

THE MESSENGER

October 2005

Building Bridges To The Families Of Mulberry, Leading Them To Christ And Christian Commitment

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Pastor	Tom Hoehner
Pastoral Care	Craig Overman
Music Director	Angie Schilling
Pianist	Esther Creamer
Custodian:	Sarah Wilson
Admin. Asst.:	Chris Gipson
Nursery:	Wendy Simon
Wee Blessings Preschool:	
Director:	Sarah Wilson
Teacher:	Sarah Wilson
Assistant:	Mary Kay Finnerty

Traditional Worship:	8:45 am
Sunday School:	10:00 am
Blue Jean Service:	11:00 am

Bible Study: Tuesdays @ 7 pm & Wednesdays @ 10 am at the Church

Church Office: (765) 296-3399
 Pastor's Home: (765) 296-3390
 Abba's Place: (765) 296-2090

Office Hours: Noon-6 pm Mon-Thurs.

E-mail:
mlbyme@mintel.net
www.mumc-in.org

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH

**Don't forget-October is...
Pastor Appreciation month!**

From The Pastor

Pastor's Report To Charge Conference 2005

If someone were to ask me what is the greatest lesson I have learned in 20 years of ministry, I would tell them this:

Don't take too much credit for your successes, and don't take too much blame for your failures.

The truth is, if the atmosphere is right in a church, God will bless, it will grow, and people's lives will be touched; and if the atmosphere is not right in a church, no matter what you do, there will be wandering, in the wilderness until things are corrected and the congregation chooses to walk in obedience.

There are three factors here at Mulberry UMC that make for a good atmosphere and bring blessing. The first is unity, and it must be a unity that centers around Christ, which can be summed up in three words: evangelism, discipleship and missions. When we are consumed with this cause, there is no time for anything else, and all the other needs of a church are met-fellowship and closeness-when we seek first the Kingdom of God, He really does add everything else to us that we need.

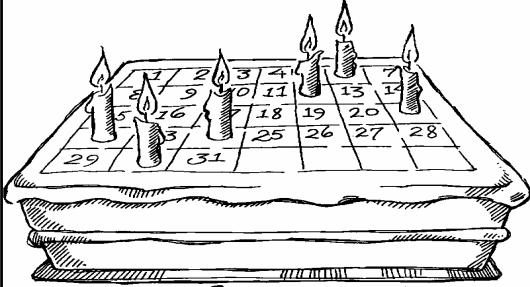
The second is faithfulness to stewardship, and by this I mean tithing, nothing more, nothing less, nothing else. When people gauge their giving by any other factor than simple obedience to Christ, then problems happen. Eighty families call this church home. The average income for a family in Indiana is \$40,000.00, which would give us a budget of \$320,000.00. As we now struggle to meet even half that budget, it's easy to see how short we are falling here. If you tithe, you are part of the solution here; if you don't, you are part of the problem. Obedience is really a simple thing, but there are those who will do anything else but just be obedient. Tithing is really easy: take the first fruits of your income and offer them to the Lord with a grateful heart. When we do this, God says He will open up the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.

The third factor for the right atmosphere in a church deals with who is in charge-and that must be Jesus Christ and Him alone-or the atmosphere is just not right. How does Jesus take charge of a church? It only happens when God's people come together and seek His face. No matter how hard we try, and no matter how good our intentions, if we don't openly seek God for direction, He leaves us to our own devices and that can make for a long day.

Continued on page 6

October Birthdays

Ask Freida



Birthdays This Month

- 10/3.....Travis Fultz
- 10/6.....Mike Huffer
- 10/6.....Traci Patton
- 10/6.....Matt Waninger
- 10/7.....Linda Marshall
- 10/7.....Bill Fultz
- 10/8.....Elise Lenehan
- 10/12Jean Sutton
- 10/12.....Jon Hart
- 10/14.....Mitchell Kraner
- 10/16.....Alice Marshall
- 10/18.....Evan Woods
- 10/19.....Frank Myers
- 10/21.....Edith Rothenberger
- 10/21.....Hanna Coons
- 10/23.....Jordan Surber
- 10/26.....Abbie Gascho
- 10/30.....Dana Burton

If your birthday has not been listed, please contact the Church office to inform them (296-3399).



DEAR FREIDA,
HOW IMPORTANT IS THE CHURCH AND WHY?

YOU CAN'T JUST SAY YOU'RE A CHRISTIAN. YOU HAVE TO PRAY, GO TO CHURCH AND WORSHIP THE LORD. BESIDES, THE PEOPLE I GO TO CHURCH WITH ARE MY FAMILY. I DON'T HAVE A NORMAL FAMILY, I HAVE A CHURCH FAMILY.

