

The Messenger

MANCHESTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 8, 2006

VOLUME X

It Makes a Difference to That One.

You may have heard the story about the man who walked along a beach, tossing stranded starfish back into the ocean, even though the waves continually brought more up onto the scorching sand. Someone passing by viewed his act of charity as a futile gesture that would never make a difference in the big picture. Picking up another starfish, the man tossed it into the safety of the sea and simply said, "It makes a difference to that one."

Sometimes God calls us to do small things that make a world of difference in the life of one person. Bill and I have the privilege of providing a home for a woman and her son who need a place to stay while they try to turn their lives around. They're not that different from you and me. She has a master's degree and an impressive work history; he has won a host of honors, including a prestigious award from Princeton for his work on race relations. She has helped others in need professionally, and he has a dream of changing the world as a lawyer and politician. He may get that opportunity – he was just admitted to Morehouse College.

But even people like this can find themselves in a desperate situation, especially if they are without the safety net that many of us in West County have: family & friends with the means to help. Many people walk a financial tightrope, and it can take very little for it all to unravel. But these two have a deep faith in God and a gleam of *hope* in their eyes.

Our part in this story is relatively small. Our empty nest has plenty of empty rooms, and they have been a real blessing to our lives in many ways, including discovering how many starfish-casters there are in our church family. A friend mended this young man's clothes for college. Another provided gas cards for their drive to Atlanta. Yet another used frequent flier miles to provide free hotel rooms during college orientation. Her car was given a long-overdue oil change free of charge, along with a host of unexpected extras, including a full tank of gas. And the list goes on.

God is at work in this congregation. Independent of our situation, I learned that a friend was spending her day off driving a physically challenged friend around doing errands. Another was providing transportation so someone could visit a friend in the hospital. There are so many people in our midst reaching out & taking care of each other!

I challenge each of us to continually find *one person* we can make a world of difference to. It truly changes our lives as much as theirs. And I challenge all of us to *generously support the church financially*. When we do, we're collectively casting a huge net and throwing tons of starfish back into the sea, by supporting the agencies & programs that specialize in helping people (like our new friends) take the next step in their journey.

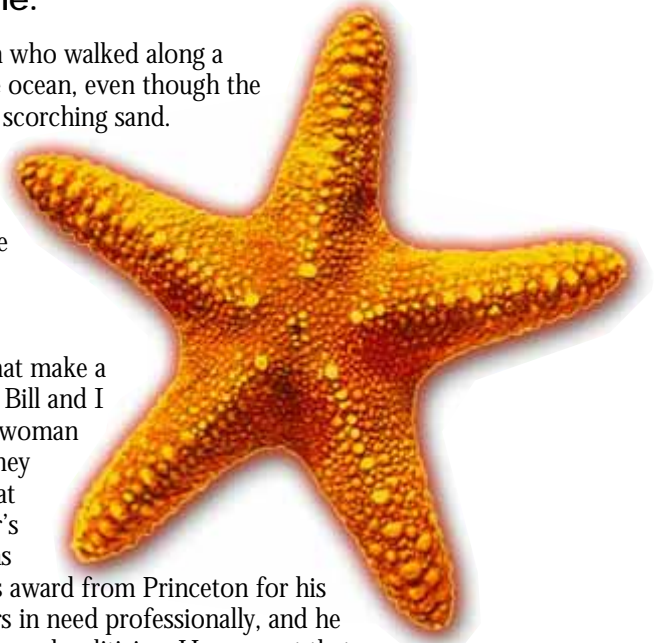
Together, we can become the safety net that many people lack: a church family of friends with the means to help, one person at a time.

Happy to be in ministry with you,

Lori Borger



Lori Borger
Children's/Contemporary
Choir and Drama



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Minds, Open Doors
for 150 Years

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Carl's back, but you can still
read entries in his blog from
his trip to Europe at
www.faihandempire.com

Missouri Church to Celebrate Its Chapel's Sesquicentennial

August 30, 2006

*By Keith Brown and Joan Beach**

MANCHESTER, Missouri—The Manchester United Methodist Church is preparing to celebrate its Chapel's 150th birthday on September 30-October 1, 2006.

Dr. Carl L. Schenck, Senior Pastor, bases the church's longevity on "staying relevant and effective in affecting people's faith journeys." Pastors through the years have stayed relevant with their use of multi-media, musical instruments and teaching techniques in Sunday school. "We have paralleled the changes in other areas of society," Schenck said. "Our mission hasn't changed, but our method has."

