



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
P.S. Jesus Women's
Study Group 7:15 pm Thursday
at Vickie Brose's house
Men's Bible Study 7 am 2nd & 4th Sat.

Wee Blessings Preschool:
Director & 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

Bible Study....

Because of February's snowy, cold weather, our Bible Study, "Invitation to the Old Testament," got a late start. So, the good news is that it's not too late to join us – either on Tuesdays at 7 or Wednesdays at 10!

From the Pastor's Heart

Dear Friends,

May you have a holy Lent! Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Holy Saturday. The word "lent" comes from the Anglo-Saxon word "lencten," which means lengthening days, which means Spring!

Lent is a season of preparation. To have a holy Lent, we repent and pray. The beginning words of Lent are "remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return." We are mortal, God is immortal. We are finite, God is infinite. We are imperfect, God is perfect. As we realize our own death, life takes on more meaning, God becomes more important, worship takes on deeper significance, our relationships have a higher priority.

I usually start my day with a cup of coffee, the newspaper and a t.v. news show. For my Lent to be holy, these days instead, I'm having coffee, lighting a candle and taking some time in the darkness to listen for God, to wait upon God, to meditate, to pray, to make peace with the silence and to ask the light of Christ to enter in.

Won't you join me? Can you take the time to make some holy time? Can you take the time to be in worship each and every Sunday? If so, we'll be prepared for a grand and glorious Easter when we will praise with Alleluias! See you in church! This comes with love from

Your Pastor,

Linda Dolby

Stone Soup Food Pantry

Many THANKS! to everyone who cast their votes during the Souper Bowl Sunday Food Drive! It was a huge success! The Colts won here in Mulberry, with the score 21 to 7. The shelves are full with a well-rounded variety of items. Vouchers for IGA are available through Wendy. If you are interested in making a donation, meat for the freezer would be a good choice at this time. The Gipson's can pick up your donation of food or meet you at Stone Soup Food Pantry.

There are numerous scriptures referencing giving, but after we had the pleasure of putting items away, 2 Corinthians 9:7 came to mind: God loves a cheerful giver.

If you or someone you know is hungry, call Chris Gipson 296-6632.

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

Children's Clothing Found!

A pink "Princess" winter sock hat and a yellow "Bee" rain jacket with red plaid inside, size 3T, have been found in the Church basement. They may have been left from our preschool, Sunday School or another Church event. If these items belong to you, please pick them up as quickly as possible.

thank you!

March Birthdays

3/5Jerry Seager	3/14 ..Tom Simon, Jr.
3/6Roger Lewis	3/15 ..Chris Waugh
3/10 ..Becki Farley	3/28 ..Jeff Dellinger
3/10 ..Erin Overman	3/20 ..Jim Huffer
3/12 ..Mary Fultz	3/29 ..Myron Chezem
3/12 ..Shelly Surber	3/30 ..Freida Weber
3/13 ..Suzie Kelsey	3/31 ..Michelle Albitz

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

Wee Blessings Pre School



WOW!! What a February!! God blessed us with a beautiful, snowy month. He decided we needed some white stuff. I hope everyone stayed safe and warm. I'm sure all the children loved the days off from school. I know mine did and they played in the snow everyday—to have such energy!

We did miss several days but I think we are on track once again. The four year old class has done a tremendous job with their letters. We practice, practice, practice and it is paying off. They learn to write the upper and lower case, the sound they make, find each letter in the alphabet train and listen to silly songs about each letter. The centers we have had have been a tremendous help also. Sometimes we have to get out the same canter for old letters they have learned because they beg for more and there never seems to be enough class time for everything. This is a great group who are so excited to learn and try new things.

The three year old class has started numbers. They practice on e number per week (2days of class time) and are doing real well. We have incorporated some nursery rhymes in as well and we have had a few that they've never heard before. We also have a CD with the rhymes as well. WE welcomed a new boy to this class and his name is Dillon Hollandbeck. He seems to fit right in and all the children have been very kind to him. Welcome Dillon—we are so glad you chose to attend Wee Blessings. We now have seven total in the three year olds.

