dave, small group leader; Whitney Simon, registration; Pat Simon, music. Support staff for the Church is: Becki Farley, small group leader; Rita Cornell, music; Rene Kemmerer, large group leader; Elaine Simon, kitchen. Others who help us "behind the scenes" are: Janet Fisher, supplies; Dick & Wilma Howe, Frank & Marie Myers and Ed Fisher, sandwiches.

Thank you, Thank you ☺
Jennifer Grayless & Wendy Simon

Christmas Traditions Discussed

Our Super Sunday class discussed the traditions of Christmas in many countries and compared them to our own. We talked about how some of our traditions came from other places. We then played a game where each child got to take an item out of a bag and then had to tell how that object was important to our Christmas celebration. Each child told of a favorite tradition in their family. They did an excellent job!!

Our class is for ages 4 thru 4th grade and we'd like to have you join us ☺

What a blessing in our Church that we have groups of people who decorate our sanctuary so that it is beautiful during Christmas! This year Pastor Dave shared with us how we have developed many of our customs and from which countries some of these traditions originated. We are blessed to be a part of Mulberry United Methodist Church!

Thank You! 



Greetings from Wee Blessings!

It is hard to believe that it is 2010! We hope that each of you had a Christmas season that was filled with joy, love and peace. We would like to thank everyone that donated items for our Birthday party for Jesus. The children had a wonderful time and appreciated all of the wonderful treats that were given! We are blessed to have terrific parents and children attending Wee Blessings!

December was a busy month for both classes! Flat Stanley has been on the move...he has gone to France, Texas, Florida, South Carolina, Australia, and traveled around much of Indiana. He has eaten lunch at Ball State, at McCord Candy, and with grandmas and grandpas. We can't wait to see where he will go in the coming months. The Enrichment Class has also been busying working on numbers, writing their names and so much more.

The PreK class has been learning new Nursery Rhymes, Bible Verses, letters and lots of finger plays and songs for their program. The children did a great job of performing and I hope that everyone enjoyed the performance...we are so proud of them.

We hope that you take a moment and check out the art on the bulletin board every week. The children work very hard on it and do a GREAT job! It will bring a smile to your face to see how talented the children are!

God Bless,
Donna, Mary K and Patty

Going once...going twice...SOLD!

The MUMW Annual Auction was a huge success this year!! The event was held to raise money to help some local families at Christmas. Members of our congregation were most generous in making and baking things for the auction. We also had some other very "interesting" items ☺ Our auctioneer John Harden is the "king" when it comes to getting people to get those bids higher! Many thanks to Cathy Harden and Suzie Kelsey for hosting this fun event and to all those who contributed to the snack table. Because of the true spirit of those in attendance we were able to raise \$600-- Praise God! Next meeting will be held on the first Thursday of January when we'll vote on new officers. All women of the church are members of the MUMW. Please join us.



A BIG THANK YOU to all of my church family who attended my 80th birthday party! It was great to have all of my family here and for you to meet them. It was a great party.

Thank you for your part in it.

Coralee Judge

YOU TOOK MY PLACE!

One day, a man went to visit a church. He got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up near him. The driver got out and said, 'I always park there! *You took my place!*'

The visitor went inside for Sunday School, found an empty seat and sat down.

A young lady from the church approached him and stated, 'That's my seat! *You took my place!*' The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but said nothing.

After Sunday school, the visitor went into the sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, 'That's where I always sit! *You took my place!*' The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still He said nothing.

Later as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up, and his appearance began to change...

Horrible scars became visible on his hands and on his sandaled feet.

Someone from the congregation noticed him and called out, 'What happened to you?'

The visitor replied, as his hat became a crown of thorns, and a tear fell from his eye, 'I took your place.'

God gives us many opportunities to serve others. Are you aware enough to give up *your place*?

☺ Youth Activities ☺

Mmm, I like that Yucky stuff!

Ever been on a progressive dinner? Ever been on a progressive dinner with youth? The evening began at Abba's Place as 4 adults and 7 youth divided into 2 cars.

We arrived for the first course at John & Cathy Harden's in time to play a game of "Melt the Snowman." During the salad buffet our youth took turns guessing letters to solve the Christmas themed puzzle. For each wrong guess John wiped away one melted part after another. After leaving 2 snowmen in need of a good snow we loaded back in the cars ready for more to eat.

Greeted by Jerry & Barb Seager, the kids gathered around the kitchen table to list and alphabetize Santa's reindeer. This proved a difficult task as the smell of pork wafted through the air. Sitting down to eat the cheesy potatoes proved the favorite delight at this stop. After good conversation the merry troop bid farewell and looked forward to the next stop for dessert.

