

Beginning in the spring of last year MPUMC volunteers have given their time and resources to provide a home for a deserving and hardworking family. Many of you gave your energy dedicated to manual labor, your resources to help fund the house, your time to prepare food for 30+ workers on work days, and most importantly, your prayers. Please join us as we celebrate the dedication of MPUMC's home.

**Sunday, February 1, 2009**

**2:00 – 3:00 pm**

**Everyone is invited!**

All MPUMC and friends are invited to attend our home dedication and the blessing of the house. We would love to have a large group to bless and encourage the Zayets, our homeowners, and their new home. Please come to see the finished house, take a tour, and fellowship.

Phone 865-690-8641

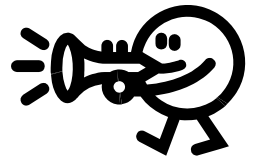
Fax 865 539-4636

[www.middlebrookpike.com](http://www.middlebrookpike.com)

**Thank you for helping us be a part of this great program!**

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### Spiritual Growth Team Announces:



The Spiritual Growth Team invites you to observe the Holy Lenten Season with our church family through a church-wide forty day devotional reading plan and optional small group discussions. The daily readings will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 25, 2009.

Based on the book, *40 Days Living the Jesus Creed*, by Scot McKnight, this study will involve both the daily readings and the opportunity to gather on Wednesdays nights, after Wednesday Night supper, for a round table discussion with others and a small group leader.

Contact Debbie Uglow at the church office (690-8641) or email at: [duglow@middlebrookpike.com](mailto:duglow@middlebrookpike.com) to order a book for \$11.00 no later than 2/12/09.

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Surly the presence of God is in our church. Through you at Middlebrook Pike, we have collected enough contributions to purchase the much needed roofing equipment for our utility trailer. Up until now the trailer has been used for the Mississippi Mission trips. From your generous gifts, we can now look to the future of roofing missions not only for Mississippi, but for our area also.

To all of you we say a simple "Thank You". We appreciate your kindness, love, prayers and support.

God is good all the time ~~ All the time, we are a witness.

Wil, Nancy and members of the roofing teams.

**JANUARY 28, 2009**

**The Messenger**

# On Campus Events

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- 8:30 Traditional Worship Service (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)
- 12:15 Communion (Sanctuary)
- 12:15 Stephens Ministry Meeting (LCR)
- 3:30 Youth Group Musical
- 4:30 Youth Group
- 4:30 Brass Voices (Room 31)
- 5:00 First Place for Life Meeting (Old Bldg.)
- 5:30 Revelation Singers (Choir Room)

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2

- 4:00 Cub Scouts (FLC/Gym)
- 7:00 Boy Scouts (Old Building)
- 7:00 Trustees Meeting (LCR)

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

- 9:00 Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
- 9:30 CEP (Education Wing)
- 10:00 Fit and Faithful (Choir Room)
- 10:30 Prayer at the Altar (Sanctuary)
- 2:30 Boy Scouts (FLC/Gym)
- 3:30 Girl Scouts (Room 30)
- 6:30 Cub Scouts (Old Building)
- 7:00 ESL Classes (Room 31)

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

- 5:15 Wednesday Night Connection (FLC/Gym)
- 6:15 Children's Choirs
- 6:15 Early Risers Choir (Choir Room)
- 6:15 Friendship Choir (Room 30)
- 6:15 Youth Group Activities
- 6:15 Youth Handbell Choir (Room 31)
- 6:30 Hearing God through Scripture (Room 27)
- 7:00 Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
- 7:00 Children's Handbells (Room 31)
- 7:45 Youth Group (FLC/Gym)

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

- 9:30 CEP (Education Wing)
- 10:00 Beth Moore Study (Room 30)
- 10:00 Fit and Faithful (FLC/Gym)
- 6:00 Men's Basketball (FLC/Gym)
- 7:00 ESL Classes (Room 31)
- 7:00 Finance Committee Meeting (LCR)

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- 8:00 Sr. High Basketball (FLC/Gym)

