

The Messenger

of Munholland United Methodist Church

1201 Metairie Road, Metairie, Louisiana 70005 834-9910

February 15, 2009

Pastors

Gene Finnell
Senior Pastor
GeneF@munholland.org

John Deschner
Associate Pastor
JohnD@munholland.org

Janet Cavalier
Christian Education
JanetC@munholland.org

Staff

Lisa McWhorter
Finance
lisam@munholland.org

Earlene Skena
Calendar/Bulletin

Darlene Brown
Messenger/Attendance

Ford Dieth, Jr.
Youth Director

Pitrina Messina
KDO Director

Music Staff

Jan Schluter
Music Director

Julianne Korn
9:45 Music Leader

Phil Sparks
Organist

Contacting the Church--

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

We are entering a new day here at Munholland and throughout the United Methodist Church in regard to the safety and well-being of our children and youth. It's not that we've ignored these concerns in the past, but we are now taking very intentional steps to ensure that we offer our children and youth the very best that we can. Our new Safe Sanctuaries/Risk Reduction Policy was approved by the Munholland Church Council as our standard of excellence. It is the church's desire to demonstrate our absolute and unwavering commitment to the physical and spiritual growth of all who come under our care.

Our policy requires training for all volunteers who work with children and youth and for all paid staff. It requires background checks for the same individuals. It calls for personal references for volunteers. This is just the beginning. There are ratio requirements for adults and children and youth. There are stipulations regarding children being supervised while moving through the building. This is a very comprehensive program.

The only way we can make this work is for everyone—volunteers, staff, parents, children and youth to work together. I hope that everyone who must attend a training event will do so. I also hope parents of children and youth will attend. Everyone needs to be aware of and cooperate together in every way possible.

There are two ways to look at this new policy. It can be seen as a huge burden, or a huge opportunity to show our children and youth the love, support, and protection of a caring church family. Safe Sanctuaries is about being prepared and thinking ahead. Statistics indicate that child victimization and abuse are on the rise nationwide. While our slogan is "Open hearts, open minds, open doors," we do not know everyone who enters our facilities every time the doors open. How can we keep Munholland safe? Please attend one of the training sessions being offered—March 4 or March 8 to learn more. Yes there will be future sessions, but it's important that we get moving on this now. Please, for the sake of our children and youth, plan to attend.

Thank you,

Gene Finnell



ASH . . . WEDNESDAY SERVICE

will be held on
February 25th at 6:00 pm



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

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 Executive Meeting and General Meeting will not be held at the church on Tuesday, March 3rd. Instead, we will take a road trip to Dulac and visit with the children at the Clanton Chapel Christian Pre-school and tour the Community Center and Chapel.

We will meet in the Metairie Road (front) parking lot at 9:00 am and carpool to Dulac. After the visit we will have lunch in the Dulac area and return about 3:00 pm.

ANYONE interested in going or needing more information should call Phyllis at 455-9942 or Lorrie at 443-4641.

**IMPORTANT – IMPORTANT
MEETING DATE CHANGE**

**United Methodist Men will meet
on Thursday, February 19th at
7:00 pm in room 211...**

*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.*



“Have a Heart for Missions”

On behalf of the Mission Committee and the members of the South Africa Mission Team, thank you for your generous support of our fundraising efforts. Our hearts are filled by your generous response. It is a blessing to be a part of a church that is truly committed to Missions. Please keep us in your prayers as we prepare for our journey May 20th to June 1st.

We look forward to sharing the details of the trip with you upon our return.

Thanks again for having a Heart for Missions.

MY THREE GIFTS – 2009

- Gold – My Financial Gifts**
- Frankincense – My Devotional Gifts**
- Myrrh – My Service Gifts**

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 find these forms in the Worship Bulletin on Sunday, February 15th. Please return these forms by the **end of February**. 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.



ATTENTION FAMILIES/CLASSES/GROUPS:

The Disciples Sunday School Class is holding its 6th Annual Multi-family/ Class/Group Garage Sale on Saturday, March 7, 2009 from 8 am to 12 pm. The sale will be held in the church parking lot on Elmeer - the larger one in the back.

If you would like to donate items to the sale, items may be placed on the stage in the Fellowship Hall. Take this opportunity to do some "Spring" cleaning! Assistance in moving larger items is available.

You too can raise some funds - spaces are available for \$15 each to families/classes/groups/committees who would like to participate. Deadline for reserving a space is Sunday, March 1, 2009 - contact Paula Lucas at 832-9103 or plucas@tulane.edu to reserve a space or to get more information.

Please join us Saturday, March 7th for some great bargains!

Thanks, Paula

HELP THE CARE TEAM HELP OUR MEMBERS!

The Care Team is trying to identify those members who are currently in nursing homes, assisted living, and/or are homebound. We would like to assist our ministers in reaching out to these members.

If you know of someone who fits in the categories above, or is unable to attend church for some other reason, please let us know.

Thank you for your help.

Contact Paula Lucas at 832-9103 or at plucas@tulane.edu.

