

The Messenger

MANCHESTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

May 26, 2006

VOLUME X

“Same song, different key.....”



Betsy Vicente
New Member and
Volunteer Coordinator

Do you have one of those (neon) orange or green t-shirts that say “Hands in Mission?” If you do, you know all about the joy of serving others that many at MUMC have experienced in the two most recent “Hands in Mission” Saturdays, organized by The Stewardship Team.

Having recently completed the second Hands In Mission workday, there is wonderful chatter around the halls of MUMC about that experience ... at Metro Homeless Center, Kingdom House, Epworth Children’s Home and Centenary UMC/Cares (our covenant church in the City).

The momentum is growing ---- the first Saturday, last year, about 35 persons participated. This April, over 150 volunteers shared their time, hands, backs, knees, paint brushes, gardening tools, etc. etc. to spend the day in community with others from MUMC and the people who work, and are served, by our United Methodist agencies and covenant church.

From my perspective, as the Coordinator of Volunteer Ministries, one of the joys is knowing that many persons in mission were visitors, not members, at MUMC. (Many authors remind us that mission opportunities are one important “back door” to the church and its mission in today’s world.) Some were persons who had never signed up for any kind of mission work before – but will gladly sign up again! Some were persons who “hadn’t done anything like that in a long time.” Some were whole families in mission.

No matter who you/they were or how/why you/they got there – front door, back door or through an open window! – the song you sing with your lives reflects one that we sing on Sunday morning – “Here I Am, Lord.”

The choir of volunteers at MUMC is getting steadily louder and the enthusiasm is catching. Each opportunity changes those who serve and those who are served – lives are transformed by/for “Christ and his work in the world.”

And, the song changes, too.....same song – different key,

Blessings to all as we “sing” and Serve Christ together,

Betsy

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Keeping Up with Pastor Carl

During his renewal leave, Pastor Carl will be writing a web log—commonly called a blog. A blog is similar to a web site containing text and pictures. He will be updating it regularly.

There are two ways to access the blog. One is to go there directly from your computer browser at the address www.faihandempire.com. The other way to access the blog is through a link on the MUMC web site, www.manchesterumc.org.

Those who wish to know what Pastor Carl is experiencing, thinking, and feeling, as well as seeing some of the pictures he is taking should visit the blog site frequently.

Another way to access the blog ... red spiral binders containing a printed copy of the blog and marked “Keeping Up With Pastor Carl” can be found in the administrative office, volunteer work-room, library, chapel narthex and marble narthex. Please leave the copies in the binders for others to read at their convenience.

Isaiah had a great vision that he shared with Israel at a time when the nation was not doing well (Isaiah 49:1-6). His vision was about the establishment of God’s rule here on earth, and Israel, was to be “a light to the nations, that God’s rule might reach to the ends of the earth.” The story is about moving from darkness into light. I think this theme is appropriate for us as we observe the upcoming Memorial Day.



Isaiah’s vision came when things were down. All of us have been personally affected by the death of someone close to us. We grieve and wonder if it will ever end. Yet, healing and comfort comes when we join together and face our loss and provide support for one another. We pray for God’s peace to bring us out of our darkness.

Our hope is knowing that in the midst of tragedy, in the midst of loss, we can experience a new birth. We can gain a wider vision. It was true for Isaiah and the people of Israel. It was true for the disciples as they faced the death of Jesus upon the cross. It was true for our Pilgrim Fathers as they faced a devastating winter. God calls us out of darkness today just as surely as he called Israel out of her darkness.

Our lesson for today is clear—seek light. Think, if you will, of light as energy. From science we know that light is indeed Energy, and as Christians, our energy translates into service. Service is our light, our vision, and our purpose. Service to God is an expression of our love. When we stop serving, we lose our way, and become lost in darkness.

Does our little bit really make a difference? Yes, consider that it is from a little spark that the full flame will appear. Just like lighting one little candle seems on the surface a small thing to do. Soon that light joins with the light of others and together the whole world is aglow.

I pray that this day you may move from darkness into light, and together through Christian service, MUMC may bring the light of Christ to others.

Rev. Gene Morse
Acting Senior Pastor

Our Financial Commitment to Christ

Phil Estes, Business Administrator

Operating Commitments through April 30, 2006

Year-to-date giving and expense compares favorably to the April 2005 surplus of \$56,207. April 2006 results:

Commitments Received	\$976,522
Expense	\$857,421
Surplus (Deficit)	\$119,101

Building Fund Commitments through April 30, 2006

MUMC has collected 35 percent of the total 2006 Building Fund Commitment.