**(See other enclosed calendars within this publication for additional activities.)**

### Wednesday Night Connection Menu for February 4



**Turkey and Dressing  
Vegetable, Salad and Dessert**

**Please be sure to make your  
reservation by Monday at noon.**

### WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

*JANUARY 25 2009*

**Total Worship - 492    Sunday School - 249  
Divine Rhythm - 6**

### TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*JANUARY 25 2009*

<b>RECEIVED FOR BUDGET</b>	<b>\$16,042.66</b>
<b>PAVING THE WAY</b>	\$3,110.00
<b>SPECIAL OFFERINGS</b>	
<b>FISH</b>	<b>\$156.90</b>
<b>DESIGNATED OFFERINGS</b>	\$5,167.80
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$24,477.36</b>

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- February 6**    Jason Brown, Angie Kelly
- February 7**    Elizabeth Nulton
- February 8**    Tony McLoud, Rick Gray, Mary Ellis
- February 9**    Brittney McLoud
- February 11**   Elizabeth Hamilton, Gwynn Pearman,  
Colleen Robinson, Alyssa Douglas
- February 12**   Amber Shillings, Danielle Chapman
- February 13**   Melinda Shillings, Lillie Watt,  
Steve Boyd

*(If we missed your birthday, we are sorry. Please notify the church office so your birthday can be added to our records.)*

### OPEN GYM IS CANCELLED FEBRUARY 3

### STEPHEN MINISTRIES MEETING

this Sunday, February 1

Please meet at 12:15 in the Large Conference Room



### “Jesus According to Jesus” Worship Series

People say a lot of things about Jesus these days. Some say he was just a man. Some say he is God in human form. Some say he was a prophet. Some say he is their Lord and Savior. Some say he was a good example of how to live. Some say he is their guide. Some say he is a Republican. Some say he is a Democrat. Some say he is a friend. Some say he is a martyr. Some say he is an activist. Some even say he is an action figure. Some say all the stories about him in the Bible are made up. Some say the world was made through him. Some say he is judgmental. Some say he is merciful. Some say he is our only hope. Some say not to get our hopes up.

Join us for worship in January and February as we look at what Jesus said about himself as recorded in the Gospel of John.

### GOOD DEEDS: Letting God's Light Shine!

We have been blessed with a brand new year, a brand new day and another chance to minister to our neighbors! We are called to serve God in all ways! We are to offer Christ. How do we offer Christ? We offer His love with a warm smile and conversation. We offer God's gift of life with the story of Christ. We offer Christ's peace by modeling tolerance and acceptance. We offer His forgiveness with our patience. We offer God's help with our actions, helping hands and GOOD DEEDS! You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. “You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. Mt 5:13-16 The Witness Team is excited to announce GOOD DEEDS Projects! These short-term projects will range from supplying batteries for smoke detectors to our neighbors, to distributing energy-saving light bulbs, to passing out seeds and flower bulbs to help beautify the neighborhood! We might have a hot chocolate stand this winter or a lemonade stand this summer on the Vanosdale side of our church campus. We might be found raking leaves or supplying a few extra quarters at the local laundromats. The service opportunities are endless and the benefits are terrific! It's one more way to model the love of Christ!!!

Please consider these projects! We will be calling on the MPUMC family to Let God's Light Shine through these GOOD DEEDS! Help us out! Whether you come on your own, with your family and friends or your Sunday school class or Life-Link group you are guaranteed to be blessed!!!!Look for information about our first project in February! Meanwhile...pray about how God will have the MPUMC family “grow our church” and how God would have all of us participate to make Disciples for HIM! Questions? Call Roger McCoig 531-7118 or Deb Holly 659-5600

### Mission Team to Latvia Forming

A mission team from our church is departing from Latvia on Tuesday April 28. The team will be working with our missionaries Dan and Courtney Randall and our sister church Jelgava United Methodist Church. Be sure to be in worship on Sunday February 1 to learn about our relationship with Jelgava UMC and the work our mission team will be doing. If you are interested in being part of the team, please plan to attend a meeting in the choir room on Sunday February 8 at 9:45AM in the choir room. If you cannot attend the meeting, call the church office (690-8641) and ask to speak with Associate Pastor Wil Cantrell.



### Lenten Study begins Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Please join us for a Lenten Study at our Monday night Life-Links session. We'll meet from 7:00 pm until 8:30 pm at Deb and Rich Holly's house. Give yourself the gift of time for reflection and relaxation as we celebrate all that Jesus did to prepare His servants for the ultimate gift—life forever.