Although started earlier, the church uses 1826 as the date of its formal beginnings as an organized congregation. John Ball, for whom the city of Ballwin, Missouri is named, provided the first permanent place of worship for area Methodists. He purchased James Neal's old wool carding machine house in Manchester, added seats and a balcony, and donated it to the Methodists in 1826. In 1837, a "regular" A-frame church was built on Woods Mill Road. No further information about this first Chapel has been located. In 1856, when a larger building was needed, the present brick Chapel was constructed at a cost of \$6,389. It had one large room on the main floor and was heated by a pot-belly stove. The basement had a dirt floor. There were two outhouses and one horse shed located behind the Chapel.

Manchester United Methodist Church has a rich and long history. It is among the oldest of 900 Methodist Churches in Missouri and one of the first churches and Protestant groups in St. Louis and St. Louis County.

Dr. John Ward, Pastor Emeritus, said that frontier preachers named "circuit riders" probably started the Manchester church. They traveled through the region to evangelize and organize

congregations, beginning in the 1810s. "There was a great desire and passion in the early days of the American Frontier to go where the people were. It was the job of the church to follow the frontier, when it was safe and permitted," Ward said. "There was just a short time between the European settlers coming to the west and the Methodist circuit riders coming to evangelize the west and organize the frontier," which is why Manchester Methodist is such an old church."

Ed Finlay, Historical Ministry chairperson and coordinator of the birthday celebration said, "We've been getting ready for this celebration for the past three years by having "preparation" celebrations to make sure that when 2006 rolled around, we would be ready to do things right." The two-day event will have many activities. On Saturday, **September 30**, a flag ceremony and a ceremony recognizing Civil War and other veterans buried in the cemetery will begin the day. The 33rd Illinois Volunteer Regiment Band, which is a reenactment of an actual Civil War Era band, will play, apple butter using wood fires and copper kettles will be made, horse shoeing will be demonstrated, puppet shows are available for the kids, "3-Steeple" tours of the church campus will be ongoing all day, crafts displays including candle and pottery making are scheduled, and a barbecue is planned for lunch. On **Sunday, October 1**, the

8, 9 and 10:30 a.m. church services will focus sermons on the Chapel and its history and "birthday cake" will be served to worshipers following each service. A chicken meal is planned for lunch, 3-Steeple Tours will continue, and a musical concert is scheduled for the afternoon in the sanctuary. For more information, see our website at www.manchesterumc.org or contact at **(636)394-7506**. The church is located at 129 Woods Mill Road in the heart of Manchester, MO.

"Anyone who would like to join in celebrating this very special event with us is most welcome," said Dr. Schenck. "Come share in the rich history of Manchester United Methodist Church."

Many thought that the little church on Woods Mill Road was not in a good location for growth, but history has proven otherwise. Manchester United Methodist now has over 3,600 members, is the largest United Methodist Church in the state of Missouri, and is among the top 50 largest United Methodist Churches in the United States. John Ball would be proud!

*Keith Brown and Joan Beach are members of MUMC and active participants of their historical ministry.

With a little TLC, it will stand for another 150 years!

Yes, the Chapel is showing its age. A crack here, some rotted wood there, rusted nails and a few sagging timbers. Wow! After hanging on the side of the Chapel in the summer sun, we're feeling our age, too. Our muscles ache from scraping multiple layers of paint. Rebuilding the rotted wooden details has challenged Dan's woodworking skills.

Little wonder, the old building also has a few aches and pains. As we look a little closer, we see the exterior trim is made from redwood and cypress. The old timers who built the chapel wanted it to last and used the best materials available.

-Sam Hodge and Dan Pace



Sam Hodge (left) and Dan Pace enjoy a much-deserved break. For the past two months, the duo has been hard at work restoring the Chapel to mint condition. Their efforts will ensure that the Chapel remains a symbol of Christ's presence for years to come.

Cell Phones for Seniors

There are many senior citizens who are unable to afford cell phones and there are many of us who have old cell phones we are no longer using. There is an organization now collecting old or no longer used cell phones. The phones are completely dismantled and any stored information deleted. The phones are then wired to ONLY dial 911 and are donated to senior citizens in need, giving them access wherever they are to 911.

If you have an old cell phone you are no longer using, please bring it to church and place in the bin at the Collection Connection marked "Bulletin Stuffers" until **Sunday, September 10.**

If you have questions, please contact Tom and Laura Jones at **(636) 227-2013.**

9-1-1 for Cancer! Open House Event

Most of us have been touched by cancer either as a patient or watching a loved one fight this horrible disease. MUMC has a dedicated Cancer Resource and Information Group that can help you through your cancer journey, from assisting you or your loved one with finding the right oncologist, sharing inspirational literature that helps heal the soul, to connecting with Christians in fellowship. As a MUMC family we need to support each other as we navigate this journey. As Pastor Debby shared, "The 'C' in Christ is bigger than the 'c' in cancer." Please join us for our First Annual Open House to learn how we can help you and how your own personal cancer journey can light the path for many others to travel.