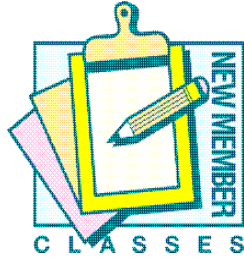
Current Commitment Total	\$373,291
Total Collected	\$130,656
Remaining Balance	\$242,635

Attendance

Average weekly worship attendance through April was 1635, a 2.5 percent decrease over the same period in 2005.



**UPCOMING
NEW MEMBER CLASSES**



June New Member Class

Thursday, June 1

Dinner and Orientation at 6:45

Join Sunday, June 25

Reservations required.

July New Member Class

SOMETHING NEW!!

Saturday, July 22 - Class at 2:30 p.m.

Join at 5 p.m. service in Chapel

Ice cream, cookies & lemonade on the lawn following.

For more information or to make reservations contact Betsy Vicente, Coordinator of New Member and Volunteer Ministries, 636-200-4720 or e-mail: betsy.vicente@manchesterumc.org

APRIL NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the April New Members who join us in prayer, service and fellowship at Manchester United Methodist Church.



- Josh and Mari Brown**, Michael, Caleb and Lillie
- Greg and Heather Detter**, Dyson
- Martin and Lorraine Edwards**, Ryan and Katie
- Wil and Kelly Franklin**
- Maureen Jordan**
- Nancy Monroe**, Grace, Peyton and Brett
- Suzy Shepard**

HOT TOPICS Sermon Series in Contemporary Worship at 9 a.m.

The series is entitled, "In All Things Charity: How Christians Can Love in a Troubled World."

On **May 28**, Pastor Erik will preach on the topic:

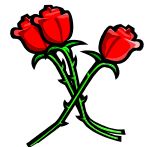
How Much Is Too Much?: Can a Rich Person Enter the Kingdom of God?

Faith-based books from Cokesbury on sale.

Books relating to the contemporary worship series will be on sale in the southeast corner of Fellowship Hall. Stop by and browse and buy something to take on that summer vacation! Twenty percent of all sales benefit the contemporary worship service.

Roses For Father's Day ... ???

Support Nicaraguan Mission Teams by honoring fathers and family with a purchase of a dozen fresh roses. MUMC's Nicaragua Volunteers In Mission (VIM) will be selling roses, the perfect gift to honor loving fathers or the man in your life. Your purchase will support our work for children without fathers or family in their lives. Proceeds will fund scholarships and supplies for MUMC VIM teams traveling to the **El Ayudante Orphanage** in Nicaragua.



- What:** Choose Red or Multicolored Roses
- Where:** Look for our narthex table to place your order
- When:** During Worship **May 27, and 28**
- How Much?:** Just \$20 per Dozen
- Delivery:** Pick Up Bouquets on Father's Day Weekend **June 17th and 18th**

UMW Market for Missions.....Almost Here!

We desperately need volunteers to set up and work this sale. Sign-up sheets are posted on the UMW Bulletin Board located in the hallway leading to the Library. You can sign up for whatever department you wish to help in. Lunch is also provided for all who would like to stay and eat. If you have questions about volunteering, please call Jean'ne Patton, **636-936-8475**.

- Initial Set Up Date: **Sunday, May 28**, 11:45 a.m. Snacks provided for workers
- Drop-Off Dates: **Tuesday, May 30 and Wednesday, May 31**
- Sale Set-Up Dates: **Tuesday, May 30**
Wednesday, May 31
- Thursday, June 1** (Pre-sale for workers at 3 p.m.)
- Sale Dates: **Friday, June 2, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.**
Saturday, June 3, 8 a.m. to Noon



To speed up the sorting and display process, please SORT, BAG, BOX and LABEL items using the following categories: children's clothing (by size, i.e., girls 4-6X), women's clothing (by size), men's clothing (by size), tools, sporting goods, kitchen items, linens, books, videos, CDs, toys, framed art, electronics, crafts, collectibles, and jewelry. Shoes "like new" only. **We CANNOT accept the following items:** computer equipment, garden supplies, pet supplies, Christmas trees, curtain rods and blinds, large sporting equipment, stoves, refrigerators, waterbeds, console TVs, textbooks, magazines, or encyclopedias.

BRING YOUR PENTECOST PARTY GIFT NEXT WEEK!

MUMC's Pentecost Party, celebrating the birthday of the church, is next week. Members and friends are asked to bring gifts, wrapped in red or adorned with red bows, to any worship service **June 3 or 4**. Special music and celebration activities are planned for each service, followed by a reception with birthday cake. On Sunday, June 4, the United Methodist Men will serve a barbecue lunch.