FROM YOUR SERVANT IN CHRIST,

Seeds Of Faith says...Thank You!

Seeds of Faith Garden Ministry is nearing the end of it's first year. Many thanks to those who contributed. All the monies raised are given to MUMC Missions. The ministry brought in about \$170.00 this year. If you have Autumn clean up or leaves to rake, please call! Also, please be thinking of gardening chores you may want to have completed for 2006. You can reach Chris or Margarita at Seeds of Faith @ 296-6632, or at the Church office-296-3399.

Thank you and God Bless!

Chris & Margarita Gipson

Cards For Sale! 30 cents each or 4 for \$1. Best Bargain In Town!

Did you know that in addition to birthday cards, we also have Get Well, Sympathy, Thinking of You and Thank You cards? Thanksgiving cards will also be available for sale at the beginning of November. The cards are located in the upstairs hallway. If you haven't had a chance to look at them, please do! We think you will be pleased at the selection!

Ministry Assistants

Traditional Service

Communion Steward: Deb Garriott

Acolyte: Whitney Simon

Greeters:

2nd Shelly Surber & Family

9th Wayne & Jane Leak

16th Jerry & Nancy Doyle

23rd Helen Hann & Claudia Timmons

30th Rick & Deb Garriott

Worship Leader: Mark Newhart

Pray with the Pastor (8:30 am)

2nd Mary Lou Clendenning

9th Marlene Boyd & Claudia Timmons

16th Mark Newhart & Shelly Surber

23rd Coralee Judge & Gene & Linda Marshall

30th Judi Hoehner & Cathy Harden

Blue Jean Service

Children's Church

2nd Elaine Simon

9th Katherine Townsley

16th Cathi Godfrey

23rd Cassie Walden

30th Judi Hoehner

Greeters:

2nd Perry & Betty Skiles

9th Jim & Janice Dyer

16th Jerry & Rene Kemmerer & Family

23rd Susie McKinsey & Family

30th Terry & Terri Lenehan & Family

Meetings & Events

2nd Communion Sunday

10th Administrative Board 7 pm @ the Church

30th Corporate Prayer 6 pm @ the Church

Weekly Calendar

Sun: 8:30 am Pray with the Pastor

8:45 am Traditional Service

10 am Sunday School

11 am Blue Jean Service

Tues: 5:30 am Women's Bible Study

9 am Craft Ladies @ the Church

7 pm Bible Study @ the Church

8 pm AA Meeting-Church Basement

8 pm Worship Team Rehearsal @ the Church

8 pm Special Needs Prayer

Wed: 10 am Bible Study @ the Church

7 pm Choir Practice @ the Church

2nd & 4th Sat. each month: 7 am Men's Bible Study/Breakfast @ the Church

Last Saturday of each month: Scout Recycling Day-set your paper out early!

Don't forget...October is Pastor Appreciation month!

Committee Chairpersons

Bridge Builders: Sandy Seager

Children's Church: Mary Kay Finnerty & Elaine Simon

Missions: Ryan Turner

Worship: Cheryl Overman

Pastor Parish Relations: Paul Reddix

Trustees: Terry Thayer

Nominations: Pastor Tom Hoehner

Finance & Stewardship: John Harden

Java Jam: Cathy Harden

Accountability: Barb Seager

Administrative Board: Jerry Fultz

MUMC Vital Signs

	Offering Received
Aug 14	\$2,924
Attendance 158	
Aug 21	\$5,431
Attendance 176	
Aug 28	\$4,874
Attendance 170	
Sep 4	\$4,937
Attendance 165	
Sep 11	\$7,677
Attendance 164	
Sep 18	\$3,996
Attendance 170	
6 Week Offering Ave.	\$4,973
6 Week Attendance Ave.	167

“Thank You”

Thrivent and Gloria Dei members want to thank the members of the Mulberry United Methodist Church for your support at our recent Fish Fry. It was good to see youth working together for a common result! The reports have been sent to Thrivent and we will be presenting a check to Abba’s Place for after school programs in the amount of \$800 plus. We are also applying for a grant from Wal-Mart, but will not know until the end of the year. A special thanks to those who worked during the evening of the Fish Fry: Sarah Wilson, Pat Weber, Barb Seager, Daniel and Elizabeth Geurs, Tess Wilson, Macy Kraner, Destinee Gordon, Sean Whicker and Kelsey Dunham. Let us give thanks for a job well done!

Thrivent Co-Chairpersons,

Pat Burkhalter & Jean Hufford

Breaking News.....

