

The Messenger

MANCHESTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 10, 2006

VOLUME X

The Power of 1%



Carl Schenck
Senior Pastor

The uncomfortable truth is that over the past four years giving to MUMC has been largely flat. When adjusted for inflation, we as a church, have actually lost ground. This followed a period of about five years when giving grew at an annual rate of five to twelve percent.

The recent years of slow or no growth have been managed by belt tightening and careful adjustment of resources. The capacity of that process to manage without serious harm to our mission is at an end. We need a substantial growth in our giving in 2007 or we will be faced with difficult choices to reduce ministries.

We need substantial growth in our giving in 2007 or we will be faced with difficult choices to reduce ministries.

The other uncomfortable truth is that our giving is far short of the Biblical standard. This is both good and bad news. Bad in that we are not living up to God's expectation of us. Good in that we can meet our challenges because we have considerable grow room.

Based on data on the average household income in our zip codes and the assumption that our membership has average incomes for our area, our giving is approximately two percent of our incomes and perhaps less.

We can march faithfully and fruitfully into the future or we can limp into the future handicapped by inadequate resources. I hope and pray that we all want the former rather than the latter future.

With that in mind, I am asking each household in our church that has not yet reached the Biblical giving level of ten percent of income to increase its giving in 2007 by one percent of income. Please hear that carefully. I am not saying that our giving should increase one percent. I am saying that we need to increase the **percentage of our income** that we give by one percent. There is a big difference.

Growing **giving** one percent would mean that the household that gives \$1,000 annually to MUMC would give \$1,010 in 07. **Growing by one percent of our income** would mean that a household earning \$20,000 per year would increase its gift to MUMC by \$200 in 2007 over 2006. A household that earns \$50,000 per year would increase its giving by \$500. A household that earns \$100,000 per year would increase its giving by \$1,000 in 2007 over the 2006 level.

This modest change would propel us forward in two important ways. It would increase the faithfulness of our members to God's call to be good stewards. It would also equip our church to grow in its witness and service to our community and world in significant ways. The rule and reign of Christ in our hearts and lives and the advance of Christ's kingdom in our world would both be advanced.

The time is here for a vital step forward. Without it, we will begin a spiritually and missionally dangerous slide backward. I urge you to prayerfully prepare to grow in your faith by growing in your stewardship of the treasures God has placed in your hands. The future of our church will be shaped by our faithfulness—or lack of faithfulness.

I hope to see you in worship this week.

Grace and Peace,

Carl L. Schenck, Senior Pastor

CONTENTS

Message from Carl

2

Ministry and Fellowship

3-5

Living Our Christianity

6

Worship

Our Church Family

7

Read Carl's blog on the web:
www.faihandempire.com

A Fantastic Youth Sunday

I am writing this just following Youth Sunday and all I can think is "Wow! Those youth are truly amazing!" One of our youth recently asked me why it is I tear up so often when I hear them give their sermons or sing. I hadn't really thought about that but the answer was really quite simple. I told her that while I hope all along that they are getting the message and incorporating it into their lives, I rarely get to hear them articulate what they believe. It is always amazing to me to hear what has somehow gotten through to them in seven years, despite the distractions and typical teenage behavior.

It's easy when meeting with a group of students to sometimes wonder, "Why do I keep doing this? Am I just wasting my time?" as they are talking non-stop, throwing whatever they can get their hands on, bouncing around the room, and just generally seeming to ignore everything that someone is trying to present to them. But, on Youth Sundays the rewards are evident. Somehow, in the midst of it all, God is breaking through and working in the lives of our youth.



Our youth are blessed to have many opportunities to grow in their faith. Looking back over the last seven years it's hard to believe how much the youth ministry has grown. Since I first started in youth ministry at Manchester, opportunities have mushroomed. We have grown from two Sunday School classes to six. We have added four Bible Studies plus one Disciple Bible Study. Senior High students now have a Confirmation class of their own to deepen their faith. In '07 we will add a new component for 8th graders called "The Journey Continues," a time for them to continue the learning they had in Confirmation the year before. Sixth graders now have their own special time together called S.G.O. (Sixth Grade Only). We have added many mission opportunities such as Festival of Sharing and now attend conference events like W.O.W. (Winter Outreach Weekend) and the annual Hayride, things Manchester youth had not previously participated in. All of this just scratches the surface of what our youth are doing. They are truly blessed.