Pentecost Party catalogs are available to help you choose a gift. The catalog lists more than 400 items to enhance outreach efforts of 65 MUMC ministries. If you didn't receive a catalog, you can pick one up in the Narthex or the church office.

To participate:

FIND a ministry item in the catalog

SHOP at the suggested vendor

WRAP your gift in red

TAG it with the name of the ministry

BRING it June 3 or 4 to worship.

Questions? Contact Bonnie Halls, **314-994-3777**, gbhalls@sbcglobal.net, or Maida McCormack, **636-230-9913**, joemaida@swbell.net.

Got A Minute?

When the Methodist chaplain handed the Private First Class a free phone card, his blue eyes lit up. "Since I've been wounded, my Mom wishes she could talk to me every day to see how I'm doing; now she can!"



A phone card in the hands of a U.S. soldier provides a family connection to those in harm's way. That connection can now be strengthened, as MUMC again sells phone cards after worship, during the month of May. A \$5.00 card (featuring the cross and flame on it) grants a soldier 120 minutes. When the soldier activates the card, the following message is heard before the call is placed: "The people of the United Methodist Church are praying for your safety and sense of peace."

Purchased phone cards can be pinned to the cross located in the Narthex. After Memorial Day, all will be sent directly overseas. Please join us in supporting our 155,000 troops deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan during the Month of May.

UMM Pentecost Party BBQ on Sunday, June 4

Join in family fun and fellowship at this year's MUMC celebration of Pentecost on **Sunday, June 4**. This year's event will include Memphis-style BBQ dinners - cooked - and served by our own United Methodist Men. The cooking crew is led by MUMC member George Lynn, who has 20 years of experience preparing BBQ events. George has served BBQ dinners across the U.S. and in China.

- **9 to 10:45 am:**
Carry-outs available only for pulled pork dinners includes cole slaw, beans, and chips.
- **10:45 am to 1 pm:**
All menu items available.
Carry-outs for pulled pork dinners only.
Seating in Fellowship Hall and outside, weather permitting.

Menu items:

- \$5: Pulled pork sandwich dinners (includes cole slaw, beans, and chips).
- \$4: Burger, brat, or hot dog dinners (includes cole slaw, beans, and chips).
- \$2: Hot dog or brat only.

Volunteers are needed for the UMM cooking crew. Please contact Chris Busch at 636-394-5476. Work shifts will be:

- 8 to 10 am
- 10 am to noon
- Noon to 2 pm.

Manchester UMC is Host Site for Men's Ministry Team Training on June 17

MUMC has been selected as the regional site where pastors and men's ministry teams from across the region will gather for *The Essentials of a Sustainable Ministry to Men*, a one day course for men's ministry teams. Faculty is from Man in the Mirror's Leadership Training Center for Men's Evangelism and Discipleship. This is an interactive event designed for leaders. See <http://www.maninthemirror.org> for details.

Upcoming Singles Events

Monday, May 29, 11 a.m.

Memorial Day Picnic at Vlasis Park in Ballwin

Check the West County Singles website for information and updates at www.westcountysingles.com



Centenary Celebration Concert

Sunday, June 4

3 p.m.

Centenary United Methodist Church
16th and Olive

Featuring:

- Gateway Brass Quintet
- Upper Alton Baptist Church Handbell Concert
- Violinist Victoria Moore
- Manchester United Methodist Church One Voice
- Organ/Piano Duets by Mary Hitchcock-Reinhart and Dana Self
- Soprano Willetta Atkinson
- College Avenue Presbyterian Church Organist Debbie Kindig
- Centenary United Methodist Church Chancel Choir

A free-will offering will be taken to benefit Centenary Cares.

Dedication of Leaders

On Thursday, May 4, the graduates of Christian Leadership College III were celebrated with dinner and a service of dedication. Please join in congratulating them for their commitment to further study and learning in the areas of Spiritual Formation and Christian Leadership.

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP COLLEGE

Class of 2005-2006

Peggy Andereck
Jim Anderson
Dawn Bishop
Mindy Brinkhorst
Will Brinkhorst
Chris Busch
Karen Bush
Mike Cooper*
Marty Dauer
Beth Dorrance
Dan Dorrance
Ruann Edens*
Jeff Eklund*
Merri Eklund*
Jill Esser
Judy Evans*
Deb Ford*
Chris Garcia
Jeff Goldfarb*
Marlene Goldfarb*
Brooke Graham
David Hall
J. J. Hancock
Jan Hiebert
Brian Hill

Debbie Hill
Dan Kraus*
Mark Lashly
Susie Lashly
Debbie Lehman*
Ginny Leibner-Amen*
Jo Majdecki*
Steve Majdecki*
Mike Miles*
Susan Miller
Gerry Moore*
Meghan Morgan
Scott Morgan
Betty Nishimura*
Steve Paquette
Sharon Peebles
Mick Rembold*
Caroline Schmidt*
Joyce Smith
Ray Smith
Jessica Smithson*
John Stiller
Laura Strickland
Todd Wahl*
Barb Zenser

*Ellisville UMC participants

Do you want to know how YOU can make a difference in the world?

