

The Messenger

of Munholland United Methodist Church

1201 Metairie Road, Metairie, Louisiana 70005 834-9910

February 1, 2009

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Earlene Skena
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Darlene Brown
Messenger/Attendance

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Pitrina Messina
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Music Director
Julianne Korn
9:45 Music Leader
Phil Sparks
Organist

Contacting the Church--

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

I have been thinking and praying a lot recently over the question of where the Munholland United Methodist Church is heading. The answer has become very clear to me: we are heading toward the kingdom of God. It is my belief that the kingdom of God is the complete fulfillment of God's intention for the wholeness of all creation, including humankind. Jesus, through the life he lived and the teachings he proclaimed, was completely focused on bringing about the kingdom of God. He even taught us to pray "Thy kingdom come."

As we strive to live as faithful disciples of Jesus, God's Holy Spirit is guiding us as a church so that we are headed toward the kingdom of God, engaging us in the work of building the kingdom. Our work as kingdom builders has many components, and this is where we put the flesh on the bone, so to speak.

The kingdom is being built both within and beyond the local church. Our stated mission is "to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." We are engaged in many activities which enable us to make disciples for Jesus Christ. Within the church, these include: worship; Sunday School; study, reflection and prayer groups; youth group; Vacation Bible School; confirmation classes; children's programs; fellowship events; UMW; UMM; music programs, and random events which equip us for discipleship. When we go beyond the doors of Munholland, we are engaged in the transformation of the world. We do this through missional outreach, including work trips, Angel Tree, Operation Shoe Box; evangelistic outreach; supporting institutions such as the Methodist Home for Children and the Dulac Community Center; paying our apportionments so that we support United Methodist ministries throughout the world; working locally for the building up of our community; and through the activities of our individual lives as we live faithfully day to day. Both within and beyond Munholland, I believe God has things in store for us we've not yet imagined.

There is excitement in knowing that we as a congregation are heading in the direction to which God is calling us. As disciples of Jesus Christ, every one of us is called to specific tasks in the building of the kingdom through Munholland United Methodist Church. What is God calling you to do?

God Bless You,

Gene Finnell



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The next UMW Executive Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 3rd at 9:15 am in the Parlor. The General Meeting will follow at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Program: Call to Prayer and Self Denial
(Soup will be served following the meeting)

The next Circle meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 17th at 10:00 am at Fran Roemershauser's home, 4205 Courtland Drive, Metairie.



The UMW Hope Circle will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, February 10th at 6:30 pm at the American Cancer Society's Hope Lodge on Jefferson Highway, 2609 River Road (near Ochsner).

We will have a Valentine's Party for the residents at the lodge. We will create cards, bracelets, sing songs, have some laughs, and of course, there will be plenty of snacking.

Please make plans to join us for fun and fellowship as well as sharing the love and hope between all those present.

Watch for the pink flyers around the church for more details.

If you have any questions, contact Lisa Bourgeois at 231-8470.

CARE TEAM MEETING
February 17th at 6:00 pm
in room 211



“Have a Heart for Missions?”

Janet Cavalier will be leading a Louisiana Volunteers in Mission (LAVIM) trip to South Africa on May 20-June 1, 2009. God has called several members of Munholland to follow Janet on this path. The team will work with the Africa Upper Room Ministries AIDS project.

This ministry was created on the grounds of the Upper Room Headquarters and will both minister to the local population infected with and affected by HIV/Aids as well as model congregationally based palliative care models for the church around the continent. LAVIM is participating in making this vision a reality by supporting the construction of a skills-training complex, a conference center, and several palliative care residential cottages. Our team will be helping to make this dream a reality.

Team members would like to invite you to join your hearts with ours in raising funds for this “once in a lifetime” trip. We are sponsoring a benefit dinner at 6:30 pm on **Friday, February 6, 2009** at the home of Drs. Keith and Sarah Kreutziger. A four-course dinner will be served for a donation of \$45 per person. Further information about the trip will be available **“To Feed Your Heart for Missions”**. We also invite you to consider joining us in this mission trip to South Africa.