The nice thing is, twice a year we get to hear how they have been blessed and they, in turn, are a blessing to us. I hope you had the opportunity to be blessed by our youth recently, but, if not, be sure and join us for Youth Sunday in May!

Nancy Cooper

Nancy Cooper
Youth Director

October New Members

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

Jason and Tracy Jumps, Nicholas and Hilary
Janine Kossieck
Steve and Jennifer McGillivray, Ian
Allison Morris
Chet and Yana Stoll, Evan



Upcoming New Member Classes

December New Member Class
Thursday, December 7
Dinner and orientation at 6:30 p.m.
Join **Sunday, December 17**.

Reservations required. For more information or to make reservations, contact Betsy Vicente, Coordinator of New Member and Volunteer Ministries at (636) 200-4720 or email betsy.vicente@manchesterumc.org



The Gift that Gives Twice
November 18, 19, 24 and 25

Unique and dazzling jewelry, home accessories, baskets, fashion, toys, games, music and art pieces from countries around the world will be displayed and available for purchase at the 2006 Fair Trade Market to be held in Fellowship Hall over two November weekends. The market will be even bigger this year with new lines and new vendors. If you are planning on purchasing Christmas gifts for the special ones on your list this year, the MUMC Social Justice Ministry challenges you to give a gift that will make a world of difference to artisans, craft persons and their families in some of the most struggling countries of the world. Give the gift that gives twice!

Holiday Bake Sale

The Hospitality Committee is sponsoring a Holiday Bake Sale on **Sunday, December 3**, from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Tables will be located in the halls outside of Fellowship Hall.

The sale will feature Christmas cookies, holiday breads, pies, and candy—all homemade and delicious. You can make your selections on an individual basis, so plan on stocking up on sure-to-please taste treats.

Proceeds are used for special projects to benefit the church, and for mission outreach in the community, such as Circle of Concern.



Advent Wreaths

Advent is a special time marked by a spirit of expectation, anticipation and preparation. A wonderful way to kick off the season is the annual MUMC Advent Wreath Workshop. Join us **Sunday, November 19** from 2 to 3:30 p.m. to create your own special Advent Wreath. You will go home with a one-of-a-kind masterpiece created by you. Having a personal family Advent Wreath is a natural way to remind us all to take time to reflect on the meaning of the season. All materials will be provided. Everyone is welcome at this multi-generational event. We also encourage making an extra for a neighbor or shut-in. Last year our family made two - one for us and one for the grandparents. Cost is \$10 (unless you bring your own base - then it is \$6). Please contact Barb Smith for more info at **(314) 442-5533**.

manchester
 united
 methodist

music

Christmas Coventry Dinner

Tickets for the 25th annual Christmas Coventry dinner and concert, which will be held **December 1 and 2** are now on sale. This event features a catered dinner by Westwood Catering followed by a concert featuring the Coventry Choir and Vesper Bell Choir. Tickets this year cost \$25 per person and will be sold in the narthex between services. Questions - please call Joy Parisien at **(636) 227-8655**.

Joy of Music Concert Series Presents:

Festival of Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 17
7 p.m.



Join us for this timeless, traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols. First established in 1918, this service includes traditional carols and anthems featuring the Chancel Choir and Vesper Bell Choir. A handbell pre-service concert will begin at 7 p.m.

Attention Musicians

Our music ministry department has a need for accompanists at every level - from children's choirs to youth choirs to adult choirs, in both traditional and contemporary worship, and from part-time subbing or accompanying soloists to weekly choir assistance. If you are a pianist with an interest in sharing your gifts, we'd love to hear from you.

Please contact Kevin McBeth at **(636) 200-4712** or Lori Borger at **(636) 200-4716**.