Jerry & Rene Kemmerer are proud to announce that... Katie Kemmerer has been nominated to....(drum roll)... Phi Theta Kappa (National Honor Society) for having a 4.0 & 3.9 grade point average her 1st year in college. Praise the Lord for her hard work!

Sign up now for October Toddler Time & Story Hour @ the Mulberry Library. Oct. 7th Theme: 1, 2, 3 (Numbers); Oct. 14th Theme: Dinosaurs; Oct. 21st Theme: There’s a Song In The Air. Toddler time (ages 18-36 mo.) 9:10-9:40 am. Story Hour (ages 3-Kindergarten) 10-11 am. See the Church bulletin board for more information.

After more consideration and discussion-we’ve changed our minds. Instead of the Fish Fry that we announced in last month’s newsletter, our dinner on February 4th will be a Chicken Noodle dinner. We’re still counting on some help from those of you who turned in your blue postcards, and we’re looking forward to this project.

Thank you for your understanding.

The Hope Class

Don’t forget...October is Pastor Appreciation month!

ABBA’S PLACE IS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT, PARTY, FAMILY REUNION, ETC. SEE CHRIS FOR RENTAL INFORMATION.

LIBRARY NOTES

Did you know that MUMC has a Church library? It is located in the J.O.Y. classroom. Here is a sampling of books that we have.

CLASSIC RELIGIOUS: In His Steps

By Charles M. Sheldon

MID-ERA RELIGIOUS: The Hiding

Place by Corrie ten Boom

CONTEMPORARY: The Purpose Driven

Life by Rick Warren

Come in and browse/check out a book!

UMW

What a fun night of games we had at Barb Seager's home! Barb (& Jerry) opened their home to us, and after our business meeting where we gave a nice donation toward Hurricane Katrina Relief, we enjoyed some Bible trivia questions in Family Feud fashion. Boy! I sure wish I had known we were going to have a quiz! Everyone received prizes, too.

The Boutique is getting closer-so please be working on any crafts you wish to donate, and remember, we always need workers!

Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 6th at 7:00 pm in the Church basement. Our program will be on the united Methodist Children's Home in Lebanon.

We hope to see you there!

Respectfully,

Rita Cornell

Wee Blessings

Preschool is off and running. We have fifteen of the most beautiful children. What fun we are having already.

We patiently waited for God's call to fill the four year old class (which we did) and the three year old class. We were saddened that we did not have enough for the threes-but we are not sad at all because God opened the door to a new three day class for the fours. We feel so fortunate and blessed to offer a third day to prepare our fours for Kindergarten. We will use the third day for an enrichment day. We will be working on language skills and I know the children will benefit tremendously from this extra day. GOD IS GOOD!

The fours have begun to work on colors and an Underwater theme. We feel so fortunate to have such a wonderful preschool with such a wonderful Steering Committee. Everything has fallen into place under God's guidance.

God loves the little children...and so do we!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wilson

Thank You

Thanks to Melvin Dellinger, Dania Remaly, Joanne & Christoph Weber, Kathy Townsley and Chris Gipson for trimming the shrubs around the Church! They really look good!

Saturday, November 5th, from 8 am to 2 pm MUMC's 36th Annual Holiday Boutique

Can you believe it's already October? You know what that means...1 more month until the Annual UMW Boutique! The Tuesday morning craft ladies have been busy working on items (and of course, the beautiful quilt), but we still need your help with handmade gift items and ornaments. We would love to have you join us any Tuesday morning, especially if you have crafty ideas and could teach us to make items for the Boutique. If you can't join us, but would like to work at home, we would greatly appreciate your donations of handmade gift items and ornaments! In addition to our handmade items for sale, we will have a bake sale table which will include homemade noodles and a "this-n-that" table for garage sale type items. Please bring your bake sale donations and "this-n-that" items to the church basement anytime during that week prior to Nov. 5th. We also have several booths for outside crafters. If you would like to rent a space, please call Wilma Howe (3958), Coralee Judge (2857) or Marie Myers (3504). We need to get the word out. We have small posters that we would like to give you to put up in your place of employment or anywhere you think might be good advertising. Please see Wilma Howe (1st Service) or Judi Hoehner (2nd Service).

Quilt raffle tickets will be available beginning Sunday, October 2nd. \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The quilt is BEAUTIFUL as usual. The proceeds of our Boutique always go to mission efforts, either locally or globally. We also help support our own church through missions, church camp, benevolence fund and other ministries. Our Annual Boutique is really an all-church effort as we depend so much on your support through working and/or donations. Thank you so much for all your help.

We appreciate you all so very much!

Pastor's Report, cont.