Tickets for the benefit dinner went on sale Sunday, January 11, 2009. Look for our display at church in the Educational Building hallway or call Anne Cutrer at 237-2887 for a reservation.

SHAWL MINISTRY
February 21st at 10:00 am
in the Fellowship Hall



Many thanks to Harry Wadsworth, IV for the new benches and landscaping in the green space behind the playground. Harry (along with scouts from Troop 60, friends, and several members of MUMY) did the work for a project to complete the rank of Eagle. A volleyball net was also purchased to provide hours of fun for groups at our church.

Thanks also goes to the Sunday School classes that provided the financial support needed to complete the project.

Be sure to check out the work that they did!



Memorial Donations were made in memory of Phyllis Wakefield From Sue Perilloux, Erma Hopper, and Cornelia Harman



We are having a problem sending emails to anyone who has a bellsouth.net address.

We are working to resolve this issue and apologize for any inconvenience.

Dear Gene and Munholland Church,

Congratulations on paying 100% of your Conference apportionments.

I am so proud to be a part of a district where churches exhibit such strong leadership & commitment to missions and the connectional system.

Thanks for leading the way.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ramonalynn Bethley
New Orleans District Superintendent



Mark your calendars for VBS 2009

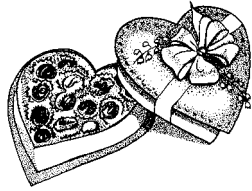
Monday, June 22nd - Friday, June 26th



We are collecting empty square facial tissue boxes or Kleenex/Puff Cubes (please no long rectangular boxes) for VBS. We are also collecting empty cereal boxes.

There will be two boxes labeled "VBS", one under the table by the Elmeer entrance and one by Pitrina's office/KDO Director, by the Metairie Road entrance.

Thank you for your help.
Lisa Bourgeois



“SWEETS FOR YOUR SWEETIE”

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH
8:15 am– 12:15 pm**

STOP BY AND SHOP FOR YOUR SWEETHEART AT OUR TABLE LOCATED OUTSIDE THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Sponsored by the St. Andrews Sunday School Class



Methodist Children's Home Breakfast

**LA Methodist Children's Home Breakfast
Benedict's Restaurant in Mandeville
Tuesday, February 10th
7:30 am - 8:45 am**

If you are interested in attending this complimentary breakfast to hear about the work of the Home, please contact *Gene Finnell* or *George Duerson* for more information.

Due Date

The next edition of *The Messenger* goes to print on, **Wednesday, February 11th**. We will include in the newsletter, all articles received by **10:00 am** on Tuesday, February 10th. Any article received after the due date will be included in the next edition of *The Messenger*. Thank you for your help in imparting ministry news to the congregation.

Meetings and Special Events

Feb. 03	9:15 am	UMW Executive Mtg (Parlor)
	10:00 am	UMW General Mtg
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting
	6:00 pm	Trustees Mtg (Par)
Feb. 04	5:15 pm	Midweek Meal
	6:00 pm	Evangelism (208)
Feb. 05	7:00 pm	GNO Photo Soc (FH)
Feb. 06	6:30 pm	Africa Mission Trip Fundraising Dinner
Feb. 08	8:15-12:15 pm	"Sweets for your Sweetie"
Feb. 10	7:30 am	Methodist Home Breakfast
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting
	6:30 pm	UMW Hope Circle
Feb. 11	5:15 pm	Midweek Meal
	6:15 pm	South African Team Mtg (201)
Feb. 12	7:00 pm	UMM (211)
Feb. 12-15		Cursillo Retreat
Feb. 14		♥ Valentine's Day