MINISTRY AND FELLOWSHIP

Ride MO-Hab Riders Katy Trail End-to-End 2007

Ten years ago Pastor Dean Wilson fulfilled a dream to ride his bicycle across Missouri. A small group of people joined him. Their purpose was to raise funds to help build a Habitat house for a family wanting a "hand-up." To date we have helped build 13 houses. Thank you to all who have made this possible.

In June 2007, we invite you to join the 10th four-day ride across Missouri on the Katy Trail from Clinton, MO to St. Charles, MO. Bicycle all the way, or ride as much or little as you want and take your turn driving a support vehicle. Friday afternoon, June 8, is a travel day to Clinton. Your expenses will include meals and lodging and you will be asked to collect pledges for MUMC's Habitat house project.

A planning meeting will be held in February. Training rides begin in March. Mark your calendar now and come out to play next spring.

The MO-Hab Riders are a group of adults, young and old, who enjoy bicycling and fellowship in God's great outdoors. To learn more, call Ray or Joyce Smith, **(636) 256-7864** or rayjoyce13@charter.net. To learn more about the Habitat ministry, call Barb & Terry Zenser, **(636) 394-4608**.

Habitat for Humanity Dedication

A special THANK YOU to the members and friends of MUMC for the generous financial gifts and many volunteer hours that contributed to the building of two Habitat for Humanity houses. As a result, our volunteers are working diligently with two deserving home buyers and their families to help them complete their homes before the holidays. Join the celebration of their completion by attending the moving dedication on **Saturday, November 18*** at 10:30 a.m. at Columbia Elementary (on St. Louis Avenue and Garrison Street directly across from the build site). Following this service, there will be blessing ceremonies at the individual homes where you can see the houses, meet the homebuyers, and enjoy refreshments. For directions or carpooling, contact the Zensers at Zenser@sbcglobal.net or **(636) 394-4608**. *Please note correction of the date.

Manchester United Methodist Women Mission Tea and Candle Burning Ceremony

Manchester UMC will be hosting this district event. All women of the church are invited to attend this meaningful meeting. Ceremony takes place **Sunday, December 3**, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Please call Marilyn Winterberger with any questions at **(636) 394-1931**.

Hey, Senior High!

Fall is here, and that means so are Fall Retreats. There is still time to sign up for this great weekend. Senior High will be traveling to Camp High Hill **November 17, 18, and 19**. Senior High theme will be "Presence or Presents." This Senior High retreat is open to all 9th thru 12th graders. Don't miss the fun! Forms are by the youth rooms, or online at www.manchesterumc.org/youth.

Rewarding Teaching Opportunities

How would you feel if you came to MUMC and there were no Sunday school classes for your child? We are looking for volunteers for our Special Needs Adult "Friendship" class and also for our preschool/elementary special needs shadowing program. These two ministries are so important, but they cannot continue without your help. Please consider how rewarding it would be to work with these unique and special individuals! Call Susan Vasquez at **(636) 200-4707** or email her at susan.vasquez@manchesterumc.org.

Circle of Friends Children's Garage Sale

The Circle of Friends Preschool Children's Garage Sale is Saturday, **November 11** in Old Fellowship Hall from 7 a.m. to noon. This is the primary fundraiser of our preschool.

Please come shop and help us continue to make it a great school for our children!



Thanksgiving Food Drive

On Harvest Weekend, **November 18 and 19**, Manchester will continue its tradition of collecting food for hungry people in our community. Bring your donations of food to church and help us fill the narthex. Bring a whole turkey dinner or individual items listed below. Following the 10:30 worship service, the donated food will be distributed between Metro Ministry, which serves the Metropolitan St. Louis area, and the Circle of Concern in Valley Park, which serves West County.

Frozen turkeys (10-12 lbs)	Instant potatoes
Stuffing mix for turkey	Canned pumpkin
Cranberry sauce	Cake mix and frosting
Canned sweet potatoes	

No time to shop but want to contribute? Just make a check payable to MUMC, mark it "food," and place it in the offering plate.

Sixty Plus BBQ

In November we will meet a week early to make room for the Fair Trade Market being held in Fellowship Hall. Make reservations with Ruth Ward for the Barbeque at **(636) 227-8398**. Cost is \$9.50 per person. There will be entertainment. Meet at 5:30 p.m. on **November 14**.