When: September 11, 7 – 9 p.m.

Where: Room 141

Refreshments will be served.

Please contact Miles Schwartz at **(636) 391-5185** or Diana Van Leuven at **(636) 230-7603** with any questions.

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!

Mission Moments

During the Mission Moments in our August services we heard about MUMC's support of missionaries who serve the hurting world near and far. We were touched by the day center for the street children in Ukraine and gratified to know that Mozambique is celebrating the well that brings them safe water, something we take for granted. Closer to home, we find the Methodist missionaries leading crews to help with debris removal for the homes of elderly and disabled impacted by storms in St. Louis and other areas of Missouri. Families are devastated by circumstances beyond natural disasters, too. A missionary at Kingdom House in south St. Louis provides respite child care, parent education, and support services to help strengthen struggling families. The missionaries directing these projects are our hands reaching out to do the work of Christ for and with us.

Thank you for supporting them with your contributions to the Mission Fund. When contributing to the Mission Fund, be sure to designate Mission on the memo line of your check or enclose it in the MISSION envelope.



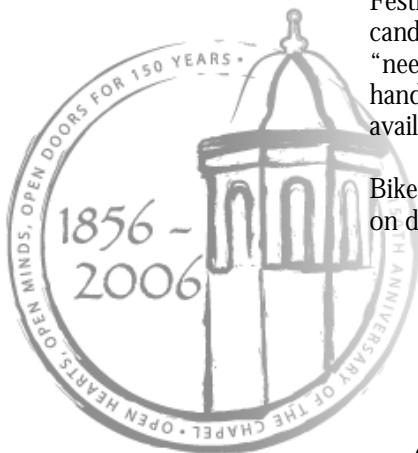
MINISTRY AND FELLOWSHIP

MUMC Chapel 150th Birthday Celebration Sept. 30-Oct. 1, 2006

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors for 150 Years

Festivities for children including candle making, antique games, "needle in the haystack," and other hands-on activities. These will be available on **September 30**.

Bike Rehab will have various bicycles on display--some new, some antique.



Check MUMC's website at www.manchesterumc.org for more details.

Young Adult Adventure

For Whom: 20 – 30-somethings
When: Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.
Where: Room 310

Come view and discuss NOOMA videos dealing with topics such as: What's up with the word "love?" How is religion relevant today? And many more. Call Sharon Peebles at **(314) 704-4402** with questions.

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.

August New Members

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

Brandon Gregory
Chris and Jill Hollander, Christian, Jordyn, and Douglas
Tracy Leader
John and Mary Merkle, Julie
Michael and Kelly Robb, Matthew
Lana Spillane Rose

Upcoming Singles Events



Monday, September 18, 7:15 p.m.
Ask the Pastor and volleyball.

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

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.

Thank You, Evening VBS Volunteers

We would like to thank the following individuals for their volunteer work with the Evening Vacation Bible School classes.

Jay Butka
Holly Butka
Rhonda Garrison
Katy Hall
J.J. Hancock
Bill Hiebert
Lisa Jones
Sue King
Deanna Majeski
Darci McCracken
Miranda Metheny
Missy Metheny
Tammy Moore
Kathy Mustain
Diane Mustain
Nathan Peace
Sharon Peebles

Debby Peebles
Lee Ann Pitman
Laura Quesal
Mindy Rubelmann
David Schenck
Laurie Sills
Tracy Snyder
Charlotte Sparks
Dwain Sparks
Kim Staggenborg
Tim Staggenborg
Cindy Strelow
Rob Strothkamp
Suzanna Strothkamp
Marni Tuhro
June Van Klaveren
Cindy Wolk

Bold denotes Planning Committee Volunteers.

MUMC Family Camp 2006

October 21 through 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.

Picnic In The Park

Where: Schroeder Park, on Old Meramec Station Rd.
When: **September 19**, meet 5:30 p.m., eat 6:30 p.m.
How Much: \$7 per person.



Food and drinks will be provided. Please reserve with Elma Grotha, not the church. Mail your check to:
 Elma Grotha
 612 Hanna Rd.
 Manchester, MO 63021-5305

Please make reservations by **September 15**. Call Elma with questions at **(636) 527-2861**.

Preschool Class Openings

Circle of Friends Preschool still has a few openings for ages two, three and four. Classes begin **September 11**. Call Linda Clark at **(636) 200-4718** for information.

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

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.

Circle of Friends Children's Garage Sale

The kids are on their way back to school... have you been cleaning out their closets? Don't part with those "treasures" just yet! The Circle of Friends Preschool will be calling for donations for its annual children's garage sale scheduled for **Saturday, November 11**. Watch for more information on how to donate your items and volunteer your time.