At MUMC, this is done the fourth Sunday of every month at 6 pm at our Corporate Prayer Meeting. I was so encouraged last month when 25 people showed up for this. In previous months, we have seen as few as 6. I don't think this will get the job done in a church this size. I would encourage every leader in this church to begin your efforts here by being part of the most important hour in the life of the church each month. When God's people say, "God, we want you in charge here," God responds to that and wonderful things happen and we must keep saying that-"God, Your way and not our way." When God is not in charge of His Church, personalities take over. There are people in every church who want God's will as long as everything centers around them. That is not the spirit of true servant-hood. Consistent, persistent, corporate prayer keeps us headed in the right direction. Psalms 14:2 says: "The Lord looked down from heaven upon the children of men to see if there were any that did understand and seek God." Do we really understand?

Do we really?

Pastor Tom

Kid's Club

Kid's Club got off to a great start September 14th. Abba's 4th and 5th graders had 13 kids and church K-3rd had 21 kids. The kids at Abba's Place came to the church and we listened to some youth missionaries from Christ United Methodist Church in Lafayette. They spoke of going into inner city Philadelphia for a week. One group worked with some Albanian kids while there. We were taught how to say hello and good-bye in Albanian.

We learned that the kids in a big city stick together and take care of each other. Besides working with the kids, the youth painted a house and sang songs on both English and Albanian.

Their overall message was: "God wants us to help each other." What a great message for our Kid's Club to learn from older kids.

Thank you to Josh, Matt and Amanda for spending their time with us. We are looking forward to another exciting year at Kid's Club. Thanks to everyone who works hard to make it great.

The Directors

Super Sunday "Swings"!!!

On Labor Day Sunday our Super Sunday kids "wolfed" down their snacks and then celebrated the holiday by going to the Mulberry Park. It was a beautiful day for outside activities! We played on the merry-go-round, the swings, the slides and the climbing apparatus. Those who participated were: Ian Newhart, Nicole Burke, Whitney Simon, Eric Lenehan, Freida Weber, Haley Cornell and McKenna Sellers. The class was accompanied by Barb Seager and "Mr. Barb" (a/k/a Jerry Seager).

DEAR CHURCH FAMILY,

WE WANTED TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THE MANY CARDS THAT WERE SENT WHEN JEFF'S DAD WAS KILLED IN A CAR WRECK IN MAY. IT MEANT A LOT TO COME HOME AND FIND TWENTY PLUS CARDS WAITING ON US TO READ. WE WANT TO ESPECIALLY THANK OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS OF HOPE FOR THE MONEY AND ALL THE SHOULDERS WE WERE ABLE TO LEAN ON DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME. THE HOPE CLASS WAS THERE AGAIN WITH PRAYERS AND LISTENING EARS FOR THE MANY FAMILY CRISES AFTER THAT. I COULDN'T HAVE COPEd AS WELL IF I DIDN'T KNOW WE HAD OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS TO LEAN ON. BELIEVE ME, IF YOU DON'T HAVE A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS OF YOUR OWN, YOU NEED TO FIND ONE. THANKS AGAIN!

Pat & Jeff Weber & Family

Are You Missing Some Dishes?

If you were gracious enough to send a salad or a dessert to the Church for one of our dinners, did you get your dishes back?? There are several very nice Rubbermaid containers, a glass baking dish, a large green salad bowl and other items sitting in the kitchen just waiting to be picked up and taken home :-). So take a minute and stop by the kitchen to see if any of these dishes are yours. If these items are not taken by the end of October, they will go into the cupboards with the MUMC dishes!

Thanks

“Thanks” to the United Methodists who contributed to our last dinner: Elaine & Tom Simon who set up the tables and chairs; Jean Sutton for calling for the food; the kitchen help: Wilma & Dick Howe, Vicki Hastings, Barb Seager, Janie Garriott and her family. A special acknowledgement to those who prepared salads and desserts: Mary Lou Clendenning, Wilma Howe, Suzie Kelsey, Ronnette Peden, Betty (Perry) Skiles, Jean Sutton, Elaine Simon, Esther Creamer, Nancy Girtman and Marie Myers. The family was most appreciative.

Clinton County Right To Life Sponsors Second Annual “Life Chain”

Clinton County Right To Life is sponsoring the second annual Life Chain. The event takes place Sunday, October 2nd, from 2-3 pm. Participants will stand along Wabash St. holding signs (provided at no cost). No laws are broken and the Police will be aware of the event. CCRTL would like to know how many people plan to attend from each Church. Please contact the Church office if you plan to attend. Or, you may call 654-2202 to inform CCRTL directly. Signs may be picked up at the Frankfort High School parking lot (corner of Wabash & Maish Road) beginning at 1:30 pm. Each Church's location in the “chain” will be announced at that time.