Shopping for Our Dreams Online

Now there are two great ways to combine shopping and stewardship.

First, gift cards to Dierbergs, Schnucks*, and Shop 'n Save can be purchased on Sunday mornings in one of the Narthex areas, or during the week in the church office. MUMC receives five percent of the face value of each card.

Second, you can help the church by shopping from home! Shop at your favorite stores by going to www.bign.com/manchesterumc and clicking on Big N Marketplace. This online shopping mall pays up to 35% commission back to MUMC and you get great deals too!

What are you waiting for? Stop by the table in the Narthex or go online today!

www.bign.com/manchesterumc

Young Adult Adventure for 20-and-30-somethings

Saturday, December 2, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Give back by serving lunch at Centenary CARES to those who are in need. We need a minimum of eight people to do this. We will prepare lunch, serve lunch and then eat and clean up prior to returning to MUMC. This is a great opportunity you won't want to miss! Please sign up by emailing sharonpeebles@gmail.com.

**Topical Studies on
Sunday Morning
10:30 a.m.
Room 310**

Join us as we learn about *24 Hours, A Day in the Life of Jesus*. Learn about living a life that Jesus wants us to live, which is something that Christians are constantly striving for. The curriculum is comprised of video clips and discussion.

Attention Youth Leaders

Youth Leaders have an opportunity to meet with Susan Hay, Director of Youth Ministries from the United Methodist General Board of Discipleship on **December 10** to learn more about how our youth ministry can be more effective. Susan will be with us Sunday and Monday and will spend time with youth, the Youth Leadership Team, adult volunteers, staff, and our senior pastor to help us evaluate our ministry and vision for what more it could be.

Susan has recently been part of a national study focusing on effective youth ministries. She, and others, surveyed hundreds of churches and did in-depth interviews with 21 churches that were selected as the "best of the best." Seven denominations took part in the study and each denomination interviewed three churches. Each denomination had a small, medium and large membership church to interview and churches were selected to be geographically diverse and represent all areas of the country. Susan will share some of what she learned from this study as well as help us identify things we can improve.

Please plan to join us as we look to the future of youth ministry at Manchester.

New Women's Retreat Ministry Plans Three Events for 2007



by Ed Heins

Fresh from a successful three-day retreat in September, the MUMC Women's Retreat Ministry has plans to hold three more retreats for women during 2007.

Margaret Mahan and Peggy Andereck are the co-leaders for the new ministry that was activated last summer. The ministry's mission statement calls for providing new and interesting "spiritual and educational experiences for all women in our church and community."

It also seeks to help women achieve a closer relationship with Christ and each other and to provide outreach to other women.

The ministry's fall retreat was September 22 through 24 at the Marianist Retreat Center in Eureka. It attracted 35 women, ranging in age "from a young mother in her 20s to grandmothers," Margaret said.

Margaret and Peggy were pleased with the multi-generational mix.

The theme of the first retreat revolved around helping women find "a balance between the Mary and Martha in all of us," Peggy said. She was referring to the biblical scene where Mary worshiped at the feet of Jesus while Martha was busy in the kitchen.

Peggy added, "Women need to do both but we need to find a balance between our spiritual needs and our service needs."

The women's retreat ministry members have set the dates and locations for the 2007 retreats. They are now working on themes for each event.

Once a theme has been set for the first 2007 retreat, the event will be publicized in the Messenger and church bulletins. There will also be brochures available at the Welcome Center, Margaret said.

The first 2007 retreat will be a two-day event February 3 through 4 at Pallotine Renewal Center in Florissant. The other two 2007 retreats will be at the Marianist Retreat Conference Center in Eureka. One will be a one-day event June 23 and the other, a three-day event November 2 through 4.

Following each retreat, there is a post-retreat luncheon at MUMC. The post-retreat luncheon following the September retreat was held Sunday, October 29.

"The post-retreat luncheons provide a good opportunity for women who may be interested in attending future retreats," Peggy said.

At the September retreat, there were five presenters on different aspects of the central theme. The staff at the Marianist center conducted the sessions. The MUMC ministry leaders met with the staff to make sure the sessions' messages reflected "Protestant traditions."