Questions: Call Rich or Deb at 693-1370

### Hearing God Through Scripture class

On Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30, Associate Pastor Wil Cantrell will be leading a bible study class titled “Hearing God Through Scripture”. Each class session will focus on learning to listen to what God is saying through a particular passage in the Bible.

The class will begin on Wednesday February 4 and will meet in the library.

### First Tuesday Lunch Bunch



will be meeting on Tuesday, February 3 1:00 at the Red Lobster on Kingston Pike.

### Everyone is welcome.

Please join us for GREAT fellowship!

RSVP is necessary.

Please call

Joyce Haas at 690-6426 by Monday, February 2.

# ♪ WORSHIP & MUSIC NOTES ♪

## ♪ WORSHIP & MUSIC NOTES ♪

### “DIRECTIONS FOR SINGING”

From the beginnings of John Wesley’s ministry singing has been an important part of worship. Wesley’s brother, Charles, also a “mover and shaker” in the growth of Methodism, was one of the greatest hymn writers in Christian history, penning the words to several thousand hymns. Almost any protestant hymnal will contain numerous hymns by Charles Wesley, and John Wesley also wrote more than a few.

In the front of our current United Methodist Hymnal are some instructions for the singing of hymns which have been published in our hymnals from time to time. They were first published in John Wesley’s *Select Hymns* in 1761. Perhaps you will find them amusing and in some instances instructive.

Learn these tunes before you learn any others; afterwards learn as many as you please.

Sing them exactly as they are printed here, without altering or mending them at all; and if you have

learned to sing them otherwise, unlearn it as soon as you can.

Sing all. See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can. Let not a slight degree of weakness or weariness hinder you. If it is a cross to you, take it up and you will find a blessing.

Sing lustily and with a good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of you voice now, nor more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sung the songs of Satan.

Sonny



## Children's Corner

### Dates to Remember

- ◆ February 1—New Rotation (People Who Made a Difference)
- ◆ February 20 - Parent’s Night Out (MPUMC)
- ◆ June 1—June 5 - Vacation Bible School



**Baby Rose:** Let Ann know when you will be bringing your “new” baby for the first time so the church can honor him/her with a rose on the altar.

### Mission Focus:

- ◆ **Change for Children** - ongoing
- ◆ FISH: Jelly (February)
- ◆ FISH: Green Beans (March)

**BANDANAS** - ONGOING THROUGH FEBRUARY 25



### Wesley Woods Camp

As we close 2008, we are looking at the summer of 2009. There are many children who want to experience Wesley Woods Camp. With the cost of the camp and our current economic state, we are looking for people who are able to sponsor a child. Please call Ann Cover if you feel that you can help send a child to camp.

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



# MPUMC YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS & NOTES

## Upcoming Events & Activities...

This calendar does not include basketball practices or games.  
See your coach for further details.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

Hoagie Sale Sandwich Prep - 2:45 to 4:15 p.m.

Location: Fellowship Hall

*Come be a sandwich artist!*

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1 (special schedule)

Youth Hoagie Sale - Fellowship Hall - 9:30 to noon

Youth Sunday School - 9:45

Traditional Worship - 8:30 & 11:00

Contemporary Worship - 8:45 & 11:00

3:30 - Youth Musical Sectional Rehearsal  
- *For soloists, band, and dancers* -

4:30 to 6:00 - SUPER BOWL Pre-Game Party

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

#### WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH CONNECTION

5:15 - Dinner line opens

6:15 - Youth Handbells & "The Gathering"

**6:45 - Youth Group Games & Discussion**  
**Theme: "What Is Love?"**

7:00 to 8:30 - Open gym & game rooms for youth

## We are now beginning to take your deposits for 2009 Summer Mission Trips!

### Smokey Mountains

July 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, & 18

Current 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> graders may participate.

Total Cost - \$175.00

Includes transportation, all living expenses during our week of mission work (Sunday night through Friday morning), one night of hotel lodging (Friday the 17<sup>th</sup>), and Dollywood/Splash County activities on Friday & Saturday.

### Bennett County, South Dakota

July 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, & 19

Current 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders may participate.

Total Cost - \$500.00

Includes transportation, all living expenses during our week of mission work (Sunday night through Friday morning), three nights of hotel lodging (Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup>, Friday the 17<sup>th</sup>, & Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup>), along with some tourist activities such as viewing Mount Rushmore.