Disciple Bible Study Sign-up

Who wrote the Books of the Bible and how did they come together as the Bible? **Where** is the Holy Spirit? **What** is my relationship with God, with Jesus, with the Holy Spirit?

Join a Disciple Bible Study this Fall and discuss these questions and others. It is not a class that is taught, but a study and discussion group that meets once a week. Your reading is guided by a workbook which also provides background information on the weekly readings. You share discussion and questions, and will find that you have built a new group of friends within MUMC. You will also grow together in your relationship with God and realize the importance of being Disciples.

Kick-off for classes is **September 10**. Call Linda Simino for more information at **(636) 200-4710**. The classes are open to anyone who is interested in the study of the Bible. Please join us and invite someone to attend the class with you.

Summer Interns Enjoy Working with MUMC Youth Groups

by Ed Heins

Lauren Ballentyne and Zach Hopkins have completed their MUMC summer internships, helping church young people deepen their faith and serve others on mission projects.

They said they also got valuable leadership experience that will help them in the future.

Lauren, 20, the daughter of Bill and Suzie Ballentyne, and Zach, 19, the son of Tim and Roberta Hopkins, handled a variety of tasks during their June-to-August internships.

They both assisted in three different weekly Sunday School classes and with youth groups. Lauren went on a 10-day senior high home-building project in West Virginia while Zach worked at the weeklong Extreme Vacation Bible School for middle school students.

Both finished up their internships with the weeklong Spirit Camp.

Zach said he learned a lot about youth program management. He is planning on a career as a director of religious camps.

“We had interns when I was younger and in youth group. But, as the intern, I learned a lot about the planning that goes on behind the scenes before the meetings,” he said. He added, “You also learn by teaching.”

He is a sophomore at Illinois College. He said he wants to earn a master’s degree in outdoor recreation in preparation for his work in religious camps.

Zach said the internship experience was “absolutely” valuable.

Lauren said, “I learned a lot about working with young people, especially about the need for patience.” She added, “I liked to be able to help strengthen their faith and I grew in my faith.”

She is a junior at Murray State University and is majoring in public relations and marketing. She’d like to work in public relations and marketing for a sports team “and then also to volunteer to work with youth groups.”

Both endorsed the idea of having another MUMC internship for next summer.

Lauren said she applied for the internship after youth group leader Nancy Cooper asked if she would be interested. Zach said he called the church office and had an application form sent. He said, “Then a committee reviewed the applications and I got the job.”

Lauren said her favorite part of the internship was the mission trip to West Virginia. “We were helping to build three new homes. I really liked being out on the site,” she added.

I liked to be able to help strengthen their faith and I grew in my faith.

-Lauren Ballentyne

Zach said he had the most fun when working at Spirit Camp. “I got to work with so many different age groups. Helping them strengthen their faith is the best things that you can do,” he said.



Lauren Ballentyne and Zach Hopkins, MUMC’s two summer interns.

Asked if there were any difficult parts to the internship, Zach said, “Almost all of it was fun except for getting rained out on several of the outdoor activities.”

The Ballentynes have been MUMC members for nine years. Zach’s family joined MUMC 13 years ago.

September 9 and 10

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
 Psalm 125 or Psalm 124
 James 2:1-10, 11-13, 14-17
 Mark 7:24-37

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)

September 16 and 17

Proverbs 1:20-33
 Psalm 19
 James 3:1-12
 Mark 8:27-38

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)

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.
 Wes Peterson (Chapel)

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

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

We celebrate these new arrivals:

Jim and Lindy Gleason on the birth of their son, Samuel James Gleason, on February 18. Big brother is Timmy.

Lynn and Jason Randall on the birth of their daughter, Ruby Lee Randall on July 14. Proud grandmother is **Anita Schneiderer**.

William and Tammy Otten on the birth of their son, William Dee Otten on July 28. Proud grandparents are **William (Bill) and Diane Otten**.

We celebrate these new homes created:

Shelley Rissmann and Brian Hendricks on August 12. Shelly is the daughter of **Tom and Janet Rissman**.

Lisa Metzger and **Shane Mayes** on August 19.

Kristin Gudermuth and Reggie Springer on August 26. Kristin is the daughter of David and **Shari Gudermuth**.

We extend our Christian sympathy to:

Dean and Genny Schumacher on the passing of his brother, David Schumacher, Jr., on August 28. Uncle of **Kaitlyn** and Kelsey.

(MUMC members are in bold.)

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.



Manchester United Methodist Church
 129 Woods Mill Road
 Manchester, MO 63011-4339
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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 Schenk, *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:
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www.manchesterumc.org

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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 - September 15 for publication October 13, 2006

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