

The Messenger

MANCHESTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 22, 2006

VOLUME X



Kay Stiles
Director of Children's Ed.



We shrink from change; yet is there anything
that can come into being without it?

- *Marcus Aurelius*

If nothing ever changed, there
would be no butterflies.

- *Unknown*

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Change is Good.

...right???

Most of us resist too much change in our lives even though we can always count on it happening, just like death and taxes. This particular year is bringing many changes for me. My daughter, Nancy, just turned 18 and is a senior at Lafayette High School and looking forward to college next year. I can't imagine not having her in the house, and I am already saying things like, "This is the last poms camp/Homecoming/[other yearly tradition]."

My son, Will, just turned 16, is a sophomore at LHS, and just got his license and his new car. Now I get to worry about *two* kids on the road. Wasn't it just yesterday that he couldn't wait to get a new Thomas the Tank Engine?

And me? Well, my marriage of 23 years is coming to an end and I don't have to tell most of you the changes that this has caused and will continue to cause. Aside from the personal trauma, this situation has brought about the immediate need for me to find a full-time job and so I have resigned from my position here. It is a job I have loved for five years with co-workers I respect and am fond of.

So, where's the good part in this "change" thing? I ask God that question on a daily, sometimes hourly, basis.

The good is:

- that my children are wonderful, healthy young people who are progressing with their lives as they should be.
- that I will be going back to teaching, which I look forward to.
- that there are more people out there to meet, to work with, to become friends with.
- and that God will be with me all the way.

So, hang in there. Change is good!

In Christ,
Kay
Director of Children's Education

MESSAGE FROM CARL

Dear Friends,

Where do I start? There are so many things that beg to be spoken as I return home.

First, "thank you" to the congregation and its leaders for the time granted for my renewal leave. Thanks also go to Gene Morse, the staff, and all those who carried extra responsibilities during my absence.

Yes, I am back to stay. I understand there were a number of speculations floating around about my leave. "It's really a transition to retirement." "He will be moving soon like Dean Wilson did after his leave." "I wonder if he really will want to work when he gets back." Well, Manchester UMC is where I want and expect to be. We have so many things to do together and being away makes home look all the better. None of us can predict what tomorrow may bring, but I fully expect and want to continue as your pastor for years to come. So, don't get worried ... or get your hopes up ... that the leave was the beginning of some kind of transition.

On another subject, when I left in April we had hoped that the Community Christian Life Center project would be ready for a congregational vote this fall. Reality turned out to be that there was just too much work still to be done in crafting a proposal to be ready by fall. Work on this project continues and it is important work. It is better to do this carefully than quickly.

Three cheers for the chancel choir for singing at both the 9 and 10:30 traditional services. As the choir has grown to fill the chancel, their grow room has largely disappeared. This division will introduce room to grow the choir for the future and will greatly enrich traditional worship at 9. My thanks to Kevin McBeth and the members of the choir. Some of the choir members are singing for both services and some for one. It's a change for all and I am thankful for willingness to change.

Enough for this week.

I hope to see you in worship next Sunday.

Grace and Peace,



Carl L. Schenck
Senior Pastor



Our Financial Commitment to Christ

Phil Estes, Business Administrator

Operating Commitments through August 31, 2006

Commitments Received	\$1,726,455
Expense	\$1,739,606
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$13,151)

Building Fund Commitments through August 31, 2006

Current Commitment Total	\$373,291
Total Collected	\$276,443
Remaining Balance	\$96,848

MUMC has collected 74.06 percent of the total 2006 Building Fund Commitment.

Attendance

Average weekly worship attendance through August was 1414, a 4.63% percent decrease over the same period in 2005.



Unique and Rewarding Opportunities

How would you feel if you came to MUMC and there were no Sunday School classes for your child? Fortunately, we have classes here, but we have to have teachers and helping hands to staff them!! In particular, we are looking for volunteers for our Special Needs Adult "Friendship" class and also for our pre-school/elementary special needs shadowing program. These two ministries are so important, but both will die soon without more help. Please consider how rewarding these unique and special individuals would be to work with! Call Kay Stiles at **(636) 200-4724** or email her at kay.stiles@manchesterumc.org.

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 for 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**.