I want to think everyone for their donations and time for two successful valentine parties. We played games, ate wonderful goodies and received curt valentines. Thank you to all for a wonderful preschool program. We couldn't do it without you. Our Bible lessons have been about the good Samaritan and how Jesus healed the blind man. One of our Bible verses was "Lord, You are good to us." Psalm 86:5 He is good to us and we must always remember —good and bad days—He is there for us and wants us to ask His help and guidance. God bless!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sarah Wilson

Youth Had Fun!

Our MUMC Youth Group had a Valentine's Day party Sunday evening, February 18. We had over 30 youth and adults attend and we had a great time singing, dancing, playing music, and playing games. Great quantities of pizza and snacks were consumed and everyone had fun. Watch for future events!

We are praying for:

Steve Percy, whose right knee was replaced on Feb. 5 at St. Vincent's Hospital in Frankfort.

Mary Caroline Bennett who fell at her new home in North Carolina. Her hip was broken and she had surgery to repair it.

Linda Marshall's nephew in Iraq

Charlotte Miller, a member of Esther Creamer's family, colon surgery

Sydney Kas, throat scope for continued stomach trouble

Stacy Gascho, Jay & Judy's daughter in law

Our sympathies to...

Opal Cullom and Jim and Cindi and family upon the death of Jim Cullom, Sr. on Feb. 6.

Welcome to our world!

To William Kaleb Fultz, son of Travis and Reanna, grandson of Bill and Mary. Kaleb was born January 26.

UMW says "Thank you"

A "thank you" to those who helped with a meal for the Jim Cullom Sr. family. Kitchen workers were: Wilma & Dick Howe, Frank & Marie Myers, Vicki Hastings and Barb Seager. Ladies providing food were: Jan Dyer, Marlene Boyd, Sarah Coffman, Ella K. Davis, Carol Nagy, Mary Fultz, Judy Gascho, Marie Myers, Sandy and Barb Seager. The family was most appreciative.

Culloms want to say...

Thanks to our wonderful church family for your prayers, thoughts, visits, cards and food. We are blessed to part of a wonderful church.

Thank you The Cullom Family

●Sunday School News●

Special Sunday School Class Offering

Can You Believe in God and Evolution? Perspectives on Faith & Science

Cleve Shields, Ph.D.

Starting in March, Cleve Shields will lead this Sunday School class for 6 weeks to explore the contemporary issues of science and faith. In particular, we will examine the question, Can you believe in God and Evolution? The United States is lagging in the education of its young people in science and math. Could this be because of the anti-science, anti-evolution stance of some parts of the Christian church? Do we not want our best and brightest pursuing careers in science? How should mainline denominations such as the United Methodist Church approach this issue? How can you as a Christian believer reconcile the claims of faith and the methods and findings of modern Neo-Darwinian biology? Each week, Cleve will present information about these issues leaving plenty of room for class discussion.

Cleve will be drawing from the book, Can you believe in God and Evolution? By Ted Peters and Martinez Hewlett. Abingdon Press. Ted Peters is a Theologian and Martinez Hewlett is a devout Catholic and a biochemist who uses the theory of evolution daily in his lab as he studies viruses.

This class, appropriate for adults and youth, will meet in the sanctuary from 10:00-10:45, beginning March 4.

United Methodist Women

Many thanks to those who helped prepare the meal for the Community Club dinner and to those who served and helped clean up. Those who worked in the kitchen were: Nancy Doyle, Wilma & Dick Howe, Sarah Coffman, Linda Marshall, Ed & Janet Fisher, Mark Newhart, Nancy & Dale Girtman, Barb & Jerry Seager and Pastor Linda. The makers of the *de-licious* pies were: Judy Gascho, Rita Cornell, Cathy Harden, Wilma Fultz, Sarah Coffman, Vicki Hastings and Marlene Boyd. A special thanks to Linda & Hank Feeser for donating a turkey for the dinner. Many compliments were received for the evening!

Our next meeting will be March 1 in the church basement at 7 pm. The program will give us insight into the camp scholarships we give out each summer. Cheryl Overman will be bringing some youth kids that have attended church camp. They will be talking to us about their experiences.

Join us in Fasting...

On the 11th of each month, as we pray to discern God's will for United Methodism in Indiana. Please partake of only liquids on Sunday, March 11.

Sunday, March 18 to be a special day!

