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Thanks to all the volunteers who worked on and behind the scenes, construction on our Habitat House for Carolyn Melton is complete. Please join us Sunday, January 24 at 2:00 p.m. as we dedicate Carolyn's house.

Our house is located at 4300 Van Dyke Street, only 5 miles from the church. From MPUMC go east on Middlebrook Pike. Right onto Wiesgarber Road. Left onto Papermill Drive. Right onto Hollywood Road. Left onto Sutherland Avenue. Left onto Jade Road. House is on the corner of Jade Road and Van Dyke Street.



#### Offering for Haiti

On Sunday January 17 we collected roughly \$6,400 to go directly to help earthquake relief efforts in Haiti. These funds will be administered by the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). When you give through UMCOR, 100% of your donation goes directly to supply relief. If you would like to make a gift to be used for relief work in Haiti, you can do at any time by simply designating your gift for "UMCOR-Haiti". Thank you for generosity!



#### Community Prayer Service for Peace at MPUMC

On Sunday January 24 at 6PM, our church will be hosting a community prayer service for peace. The service will be led in partnership with First United Methodist Church of Oak Ridge. At the service, you will get to learn how a group of youth from Oak Ridge are working in a real and profound way for peace in the Middle East. You will also have the chance to be a part of the prayer initiative begun by our own Mickey Rosenblum to have 1 million Christians praying for peace by praying for our enemies in January of 2010. Please mark your calendars now!

JANUARY 20, 2010

The Messenger

# On Campus Events

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

- 8:30 Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 8:45 Contemporary Worship (FLC/Gym)
- 9:00 MPUMC Breakfast (FLC/FH)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Contemporary Worship (FLC/Gym)
- 11:00 Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 4:00 Girls Basketball
- 4:00 First Place Class (Room 27)
- 4:30 Brass Voices
- 5:30 First Place Class (Old Bldg.)
- 5:30 Youth Snack Supper
- 6:00 PRAY FOR PEACE EVENT
- 6:00 "GiG" Youth Small Groups
- 7:30 "Slingshot" Youth/Young Adult Worship

## MONDAY, JANUARY 25

- 7:00 NCD Meeting (FH)

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

- 9:00 Staff Meeting (LCR)
- 9:30 CEP
- 10:00 Fit and Faithful (FLC)
- 10:30 Prayer at the Altar
- 11:00 Prayer Shawl Meeting (Room 30)
- 6:30 Prayer Shawl Meeting (Room 40)
- 6:30 Christian Believer Class (LCR)
- 7:00 Open Gym

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

- 5:15 Youth Handbell Choir
- 6:15 Early Risers Choir
- 6:15 Angel Choir (Room 26)
- 6:15 Cherub choir (Room 21)
- 6:15 Friendship Choir (Room 30)
- 6:45 "Ignition" Youth Fellowship
- 7:00 Children's Handbell Choir
- 7:00 Chancel Choir
- 7:00 ESL Class (Room 21 and 30)
- 7:45 Youth Games

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

- 9:30 CEP
- 10:00 Fit and Faithful (FLC)
- 10:00 Knox. Porcelain Artists (Room 31)
- 5:00 CWS Praise Team
- 5:15 Youth Handbells
- 6:00 Disciple III
- 7:00 Toastmasters (Room 30)
- 7:00 ESL Class (Room 23 and 31)

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

- 8:00 Sr. High Boys Basketball

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

JANUARY 17, 2010

Total Worship - 490    Sunday School - 231

## TITHES AND OFFERINGS

JANUARY 10, 2010

<b>BUDGET</b>	\$22,201.55
<b>PAVING THE WAY</b>	\$1,454.17
<b>MEMORIALS—Judy Boyd</b>	
<b>SPECIAL OFFERINGS:</b>	
<b>FISH</b>	\$20.00
<b>DESIGNATED OFFERINGS</b>	\$1,047.52
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$24,723.24</b>



Prayer Shawl Gathering  
 Tuesday, Jan. 26 6-8 p.m.  
 Panera Bread at Mercedes Place

Anyone who has been a part of this ministry or *is interested* in joining us is invited to come to a time of food and fellowship. Bring any needlework project you are working on whether or not it is a prayer shawl. A light supper will be provided.

RSVP to Jan Mobley no later than Monday, 1/25. If you have previously replied, no contact is necessary.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED BY  
 UMW  
**Willing Workers Circle**

## Health Kits for Haiti

We are collecting Health Kits to be sent to Haiti to help provide for basic sanitation needs. The kits need to be dropped off in the fellowship hall by this **Sunday January 24.**

Below are instructions if you would like to put together a kit.

Place these items inside a sealed one-gallon plastic bag.