The Revolve Tour and Girls Lock-In COMBINED!!!

When: Friday, September 29 to Saturday, September 30
6 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$55

Meet at MUMC, drive to the Scottrade Center*, spend the evening with hundreds of Christian teen girls, come back to MUMC for a lock-in, and head back to the Scottrade Center in the morning for a day filled with concerts, and programs on Friendships, Guys, REAL Faith – REAL Life, and What I Think About Me. Pick up a flyer and sign up sheet. You can check out the website at www.revolve.com.

Spots are limited so make sure and sign up ASAP! Signups are due by **September 24**. Call Sharon at **(636) 200-4717** if you have questions.

*The Scottrade Center is formerly the Savvis Center.

Habitat for Humanity Houses



MUMC has helped sponsor two Habitat Homes this year. The two-story homes are located in the Jeff Vander Lou neighborhood. In the last ten years, MUMC will have built thirteen Habitat houses. Your generous financial gifts and *many* volunteer hours help to make these homes possible for deserving home buyers and their families. Despite earlier storm damage, the homes are well

underway. Mark your calendar and plan to attend the dedication of these homes on **November 14, 2006**.

Come and See!

Big changes are happening to the walls in the Children's Education area. Beautiful murals are being painted thanks to the generous donations of Bill Mulvihill in memory of his wife, Judy, and to Mr. and Mrs. W.T. Kranz in honor of their grandchildren, Nancy and Will Stiles. Come downstairs and take a look!



Helping a New Church

Some people gave money or offered support to The Gathering when Matt Miofsky came to speak at our services on July 30. Some mail to the Gathering has been returned because of a Post Office error. That problem has been fixed and you can send your gifts to:

The Gathering United Methodist Church
2105 McCausland Ave
St Louis, MO 63143

Your Lay Leader Letter

by Stephanie Hibray

Calling all Stephen Ministers: Past, Present, and Wannabes

This is a time of great hope and excitement. The Stephen Ministry program is returning to MUMC! It's a fresh start, a clean slate, as we move forward to serve our neighbors with Christ's love and compassion.

Rev. Debby Peebles, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care, is eager to work with us and to promote the Stephen Ministry program. Pastor Debby and Stephen Leaders will encourage, educate, and empower us to care for members of MUMC, and those beyond our church walls.

Do you have Stephen Ministry training? Then dust off that Stephen Minister nametag and wear it to church to help promote the upcoming program. **Would you like to become a Stephen Minister?** You can! There will be training sessions available. **Are you a retired Stephen Minister but have thoughts and ideas to contribute?** Please share.

Do you have questions? Please call Pastor Debby Peebles (once a Stephen Leader herself) at **(636) 200-4705** or email her at debby.peebles@manchesterumc.org.

All-Day Scrapbooking Crop

When: Saturday, October 7,
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Where: Room 133
(Old Fellowship Hall)



The Sarah Scrapbooking Circle and Mom-to-Mom Cropping Group will be hosting an all day crop to help you get started, organize, or catch up on your albums! Invite your friends and neighbors and come join us part of the day or all day for fellowship, fun, and completed album pages! Bring your favorite snack to share with the group!

Please RSVP as soon as possible to Leona Dunsmoor at **(636) 294-3979** or ldunsmoor@aol.com, or Trish Gruender at **(636) 391-8266** or trishgruender@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Singles Events



Monday, September 25, 7:15 p.m.
Rob Becker speaks on relationships.

For more information, go to www.westcountysingles.com.

Library Alert

Thanks to the volunteers who generously have given their time to a difficult task. Your library is back in business. Please visit the library, room 226 in the Adult Education wing, to see the new books on display. Many of them were given to the library as a part of the 2006 Pentecost Party.

Come check us out!

Circle of Friends Children's Garage Sale

Our Circle of Friends Preschool is planning its annual Children's Garage Sale on **Saturday, November 11** from 7 a.m. to noon. Children's items, including clothing, toys, books, equipment and furniture (NO stuffed animals, please) are needed and can be dropped off **Sunday, November 5** from 8 a.m. until noon, **November 6 and 7** from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and **November 8** from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. in Old Fellowship Hall.