Ron and Patty Wright tagged each youth as they

entered their home. With a Christmas identity across their back questions flew through the air. Yes...no...on it went until a guess could be made. Amid the laughter and fun dessert was shared. A tasting of white frothy drink was enjoyed. Then one youth asked "Mmm what is that stuff? I like it." The answer was peppermint eggnog. To which the youth replied "Yuk!"

We thank all three families for inviting us into their homes during this busy Christmas season. The stories you shared about your homes and your lives made the evening even more memorable.

Parent's Night Out

Mulberry United Methodist Youth joined Gloria Dei in providing a Parents Night Out twice in December. The first Friday night 7 or 8 children were watched. The second night proved more challenging with 22 kids. The parents of the community seemed to enjoy being able to have their kids so entertained for a while so they could shop in peace.

Mulberry United Methodist Church Lay Development Committee Report for 2010

Administrative Council

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Chair | Ryan Turner | Trustee Chair | Dan Remaly | Wee Blessings | Barb Seager |
| Pastor | David Hummel | Worship & Fellowship | Chris Waugh | Abba's Board | Myron Chezem |
| Lay Leader | Tom Simon | Missions Chair | Deb Schutz | Education Chair | Patty Wright |
| Annual Conf. Lay Member | Linda Marshall | Youth Member | Freida Weber | | |
| Recording Secretary | Becky Farley | Bridge Builders | Barb Seager | | |
| Treasurer | Amy Thayer | UMM Rep. | Tom Simon | | |
| Financial Secretary | Betty Campbell | UMW President | Pending Vote | | |
| Membership Secretary | Nancy Doyle | Memorial Chair | Wilma Fultz | | |
| Finance & Stewardship | John Harden | Administrative Assistant | Wendy Simon | | |
| Staff Parish Relations Chair | Jade Kas | Evangelism Chair | Rita Cornell | | |

Bridge Builders (Evangelism) Chair: Barb Seager

2010 Mary Fultz, Linda Ward 2011 Patty Wright, Barb Seager 2012 **Janet Fisher, Beth Carter**

Missions Chair: Deb Schutz

2010 Paul Reddix, Ryan Turner 2011 Becky Farley, Elaine Simon 2012 **Deb Schutz, Kevin Garrett**

Fellowship & Worship Chair: Chris Waugh

2010 Wilma Howe, Becky Farley 2011 Vicki Hastings, Barb Synesael 2012 **Pat Simon, Beth Newhart**
 Chris Waugh, Kevin Garrett Mary Lou Clendenning **Pat Weber**
 Rita Cornell

Altar Guild: Vicky Hastings, Dania Remaly, Cathy Townsley
 Prayer Coordinators: Sherry Gouvan, Coralee Judge
 Audio Video Team: Jim Cullom, Tom Simon, Sr, Matt Simon, Kevin Garrett
 2nd Service Worship Team Coordinator: Chris Waugh
 Musicians: Ester Creamer, Angie Schilling, Andy Schilling, Chris Waugh, Andrea Burke

Staff Parish Relations Chair: Jade Kas

2010 Jon Paddack, Michelle Albitz 2011 Cathy Harden, Ronnette Peden 2012 **Jade Kas, Deb Turner**
Ex-officio: Lay Leader-Tom Simon; Lay Member to Conference-Linda Marshall

Trustees Chair: Dan Remaly

2010 Deb Turner, Wayne Walker 2011 Dick Howe, Nancy Doyle 2012 **Dan Remaly, Bill Fultz**
 Kevin Garrett Angie Schilling **Matt Simon**

Lay Development (Nominations) Chair: Pastor David Hummel

2010 Marlene Boyd, Janice Dyer 2011 Andy Albitz, Jeff Weber 2012 **Mary Fultz, Matt Simon**
Ex Officio: Lay Leader-Tom Simon, Sr.; Lay Member to Conference-Linda Marshall

Finance & Stewardship Chair: John Harden

Financial Secretaries: Betty Campbell Treasurer: Amy Thayer Lay Leader: Tom Simon
 Assistant Treasurer: Wendy Simon Pastor Parish Chair: **Jade Kas** Ad. Council Chair: Ryan Turner
 Trustees Chair: Dan Remaly David Miller 2011 Jerry Fultz 2012 **Betty Skiles**

Evangelism Committee Chair: Rita Cornell

2010 Kevin Garrett, Becky Farley 2011 Mark Newhart, Beth Newhart 2012 **Rita Cornell, Pat Weber**
 Cindi Cullom Coralee Judge ??