- 1 hand towel (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27", No kitchen towels)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- 1 nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, No child-size brushes)
- 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages

\$5.00 (\$1.00 will be used to purchase toothpaste in bulk that will be added to the kits prior to delivery. The other \$4.00 will provide for shipping costs. If you are including a check, please make your check out to "Middlebrook Pike UMC" and write "Haiti Health Kit" in the memo line.)

### Important Kit Assembly Information

- All items included in kits must be NEW items.
- All emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations. Since strict rules often govern product entry into international countries, it is important that kits contain only the requested items-nothing more. Do NOT include any personal notes or additional materials in the kits. These things must be painstakingly removed and will delay the shipment.



# Children's Corner

## Dates to Remember ~

March 19, 2010– Parent's Night Out (Middlebrook Pike UMC)

February 21, 2010 - New Rotation (Easter)

June 7 – June 11, 2010 – Vacation Bible School

## Missions:

Change for Children – ongoing  
FISH – Peanut Butter

## Camp Wesley Woods

**Summer is right around the corner.  
Please come by the office and receive a  
Camp Wesley Woods magazine. As you  
know, camp fills up quickly. Please see  
Ann if you need assistance.**

### Baby Bulletin Board

Please send Ann a picture of your baby with the full name and date of birth on the back if he/she is younger than 1 year, and we don't have one.



Everyone enjoys looking at the newest additions to our church family.

Ann Cover - Director of Children's Ministries  
acover@middlebrookpike.com

You are invited to a casual reception  
MPUMC Stephen Ministry  
Sunday, January 31, 2010 2—4pm  
Large Conference Room

Welcoming—Bill Swaggerty who has just completed a Stephen Series Leaders Training Course in Orlando, FL. There were 383 participants from all across the US and Canada to learn how to implement and direct Stephen Ministry, a system of Christian Care giving, in their congregations.

Information—If you are a good listener and believe God may be calling you to serve in this ministry, please join us! There will be a 10 minute film, Stephen Ministers to talk with and materials to view. Our new training class begins the 1st week in February. (We will decide on time and location at the end of the meeting.) Please pray about this opportunity and RSVP to: Lynne 584-1624 / 661-9746  
Bill 675-8377  
Debbie at the church office 690-8641

Dear Middlebrook Pike family,

We want to express our gratitude for the financial support that Middlebrook Pike provided for us last month. The money you sent us was extremely helpful and timely. It was a blessing that helped us in a very difficult time.

Many of you know that the Holston Conference has been greatly affected by the current economic conditions. As a result, seminarians did not receive any financial assistance from the Ministerial Education Fund last semester, and we have been informed that financial assistance will be limited to a total of \$500 per seminarian next semester. We are grateful for any money the Holston Conference can provide; however, this is a fraction of the amount we projected for our budget when we left Knoxville. Not having the projected amount has made the cost of relocating more difficult than we planned.

One cost we had not fully calculated is the difficulty of leaving our church home. We have really missed being in fellowship with everyone at MPUMC. The financial support you gave us and the wonderful warm welcome we received when we preached on December 27, helped us feel that we are still a loved part of the MPUMC family.

We know that God will provide the means for us to continue in seminary. We ask you to keep us in your prayers when the new semester begins on January 18.

Once again, thank you, and we love you very much.

Bob and Elaine

ruthme0@sewanee.edu (Elaine), ruthrs0@sewanee.edu (Bob)  
(those are zeroes in the addresses)



# MPUMC YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS & NOTES

## UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES...

### Sunday, January 24 (special schedule)

Youth Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.  
Traditional Worship - 8:30 & 11:00  
"Crossroads" Contemporary Worship - 8:45 & 11:00

**Snack Supper for MPUMC youth,  
First UMC (Oak Ridge) youth, and adult choir  
5:00 p.m. in the gym - \$3.00**

**Community Prayer Service - 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.**  
Come worship with your small group.

**"SLINGSHOT" Worship Service**  
7:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
**In the room #52.** Please come and join us!

### Wednesday, January 27

**5:15 to 6:15 p.m. - YOUTH HANDBELLS**

**6:45 p.m. - "IGNITION"**  
Youth Fellowship - Youth Rooms

*Followed by*  
**Youth Leadership Council at 7:15 p.m.**

**7:45 to 8:30 p.m. - Open Gym & Youth Rooms**  
For those not participating in Youth Leadership Council.

## SUPERBOWL HOAGIE SALE CONTINUES...

Enjoy a great sandwich with the Super Bowl or for a quick Sunday lunch and help our youth program by ordering your hoagies today. The \$8.00 price includes a six-inch hoagie sandwich, pickles, potato chips & a chocolate chip cookie.

