

The Messenger

of Munholland United Methodist Church

1201 Metairie Road, Metairie, Louisiana 70005 834-9910

May 15, 2011

Pastor

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Darlene Brown
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Ford Dieth, Jr.
Youth Director
Janet Miller-Schmidt
Safe Sanct. Point Person
Melissa Chailland
Dir. Children's Ministries
Caroline Sanders
Director of Adult Studies
Pitrina Messina
MaryBeth Bonin
KDO Directors

Music Staff

Jan Schluter,
Music Director
Julianne Korn, Music
Ldr at 9:45/Section Ldr
Sections Leaders:
Ford Dieth, Jr.
Brindley McWhorter
Phil Sparks, Organist

Contacting the Church-

Phone - 834-9910
Fax - 834-9913
Web Site—
www.munhollandumc.org

Munholland United Methodist Church Presents

PEACE IN THE KINGDOM



*A musical parable about Shalom
Music and lyrics by Michael Marion
Directed by Meredith Long Dieth*

Children (Ages 7 and older), Youth, and Adults are invited to participate!!!

Rehearsal Schedule for Munholland's United Methodist Church Summer Musical can be found on the flyers in your church bulletins or in the Vestibule. Orientation will begin on Monday, June 13th.

We also need volunteers to help with building the sets, lighting, costumes, and general help with kids backstage. Anyone and everyone can be part of the Musical!! Please contact Ford Dieth for more information or email Meredith Long at meredithlee-long@gmail.com.

SHOW DATES: Thursday, June 30th and Friday, July 1st

An Evening of Song

5:00 pm on Sunday, the 15th of May 2011

in Munholland's Sanctuary

**Performed by BRINDLEY MCWHORTER, Mezzo-soprano
GERALD STROUP, Tenor with Pianist Jesse Reeks**

Works by Bach, Handel, Mozart, Verdi, Mascagni, Dvorak, & others

Reception to follow

Free Admission Voluntary Contribution to Love Offering



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The UMW Morning Circle Meeting will be Tuesday, May 17th at 10am in the Fellowship Hall. Barbara Harris will lead us as we review the book, "Same Kind of Different as Me" by Ron Hall and Denver Moore. Anyone interested is welcome to join us. Hope to see you there. God Bless.

We will be making plans for a couple of field trips to our outreach organizations. The first trip will be to (NRCC), North Rampart Community Center Open House on Tuesday, June 14th, followed by lunch in the area.

We are again helping them to raise funding for approximately 80 summer campers. It is an eight week, seven hours a day camp for kids from 8 to 17 years of age. The cost to sponsor a camper this year is \$175. Any amount is appreciated and can be mailed directly to them, earmarked for summer camp. Or, you can donate through our UMW by making your check payable to UMW and it will be combined with our donations. You can place your donation in the UMW mail slot in the Welcome Center, turn it in to any UMW member or to the church office. Donations are due by **Sunday, May 29th**.

UMW HOPE CIRCLE MEETING

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 17th at 7:15 pm. We will have a devotional and discussion of future plans & proposed mission project helping to establish a library at Ella Dolhonde School.

If you have any questions, please contact Pam Eversmeyer at liberryldy@aol.com.

THE SEVENTEEN SECOND MIRACLE

by: Jason Wright

**Sunday, May 29, 2011
4:30- 6:00 pm Parlor
Led by Rev. Nancy Feild**

This novel is a story about normal people who encounter bumps in the road and their challenges to carry on. The author has a way of making his characters come to life as he tells about ordinary people dealing with relationships, losses, and joys. It is a heartwarming story with a message for living life to its fullest.

Participants should purchase their own books and read it prior to the book discussion.

**OUR LAST MIDWEEK MEAL WILL BE SERVED
ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 18TH ...**

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Due to a special article on page 4, please see your church bulletin for the calendar.

MISSION EMPHASIS



The Mission Committee is sponsoring a Chili Cook Off in the Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, May 22nd at noon**. Prizes will be awarded for the Churches' Choice, Creative Chili Décor and Most Original Recipe. It will be a great time to learn about the Church's upcoming Mission Projects and to help determine who is Munholland's Chili Champion.

For those who want to cook, please complete an Entry Form found on the table near the Welcome center and place it in the box marked Chili Cook Off Entry Forms. Please prepare your chili in advance and be ready to serve it at noon. Church members will cast their ballots to determine the winner of each category. The booth with the most creative décor will also be eligible for a prize. If you are really feeling creative, conjure up a recipe that is truly unique. All you need to provide is the chili. The Mission Committee will provide everything else.

For those who want to be tasters and vote for their favorite, just come to Fellowship Hall. The entrance fee is \$5 per person with a \$20 family cap and this will entitle you to 3 ballots. Additional ballots will be available for purchase.

The funds raised will be used to help provide school uniforms and Summer Program Snacks. If you have any questions, contact Anne Cutrer at 237-2887.

*Munholland would like to extend our
deepest sympathy to:*

*Don Hall, family & friends on the death
of his wife, Joan.*

You are in our thoughts and prayers...