We also need volunteers to help sort and organize sale items that week. All volunteers who work two hours Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday of that week will be invited to a volunteer appreciation pre-sale Thursday morning, **November 9**. For more information, call Rachael Narsh at **(636) 778-0173**.

Funds raised from previous garage sales allowed us to purchase new playground equipment for the school and church's use. This is the sole fundraiser of the COF Preschool, so we're counting on you to help us make it a success!

MUMC Family Camp 2006

October 21-22

Family Camp is a weekend for families of all ages, shapes, sizes, and numbers to gather together. Participants can participate in fellowship, outdoor sports such as fishing, swimming, canoeing, hiking, and worship. It's an opportunity to make new friends, or share ideas and concerns, while sitting around a campfire, or singing songs on a hay-ride. Families will eat, play, engage in fellowship, and worship together during a Saturday-Sunday experience. For more information, contact Holly Butka at **(314) 346-3718** or holly.j.butka@monsanto.com for more information or to sign up.

Only Three Short Months Until...

...the Children's Christmas Festival! This is a fun, annual event happening **Saturday, December 9**. There is always a great committee for planning and lots of volunteers to help with activities. After three years of service, the chairperson is stepping down, so we are looking for a new chair and co-chair. It would be a shame if the festival folds because of lack of leadership. Please contact Susan at **(636) 200-4707** or Linda at **(636) 200-4710** if you are interested in helping with this 26-year-old MUMC tradition.

Upcoming New Member Classes

October New Member Class

Thursday, October 12

Dinner and orientation at 6:30 p.m.

Join **Sunday, October 22**.

November New Member Class

Thursday, November 2

Dinner and orientation at 6:30 p.m.

Join **Sunday, November 12**.

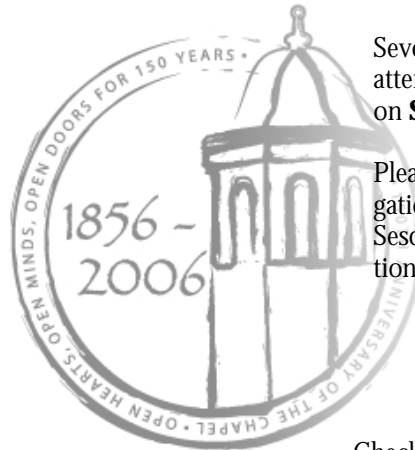


Reservations required.

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

MUMC Chapel 150th Birthday Celebration September 30-October 1, 2006

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors for 150 Years



Several former Pastors will be in attendance during the Chapel service on **September 30**.

Please join MUMC's entire congregation and attend the Chapel's Sesquicentennial Birthday Celebration, 1856-2006.

Check the celebration's own website at www.manchesterumc.info for more details.

C'mon, Youth, Swing Your Partners!



All youth are invited to join us for a Square Dance in celebration of our Historic Chapel's 150th birthday. Join us on **Saturday, September 30** at 7 p.m. for some fun and fellowship and learn how to do-si-do!



Festival of Praise



More than 500 children, youth and adults join together in celebration of music to mark the 150th anniversary of the MUMC Historic Chapel. Come and hear all of the MUMC Music Ministry participants in this wonderful afternoon of music.

Sunday, October 1 at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Fourth Generation Members Recall Early Experiences of 150-Year-Old Chapel

by Ed Heins

As the two-day celebration of the MUMC chapel's 150th anniversary nears, three members from fourth-generation church families shared some of their early experiences. They also talked about what the present-day church means to them.

Ed Finlay, 78, who has been instrumental in organizing the 150th anniversary program, has been alive for more than half of the time since the brick chapel was built in 1856. Previous Finlay generations have been members since those mid-1800s days.

Finlay, Kathy Shotwell and Beth (Stoecker) Wright talked about their families' long-time association with MUMC.

Finlay said his earliest church memory is in the form of two photographs that included all the adults and children of the church in 1932. The whole membership was photographed on the porch in front of the chapel.

"One photo had all the kids and the other had all the adults," Finlay said.

He also remembered lean years of the church's life. "At one time, 12 couples held the church together," he said. He also remembered when an Eden Theological Seminary student, Joe Wagner, served as the church's only pastor.