Education Committee Chair: Patty Wright

2010 Sherri Gouvan 2011 Rita Cornell 2012 **Patty Wright**

Sunday School Teacher/Class Rep.

FFF-Wayne Walker Hope-Cindi Cullom Discipleship 101-Dania Remaly
 Joy-Coralee Judge Senior High-Chris Waugh F.R.O.G.S.-Wendy Simon
 Super Sunday-Barb Seager

Kids Under Construction Directors- Wendy Simon, Jenny Grayless

Children's Church – Jan-Apr: Betty (Perry) Skiles; May-Aug: Rene Kemmerer; Sep-Dec: Elaine Simon

Children's Time/Sermon- Patty Wright Vacation Bible School-

Youth Team: Matt Simon, Wendy Simon, Pastor Dave Java Jam: Kevin Garrett, Cathy Harden

Worship Assistants

Communion Steward: Vicki Hastings

Traditional Service 8:45 a.m.

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

| <u>Sunday</u> | <u>Greeters</u> | <u>Worship Leader</u> | <u>Acolyte</u> | <u>Prayer w/ Pastor</u> |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 1/3 | Jerry & Wilma Fultz | Nancy Doyle | | |
| 1/10 | Claudia Timmons | Nancy Doyle | | Wayne Walker |
| 1/17 | Max & Sarah Coffman | Nancy Doyle | | |
| 1/24 | Vicki Hastings | Nancy Doyle | | |
| 1/31 | Matt Simon Family | Nancy Doyle | | |

Blue Jean Service 11:00 a.m.

| <u>Sunday</u> | <u>Greeters</u> | <u>Worship Leader</u> | <u>Children's Church</u> |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1/3 | Reddix Family | Elaine Simon | No Children's Church |
| 1/10 | Katherine Townsley | Elaine Simon | Michelle Albitz |
| 1/17 | Ryan & Deb Turner | Patrick Simon | Need a Volunteer |
| 1/24 | Tom & Elaine Simon | Patrick Simon | Carol Nagy |
| 1/31 | Waugh Family | Need a Volunteer | Elaine Simon |

Attendance & Offering

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Total Attend.</u> | <u>Sun. School</u> | <u>Gen. Fund Offering</u> |
|-------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 11/1 | 119 | 62 | \$3736 |
| 11/8 | 114 | 61 | \$2644 |
| 11/15 | 113 | 55 | \$2751 |
| 11/22 | 129 | 55 | \$3145 |
| 11/29 | 104 | Cantata | \$3584 |

*General Fund Offering does not include money designated to specific funds, groups or activities.

January Birthdays

| | | | |
|------|---------------|------|------------------|
| 1/3 | Paul Reddix | 1/18 | Macy Kraner |
| 1/3 | Debbie Turner | 1/18 | Drew Schilling |
| 1/3 | Linda Ward | 1/19 | Larry Boyd |
| 1/8 | Kara Simon | 1/19 | Wendy Simon |
| 1/10 | Jerry Fultz | 1/20 | Cindi Cullom |
| 1/10 | Ryan Surber | 1/21 | Randy Cornell |
| 1/10 | Joshua Surber | 1/23 | Jim Cullom |
| 1/12 | Zeke Gouvan | 1/23 | Sharon Maish |
| 1/15 | Pat Simon | 1/25 | Marie Myers |
| 1/16 | Ellen Miller | 1/25 | Craig Seager |
| 1/17 | Opal Cullom | 1/26 | Kaleb Fultz |
| 1/17 | Julie Percy | 1/30 | Margarita Gipson |

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please call 296-3399

January Wedding Anniversaries

| | | | |
|------|-----------------------|------|-----------------------|
| 1/3 | Craig & Sandy Seager | 1/31 | Mike & Phyllis Huffer |
| 1/16 | Larry & Beth Loveless | | |
| 1/24 | Gene & Sue Bass | | |

Newsletter
DEADLINE

Submission
Deadline: **15th**
each month.

Pastor: David Hummel
 Choir Director: Mary Lou Clendenning
 Pianist: Esther Creamer
 Organist: Angie Schilling
 Nursery: Sherry Gouvan
 Custodian: Jerry Fultz
 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 & Wed. 10 am
 Women's Bible Study:
 Tue at 6 am at the Church
 Men's Bible Study 8 am 2nd & 4th Sat.
 Wee Blessings Preschool:
 Director & Teacher: Patty Wright
 Teacher: Donna Kirkpatrick
 Assistant Teacher: Mary Kay Finnerty

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30-1:30
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
 Food Pantry: By Appointment
 Call Church Office