Our District Superintendent, Rev. Michelle Cobb, will be preaching in both services. As our youth prepare to leave on their Mississippi Mission Trip, Rev. Cobb will be sharing her experiences of working in the same area during January. The 18th is also "One Great Hour of Sharing" and a special offering will be received to support the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief, UMCOR, which provides long-term disaster relief throughout the world.

Chicken Noodle Dinner Success with 260 meals served. All the help from everyone was an answer to prayers as each person went above and beyond the call. Special thanks to Trish McDonald who kept the rolls and noodles going almost single-handedly. The dinner cleared \$968 for the Hope Class to use for mission projects.

Service Assistance

Watch the Sunday Bulletins for March helpers not included here.

Greeters Traditional Service: 3/4 Brett & Ronnette Peden, 3/11 Matt & Wendy Simon, 3/18 Coralee Judge, 3/25 Dan & Dania Remaly

Greeters Blue Jean Service: 3/4 Wilson Family, 3/11 Chris & Margarita Gipson, 3/18 Andy & Michelle Albitz, 3/25 Sandy & Kathy Seager

Acoloyte: Whitney Simon

Prayer with the Pastor: 3/4 Coralee Judge, 3/11 Wayne Walker, 3/18 Rita Cornell, 3/25 Shelley Surber

Abba's Place Board Meeting

On February 17 the Abba's Place Board of Directors met for the third time. This board was formed in response to Abba's Place being awarded a grant from the Indiana Youth Institute. Members of the board are: Rick Bennett, Trinity Church of Mulberry; Andrea Burke, MUMC; Myron Chezem, MUMC; Mike Crawford, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church; Cindy Cullom, MUMC; Linda Dolby, MUMC; Cathy Harden, MUMC; Sabrinna Huskins, Cornerstone Assembly of God; Coralee Judge, MUMC; and Craig Overman, MUMC.

We are currently working with Rebecca Smith, our IYI consultant, on board development, including the adoption of bylaws and a mission statement.

Youth is going to Acquire the Fire March 16 & 17 with a few adult chaperones to Ball State University. This is a youth event that travels across the United States and Canada each year. In different cities each weekend young people from churches and youth groups are moved by the Holy Spirit. Live concerts by Christian music artists and numerous dramas encouraging audience participation. Youth from our church have attended this event for several years and are eagerly looking forward to it.

Youth are going on a mission trip Saturday March 24. 20 youth and adults will be departing for D'Iberville, MS. We will be working on homes that were damaged by the hurricane Katrina. We will be staying at the new 50-bed dormitory which was funded by Methodist churches throughout the country, including MUMC. We will be returning on March 31. There will be a chili supper on Sunday March 11th to help raise funds for the trip. Your prayers and financial support will be greatly appreciated.

MUMC Vital Signs

	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Attend.</u>	<u>S.S. Attend.</u>
Jan. 21	\$2,490	\$187	155	43
Jan. 28	\$2,358	\$93	166	53
Feb. 4	\$3,182	\$45	136	65
Feb. 11	\$2,719	\$53	135	57

*Average Attendance as of 2/11: 148

Administrative Council Minutes

Date/Time: January 8, 2007, 7:00 – 8:35

Members Present: Bill Brose, Mary Lou Clendenning, Rita Cornell, Jerry Fultz, Vicki Hastings, Coralee Judge, Linda Marshall, Craig Overman, Steve Pearcy, Wendy Simon, Amy Thayer

Meeting was open with a reading and prayer by Rita Cornell. November 2006 minutes were read and approved. Introductions were made for the new chairpersons.

Reports: Financial reports were distributed before the meeting. Discussion was lead by Pastor Linda reporting that it was possible the report was incorrect and that new ones would be sent out to members for year end figures. Copy of 2007 approved budge was attached with some tweaking done to update some of the figures. Wendy also stated the workman's comp may still need to be corrected. Nominating Committee Report for 2007 was also discussed at this time. It was brought to everyone's attention those that are new Chairperson and the need for commitment from some. Pastor Linda also announced that a leadership training event will be held Sunday, January 28th, 2:00-4:30 pm at Frankfort St. Matthew UMC.

Old Business: Wendy Simon discussed that the Administrative Assistant was not a member of the council and that it was up to the council to decide if she was needed at the meetings, and if not, all chairpersons would need to report to her after meetings on any business she would need to conduct. It was voted and agreed upon that the Administrative Assistant should be a member of the council and very much needed at the meetings.