Pastor Wagner was instrumental in graduating the first confirmation class, of which Finlay was a member. "We had 13 kids in that first class," Finlay remembers.

On a humorous note, Finlay recalled the church's old pedal-powered organ. "A mouse lived in that organ and we kids looked forward to the church service to see if the mouse would come out when my aunt started to play," he said.

Finlay said his father, Norman, told him something that helped Ed to adapt to the much bigger, present-day MUMC. "My father said it's important, as the church grows, for old members not to try to do everything. He said you have to make sure new members get involved so they will feel they are a part of the church," Finlay said.

Kathy Shotwell, another fourth generation member of MUMC, said one of her first remembrances of the church was when her Sunday School class took a 1959 tour of the extensive interior remodeling of the chapel. "We looked in the windows from the outside," she said.

She also recalled when church envelopes were delivered by horseback.

Kathy said the most significant church experience was not an event but growth of her feeling the church was just like a family. "I saw that, if there was a problem, the church came together to help you out."

Among her early church experiences involved baby-sitting. "At 16, I had my first baby-sitting assignment with the children of Pastor Al Mitchner," she said.

She was in high school when the second sanctuary was built and now the church growth puts the congregation in an even larger worship area. Like Finlay, Kathy has enjoyed the expansion.

"I like the chance to go to different worship services. I like the 5 p.m. Saturday service," she said. She also likes the wider variety of programs offered by the larger church.

Beth (Stoecker) Wright also is a member of a fourth generation family at MUMC.

"Since we lived right across the street, the church was always a presence in my life," she said. "As kids, we played in the little lawn that was behind the church."

An even bigger factor in bringing the church into her life was the fact that her mother, Mildred, was the church custodian for nearly 20 years. "She did whatever was needed, day or night," Beth said.

And from 7th grade through college, Beth worked as a custodial assistant to her mother.

Beth noted, "When thinking of my family and the church, it's hard to separate the two. In addition to her custodial work, my Mom was head of the hospitality committee and also a wedding planner for the church."

"The day of a wedding was such a good day for her. She got to help make it a day of dreams for the couple," she remembers.

The 150th anniversary of the chapel is a good time to remember that MUMC is the product of many families who have made it a big and important part of their lives for many generations.



September 23 and 24

Proverbs 31:10-31
 Psalm 1
 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
 Mark 9:30-37

Saturday, 5 p.m.
 Rev. Carl Schenck (Chapel)

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

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

September 30 and October 1

World Communion Sunday
 Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22
 Psalm 124
 James 5:13-20
 Mark 9:38-50

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

Sunday, 8, 9 and 10:30 a.m.
 Bishop Robert Schnase (Sanctuary)

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

October 7 and 8

Job 1:1; 2:1-10
 Psalm 26 or Psalm 25
 Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12
 Mark 10:2-16

Saturday, 5 p.m.
 Rev. Erik Corley (Chapel)

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

Sunday 9 a.m. Traditional
 Rev. Erik Corley

Sunday, 9 a.m. Contemporary
 Rev. Carl Schenck (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:

Amanda Buie and James Willis on September 2.

Stephanie Kabbaz and David McBride on September 9.

We celebrate these new arrivals:

Christine and Justin Freed on the birth of their daughter, Norah Elise, on February 9. Big sister is Celia.

Michael and Traci Griffin on the birth of their son, Patrick Michael Griffin, on August 8. Proud grandparents are **Sharon** and **Dick Marsh**, and big sister is Grace.

We extend our Christian sympathy to:

Sharon and **Dick Marsh** on the passing of her mother, Ruth Humberg, on July 16. She is survived by grandson **Michael (Traci) Griffin** and great-grandchildren Grace and Patrick Griffin.

Joan and **Lon Beach** on the passing of her mother, Elizabeth Newberry, on September 1.

Greta and Len Corkhill on the passing of her mother, Bernice Clark, on September 3.

(MUMC members are in bold.)



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

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DATED MATERIAL

**Meal-A-Month
 September Menu**

- Beef Stew
- Pancake Mix
- Syrup in plastic bottles
- Jello

**Optional
 Tissues**



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*
- 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*

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

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www.manchesterumc.org

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- 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 - October 5 for publication
 October 27, 2006

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