The center has experience in hosting retreats for different religious faiths, including Islam. However, MUMC was the first Protestant group they had ever hosted a retreat for and it was a great experience for both parties.

Pastor Debby Peebles conducted the Sunday worship service that ended the September retreat.

Margaret feels the retreat format "gives women of the church and of the community an opportunity to know each other in an informal setting."

The retreat facilities provide individual rooms and baths. The Marianist center is in a rural setting that allows for leisurely walks and periods for meditation.

Because the retreat sites are in the St. Louis area, women have the choice of staying overnight or attending only the daytime sessions, Peggy noted.

If you are interested in taking part in future retreats, you can call the MUMC office at **(636) 394-7506** or call Pastor Debby Peebles at **(636) 200-4705**. Pastor Debby is the staff leadership partner for the retreat ministry.



The Marianist Retreat Conference Center in Eureka, MO, where Manchester United Methodist Women spent a week-end of spiritual reflection this past September.

**November 11 and 12 - Communion
New Members and Commitment Sunday**

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17
Psalm 127 or Psalm 42
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44

Saturday, 5 p.m.
Rev. Steve Harbaugh (Chapel)

Sunday, 8, 9 and 10:30 a.m.
Rev. Carl Schenck (Sanctuary)

Sunday, 9 a.m. Contemporary
Rev. Erik Corley (Fellowship Hall)

**November 18 and 19
Harvest Sunday and Fair Trade Market**

1 Samuel 1:4-20
1 Samuel 2:1-10 or Psalm 113
Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18); 19-25
Mark 13:1-8

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

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

Combined service:
Sunday, 9 a.m. Traditional and Contemporary
Rev. Carl Schenk (Sanctuary)

**November 25 and 26
Christ the King**

2 Samuel 23:1-7
Psalm 132:1-12
John 18:33-37
Revelation 1:4b-8

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

Sunday, 8, 9 and 10:30 a.m.
Rev. Carl Schenck (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 emailing prayer.requests@manchesterumc.org.

We celebrate these new homes created:

Courtney Mowen and Daniel Wright on October 21.

We celebrate these new arrivals:

Brian and Kym Bohl on the birth of their son, Alex Matthew Bohl, on October 7.

Angela and Matthew Kinser on the birth of their son, Alexander James Kinser, on October 13. Proud grandparents are Paul and Peggy (Lyon) Kinser. Proud great-grandparents are **Paul and Kathy Lyon**.

We extend our Christian sympathy to:

Carole (Phil) Hesley on the passing of her father, Dan Ruth, on October 25. Grandfather of **Laura Ruth Hesley**.

Charles (Carol) Shaffer on the passing of his sister, Mary Ann Adam, on October 28.

(MUMC members are in bold.)



Manchester United Methodist Church
 129 Woods Mill Road
 Manchester, MO 63011-4339

Address service requested

Non-Profit
 Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Ballwin, MO
 Permit No. 7

DATED MATERIAL

**Meal-A-Month
 November Menu**

Canned chicken and dumplings
 Boxed stuffing mix
 Cranberry sauce
 Green beans

Optional
 Deodorant



the messenger

Staff:

- Rev. Carl Schenck, *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*
- Kevin McBeth, *Director of Music Ministries*
- Kimberly Smith, *Finance Director*
- Susan Vasquez, *Children's Christian Education Director*
- Betsy Vicente, *New Member and Volunteer Coordinator*

Publisher:

Manchester United
 Methodist Church
 129 Woods Mill Road
 Manchester, MO 63011-4339
 (636) 394-7506
 (636) 527-1967 TTY



www.manchesterumc.org

The Messenger is published and distributed twice a month.

Publication schedule:

- Articles submitted by 9 a.m. on the 1st Friday will be published the 4th week of the same month.
- Articles submitted by 9 a.m. on the 3rd Friday will be published the 2nd week of the following month.
- The next submission deadline - November 17 for publication December 8, 2006

Please send articles, photos and suggestions to MUMC, in care of *The Messenger* or email bryan.lester@manchesterumc.org.

Staff email addresses are in the following format:
firstname.lastname@manchesterumc.org