The next edition of *The Messenger* goes to print on, **Thursday, 5/26. Submit articles by Wednesday, 5/25.**

2011 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



If you have not signed up for Munholland's UMC Vacation Bible School, please do so soon. Don't miss out on this wonderful event held on Monday, June 13th - Friday, June 17th from 8:45 until noon.

We welcome children ages 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ (3 by 12/31/10 and potty-trained) through 6th grade (completed).

There will be a \$25.00 VBS fee. The fee covers craft materials, daily healthy snack, daily music and recreation. The fee is non-refundable after June 1st.

If you are interested, forms can be found in the Vestibule and also on our website - www.munhollandumc.org or if you have any questions, please email Melissa at melissac@munholland.org or call 834-9910.



2011 VBS TRAINING DATES:

VBS training (Youth) Sun., 06/05/11 5:00 pm
in the Sanctuary

VBS training* Sun., 06/12/11 4:00 pm
in the Fellowship Hall

There will also be a Safe Sanctuary Training
Session for all VBS volunteers.

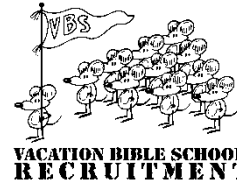


VBS CHURCH DECORATION:

Plan to join us on Sunday, June 12th at 4:30 pm*
to decorate the church.

If you have any questions, please call Melissa
Chailland at 606-0797 or email at
melissac@munholland.org.

*NURSERY PROVIDED



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
RECRUITMENT

We are still looking for volunteers.

**Come join us for some fun this summer by
volunteering for our VBS Program. This is
also a great way to earn some service hours.
Our theme this year is "Shake it Up Café".**

**If you are interested in participating in this
fun experience, please contact
Melissa Chailland at 606-0797 or
melissac@munholland.org.**

VBS is in need of the following items:

**Paper towel & toilet paper rolls
Fabric scraps or remnants
Cereal boxes
Icing containers & lids**

**Please place in the boxes set up by the
Elmeer and Metairie Road Entrances.**

Leadership Summit tackles the future of the United Methodist Church

by: Heather Hahn April issue of LA NOW

“What is God’s vision for The United Methodist Church?” - That question was among several fielded by a panel of three bishops, a young adult leader and agency head at the Leadership Summit on April 6. There was a notable pause after the question as the leaders considered how best to respond on behalf of the Almighty.

Finally, Germany’s Bishop Rosemarie Wenner took a crack at it. “We took the words of Matthew 28 as the mission of the church, and that really is God’s wish for all of us: Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world,” she said.

Thousands of church members hoping to make more disciples gathered at sites around the world to participate in the Leadership Summit webcast. Altogether, there were more than 4,000 web connections to the three-hour event. It was the first chance for many to hear how denominational leaders plan to carry out the recommendations in the Call to Action Steering Team’s final report to increase vital congregations. All five panel members were part of the Call to Action team. The team’s report adopted by the Council of Bishops and Connectional Table, states that the status quo of a shrinking and aging U.S. church is “toxic” and unsustainable.

The denomination’s “adaptive challenge,” the report says, is to “redirect the flow of attention, energy and resources to an intense concentration on fostering and sustaining an increase in the number of vital congregations ...” In short, the panel said, the denomination needs to change how it uses resources and invest more in fostering thriving, disciple-making local congregations.

Illinois Area Bishop Gregory Palmer, a panel member, told the United Methodist News Service the goal of the summit was to build greater understanding of that challenge. At the event, he saw United Methodists respond with great love for the church. “People yearn for local congregations to be effective in the mission and to make a difference together in the world,” he said. But he added, “Talking about change is both necessary and threatening.”

Tough questions - The panel fielded questions about how to promote evangelism, how to bridge racial gaps within the denomination and how to measure vitality. In addition to Wenner and Palmer, the panel included Charlotte (N.C.) Area Bishop Larry Goodpaster, Council of Bishops president, Ben Boruff, a young adult and member of the Connectional Table, and Erin Hawkins, the top executive of the United Methodist Commission on Religion and Race.

Hawkins tackled the question about racial divides. “When we look at the future of The United Methodist Church, it’s one that requires us to take a serious look at how we extend ourselves out into the world in a world that doesn’t look like the average United Methodist,” she said. “It is no longer effective to treat racial/ethnic, youth ministry or women’s ministries as add-on ministries. “Unless we are willing to make the things we consider special interests the main interest or at least equal interest,” she said, “I think we won’t find ourselves much further down the road.”

Another aspect of diversity is age, and Boruff, 21, spoke to how the church in the United States has long struggled to draw in more teens and young adults. “It would be easy for us to say right now that we need to continue the conversation of how to approach young people”, Boruff said. “The hard truth is that this is a conversation we’ve been having for quite some time.” He pointed out that the terms the church uses on Sunday mornings sometimes do not translate well to young visitors. “We need to do an internal audit of how to best communicate the love of Jesus Christ that we have,” Boruff said.