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



*The CARE TEAM MEETING
has been canceled for February*

*The meeting will resume again
in March...*

Schedule of Ministry Event

Meetings and Special Events

Feb. 12-15		Cursillo Retreat
Feb. 17	10:00 am	Staff Meeting
	10:00 am	UMW Circle Mtg at the home of Roemershauser
Feb. 18	5:15 pm	Midweek Meal
	6:00	Education Committee Mtg (201)
Feb. 19	7:00 pm	GNO Photo Society Meeting (FH)
	7:00 pm	UMM (211)
Feb. 21	10:00 am	Shawl Ministry (FH)
Feb. 23	10:00 am	Staff Meeting
Feb. 23-27		KDO Closed
Feb. 24		Mardi Gras Church office Closed
Feb. 25	5:15 pm	Midweek Meal
	6:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Svc
Feb. 26	10:00 am	Lent Study (200)

Due Date

The next edition of *The Messenger* goes to print on, **Wednesday, February 25th**. We will include in the newsletter, all articles received by **10:00 am** on Tuesday, February 24th. 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.

Weekly Worship Attendance

	Jan. 04	Jan. 11
Sunday		
8:30 am	84	69
9:45 am	54	59
11:00 am	<u>172</u>	<u>201</u>
Other	15	15
Total	325	344
Sunday School	158	175
	Jan. 18	
	70	
	43	
	<u>183</u>	
Other	15	
Total	311	
Sunday School	179	

Every Week at Munholland

Sunday (Worship 8:30 am, 9:45 am and 11:00 am)

9:30 am	Sunday School
10:15-10:45 am	Altar Choir (Elementary Music Rm)
12:00-2:00 pm	Discovery Club (every other month)
12:00-2:00 pm	Young Youth (every other month)
4:00-6:00 pm	Disciple and related Bible Studies (various classrooms)
5:00-6:30 pm	MUMY (200)

Monday

9:30-1:30 pm Kid's Day Out

Tuesday

10:00 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday

9:30-1:30 pm	Kid's Day Out
5:15-6:15 pm	Midweek Meal
6:00 pm	Disciple and related Bible Studies (various classrooms)
6:00-6:45 pm	Littlest Angels Choir
6:15 pm	Communion (Parlor)
6:30 pm	Cursillo (Parlor)
6:30 pm	Chancel Choir (113)

Thursday

9:30-1:30 pm	Kid's Day Out
10:00 am	Bible Studies (various classrooms)
7:00 pm	Nicotine Anon. (Choir Room)
7:30 pm	N.A. (111)
8:00 pm	A.A. (Parlor)
8:00 pm	Al Anon

Friday

9:30-1:30 pm	Kid's Day Out
12:00 pm	Friday Friends Bridge
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 7 (201)



FEBRUARY'S CHOIR SCHEDULE

Littlest Angels – Wednesday (Rehearsal- Rm. 111)

02/18/09 Choir Time 6:00 pm–6:45 pm
02/25/09 No Choir Practice

Altar Choir – Sunday (Rehearsal-Elementary Music Room)

02/15/09 Choir Time 10:15 am–10:45 am
02/22/09 Choir Time 10:15 am–10:45 am

Chancel Choir – Wednesday

02/18/09 Choir Time 6:30 pm–8:00 pm
02/25/09 Ash Wednesday - Chancel
Choir report to Choir Room at 5:30 pm. Ash
Wednesday service at 6:00 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, 2/23- Friday, 2/27

KDO will return on Monday, March 2nd.

Pitrina Messina
KDO Director

**Mark your calendars for
April 5, 2009
for the Palm Sunday Eggstravagnza
from 12:00 - 2:00 pm**



MUMY CALENDAR (Munholland United Methodist Youth) Winter 2009

Feb. 15 No Youth Meeting
Feb. 22 No Youth Meeting due to Mardi
Gras... Watch for Ford in the
Thoth parade!
Mar. 01 Movie Night at the Johnsons

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](mailto:laxbagotricks@yahoo.com).

**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

Munholland UMC's Safe Sanctuary Training Sessions

Munholland UMC Council approved and made effective a mandated Safe Sanctuary/Risk Reduction policy for children and adults in December, 2008. All persons who volunteer with children and teens through the ministries and activities of Munholland UMC are required to have Safe Sanctuary Training and undergo a background check. Safe Sanctuary is about the safety of our children and teenagers as well as adults and we should be appreciative of our vigilance in caring for each other.

All current volunteers and employees of Munholland UMC are required to **attend one of the two** scheduled Training Sessions, complete a Volunteer Application Form and sign a Volunteer Covenant Statement. **The two dates are WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, AT 1:45 P.M. and SUNDAY, MARCH 8, AT 12:15 P.M.**

Attendance to one of these training sessions is necessary. Non-compliance is really not an option. Your work with our children and youth is a wonderful gift and service to them, so please plan to attend a Safe Sanctuary Training event.

Each attendee of the training session should plan to be in training for about 1 ½ hours. Confirmation of a training date should be made by emailing jrmsmumc@gmail.com or phoning the church office 504.834.9910. Please give your name and telephone number and the date you plan to attend. Thank you for your co-operation of this matter.

Janet Miller-Schmidt
Safe Sanctuary Point Person

The Messenger
of Munholland United Methodist Church

1201 Metairie Road Metairie, Louisiana 70005

Contact us:

Phone: 504-834-9910

Fax: 504-834-9913

E-mail submissions for the Messenger to

darleneb@munholland.org

NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT No. 140 METAIRIE, LA
--

The Messenger is published twice monthly.

We mailed this copy of *The Messenger* on Thursday, February 12, 2009. If you received your copy after Thursday, February 19th, please contact your local US Post Office.