**Eric Bronkala - Director of Youth Ministries**

[ebronkala@middlebrookpike.com](mailto:ebronkala@middlebrookpike.com); [ebronkala@comcast.net](mailto:ebronkala@comcast.net)

## Holston Conference Corner Two...Two...two events to celebrate!!!

1. The Holston Conference African American Ministry Team met with Rev. Joe Daniels from Emory UMC, Washington D.C. and listened intently as he told of the many struggles that the Emory Church family faced as they grew from a dying church to a church which is vital and thriving today as it ministers to the downtown community! We were overwhelmed by God's goodness through Rev. Joe's stories and our AAMT was inspired to get busy and plan training events and provide resources for our small churches so that they might become a stronger presence in our Holston communities!
2. The Holston Conference Discipleship Team will travel to Jacksonville, Florida this weekend for a training seminar called Living the United Methodist Way: Turning Worlds Upside Down. We will learn what it means to be a part of a movement of United Methodists on fire to transform the world. The four workshops will focus on Leadership Development, Congregational Development, Elimination of Poverty and Global Health. Each plenary includes worship time, Bible study related to the topic as well as the presentation of material. The Discipleship Team will bring this information home and work to implement these strategies for offering Christ in our local churches—all 906 of them!

Questions about the Holston Conference Discipleship Team? Call Deb Holly 693-1370.

# CLERGY COLUMN

## What Joshua Taught Me...

*So where does that leave you when you criticize a brother? And where does that leave you when you condescend to a sister? I'd say it leaves you looking pretty silly—or worse. Eventually, we're all going to end up kneeling side by side in the place of judgement, facing God. Your critical and condescending ways aren't going to improve your position there one bit. Read it for yourself in Scripture:*

*"As I live and breathe," God says,  
"every knee will bow before me;  
every tongue will tell the honest truth  
that I and only I am God."*

*So tend to your knitting. You've got your hands full just taking care of your own life before God. Forget about deciding what's right for each other. Here's what you need to be concerned about: that you don't get in the way of someone else, making life more difficult than it already is. I'm convinced—Jesus convinced me!—that everything as it is in itself is holy. We, of course, by the way we treat it or talk about it, can contaminate it. (Romans 14: 10-14 The Message)*

I was an undergraduate at E.T.S.U. in Speech Class. Joshua was an older student with a somewhat contorted head. When he walked, he laboriously swung one leg around with each stride. His appearance was peculiar and uncanny. In class he would make witty comments at inappropriate times and I could tell he was irritating the professor.

## "EVERY KNEE WILL BOW BEFORE ME"

How quick I was to judge and how shallow my judgments were. I didn't know Joshua or his story—all I knew is that he looked weird. As the class wore on, my perspective gradually changed from superficial contempt to genuine respect and admiration. Joshua was in Vietnam and was "hit" in the head, hip, and legs. Joshua had the courage to come to college and even stand up and give speeches in front of arrogant, young know-it-alls like me. His attitude was remarkable: he liked people, loved to learn, and definitely didn't take himself too seriously. Joshua became my friend, and it was a joy to be with such a heroic figure. Joshua taught me the importance of a person's story. How many times I have judged people without knowing them: "where they have been and what they have been through." May I leave judgement to the only One who knows anyone well enough to judge accurately. Joshua also taught me what is expressed in the following quotation: "Courage does not always roar. Sometimes it is the quiet voice at the end of the day, saying, 'I will try again tomorrow'."

Lord, please have mercy,

*Pastor Eric*

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

**CONCERNS:** Johnny and Kathy Jones, Scott Bennett (Rob and Suzanne Thomas' brother-in-law), Betty Crisp

**DEATHS:** Larry Crisp (Clint and Betty Crisp's son)  
Danny Cooper (Marie Cooper's nephew),  
Juanita Lackner (Carolyn Lawhorn's mother)

### PASTOR ON CALL

Wil Cantrell

Friday 1/30 -  
Sunday 2/1

cell - 919-0647

### LOOK TOWARD SUNDAY February 1

**Traditional and Contemporary  
Services**

**Sermon:** *I am the "Bread of Life".*

**Scripture:** John 6:22-35

**MIDDLEBROOK PIKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
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