Use your "skin" to help others through **Volunteers In Mission**.

There are two opportunities coming up this summer where you can volunteer on a mission trip:

July 31-August 1, a group will go to the Midwest Distribution Center in Springfield, IL (about a two-hour drive from St. Louis) where we will pack kits, sort items, sew school bags, hospital gowns, and blankets, or box goods for shipment in the Center. This is a great chance for families to do something together for missions.

August 5-12, a group will return to Nuevo Casas Grandes, Mexico to work on the Shalom Methodist Temple (church) as we try to complete the building for the congregation there.

I hope you can join us for one (or both!) of these mission opportunities. For more information or to register your interest in a trip, please contact Martha Ifland at: 626-227-3320 (home) or 636-827-4323 (work) or send me a note at: martha.ifland@maritz.com

If neither of these trips work out for you, check out the Office of Creative Ministries for additional VIM opportunities, the URL is: <http://www.umocm.com>

PowerXpress is Coming!



Summer Sunday School will be exploring "Feasts and Festivals" in Jesus' time, as well as "Peacemakers," from the Bible. Each Sunday we will need six station leaders to lead 30 minutes of an art, cooking, game, music, science or drama activity at the 9 and/or 10:30 hours. These leaders will pick the activities they wish to do from our curriculum. **ANYONE CAN DO THIS!** Choices are as simple as "Musical Hot Potato" (Music) or showing how different or alike children in a class are (Science).

Also needed are two "shepherds" in each classroom who will lead opening and closing activities and who will help the station leaders.

Don't miss your chance to engage our children this summer in an exciting new rotation model! Watch the bulletin for sign-up opportunities. For more info or to sign up early, contact Kay at **636-200-4724** or kay.stiles@manchesterumc.org or Susan at **636-200-4707** or susan.vasquez@manchesterumc.org.

Sunday School Teachers Bring God to Kids

By Ed Heins

Two MUMC Sunday School teachers not only bring their religious enthusiasm to their Sunday classes, they've also started other ministries to help our church be of more service to the congregation and community.

Lesley Kummer was baptized in MUMC when she was a child. Then, after living elsewhere, she returned when her two children were born. "The church was important to me when I was young and I wanted it to be important to my kids also," she said.

She's helped with Vacation Bible School for three years and this year is teaching pre-school Sunday School for the first time. She's working with 4-and 5-year-olds and has her oldest child, Josh, in that class.

In addition to teaching Sunday School, she has started a new "Night Lights" class for the same age kids after the Wednesday night family meal. "We meet every other Wednesday downstairs in the classroom area," she said.

The Wednesday night class sessions include a story from "The Good Night Bible." There is also a craft, a snack and a prayer time.

Peggy Andereck is a retired elementary school teacher who attended MUMC after she graduated from college. She's been back to our church for three years and started her Sunday School teaching with kindergarten-age kids then.

"I was taking a Disciple I class and two women in the class were recruiting for Sunday School teachers. I wasn't a hard recruit because I knew I wanted to do this," she said.

Last year, she was instrumental in starting a retreat opportunity for MUMC women.

She also is a confirmation mentor and a board member for United Methodist Women.

In her Sunday School teaching, Peggy has followed kids from kindergarten in her first year to first grade the second year and to second grade this year.

"It's been a good experience watching them develop. The first year, the kids knew only a few words but now they're reading from the Bible," Peggy said.

Lesley said she'd like to have the opportunity to follow her current kids into next fall's kindergarten class. "The kids seem so much more open as the year goes on. They'd be more so next year," she said.

Both Peggy and Lesley said they want to help children be more open about their faith.

Peggy said, "I want them to learn love for God and love for His word." She said she comes out of her Sunday School class "on a spiritual high."

Lesley said she reminds her children they "don't have to be shy about their faith." She said, "I remind them to be very proud of talking about God and talking to God."

Both teachers say even preparation for their next Sunday School class is a high point during their week.

Lesley said, "I love to plan my class. It's very uplifting to do that during the week."

They also had high praise for the help given by MUMC Sunday School support staff. They both singled out administrative assistant Linda Simino as being very willing to help with anything they need to prepare for their classes.