Bridge Builders (Barb Seager): For the month of December, 43 cards were sent with \$11.77 spent from the budge plus a \$4.00 donation. Year end totals: 438 cards sent, \$190.00 spent for expenses, \$149.00 in donations, 12 goodie boxes to college kids, 13 valentine cookie trays and "The Upper Room" sent out 5 times to College kids.

Missions: Pastor Linda reported for Ryan that a meeting will be held soon to discuss the super bowl Sunday soup event.

Worship: Pastor Linda asked for feedback on the Christmas services. All mentioned was very positive.

Pastor Parish Relations Committee (Steve Pearcy): Nothing to report at this time. Meeting soon to come.

Finance (Bill Brose): No report at this time.

Wee Blessings (Barb Seager): All was going well, no change at this time. They maybe adding some new curriculum in the future.

United Methodist Men: Pastor Craig reported that they were still meeting the 2nd and 4th Saturday morning of each month for breakfast and a lesson.

United Methodist Women (Vicki Hastings): Auction went well with lots of fun and fellowship; bring in \$500.00 which enable the group to give to a needy family.

Kids Club (Wendy Simon): Starts back up Wednesday the 10th and it was mention that it would be nice to have more staff.

Java Jam: Steve Pearcy shared that the groups that were performing were excellent but it would be nice to draw a larger crowd. Advertising was discussed and it is in the works to do some more effective advertising.

Food Pantry (Report as written by Chris Gipson): Stone Soup as of January 8, 2007 – expired food is off the shelves and will be taken to Food Finders. Freezer is still available for frozen donations. We had a call about a donation of beef last week; the donation has not arrived yet. Wendy has purchased more vouchers for IGA, and additional items needed. Thanks, Wendy! Stone Soup served 1-2 families in Dec.

Trustees (Jerry Fultz): Abba's roof was inspected by an engineer and all holes were marked for patching. Patching has been done and so far leaking is believed to be stopped. Jerry had a Kirby vacuum that was left to the Church, rebuilt and sent up to Abba's. Steve DeVault has called inquiring about purchasing the vault doors from Abba's. Trustees will see if they can get a value on doors and see if he is still interested.

New Business: Mary Lou Clendenning needed to know where to get equipment for sound system. Pastor Craig said he would call Pro Audio and get prices and estimates for equipment that is needed. Mary Lou also announced that she was working on a cantata for Easter Sunday.

-Barb Seager had concerns for computers stored in the basement and it was decided that computers would be stored up at Abba's after they are cleaned off and hopefully used for an after school program.

-Pastor Linda is going to call Terri Lenehan to see where the Easter Drama music, costumes, scripts, set, etc are being stored.

-Coralee Judge commented that those on the board should really listen to the congregation's questions and concerns and try to be as informative as possible.

-Pastor Linda announced that a discipleship Bible Study would begin Feb 6th and Cleve has offered to teach a science and religion class during the Sunday school hour.

-Rita Cornell announced the Hope class sponsored Chicken noodle dinner will be Feb 3rd. They will be calling for pies and workers.

-Pastor Linda is also looking for pianist for the Sundays she is leading worship at the Mulberry Retirement Center. Sunday, January 14th is her first Sunday to preach there.

-Pastor Craig informed everyone that the Charge Conference was very nice and all were very pleased on the way the district superintendent had set it up. Six churches were invited to the Flora UMC and each church was given an opportunity to report on their activities for the year.

-Rita asked that we still keep Jackie Weaver and Mrs. Spray in our prayers.

Meeting was adjourned with prayer.

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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

“We would love to see you there!”



Support Group...
Our group for folks with a Chronic Illness is getting a late start, too! Our first gathering will be Thursday, March 2 at 2 p.m. Help us spread the word! All in our community are welcome!

Be looking for more information about an All Church Retreat! Currently in the works is a one day retreat focusing on Spiritual Gifts. Updates coming soon.

Missions Committee
A big thanks from Missions to all who played in our Souper Bowl game! The Colts won 21 to 7. We filled 3 containers for the Colts and 1 for the bears. Each container scored a touchdown and extra point. Thanks again for supporting Stone Soup Food Pantry.—The Missions Committee

Women be aware World Day of Prayer is Friday, March 2 at Wesley Manor Chapel at 1:00 pm.