Each sandwich will be packaged with separate lettuce, tomatoes and condiment packets to maintain freshness and provide individual preference. **Order forms will be available at the Sunday morning worship services.** Fill out the order form and place it in the offering plate or basket. All orders may be picked up and paid for after the early and late services in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 7th.

## YOUTH BASKETBALL PLAYERS

Always remember to check with your coach to be sure of the correct date and time of practices and games...they will be the first ones notified of any changes.

## GOING DEEPER...

**Resurrection was great, but what now? What did you learn about God? About others? About yourself? About Jesus? What will you do now to grow deeper in your faith?**

**Eric Bronkala - Director of Youth Ministries**

ebronkala@middlebrookpike.com; ebronkala@comcast.net

## United Methodist Deaths in Haiti

Two workers with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) were among those killed in the earthquake in Haiti. Rev. Sam Dixon, the UMCOR's Executive Officer, and Rev. Clinton Rabb, head of the office of Mission Volunteers of the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries, both perished as a result of the earthquake. Please keep the Dixon and Rabb families in your prayers as well as UMCOR's workers in Haiti as they provide relief while mourning their fallen colleagues.



## Ladies Thursday Morning Bible Study

We are starting a 7 week study by Priscilla Shirer called "One in a Million--Journey to Your Promise Land". It's an opportunity to engage in the abundant inheritance God has waiting if we're willing to follow Him into the promised land. We'll start Feb 4 at 10:00 in Room 30 (or is it 31, I can't remember). Call Elaine at 693-7629 so you'll be sure to get a study book or if you have questions. We'd love to have you.

This Sunday, Eric Rieger and I will conclude our *God & Science* sermon series with a sermon titled *God, Disaster, and Disease*. I'm sad to say that there probably could not be a better time to address this difficult topic. Just this morning, I saw new reports that estimate the death toll as a result of the earthquake in Haiti as high as 200,000. It's hard to watch the news without wondering how God could let something like this happen and without wondering where God is when tragedies like this occur.

Even in the midst of all the hard questions such a tragedy raises, it has been amazing to watch your response and the response of Christians around the world. Many of you have already brought in health kits that we will be sending to Haiti next week. Last Sunday, you gave over \$6400 to go directly to relief work in Haiti through the United Methodist Committee on Relief and I know many of you have given more than that through other relief agencies. Right now, so many Christians are responding to the crisis that I have heard reports that spots on mission teams to Haiti are as difficult to snag as Super Bowl tickets because so many people want to help. It's looking right now like our church will probably be able to send a team led by Eric Bronkala of young adults to Haiti in August. Eric's informed me that he has already had a lot of people express interest in the team.

I thank you for your generosity, your compassion, and your desire to help. I beg you to keep it up. But right now, I'm having a hard time being excited about it. All we can do seems like so little in the face of a tragedy of these proportions. Today, I was carrying a health kit to the drop off location in the fellowship hall. I looked in the kit and noticed how it only provided for absolutely basic sanitation needs and nothing more. Tears began to well up in my eyes as I thought about how much more is needed. It will take hundreds of countries, thousands of relief agencies, thousands of churches,

thousands of corporations, and thousands of relief volunteers working together to restore any kind of sense of order to Haiti. It will take health kits from Tennessee, doctors from Miami, water from Georgia, food from Canada, Marines from North Carolina, and the list could go on and on of what is needed just to save a few lives and millions of lives are at stake.

I'm well aware, however, that it does not take 200,000 deaths as the result of a natural disaster to cause us to struggle with questions about God's existence and God's presence. As a friend of mine said to me just today, "All it takes is the death of one child from a natural disaster or a terminal disease to raise serious and legitimate questions about God's existence and God's goodness – especially if it is your child."

I believe that as we reach out to those who are suffering we must also ask the hard questions of our faith. And I believe it is only by asking the hard questions that we give God the space to teach us to trust in God's goodness, mercy, and love even when everything is going wrong. If we learn anything about God from the life of Jesus Christ, we learn that God does not prevent suffering, rather God suffers with us. And in the suffering of God we learn that life is not about escaping suffering. Life is about love.

I hope you will come and seek life with us this Sunday.

Grace and Peace,

*Wil*

*Recent requests for prayer from our church family...*

**CONCERNS:** John Brantley, Robert Bronkala (Eric Bronkala's father), Mary Underwood (Wil Cantrell's aunt), Jeannie (Eric and Marion Rieger's daughter), Carol Melton and family, Ron Lee (Carol Russell's brother), Gail Murawski (Linda Murawski's sister-in-law), Marcy Miller

**PASTOR ON CALL  
January 22-23**

Wil Cantrell  
cell—919-0647

**PREPARING FOR SUNDAY**

*God & Science Sermon Series*

**MIDDLEBROOK PIKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
7234 MIDDLEBROOK PIKE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37909**

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