They also said the curriculum from the Cokesbury publishers is excellent. Peggy said the United Methodist publishing house's lesson plans "are full of ideas, more than you can use."

Peggy said she looks on her Sunday School teaching as part of her personal effort to live up to the covenant the congregation recites during the baptism of young children. "My teaching is one way to honor that covenant," she said.

May 27 and 28 Memorial Day Weekend

Psalm 1
 Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
 1 John 5: 9-13
 John 17:6-19

Saturday, 5 p.m.
 Rev. Debby Peebles (chapel)

Sunday, 8, 9 and 10:30 a.m.
 Rev. Gene Morse (sanctuary)

Sunday, 9 a.m. Contemporary
 Rev. Erik Corley (fellowship hall)

June 3 and 4 - Pentecost

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
 Acts 2:1-21
 Romans 8:22-27
 John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Saturday, 5 p.m.
 Rev. Debby Peebles (chapel)

Sunday, 8, 9 and 10:30 a.m.
 Rev. Debby Peebles (sanctuary)

Sunday, 9 a.m. Contemporary
 Rev. Erik Corley (fellowship hall)

June 10 and 11 - Annual Conference

Psalm 29
 Isaiah 6:1-8
 Romans 8:12-17
 John 3:1-17

Saturday, 5 p.m.
 Wes Peterson (chapel)

Sunday, 8, 9 and 10:30 a.m.
 Rev. Gene Morse (sanctuary)

Sunday, 9 a.m. Contemporary
 Rev. Erik Corley (fellowship hall)

Chapel Prayer Ministry meets each Tuesday at 9:15 a.m. Request prayer support by filling out a Prayer Card in the church pew or by e-mailing prayer.requests@manchestermc.org.

These new homes were created:

Dana Grotha and Mike Dagen on May 5.

We celebrate these new arrivals:

Mike and Tracy Icenogle on the adoption of their son, Chamberlin Keane Icenogle, who was born on February 8. He joined his new family on March 8. Big sisters are Kerby and Aubrey. Big brother is Casey.

Matt and Laura Strickland on the birth of their son, Cedric Kenneth Strickland, on April 26.

Rudy and Haley Villines on the birth of their son, Caleb Michael Villines, on May 2.

Brock and Sarah Hubbard on the birth of their son, Chance Hawkins Hubbard, on May 7. Big sister is Hallee. Proud grandparents are **D.J. and Audrey Hubbard**.

We extend our Christian sympathy to:

Ray and Julia Gomez on the passing of Julia's father, Tony Benton Mosley, Jr., on May 3.

(MUMC members are in bold.)

A Year Round Fundraiser for MUMC!

'Shop without dropping' at your favorite stores. Online shopping mall pays up to 35% commission back to MUMC, and you get great deals too! Share the website with friends, family, businesses. Go to www.bign.com/manchestermc and click on 'Big N Marketplace.' There are many participating outlets, including: Best Buy, Dell, Office Depot, Old Navy, Sports Authority, Target, and many more. Questions? **Call Lorraine Hackman at 636-256-8049.**



Manchester United Methodist Church
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Manchester, MO 63011-4339
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DATED MATERIAL

Meal-A-Month June Menu

Canned beanie weenies
Macaroni and cheese
Fruit cocktail
Jello

Especially Needed:

Deodorant
Toothpaste
Bars of Soap

The Messenger

Staff:

- Rev. Gene Morse, *Acting Senior Pastor*
- Rev. Debby Peebles, *Associate Pastor*
- Rev. Erik Corley, *Associate Pastor*
- Rev. Steve Harbaugh, *Minister of Adult Education*
- Dr. John Ward, *Pastor Emeritus (Retired)*
- Sherry Boland, *Handbell Program Director*
- Lori Borger, *Children's/Contemporary Choirs and Drama*
- Nancy Cooper, *Youth Director*
- Ted Cronbaugh, *Organist, Music Associate*
- Phil Estes, *Business Administrator*
- John Guiney, *Youth Director*
- Carol Long, *Director of Family, Wellness and Recreation*
- Kevin McBeth, *Director of Music Ministries*
- Kimberly Smith, *Finance Director*
- Kay Stiles, *Children's Christian Education Director*
- Susan Vasquez, *Children's Christian Education Director*
- Betsy Vicente, *New Member and Volunteer Coordinator*



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- Articles submitted by 9 a.m. on the 3rd Friday will be published the 2nd week of the following month.
- The next submission deadline - June 2 for publication
June 23, 2006

Please send articles, photos and suggestions to MUMC, in care of
The Messenger or jan.doyle@manchesterumc.org.