Weekly Worship Attendance

	Dec. 14	Dec. 21
Sunday		
	8:30 am	103
	9:45 am	58
	11:00 am	<u>232</u>
Other	15	15
Total	326	408
Sunday School	169	169
	Dec. 28	
	8:30 am	74
	9:45 am	31
	11:00 am	<u>171</u>
	Christmas Eve	585
Total		861
Sunday School		145



KIDS' PAGE

FEBRUARY'S CHOIR SCHEDULE

Littlest Angels – Wednesday (Rehearsal- Rm. 111)

02/04/09	Choir Time	6:00 pm–6:45 pm
02/11/09	Choir Time	6:00 pm–6:45 pm

Altar Choir – Sunday (Rehearsal-Elementary Music Room)

02/01/09	Choir Time	10:15 am–10:45 am
02/08/09	Choir Time	10:15 am–10:45 am
02/15/09	Choir Time	10:15 am–10:45 am

Chancel Choir – Wednesday

02/04/09	Choir Time	6:30 pm–8:00 pm
02/11/09	Choir Time	6:30 pm–8:00 pm

KIDS DAY OUT

Theme for February:
My Community

February 19th - KDO SECOND LINE

HAPPY MARDI GRAS

KDO will be closed the week of
MARDI GRAS...

Monday, February 23RD through
Friday, February 27TH

KDO will return on Monday, March 2nd.

Pitrina Messina
KDO Director

MUMY CALENDAR (Munholland United Methodist Youth)

Winter 2009

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Feb. 01 | Superbowl Party – bring a dish to share |
| Feb. 04 | Deposit of \$50 due for the Youth Mission Trip |
| Feb. 08 | Program to plan lock-in, senior high retreat and mission trip. Dinner by the Didriksen family |
| Feb. 15 | No Youth Meeting |
| Feb. 22 | No Youth Meeting due to Mardi Gras... Watch for Ford in the Thoth parade! |

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 Elmeer 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.

**Mark your calendars for
April 5, 2009**

**for the Palm Sunday Eggstravagnza
from 12:00 – 2:00 pm**

MY THREE GIFTS – 2009

What do the Three Wisemen, the Mississippi River, and an irrigation canal all have in common? It's something that you have in common with them as well.

An *irrigation canal* has a definite purpose. When it fulfills its purpose, it not only delivers plenty of water to the fields, it also receives plenty of water for everything that grows along its banks.

The *Mississippi River* could be said to have many purposes, rather than a single purpose. But like the irrigation canal, as it fulfills its purposes, it also receives plenty for everything along its banks.

The *three Wisemen* – have you ever thought about the rest of their lives after they made their offerings to the Christ child? Do you think that their lives were blessed by fulfilling the purpose that God gave them in that journey? Do you think that their family member's lives were somehow more blessed even to the 3rd or 4th generation after they made that journey?

I believe that when we are a channel for God's blessings to others, some of god's blessings stay with us and our families as well. I picture the green banks of an irrigation canal running through dry land when I think about being a channel of God's love.

I believe that every active member of a church needs to make sure that, in some way or another, they are a channel of God's blessings for others. That is how the church stays green and growing. That is how we individually stay green and growing.

A green form, "*My Three Gifts – 2009*" is available at the church. It describes needs and ways in which each of us can be a channel of God's blessing for others. I hope that every active member of Munholland - adult, youth, and child - will fill one of these out and return it to the church during the next month. You can put it in the offering plate, mail it to the church, or leave it at the welcome center. Even if you are already volunteering in a certain area, go ahead and check that area to show that you are interested in continuing to serve there. Filling out these forms will help the church, and I pray it will also help you and your family.

What do the Three Wisemen, the Mississippi River, and an irrigation canal all have in common? They are all pictures of blessing – the same blessing pictured in PSALM 1 when it says, "They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper." (Psalm 1:3 NRSV)

How are you being used as a channel of God's blessing for others?

See you Sunday,
Brother John

The Messenger
of Munholland United Methodist Church

1201 Metairie Road Metairie, Louisiana 70005

Contact us:

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E-mail submissions for the Messenger to

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