Pastor Appreciation Month

October is Pastor Appreciation month. If you haven't told Pastor Tom how much his efforts mean to you and the Church lately, please take the time to do so. The huge responsibilities of ministering to the ill, comforting grieving families, lifting up the down-hearted and delivering a meaningful Sermon weekly are just a few of the reasons we have to thank him. Whether you say it in person, send a card or a gift, please let our Pastor know how important his work is to you. From the entire congregation, the Administrative Board & staff, we say:

THANK YOU PASTOR TOM!

MISSIONS NEWS

The Missions Committee would like to thank the entire Church family for the great support it continues to show for Missions. In an effort to keep the congregation informed on what happens to money raised, here is a report for 2005 through 9/4/05. Hopefully, by the time the newsletter comes out, we will already have a Missions trip in the works for the Gulf States Region that was so devastated by Hurricane Katrina. We are attempting to adopt a Church in a rural setting and make travel plans for the last week of October. Anyone that was set to go on the Haiti trip in July has 1st chance at going. If you have never gone on a Missions trip and think you would be interested, just let me know. I feel pretty certain that our Missions efforts will continue throughout 2006 for the same part of the United States and due to needs closer to home, we will not be returning to Haiti for awhile.

Ryan Turner
Missions Chair

2005 MUMC MISSIONS REPORT

MISSIONS DONATIONS

Weekly Donations (1/2 through 9/4 Offering)	\$6,074.69
Haiti Mission Trip (Sponsors, Team members & designated)	\$6,606.82
Haiti Team Member Refund	(\$400.00)
Easter Breakfast	\$594.93
Heifer Project (8/7 \$61.92 & 8/14 \$9.00)	\$70.92
Hurricane Relief (\$220.00 9/4)	<u>\$220.00</u>
TOTAL MISSION DONATIONS (THROUGH 9/4/05)	\$13,167.36

MISSION'S EXPENSES

North Indiana Conference (including the following)	
Henderson Settlement (Ky.)	\$100.00
Red Bird Mission (Ky.)	\$100.00
United Mountain Mission (Ky.)	\$100.00
Camp Pine Creek (In.)	\$100.00
Indiana UM Children's Home (In.)	\$300.00
El Mesias (In.)	\$100.00
UMCOR Disaster Response (International)	\$250.00
UMCOR (Grace Children's Hospital-Port-au-Prince, Haiti)	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
TOTAL INDIANA NORTH CONFERENCE EXPENSES	\$2,050.00

Missions Report, cont.

Adventure Travel (Haiti airfare)	\$6,887.65
MUMC KID'S CLUB	\$800.00
MUMC WEE BLESSINGS (\$300.00 designated to Copier fund)	\$600.00
Crisis Pregnancy Center	\$750.00
Aunt Ruth (Clothe The Kids program)	\$506.45
Mulberry Co-Op Telephone (Dial-A-Prayer line)	\$262.00
Family Support/Hope Class (Church Members)	\$240.00
Misc. Reimbursements	\$73.95
School Supplies Donation	\$50.00
Haiti Donation (Part of 1/2/05 Offering)	<u>\$783.63</u>
TOTAL MISC. MISSIONS EXPENSES	\$10,957.68

Checking Account Balance (through 9/4/05) \$159.68

HAITI DONATIONS (2005)

12/29/04 (Jan. 2005 Trip)	\$5,850.00
01/02/05 (Jan. 2005 Trip)	\$1,000.00
07/23/05 (Haiti Bishop-Michigan)	\$1,800.00
Grace Children's Hospital	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
TOTAL HAITI 2005	\$9,650.00

2005 MISSIONS EXPENSE DISTRIBUTION

Local Missions Efforts	\$3,632.40	49.2%
State Missions Efforts	\$400.00	5.4%
National Missions Efforts	\$300.00	4.1%
International Missions Efforts	<u>\$9,900.00</u>	<u>41.3%</u> (2005 only)
TOTAL 2005 MISSIONS EXPENSE DISTRIBUTION		100%

(ABOVE INCLUDES \$6,850.00 Jan. 2005 Haiti Trip with funds raised from 2004)

COMMITMENTS TO FINISH 2005 MISSIONS BUDGET

Rainbow Haven	\$750.00
*Youth Mission trip (Retreat)	\$500.00
*Stone Soup Food Pantry	\$200.00
Hurricane Katrina Aid	(open)

- If funds are available/needed

Report from: Ryan Turner, MUMC Missions Chair