Just statistics? - Church members following along on Twitter at #umclead also had their own sometimes critical take on the event. One of the concerns on Twitter and among those questioning the panel was the church’s reliance on worship-attendance and membership statistics in measuring vitality.

Goodpaster suggested that churches include the involvement and impact of their outreach ministries as part of their “score-cards”. Wenner stressed that counting worshippers is important because that’s how a congregation knows that people are joining. Still,0

she added, she does not consider statistics key to moving the domination forward. “It is important to make measurements; however, it’s even more important to tell our stories, to share best practices and to learn how other congregations are reaching out,” she said. “It’s really the spiritual foundation that will bring us forward, not more bureaucracy and more statics.”

A big conversation - The panelist were gratified by the level of participation in the summit, especially from church members in the central conferences outside the United States. For example, some 300 United Methodists in Zimbabwe gathered at the country’s world trade center to watch the webcast. By the end of the three-hour summit, the panel had received 513 questions -- far more than the members had time to address in the time allowed.

Palmer said church leaders will aggregate the questions and post responses at www.umcleadershipsommit.org no later than May 1st. Wenner said she hoped the summit was just the beginning of discussions about how the church can better fulfill God’s vision. “Methodism is a mission movement, and it is all about regaining that spirit,” she said. “We are privileged to be part of God’s mission in this work.”

THE KIDS' PAGE

DISCOVER CLUB & YOUNG YOUTH (1st - 6th grade)



Please join us for a week of Vacation Bible School fun from June 13th through June 17th. This year's theme is ***Shake It Up Cafe***. If you have not already signed up yet, forms can be found in the Vestibule or on Munholland's website.

Melissa Chailland
Director of Children Ministries



MAY'S CHOIR SCHEDULE

Littlest Angels – Wednesday (Rehearsal- Rm. 111)

05/18/11 Choir Time 6:00–6:45 pm
05/22/11 Children's Music Program

Altar Choir – Sunday (Rehearsal-Elementary Music Room)

05/22/11 Children's Music Program

Chancel Choir – Wednesday

05/18/11 Choir Time 6:45–8:30 pm
05/25/11 Choir Time 6:45–8:30 pm

We are celebrating the Children's Music Program on Sunday, May 22nd at the 11:00 Worship Service. Both choirs will sing.

The Choirs will be on summer vacation until the Fall.

KIDS DAY OUT

May 9th - 19th KDO Art Exhibit
May 19th KDO's Last Day



KDO Summer Camp begins on Monday, June 20th through July 22nd ,,,

If you have any questions, please contact Pitrina or MaryBeth at 834-0920.

MUMY CALENDAR (Munholland United Methodist Youth) May 2011

- May 15 Meet in the Sanctuary at 2:30 pm for Youth Ministry Architect program. We will then go out for a meal and return for a recital in the Sanctuary. It will be given by our own Brindley McWhorter and Gerry Stroup
- May 22 1: 30 pm Pool Party at the Chaillands
- May 29 No Youth – Memorial Day holiday

Meetings begin at 5:00 pm and end at 7:00 pm, unless otherwise noted. **Please bring \$2** for supper.

Please pick up your children in the Metairie Road parking lot following youth activities, so we can make sure they get to their cars safely.

For more information, call Ford Dieth at 834-9910 or e-mail at laxbagotricks@yahoo.com.

THINK ABOUT IT

God created the universe by faith. And that faith was released by the words He spoke. Many times in Genesis God spoke things into existence. Everything physical that we see with our eyes was formed by words. The author of Hebrews wrote to a group of believers who were discouraged in their faith. In verse 11:3 he tells them "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are *seen* were not made of things which *appear*". In other words, faith is always voice activated, which creates what we see.

King David said in Psalm 116:10, "I believed, therefore I have spoken". Paul later quoted this statement in II Cor. 4:13 and referred to it as a spirit of faith. Jesus spoke to the fig tree in Mark 11 and it obeyed Him. And then He explained to His amazed disciples that anyone with faith could and should do the same thing.

We have a choice to make: say what we have or have what we say. Jesus said in Matt 12:34 that what's in our hearts in abundance will soon come out of our mouths. If we are pessimistic, our words will reveal it. If we are full of faith and hope, our speech will surely coincide. So if you realize that your words aren't filled with faith, don't only change your words – change your heart and your words will follow suit. Words are the gauge of the heart.

St. Mark's Homeless Ministry

We will be preparing to serve the homeless at St. Mark's UMC on Sunday, May 29, 2011.

This mission opportunity is open to anyone in our church who would like to be a part of the preparation and/or serving of the meal at St. Mark's or by helping financially. (For more information on St. Mark's Homeless Ministry, please check out their website: www.frenchquarterumc.org)

If ANYONE would like to assist with this mission, please contact Betsy White (504) 220-6541 or Betsysw@aol.com to volunteer to help!

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1201 Metairie Road Metairie, Louisiana 70005

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E-mail submissions for the Messenger to darleneb@munholland.org

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